

## Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport to host first film festival

*The Mighty Macs* selected as featured film for February 1st event



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**January 3, 2011**

The Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport at the University of Minnesota will hold its first Film Festival from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 1 in the DQ Club Room at TCF Bank Stadium, 2009 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The festival, presented by University of Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletics, kicks off the 25th annual celebration of National Girls and Women in Sports Day (NGWSD) and will feature the Minnesota sneak preview of Sony's Provident Films *The Mighty Macs*. The Tucker Center plans to make the film festival an annual event.

Set against the backdrop of the 1972 feminist movement, *The Mighty Macs* tells the inspiring true story of Immaculata College's women's basketball team and their road to winning the first national championship in women's college basketball. It stars Carla Gugino in the lead role of Cathy Rush, the head coach, and includes the star-studded cast of Academy Award Winner Ellen Burstyn, David Boreanaz and Marley Shelton.

"The film festival is another way to highlight the athletic achievements of girls and women in sport, and tell the stories of female athletes that otherwise are not told," says Nicole LaVoi, associate director of the Tucker Center. "Those who support female athletes and are advocates of Title IX will love *The Mighty Macs*!"

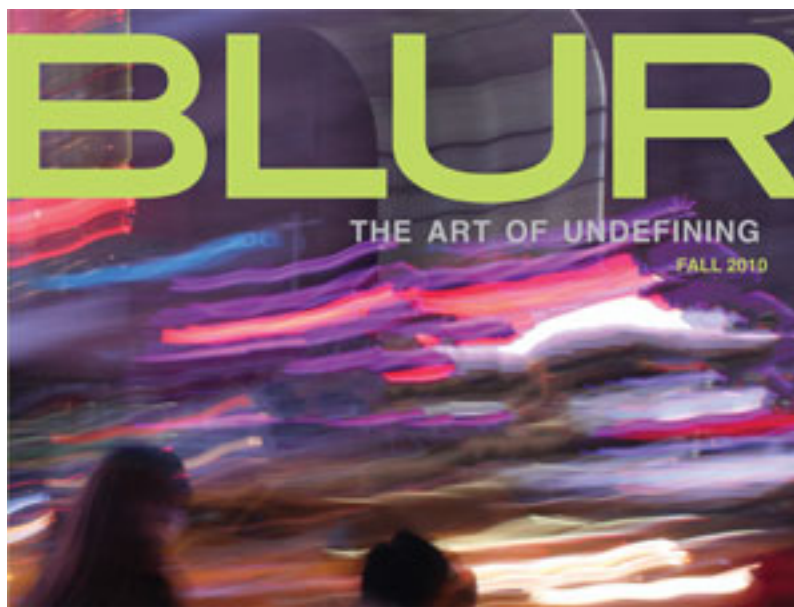
The event will also feature sneak previews of a trio of documentaries that celebrate girls and women in sport. Clips from *Goals for Girls*, *Sync or Swim* and *Kick in Iran* will precede the feature presentation.

The Tucker Center Film Festival is one of more than 1,000 events taking place across the country for National Girls and Women in Sports Day. Congress has proclaimed this national day each year since 1987. It recognizes the progress of girls and women in sports and the benefits that sports and fitness activities can bring to the lives of all girls and women. The day is organized nationally by the Girl Scouts of the USA, Girls Incorporated, National Association for Girls and Women in Sport, the National Women's Law Center and the Women's Sports Foundation.

Tickets for the film festival are on sale now. To purchase a ticket, go to <http://z.umn.edu/tcff>. Tickets are \$8 online, \$10 at the door based on availability.

University of  
Minnesota  
journalism  
students  
explore  
ambiguity of  
everyday life  
in new  
magazine

BLUR now available  
on campus and  
online



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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/04/2011) —If today’s world is ruled by ambiguity, as some say, who would be a better judge than college students on the verge of graduation? A magazine production class in the University of Minnesota’s School of Journalism and Mass Communication this past fall chose to focus their magazine on exploring and interpreting what ambiguity means in everyday life.

BLUR Magazine, the culmination of a semester’s worth of work for the students of Journalism 5174: Magazine Editing and Production, started with a multicultural focus and evolved into an investigation of the blurring lines between culture, food and music in today’s society.

BLUR contains six departments: “Home,” “Life,” “Nine to Five,” “Politics,” “Tech” and “Voice.”

“Whether it’s because of our sexuality, life experience or taste in music, each and every one of us has unique characteristics that separate us from our peers,” say co-editors Mandi Roberts and Lauren Scheller. “That’s why BLUR educates, celebrates and accepts how these differences overlap and make us who we are.”

Copies of BLUR magazine can be found at Coffman Memorial Union. Electronic copies are available on the BLUR website at <http://blurmagazine.sjmc.umn.edu>. The website includes a blog for each department, additional multimedia and full-length articles for readers to comment on and interact with the BLUR staff.

For more information on BLUR magazine or how to receive a copy, contact Marial Weidner by e-mail at [weid0089@umn.edu](mailto:weid0089@umn.edu) or phone at (920) 650-2831.

## U of M conference to explore Islam and the humanities

Leading scholars to present on topics ranging from architecture and arts to science and theater

**Media Note:** To arrange interviews with conference presenters, please contact Kelly O'Brien.



The Catalan Atlas (above) depicts a 14th century view of both the European and Islamic worlds.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/04/2011) —Islamic developments in architecture, the arts, sciences and theater will be the topics of a federally-funded conference at the University of Minnesota Feb. 24-26.

“Shared Cultural Spaces,” presented by the university's Religious Studies program, will take a fresh look at humanities and sciences in Islamic civilization and reveal the connections between the Islamic and western worlds.

One purpose of the conference is to highlight the interactions of civilizations throughout history. Professor Nabil Matar, one of the conference organizers, says, “At a time when other parts of the world were in their ‘dark ages,’ in Islamic civilizations there were artists, scientists, writers and architects who created a world of imagination, openness (as they included Christians and Jews as well) and brilliance. The conference will show how Islamic cultural imagination continues to enrich contemporary life.”

In conjunction with the conference, the U of M is presenting the world premiere of “Journey,” a stage adaptation of one of the spiritual and scientific masterpieces of the medieval Islamic world, Ibn Tufayl's *Hayy ibn Yaqzan*. Translated into English in the 17th century but only now dramatized by director Mohammed B. Ghaffari for its premiere at the conference, this masterful work was the inspiration for Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*, published in 1719. Performances take place at Rarig Center on the university's west bank.

Conference presenters will address topics on architecture, the arts and aesthetics, science and theater. Some of the leading presenters include:

- Nader Ardalan, an architect with more than four decades of award winning international experience. Since September 2006, Ardalan has been a Fellow of the Harvard Center for Middle Eastern Studies, where he is project director of the Persian Gulf Research Project.
- Wadad Kadi, the Avalon Foundation Distinguished Service Professor Emerita at the University of Chicago, was Professor of Islamic Thought at the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from 1988 until 2009. Kadi has published widely on Islamic political thought, early Arabic prose, the impact of the Quran on Arabic literature and early Islamic theology and sectarianism.
- Anouar Majid, director of the Center for Global Humanities and associate provost for global humanities at the University of New England. Majid's writings deal with the place of Islam in the age of globalization and Muslim - Western relations since 1492. He was described by Cornel West in his 2004 book *Democracy Matters* as among a group of “towering Islamic intellectuals.”
- Hamid Rassoul, a veteran space scientist, professor of physics and space sciences, and senior associate dean for the College of Sciences at Florida Institute of Technology. His current research activities include X-ray and gamma-ray observations of thunderstorms and lightning, solar modulation of galactic and anomalous cosmic rays, instrument development and space sciences education.
- Ingrid Mattson, professor of Islamic studies, founder of the Islamic Chaplaincy Program and director of the Macdonald Center for Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations at Hartford Seminary in Hartford, Connecticut. Her research and writing focuses on Islamic law and ethics, as well as gender and leadership issues in contemporary Muslim communities. From 2006-2010 Mattson served as president of the Islamic Society of North America.
- George Saliba, professor of Arabic and Islamic Science at Columbia University in New York. He studies the development of scientific ideas from late antiquity to early modern times, with a special focus on the transmission of astronomical and mathematical ideas from the Islamic world to Renaissance Europe. Saliba received the History of Astronomy Prize from the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science in 1996 and the History of Science Prize given by the Third World Academy of Science in 1993.

Other speakers at the conference are drawn from the University of Minnesota and other local colleges.

“Shared Cultural Spaces” is supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and conference sessions are free and open to the public. They will take place at locations on the University of Minnesota's west bank campus, including the Carlson School of Management, Wilson Library and Rarig Center. Complete conference details, including bios of the 17 speakers and session schedule, are at <https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/sharedspaces>.

## University of Minnesota Water Resources Center releases country's first long-term framework for statewide water sustainability



The report, presented today, offers recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature for statewide water sustainability for this century and beyond

The project was spearheaded by the Water Resources Center co-director Deborah Swackhamer, a professor in the U of M's School of Public Health and holder of the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute's Charles M. Denny Jr. Chair in Science, Technology and Public Policy.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/04/2011) —The University of Minnesota's Water Resources Center has authored a first-ever, comprehensive report designed to protect and preserve Minnesota's lakes, rivers and groundwater for the 21st century and beyond. The report is being formally presented to the Minnesota House of Representative's Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Policy and Finance Committee today at 8:15 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 5 in Room 5 of the State Office Building, St. Paul.

The Minnesota Water Sustainability Framework, commissioned by the 2009 Minnesota Legislature, is intended to serve as a legislative roadmap with timelines and benchmarks for future investments in water resources, including the estimated \$86 million a year dedicated for the protection of water as a result of Minnesota's Clean Water, Land and Legacy Act.

The 150-page report is the result of more than 18 months of cross-organizational, interdisciplinary input from more than 250 experts from federal, state, local and tribal governments, private industry, agricultural interests, universities and environmental agencies. The report also includes feedback from more than 5,000 taxpayers who participated in an online survey and statewide listening sessions held in January and February of last year.

In response to its legislative charge, the report addresses a range of water-related issues including drinking water quality, storm water management, agricultural and industrial water use, surface and groundwater interactions, ecological needs, invasive species and Minnesota's water infrastructure system -- all within the context of changing climate, demographics and land use and development.

Specific recommendations include:

- A comprehensive survey of Minnesota's ground water resources to understand what's available and how our current withdrawals are impacting the long-term supply;
- An overhaul of the state's water permitting process that would include an electronic database and a method of calculating the ecological impact of water withdrawals;
- A mandatory statewide plan to decrease nutrient runoff from agricultural sources -- a key to the plan being farmer-led, performance-based Agricultural Management Areas organized along the state's 45 watershed districts that would provide technical resources and incentives;
- Promotion of "green" chemistry through incentives for industry and consumer education and advocacy to prevent future water contamination; Integrated water and land sustainability planning at the watershed level; and
- The restructuring of municipal water pricing to more accurately reflect the ecological, as well as infrastructure, costs of water use.

The project was spearheaded by the Water Resources Center co-director Deborah Swackhamer, a professor in the U of M's School of Public Health and holder of the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute's Charles M. Denny Jr. Chair in Science, Technology and Public Policy.

"The Minnesota Water Sustainability Framework offers Minnesotans a chance to lead the nation in long-term, forward-thinking management of our water resources," says Swackhamer. "More importantly, implementation of the Framework's recommendations will assure the citizens of this state that our abundant water resources will be here for generations upon generations to come. With the Clean Water Fund and current public engagement, we have a rare moment in history to get this right."

The Legislature is expected to vote upon some of the report's recommendations in this legislative session. The report is available at [wrc.umn.edu](http://wrc.umn.edu). The Water Resources Center is affiliated with the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and University of Minnesota Extension.

## University of Minnesota team launches seven-continent education expedition

Earthducation team members will set out on Jan. 7 for their first quest exploring education and sustainability via climate hot spots around the world



The group making the seven-continent journey, including U of M professors Aaron Doering (back row, second from right) and Charles Miller (back row, far right).

### Media Note:

Expedition team members will be available for interviews until noon Friday, Jan. 7, and will provide regular updates via the Earthducation website as they travel. Basecamp team members are available for interviews and other media assistance throughout the duration of the expedition.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/05/2011) —Two University of Minnesota faculty, a graduate student and a videographer will set out for Burkina Faso, Africa, Jan. 7 on the first leg of Earthducation, a seven-continent journey to explore the meaning of education in different cultures and create a global narrative describing the connections between education, environment and sustainability.

Funded in part by a Discovery Grant from the university's Institute on the Environment, Earthducation seeks to meet a challenge put forth by the United Nations as part of its 2005–2014 Decade of Education for Sustainable Development: to integrate the principles, values and practices of sustainable development into education and learning.

Traveling by motorcycle, foot, bike and SUV, expedition members led by Aaron Doering and Charles Miller, professors of Learning Technologies in the U of M College of Education and Human Development, will visit seven “climate hot spots” around the world – places particularly impacted by climate change.

In each location, team members will interview local people about their beliefs on education and sustainability; visit schools and document educational experiences; and explore cultural and physical geography. Web-based daily updates, lesson plans and video feeds from the trail will connect team members and the diverse cultures and communities they visit with classrooms and learners of all ages around the world. Visitors to the Earthducation EnviroNetwork website will be invited to share their video stories, bringing individual threads of experience together to weave a global tapestry depicting how education and sustainability can inform and complement each other.

At the conclusion of the five-year expedition series, the Earthducation team plans to maintain Earthducation's EnviroNetwork website as an ongoing hub for communication, social networking and collaboration engaging the global public around issues at the crossroads of education and sustainability.

“By gathering stories about education and environment from around the world, we hope to create a foundation for embedding sustainability in learning at all levels and in all cultures,” Doering says. “Ultimately, we anticipate that the Earthducation EnviroNetwork will be the world's leading online community focused exclusively on the increasingly vital fusion of education and sustainability.”

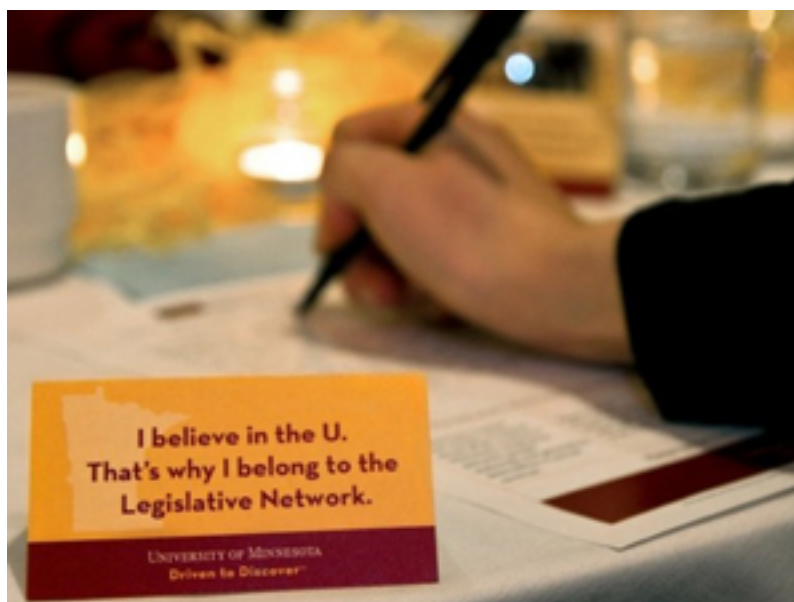
The current expedition to Burkina Faso was preceded by an “Expedition 0” journey to the Canadian Arctic in March 2010. There, the explorers learned about the importance of fitting the rhythms of education and the rhythms of nature together by studying education-disrupting disconnects between seasonal hunting and the academic year and between cultural experiences and traditional textbook learning. Expeditions 2–7 are planned for Europe (June 2011), Australia (January 2012), South America (June 2012), Asia (January 2013), North America (June 2013) and Antarctica (January 2014).

Doering has delivered adventure learning to tens of millions of students and teachers around the world over the past decade through the GoNorth! Adventure Learning series. GoNorth! used adventure learning to raise awareness and understanding of the Arctic and its environmental issues.

For more information on Earthducation, to follow the expedition, and to contribute to the global narrative, please visit the Earthducation EnviroNetwork at [www.earthducation.com](http://www.earthducation.com).

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

Attendees invited to go out and share their personal U stories



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**January 5, 2011**

The University of Minnesota will hold its annual Legislative Briefing from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 19, at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Themed “Because,” the Legislative Briefing brings together alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of the university to share their stories and rally behind the U’s 2011 legislative priorities. The event will include remarks from University President Robert Bruininks.

Participants will be encouraged to increase their grassroots advocacy efforts on behalf of the U throughout the legislative session. New this year, attendees of the Legislative Briefing will create personal “Because” photos to be sent to their legislators, illustrating how and why constituents from around the state support the U.

The event is expected to draw more than 400 attendees. Advocates may participate in the briefing via live webcast on the U’s coordinate campuses. Registration is available at [www.supporttheU.umn.edu](http://www.supporttheU.umn.edu), with online registration closing Jan. 11.

The 2011 Legislative Briefing is sponsored by the University of Minnesota Alumni Association and the university’s Legislative Network.

For more information about the U of M Legislative Network, see [www.supporttheU.umn.edu](http://www.supporttheU.umn.edu).

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is a membership organization that has advocated for the university’s important work for more than a century. For more information, go to [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org) or call (800) 862-5867.

## Carlson Executive Education launches MBA Essentials program

Five-week offering provides overview of key MBA subject areas

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/06/2011) —Carlson Executive Education is introducing a new offering, [MBA Essentials](#), designed to help its attendees be more effective at working across organization functions, communicating with senior management and developing relationships with clients, customers and suppliers.

“MBA Essentials is a program for people who want to develop their general business vocabulary and want a better understanding of the key issues and challenges facing the various functions in their organization,” said Mark Kizilos, assistant dean of Executive Education.

The five-week program begins by providing an understanding of the nature of business strategy and the foundations of competitive advantage. In subsequent sessions, participants will be introduced to the core perspectives of the basic business functions and how they each contribute to the organization.

“Management is a professional field. There’s a technical knowledge, vocabulary and a level of understanding that managers use to push their businesses forward,” said professor Myles Shaver, Pond Family Chair in the Teaching and Advancement of Free Enterprise Principles at the Carlson School, who will lead MBA Essentials’ strategy sessions. “MBA Essentials not only provides the important information that participants can use in their work today, but also gives a sense and a foundation of what can be expected if they pursue a Carlson MBA in the future.”

Shaver is one of many notable Carlson School professors who will be teaching the inaugural MBA Essentials offering. Others include Mark Bergen, Ed Joyce, Connie Wanberg, Raj Aggarwal, Svjetlana Madzar, Art Hill and Sri Zaheer.

“What truly sets MBA Essentials program apart is the world-class faculty we have teaching it,” said Kizilos. “They are not only outstanding researchers but accomplished teachers, and many are in our business community consulting around their knowledge base.”

MBA Essentials begins in April and meets two evenings a week for five weeks. Throughout the program, participants are engaged in discussions to understand the practical issues and challenges associated with each functional area. The program concludes by coming full-circle and relating the concepts covered in the program back to the issues of firm strategy and competitiveness.

Among the topics covered are business strategy, marketing management, financial accounting, human resource management, financial statement analysis and corporate finance, building and leading teams, operations management, international business and leadership.

For some, MBA Essentials will be used to evaluate the future pursuit of a MBA degree. Individuals who complete the program and then choose to pursue a Carlson MBA degree within a year will have up to half of their investment in MBA Essentials applied to their MBA tuition. The cost of MBA Essentials is \$4,000.

### **About Carlson Executive Education and the Carlson School of Management**

For more than 40 years, Carlson Executive Education has helped area companies develop talent and solve real business problems by providing high-impact learning experiences. More than 250 Minnesota businesses turn to Carlson Executive Education each year to acquire the knowledge or skills their businesses need to succeed. Carlson Executive Education is part of the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota, which was established in 1919. Based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the Carlson School of Management is a recognized leader in business education and research. Its focus on experiential learning, international education and maintaining strong ties to the business community exemplify the school’s commitment to excellence. More information can be found at [carlsonschool.umn.edu/execed](http://carlsonschool.umn.edu/execed).

## U of M School of Music to participate in "Bells for Haiti"



January 12 marks the one-year anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti. Image courtesy [Creative Commons](#).

## commemoration

Ferguson Hall's carillon bells to sound at 3:53 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12

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### January 11, 2011

The University of Minnesota School of Music will ring the university's carillon bells, located at Ferguson Hall, on Wednesday, Jan. 12, to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the Haiti Earthquake.

On Jan. 12, 2010, a massive earthquake devastated the country of Haiti. One year later, churches, schools, universities and city halls across the nation will take part in the "Bells for Haiti" effort and toll their bells in unison on the one-year anniversary of the earthquake — Jan. 12, 2011, at 3:53 p.m. CST — for 35 seconds, the duration of the earthquake.

"Over the centuries, the sound of bells ringing has served as a symbol of comfort, solidarity and remembrance," says David Myers, professor and director of the School of Music. "I encourage the university community to join me this Wednesday in solidarity and support of the people of Haiti."

According to the Minneapolis-based American Refugee Committee (ARC), the earthquake took the lives of 250,000 people and left more than 1.3 million people homeless. A hurricane and cholera outbreak have also worsened the situation.

Ferguson Hall is located on the university's West Bank campus, 2106 4th St. S., Minneapolis. For more information about "Bells for Haiti," see the American Refugee Committee's related news release at [http://www.arcrelief.org/site/PageServer?pagename=News\\_PR\\_2010\\_12\\_29](http://www.arcrelief.org/site/PageServer?pagename=News_PR_2010_12_29).

Established in 1902, the University of Minnesota School of Music offers a dynamic, comprehensive program to more than 550 music students in undergraduate and graduate programs, led by a world-class faculty of more than 50 artists, scholars and teachers. The School of Music presents more than 400 free concerts per year. For a complete schedule of events, visit [www.music.umn.edu](http://www.music.umn.edu) or call (612) 626-1094 for a brochure.



## University of Minnesota "disappointed" by U.S. Supreme Court decision regarding medical resident taxation

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/11/2011) —The University of Minnesota's general counsel, Mark Rotenberg, expressed disappointment in today's U.S. Supreme Court decision regarding FICA taxation of medical residents (Mayo et al. vs. United States), an issue that has been litigated since the 1990's. At issue is whether medical residents are considered students for purposes of paying FICA taxes.

"The university is disappointed in the outcome of this case, in which we sought to protect our medical residents' stipends from FICA taxation," said Rotenberg. "Although the Court recognized that medical residents are engaged in valuable educational pursuits, the Justices decided to defer to the Internal Revenue Service's rigid rule that residents cannot possibly qualify as students under the FICA law if they work 40 hours or more per week in their residency program."

Theodore B. Olson, counsel for the university and the Mayo Clinic, added, "We are disappointed that the Supreme Court decided to uphold the Treasury Department's exclusion of medical residents from the scope of the Student Exemption enacted by Congress. As the Court itself acknowledged, medical residents are engaged in a formal and structured educational program that is an indispensable component of their medical training. The Treasury Department's regulation overlooks the important educational pursuits in which residents are engaged."

Because the university and its medical residents have been paying FICA taxes since 2005, medical residents will see no impact on their paychecks because of the decision. Had the University prevailed, however, university officials estimate that the institution and its medical residents could have received over \$24 million in refunded FICA taxes since 2005.

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Meredith McQuaid, the University of Minnesota's associate vice president and dean for international programs, has been elected president of NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/12/2011) —Meredith McQuaid, the University of Minnesota's associate vice president and dean for international programs, has been elected president of NAFSA: Association of International Educators. Her two-year term began on Jan. 1. With 10,000 members, NAFSA is the world's largest nonprofit professional association dedicated to international education. McQuaid will be the fourth University of Minnesota officer to lead the organization since it was founded in 1948.

"It is truly an honor to have been elected to serve the members and the association of NAFSA in advocating and promoting the importance of international education in creating a more peaceful and productive world. International education is one of the most significant avenues through which we can achieve mutual understanding and address global issues," said McQuaid. "NAFSA serves its members and the global community through programs, policies and professional development of international educators all over the world. I look forward to working with our members and supporters to advance these initiatives further over the next two years."

McQuaid has held the position of associate vice president and dean for international programs since 2006. As the senior international officer, she promotes the global dimensions of teaching, research and engagement across all colleges and campuses of the university.

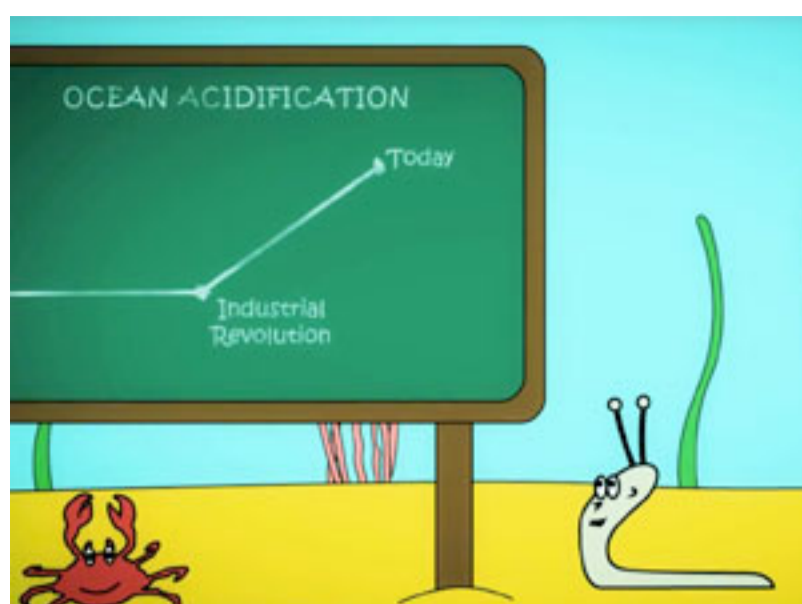
"This appointment demonstrates that Dean McQuaid's professional community holds her in the same high regard as we do within the University," said Robert Jones, senior vice president for system academic administration. "It is a great honor for her to be chosen and a significant advantage for the University for her to serve in this capacity. The University has, for many years, been a leader in international education and NAFSA's decision reflects that. I congratulate Dean McQuaid on her selection."

Previously, McQuaid served at the University of Minnesota Law School as associate dean of administration and international programs (1995-2005) and director of international and graduate programs (1994-2006). McQuaid earned her bachelor's degree in linguistics from the University of Minnesota and her J.D. degree, cum laude, from the University of Minnesota Law School. Upon completion of her law degree, she practiced immigration and civil litigation in Minneapolis.

She currently serves on the board of directors for the Midwest University Consortium for International Activity (MUCIA) and the university's Campus Club and has been a member of the Ambassadors Circle for Books for Africa for 2009-10. In 2006, she was awarded the University of Minnesota's Award for Global Engagement, given to faculty and staff members in recognition of outstanding contributions to global education and international programs in their field, discipline or the university.

Other University of Minnesota officials who have led NAFSA are Kay Thomas in 2000-01, Josef Mestenhauser in 1987-88, and Forrest Moore in 1958-59.

## U of M Institute on the



The video "No Shells Left Behind" took first place in the Institute on the Environment's Dialogue Earth video contest. All videos explored the topic of ocean acidification.

## Environment's Dialogue Earth project taps creativity of the crowd to create factual, fun science videos

**Media Note:** View winning videos at [http://environment.umn.edu/dialogue\\_earth/video.html](http://environment.umn.edu/dialogue_earth/video.html).

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/12/2011) —Dialogue Earth, a St. Paul-based nonprofit media project grown out of a collaboration between the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment and Foundation for Environmental Research, today announced the successful completion of a pilot test to engage an online community in the creation of innovative, scientifically sound and non-advocacy science videos.

Founded in 2009, Dialogue Earth's mission is to increase public understanding on topics of environmental importance.

The topic selected for the test was ocean acidification – an issue that increasingly concerns scientists, but with which few Americans are familiar. “The intention was to choose a topic about which content creators and video viewers would have little prior knowledge,” said Kent Cavender-Bares, an experienced science communicator who founded Dialogue Earth at the Institute on the Environment.

The partner chosen for the test was Tongal, a California-based online community of freelance multimedia creators who collaborate and compete in online contests to produce everything from story concepts to fully produced video pieces.

“This was an ideal challenge for the Tongal community,” said Rob Salvatore, CEO of Tongal. “Our platform is designed to produce optimal creativity while maintaining the integrity and direction of our client's message.”

Dialogue Earth provided Tongal contestants with 12 facts about ocean acidification assembled by Cavender-Bares, whose doctoral research was in oceanography, and offered a total of \$10,000 in prize money for the best videos. Contestants were instructed that entries would be judged on how likely they would appeal to “conservatives and liberals, those who support environmental advocacy, and those who do not.”

“It was critical to us that videos be engaging and compelling without making a specific call to action,” said Cavender-Bares. “Our vision for Dialogue Earth is to become a trusted information provider, and to avoid the political pitfalls associated with simultaneously providing information and taking sides on environmental topics.”

Humor was a common thread that ran through winning videos – including a jam session from a reggae band named “Snaily Puffin and the Coral Briefers,” a spoof of the classic black-and-white public service announcement, and a scene with a male mermaid as an unwanted neighbor. Winning videos may be viewed at [http://environment.umn.edu/dialogue\\_earth/video.html](http://environment.umn.edu/dialogue_earth/video.html).

“We are extremely impressed by the creativity of the crowd, and are encouraged about the potential of crowd-sourcing to help communicate complex and often contentious environmental topics,” said Dialogue Earth associate director Tom Masterman, a former television producer with a decade of experience in online media. The Dialogue Earth team intends to conduct additional multimedia production tests in 2011, including variations in incentive structures and process aimed at increasing turnaround time and improving quality. The team is also developing a crowd-based process for distributing videos.

To ensure its content is relevant, Dialogue Earth is creating tools to analyze social media dialogue trends.

In the first quarter of 2011, Dialogue Earth will launch Pulse, a tool for visualizing public opinion on topics of environmental importance. Analysis of sentiment expressed in social media such as Twitter will help Dialogue Earth identify topics for future videos.

Combining cutting-edge analytics and crowd-sourced content, Dialogue Earth aims to create a highly efficient system for distributing trustworthy, timely information about critical issues.

“We're striving to make the turnaround on the process as real time as possible,” said Cavender-Bares, “from recognizing a significant trend in the social media dialogue, to distributing a video to tens of thousands of online viewers.”

### About Dialogue Earth

Dialogue Earth is a nonprofit media start-up whose mission is to increase public understanding on topics of environmental importance. It believes that widespread distribution of trustworthy, relevant content will lead to a more productive dialogue and, ultimately, more informed action on Earth's most critical issues. To that end, it is building a team of experts in science communication, social media, content creation and Web application development. Dialogue Earth is a collaboration between the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment and Foundation for Environmental Research.

## Laura Babcock named new director of University of Minnesota's MnTAP

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/12/2011) —Laura Babcock has recently been named the new director of the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) at the University of Minnesota. She was chosen to lead the organization after Cindy McComas, longtime director, announced her retirement.

Babcock joins MnTAP from the NorthStar Initiative for Sustainable Enterprise, a program of the Institute on the Environment at the University of Minnesota. In that role, she explored opportunities to improve corporate sustainability performance through enhanced asset exchange and material cycling. Prior to joining the university, Babcock worked extensively in the chemical industry in a variety of roles including a focus on green chemistry and sustainable technology. She received a doctorate in Inorganic Chemistry from University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, and bachelor's degree in chemistry from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York.

"We are excited to have Laura join MnTAP as the new director," said MnTAP's Principal Investigator and Head of the Department of Environmental Health Sciences William Toscano. "She comes to the organization with a strong vision and a proven track record of success."

Babcock's areas of technical expertise include improving production quality of polylactic acid (PLA), lowering process costs of manufacturing operations and contributing to the discovery of various polymer technologies. She has co-authored numerous patents and publications in these areas.

In her new role at MnTAP, Babcock will be responsible for developing programs to meet business' needs, pursuing funding opportunities for program activities, collaborating with multiple in-state and national programs, managing staff and providing technical assistance to businesses in Minnesota. She will continue to teach an undergraduate course in biobased product and market development in the Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering Department within the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences at the University of Minnesota.

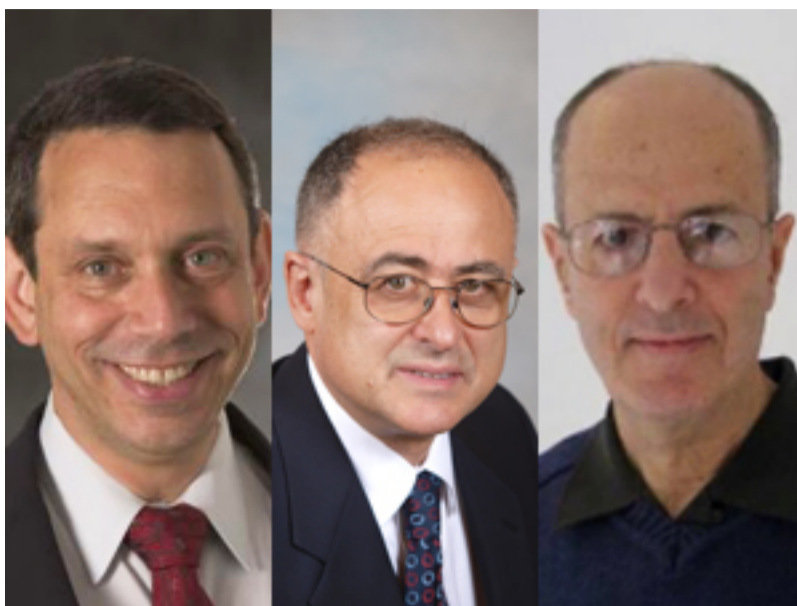
"I am extremely excited to join MnTAP as the director," Babcock said. "This organization has had 25 successful years of helping Minnesota businesses reduce waste, prevent pollution, conserve energy, and save money. I look forward to continuing to build upon that success to meet our clients' needs."

For more information about MnTAP and the new director, visit MnTAP's website at [www.mntap.umn.edu](http://www.mntap.umn.edu) or call (612) 624-1300.

MnTAP is a business assistance program in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota that helps Minnesota businesses implement industry-tailored solutions that maximize resource efficiency, increase energy efficiency, prevent pollution and reduce costs, to improve public health and the environment.

## AAAS and University of Minnesota announce 2010 Fellows

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Professors Douglas Arnold, Mostafa Kaveh and Yousef Saad have been named fellows to the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

MINNEAPOLIS / ST.

PAUL (01/13/2011) —Three University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering professors have been named fellows to the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). These professors have been elevated to this rank because of their efforts toward advancing science applications that are deemed scientifically or socially distinguished. Election as a fellow is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers.

The university professors named fellows are:

**Douglas N. Arnold** (*School of Mathematics*) for outstanding research in the design, analysis and implementation of algorithms for the numerical solution of partial differential equations, and for leadership of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM).

**Mostafa Kaveh** (*Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering*) for distinguished contributions to multiple sensor signal processing and applications to localization, imaging and communications and for long-standing academic and professional leadership.

**Yousef Saad** (*Department of Computer Science and Engineering*) for distinguished contributions in numerical linear algebra, particularly in developing and analyzing iterative methods for solving large sparse linear systems and eigenvalue problems.

This year AAAS awarded this honor to 503 members nationwide. New fellows will be presented with an official certificate and a gold and blue (representing science and engineering, respectively) rosette pin during the AAAS Fellows Forum 8-10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 19, at the 2011 AAAS Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The tradition of AAAS fellows began in 1874. Currently, members can be considered for the rank of fellow if nominated by the steering groups of the association's 24 sections, or by any three fellows who are current AAAS members (so long as two of the three sponsors are not affiliated with the nominee's institution) or by the AAAS chief executive officer. Each steering group then reviews the nominations of individuals within its respective section and a final list is forwarded to the AAAS Council, which votes on the aggregate list.

The council is the policymaking body of the association, chaired by the AAAS president and consisting of the members of the board of directors, the retiring section chairs, delegates from each electorate and each regional division and two delegates from the National Association of Academies of Science.

## Former Vice President Walter Mondale to discuss his inside perspective on American politics at University of Minnesota open forum



Jan. 20 event includes discussion with Humphrey Institute's Larry Jacobs, as well as audience Q&A. Tickets: \$15

U of M alum Walter Mondale was the 42nd vice president of the United States.

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### January 14, 2011

With a front row ticket to the inner workings of American politics for more than 50 years, former Vice President Walter Mondale understands the unseen aspects, delicate nuances and potential pitfalls of political gamesmanship. On Jan. 20, he will open up about his personal perspective on important moments in recent political history.

Talking with Mondale will be Larry Jacobs, director of the U of M Humphrey School of Public Affairs' Center for the Study of Politics and Governance. Jacobs is an expert in American political history and policy, and the author of 10 books. There will be a Q&A with audience members following the event.

The forum is offered in conjunction with the publication of Mondale's autobiography, "The Good Fight: A Life in Liberal Politics." Copies of the book will be available for sale and signing at the event.

The event takes place on at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20 at the Continuing Education & Conference Center (1890 Buford Ave.), on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by calling 612-624-4000 or by visiting [cce.umn.edu/learninglife](http://cce.umn.edu/learninglife). Tickets may be available for purchase at the door, but advanced registration for the event is encouraged as seating is limited.

A Minnesota native, Mondale has been a pivotal figure in state and national politics since 1948. After receiving his Juris Doctor from the University of Minnesota in 1956, Mondale was named Minnesota state attorney general in 1960. He served two terms in the U.S. Senate before becoming the 42nd vice president of the United States. After the Carter-Mondale ticket was defeated for reelection in the 1980 presidential race, Mondale was named the Democratic Party's candidate for president in 1984, and made history by selecting Geraldine Ferraro as the first female vice presidential candidate.

The discussion is the fourth in a new series, the LearningLife Forum. During its first year, the forum is focusing on the theme Witness to History, by asking some of Minnesota's most legendary public figures to share their experiences creating and witnessing history. Recent speakers have included Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page, legendary local rocker Chris Osgood and noted arts patrons John and Sage Cowles.

Future LearningLife Forum speakers include civil rights activist Josie Johnson (Feb. 17); world-famous transplant surgeon Dr. John Najarian (Mar. 17); and Minnesota's prominent milling family members George and Sally Pillsbury (Apr. 21).

The LearningLife Forum is a program of the University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education. Through the College of Continuing Education, motivated adults enrich their personal and professional lives through learning opportunities ranging from courses, workshops and retreats, to credit certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees. For more information about the college, call 612-624-4000 or visit [www.cce.umn.edu](http://www.cce.umn.edu).

## U of M President Robert Bruininks to testify before Minnesota Senate Committee on Higher Education



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Robert Bruininks will testify before the Minnesota Senate Committee on Higher Education hearing scheduled for 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19 at the State Capitol.

**January 18, 2011**

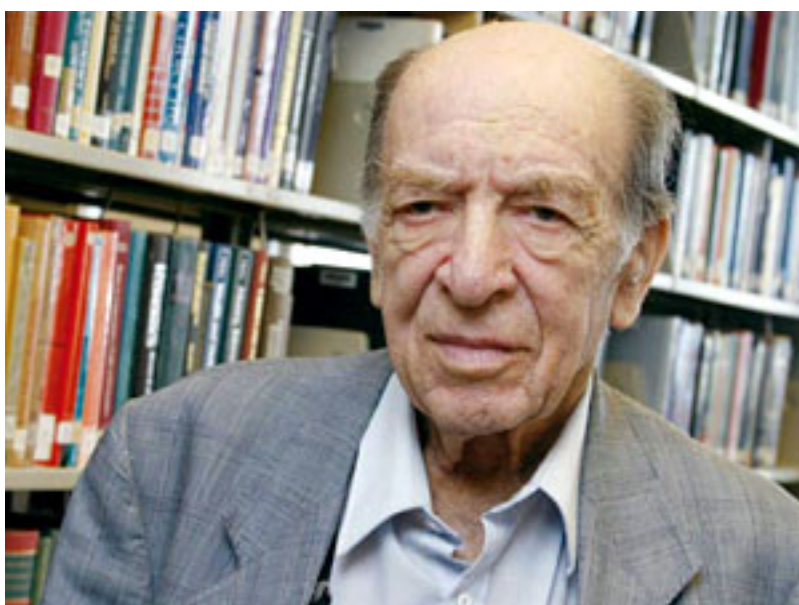
University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will testify before the Minnesota Senate Committee on Higher Education hearing scheduled for 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19, in Room 107, State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul.

The president will provide an overview of the University of Minnesota.

Later that evening, Bruininks will speak at the university's 2011 Legislative Briefing, to take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The event is expected to draw more than 500 attendees – alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of the university – to rally behind the U's 2011 legislative priorities. For more information about the Legislative Briefing, see [www.umn.edu/groots](http://www.umn.edu/groots).

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The late Leo Hurwicz was a longtime professor of economics at the University of Minnesota and a co-winner of the 2007 Nobel Prize in economics.

## Environmental Risk"

Climate change is main issue confronting the world in the 21st century, economic experts say

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**January 19, 2011**

Two prominent University of Minnesota Department of Economics Ph.D. alumni, Robert Litterman and Richard Sandor, are the featured speakers at the new U of M Heller-Hurwicz Economics Institute's (HHEI) premier event, "Addressing Climate Change: Economic Perspectives on Pricing Environmental Risk."

The event takes place 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9, at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Litterman, retired managing director of Goldman Sachs, is the co-developer of the Black-Litterman Global Asset Allocation Model. In addition to his advisory role with HHEI, Litterman is on the boards of the World Wildlife Fund, the Sloan Foundation and Commonfund.

Sandor is chairman and CEO of Environmental Financial Products LLC which specializes in inventing, designing and developing new financial markets with a special emphasis on investment advisory services. Known as the "father of financial futures" and the founder of the Climate Exchange family, Sandor has been at the epicenter of environmental and financial markets for more than four decades. He is also an environmental finance professor at Guanghua School of Management, Peking University and a research professor at Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University.

"Climate change is perhaps the seminal issue that will confront the world in the 21st century," says V. V. Chari, University of Minnesota economics professor and HHEI founding director. "Solving this problem effectively and efficiently will require us to harness the power of markets in channeling private incentives towards socially beneficial ends. Litterman and Sandor bring knowledge and experience in helping us think through these issues."

The discussion will be moderated by Jon Foley, director of the university's Institute on the Environment. The event is free and open to the public. Registration is required at <http://cla.umn.edu/rsvp/hheipublic.html>.

Promotional partners for the event include the Institute on the Environment, the World Wildlife Fund and the Nature Conservancy.

### About the U of M Department of Economics and HHEI

Launched in late 2010, HHEI is a new global initiative in the U of M College of Liberal Arts' Department of Economics, created to inform and influence public policy by supporting and promoting frontier economic research and by communicating its findings to leading academics, policymakers and business executives around the world.

The institute is named after Walter Heller and Leo Hurwicz, world-leading economics scholars who were faculty members at the University of Minnesota from the early 1950s through the 1980s.

The U of M Department of Economics consistently ranks among the nation's top economics programs. A recent survey showed that Ph.D. graduates of the department hold faculty positions at over 110 colleges and universities, including eight of the top ten rated departments of economics, eight Big Ten universities and a number of selective liberal arts colleges. They also hold faculty positions at fifteen Canadian universities and forty-five other foreign universities. They serve on the staffs of seven Federal Reserve Banks and the Board of Governors; six United States cabinet departments; a large number of ministries and agencies of foreign governments; and major international economic agencies, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

For more information about HHEI, Heller and Hurwicz, visit <http://hhei.umn.edu>.



## New research funding expands wheat research at University of Minnesota

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/19/2011) —New federal funding for breeding wheat and barley focused on increasing yield for changing environments will build on work already under way at the University of Minnesota.

A \$25 million grant announced last week by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) will involve scientists from the university's renowned agronomy and plant pathology departments as well as the USDA Cereal Disease Laboratory, which is located on the St. Paul campus.

The grant will allow researchers to understand the impact of climate change on cereal crop yields and to identify the genetic markers that will increase the efficiency of developing wheat and barley varieties exhibiting high yields and tolerance to climate variability. The project is led by scientists at the University of California-Davis and involves researchers, plant breeders and educators from 21 states. The five-year project includes development of a plant-breeding education network to train both graduate students and undergraduates in the plant sciences.

"This grant is an unprecedented opportunity and brings together expertise from across the country to enhance the efficiency of wheat and barley breeding focused on developing varieties that will exhibit high yields and mitigate the impact of climate variability," said Gary Muehlbauer, a professor in the department of agronomy and plant genetics who is leading the U of M team. Both the agronomy and plant pathology departments are part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.



## U of M professor's new public art project explores memory and forgetting

"Visitation" runs Feb. 3-26, features public excursions to Twin Cities locations



These sculptures are part of Krinke's "Visitation" project. For more on Visitation, visit the [project website](http://visitation.posterous.com).

**WHAT:** "Visitation": a solo show, a performance and four public excursions

**WHEN:** Opening reception for show: 6-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4. Performance at 8 p.m. (free) Exhibition runs: Feb. 3-26. Gallery hours: 4-8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays; 2-6 p.m. on Saturdays

**WHERE:** Rosalux Gallery, 1224 N.E. 2nd St., Minneapolis (show and performance)

For excursions, to be held every Saturday in February, see info below

**WEB:** <http://visitation.posterous.com>

**Contacts:** Rebecca Krinke, College of Design, [rjkrinke@umn.edu](mailto:rjkrinke@umn.edu), (612) 801-6629  
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### January 24, 2011

Rebecca Krinke, an artist and associate professor in the University of Minnesota College of Design's Department of Landscape Architecture, has created a new project, "Visitation." Her most recent project, "Unseen/Seen: The Mapping of Joy and Pain," has received nationwide attention since it was unveiled in the summer of 2010.

Visitation has three components: A sculptural installation, a performance and four weekly "excursions" -- public outreach events open to all. Visitation, the sculptural environment/installation, explores, in broad terms, memory and forgetting. Krinke says a trip to Alcatraz in April 2010 was inspirational for the Visitation installation. In particular an area at the prison called "visitation," which was for prisoners to talk with visitors, via small, heavy glassed "portholes" in a pink wall.

The environment contains a huge open storage cabinet stuffed with Krinke's journal-sketchbooks. Fabric, combined with lighting, will render much of the cabinet obstructed to direct sight and contact, unless one sits at strategically positioned chairs. The other primary element of Visitation will be three hovering sculptures of female bodies, made of mesh, and that see-through to the circulation system.

The Visitation installation was not designed for a performance -- it is a standalone work -- but Krinke was interested to see what could result by exploring performance as an active "overlay" to the physical setting. The Visitation performance was designed collaboratively by Anna Lawrence, Amy Krautbauer, Paige Collette and Krinke and will be performed by Lawrence, Krautbauer and Collette at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4 during the Rosalux Gallery opening.

Visitation also includes four different excursions, every Saturday in February, that respond broadly to the many definitions of "visitation." At each of the four excursion locations, a person or more than one person has volunteered to talk about their own personal experience of "visitation."

#### Excursions

12:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5

St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church, 515 University Ave. N.E., Minneapolis

Nina and Wasyl "Bill" Mykulak will discuss their experiences as two of the over two million Ukrainian men and women who were taken to Germany and forced to work as slave labor. Free and open to all.

1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 12

Minnesota Zen Center, 3343 East Calhoun Parkway, Minneapolis

Kate Sciandra, Zen Center member, will discuss the idea of "visitation" from a personal and Buddhist perspective. Free and open to all.

11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 19

Wabasha Street Caves, 215 Wabasha St. S., St. Paul

Arrive for the regularly scheduled 11 a.m. tour, open to all, \$6 (cash only)

The Wabasha Street Caves are regarded as "one of the most haunted sites in Minnesota." The group will meet at Grumpy Steve's Coffeeshop afterwards to discuss "visitations" and the "supernatural."

10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 26

Polar Bear Odyssey, Como Park Zoo, 1225 Estabrook Drive, St. Paul

Visit the polar bears and hear from zookeepers and volunteers about their experiences with the bears. Free and open to all.

Krinke plans excursions every month for six months beginning in March, to provide an opportunity for the public to visit unfamiliar places and people. "Breaking out of habitual patterns is a key aspect of this project, to learn and be inspired by all the stories there are in the Twin Cities," Krinke says.

**Rebecca Krinke** is a multimedia artist working in sculpture, installations and site art. In broad terms, her work deals with issues related to trauma and recovery. Krinke's sculpture often explores and embodies themes of trauma - using the body as a starting point -- while her installations and site works have often focused on ideas of recovery -- through contemplative, transformative environments. Her recent project of summer 2010, "Unseen/Seen: The Mapping of Joy and Pain," combined these themes in the same piece.

**Anna Lawrence** has worked as a freelance theatre artist in the Twin Cities since 2004. In addition to spending four seasons with Theatre de la Jeune Lune, her work has also been seen at the Guthrie, Southern, Playwright's Center, Bryant Lake Bowl, Stages Theater Company and Jon Ferguson Theater. She is a current Masters of Landscape Architecture student.

**Amy Krautbauer** has worked with George McConnell's The Brink theater company, and performance artist Richard Gough of the Centre for Performance Research. She works as a designer in Minneapolis and recently earned her Masters of Landscape Architecture degree.

**Paige Collette** is an award-winning writer and performer who moved to Minneapolis last spring from New York. Her shows include "Tender Hooks, Buttercream & Scotch" (with Tatiana Pavela, at Open Eye this summer) and "Brenda McIntire, CEO" (excerpt performed at Bedlam Theatre's Ten Fest).

For more information about Visitation and for updates, go to <http://visitation.posterous.com>.

## U of M Human Rights Center to launch Islamic Law and Human Rights Program

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/24/2011) —The University of Minnesota Law School's Human Rights Center will launch its Islamic Law and Human Rights Program (IHRP) on Friday, Feb. 4. Opening ceremonies will be held from 3 to 4:40 p.m. in Room 25 of Mondale Hall, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The new program will focus on current issues and debates surrounding human rights and Islamic law and will encourage and facilitate new approaches to research and real-world application. It will engage students through teaching, publications, fellowships, internships, applied research, field work, conferences and other special events on current human rights and Islamic law issues.

IHRP will function as a think-tank for issues related to Islamic law, human rights, the rule of law and terrorism in the Muslim world. Through the Human Rights Center, students will have access to advice and resources involving diverse constituencies, including students and human rights workers in organizations in the United States and around the Middle East and the Muslim world.

The program will be housed in the Law School's Human Rights Center on the plaza level of Mondale Hall and will be directed by Abdulwahid Qalinle, an adjunct associate professor of law at the Law School since 2004.

The event will include remarks by Qalinle; Law School Dean David Wippman; U.S. Representative Keith Ellison ('90); co-director of the Human Rights Center and Law School Professor David Weissbrodt; Judge LaJune Lange ('78); dean of the Institute for Global Citizenship at Macalester College and Professor Ahmed Ismail Samatar; Minneapolis Foundation Program Officer Zaineb Hassan; and Director of the African Development Center Hussein Samatar.

Associate Vice President and Dean of the Office of International Programs Meredith McQuaid ('91) will formally inaugurate the new program at the conclusion of the speakers' remarks. Light refreshments will follow.

RSVP is requested by Feb. 1 to Vicky Nguyen at [nguye386@umn.edu](mailto:nguye386@umn.edu) or (612) 626-0041.

## Quality Bicycle Products to seed green student businesses at University of Minnesota

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Jason Gaikowski, QBP Director of Marketing, [jgaikows@qbp.com](mailto:jgaikows@qbp.com), (952) 941-9391



Headed by University of Minnesota alumnus Steve Flagg, QBP has grown into the largest parts and accessories distributor in the bicycle industry, serving more than 5,000 dealers nationwide.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/24/2011) —Quality Bicycle Products (QBP) and the University of Minnesota have announced a new program to encourage the launch of green entrepreneurial ventures by university students. Through the “Purpose AND Profit” program, QBP will provide seed funding to new student-owned ventures that incorporate sustainable business practices and environmental stewardship, community service or biking advocacy. The program will be managed by the Gary S. Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship at the Carlson School of Management.

Grants of up to \$5,000 will be available to current University of Minnesota students seeking to launch a business through the Holmes Center’s Business Hatchery program. In addition to this new seed funding opportunity, students participating in the Business Hatchery receive legal and accounting advisory services, and mentoring from alumni and other volunteer supporters in the entrepreneurial business community.

“QBP is a great role model for this program—an extremely well-run business that also makes a tremendous impact on our community and the environment,” said John Stavig, professional director of the Gary S. Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship. “We’re optimistic that these funds will encourage our students to apply their entrepreneurship education and make a difference in the world.”

Headed by University of Minnesota alumnus Steve Flagg, QBP has grown into the largest parts and accessories distributor in the bicycle industry, serving more than 5,000 dealers nationwide. QBP is a values-centered organization where employees can achieve personal growth and work for a socially responsible business: QBP donates six percent of after-tax profits each year. Protecting the environment is part of the company’s mission —its 135,000 square-foot LEED-certified office has one of the largest solar installations in Minnesota. “I am a huge believer in the principle of ‘and’,” noted Flagg. “We hope that these funds will inspire students to build great companies ‘and’ make a positive difference for their community and the environment.”

Business Hatchery alums include Parag Shah, founder of Lunchbox, Joe Mullenbach and Alex Johansson, co-founders of NewWater, and Bright New Ideas founder Patrick Delaney.

University students interested in the Business Hatchery and “Purpose AND Profit” programs are encouraged to visit the Holmes Center website [www.entrepreneurship.umn.edu](http://www.entrepreneurship.umn.edu) or contact John Stavig at [jstavig@umn.edu](mailto:jstavig@umn.edu).

### About QBP

QBP is the leading wholesale distributor serving the cycling industry. Carrying more than 32,000 SKUs from 450 vendors, QBP offers domestic and international retailers a wide array of products and services including a 1,720-page catalog; an online ordering system; a renowned custom-wheel service; a specialty bike-building program and more. The company operates several specialty bike brands including All-City, Civia, Salsa and Surly. QBP is also the exclusive U.S. distributor of Ridley, a Belgian manufacturer of road, mountain and cyclocross bikes. Through its Q-Outdoor division, the company distributes products to independent ski, run and outdoor retailers. A strong proponent of environmental business practices, QBP operates two LEED-certified, Gold-level distribution centers and office complexes in Bloomington, MN and Ogden, UT. For more information, please contact Jason Gaikowski, marketing director at 952-941-9391, ext. 1533 or visit: [www.qbp.com](http://www.qbp.com).

### About the Gary S. Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship

The Gary S. Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship at the Carlson School of Management inspires and educates the next generation of entrepreneurs by engaging students, faculty and the business community in a broad range of innovative teaching, research and outreach programs. The Holmes Center is a global leader in the development of academic research that defines the field of entrepreneurship while providing unique experiential learning opportunities for its students. The Holmes Center fosters integration with the entrepreneurial business community by organizing a wide range of community outreach programs, including the Minnesota Cup, 3M Seminars on Technology Commercialization, Deluxe e-ternships and Business Hatchery. See more at [www.entrepreneurship.umn.edu](http://www.entrepreneurship.umn.edu).

## Rural agriculture leaders visit U of M St. Paul campus Jan. 28

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**January 24, 2011**

**WHAT:** The Minnesota Agriculture Rural Leadership (MARL) program is a dynamic leadership development program for active and engaged leaders in agricultural communities and organizations.

**WHY:** Reporters will have an opportunity to interview rural leaders from across Minnesota about their perspectives on the state of agriculture, and discover how, through participation in MARL, these leaders are learning to bring their communities together to deal with today's complex issues.

In addition, reporters will have the opportunity to listen to presentations by the following University of Minnesota experts:

- o Bev Durgan, Extension Dean
- o Brian Buhr, department head, Applied Economics, and Extension economist
- o Marla Spivak, Extension entomologist and nationally known bee researcher

**WHEN:** 8 a.m to 12:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28. Presentations begin at 8 a.m. MARL participants and leaders are available for interviews between 10:20 and 11:20 a.m.

**WHERE:** University of Minnesota Cargill Building, 1500 Gortner Ave., St. Paul. Maps and directions available at [www.umn.edu/twincities/maps/CargillB](http://www.umn.edu/twincities/maps/CargillB).

### About MARL

MARL is a program of Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) and University of Minnesota Extension for rural agriculture leaders. MARL helps participants improve performance in their current leadership roles and achieve their leadership goals. SMSU administers the program and Extension develops and coordinates the delivery of the curriculum. MARL has an 11-member advisory board that is an ancillary unit of the SMSU Foundation a private, 501 (c)(3) entity. The institutional partners provide generous in-kind support, but the key to MARL's public/private status is private funding. Participants pay a fee which covers approximately 1/3 of the cost of the delivering the program. The majority of the program costs are paid with donations from individuals, businesses and foundations.

For information about Extension, visit [www.extension.umn.edu](http://www.extension.umn.edu).

For more information about MARL, visit [www.smsu.edu/marl/](http://www.smsu.edu/marl/).

## U of M graduate students to compete for coveted Medtronic case prize

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**January 25, 2011**

The third-annual Medtronic Interdisciplinary Healthcare Case Competition, a University of Minnesota graduate student team event designed to support innovation and leadership in the healthcare and medical device industry, will be held Jan. 27 to 29, at the Carlson School, 321 19th Avenue S, Minneapolis. The competition features a \$4,000 first-place cash prize.

Sponsored by Medtronic Inc. and coordinated by the Medical Industry Leadership Institute Student Association (MILISA), the competition presents a rare opportunity for university graduate students in the fields of law, medicine, public policy, public health and business to collaborate in teams to create innovative solutions to a contemporary challenge faced by the medical device industry.

"What makes the competition special is that you get to meet and work with students from other schools at the University and develop a network with them," says Archana Balasubramanyam, Carlson Full-Time MBA '11, member of the 2009 winning team, and MILISA co-president. "Also, I loved the interdisciplinary aspect of the competition and learning about what's important to the different players in the medical industry."

This year's competition will feature six to eight teams, each of which will include at least one student from the master's programs of business administration, healthcare administration and public health. After being presented with a real-life challenge faced by Medtronic, teams will be given 36 hours to research and analyze the challenge and prepare a presentation.

On Saturday, Jan. 29, each team will present their analyses and recommendations to a panel of first-round judges comprised of university faculty. The judges will determine which three teams developed the best solutions based upon specific criteria.

The top three teams will be announced at the awards dinner, which will be held on Saturday evening near the Carlson cafeteria. Those teams will move on to the final round at Medtronic world headquarters where they will present their recommendations to a panel of Medtronic executives. The date for the final presentations has yet to be determined.

While the topic of the challenge and presentations will remain private due to proprietary subject matter, the public is welcome to attend the awards dinner.

In addition to the \$4,000 first-place prize; \$2,000 will be awarded for second-place; and \$1,000 for third-place.

## U of M College of Design students to design and prototype their own toy concepts

Class taught by the  
co-creator of the Nerf  
Atom Blaster, Barry  
Kudrowitz



The course, “Toy Product Design,” is taught by assistant professor Barry Kudrowitz. Kudrowitz helped invent the Nerf Atom Blaster while working for toymaker Hasbro.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/25/2011) —This semester, a course in the University of Minnesota College of Design will provide undergraduate and graduate students the unique opportunity to design and prototype their own toy concepts. The students will work closely with local sponsors, children and experienced mentors.

The course, “Toy Product Design,” is taught by assistant professor Barry Kudrowitz, the college’s first full-time product design faculty member. Kudrowitz recently earned his doctorate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the mechanical engineering department, where he studied creativity, humor and idea generation. He completed his master’s degree work at MIT studying projectile toy design with Hasbro, Inc. This partnership with Hasbro resulted in the Nerf Atom Blaster toy.

Kudrowitz says the goal of the course is to introduce students to the product development process. This includes determining customer needs; brainstorming; estimation; sketching; graphic design; industrial design drawing; sketch modeling; concept development; design aesthetics; detailed design; prototyping; and written, visual and oral presentation communication.

On three occasions during the semester, the students will visit the Minnesota Children’s Museum to play test the toy concepts with kids. At the end of the course, students present their toy product prototypes at so-called “PLAYsentations” to toy designers, engineers, kids and the University of Minnesota community.

Product design in the College of Design officially kicked off in late 2010. Culminating years of effort, the college launched a graduate minor in product design and launched the Wearable Product Design Center, which formalizes research connections among apparel design faculty.

For more information about the class, see <http://faculty.design.umn.edu/barryk/index.html>. To learn more about Kudrowitz, visit his website at [www.wonderbarry.com](http://www.wonderbarry.com).



From  
computer  
scientists to  
English  
professors,  
social media  
connects the  
U of M

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The U of M's Interdisciplinary Graduate Group in Social Computing will meet for the first time this month.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST.  
PAUL (01/26/2011)

—As social media tools like Twitter and Facebook have come to play a key role in our daily work and social lives, they have also made their way into academia. Now, a group of researchers from across the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities campus have recognized the need for more exchange and collaboration on all things social media.

This Thursday, Jan. 27, they'll hold the first monthly gathering of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Group in Social Computing. Organizers have put the call out to researchers across the university who are exploring social media and its impact on society.

"This is our first rattling of the bushes to see who shows up and it should be pretty interesting," says Nora Paul, director of the U of M School of Journalism and Mass Communication's Minnesota Journalism Center.

So far, potential participants include students, staff and faculty from the English, computer science, journalism, writing studies, public health, mathematics, environmental studies, youth development and Spanish and Portuguese fields.

The group is particularly aimed at graduate students, but Paul says they want to have the events open to the community as well, with a goal of spurring collaboration not just across departments but also with people outside the university.

The meet-and-greet kick-off event is 4-6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 27, in the Digital Technology Center Auditorium, room 402, Walter Library, 117 Pleasant St. S.E., Minneapolis.

For more information, visit <http://sites.google.com/site/umnsocialcomputing> or follow the group on Twitter ([http://twitter.com/UMN\\_SoComp](http://twitter.com/UMN_SoComp)) and Facebook (<http://on.fb.me/gS72oN>).

## U of M College of Design to document the lives and times of Minnesota's landscape architects

Project is in partnership with the American Society of Landscape Architects

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/26/2011) —The University of Minnesota College of Design is teaming up with the Minnesota Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects to gather an oral history of the stories of Minnesota's leading landscape architects from the second half of the 20th century.

The project will collect oral histories that record not only the lives of local landscape architects that have influenced their profession, but will also tell how the Minnesota landscape, environment and overall public good have been enhanced by landscape architects over the past 60 years. The histories will be archived with the Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota Libraries.

The project, made possible through a grant from the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Fund, began in December 2010, with an anticipated completion date of June 2011.

A public panel discussion, "The Founders: A Panel Discussion about the Evolution of the Department of Landscape Architecture," will take place 6 p.m. Thursday, March 3, at the University of Minnesota's Rapson Hall, auditorium, 89 Church St., Minneapolis. It will feature university faculty Herb Baldwin, Roger Martin, Roger Clemence and Peter Olin, who will discuss the early days of the college's Department of Landscape Architecture and reflections on the impact that landscape architects have had throughout the state.

The event is free and open to the public. To register and for more information, visit <https://events.umn.edu/The-Founders-Making-the-Dept-of-Landscape-Architecture-009217.htm>.

## President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis to discuss the economy at University of Minnesota "Headliners" event



Narayana Kocherlakota will discuss the role of the Fed, the U.S. labor market and his forecast for economic recovery

Narayana Kocherlakota was a U of M economics professor at the U of M from 2005 to 2009 before being named the 12th president of the Minneapolis Federal Reserve.

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**January 27, 2011**

On Thursday, Feb. 3, Narayana Kocherlakota, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, will discuss the U.S. economy and the role that the Federal Reserve policy plays in the economic recovery at a University of Minnesota "Headliners" event.

Kocherlakota serves on the Federal Open Markets Committee (FOMC), the policy-making arm of the Federal Reserve System which determines the nation's monetary policies. He recently made headlines when he told the Wall Street Journal that the FOMC's plan to buy \$600 billion of long-term treasuries this year (an action known as quantitative easing) would only have a modest effect on the economy. Kocherlakota has also stated that he expects the economy to improve more rapidly in 2011 and 2012 than was seen in 2010.

The Headliners event includes a presentation by Kocherlakota, followed by a Q&A with audience members. It will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 3 at the U of M St. Paul campus' Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by calling (612) 624-4000 or online at [cce.umn.edu/headliners](http://cce.umn.edu/headliners). Tickets may be available for purchase at the door, however advanced registration for the event is encouraged as seating is limited.

Kocherlakota was named the 12th president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis in 2009. Prior to this appointment, he was a professor of economics at the University of Minnesota where he chaired the economics department from 2006–08. Under his leadership the department improved its national ranking, becoming one of the top 10 economics programs in the country. From 1999–2009, he served as a consultant to the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. Kocherlakota earned an A.B. in mathematics from Princeton University and a doctorate in economics from the University of Chicago. He has published more than 30 articles in academic journals and is the author of the book "The New Dynamic Public Finance."

Headliners is a program provided by the University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education. Through the College of Continuing Education, motivated adults enrich their personal and professional lives through learning opportunities ranging from courses, workshops and retreats, to credit certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees. For more information about the college, call 612-624-4000, or visit [www.cce.umn.edu](http://www.cce.umn.edu).



## U of M statement regarding missing student

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/27/2011) —The following is a statement from College of Liberal Arts Dean James A. Parente, Jr. regarding the death of University of Minnesota student Keaton Murphy:

“We’re deeply saddened to learn of Keaton’s death. Anytime we lose a student, it is a tragedy for our community. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his parents, family and friends.”

Counseling services are available for students, faculty and staff at [www.mentalhealth.umn.edu](http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu).

U of M  
computer  
science  
researchers  
provide  
insight into  
the future of  
how we  
understand  
social  
networking



Time and space to  
play key roles in  
analyzing people's lives on the social web

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**Preston Smith**, University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/28/2011) —The rise of social media has allowed people to connect and re-connect with friends, colleagues and family from across the world. A new paper by University of Minnesota computer scientists in the College of Science and Engineering provides insights into how the analysis of our social networking interactions could discover things like the emergence or decline of leadership, changes in trust over time, and migration and mobility within particular communities online.

The paper, “Computational Modeling of Spatio-temporal Social Networks: A Time-Aggregated Graph Approach,” was co-authored by computer science and engineering professor Shashi Shekhar and research assistant Dev Oliver. The researchers recently presented the paper at a national workshop hosted by the University of California, Santa Barbara, in conjunction with the National Science Foundation and Army Research Center. The paper is available online at <http://www.ncgia.ucsb.edu/projects/spatio-temporal/docs/Shekhar-position.pdf>.

In most cases, social network analysis today is limited to discovering friend connections, community leaders and outlines, influential people and personal friend recommendations using a static or snapshot method. The authors say that if new factors could be taken into consideration, specifically changes across time and space, this could help social network analysis better understand why, when and how we are “friends” with people.

These time and space findings are particularly valuable for businesses and software developers, for example on the career networking site LinkedIn. Most people use the site to see who in their network knows and might endorse whom, but human resources professionals might cross-reference and checking a person's contacts by their work history to discern if a specific contact was established at one timeframe versus another.

Shekhar and Oliver say this points to the need for “a central role for computation and computational models, not only to scale up to the large and growing data volumes, but also to address new spatio-temporal social questions related to change, trends, duration, mobility and travel.”

## U of M professor Ragui Assaad to speak on "Youth Movements and Revolution in Egypt," Feb. 1

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**January 31, 2011**

Ragui Assaad, a Cairo native and professor in the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs, will speak on "Youth Movements and Revolution in Egypt" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 1, in 125 Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis. Hosted by the university's Institute for Advanced Study, the event is free and open to the public.

Following the ouster of Tunisia's president on Jan. 14 after nearly a month of street protests, world attention has turned to Egypt where reformers from across the political spectrum have been calling for an end to almost three decades of rule by President Hosni Mubarak. Professor Assaad will speak to the U of M community about the current situation and the recent history of dissent in Egypt, followed by a question and answer session.

Assaad's current research projects include studying the effects of economic reform on the Egyptian labor market, female labor supply in Egypt and community development efforts among Cairo's informal waste collectors. He has served as a consultant to the World Bank, the International Labor Organization, the Ford Foundation and UNICEF. Assaad is a research fellow of the Economic Research Forum for the Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey.

For more information about the event, visit <http://www.ias.umn.edu/calendar.php>.

## U of M president praises governor's bonding bill

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University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks praised Gov. Mark Dayton's proposed bonding bill for the 2011 legislative session.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (01/31/2011)

—The following is a statement from University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks

regarding Gov. Mark Dayton's proposed bonding bill for the 2011 legislative session:

"I'm pleased with Gov. Dayton's bonding recommendations for the University of Minnesota and am excited about getting to work with him and the Legislature on funding some of these important projects that will have a meaningful impact on our state's competitiveness.

"Challenging budget times mean it's more important than ever that the investments we do make are smart and benefit Minnesota's economy. A strong physics program is the backbone of cutting-edge teaching and research. Enabling the university to strengthen our focus on physics and nanotechnology will greatly enhance our ability to educate the science workforce of the future.

"We're also grateful the governor is recommending investment in higher education maintenance and moving sensitive labs for the Central Corridor light rail line. All of this will enable us to more efficiently and effectively deliver on our mission, which is essential to Minnesota's economic competitiveness."

More information on the Physics and Nanotechnology Building can be found at:

[www.physicsnano.umn.edu](http://www.physicsnano.umn.edu).

## U's American Indian Cultural House to host film series

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### February 1, 2011

The University of Minnesota American Indian Cultural House will be hosting a film series Feb. 16, March 9 and April 13 to help raise public awareness and celebrate the works of American Indian and First Nation films that challenge racial stereotypes.

The development of this series is intended to provide leadership opportunities to students who participate in the American Indian Cultural House. Students learn about organizing community events and building collaborations with departments and other student organizations.

The theme for this year's films is "Native Warriors."

### **We Shall Remain: Geronimo** 6 p.m. Feb. 16

The first film in the series, "We Shall Remain: Geronimo," is a groundbreaking mini-series and provocative multi-media project that establishes Native history as an essential part of American history. It includes five 90-minute documentaries spanning 300 years telling the story of pivotal moments in U.S. history from the Native American perspective. Episode 4 focuses on the life and politics of Apache warrior Geronimo.

### **Sitting Bull: A Stone in My Heart** 6 p.m. March 9

The second film, "Sitting Bull: A Stone in My Heart," is an 83-minute documentary film on the great American Indian Lakota chief, spiritual leader and warrior as he has never been seen before on the screen.

### **Way of the Warrior** 6 p.m. April 13

The third film, "Way of the Warrior," explores the warrior ethic among Native Americans. This documentary also reveals how Native communities have traditionally viewed their warriors and why, during the 20th century, Native men and women have signed up for military service at a rate three times higher than non-Indians.

All films are at the Bell Auditorium and are free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served at 5:30 p.m. before each show.

For more information visit <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/mcae/aich/film/>.

Sponsored by the University of Minnesota's American Indian Student Cultural Center, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, the Circle of Indigenous Nations, the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence, University Libraries and the Office for Equity and Diversity

Hosted by the University of Minnesota's American Indian Cultural House Living Learning Community members. The University of Minnesota American Indian Cultural House is a living and learning community for freshman with American Indian heritage or those interested in learning more about American Indian culture. Created in 2003, it is only one of few such programs in the nation.



## Global ecology network created by U of M researchers overturns assumption about invasive plant species



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Eurasian watermilfoil, now common in many Minnesota bodies of water, is an example of an invasive plant species.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/01/2011) —New research using a global ecology network created by two professors in the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences has overturned the common assumption that many invasive plant species behave more aggressively in new habitats than in their own.

Instead, results indicate that invasive plants have a similar or lower abundance in new and native ranges, and that increases are unusual.

Invasive plant species are a serious environmental, economic and social problem worldwide. Their abundance can lead to lost native biodiversity and ecosystem functions, such as nutrient cycling.

The finding, published in the current issue of *Ecology Letters*, has important implications for creating screening procedures to predict and mitigate the impact of invasive species.

Scientists in a global collaboration called the Nutrient Network, created by U of M ecology professors Elizabeth Borer and Eric Seabloom, tested the "abundance assumption" for 26 plant species at 39 locations on four continents.

Jennifer Firn, a researcher from Queensland University of Technology and CSIRO, Australia, the lead author of 36 co-authors of the paper, found that the abundance assumption did not hold for the majority of plant species. Twenty of the 26 species examined had a similar or lower abundance at introduced versus native sites.

The results are the first to be published from the Nutrient Network. The network is led by individual researchers at the various sites, and coordinated through NSF funding to biologists Borer and Seabloom of the University of Minnesota.

"The Nutrient Network is the only collaboration of its kind where individual researchers have set up the same experiment at sites around the world," says Borer.

For three years scientists have been collecting population, community and ecosystem-scale plant data, including species-specific distribution and abundance data, with standardized protocols across dozens of sites.

"The experimental design used is simple," says Borer, "but it's one that provides a new, global-scale approach for addressing many critical ecological issues. It will tell us information we need to know about invasive species and changing climates."

The full article, "Abundance of Introduced Species at Home Predicts Abundance Away in Herbaceous Communities," is available at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1461-0248.2010.01584.x/abstract>.

## University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks' statement regarding Steven Rosenstone's appointment as next chancellor of MnSCU



Steven J. Rosenstone, the U of M's current vice president of scholarly and cultural affairs, was named the next chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system Wednesday.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/02/2011) —The following is a statement from University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks regarding the appointment of U of M Vice President for Scholarly and Cultural Affairs Steven Rosenstone as the new chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system:

“It is a great honor for our institution to have key members of our executive team pursued by our peers—and in this case, our sister system of higher education here in Minnesota. Dr. Rosenstone is an outstanding administrator and scholar who, for more than a decade, led the University’s largest and most diverse college, the College of Liberal Arts. He has played an essential role in our efforts to transform the educational experience at the University, to deepen our commitment to affordable access for students of all backgrounds, and to develop long-range strategies for ensuring the University’s future financial vitality.

“He is a creative and strategic thinker and an outstanding leader who is well suited to strengthen the MnSCU system in the 21st century. Of course, MnSCU's gain is a great loss to the University of Minnesota, but we will celebrate with Dr. Rosenstone and look forward to continued collaboration with him.”

## U of M Physics Circus brings large-scale stunts and physics lessons to kids



The "Physics Force" show is unique mix of physics demonstrations and slap-stick humor suitable for adults and children of all ages.

### Media Note:

Members of the media may attend any of the school group shows at the Minneapolis Convention Center to get photos and video at 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 7; 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8; 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9; 10:30 a.m Thursday, Feb. 10.

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### February 2, 2011

If you've never seen a physicist drop 20 feet through thin air while a friend shoots a ball at him from a cannon, or grown men and women shooting streams of toilet paper over an audience with a leaf blower, the University of Minnesota Physics Force has a show for you.

The Physics Force will present its largest show of the year, called the "Physics Circus," at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10, at the Minneapolis Convention Center, 1301 2nd Ave S, Minneapolis. The show is a unique mix of physics demonstrations and slap-stick humor suitable for adults and children of all ages. The show is free, but registration is requested at <http://umnphysicsforce2011.eventbrite.com>.

The Physics Force is an entertaining outreach program of the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering. The group's goal is to show that difficult subjects like physics and math can be fun and interesting. Each year the group performs for more than 20,000 school-age kids at its annual shows.

The Force consists of high school teachers and University of Minnesota physics professors. The group has performed variations of their show at Disney's Epcot Center, on Newton's Apple, and the Knoff-Hoff Show, a popular German television science program.

Demonstrations include dropping one of the Force members from a 20-foot garret while shooting a ball at him to demonstrate the effect of gravity on projectiles; collapsing a 55-gallon drum using only water to show the force of air pressure, and one of the Force members propelling across the stage on a cart by emptying a fire extinguisher to demonstrate how forces come in pairs (for every force, there's an equal and opposite force).

For more information and a video preview of the demonstrations, visit <http://www.physics.umn.edu/outreach/pforce/index.html>.

## 43rd annual University of Minnesota Senior Fashion Show, "Distortion," to be held Feb. 19

Two Saturday evening shows to highlight work by U of M student designers



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### February 2, 2011

"Distortion," the 43rd annual University of Minnesota Senior Fashion Show, will take place with shows at 5 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 19, in the courtyard of Ralph Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. This highly anticipated event showcases the talent of 18 senior-year designers from the U of M's College of Design, each with their own personal style and eye for cutting-edge fashion.

"Distortion" is a runway event that incorporates a wide variety of styles and inspirations ranging from men's wear to women's wear, work wear to sportswear and high fashion to the stylishly affordable. Organizers say the diversity and magnitude of the apparel design senior class promises an evening that is "unexpectedly alluring, so forget what you know about fashion and prepare for your idea of the runway to be enjoyably distorted." A standing exhibition of work by the sophomore class and pre-runway show from the junior class will also be included.

The University of Minnesota Senior Fashion Show has a long-standing tradition of showcasing fine fashion and illustrating the skills developed through the apparel design program. After three years of hard work and dedication, the designers are ready to show the world what makes their designs unique.

Each year the show attracts a sell-out crowd of more than 1,000 people at both shows, including local designers, retailers, students, faculty and industry professionals. Tickets are \$20 in advance (\$50 VIP), \$25 (non-VIP) at the door and \$10 for balcony standing room. Tickets sell quickly, and may be purchased online at <http://fashionshow.design.umn.edu>.

To learn more about the show, visit <http://fashionshow.design.umn.edu>, [www.twitter.com/SrFashionShow](http://www.twitter.com/SrFashionShow) or [www.facebook.com/seniorfashionshow](http://www.facebook.com/seniorfashionshow).

## School-based early childhood education program yields high economic returns, University of Minnesota researchers find



The findings from this analysis can be useful to policymakers and school superintendents across the nation as they make funding decision.

### Media Note:

Embargoed until 12:01 a.m. Friday, Feb. 4. For a copy of the study, contact Patty Mattern at [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu).

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/03/2011) —For every \$1 invested in a Chicago early childhood education program, nearly \$11 is projected to return to society over the children's lifetimes -- equivalent to an 18 percent annual return on program investment, according to a study led by University of Minnesota professor of child development Arthur Reynolds in the College of Education and Human Development.

For the analysis, Reynolds and other researchers evaluated the effectiveness of the Chicago Public Schools' federally funded Child Parent Centers (CPCs) established in 1967. Their work represents the first long-term economic analysis of an existing, large-scale early education program. Researchers surveyed study participants and their parents, and analyzed education, employment, public aid, criminal justice, substance use and child welfare records for the participants through to age 26.

"Our findings provide strong evidence that sustained high-quality early childhood programs can contribute to well-being for individuals and society," said Reynolds, director of the Chicago Longitudinal Study and co-director of the Human Capital Research Collaborative at the University of Minnesota. "The large-scale CPC program has one of the highest economic returns of any social program for young people. As public institutions are being pressed to cut costs, our findings suggest that increasing access to high-quality programs starting in preschool and continuing into the early grades is an efficient use of public resources."

The CPC program in the project provided services for low-income families beginning at age three in 20 school sites. Kindergarten and school-age services are provided up to age nine (third grade). Funded by Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, CPC is the second oldest (after Head Start) federally funded preschool program. The analysis appears in the January/February issue of *Child Development*, the journal of the Society for Research in Child Development. Co-authoring researchers included Judy Temple, Barry White and Suh-Ruu Ou at the University of Minnesota and Dylan Robertson from the Chicago Public Schools.

Reynolds and his colleagues did the cost-benefit analysis of the CPC using information collected on about 900 children enrolled in the 20 centers starting when they were three and first enrolled in a preschool program. The study continued until the children were nine and taking part in a school-age program that featured smaller classes, teacher aides, and instructional and family support. Follow-up interviews were done in early adulthood and information was collected from many sources until age 26. These children were compared to a group of about 500 comparable children who didn't take part in the CPC but participated in the usual educational interventions for disadvantaged youths in Chicago schools.

The CPC resulted in significantly higher rates of attendance at 4-year colleges and employment in higher-skilled jobs and significantly lower rates of felony arrests and symptoms of depression in young adulthood.

The program's economic benefits in 2007 dollars exceeded costs, including increased earnings and tax revenues, averted costs related to crime and savings for child welfare, special education and grade retention. The preschool part showed the strongest economic benefits providing a total return to society of \$10.83 per dollar invested -- equivalent to an 18 percent annual return on program investment. Gains varied by child, program and family group.

When the researchers included the benefits from reductions in smoking, total returns rose to more than \$12 per dollar invested. The school-age program yielded a return of about \$4 per dollar invested (annual rate of return of 10 percent) and the combined preschool and school-age program (preschool to third grade) yielded returns of \$8.24 per dollar invested (annual rate of return of 18 percent), based on average net benefits per child of \$38,000 above and beyond less extensive intervention.

Children at higher levels of risk experienced the highest economic benefits, including males (\$17.88 per dollar invested; a 22% annual return), children who had taken part in preschool for a year (\$13.58 per dollar invested; a 21% annual return) and children from higher-risk families, including those whose parents had not graduated from high school (\$15.88 per dollar invested; a 20% annual return).

The researchers identified five key principles of the CPC that they say led to its effectiveness, including providing services that are of sufficient length or duration, are high in intensity and enrichment, feature small class sizes and teacher-student ratios, are comprehensive in scope and are implemented by well-trained and well-compensated staff. A further unique feature of the research is that the origin of the economic returns can be empirically traced through a chain of early educational advantages to cumulate in long-term effects.

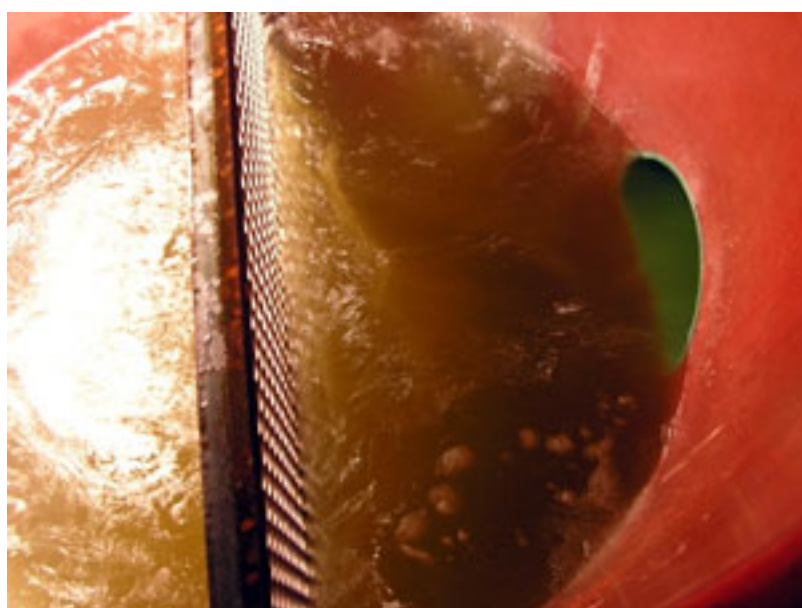
The findings from this analysis can be useful to policymakers and school superintendents across the nation as they make funding decisions. A lot of states are thinking of scaling back on early childhood investments, but this analysis suggests the opposite, Reynolds said.

"Access to effective programs like CPC should be increased," Reynolds said. "In scarce times, policymakers should divest in programs that aren't working and reserve the scarce resources for the most effective."

For more information about The Chicago Longitudinal Study, including the CPC program, go to <http://cehd.umn.edu/icd/cls>. The Human Capital Research Collaborative is at <http://humancapitalrc.org>. The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), which is part of the National Institute of Health, funded this study. To learn more about NICHD go to <http://www.nichd.nih.gov>.

## U of M startup will benefit environment by improving sediment control for urban runoff

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The "SAFL Baffle" is installed in a sump -- a vertical cylinder that connects two or more sewer pipes -- and slows down water rushing into the sump and prevents it from picking up sediments that have settled there during low-flow periods.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/03/2011) —The University of Minnesota finalized an agreement with Upstream Technologies, a Minneapolis startup company that aims to commercialize a device that will improve sediment control for urban runoff (storm water).

The device was developed at the Saint Anthony Falls Laboratory (SAFL), a research unit within the university's College of Science and Engineering. Researchers nicknamed the device the "SAFL Baffle" and are finding it to be a cost-effective method for preventing harmful sediments carried by storm water from reaching Minnesota lakes and streams.

As water makes its way into storm sewers after a rainstorm, and eventually into lakes and rivers, it picks up sediments like sand and gravel along the way. These sediments sometimes contain nutrients that can interrupt the biological balance of lakes and streams and can be harmful to plant life.

"Urban runoff hits the road, goes into the storm sewers and ends up in receiving water bodies like lakes and rivers," said John Gulliver, a civil engineering professor in the U of M's College of Science and Engineering and co-inventor of the SAFL Baffle. "Cities are required to treat urban runoff and are trying to figure out how to deal with this."

The SAFL Baffle is installed in a sump -- a vertical cylinder that connects two or more sewer pipes. There are usually 30 to 40 sumps in the sewer system on a given street. The Baffle slows down water rushing into the sump and prevents it from picking up sediments that have settled there during low-flow periods.

"Existing sumps are catching sediments for small storms, but if a big storm comes along, it will wash all those sediments back out," Gulliver said. "So we devised a simple technique to keep the sediments in the sump during high flow events. Its main purpose is to prevent the sediment from being scoured out when you have high flow."

The SAFL Baffle can be installed in existing sumps as well as new structures. It would be more cost-effective than existing devices currently on the market. Existing devices, which cost about 10 times more than the SAFL Baffle, also remove floating trash, oil, grease, and heavy metals. These additional features are often unnecessary, because a separate device can be installed at the street level to remove trash. A combination of this device and the SAFL Baffle will do the same job as devices currently on the market, at a fraction of the price.

"The current devices that are on the market have a lot of features that are generally not needed," said A.J. Schwidder, CEO of Upstream Technologies and a Carlson School of Management MBA student. "Those devices are a lot more expensive than the SAFL Baffle, which just does sediment removal. So the customer is only paying for what they need."

The SAFL Baffle is due to be installed in sumps in Minneapolis, Prior Lake and Bloomington in February.

"One of the attractive things about the SAFL Baffle is that there are real customers who want to purchase it now," said Dale Nugent, marketing manager for the U of M's Office for Technology Commercialization. "It's affordable and meets a pressing need for sediment control. We are grateful that the Minnesota Department of Transportation sponsored research with the Saint Anthony Falls Laboratory to help translate this need into a market-ready solution."

Gulliver and his research team are happy to have solved an environmental threat with such a simple device.

"We were surprised that this simple solution worked so well and nobody else had tried it," he said.

The research of Gulliver's team was funded by the Minnesota Local Road Research Board. The organization funds research to improve transportation in the state and is affiliated with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The device was invented by Gulliver, civil engineering adjunct professor Omid Mohseni, and graduate student Adam Howard.

### About the Office for Technology Commercialization

The Office for Technology Commercialization oversees all aspects of technology commercialization at the University of Minnesota. Its mission is to translate University of Minnesota research into new products and services that provide growth opportunities for licensees, benefit the public good, improve the quality of life, and generate revenue to support the University's research and education goals.

## U of M School of Music presents the world premiere of composer Alex Shapiro's "Immersion," Feb. 16

Shapiro composes acoustic and electroacoustic pieces known for their lyricism and drama

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### February 3, 2011

The University of Minnesota's Symphonic and University Bands present the world premiere of "Immersion" for symphonic band by Alex Shapiro at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 16, at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis. This three-movement electro-acoustic work is inspired by water and water-based life and will include multi-media visual film art created by School of Music student Jay'd Hagberg in collaboration with the composer. This event is free and open to the public.

Immersion is a three-movement work that can be presented as one longer piece, or modularly, in any combination of movements together or separately. "Depth" and "Beneath" are moderate in tempo, while "Surface" is very fast and percussive, and even suitable as an encore.

Immersion was commissioned by a consortium of partners: Dr. Milton Allen, Ohio State University; Dr. Tom Duffy, Yale University; Encore Wind Ensemble, Minneapolis; Glenn C. Hayes, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater; Jerry Luckhardt, University of Minnesota; Steve Olsen, Rosemount High School, Rosemount, Minn.; and Dr. Robert Taylor, University of British Columbia.

Shapiro, born in 1962, composes acoustic and electroacoustic pieces known for their lyricism and drama. Published by Activist Music, her music is heard daily in concerts and broadcasts across the United States and internationally, and can be found on more than 20 commercially released CDs from record labels around the world. Educated at The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music as a student of Ursula Mamlok and John Corigliano, Shapiro's honors and awards include those from The American Music Center, ASCAP, the American Composers Forum, Mu Phi Epsilon, Meet the Composer, The California Arts Council and The MacDowell Colony. An enthusiastic leader in the new music community, she advocates for other artists through her speaking appearances and her published articles.

She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the American Music Center and The MacDowell Colony, sits on ASCAP's Symphony & Concert Committee and the ASCAP Board of Review, and is the past President of the Board of Directors of the American Composers Forum of Los Angeles. Raised in Manhattan and later a longtime resident of Malibu, Calif., Alex now lives on Washington state's remote San Juan Island. When she's not composing, she can be found communing with the sea life, as seen on her music and photo-filled blog, [www.notesfromthekelp.com](http://www.notesfromthekelp.com), and her website, [www.alexshapiro.org](http://www.alexshapiro.org).

Ted Mann Concert Hall is located on the U of M's West Bank campus. Convenient parking is available at the university's 19th Avenue and 21st Avenue parking ramps.

## Students to go off electrical grid for a night to raise awareness for energy conservation

Meanwhile, residence hall students face off in Conservation Madness Competition Feb. 7

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**February 3, 2011**

Some University of Minnesota students are willing to give up their nice warm beds, lights, TVs and computers for one night to raise awareness about the small, everyday choices students can make to save energy.

Yes, they are going off the electrical grid for a night. Students from the Energy Efficiency Student Alliance (EESA) are holding a campout in front of Coffman Union on Monday, Feb. 7, to coincide with the launch of the Conservation Madness Competition on campus. They will begin setting up camp at 3 p.m.

"It will be a sacrifice, but if it draws attention to ways you can save energy and recycle, then our campout will be well worth it," said Chelsey Shoup of the Energy Efficiency Student Alliance.

Conservation becomes a team sport in University of Minnesota residence halls this semester, as students take on the challenge to save energy and recycle as part of the inaugural Conservation Madness competition.

Residence halls will compete against each other to reduce electricity use and increase recycling. The hall that reduces its electricity use and waste by the largest percentage and recycles the most will win a college basketball national championship party in April.

"The competition aims to encourage students to conserve university resources year round and develop lifelong sustainable habits," said University Sustainability Coordinator Shane Stennes.

Facilities Management staff and Sustainability Advocates have already been meeting with students this week to prepare for the competition. They have been sorting through 10 percent of each residence hall's daily garbage to identify the many items that get thrown away rather than recycled.

Reducing energy use and increasing recycling in residence halls are two ways for students to help keep costs down and reduce the U's carbon footprint, Stennes said. For more info on Conservation Madness, go to <http://www1.umn.edu/italladdsup/madness>.



## U of M Provost Sullivan to return to faculty at end of 2011

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/03/2011)

—University of Minnesota Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and

Provost E. Thomas Sullivan, will be stepping down from his position at the end of 2011, university officials announced today. Sullivan, who has held the position since July 2004, will be returning to the faculty of the Law School, where he'd previously served as dean.

University of Minnesota Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost E. Thomas Sullivan will be stepping down from his position at the end of 2011, university officials announced.

“Serving as provost the past seven years has been a real privilege and pleasure,” said Sullivan, who is chief academic officer of the university’s Twin Cities campus. “We have transformed the academic profile of this university and all of our students, faculty and staff have reason to be proud. With President [Robert] Bruininks returning to the faculty this year, it’s a good time for me to do the same. I look forward to working with President-designate Kaler in this important transition time for the university.”

Bruininks added, “There is no one who has been a better partner in our work to improve the academic standing of the University of Minnesota than Tom Sullivan. From the historic strategic positioning work we undertook several years ago to the continued improvement in the graduation rates of our students, Tom has been a truly transformative leader for this institution. I’m deeply grateful for the central role he has played in my leadership team.”

Bruininks praised Sullivan’s wide range of accomplishments as senior vice president and provost, including:

- the strategic positioning effort that consolidated colleges, enhanced interdisciplinarity and capitalized on new opportunities by creating new centers such as the Institute on the Environment and the university-wide Honors Program;
- significant improvements in retention and graduation rates;
- the best prepared incoming freshman classes in history;
- record levels of applications for freshman admission; and
- an overhaul of the University’s tenure code and academic freedom policies that were supported by faculty and the Board of Regents.

With Bruininks’ term as president ending on June 30, Sullivan has agreed to continue in his role as provost for the first six months of President-designate Eric W. Kaler’s term as president, to assist the president-designate in his transition.

“I have the greatest respect for the work Tom Sullivan has done as the university’s chief academic officer,” said Kaler. “He and I have gotten to know each other well, and I respect his decision to return to the faculty. I am very grateful for his willingness to stay on during my transition time. I look forward to building on the work he and President Bruininks have done as the U moves forward.”

Kaler added that he intends to conduct a national search for Sullivan’s successor.

## Striving to Close the Gap forum on U of M campus Feb. 7

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**February 4, 2011**

**WHAT:** Forum for Twin Cities leaders, jointly sponsored by the University of Minnesota and the African American Leadership Forum, to explore strategies for closing the achievement gap with the founders of Striving to Close the Gap, a nonprofit coalition drawing national attention for its success in boosting student success in Cincinnati and northern Kentucky.

Features discussion with two of the founders of the Strive Partnership: Nancy Zimpher, chancellor of the 64-campus State University of New York, and Jeff Edmondson, Strive executive director.

**WHERE:** University of Minnesota, Coffman Memorial Union—theater (first floor), 300 Washington Avenue S.E., Minneapolis. Maps and directions available at <http://www1.umn.edu/twincities/maps/CMU>.

**WHEN:** 10 a.m to 11:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 7, 2011.

**TO REGISTER:** The forum is free of charge, but preregistration is requested. Please visit the event signup page at <http://www.saa.umn.edu/saa/signup/close-the-gap>. For questions, please call (612) 624-6876.

**WHY:** To provide Twin Cities area leaders with an opportunity to consider the merits of bringing Strive or a similar model to the Twin Cities region to bridge disparities in academic achievement among groups of students.

Minnesota's achievement gap between white students and students of color is one of the country's largest, a fact prominently pointed out by U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan during a visit to Minnesota late last month.

Dr. Robert Jones, senior vice president for System Academic Administration, specifically invites to the forum all "who think that we are not working hard enough in the Twin Cities to raise student achievement overall and to close gaps between student groups," as well as all who "think that many individuals and organizations are working very hard but that we're not working together effectively across all of the barriers that exist in students' lives."

## U of M Board of Regents to meet Feb. 10 and 11 (revised agenda)

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### February 7, 2011

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents is scheduled to hold its first meetings of 2011 on Feb. 10 and 11 at the McNamara Alumni Center in Minneapolis.

Highlights of the meetings include:

#### Thursday, Feb. 10

8:15 - 9:30 a.m., Audit Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will hear a review of completed audit work and will also receive an update of the impact of the Sarbanes-Oxley Law and what lessons have been learned from it.

9:45 - 11:45 a.m., Finance and Operations Committee, East Committee Room. The committee is updated on a range of financial issues, including university endowment policies, the university budget model, and student fees reform. The committee also will hear the annual insurance and risk management report.

9:45 - 11:45 a.m., Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, West Committee Room. Vice President for Human Resources Carol Carrier and director of retirement programs Jackie Singer present on trends, issues and benchmarks in academic retirement programs. Provost Tom Sullivan and College of Design Dean Thomas Fischer will also present on the annual review process for collegiate deans.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. The committee holds a public hearing on proposed traffic regulation ordinance changes impacting mopeds (due to a public noticing error in St. Louis County) and will also act on those changes. Action will also be taken on policies related to Campus Health and Safety and Campus and Facility Use. Review and action will be taken on schematic plans for the proposed new Physics and Nanotechnology Building on the Twin Cities campus and capital budget amendments related to Eastcliff renovations, Central Corridor light rail laboratory mitigations and renovation of Northrop Auditorium. With regards to Northrop, if approved, work would begin as soon as Feb. 14. Finally, the committee will hear the annual report on utilities and energy management, by Vice President for University Services Kathleen O'Brien, Associate Vice President Mike Berthelsen and Director Jerome Malmquist.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Educational Planning and Policy Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will hear from Provost Tom Sullivan and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Robert McMaster on financial and advising support for undergraduate students.

#### Friday, Feb. 11

[CORRECTION: Board Work Session regarding the economic impact study has been removed from the agenda. Board meeting start time has been moved to 9 a.m. and is expected to end by 10:30 a.m.]

9 - 10:30 a.m., Board Meeting, Boardroom. In addition to recent U of M students named Rhodes Scholars, the new vice president for health sciences and dean of the Medical School, Dr. Aaron Friedman, will be formally introduced to the board. Action will also be taken on the 2011 state capital budget request. In addition, Bruininks and Mulcahy will provide a report on guiding principles for strategic risk management.

More information on the Board of Regents and live-streaming of the board meeting can be found at [www.umn.edu/regents](http://www.umn.edu/regents).

Bell Museum  
Social  
features  
dance artist  
Olive  
Bieringa in  
unforgettable  
exploration of  
animal  
behavior and  
personal  
space



Olive Bieringa, whose award-winning BodyCartography Project investigates the physical resonance of space in urban, wild and domestic landscapes, is known for combining dance with performance installation.

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**February 7, 2011**

Social boundaries, personal space and animal behavior are the subject of an upcoming Bell Museum Social themed "Proximity," which features the work of dance and video artist Olive Bieringa. The event kicks off at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, at the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Bieringa, whose award-winning BodyCartography Project investigates the physical resonance of space in urban, wild and domestic landscapes, is known for combining dance with performance installation. Using volunteer participants and specimens from the museum's scientific collections, Bieringa will create an installation designed to investigate the boundaries of personal space and social behavior. Participants will get a chance to interact with Bieringa in an experimental space and test their own responses to proximity through changes in light and sound.

The evening also will feature an unforgettable walking tour of the museum's dioramas with Bell Museum wildlife expert Jennifer Menken who will explain what it takes to get a date in the wild. Social-goers also will get the skinny on mammal behavior from a university researcher, followed by the chance to create their own animal-themed mask to wear throughout the evening.

The event is free with museum admission and includes hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

Offered four times a year, each Bell Museum Social showcases the work of an artist-in-residence whose natural history-themed installation is inspired by museum objects and research into the museum's scientific collections. The artists, participants of the museum's Artist Research Initiative, were chosen for their interest in museums and natural phenomena. The next Bell Museum Social is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, April 28, and will feature the work of book artist and photographer Jeff Millikan.

The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Food Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. For information, visit [bellmuseum.org](http://bellmuseum.org).

U of M  
College of  
Continuing  
Education  
celebrates  
Black History  
Month with  
"Witness to  
History"  
event  
featuring civil  
rights activist  
Josie  
Johnson,  
Feb. 17



Josie Johnson was named the first African-American to serve on the university's Board of Regents in 1971, and served as a university senior fellow during the 1980s. She established the U of M's Office of Equity and Diversity in the 1990s.

Johnson will share her take on the historical moments she helped spur

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## February 8, 2011

A civil rights activist since her teenage years, Josie Johnson has firsthand experience of some of the most contentious and volatile times in American history. On Feb. 17, she will lend her personal perspective to the defining moments of the civil rights struggle at the fifth installment of the U of M College of Continuing Education's "LearningLife Forum: Witness to History."

The event takes place at 7 p.m. at the Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by calling (612) 624-4000, by visiting [www.cce.umn.edu/learninglife](http://www.cce.umn.edu/learninglife) or at the door.

Johnson's impact on the fight for equal opportunities has been felt both locally and nationally. As a teen, she and her father openly organized an effort to fight a poll-tax aimed at preventing black Americans from voting. In 1964, she traveled to Mississippi with an integrated group of women to witness firsthand and take part in the struggle for civil rights. In 1968, she became an aide to the mayor of Minneapolis at a particularly contentious time in the city's civil rights movement. She was named the first African-American to serve on the university's Board of Regents in 1971, and served as a university senior fellow during the 1980s. As associate vice president for academic affairs in the 1990s, she established the Office of Equity and Diversity. The University of Minnesota has established the annual Josie R. Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice Award in her honor.

Speaking with Johnson will be College of Continuing Education Dean Mary Nichols. A Q&A with audience members will follow.

The discussion is the fifth in a new series, the LearningLife Forum. During its first year, the forum is focusing on the theme "Witness to History," by asking some of Minnesota's most legendary public figures to share their experiences creating and witnessing history. Recent speakers have included Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page, legendary local rocker Chris Osgood, noted arts patrons John and Sage Cowles and former Vice President Walter Mondale.

Future LearningLife Forum speakers include world-famous transplant surgeon Dr. John Najarian, speaking with Dr. Jon Hallberg (March 17); and Minnesota's prominent milling family members George and Sally Pillsbury, speaking with Lori Sturdevant (April 21).

Media sponsorship for the LearningLife Forum is provided by Minnesota Public Radio and MinnPost.com.

The LearningLife Forum is a program of the University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education. Through the College of Continuing Education, motivated adults enrich their personal and professional lives through learning opportunities ranging from courses, workshops and retreats, to credit certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees. For more information about the college, call 612-624-4000 or visit [www.cce.umn.edu](http://www.cce.umn.edu).

## Majora Carter to kick off "Momentum 2011" event series March 10

Internationally renowned eco-entrepreneur speaks on why "You Don't Have to Move out of Your Neighborhood to Live in a Better One"



Majora Carter will connect public health, poverty and climate change as she kicks off the U of M Institute on the Environment's new "Momentum 2011" event series.

**Media Note:** For photographs, contact Sarah Karnas, [schmitz@umn.edu](mailto:schmitz@umn.edu), (612) 624-6566  
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### February 8, 2011

Majora Carter, an internationally renowned leader in environment-centered urban renewal, will connect public health, poverty and climate change as she kicks off the University of Minnesota Institute on the Environment's new "Momentum 2011" event series at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 10, at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis.

Carter's presentation, "You Don't Have to Move out of Your Neighborhood to Live in a Better One," will highlight an evening filled with ideas and entertainment. Master of ceremonies for the event will be former WCCO-TV news anchor Don Shelby.

Carter began her remarkable career trajectory by founding the Sustainable South Bronx in 2001 as a way to bring climate-adaptation jobs and a healthier local environment to the neighborhood in which she grew up. Since 2008, as president of the Majora Carter Group LLC, she advises cities, foundations, universities, businesses and communities around the world on how they can unlock their local economic potential to benefit everyone.

Her game-changing work has earned numerous honors, including a place on the lists of Fast Company's 100 Most Creative People in Business and Essence magazine's 25 Most Influential African-Americans, a MacArthur "genius" fellowship and the NY Post Liberty Medal for Lifetime Achievement. Among her many other activities, she serves on the board of the USGBC, The Wilderness Society and CERES; and hosts her own public radio series, "The Promised Land."

The Twin Cities-based Ananya Dance Theatre (ADT) will introduce Carter's talk with a dynamic, 20-minute excerpt from "Kshoy!/Decay!," co-created by artistic director Ananya Chatterjea and OBIE Award-winning theater artist Laurie Carlos. The work, which premiered last year, launched a four-year project that traces the histories of violence experienced and resisted by women in global communities of color.

In "Kshoy!/Decay!" ("kshoy" is the Bengali word for "decay"), the company uses a potent metaphor—mud, as in dirt that sticks to skin—to explore the afterlives of African, Asian and other women of color forced to relocate or evacuate from their homelands. In all of its work, ADT explores femininity, power and social-justice issues affecting women around the world through a kinetically dynamic blend of classical Odissi dance, breath-driven yoga movement and the marital-art Chhau, performed by women of color committed to artistic excellence.

The March 10 event is the first of three environment-themed evenings sponsored by the Institute on the Environment as part of its new Momentum 2011 series, with Minnesota Public Radio as media partner. The other two will be held April 26, headlined by international health guru Hans Rosling with a featured performance by comedian Cy Amundson; and May 12, featuring legendary oceanographer and National Geographic explorer-in-residence Sylvia Earle with a performance by musician Mason Jennings. For tickets, contact the Northrop Box Office, (612) 624-2345 or [www.environment.umn.edu/momentum/eventseries](http://www.environment.umn.edu/momentum/eventseries).

The Institute on the Environment seeks solutions to Earth's biggest problems through cutting-edge research, partnerships and leadership development. For more information, visit [www.environment.umn.edu](http://www.environment.umn.edu).

U of M  
professor  
Jane Kirtley  
authors new  
"Media Law  
Handbook"  
for the U.S.  
State  
Department

30,000 copies to be  
distributed by U.S.  
embassies  
throughout the world  
to foreign  
governments and  
media



In "Media Law Handbook," a new book commissioned by the U.S. State Department, Jane Kirtley explores the privileges and responsibilities of a free press.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/08/2011) —What are the privileges and responsibilities of a free press? In "Media Law Handbook," a new book commissioned by the U.S. State Department, Jane Kirtley, Silha Professor of Media Ethics and Law at the University of Minnesota, explores how free societies answer this question.

The initial press run of 30,000 copies is being distributed by U.S. embassies throughout the world to foreign governments and media.

"Some want the press to be an advocate, to champion causes and to take political positions," Kirtley says. "Others believe the press should be objective and nonpartisan. Some believe that the press should respect and reflect social institutions and traditions. Others believe that the press should question and challenge them. This book suggests that despite these disagreements there are standards that describe the privileges and responsibilities of a free press in a free society."

The 65-page book consists of six chapters: "Press Privileges and Responsibilities," "A Good Environment for Fostering Journalists," "A Framework for a Free Press," "Self-Regulation in Lieu of Litigation," "Responsibilities of Journalists" and "New Media, Citizen Journalists, and Bloggers."

Kirtley explores the standards laid out in her book by drawing on real-life case studies such as the death of Russian investigative journalist Anna Politkovskaya, gunned down in a contract killing in Moscow in 2006; or former New York Times reporter Judith Miller's refusal to cooperate in a criminal investigation seeking the identity of a government official and Miller's subsequent imprisonment.

For more information about the book, visit [www.america.gov/publications/books-content/media-law-handbook.html](http://www.america.gov/publications/books-content/media-law-handbook.html).

Kirtley has been the Silha Professor of Media Ethics and Law at the U of M School of Journalism and Mass Communication since August 1999. Prior to that, she was executive director of The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press in Arlington, Va., for 14 years. Before joining the Reporters Committee staff, Kirtley was an attorney for five years with the law firm of Nixon, Hargrave, Devans and Doyle in Rochester, N.Y., and Washington, D.C. Kirtley also worked as a reporter for the Evansville Press, Ind., and The Oak Ridger and Nashville Banner, Tenn.

## Theater legend Lou Bellamy to retire from University of Minnesota

U of M hosts event Feb. 22 to honor Bellamy's contributions as a scholar, professor and artistic visionary



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Theater legend and U of M faculty member Lou Bellamy is retiring from the University of Minnesota this spring.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/08/2011) —The University of Minnesota will present a tribute to honor the legacy of Lou Bellamy, founder and artistic director of Penumbra Theatre and associate professor of theatre at the University of Minnesota. Bellamy is retiring from the University of Minnesota this spring. He has worked at the university since 1979 and in the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance as an associate professor since 1994.

An event to honor his contributions to theater as a scholar, professor and artistic visionary will be held 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, at the university's Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S, Minneapolis.

For 32 years, Bellamy has taught courses at the University of Minnesota to both undergraduate and graduate students. He is most recognized for revitalizing and teaching "The African American in American Theatre: 1820 to 1960" and "Contemporary Black Theatre: 1960 to Present" courses, and for teaching numerous courses in the practice of theater including acting, directing and oral communication. He was the key advisor for the August Wilson Fellowship, which includes two components—a fellowship cash stipend and a 25 percent placement at Penumbra Theatre as a dramaturge for professional productions.

Bellamy is highly regarded by students, faculty and theatre professionals for his willingness and commitment to link students with professional development opportunities before and upon graduation. His students routinely become working directors, actors and technicians at theaters across the country.

"The best way to learn from Lou is to watch him direct," says Lance Brockman, former department chair and fellow professor. "He has a special insight on how to move from the theoretical to the practical. What he does with our students and what he does with a professional cast is exactly the same."

Under Bellamy's leadership, Penumbra Theatre has produced 23 world premieres, including August Wilson's first professional production, and is proud to have produced more of Wilson's plays than any theater in the world. Bellamy is an OBIE Award-winning director, an accomplished actor and sought-after scholar. He is a member of several professional organizations, including Black Theatre Network, Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers and the College of Fellows of the American Theatre. He is active in community service, including participation in the Governor's Task Force on Economic Vitality in the Arts and the City of Saint Paul Community Education Planning Committee.

He has received numerous honors and awards including the W. Harry Davis Foundation Award for Leadership in Afro Centric Education, NAACP Arts and Drama Award, Doctor of Arts at Hamline University, 2006 McKnight Distinguished Artist Award, Lucille Lortel Award for Best Off-Broadway Revival of 2006 and the Lloyd Richards Directing Award for 2007.

Bellamy's high standards and ethic have created the legacy that is perpetuated in his students. "He has so much integrity in his work that it really permeates his teaching and gives tremendous instruction to students in working honestly and fearlessly with material. He never settled for anything other than that," says Barbara Reid, another former chair of the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance.



## A legendary love - "Tristan and Isolde" receive fresh look at U of M lecture

**Who:** Noted medievalist Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden

**What:** Lecture

**When:** 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 17

**Where:** University of Minnesota Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis



Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden will examine the popularity and influence of the Tristan and Isolde romance during the Middle Ages, through depictions of the tragic and often retold tale in wall paintings, tapestries, manuscripts and household objects.

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### February 9, 2011

In a month focused on love and romance, noted medievalist Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden will examine one of the original love stories, the legend of Tristan and Isolde. On Thursday Feb. 17, Van D'Elden will present a sneak preview of her forthcoming book, which reveals the popularity and influence of the Tristan and Isolde romance during the Middle Ages through depictions of the tragic and often retold tale in wall paintings, tapestries, manuscripts and household objects.

"The Pictures Tell the Story: Tristan and Isolde in Medieval Illustrations " will begin at 7 p.m. in the Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis, and will be followed by a reception.

Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden received her bachelor's degree and doctorate from the University of Minnesota. She has held administrative positions at the university in the Immigration History Research Center and the Department of Independent Study and has also been on the faculty of Hamline University, the College of St. Thomas and the University of Southern California. Van D'Elden has published widely in medieval studies, Germanic literature and the verse romances of Tristan and Isolde.

Presented by the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries and co-sponsored by the Center for Medieval Studies, the event is free and open to the public. Reservations requested by Thursday, Feb. 10 at (612) 624-9339 or [stangret@umn.edu](mailto:stangret@umn.edu).

## U of M geology professor receives prestigious national award for climate change research

R. Lawrence  
Edwards is  
University of  
Minnesota's first to  
receive the award



The U.S. National Academy of Sciences has selected University of Minnesota professor R. Lawrence Edwards to receive the prestigious Arthur L. Day Prize and Lectureship.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/09/2011) —The U.S. National Academy of Sciences has selected University of Minnesota professor R. Lawrence Edwards to receive the prestigious Arthur L. Day Prize and Lectureship honoring his scientific contributions to the study of the physics of the Earth. Edwards, a geology and geophysics professor in the university's College of Science and Engineering, is only the 14th recipient of the Day Prize since its inception in 1972 and the first from the University of Minnesota.

Edwards is best known for his development of extremely precise methods for measuring the ages of rocks. To date the rocks, he uses the "uranium-thorium" (also called the "thorium-230") dating method, in which he must detect incredibly small amounts of the elements uranium and thorium. He uses these methods to date rocks found in caves in China to document climate change patterns in history. By also measuring the proportions of different forms of oxygen, he can tell how much rain fell at the time the rock was deposited.

Edwards and a colleague used those techniques to trace variations in the strength of monsoon rainfall in China and linked weak monsoons to the fall of several historical dynasties. They have tracked the monsoons with great accuracy back 400,000 years, when Homo erectus, not Homo sapiens, inhabited the region.

"The monsoon history is an exciting piece of work coming out of Minnesota," Edwards said. "It's the best-dated climate record covering this time period. We pieced it together from many stalagmites of varying ages."

In another example, about 11,500 years ago an abrupt, worldwide climate change sent the average temperature in Greenland soaring by a whopping 16 degrees C in the space of a decade. Edwards and his colleagues detected the "signature" of this warming in Chinese cave stalagmites, where it appeared as a strengthening of the monsoons during that period. Labs around the world have adopted Edwards's work with cave rocks to study climate and to plot the course of climate change in time.

In more recent research, Edwards and his colleagues published research on a rock found in 2007 in a Chinese cave that contained what was determined to be a 100,000-year-old jawbone. In dating the rock with the jawbone, Edwards and his colleagues raised profound questions of whether modern humans could have made it across the vast expanse of Asia far earlier than suspected. Because the remains also bore characteristics of more primitive humans who were already in the area, it is possible that the two groups could have coexisted for some time the way moderns and Neanderthals did in Europe.

"It's amazing to me what you can find in the natural world if you know how to look," Edwards said.

Edwards will be honored for his research and receive the \$20,000 Day Prize at a ceremony on Sunday, May 1, during the National Academy of Sciences' 148th annual meeting.

## U of M CIBER hosts symposium on emerging markets for Upper Midwest businesses

Carlson MBA students to share insights gained from visits to Chile, China and Turkey

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**February 9, 2011**

**WHAT:** The University of Minnesota's Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) will present "Global Discovery Symposium: Emerging Markets – Opportunities and Challenges," aimed at helping Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota companies more effectively conduct business in emerging markets.

Designed for companies who are already operating or serving international markets as well as those exploring opportunities in emerging markets, the symposium will be led by Carlson School MBA students who will have recently returned from visits to Chile, China and Turkey. Content will include risk and alternative perspectives, innovation and emerging market examples and governance and the role of civilian and non-governmental organizations.

**WHEN:** 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 11.

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.: Registration and continental breakfast

8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.: Session #1 – Risk

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.: Session #2 – Innovation

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.: Session #3 – Governance

12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.: Lunch and keynote address: Pete Mento, director, Global Customs and Trade Policy, C.H. Robinson Worldwide

1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.: Facilitated table discussions

2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.: Conference wrap-up

For more info, visit [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/global-discovery](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/global-discovery).

**WHERE:** Carlson School of Management Atrium  
321 19th Ave. S.  
Minneapolis

**ABOUT:** The University of Minnesota was awarded a \$1.5 million Title VI grant from the U.S. Department of Education in 2010 to establish CIBER at the Carlson School to increase and promote the nation's capacity for international understanding and competitiveness. More information on CIBER can be found at [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/ciber](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/ciber).

## University of Minnesota to explore "How We Talk about Feeding the World"

March 3-5 event considers the stumbling blocks and dead-ends that hamper productive discussions about food and feeding

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**February 9, 2011**

"How We Talk About Feeding the World," a Minnesota Futures symposium, will take place Thursday through Saturday, March 3-5, at the University of Minnesota. The symposium will be convened by the university's Institute for Advanced Study (IAS), in collaboration with the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and the College of Liberal Arts.

In five panels and a series of conversations, the event will consider the stumbling blocks and dead-ends that hamper productive discussions about food and feeding among those with different political, methodological and disciplinary approaches. Organizers are particularly interested in considering the implications of the global-scale imperative often associated with American agriculture: feeding the world. The conference is free and open to the public; pre-registration is required.

Visiting food studies scholars will join over a dozen Minnesota scholars and practitioners as attendees consider the value of integrative lenses for talking about feeding the world, particularly in terms of what the social sciences and humanities bring to consideration of the politics of food. Visiting scholars include Daniel Block, geography, Chicago State University; Clare Hinrichs, rural sociology, Pennsylvania State University; Steve Striffler, Latin American studies, University of New Orleans; Richard Wilk, anthropology and gender studies, Indiana University; and Psyche Williams-Forsen, American studies, University of Maryland.

The symposium will open with a panel on "A Short History of Feeding the World: Agriculture, Food, and the Emergence of American Universities" at 4 p.m. Thursday, March 3, at Nolte Center, room 125, 315 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis, and will be moderated by Ann Waltner, U of M history professor and IAS director. Panelists include Wilk, Hinrichs and Maggi Adamek, of Terra Soma Consulting Services. A reception will follow.

Three panels on Friday, March 4, will take place at Nolte Center, room 125, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The panelists will draw out themes related to the work of food and feeding, transitions to sustainability and present-day understandings of the food system. The closing panel on Saturday, March 5, will connect the multiple threads that emerge during the weekend. The goal of this final session is to imagine ways to create and institutionalize meaningful connections that will continue beyond the symposium and the life of the project.

"How We Talk about Feeding the World" is part of the University Symposium on Abundance and Scarcity 2010-12, sponsored by IAS with funding from the Office of the Vice President for Research through the Minnesota Futures Grant Program. Minnesota Futures fosters opportunities for researchers to cross disciplinary and professional boundaries to promote research and scholarship beyond existing initiatives.

Space is limited and pre-registration by Feb. 24 is required. For a full schedule, speaker biographies and registration options, visit: [www.ias.umn.edu/Initiatives/FeedtheWorld.php](http://www.ias.umn.edu/Initiatives/FeedtheWorld.php).

One may register by contacting the IAS at [ias@umn.edu](mailto:ias@umn.edu) or (612) 626-5054. When registering, please indicate if planning to attend breakfast and/or lunch on March 4 and brunch on March 5.

## U of M's "Design Intersections 2011" to highlight relationship between design and healthcare

"Vital Signs: Design Thinking for Healthcare Innovation" brings together Minnesota thought leaders in design and healthcare, March 31



College of Design dean Tom Fisher will moderate the symposium.

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Tony Baisley, Center for Spirituality & Healing, [baisl001@umn.edu](mailto:baisl001@umn.edu), (612) 624-2141

### February 9, 2011

The University of Minnesota's "Design Intersections 2011" symposium will explore the role of design in healthcare innovation, including how design can be used to improve — and, in some cases, reinvent — healthcare systems, delivery, environments, experiences and outcomes. The event is open to the public and sponsored by the university's College of Design in partnership with Larsen, a Minneapolis-based national design, branding and interactive agency.

Design Intersections takes place 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, March 31, at the U of M's Coffman Memorial Union Theater, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The closing "Ellerbe Becket/AECOM Lecture on Healthcare Innovation and Design," presented by the university's Center for Spirituality & Healing and free to the public, takes place 4:30-6 p.m. at Coffman Memorial Union's Campus Club.

The speakers include:

- **Barry Kudrowitz**, opening keynote presenter; assistant professor of product design in the College of Design
- **Chris McCarthy**, closing keynote presenter; director of the Innovation Learning Network and an innovation specialist with Kaiser Permanente Innovation Consultancy
- **Dr. Jon Hallberg**, assistant professor in the U of M Department of Family Medicine and Community Health; medical director, Mill City Clinic
- **Kathleen Harder**, director of the Center for Design in Health, College of Design
- **Mary Jo Kreitzer**, director, Center for Spirituality & Healing; professor, U of M School of Nursing
- **Dr. Stephen Mitrione**, urgent care physician, Aspen Medical Group
- **Gary Nyberg**, principal in the Healthcare Practice Group, HGA Architects and Engineers
- **Terri Zborowsky**, director of healthcare research and education, Ellerbe Becket

Tom Fisher, dean of the College of Design, will moderate the symposium.

Inaugurated in 2010, Design Intersections is an exploratory series of themed, interactive dialogs among designers and representatives from various disciplines discussing the consequences and potential of design-induced change.

For more information -- including speakers' bios, a complete schedule and to register -- visit <http://intersections.design.umn.edu>. The early-bird discount ends Feb. 28, with registration closing on March 24.

## University of Minnesota award ceremony to recognize inventors

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**February 10, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Office of the Vice President for Research today will host a "University Innovations" event where researchers who have been awarded a patent or had their technology licensed during the past two years will be recognized. A total of 161 inventors representing 10 colleges from across the university will be honored. Their efforts generated 106 patents and 84 license agreements in fiscal years 2009-2010.

The program will include remarks from Clyde Allen, Board of Regents chair; Robert Bruininks, president; Timothy Mulcahy, vice president for research; and Jay Schrankler, executive director of the Office for Technology Commercialization. The speakers will address the importance of research and innovation to the nation's economic vitality, the university's role in Minnesota's economic ecosystem and the growth of the university's research enterprise.

Over the past five years inventions by university researchers have brought nearly \$390 million in revenue into the state and helped fund numerous initiatives across the university, including fellowships for graduate students, critical research infrastructure and major equipment needs, development investments for university technologies and funding for additional research.

The event will take place at the McNamara Alumni Center from 4 to 6 p.m., with a program beginning at 5 p.m. Among many others, the following researchers have indicated they will attend the event:

Dr. Erik Cressman, a professor and clinician in the radiology department at the Medical School, discovered a novel treatment for chronic venous insufficiency. His research resulted in the formation of XO Thermix Medical, a medical device startup.

Gary Nelsestuen, a biochemistry professor, discovered modified vitamin K can double as an anti-coagulant or pro-coagulant. These enhanced proteins are being tested for coagulation and anti-coagulation therapies. The technology was licensed in 2008.

Kevin Groenke, a coordinator for the College of Design, designed a desk that would function perfectly for architecture students, who have very specific needs when it comes to a workspace. Groenke has licensed the desk design to three companies since 2009, one of which is based in Minnesota.

Vipin Kumar, head of the Computer Science and Engineering department, developed software that allows researchers to track the growth and degradation of forests worldwide, using new algorithms and satellite data.

Tom Levar, forestry and horticulture specialist at U of M Duluth's Natural Resources Research Institute, developed a way to protect plants from browsing by deer and mice by delivering a natural hot pepper concentrate through the roots of young plants, making them inedible. The technology was licensed to Repellex and the product should reach consumers this spring.

For more information about the honors, visit <http://www.research.umn.edu/innovations.html>.

## U of M students to host "Rally to Restore Affordability" at State Capitol Feb. 22

U.S. Congressman Keith Ellison and state Sen. David Senjem to speak at noon rally in Rotunda



**Media Note:** Media wishing to shadow a student for the day or gain access to meetings for a photo op should contact Bill Otto at [billotto@umn.edu](mailto:billotto@umn.edu).

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### February 10, 2011

More than 300 University of Minnesota students from throughout the state are expected to visit the State Capitol Tuesday, Feb. 22, for a "Rally to Restore Affordability."

Hosted by the Minnesota Student Association (MSA), the goal of the rally is to garner support for higher education funding and to raise awareness of the university as a key driver of Minnesota's economic growth.

"As the Legislature considers solutions to fill a \$6 billion budget deficit, we must make clear that the University of Minnesota and its students are a tangible investment in our state's future," MSA President Sarah Shook says. "We call on elected officials to fight for the U of M's status as a high-quality and affordable public research university."

Students will gather in the Rotunda to hear speeches from U.S. Congressman Keith Ellison (D-Minn.), state Sen. David Senjem (R-Rochester) and university President Robert Bruininks; meet with legislators; and attend committee hearings.

The events are as follows:

- 11 a.m.** "Lobbying 101" training session, State Office Building
- 12 noon** Rally featuring Ellison, Senjem and Bruininks, State Capitol Rotunda
- 12:45 p.m.** Light lunch, State Capitol Great Hall
- 1:15 p.m.** Meetings with legislators

For more information about the Rally to Restore Affordability, visit <http://msa.umn.edu/rally>.

## Minnesota Center for Reading Research honors schools for achievement in reading

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/10/2011) —Sixty-two Minnesota elementary schools were honored today for their achievement in reading by the Minnesota Center for Reading Research with a presentation and ceremony at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul.

Schools chosen for the honor are those elementary schools that made adequate yearly progress in reading during school years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 after failing to make adequate yearly progress (AYP) in the previous year.

Schools honored are:

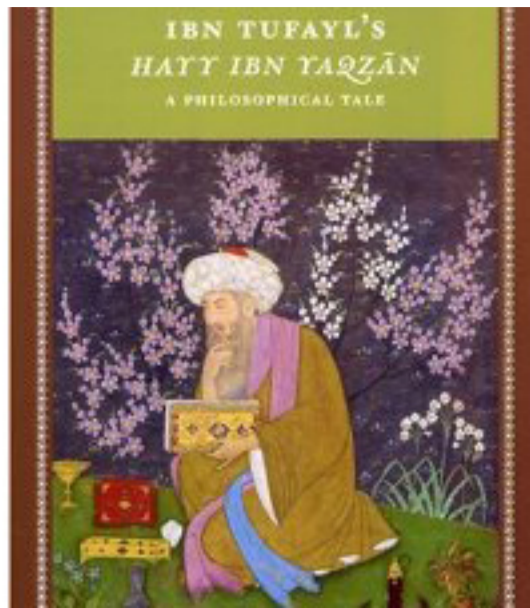
Anishinabe Academy, Minneapolis Public Schools  
 Armatage Montessori, Minneapolis Public Schools  
 Barnum Elementary, Barnum Public Schools  
 Blue Earth Elementary, Blue Earth Area Public Schools  
 Breckenridge Elementary, Breckenridge Public Schools  
 Cedar Island Elementary, Osseo Area Schools  
 Cedar Ridge Elementary, Eden Prairie Public Schools  
 Central Elementary, Norwood Public Schools  
 Christa McAuliffe Elementary, Hastings Public Schools  
 Churchill Elementary, Cloquet Public Schools  
 Clara Barton Open School, Minneapolis Public Schools  
 Concordia Creative Learning Academy, St. Paul, MN  
 Crossroads Elementary, Saint Paul Public Schools  
 Dover-Eyota Elementary, Dover-Eyota Public Schools  
 East Bethel Community School, St. Francis Public Schools  
 Elm Creek Elementary, Osseo Area Schools  
 Fair Oaks Elementary, Osseo Area Schools  
 Fertile-Beltrami Elementary, Fertile-Beltrami Public Schools  
 Forest Hills Elementary, Eden Prairie Public Schools  
 Franklin Elementary, Mankato Public Schools  
 Granada-Huntley-East Chain Elementary, GHEC Public Schools  
 Hale Elementary, Minneapolis Public Schools  
 Harrison Elementary, Brainerd Public Schools  
 Hillside Elementary, South Washington County Schools  
 Hmong International Academy, Minneapolis Public Schools  
 Houston Elementary, Houston Public Schools  
 Jordan Elementary, Jordan Public Schools  
 Kaposia Education Center, South St. Paul Public Schools  
 Kennedy Community School, St. Cloud Public Schools  
 Kennedy Elementary, Hastings Public Schools  
 Kenny Elementary, Minneapolis Public Schools  
 Lakeside Elementary, Chisago Lakes School District  
 Lakeview Elementary, Albert Lea Area Schools  
 Lincoln HI Elementary, Lincoln HI Public Schools  
 Lincoln Piedmont Elementary, Duluth Public Schools  
 Lino Lakes Elementary, Forest Lake Area Schools  
 Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy, McGregor, MN  
 MTS Elementary, Minnesota Transitions Charter Schools  
 Nett Lake Elementary, Nett Lake Public School District  
 New Heights School, Stillwater, MN  
 New Visions Academy, Minneapolis, MN  
 Newport Elementary, South Washington County Schools  
 Noble Academy, Minneapolis, MN  
 North Elementary, Princeton Public Schools  
 North Park Elementary, Columbia Heights Public Schools  
 Oak Ridge Elementary, Rosemount - Apple Valley - Eagan  
 Ogilvie Elementary, Ogilvie Public Schools  
 Otter Lake Elementary, White Bear Lake Area Schools  
 Partnership Academy, Richfield, MN  
 Pilot Knob Elementary, West St. Paul - Mendota Heights - Eagan  
 Pine Grove Leadership Academy, Sandstone, MN  
 Pinewood Elementary, Mounds View Public Schools  
 Raleigh Edison, Duluth Edison Charter Schools  
 Rogers Elementary, Elk River Area Schools  
 Skyview Elementary, North St. Paul - Maplewood - Oakdale  
 Staples Elementary, Staples Motley Schools  
 Sweeney Elementary, Shakopee Public Schools  
 Twin Cities International Elementary, Minneapolis, MN  
 Twin Lakes Elementary, Elk River Area Schools  
 Victoria Elementary, Eastern Carver County Schools  
 Washington Elementary, Owatonna Public Schools  
 Zanewood Community School, Osseo Area Schools

The Minnesota Center for Reading Research is part of the College of Education and Human Development. For more information, visit [www.umn.edu/reading](#) or call (612) 624-4561.



U of M  
presents  
world  
premiere of  
"Journey," a  
play based on  
masterwork  
of Islamic  
literature

"Hayy ibn Yaqzan"  
served as inspiration  
for Defoe's  
"Robinson Crusoe"



**What:** "Journey," a new play based on "Hayy ibn Yaqzan"

**Who:** Written and directed by Mohammad B. Ghaffari, and starring Eddie Oroyan and Anika Reitman

**When:** 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 24-26, at Kilburn Arena Stage, Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. Additional performances in March at the Children's Theater Company, Minneapolis (see details below)

**Tickets:** Free with general seating. Online reservations at <http://z.umn.edu/hayyjourney>

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## February 10, 2011

The University of Minnesota is presenting the world premiere of the play "Journey," a new English translation and adaption of "Hayy ibn Yaqzan," considered one of the spiritual and scientific masterpieces of the medieval Islamic world. Written in the 12th century by Ibn Tufayl, an Andalusian Muslim philosopher and physician, it is the story of the parentless boy Hayy, who is raised in the wild by a gazelle. The death of his gazelle mother sends Hayy on a voyage of scientific inquiry and self-discovery.

"Hayy ibn Yaqzan" ("Alive, son of Awake" in Arabic) was translated into English in the 17th century and served as the inspiration for Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe, which was published in 1719.

"Hayy ibn Yaqzan is a compendium of many aspects of Islamic science, in the context of a parable," U of M anthropology professor William Beeman says. In his solitude, the character Hayy uses reason and science to understand the world around him, but comes to an understanding of religious truth—without formal education. And when he finally encounters civilization he finds their religious beliefs insubstantial. "Anyone interested in the influence of Islam on the humanities, or in seeing the world through a medieval lens, will be fascinated by this play," Beeman says.

"Journey" was translated and adapted for the stage by Iranian-American director Mohammad B. Ghaffari. It serves as the centerpiece for a three-day conference at the University of Minnesota, "Shared Cultural Spaces," which examines the relationship of Islam and the humanities, namely in architecture, art, literature, new media and science.

The role of Hayy will be performed by dancer and choreographer Eddie Bruno Oroyan, a 2010 McKnight dance fellow, and the narrator will be performed by Anika Reitman. The production is movement-oriented and features elements of Ta'ziyeh, a traditional Persian theater form, performed in the round and never before shown in the Twin Cities. Original music will be performed by composer Yukio Tsuji and two additional musicians.

"Journey" will be performed in the Kilburn Arena Stage, Rarig Center, on the University of Minnesota's west bank campus. Performances are Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 24-26, at 8 p.m. Admission is free with general seating; reservations can be made online at <http://z.umn.edu/hayyjourney>.

Additional performances have been added at the Children's Theater Company (CTC), 2400 3rd Ave. S., Minneapolis, on March 3, 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m.; and March 6 and 13 at 2 p.m. Tickets for CTC performances are \$10-20 and available by calling (612) 874-0400.

Beeman, U of M English professor Nabil Matar and director Mohammad Ghaffari are available to discuss the production. More information, including biographies, at <http://z.umn.edu/hayyjourney>.

*This performance and the related conference are made possible through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.*

## You reap the benefit if your romantic partner recovers well from conflict, a new University of Minnesota study finds



**Media Note:** For a copy of the study, contact Patty Mattern at [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu) or Diane Cormany at [dcormany@umn.edu](mailto:dcormany@umn.edu)

The best indicator of a stable romantic relationship might be how well partners are able to “move on” after a conflict, according to new research from U of M psychology Ph.D. candidate Jessica Salvatore.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/10/2011) —People searching for fulfilling and stable romantic relationships should look for a romantic partner who recovers from conflict well. Yes, it turns out that if your romantic partner recoups well after the two of you have a spat, you reap the benefits, according to results of a new study by the University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development's Institute of Child Development.

The research looks at how people recover or come down after a conflict with their romantic partner, said Jessica Salvatore, the lead researcher in the study "Recovering From Conflict in Romantic Relationships: A Developmental Perspective." The article is set to appear in the journal *Psychological Science*, and has been released online. Co-authors of the study are university researchers Sally Kuo, Ryan Steele, Jeffry Simpson and W. Andrew Collins.

Salvatore and her colleagues' research digs into a new area. In the past, marriage researchers have focused on how people resolve conflicts, but they never looked at what happens after the conflict ends and how people recover, Salvatore said.

"What we show is that recovering from conflict well predicts higher satisfaction and more favorable relationship perceptions. You perceive the relationship more positively," Salvatore said.

The interesting finding is that you don't have to be the one who recovers well to benefit.

"If I'm good at recovering from conflict, my husband will benefit and be more satisfied with our relationship," Salvatore said.

The study's participants were 73 young adults who have been studied since birth and their romantic partners.

"Several decades of marriage research show that what happens during a conflict matters. What we show is that what happens in the time following a conflict also matters," she said.

A partner who recovers well doesn't let remnants of the conflict spill over or leak into other parts of the relationship, Salvatore said. He or she is able to separate conflict from other types of interactions, such as deciding how to parent their children or providing support to one another.

The study's findings are relevant to everyone in relationships, Salvatore said.

"I especially think this will be important for marital therapists and other people who are working with couples who are experiencing some relationship distress," Salvatore said.

Results of the study also show that infant attachment security plays a role in how someone recovers from conflict.

"Having a caregiver who was more in-tune and responsive to your emotional needs as an infant predicts better conflict recovery 20 years later," Salvatore said. This means that if your caregiver is better at regulating your negative emotions as an infant, you tend to do a better job of regulating your own negative emotions in the moments following a conflict as an adult.

But not all is lost if you were insecurely attached as an infant. "We also show people who were insecurely attached as infants but whose adult romantic partners recover well from conflict are likely to stay together. What this shows is that good partners in adulthood can help make up for difficulties experienced early in life," Salvatore said.

## Northrop revitalization approved by U of M Board of Regents

Iconic centerpiece of Twin Cities campus closes Monday, reopens Fall 2013

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/11/2011)  
—One of

Minnesota's most iconic buildings, the University of Minnesota's Northrop, will be getting a major overhaul after today's action by the Board of Regents. The board gave their final approval for the financing package that will transform Northrop into a "vital academic center of distinction and discovery that enlightens, challenges, and engages students, faculty and the community."

"Built nearly a century ago, Northrop is one of the most enduring symbols of the University of Minnesota," said President Robert Bruininks. "But the reality has become that most of our students set foot in it once at convocation and once at commencement, with no real need to go there in between. This plan is about much, much more than improving the performance space - it's about making Northrop into the academic and cultural center of this institution."

The revitalized Northrop will increase by 50 percent the amount of public study and technology-rich, collaborative space on the Twin Cities campus, serving as a home for:

- The University Honors Program, which helps recruit and supports 2,400 of the most academically-talented undergraduates from across the university;
- The Institute for Advanced Study, an incubator where scholars and artists come together from across the University to develop new solutions to pressing issues; and
- Innovation by Design, a lab where entrepreneurs, industry leaders, and faculty work together to solve big real world problems and bring solutions to market.

Most known for its historic auditorium, the revitalization of Northrop will also restore its preeminent cultural and performing arts center, with a world-class, multi-purpose 2,800 seat hall, featuring state-of-the-art acoustics, significantly improved sight-lines, cutting-edge technologies and updated amenities, including a cafe and coffee bar.

In 2006, Bruininks charged a group of university and community leaders, chaired by Vice President for University Services Kathleen O'Brien and then-Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Steven Rosenstone, to develop a vision for the future of Northrop that supports the U's goal of becoming one of the top public research universities in the world and also to address the increasing obsolescence of the single-use facility, which is currently used for just 51 events a year. Since opening in 1929, Northrop has served as the university's primary gathering place for the performing arts, concerts, academic ceremonies and major civic events. It's named after the U of M's second president, Cyrus Northrop, who served in that role for 27 years.

"This project isn't simply renovating a historic building," said board Chair Clyde Allen. "It's giving it a larger purpose in the academic and cultural life of this university. All of the options for Northrop were explored, including tearing it down, refurbishing it as-is and simply delaying any action. This plan is the most prudent - and most visionary - course."

Northrop will close on Monday, February 14, with construction to begin on the 82-year-old facility later this month. The grand re-opening is scheduled for Fall 2013. The \$80.8 million project is funded through a combination of Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement (HEAPR) funds, private donations, university funds and savings and debt service.

Commencement ceremonies during the construction will mostly be moved to Mariucci Arena. Northrop Concerts and Lectures will continue to present performances during the revitalization phase, in other venues such as the State and Orpheum Theatres. The 2011-12 Northrop Dance season will be announced later this spring.

Visit [www.northrop.umn.edu](http://www.northrop.umn.edu) for the most current revitalization information and to subscribe to receive regular email updates.



One of Minnesota's most iconic buildings, the University of Minnesota's Northrop, will be getting a major overhaul after today's action by the Board of Regents.

## Top indie films, expert panelists featured in Sustainability Film Series

Bell Museum of Natural History sponsoring the multi-venue collaboration

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**February 14, 2011**

Critically-acclaimed independent films and expert panelists will be featured in the new Sustainability Film Series, a collaborative, multi-venue project designed to generate awareness, conversation and debate, kicking off Thursday Feb. 17, at the University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History.

The films range in topic from bee-keeping to wind farming, and the panel discussion will include vibrant and informative exchanges with leading academics, filmmakers, community leaders and engaged citizens on current and local trends in sustainability.

The first film in the series will be "Milking the Rhino," followed by a presentation by the Minnesota Zoo's conservation director Ron Tilson and conservation biologist Tara Harris on Thursday, Feb. 17 at the Bell Museum.

Other films and locations include:

- Tuesday, March 1, "Queen of the Sun," St. Anthony Main Theatre.
- Thursday, March, 17, "Ghost Bird," Bell Museum.
- Tuesday, April 5, "The Greenhorns," St. Anthony Main Theatre
- Thursday, April 21, "Windfall," Bell Museum\*
- Tuesday, May 3, "Truck Farm," St. Anthony Main Theatre\*
- Thursday, May 12, "Green Screen: Student Grown Films," Bell Museum
- Thursday, May 19, "Beetle Queen Conquers Tokyo," Bell Museum

\* Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival prices apply

"With programs like our Café Scientifique and Sustainability Film Series, we're inviting the public to discover, debate and interact on current issues with top researchers in sustainability," says Bell Museum film coordinator Leah Peterson. "This series features local premieres of some of the best independently-made films in recent history, followed by lively discussions on very current topics."

The project is a partnership between the Bell Museum, the university's Institute on the Environment and The Film Society of Minneapolis/St. Paul, with support from the university's Institute for Advanced Study and Take-Up Productions.

Admission to each film is free to University of Minnesota students with ID; \$5 Bell Museum and The Film Society members, children under 12 and non-university students; \$8 general public. Tickets are available at the door.

Visit [www.mspfilmsociety.org/sustainability](http://www.mspfilmsociety.org/sustainability) for a complete line-up of films, panelists and locations.

The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, and strives to advance the quest to discover, document and understand life in its many forms and to inspire curiosity, delight and informed stewardship of the natural world.

## Soil and water conservation expert Craig Cox to speak on agricultural runoff and water quality Feb. 24

Fourth lecture in the Moos Family Speaker Series sponsored by Freshwater Society and University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences



Craig Cox has worked on land and water conservation for nearly 30 years for agencies that include the National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

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### February 14, 2011

Agricultural runoff – fertilizers and manure from cultivated fields and feedlots, and sediment washed away by erosion – pollutes many U.S. lakes and rivers. Craig Cox of the Environmental Working Group will talk about the agricultural pollution problem and strategies for reducing it in a Moos Family Speaker Series lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, at the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Student Center, theater, 2017 Buford St., St. Paul.

A panel of Minnesota experts on agriculture and water quality will appear with Cox. The lecture, "Taking the Pollution out of Agricultural Production," is sponsored by the university's College of Biological Sciences and the Freshwater Society.

"There are a number of simple and highly effective practices that farmers can use to dramatically cut pollution while sustaining high levels of production," Cox says. "Many farmers are already using these practices, but not nearly enough to clean up our lakes, rivers and streams. Poor public policy and institutional inertia stand in the way of getting the job done."

The lecture, supported by an endowment honoring former university President Malcolm Moos, is free and open to the public. But seating is limited, and registration is required. To register, go to [www.freshwater.org](http://www.freshwater.org).

Cox has worked on land and water conservation for nearly 30 years for agencies that include the National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Soil and Water Conservation Society. As senior vice president of the Environmental Working Group, he coordinates the organization's research and advocacy on agriculture, renewable energy and climate change.

The lecture will touch on conservation practices that can reduce agricultural runoff and current economic incentives that either encourage or discourage conservation. Cox will address a key public policy question: What anti-pollution costs should landowners and farm operators bear, and what land-use and management changes should be paid for by taxpayers?

Previous lecturers in the series have been: Robert Glennon, a University of Arizona law professor who has written two books on water sustainability; Hedrick Smith, an Emmy-winning film maker who produced "Poisoned Waters," a Public Broadcasting System "Frontline" documentary; and Louis J. Guillette Jr., an acclaimed wildlife biologist from the Medical University of South Carolina.

### About the Freshwater Society

The Freshwater Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating and inspiring people to value, conserve and protect all water resources. Located in Excelsior, Minn., adjacent to Lake Minnetonka, it has a long history of association with the University of Minnesota. For more information, go to [www.freshwater.org](http://www.freshwater.org).

## U of M Center For Transportation Studies winter event features expert who will discuss in-vehicle technology aimed at stopping drunk driving

**Who:** Transportation safety expert Susan Ferguson

**What:** "Driver alcohol-detection systems: The end to drunk driving?"

**Where:** A.I. Johnson Great Room, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis

**When:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 15

**Contacts:** [Patty Mattern](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), University News Service, [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), (612) 624-2801

Michael McCarthy, Center for Transportation Studies, [mpmccarthy@umn.edu](mailto:mpmccarthy@umn.edu), (612) 624-3645

### February 14, 2011

Transportation safety expert Susan Ferguson will discuss technology that can be installed in all vehicles to non-invasively measure driver blood-alcohol concentration during her talk at the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies winter luncheon. "Driver alcohol-detection systems: The end to drunk driving?" is the title of Ferguson's address, which will be held at 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 15, in the A.I. Johnson Great Room, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

In 2011, researchers plan to demonstrate prototype devices in a research vehicle. Ferguson, program manager for a multi-million dollar research program investigating driver alcohol-detection technologies, will present the latest research findings and efforts under way to gauge public reaction to such technology.

Ferguson is president of Ferguson International LLC, a highway safety research consulting company. She previously was senior vice president for research at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. In addition, Ferguson has served on the MADD National Board of Directors, the Executive Board of the International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety and the Transportation Research Board Committee on Alcohol, Other Drugs and Transportation.

More information about the CTS winter luncheon is available online at <http://www.cts.umn.edu/Events/Luncheon/2011/winter>.

Poets Gary  
Jackson and  
Yusef  
Komunyakaa  
headline  
NOMMO  
African  
American  
Authors  
Series



**What:** Seventh annual NOMMO African American Authors Series

**Who:** Poets Gary Jackson and Yusef Komunyakaa

**When:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24

**Where:** Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center, University of Minnesota West Bank campus, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

**Tickets:** \$15. Complimentary tickets available to U of M students and Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries. Call (612) 624-2345 or [visit www.tickets.umn.edu](http://www.tickets.umn.edu)

Gary Jackson and Yusef Komunyakaa will headline NOMMO African American Authors series with host Alexs Pate, University of Minnesota professor and author of the novel "Amistad."

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/15/2011) —Gary Jackson and Yusef Komunyakaa will appear at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, in Hubert H. Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, on the university's West Bank. Both Jackson and Komunyakaa will read from and discuss their works with series host Alexs Pate, University of Minnesota professor and author of the novel "Amistad."

The event is part of the annual NOMMO African American Authors Series. This is the fourth year the series has been co-presented by the Givens Foundation for African American Literature and the University of Minnesota Libraries. Additional sponsors for this event are the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center ([www.uroc.umn.edu](http://www.uroc.umn.edu)), Cave Canem ([www.cavecanempoets.org](http://www.cavecanempoets.org)) and Graywolf Press ([www.graywolfpress.org](http://www.graywolfpress.org)).

"Nommo" is a Dogon word meaning "the magic power of the word."

"Too many vital African American writers, and I count myself among them, find our work sprouting shallow roots on the periphery of public awareness," Pate says. "My conversations with these authors present rare opportunities to publicly define the state of the art of African American literature and to locate our work and contributions within the present authoring of our literary tradition."

#### More about Gary Jackson and Yusef Komunyakaa

Winner of the 2009 Cave Canem Poetry Prize for his manuscript "Missing you, Metropolis," Jackson was born and raised in Topeka, Kan. He received his Master of Fine Arts in Poetry from the University of New Mexico in 2008 and his poems have appeared in "Inscape," "Magma," "The Literary Bohemian" and local chapbooks. Published by Graywolf Press, "Missing you, Metropolis" is lauded by critics such as Komunyakaa, who writes that the book "embodies and underscores a voice uniquely shaped and tuned for the 21st century." Jackson currently teaches English as a Second Language in Seoul, South Korea.

Komunyakaa is the critically acclaimed author of 14 books of poetry, including "Copacetic" and "Neon Vernacular: New & Selected Poems 1977–1989," for which he received the Pulitzer Prize. His latest book of poems, "Warhorses," was published in 2008. His prose is collected in "Blues Notes: Essays, Interviews & Commentaries," and he coedited "The Jazz Poetry Anthology." In addition to the Pulitzer Prize, his honors include the 2004 Shelley Memorial Award, the 2001 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, the Hanes Poetry Prize and the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. He is professor and Distinguished Senior Poet at New York University.

Agribusiness,



"Participation by key stakeholders helps us understand how we can make our state-of-the-art science more relevant," says Jon Foley, Institute on the Environment director.

## environmental groups and philanthropists join U of M in Global Landscapes Initiative

Groundbreaking public-private partnership aims to optimize agriculture, nutrition and environmental protection on a global scale

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/15/2011) —It's a big job, but somebody has to do it: Figure out how to feed the 9 billion people who will inhabit Earth by 2050 -- without sending nature's infrastructure spinning out of control.

Recognizing that the task is too daunting for any one individual, institution, government or discipline, the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment convened representatives of more than a dozen corporations, nongovernment organizations and philanthropic foundations to discuss innovative data-mining and -management tools to solving one of society's grand challenges -- feeding a growing population while simultaneously improving the environment.

Known as the Global Landscapes Initiative (GLI), the initial meeting brought together a number of global thought leaders, including Bunge, Cargill, Climate and Land Use Alliance (David and Lucile, Packard, Ford, Moore and ClimateWorks foundations), Conservation International, General Mills, Google.org, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, The Keystone Center, Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, McGill University, The McKnight Foundation, Mosaic, The Nature Conservancy, PepsiCo and Science Museum of Minnesota.

GLI will define key questions that need to be answered, pursue answers to the questions through university-based research, and apply the knowledge gained on the ground, around the world.

During a daylong inaugural gathering in Minneapolis Jan. 31, the meeting participants learned about GLI's work to date, which involves combining satellite and census data to produce a dynamic picture of how food production, agricultural inputs and environmental vulnerability interface in various locations. More important, they discussed how GLI's data and analysis tools might be applied to develop an openly shared "data commons" that will help provide information the partners can use as they work to boost food production and nutrition while reducing adverse effects on the environment.

"Participation by key stakeholders helps us understand how we can make our state-of-the-art science more relevant, understand emerging issues that we can build into future research, and use the experiences of working with other groups to improve our data sets and analysis approaches," said Institute on the Environment director Jon Foley, who is heading GLI. "At the same time, the GLI will provide others with valuable information they can use to make the most of their own efforts to help feed a growing population while protecting the planet."

"General Mills looks forward to working with GLI to develop strategies to feed the growing global population, while responsibly stewarding the world's land, water and resources for future generations," said Steve Peterson, director of sourcing at General Mills.

For more information on GLI, please see [www.environment.umn.edu/gli](http://www.environment.umn.edu/gli).



## University of Minnesota statement regarding the departure of Carlson School of Management Dean Alison Davis-Blake



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Carlson School of Management Dean Alison Davis-Blake has been named the new dean of the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/15/2011) —The following is a statement from University of Minnesota Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost E. Thomas Sullivan regarding today's announcement that Carlson School of Management Dean Alison Davis-Blake has been named the new dean of the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan:

"I join with all of Dean Davis-Blake's colleagues and friends at the University of Minnesota in congratulating her on her new appointment at the University of Michigan.

"During nearly five years at the Carlson School, she has led it to an enhanced national reputation and global footprint, including a significant expansion in undergraduate enrollment, record levels of private fundraising and substantive increases in both faculty and research infrastructure.

"We're deeply grateful for her service here at Minnesota and are certainly sad to see her moving to the University of Michigan this summer, but we wish her all the best for every success in her new role.

"We'll have announcements in the coming weeks about the search process to find a successor for Dean Davis-Blake."

## U of M president reacts to Gov. Dayton's proposed budget

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST.  
PAUL (02/15/2011)

University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks

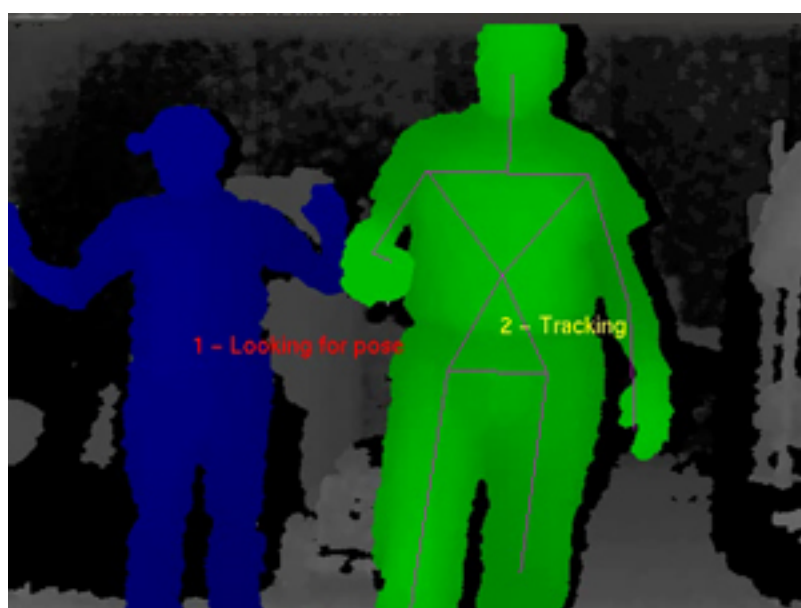
—The following is a statement from University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks in response to Gov. Mark Dayton's proposed biennial budget, released today:

“The proposed budget announced this morning by Gov. Dayton is welcome news, particularly as it follows very deep reductions in state funding to the University in the past two years, that effectively rolled back the University's state appropriation to levels last seen in 2001. The Governor's proposed funding level for the University means we will be able to hold any tuition increase for Minnesota students for the upcoming academic year at a very modest amount necessary to cover inflation. This lower tuition level will protect students and their families first, while we continue the hard work to cut our expenses and balance the University's budget. However, the University will still need to do significant internal budget reductions and will need to forgo a salary increase for the upcoming fiscal year. A pay freeze for the first year of the biennium will help prevent lay-offs of the talented faculty and staff that are critically needed to deliver an affordable, quality education, support research, and preserve our outreach mission.

“While the announcement today certainly brings some good news, deeper cuts on the University from the Legislature will have a dramatic impact on the University's ability to provide an affordable, quality education, avoid deep, unplanned job losses, and continue to fulfill its unique role to the citizens of Minnesota.”

## University of Minnesota researchers studying the use of robots and computer vision to diagnose mental disorders in children

New grants from the National Science Foundation will aid in early detection of neurodevelopment disorders by studying physical abnormalities



Using the Microsoft Xbox Kinect sensor, researchers are able to track subtle physical abnormalities in children before the full onset of a disorder.

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**Preston Smith**, University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/16/2011) —A University of Minnesota research team was recently awarded two grants totaling more than \$3 million from the National Science Foundation's Cyber-Enabled Discovery and MRI Programs to create robotic devices and computer vision algorithms that will assist with the early diagnosis of children at risk of developing disorders such as autism, attention deficit disorder (ADD) and obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD).

The team, led by computer science and engineering professor Nikolaos Papanikolopoulos in the University's College of Science and Engineering, is developing robotic instruments that could observe and automatically analyze abnormalities in children's movements and behaviors. Researchers have been using the Xbox Kinect to track the subjects, but in the future the technology could be expanded. By using novel robots, such as robot pets and robotic sandboxes, equipped with specialized detectors and software, the researchers will analyze the probability of abnormalities based on facial expressions and body positions.

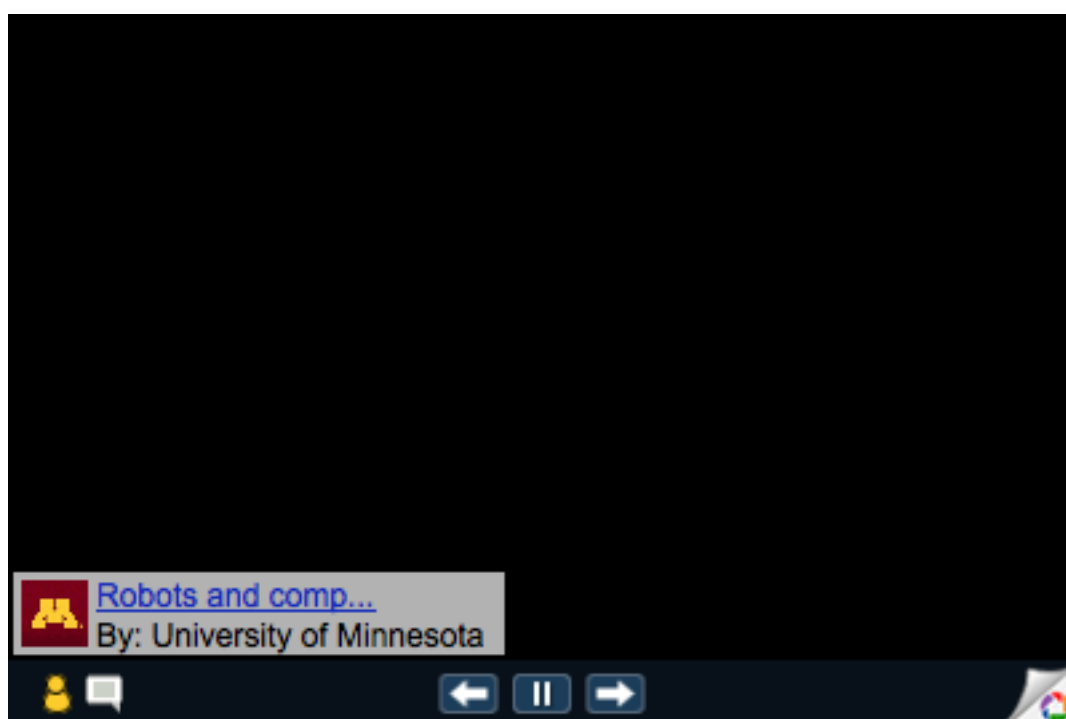
“Researchers and scientists believe that psychiatric disorders display subtle physical abnormalities in childhood well before the onset of a full disorder,” said Papanikolopoulos. “We believe that we can use new computational tools, including computer vision and robotics, with a unique new computer vision algorithm to observe and detect abnormalities in motor and emotion in children to automatically analyze them for abnormalities.”

Traditionally, experts have conducted psychiatric assessments using a visual rating system after watching videos of the subjects' motor movements and facial emotional expressions. Those expert ratings are subjective, and are limited to the observer's particular expertise. In addition, the method is costly.

This cross-disciplinary research seeks to create a diagnostic instrument for mental disorders that combines the fields of computer vision/robotics and computer science with child psychology and psychiatry.

Using these new tools, the research team members hope to be able to create more effective tools for detecting at-risk children at an earlier age. Ultimately, they hope to create a diagnostic framework, including workshops and tutorials, as well as demonstrations to distribute their work and make it more widely available.

The research is a unique partnership between the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering, Medical School, and College of Education and Human Development. In addition to Papanikolopoulos, other research team members include: Vassilios Morellas and Arindam Banerjee, Department of Computer Science and Engineering; Guillermo Sapiro, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering; Kelvin Lim and Kathryn Cullen, Department of Psychiatry; and Barbara Murphy, Institute of Child Development.



## U of M finalizes exclusive license with French biotech company that is conducting further R

Platform technology has broad applications in genetic research, crop improvement and treatment of human genetic diseases

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/16/2011) —The University of Minnesota has finalized an exclusive, worldwide license agreement with Cellectis, a Paris-headquartered biotechnology company, for technology that allows scientists to modify genes to create specific traits. Cellectis will further develop the technology at a research and development (R&D) facility it opened in St. Paul.

The technology, TAL effector nucleases, was jointly developed by researchers at the University of Minnesota and Iowa State University. The technology involves taking a DNA binding protein (TAL) and fusing it to a nuclease that breaks DNA. When the chromosome break is repaired, it allows the incorporation of DNA sequence changes at a precise location in the genome. This platform technology has broad applications in genome engineering including fundamental genetic research, crop improvement and treatment of human genetic diseases.

"In plants, we try to go in and modify genes to have specific traits," said Dan Voytas, professor in the College of Biological Sciences and joint inventor of the technology. "For example, we can make plants resistant to bacterial and fungal pathogens, and drought."

The Cellectis plant sciences R&D facility in St. Paul employs three doctoral-level scientists and two research assistants, led by Voytas, who are working to target plant genome modification. Voytas also serves as chief science officer for Cellectis plant sciences and has taken a temporary leave from the university to further research and development.

"The Cellectis license is a great example of the many benefits that result from commercializing university technology," said Jim Woodman, technology marketing manager at the Office for Technology Commercialization. "This license agreement transfers technology with the potential to improve human health and nutrition from the lab to a world leader in developing genome engineering tools. It also helps create jobs here in Minnesota."

"We're very excited about the potential of this technology, which has applications in plants, animals, and fungi," said Voytas. "It's clearly able to target DNA sequences with considerable ease. It appears we can make targeted modifications much easier than with existing technologies."

Cellectis plant sciences was formally launched in July 2010 as a subsidiary of Cellectis, a genome engineering company that designs and markets endonucleases in the fields of research, biomanufacturing, agricultural biotechnology and therapeutics. Cellectis plant sciences aims to optimize technologies, such as meganucleases or TAL effector nucleases, that could effectively modify plant genetics.

### About the Office for Technology Commercialization

The Office for Technology Commercialization oversees all aspects of technology commercialization at the University of Minnesota. Its mission is to translate University of Minnesota research into new products and services that provide growth opportunities for licensees, benefit the public good, improve the quality of life, and generate revenue to support the University's research and education goals.

U of M Law School's Theatre of the Relatively Talentless (TORT) to present "Harry Torter and the Magical Law School"



**Contacts:** Bradley Hammer, TORT Co-Producer,

This year's U of M Law School Theater of the Relatively Talentless (TORT) production is "Harry Torter and the Magical Law School." View the full poster [here](#) (artwork by [Katie Manske](#)).

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## February 16, 2011

The University of Minnesota Law School's Theatre of the Relatively Talentless (TORT) will present its ninth annual musical, "Harry Torter and the Magical Law School," on Friday and Saturday, March 4-5, at the Pantages Theatre, 710 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis.

Like all TORT productions, it is written, produced and performed entirely by Law School students, with reckless disregard for talent. Tradition dictates cameo appearances by faculty and prominent members of the legal community. Scheduled to elevate the atmosphere for the 2011 production are cameo appearances by a U.S. former Vice President, politicians and Minnesota Supreme Court Justices.

"Harry Torter and the Magical Law School" tells the story of the Plaintiff-Who-Lived Harry Torter. Orphaned by the evil wizard and trial lawyer Voldetort, Harry soon learns of his parents' true fate and begins his Law School adventure to discover the ways of Wizard Law. Harry and his friends sing their way into their first year at Mondale Hall as they are sorted into sections, face oral arguments and battle at broomball. Not all is fun and games, however, as Harry Torter fights to defeat the evil Voldetort and put an end to legal injustice forever!

Tickets are available in the subplaza of the Law School, from 12-1:15 p.m., on Feb. 16 and 18 at a special rate (\$10) for University of Minnesota students with school ID; and on Feb. 21-25 and Feb. 28-March 3 at the regular price (general public, \$18; students, \$13). For on-campus ticketing procedures, visit [www.lawschoolmusical.com](http://www.lawschoolmusical.com). Advance purchase of tickets is recommended.

Tickets will be on sale to the general public through Ticketmaster or at the State Box Office. For information on group ticket rates (10 or more) or special accommodations, email [tort@umn.edu](mailto:tort@umn.edu).

Pantages Theatre doors open at 6 p.m. and performances start at 7 p.m.

One of the country's top law schools, the University of Minnesota Law School is a leader in preparing students to solve the complex social, economic and business problems of our time. Through bold curricular innovations, the school has developed a dynamic combination of theory and practical training that equips students to address international legal issues in an increasingly globalized economy. Situated in vibrant metropolitan Minneapolis/St. Paul, the Law School is part of one of the world's leading research institutions.

## U of M symposium explores impact of deployment on military families and youth



### Media Note:

Interviews with Angela Huebner and other panel participants can be arranged prior to event.

**Contacts:** Wendy Huckaby, U of M Extension Center for Youth Development, [huckaby@umn.edu](mailto:huckaby@umn.edu), (651) 239-7554

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### February 16, 2011

The University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development will hold a free public symposium, "Exploring the impact of deployment on military youth and families: Recent research findings," on Wednesday, Feb. 23, at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The symposium will take place from 10 a.m. to noon on Feb. 23. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

In the coming months, 2,500 members of Minnesota's National Guard will be deployed. More than 15,000 Minnesota youth have been personally affected by military deployment. Children's lives are often turned upside down when military family members and loved ones are mobilized for war or active training.

The Extension Center for Youth Development's 4-H program delivers Operation: Military Kids (OMK), which supports military youth in Minnesota in discovering positive ways to cope with deployment. Minnesota does not have military bases which often provide such support systems.

Angela Huebner, associate professor in human development at Virginia Tech, will present findings from several studies on the experience of parental/spousal deployment since Sept. 11, 2001.

A panel discussion, moderated by Jim Deidrick, National OMK project coordinator, will follow. The panel includes:

- Abi Gewirtz, assistant professor in the Department of Family Social Science and the Institute of Child Development at the University of Minnesota.
- Amber Runke, Minnesota 4-H and Operation Military Kids program specialist.
- Capt. Jackie Stenger, Minnesota National Guard State Family Program director.

Huebner's recent work has focused on stressors adolescents face in military families. Her scholarship has appeared in *Journal of Adolescent Health*, *Family Relations* and *Youth & Society*. Huebner has also provided therapy to military families. She completed her bachelor's degree in psychology at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and her master's and doctoral degrees in family studies at the University of Arizona, Tucson.

Gewirtz recently received a \$3.2 million grant to develop a web-based training program that will help the families of our troops better adjust to a new life back home. The program, "After Deployment, Adaptive Parenting Tools/ADAPT," will work closely with Minnesota Army National Guard (MNARNG) personnel, to develop and test the parenting program among 400 MNARNG families in which at least one parent has been deployed. Earlier research led by one of the project's co-investigators, Dr. Melissa Polusny, showed that worries about family were an important predictor of soldier well-being during deployment, and that effective parenting during the period of reintegration was diminished among soldiers suffering from symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder.

Teen speaker Kiana Kelii, a member of the Minnesota Military Teen Panel and whose father is in the MN National Guard will provide a glimpse into the home-front experience of deployment.

As a part of the university's effort to support military families in Minnesota, this symposium will bring together representatives from youth-serving organizations, military organizations, counselors, social workers, educators, researchers and policy makers to explore how to respond and provide for this critical need.

This event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. For more information, go to: [www.extension.umn.edu/youth/training-events/events/impact-of-deployment.html](http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/training-events/events/impact-of-deployment.html).

## Bruininks receives "Champion for Children" award from Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association

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President Robert Bruininks

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/17/2011) —University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks was honored last week by the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association (MESPA) with their "Champion for Children" award. The award is given in recognition of outstanding leadership in support of children and education. Past recipients include: U.S. Senators Paul Wellstone and Mark Dayton, U.S. Rep. Jim Ramstad, and Elmer Koch.

"I know Dr. Bruininks through his leadership on the Minnesota P-20 Education Partnership, and have appreciated his commitment to the 'P' part of that work - early childhood education - where he has been instrumental in developing policy with the Minnesota Early Learning Foundation," said MESPA Executive Director P. Fred Storti. "We have been so fortunate to have our university president come from a rich education background and support our work as instructional leaders. His work around early childhood education and literacy is unprecedented for a university president."

Bruininks's academic career has centered on child and adolescent development and policy research, and strategic improvement in the fields of pre-kindergarten to grade 12 and higher education. A professor of educational psychology, he has authored or coauthored nearly 90 journal articles and more than 70 book chapters, as well as training materials and several standardized tests. He was named the 15th president of the University of Minnesota in 2002 and has served at the U for more than 40 years, previously as a professor, dean and provost. Bruininks leaves the presidency in June of 2011 and will return to the faculty, at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

MESPA is the professional association of Minnesota's elementary and middle-level principals. With the vision to "be the premiere resource for preparing today's principals for tomorrow and a strong leading voice for public education" and a statewide membership over 950 principals, MESPA has represented Minnesota's principals since 1950. MESPA is affiliated with the National Association of Elementary School Principals and its 29,500 members nationwide.

## U of M College of Continuing Education celebrates the life and legacy of Laura Ingalls Wilder and the Little House book series

"From the Big Woods to the Prairie, Laura Ingalls Wilder and the Little House Books" explores the historical context of Wilder's works, and what the series can tell us about today's world

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**February 18, 2011**

The life and times of Laura Ingalls Wilder take center stage at the University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education this February as enthusiasts join scholars to explore a Midwestern icon and her legacy. Notable university professors will discuss the extraordinary woman and writer that Wilder was, the political and social developments that affected the context of the Little House books and what the "Little House" representations of farming can tell us about the agriculture of today.

"From the Big Woods to the Prairie, Laura Ingalls Wilder and the Little House Books" will be held from 9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 26, at the U of M Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

Scholars to present include University of Minnesota history professor emeritus Hyman Berman, communications professor and Wilder scholar Amy Lauters and English professor Dan Philippon.

The day will begin with Lauters discussing where fact and fiction diverge on the subject of Wilder and her literary works, as well as the essential role that Laura's daughter, Rose, played in the books' publication. Berman will focus on the time frame and context in which Wilder grew up and wrote about, especially Minnesota, where Wilder's book "On the Banks of Plum Creek" is set. Philippon will round out the afternoon with a look at how the ideology of the books both supports and contests today's industrial agriculture, with a particular focus how the series both evades and engages with the area's environmental history.

Throughout the day, participants will also hear one of the only recorded interviews with Wilder herself, and view video clips about Laura and the places she lived.

"From the Big Woods to the Prairie, Laura Ingalls Wilder and the Little House Books" is offered through the College of Continuing Education LearningLife program, which offers enrichment opportunities including short courses, seminars and workshops. Cost is \$125. Registration includes morning and afternoon refreshments and lunch. For more information or to register please visit [www.cce.umn.edu/Wilder](http://www.cce.umn.edu/Wilder), or call (612) 624-4000. More information about LearningLife is available at [www.cce.umn.edu/learninglife](http://www.cce.umn.edu/learninglife).

**Hyman Berman** received his doctorate from Columbia University and is professor emeritus of history at the University of Minnesota where he taught from 1961-2004, specializing in labor history, Minnesota history and 20th-century U.S. history. He also has taught at Michigan State University, Brooklyn College and the University of California, Berkeley. He has been a regular commentator on the award-winning public affairs KTCA program, "Almanac." In 2001 he was the recipient of the University of Minnesota's Outstanding Community Service Award for his role as public historian.

**Amy Lauters** received her doctorate in mass communication with an emphasis on history and American studies from the University of Minnesota. She is assistant professor at Minnesota State Mankato and the author of "The Rediscovered Writings of Rose Wilder Lane: Literary Journalist" (University of Missouri Press, 2007).

**Dan Philippon**, received his doctorate and is associate professor of English at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, where he teaches courses in environmental literature, history and ethics. He is the author of "Conserving Words: How American Nature Writers Shaped the Environmental Movement" (University of Georgia Press, 2004), the editor of "Our Neck of the Woods: Exploring Minnesota's Wild Places" (University of Minnesota Press, 2009) and the co-editor of "Coming into Contact: Explorations in Ecocritical Theory and Practice" (University of Georgia Press, 2006), among other books. He also is past president of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE).



## New research funding will show how climate change affects corn-based cropping systems

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/18/2011) —The University of Minnesota is one of 10 land-grant universities that will be involved in research on keeping Midwest corn-based cropping systems resilient in the face of future climate uncertainties. Support for the research comes from a new \$20 million grant announced today by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA).

A team of 42 scientists from the universities and two USDA Agricultural Research Service institutions in eight north-central states will collect and analyze data over the next five years. The region produces 8 billion bushels of corn, which is 64 percent of the annual harvest in the United States.

Researchers will begin collecting data on carbon, nitrogen and water movement this spring from 21 research sites in the eight states. Special equipment will be used to monitor greenhouse gas emissions at many of the sites. The team will integrate field and climate data to create models and evaluate crop management practices.

"The goal is to create a database of plot, field, farm and watershed data that can be combined with climate data to develop scenarios based on different practices," said Lois Wright Morton, Iowa State professor of sociology, interim director of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture and project director. "Farmers in the region will have opportunities to participate in on-farm research and evaluate research models. The project will also offer training for teachers and the next generation of scientists to better understand the relationships among climate shifts and agriculture."

Jeff Strock, University of Minnesota associate professor of soil science, will be collecting data from a site in southwest Minnesota on a cooperating farmer's field. The Minnesota research is focused on field-scale drainage water management and will include measurements of soil quality, greenhouse gas emission, crop and plant production, and water quality. Drainage water management has the potential to reduce the impact of climate change on the productivity of agricultural systems by providing opportunities to increase water use efficiency and decrease nitrogen loss through drainage systems.

"The grant takes a synergistic approach to understanding the effects of climate variability and impacts on the sustainability of corn-based cropping systems throughout the Midwest," Strock said.

"This type of interdisciplinary research enables us to integrate and coordinate research, extension and education," said Allen Levine, dean of the U of M's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. "This project will help both scientists and the agricultural industry identify and define corn-based cropping systems that are productive and resilient in the face of weather uncertainties and risks."

The grant, one of three announced Friday, is part of USDA-NIFA's program on decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing carbon sequestration. The long-term national outcome is to reduce the use of energy, nitrogen and water by 10 percent and increase carbon sequestration by 15 percent through resilient agriculture and forest production systems.

The grant is part of the USDA-NIFA Coordinated Agricultural Program. This project's researchers include agronomists, agricultural engineers, environmental scientists, hydrologists, soil scientists, sociologists, watershed engineers and natural resource scientists.

Follow the project's progress on the SWROC website at <http://swroc.cfans.umn.edu/ResearchandOutreach/SoilManagement/index.htm>.

## Bell Museum Science Discovery Day Camps offer children a summer of science and fun; registration now open

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**February 18, 2011**

If your children dream of spaceships and saber tooth tigers, love baby animals or want to save the planet, give them a summer to remember at Bell Museum Science Discovery Day Camps beginning Monday, June 13, through Friday, Sept. 2.

Science Discovery Day Camps are weeklong camps for children in kindergarten through sixth grade that focus on learning through authentic objects and hands-on, inquiry-based classroom and lab activities, outdoor exploration and play. The camps are led by the museum's enthusiastic education staff and give campers the opportunity to meet University of Minnesota scientists, take field trips to indoor and outdoor research laboratories, cultural institutions and kid-friendly learning centers.

Campers will delight in unforgettable learning experiences like conducting experiments, interacting with animals and invertebrates and discovering science through multiple disciplines. Individual camps offer a range of activities from launching rockets, to tracking animals with telemetry and solving mock crimes with forensic evidence. Choose from 16 age-appropriate camps that vary in topic to keep campers learning all summer long.

Camps run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with a convenient drop-off/pick-up site in front of the building. Extended care is available. Registration for all camps is now open. For a complete list of camps and prices, visit [www.bellmuseum.org/camps.html](http://www.bellmuseum.org/camps.html).

The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, and strives to advance the quest to discover, document and understand life in its many forms and to inspire curiosity, delight and informed stewardship of the natural world.

## U.S. Sen. Al Franken to visit University of Minnesota Medical Devices Center on Saturday, Feb. 19



U.S. Senator Al Franken

**WHO:** U.S. Sen. Al Franken, University of Minnesota researchers, medical device industry representatives

**WHAT:** Tour of U of M's Medical Devices Center and Minnesota Supercomputing Institute

**WHEN:** 12:30-1:45 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19

**WHERE:** U of M Medical Devices Center, Shepherd Lab, Room 583, 100 Union St. S.E., Minneapolis, and Minnesota Supercomputing, Walter Library, Room 125, 117 Pleasant St., S.E., Minneapolis

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### February 18, 2011

U.S. Senator Al Franken will visit the University of Minnesota Medical Devices Center and the Minnesota Supercomputing Institute from 12:30-1:45 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19. University researchers and medical device company representatives will explain how they use the center and what it has meant to their research and companies.

The university's Medical Devices Center is the only center of its kind in the nation built specifically for designing, prototyping, and testing new medical devices. During the tour, Franken will see high-tech equipment that allows researchers to remotely view live surgeries in 3D, a computer-aided design precision-instruments area, and mechanical and electronics fabrication centers.

Franken also will talk with current and past participants of the Medical Devices Center's Innovation Fellows Program, an intensive program for mid-career professionals to develop and test marketable medical devices. In just its first two and a half years, the program has produced 35 provisional patents, two start-up companies and one product license. As the second start-up to come out of the Fellows Program, Aria CV, Inc. is developing a novel approach to bring relief to patients suffering from pulmonary hypertension.

The tour will end at the university's Minnesota Supercomputing Institute where researchers will see 3D demonstrations and learn about virtual medical device prototyping. Franken will be available to the media for a short time at the end of the tour.

Minnesota is a worldwide mecca of the medical devices industry with more than 500 FDA-registered medical device companies that employ tens of thousands of people.

## U of M closes until noon on Monday because of winter weather

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MEDIA CALLS ONLY



MINNEAPOLIS / ST.

PAUL (02/20/2011) —The University of Minnesota's Twin Cities campus will be closed until noon on Monday, Feb. 21, 2011, because of severe winter weather.

All classes scheduled to start before noon are canceled. Classes and other events scheduled to start at noon or after will go on as planned and campus will reopen at that time.

The University of Minnesota, Fairview and other university clinics will remain open.

## U of M President Robert Bruininks to testify Feb. 22 before Minnesota House Higher Education Policy and Finance Committee



University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will testify before the Minnesota House Higher Education Policy and Finance Committee Tuesday, Feb. 22.

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

### February 21, 2011

University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will testify before the Minnesota House Higher Education Policy and Finance Committee hearing scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, at the State Office Building, basement hearing room, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul.

Bruininks will testify about the impact of proposed budget cuts on the university and its students.

Prior to his testimony, Bruininks will speak at the Minnesota Student Association's "Rally to Restore Affordability," which takes place at noon in the State Capitol Rotunda, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul.

## U of M alumna Lisa Paul to speak about hunger strike, support for 1980s "refusenik"

**Media Note:** Paul is available for advance interviews by phone and in-person in Minneapolis from March 9 to 13



**Who:** Lisa Paul, 1980s hunger striker and human rights advocate  
**When:** 12 p.m. Thursday, March 10. Free and open to the public  
**Where:** U of M Social Sciences Building, room 609, 267 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis  
**Web:** <http://z.umn.edu/lisapaul> (event), <http://swimminginthedaylight.com> (book)

**Contacts:** Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, [obrie136@umn.edu](mailto:obrie136@umn.edu), (612) 624-4109  
 Jeff Falk, University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

### February 21, 2011

Lisa Paul, a 1985 graduate of the University of Minnesota, will speak in Minneapolis about her 1985-86 hunger strike, conducted in support of her Russian tutor who was refused permission to seek cancer treatment in the United States. Paul speaks at the University of Minnesota at 12 p.m. Thursday, March 10, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at Temple Israel.

Paul was a Russian studies major at the U of M when she became a nanny for an American family in Moscow in 1983. Her Russian language tutor, Inna Meiman, had cancer and was repeatedly denied an exit visa by the Soviet government because her husband, Naum Meiman, was a member of the lone human rights watchdog group in the Soviet Union. When Paul returned to the United States she conducted a 25-day hunger strike in December 1985 and January 1986 to draw attention to the plight of her "refusenik" friend. It worked: Meiman was interviewed on CBS News, and Paul's hunger strike not only made news across Minnesota, she ended the hunger strike with a press conference at the U.S. Capitol.

Also at the March 10 event, the university's Human Rights Program and Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies will announce the winner of the Inna Meiman Human Rights Award recognizing a student at the University of Minnesota who has made significant personal contributions in the promotion and protection of human rights. The event is sponsored by the Human Rights Program, Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and the university's Women's Center and the Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change.

The story of Paul and Meiman's friendship and Paul's fight for Meiman's right to medical treatment are recounted in Paul's newly published memoir, "Swimming in the Daylight." The book has been widely praised:

"Lisa Paul has written an incisive and uplifting book about her friendship with Inna Meiman, a courageous Soviet woman who fought valiantly for human rights and her own freedom. This moving account is both the story of a mentor, who shows us all how to meet life's adversities head-on without self-pity, and her student, who learns how to stand up and fight for what she believes in." – Nancy Traver, former *Time Magazine* Moscow correspondent, 1983 - 1987.

"Lisa Paul is in a rare position. She was a witness at the end of the Soviet Union and knew Inna Meiman better than most. Inna was one of the most interesting members of the human rights community in the 1980s because she was so open about how she got there and what she thought. This story provides a personal window into that world, and what it took for those who lived in it to survive. In today's Russia this story is ever more powerful as memories die, and authoritarianism comes back." – Anne Garrels, senior foreign correspondent for National Public Radio; former ABC Moscow correspondent, 1982.

More information about Paul's story, including a video clip, is at <http://swimminginthedaylight.com/the-book/author-interview>. PDFs of 1985-86 media coverage of the hunger strike are available by contacting Kelly O'Brien.

## U of M College of Continuing Education unveils new professional development series: "Unleash Your Inner Awesome"

Four free events held Feb. 24-May 26

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[Preston Smith](#), University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

### February 23, 2011

The University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education has announced a free new monthly networking and professional development series. The superhero-themed "Unleash Your Inner Awesome" events feature workshops with career experts who will show participants how to hone their career superpowers.

All events begin at 5:30 p.m., are free to attend and will be held at Spill the Wine, 1101 Washington Ave. S., Minneapolis. The inaugural schedule features four monthly events running Feb. – May:

**February 24: Unleash Your Inner Awesome! Discover Your Career Superpowers** - Take steps towards identifying unique abilities, and come away with ideas on how to apply those strengths (your personal brand) to advance your career and organization. Instructor Vic Massaglia is a career counselor for the University of Minnesota Law School. He is also principal of Cygnus 360, a career development consultancy practice that helps career counselors, career services offices and clients use social networking tools and other technology to be more productive and connected.

**March 24: MIND CONTROL! Recognize (and Develop) Your Genius Ideas** - Learn to recognize opportunities and stay open to new ideas. This session will focus on how entrepreneurial thinking can be used inside an organization (intrapreneurial thinking). Instructor Cecily Sommers' Push Institute is a nonprofit think tank that tracks significant global trends and their implications for business, government and nonprofit sectors over the next 5-10-25-50 years. Many companies have benefited from her strategic foresight, including Accenture, American Express, Best Buy, General Mills, Motorola, Target and Yahoo!.

**April 28: Wow! Pow! SOCK! Creative Communication With Impact** - Learn to present ideas creatively, to a variety of audiences and types of thinkers. Instructor Stephanie McGovern has 25 years of experience working with leaders to bring out the best in themselves and others. She helps leaders unleash the untapped potential and power of employees, increase trust, improve individual and team performance and deal effectively with rapid change.

**May 26: I Am Rubber; You Are Glue. Flexibility in Times of Change** - Learn to manage change, both in terms of your own job responsibilities and from a team perspective. Find out how to use the process to your advantage. Instructor Nan Larsen is a consultant and trainer who has 20 years independent and corporate experience guiding organizations and individuals through transitions while focusing on their strategic goals.

The program is presented by the College of Continuing and sponsored by the Young Professionals of the Twin Cities (YPOTC), the University of Minnesota Alumni Association and CareerBuilder. For more information about the program, or to register for one or all of the events, visit <http://cce.umn.edu/awesome> or call (612) 624-4000. Walkup registration may be available at the door, however advanced registration for the event is encouraged as space is limited.

"Unleash Your Inner Awesome" is a program provided by the University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education. Through the College, motivated adults enrich their personal and professional lives through learning opportunities ranging from courses, workshops and retreats, to credit certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees. For more information about the college, call 612-624-4000, or visit [www.cce.umn.edu](http://www.cce.umn.edu).

## U of M researcher discovers stereotypes can deter consumer purchases

Study also finds scent of vanilla helps consumers feel calmer and more assured of their transaction

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The perception of negative stereotyping can cause consumers to fear being duped and forgo their purchases, according to new research by U of M associate professor Kathleen D. Vohs.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/23/2011) —The perception of negative stereotyping, particularly in the areas of financial services and automobile sales and service, can cause consumers to fear being duped and forgo their purchases, according to new research by University of Minnesota associate professor Kathleen D. Vohs.

Vohs, the Land O'Lakes Professor for Excellence in Marketing at the university's Carlson School of Management, and co-authors Hakkyun Kim (Concordia University, Canada) and Kyoungmi Lee (Yonsei University, Korea) found that a potential buyer, aware of negative associations held about a group to which he or she belongs, may experience apprehension when transacting with someone from outside this group. This nervousness detrimentally impacts purchasing decisions.

"People naturally withdraw from situations where they anticipate being stereotyped," says Vohs. "They fear being duped or inadvertently reinforcing the negative association."

To see a video of Vohs discussing her research, visit: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RoMbJWXrEYM>.

In "Stereotype Threat in the Marketplace: Consumer Anxiety and Purchase Intentions," which will appear in a forthcoming issue of the *Journal of Consumer Research*, the researchers conducted three experiments.

The first focused on women's feelings when interacting with potential financial advisors. When predisposed to conditions meant to remind participants of the stereotype that women are less competent at math than men, women reported feeling more anxious about interacting with a male financial advisor and less inclined to procure financial services.

The second experiment tested these findings in an automobile repair context. When asked to report their gender before seeking a car repair, women were more likely to feel anxiety when contemplating a transaction with a male technician.

"Consumers don't have to believe the stereotype; they just have to be aware that the stereotype exists to experience the threat" Vohs adds. "The actual behavior of the salesperson may have little effect."

This research provides some of the first evidence that the presence of negative stereotypes plays an important role in consumer judgments. These findings have practical implications for marketers, who may take care to avoid using advertising content that might trigger thoughts or associations of a negative stereotype in potential customers.

While marketers cannot completely control for which perceived stereotypes may cause anxiety in potential buyers in all cases at all times, Vohs and colleagues found they may be able to mitigate the stereotype threat by introducing a sense of calmness into the transaction environment.

In the study's third experiment, the researchers found that introducing the scent of vanilla into the decision-making process helped participants feel calmer and more assured of their transaction.

"Vanilla scent has been used for centuries to calm and pacify people who have anxiety," says Vohs. "While we used scent, any tactics firms can employ that would calm consumers could help the transaction take place as the marketer would intend."

The paper and more information on Vohs can be found at: [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/marketinginstitute/kvohs](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/marketinginstitute/kvohs).



U of M's  
University  
Opera  
Theatre to  
present  
Johann  
Strauss Jr.'s  
classic "Die  
Fledermaus"  
with a  
Hollywood  
twist, April 7-  
10



Johann Strauss Jr. was known as "The Waltz King," and was largely responsible for the popularity of the waltz in 19th century Vienna, Austria.

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## February 25, 2011

The University of Minnesota School of Music's University Opera Theatre will present Johann Strauss Jr.'s classic "Die Fledermaus" at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. Performances will begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 7, through Saturday, April 9, and at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 10.

David Walsh, University Opera Theatre director and School of Music professor, will direct and Mark Russell Smith, School of Music professor and artistic director of orchestral studies, will conduct. Pre-opera lobby discussions with the director begin 45 minutes before each performance.

The University Opera Theatre invites music lovers to "join us for a breezy presentation of Johann Strauss Jr.'s effervescent operetta 'Die Fledermaus,' updated to Hollywood of the late 1920s with hilarious results. 'Die Fledermaus' (The Bat), a romantic comedy of immense wit and charm, was a runaway success from the day it opened. It was intended to satirize the upwardly mobile aspirations of the less-than-cultivated Viennese middle class of the late 19th century. By transferring the piece to a locale here in America equally obsessed with glitz, glamour and narcissistic pursuit of pleasure, we hope to catch the spirit and verve of the original!"

Tickets: \$22 general admission; \$12 for U of M students; group rates available. Call (612) 624-2345 or visit [www.opera.umn.edu](http://www.opera.umn.edu). Two for one tickets for university students, faculty, staff, retirees and alumni.

Parking is available in the 21st Avenue ramp, one block southwest of the concert hall.

## U of M reports an \$8.6 billion annual economic impact in Minnesota

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (02/28/2011)

—In an economic impact study

released today, the University of Minnesota outlined the major role it plays in Minnesota's economy. Among the findings released:

- Every dollar invested in the university by the state generates \$13.20 in the statewide economy.
- The university's overall economic impact in Minnesota totals \$8.6 billion annually.
- A total of 79,497 jobs in Minnesota are supported by the U of M, including 37,178 jobs in communities across the state through university spending.
- Research at the university plays a major role in the state's economy, generating \$1.5 billion in annual economic impact and supporting 16,193 jobs.

"Since its earliest days, we know that the University of Minnesota has played a vital role in Minnesota's economy," said president Robert Bruininks. "Now we have concrete data to prove that point and demonstrate the significant return on investment that the university provides on the taxpayer dollars that are entrusted to us."

The study was conducted by Tripp Umbach, a national leader in providing economic impact analyses to leading research institutes, universities, hospitals and academic medical centers. Tripp Umbach has completed more than 100 economic impact studies over the past decade, including the University of Washington, Penn State, Ohio State and the Mayo Clinic.

"The University of Minnesota is a major contributor to Minnesota's economy in terms of employment, education, innovation and economic development," said Paul Umbach, senior principal at Tripp Umbach. "Our analysis shows that the university's true impact goes far beyond the \$8.6 billion in annual economic impact and includes quality of life impacts such as volunteerism and charitable donations of staff, faculty and students, as well as arts and culture."

Additional findings from the report will be discussed during a work session at the Board of Regents meeting on March 11, 2011.



The University of Minnesota creates \$8.6 billion in total economic impact annually and accounts for one out of every 43 jobs in the state, according to a new survey.

"Great



Mary Robinson was the first woman President of Ireland (1990-97) and former U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights (1997-2002).

## Conversations" Series to feature former President of Ireland Mary Robinson and Law School Dean David Wippman

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**March 1, 2011**

Former President of Ireland and U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson will join Law School Dean David Wippman for a University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education Great Conversations event at 7:30 p.m. April 7, in the Great Hall of Coffman Memorial Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Wippman, a noted expert on international and human rights law, will interview Robinson, and a moderated question-and-answer session and dessert reception will follow. Doors will open at 7 p.m. The cost is \$20 for the general public and \$15 for U of M faculty, staff, students, Law School alumni, and members of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, Learning Circle, Presidents Club, MinnPost.com, and Minnesota Public Radio. CLE credit has been requested. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [cce.umn.edu/conversations](http://cce.umn.edu/conversations) or contact the College of Continuing Education Information Center at (612) 624-4000. A limited number of tickets may be available at the door.

### About Robinson

The first woman President of Ireland (1990-97) and former U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights (1997-2002), Robinson has spent most of her life advocating for human rights.

As an academic (Trinity College law faculty 1968-90), legislator (member of the Irish Senate 1969-89), and barrister (Irish Bar 1967-90, Senior Counsel 1980; called to the English Bar 1973), Robinson sought to use law as an instrument for social change, arguing landmark cases before the European Court of Human Rights, the European Court in Luxembourg, and the Irish courts. She also served on expert European Community and Irish parliamentary committees.

In 1988, she and her husband founded the Irish Centre for European Law at Trinity College. Ten years later she was elected chancellor of the University of Dublin.

Robinson is currently president of the Mary Robinson Foundation -- Climate Justice in Dublin. From 2002-10 she was the president of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative, based in New York, N.Y., which reached a planned end in December 2010.

Born in Ireland, Robinson was educated at the University of Dublin (Trinity College) and King's Inns Dublin, and in 1967 she won a fellowship to Harvard Law School. She is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and the American Philosophical Society and has received numerous honors and awards throughout the world, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama.

### About Wippman

Wippman joined the Law School as dean on July 1, 2008 from Cornell University, where he was vice provost for International Relations and a professor and associate dean at its law school. He took a year away from Cornell in 1998-99 to serve as a director in the National Security Council's Office of Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs, where he worked on war crimes issues, the International Criminal Court, economic sanctions and U.N. political issues.

Previously, he practiced law for nine years in Washington, D.C., with a focus on international arbitration, political consulting on public and private international law issues, and representation of developing countries in litigation. Wippman received his master's degree through a fellowship in the Graduate Program in English Literature at Yale University in 1978, and his juris doctorate from Yale Law School in 1982. He clerked for The Honorable Wilfred Feinberg, Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

The Great Conversations series presents thought-provoking discussions between influential guests from around the world and prominent university faculty, with a focus on compelling issues and ideas of our time.

## "Genius grant" winner Marla Spivak to discuss her bee research at University of Minnesota "Headliners" event

Topics to include the mysterious recent bee "die-off" and their implications for U.S. agriculture

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**March 1, 2011**

Panic is a word often associated with bees. But the recent steep decline of the world's honeybee population is causing a different kind of panic, and is raising alarm bells in unexpected industries. On Thursday, March 3, University of Minnesota McKnight Professor of Entomology Marla Spivak will discuss this topic in-depth, and provide her thoughts on current trends and potential impacts of a fluctuating bee population.

The event is part of the U of M College of Continuing Education's Headliners series. The event will start at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 3, at the Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul. Spivak's presentation will be followed by an audience question and answer session.

As major pollinators, honeybees have a significant impact on the world's food quality and agricultural stability. In the United States alone, the busy insect plays a crucial role in the fate of more than 100 different crops, with an estimated value of \$20 billion. Join Spivak as she discusses her research, the recent die-off, the probability that trend can be reversed and what it means for our economy and food sources.

Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by calling (612) 624-4000 or online at [www.cce.umn.edu/headliners](http://www.cce.umn.edu/headliners). Tickets may be available for purchase at the door, however advanced registration for the event is encouraged as seating is limited.

Spivak is an internationally respected expert on honeybee biology. Currently she leads the university's Bee Lab, the only bee research and education center of its kind in the Upper Midwest. Last fall she was named the recipient of a "genius grant" from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, becoming only the second person in the university's history to win this prestigious award.

Headliners is a program provided by the University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education. Through the college, motivated adults enrich their personal and professional lives through learning opportunities ranging from courses, workshops and retreats, to credit certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees. For more information about the college, call 612-624-4000, or visit [www.cce.umn.edu](http://www.cce.umn.edu).



Marla Spivak leads the university's Bee Lab, the only bee research and education center of its kind in the Upper Midwest.

## Bruininks to give his final State of the University Address, March 3

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**March 1, 2011**

Thursday's State of the U address will be the final one of Robert Bruininks' presidency.

University of Minnesota President

Robert Bruininks will give the annual State of the University Address at 3 p.m. Thursday, March 3, at Coffman Memorial Union Theater, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The speech will address the importance of great expectations in driving results and success at the University of Minnesota. In addition, it will highlight recent successes in improving the academic excellence and productivity of the university; the university's unparalleled impact on the economy and quality of life of the state and local communities; and the ways in which the university can continue to deliver on its public mission and maintain the public trust even during challenging times.

The address can be viewed online at [www.livestream.com/umntv](http://www.livestream.com/umntv). Interactive broadcasts will also be shown at the following sites:

- 220 Dowell Hall, 2900 University Ave., University of Minnesota, Crookston
- 173 Kirby Plaza, 1208 Kirby Dr., University of Minnesota, Duluth
- Science Auditorium, 600 East Fourth St., University of Minnesota, Morris
- 419 University Square, 111 Broadway Ave. S., University of Minnesota, Rochester

A question and answer session will follow the speech. For more information about President Bruininks and his priorities, visit <http://www1.umn.edu/pres/biography.html>.

Bruininks' term as president ends on June 30 and he intends to return to the U of M faculty at that time.



## Wesbrook Hall at the University of Minnesota is being considered for demolition

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/02/2011) —Wesbrook Hall at the University of Minnesota is being considered for demolition. Demolition would involve salvaging usable materials, underground utility and tunnel work, removal of the building and site paving, and interim restoration of the site with turf grass. Wesbrook Hall was constructed in 1898.

A copy of the Environment Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the University of Minnesota Capital Planning and Project Management website at [http://www.cppm.umn.edu/master\\_planning.html](http://www.cppm.umn.edu/master_planning.html).

For more information, contact James Litsheim, Capital Planning and Project Management at [litsh002@umn.edu](mailto:litsh002@umn.edu) (612) 624-4359.



## Veterinary Anatomy Building at the University of Minnesota to be considered for demolition

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/02/2011) —The Veterinary Anatomy Building at the University of Minnesota is being considered for demolition. Demolition would involve salvaging brick, disconnection and removal of underground utilities and tunnel, landscape, and sidewalk restoration. Originally completed in 1901, the Veterinary Anatomy Building had several additions previously torn down (including significant wings in 1915 and 1992) and was vacated in 1996 for structural reasons.

A copy of the Environment Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the University of Minnesota Capital Planning and Project Management Website at [http://www.cppm.umn.edu/master\\_planning.html](http://www.cppm.umn.edu/master_planning.html).

For more information, contact James Litsheim, Capital Planning and Project Management at [litsh002@umn.edu](mailto:litsh002@umn.edu) (612) 624-4359.





## New U of M Regents sworn in at board meetings next week; Board to also hear economic impact study

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### March 4, 2011

The four newly elected members of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents will be sworn in by the Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court and U of M Morris alumnus, Lorie Skjerven Gildea, on Thursday, March 10, at the McNamara Alumni Center in Minneapolis.

The new regents include David Larson, who was re-elected from the 3rd congressional district; Steve Sviggum from the 2nd congressional district; David McMillan from the 8th congressional district; and Laura Brod, who is an at-large member.

“We’re pleased to welcome these new members to the board,” said Chair Clyde Allen. “I speak for the entire Board of Regents in saying we truly looking forward to working together.”

In addition to the swearing-in, the board will also hold a work session to hear from national consultant, Paul Umbach, on the results of the recent economic impact study conducted by his firm, Tripp Umbach. Earlier this week, the top-level findings of the study were presented, showing that the U of M generates more than \$13 in economic activity for every one dollar of state investment.

Highlights of the meetings include:

### Thursday, March 10

8 - 9:15 a.m., Audit Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will have a discussion of emerging issues in higher education related to the committee’s work. Provost Tom Sullivan and Director of Institutional Compliance Lynn Zentner will present on conflict of interests and conflict of commitment.

8:15 - 9:15 a.m., Litigation Review Committee, W.R. Peterson Conference Room. The committee will act on a resolution to conduct a non-public meeting to discuss attorney-client privileged matters.

9:30 - 9:45 a.m., Board meeting, boardroom. Chief Justice Lorie Skjerven Gildea administers the oath of office to four new regents.

10 - 11:45 a.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. In addition to reviewing and acting on a number of real estate transactions, the committee will be updated by Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean of the Medical School Aaron Friedman and Vice President for University Services Kathleen O’Brien on the Biomedical Discovery District. O’Brien and UMPD Chief Greg Hestness will also provide a report on public safety plans and operations.

10 - 11:45 a.m., Educational Planning and Policy Committee, East Committee Room. Sullivan and Senior Vice President for System Academic Administration Robert Jones will provide a report on the findings of system-wide Blue Ribbon Committees.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Finance and Operations Committee, East Committee Room. The committee hears the annual investment consultant’s report and the annual insurance and risk management report. Chief Financial Officer Richard Pfitzenreuter will also provide an update on the enterprise financial system and the university’s biennial budget.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, West Committee Room. Two collective bargaining agreements will be reviewed and acted upon. The committee will also hear a report on coordinate campus student services and trends in staff compensation.

4 - 5:15 p.m., Tour of Biomedical Discovery District. The board will tour both the Wallin Building and the Center for Magnetic Resonance Research in the new Biomedical Discovery District near TCF Bank Stadium. (Media wishing to join on the tour should contact Jeff Falk to RSVP.)

### Friday, March 11

9 - 10:15 a.m., Board Work Session, Boardroom. President Robert Bruininks, Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy and Umbach present the findings of a recent study on the economic impact of the University of Minnesota.

Immediately after work session, Board Meeting, Boardroom. The board will recognize the McKnight Land-Grant Professors. In addition, state economist and U of M faculty member Tom Stinson will provide an update on the State of Minnesota’s economic forecast.

More information on the Board of Regents and live-streaming of the board meeting can be found at [www.umn.edu/regents](http://www.umn.edu/regents).

## Music of U of M professor James Dillon featured at Southern Theater April 3

Internationally-acclaimed Scottish composer is regarded as belonging to the New Complexity school

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**March 4, 2011**

The music of University of Minnesota School of Music composition professor James Dillon will be featured in an evening of music at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 3, at the Southern Theater, 1420 Washington Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Tickets for “Ensemble Dal Niente: Music of James Dillon” are \$20 and available at [www.southerntheater.org](http://www.southerntheater.org).

The Chicago-based Ensemble Dal Niente performs a range of music from the past century: European avant-garde, American high modernism and styles influenced by popular music and jazz. For this performance, the group tackles the cutting-edge music of Dillon, showcasing an array of solo and ensemble pieces featuring U of M School of Music alumna and Twin Cities soprano Carrie Henneman Shaw, clarinet, vibraphone, piano, string quartet and more. Dillon’s catalogue is rooted in the European classical tradition, touched by his formative exposure to Scottish pipe music, and displays a wide interest in other music from jazz and Delta blues, to the Hindustani classical tradition and Oriental court music.

“In James Dillon, Ensemble Dal Niente sees an opportunity for collaboration with one of the world’s most sophisticated and unique musical minds, whose music we feel is underrepresented,” says Ryan Muncy, executive director and saxophonist of Ensemble Dal Niente. “As several members of the ensemble are deeply interested in Dillon’s music, and considering the geographical convenience of presenting a concert of James’ music in his city of residence, this opportunity is the perfect of marriage of imagination, ideality and practicality.”

“Dillon’s works demand musicians who are fearless, deeply committed to contemporary music and open to exploration of unconventional playing techniques,” says Muncy. “Dal Niente’s musicians are of a rare breed; they are willing to push themselves to physical and mental extremes for the sake of expression.”

The programming for Dal Niente’s performance at the Southern Theater has been largely influenced by the composer himself, who took great care in sculpting its overall shape and musical experience.

Evening program:

- *The Book of Elements*, Vol. 4 (2002) for piano
- *Time Lag Zero* (1982) for female voice and viola
- *Come Live with Me* (1981) for mezzo-soprano, flute, oboe, percussion, and piano
- *Todesengel* (1996) for clarinet and vibraphone
- *The Soadie Waste* (2003) for piano and string quartet

## National Labor Relations Board Chairman Wilma Liebman to speak on "Reviving American Labor Law," March 31

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### March 4, 2011

National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) Chairman Wilma B. Liebman will give a lecture, "Reviving American Labor Law," at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, March 31, at the University of Minnesota Law School, Room 25 of Mondale Hall, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Designated chairman by President Obama on Jan. 20, 2009, Liebman was first appointed to the NLRB by former President Clinton in 1997 and is currently in her third term, which expires in August 2011.

"The agency is coming back to life after a long period of dormancy," Liebman said in February, and after two years without a quorum is "tackling many of the difficult cases that languished for years." New initiatives include inviting briefs from practitioners and the public on important cases and using the administrative rulemaking process to seek comments on potential rule changes.

Before joining the NLRB, Liebman worked with the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS), first as special assistant to the director and a member of the Mediator Task Force on the Future of FMCS, then as deputy director overseeing arbitration and grant programs, advising the director, and participating in negotiations. She has also served as labor counsel for the Bricklayers and Allied Craftmen and for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and was an NLRB staff attorney from 1974-80.

Liebman is a past elected member of the Executive Board of the Industrial Relations Research Association and of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. She holds a bachelor's degree from Barnard College and a J.D. from George Washington University Law Center.

At the invitation of Chairman Liebman, the ABA Journal of Labor & Employment Law, edited by University of Minnesota Law School faculty and students, is publishing a special issue that she organized on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the NLRB.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the Law School and Fredrikson & Byron. One CLE credit has been requested. It is free and open to the public. For space considerations, RSVPs are recommended, at [lawevent@umn.edu](mailto:lawevent@umn.edu).

## U of M College of Design students to redesign Minneapolis' historic Nicollet Mall

**What:** U of M  
“catalyst” workshop  
to provide redesign  
visions for Nicollet  
Mall

**When:** Monday  
through Friday,  
March 7-11

**Where:** Crystal  
Court, IDS Center, 80 Eighth St. S., Minneapolis



Mary Tyler Moore's iconic hat toss on the corner of Nicollet Mall and 7th Street made the mall world famous.

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### March 7, 2011

This week, graduate students in the University of Minnesota College of Design's School of Architecture will take part in an intensive, hands-on workshop to provide the city of Minneapolis with a new vision for the historic Nicollet Mall. The “catalyst” workshop take will take place Monday through Friday, March 7-11, at the IDS Center's Crystal Court, 80 Eighth St. S., Minneapolis.

The goal of the workshop is to provide a vision of the mall as a public space for people to congregate and one that makes Minneapolis a top city to live in. Participants will present and discuss their visions starting at 12 noon Friday, March 11.

“The core cities of America are undergoing a renaissance,” says architecture professor Lance LaVine, who is overseeing the workshop. “The suburbs are no longer the address of choice for large segments of our population. Young and old adults now consider the core city to represent the kind of activities that might produce a rich life.”

Leading members of Minneapolis city governments are planning to attend the workshop to share insights and provide feedback on the visions.

The students, who are earning their master's degrees in architecture, will be paired up in four teams led by practicing professionals.

Each team will be provided with a Styrofoam model of two blocks and three intersections of the mall and a plan from 12th Street to the Mississippi River. The model will include buildings on either side of the mall.

## "New Metropolis Minnesota: Growing Together as a Region" forum features film with University of Minnesota Law School professor Myron Orfield

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**March 7, 2011**

A forum called "New Metropolis Minnesota: Growing Together as a Region" will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30, at the Bloomington Center for the Arts, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington. The public is invited to join the forum for a conversation about the Twin Cities' older suburbs at a time of pivotal leadership transition at the state and regional levels.

Terri Thao, program officer with Nexus Community Partners, will serve as host for the event. Portions of Andrea Torrice's documentary, "The New Metropolis," will be shown, and a diverse panel of citizen representatives and public officials will discuss various issues. Among the panel members are Metropolitan Council Chair Susan Haigh, Richfield Mayor Debbie Goettel, Eden Prairie parent Ahmed Jama and Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment Through Research (HACER) Executive Director Rodolfo Gutierrez. Audience members will have the opportunity to pose their own questions to the panel.

"The New Metropolis" features University of Minnesota Law School Professor Myron Orfield, executive director of the Institute on Race and Poverty, a nonresident fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., and an affiliated faculty member at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. Orfield is co-author with Thomas F. Luce Jr. of the recently released book, "Region: Planning the Future of the Twin Cities."

The event is sponsored by 1000 Friends of Minnesota, Twin Cities Public Television, the Surdna and Ford Foundations and Torrice Productions. Advisory organizations include the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability, the Housing Preservation Project, the Institute on Race & Poverty, ISAI AH, Metro Cities, the Metropolitan Council, the Urban Land Institute/Regional Council of Mayors and the University of Minnesota.

The event is free and open to the public, and a reception will follow. Registration is required, at [www.1000fom.org/envision/new-metropolis-register](http://www.1000fom.org/envision/new-metropolis-register).

## Citizen science data reveal links between migration and disease in monarch butterflies

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/08/2011) —Understanding the interaction between migration and infectious disease is fundamental to conservation efforts for many species. But the logistical challenges involved in collecting samples across the geographic scope of a species' range, from breeding to overwintering sites, can be enormous.

A new study co-authored by University of Minnesota scientist Karen Oberhauser and researchers at the University of Georgia enlisted the help of citizen science groups from both states to help solve those challenges.

The study, published in the current issue of the journal *Ecology*, looked at how parasites are transmitted in monarch butterflies, which migrate up to 1,500 miles each fall from the eastern United States. Researchers measured levels of parasitism in monarchs at their breeding grounds, at points along their migratory route, and at overwintering sites in Mexico. They correlated parasitism levels with monarch densities in their breeding grounds.

The two citizen science projects the team drew upon were the Monarch Larva Monitoring project (MLMP), based at the University of Minnesota, and MonarchHealth, based at the University of Georgia. MLMP volunteers count monarch eggs, caterpillars, and adults in wild milkweed patches during the spring and summer. MonarchHealth volunteers capture wild monarchs, collect parasite samples using non-destructive methods, and send them to the University of Georgia for analysis.

These projects engage volunteers monitoring hundreds of sites throughout the eastern half of the U.S., and, according to Oberhauser, "allow data collection across geographic, and time scales that would be impossible if the research were only conducted by professional scientists."

The project also engaged people from a broad spectrum of ages and backgrounds in the scientific process. Oberhauser says the project is unique in that it combines data from two different citizen science projects, using data from MonarchHealth volunteers to assess disease status of the insects and data from MLMP volunteers to assess monarch density.

This collaborative effort benefited both the research and the volunteers. "Volunteers from both projects were exposed to the bigger picture of monarch biology, and many have decided to contribute data to both projects as a result of this collaborative analysis," Oberhauser said.

The study found that parasite infections build up during the summer breeding season, likely due to the fact that parasites accumulate on host plants -- milkweeds -- in patches used by monarchs. Data provided by Oberhauser showed that monarch population density increases from early to late in the breeding season, and monarchs from locations that had higher caterpillar densities also had a higher prevalence of infection. Oberhauser said that this relationship between monarch density and parasite infections suggests "that higher host densities increase opportunities for parasite transmission."

As the fall migration progressed, parasite prevalence decreased, and the prevalence of infection among monarchs wintering in Mexico was lower than for summer breeding or fall migrating monarchs, probably because heavily infected monarchs didn't survive the fall journey.

The team's findings could help direct conservation efforts and could be applied to help predict threats of infectious disease to other migratory wildlife species.

Funding for the project was provided the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. For more information about MonarchHealth, see [www.monarchparasites.org](http://www.monarchparasites.org); for more information about the MLMP see [www.mlmp.org](http://www.mlmp.org).

## University of Minnesota President-designate Eric Kaler names Amy Phenix chief of staff

**Media Note:** To download a high resolution photo of Phenix, [click here](#).

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University News Service,  
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Amy Phenix was the director of news and public information at the University of Minnesota from 1999 to 2004. To view a high resolution version of this photo, [click here](#).

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/08/2011) —University of Minnesota President-designate Eric W. Kaler today named Amy Phenix as chief of staff. The hiring of Phenix is the first executive level appointment made by Kaler. Phenix is currently director of communications and public relations at Macalester College, St. Paul. She will join the university in mid-April and will work on transition issues to prepare for Kaler's assumption of the presidency on July 1. The appointment is subject to approval by the Board of Regents.

“I am very pleased Amy has agreed to return to the U in this role,” said Kaler. “The search committee and I talked to many people in the community about her, and it is clear that she is able to bring changes in a highly collaborative way, that she has many skills, and that she will be dedicated to our mission. I think she is the right fit at the right time for this expanded role, and I look forward to working with her to develop responses to the array of challenges before us. I believe the university community will enjoy working with her.”

Kaler also said that Phenix's prior experience at the University of Minnesota, where she was director of news and public information from 1999 to 2004, gives her an understanding of how the university operates, while her more recent positions will let her bring a valuable outside perspective. She will have responsibility for overseeing several functions reporting to the president's office, including athletics for operational aspects, communications, marketing, college relations, compliance and the University Senate office. Phenix also will play a key role in the university's strategic planning process.

Phenix has an extensive background in management, marketing and communications. Prior to joining Macalester College, Phenix was vice president for marketing and communications at Allina Hospitals & Clinics in Minneapolis. She also served in communications management roles at Himle Horner Public Affairs in Minneapolis and as the communications director for the mayor of Minneapolis from 1997 to 1999.

“The chance to return to one of the top academic and research universities in the world is a unique opportunity,” said Phenix. “The impact that Dr. Kaler will have on the university and the ability to help advance that agenda will be truly exciting.”

Phenix holds a master of business administration degree from the Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota, and a bachelor of arts degree from Macalester College. She was a fellow at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs Policy Forum.

A resident of Minneapolis, she is active in numerous civic and volunteer organizations and was a delegate to the United Nations Conference on Women, Beijing, China.

## "Classes Without Quizzes" features everyday science

What: College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences presents "Classes Without Quizzes"

When: 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Saturday, April 2

Where: McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul

**Contacts:** Becky Beyers, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, [bbeyers@umn.edu](mailto:bbeyers@umn.edu), (612) 626-5754

**Patty Mattern**, University News Service, [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), (612) 624-2801

**March 9, 2011**

Garden remedies, healthy eating, water quality and sustainable buying are among the featured topics at this year's "Classes Without Quizzes" on Saturday, April 2 at the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus.

Nationally recognized experts from the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences will present mini-seminars designed for the general public, including students of all ages. The event will be from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and includes kids-only sessions on reptiles and plant science as well as hands-on family science projects.

Marla Spivak, professor of entomology and recent McArthur Foundation "Genius Grant" winner, will present the keynote speech, "The Health and Diversity of Bee Pollinators," at 9 a.m.

The eight mini-seminars include:

**The Truth About Garden Remedies:** All kinds of garden gurus are out there telling us what to do to solve all of our gardening woes: baking soda for blackspot, sugar for feeding your plants, or eggshells to stop slugs. But which approach works and which is hooey? Horticultural science associate professor Jeff Gillman will take a closer look at some popular garden remedies.

**Kids Actually Like Whole Grain Foods?** Children are not getting enough whole grains to meet their nutritional needs; but will they eat healthy food? Department of food science and nutrition associate professor Len Marquart discusses how perceptions can be changed and efforts to gradually introduce whole-grain foods into the diets of school-age children.

**Who Pays Taxes?** Amid both the state budget debate and income tax season, the time is right to tackle some perennial questions about our government and who pays for it. Why does the government provide goods and services when the private sector can provide them so well? How should governments pay for the services they provide? Who pays which taxes? How might the state's tax and spending priorities change in coming years? In this session Laura Kalambokidis, assistant professor of applied economics, will lay the groundwork for a discussion of these and other pressing issues.

**Water in the Land of Lakes:** Water Resources Center co-director Faye Sleeper will present information on the quality of Minnesota's waters, the regulatory framework for protection and restoration of polluted waters, and the role of citizens in the process. Sleeper will de-mystify terms such as impaired waters, TMDLs, nonpoint source pollution, watershed and more.

**Creating Sustainable Lawns:** Eric Watkins, assistant professor of horticultural science, will explain which species of turfgrass provide excellent lawns with a minimum of water, nutrients and time.

**The Meat We Eat:** Meat is a nutrient-dense part of a healthy human diet, but how do you know which cuts are best? Animal Science associate professor Ryan Cox will discuss the factors at work in choosing meat as well as addressing "meat myths."

**Stem Rust Affects Everyone:** A new race of stem rust, Ug99, has been detected in eastern Africa. What will its impact be on a local, regional, and global scale? Wheat and barley breeding experts Jim Anderson and Matthew Rouse will co-present on current efforts in improving wheat for resistance to Ug99 and why there's an urgent need to reduce the vulnerability of wheat worldwide.

**At Least It Says So on the Package:** What does "green" really mean? How can private businesses meaningfully engage in solving today and tomorrow's environmental problems? Tim Smith, associate professor of bioproducts/biosystems engineering, will discuss the challenges of sustainability.

Registration for Classes Without Quizzes costs \$30 with discounts for University of Minnesota Alumni Association members and students. An optional lunch following the seminars is \$10. For information and to register, go to <http://z.umn.edu/cwq> or call (612) 624-0822.



## Statement by University of Minnesota General Counsel Mark Rotenberg regarding indictments

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/09/2011) —The following is a statement by University of Minnesota General Counsel Mark Rotenberg regarding the criminal indictments of professors Francois Sainfort and Julie Jacko:

This morning the University of Minnesota was informed that professors Francois Sainfort and Julie Jacko were each indicted on multiple felony counts by a grand jury in the state of Georgia. According to the Georgia Attorney General, the indictment alleges that Sainfort and Jacko "conspired to be employed full time and receive salary from Georgia Tech while simultaneously being employed full time and collecting salary from the University of Minnesota. The indictment also charges that the two fraudulently billed Georgia Tech for travel expenses, inappropriately directed payments to a relative, and lied about their dual employment and the purpose of the Georgia Tech-funded travel."

On December 14, 2010 Professors Sainfort and Jacko were disciplined by the university after a review of the facts surrounding their transition from the Georgia Institute of Technology to the University of Minnesota in 2007-2008. Both professors received letters of reprimand and were required to pay the university approximately \$59,000. As part of their reprimands, the university advised them that there may be grounds for further university review and action in the event material new facts come to light.

Professors Sainfort and Jacko's employment activities at the university will be managed in accordance with relevant University Human Resources policies, and the university will adhere to all regulatory notification requirements governing any affected sponsored research in which the professors are involved.

## U of M Board of Regents to recognize new McKnight Land-Grant Professors

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/10/2011) —Five junior faculty members who have been named McKnight Land-Grant Professors for 2011-2013 will be recognized by the Board of Regents at its March 11 meeting. The award aims to advance the careers of junior faculty members who have demonstrated potential to make significant contributions to their respective academic fields.

“These five faculty members are in the early stage of their careers and have already proven themselves to be national and international leaders among their peers,” said Tim Mulcahy, vice president for research. “This award recognizes their tremendous potential and demonstrates our strong desire to keep their talent at the University of Minnesota.”

The McKnight Land-Grant Professorship is named for a significant endowment from the McKnight Foundation that was combined with a share of the Permanent University Fund, which dates to the original Land Grant to the university. The award includes a research grant for two consecutive years, summer support and a research leave in the second year. Typically, recipients go on to win increasingly prestigious awards, both inside and outside the university, and pursue productive careers.

Each year, every department is invited to nominate its most promising tenure-track assistant professor who has earned a Ph.D. within the past seven years and begun his/her appointment within the past three years. A committee of 10 university faculty selected this year’s recipients based on the significance of their research; the degree to which they demonstrate innovation, imagination and originality; the potential for significant contribution to the discipline; the quality of scholarly publications; and the potential for attracting outstanding students.

The 2011-13 recipients and their areas of research are:

**Brian Aukema**, entomology: Forest insect ecology — small insects and big problems

**Aditya Bhan**, chemical engineering and materials science: Transportation fuels from biomass — breaking the chemical and engineering barriers

**Christopher Hogan**, mechanical engineering: Seeing the invisible — measuring and simulating the behavior of environmental nanoparticles

**Chad Myers**, computer science and engineering: Learning about the cell by breaking it — computational approaches for understanding complex genetic networks

**Chengyan Yue**, horticulture science and applied economics: Horticultural marketing and global horticultural trade

For more information, visit [www.research.umn.edu/advance/land-grant.html](http://www.research.umn.edu/advance/land-grant.html).

## U of M exhibit to highlight "50 Years of Service: Minnesota Peace Corps Volunteers"

University ranks among the schools with the most Peace Corps volunteers

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**March 10, 2011**

The University of Minnesota this spring will celebrate the Peace Corps' 50th anniversary and former Vice President Hubert Humphrey's role in its development with a special exhibit.

"50 Years of Service: Minnesota Peace Corps Volunteers" opens with a reception from 5-7 p.m. Monday, March 21, and runs through the end of April at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs' Humphrey Forum, 310 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Free and open to the public, the exhibit consists of training materials, personal objects and cultural artifacts from local Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs).

The reception will feature remarks by keynote speaker Robert Klein (Ghana, 1961-63), who is currently working on a project to archive the stories of RPCVs for the United States Library of Congress.

While President John F. Kennedy gets credit for creating the Peace Corps, the first initiative came from Humphrey when, as Minnesota's U.S. senator, he introduced the bill to create the Peace Corps in 1957—three years prior to Kennedy and his famous University of Michigan speech.

Since 1961, over 1,269 University of Minnesota graduates have continued this tradition by putting their education and experience to work as Peace Corps Volunteers. Today, the University of Minnesota ranks in the top 12 colleges and universities that produce the most Peace Corps Volunteers.

The exhibit is a collaborative effort between the Humphrey School, Minnesota Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, the RPCV@UMN student group, the university's Learning Abroad Center, the University of Minnesota Peace Corps recruiter, two volunteer curators and the university's Student Activities Office.



Hubert H. Humphrey with Rhoda Brooks, a Minnesota Peace Corps Volunteer and her daughter, Josie, taken in 1969 on an airport tarmac in Arizona. Humphrey introduced the bill to create the Peace Corps in 1957.

## From chicken coops to denim insulation, learn to save money and the planet at the Bell Museum's Everyday Sustainable Living Resource Fair Thursday, March 31.

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**March 11, 2011**

Pick up money saving tips while learning how to conserve natural resources at the Bell Museum's Everyday Sustainable Living Resource Fair from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, March 31. The event, aimed at helping ordinary people adopt a sustainable lifestyle, will feature exhibitors of green living who practice what they preach. Get sustainable living and energy saving tips on pet care, backyard farming and animal husbandry, planning a vacation retreat or simply going about your daily life.

Exhibitor highlights include:

- Filmmaker and documentarian Milt Lee on the process of building and the joys of owning a straw bale house;
- Jim and Caleb Wilkins, owners of White Bear Lake-based Tiny Green Cabins which builds locally produced, earth-friendly cabins and homes made of recycled materials;
- Backyard farming, gardening and urban chicken care by experts Audrey Matson and Robert Lies, owners of St. Paul-based Egg/Plant Urban Farm Supply store;
- Minneapolis-based Center for Energy and Environment's community organizer Kyle Boehn on the Community Energy Service program and related workshops;
- Beth Mercer-Taylor, sustainability education coordinator, and students from the university's Sustainable Studies Minor with information on how personal decisions like cooking, commuting, vacationing and heating your home impact the environment; and
- University Housing and Residential Life representatives on how the university is promoting sustainable habits among its student population, and Facilities Management staffers on the university's "It All Adds Up" program's energy reduction goals.

The event is free with paid admission to "Sustainable Shelter," the museum's exhibit that explores innovative home building technologies and strategies that help restore the health and viability of natural systems. Learn how ordinary activities--from reading a book to drying clothes--impact the planet's carbon and water cycles, and see how American home construction has changed over the past 150 years.

The Everyday Sustainable Living Resource Fair is part of a line up of Thursday evening programs that includes films, guest artist installations, walkabouts and panel discussions. For upcoming events, visit [www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org).

The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, and strives to advance the quest to discover, document and understand life in its many forms and to inspire curiosity, delight and informed stewardship of the natural world.



## Board of Regents Chair Clyde Allen appoints ad hoc committee to look at possible conflict of interest

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/11/2011) —University of Minnesota Board of Regents Chair Clyde Allen today appointed an ad hoc committee to determine if there is a conflict of interest with new member Steve Sviggum serving both as a regent and as an employee of the university's Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Sviggum, who was sworn in as a regent on Thursday, has a 53 percent time appointment at Humphrey as a lecturer with the title of Legislative Fellow. He signed the contract Feb. 4, 2011, several weeks before he was elected to the Board of Regents.

"He is both an employee and a regent. We value both except it raises the question of whether or not there is any conflict," Allen said during the board's meeting Friday.

Allen, Vice Chair Linda Cohen and Regent Patricia Simmons will serve on the committee and report back to the full board at its next meeting in May, Allen said.

## U of M study examines the new adulthood: Extended parental support as a safety net

Monetary and housing assistance through the 20s is normal and healthy

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/14/2011) —A new University of Minnesota study shows that contrary to popular anxieties about slacker young adults who refuse to grow up, or indulgent parents who stifle their adult children's development by continuing to support them, there is evidence that parental assistance in early adulthood promotes progress toward autonomy and self-reliance. The study will be published in a forthcoming issue of the Journal of Marriage and Family.

“The fact that young people depend so heavily upon their parents well beyond the age when most people from earlier generations had already started families and had dependable jobs has triggered a great deal of public anxiety over whether these trends signal young adult immaturity and stunted development,” says sociology professor and study author Teresa Swartz. “The larger social trends in delaying family formation may be one reason for the extended dependence upon parents. Today, the road to adulthood is much longer and more arduous than it was 30 years ago.”

The researchers collected longitudinal data to examine the conditions under which young adults are more likely to receive financial support for living expenses, or to live in the parental home. Although almost half of the respondents received either money for living expenses or lived with their parents (or both) in their mid-20s, only 10-15 percent received financial or housing help when in their early 30s. The likelihood of receiving financial help decreased 15 percent each year, and the likelihood of living with parents decreased by 18 percent each year. “These results indicate that young people do eventually become independent of parents as they grow older.”

Beyond the effects of age, young people were more likely to receive help from their parents if they were students or had encountered recent difficulties such as a job loss, a serious illness or a divorce. “Parental aid serves as ‘scaffolding’ to help young people who are working towards financial self-sufficiency and as ‘safety nets’ for those who have experienced serious difficulties. In an economy that requires advanced education for good jobs, parents are more likely to aid their children when they are students. As the labor market offers fewer opportunities for stable, full-time, well-paid work for the young, parents often fill in when needed,” says Swartz.

The authors find that parental support tapers as young adult children take on adult roles such as earning higher incomes or forming families, regardless of their age. “Forming intimate partnerships, in the forms of marriage and cohabitation, appears to signal to parents that their children have moved into adulthood and should now be on their own. Although family formation is largely understood as a ‘choice’ today and not viewed as essential for achieving adult status, it does appear that parents and/or adult children themselves interpret family formation as an indicator that adult self-sufficiency is appropriate.”

The sample examined in this study is part of the Youth Development Study, an ongoing longitudinal study begun in 1988 gathered from St. Paul public schools when the youth were in ninth grade. The original sample included 1,010 adolescents who were randomly selected from St. Paul public high schools. The participants have been surveyed annually since, and now are approximately 37-38 years old. The analysis for this article spans the years from when the young people were 24-32 years old.

## University of Minnesota announces 2011 Siehl Prize in Agriculture laureates

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/15/2011) —An innovative farmer who's known worldwide for his conservation practices, a steadfast leader in the agribusiness finance industry and a longtime voice of agriculture in southwestern Minnesota are this year's recipients of the prestigious Siehl Prize in Agriculture.

The prize is awarded annually by the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. Recipients are chosen for three categories: knowledge (teaching, research and outreach); production agriculture and agribusiness. This year's winners are:

- Wallace (Wally) Nelson (knowledge): The original superintendent at what's now the Southwest Minnesota Research and Outreach Center near Lamberton was a tireless advocate for putting agricultural research to work for farmers. He led the research center for nearly 40 years, contributing to important breakthroughs in corn management, hail damage, soils and drainage.
- James "Tony" Thompson (production agriculture): the Windom-area farmer manages his family's nearly 5,000 acres to produce bountiful, profitable crops while carefully conserving the farm's soil and water. He's opened his home and farm to hundreds of researchers and scientists who want to learn more about agro-ecology.
- Paul DeBriyn (agribusiness): the president and CEO of AgStar Financial Services took over a struggling agricultural lender in the 1980s and built it into an industry leader. In addition to his business success, DeBriyn has been a leader in advocating for agriculture, in developing leadership and scholarship programs, and in helping rural economies thrive.

The recipients were announced today as part of the celebration of National Ag Week. They will be honored at a ceremony on May 26 on the university campus.

The Siehl Prize was created in the early 1990s by a generous gift from New Ulm-area livestock breeder and businessman Eldon Siehl, a dedicated philanthropist who had a lifelong interest in agricultural systems. Siehl was concerned that people were losing touch with their agrarian roots and wanted his gift to ensure that achievements in agriculture would be recognized and celebrated. Recipients receive a \$50,000 award as well as a sculpture and lapel pin designed by Minnesota artist Thomas Rose especially for the Siehl Prize.

## Children's literature author Jane Kurtz to receive 2011 Kerlan Award

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The University of Minnesota Libraries will present children's literature author Jane Kurtz with the 2011 Kerlan Award at Elmer L. Andersen Library on Sat. April 2.

### March 15, 2011

The University of Minnesota Libraries will present children's literature author Jane Kurtz with the 2011 Kerlan Award at Elmer L. Andersen Library on Sat. April 2.

The award presentation and speech by Kurtz will begin at 1:15 p.m. and is free and open to the public. The ceremony is preceded by a noon luncheon (cost: \$20; \$15 for Kerlan Friends), which requires advance registration by March 25.

Kurtz is the author of many books, including Lanie's Real Adventures, American Girl's 2010 Book of the year; River Friendly, River Wild, about the 1997 flooding of the Red River in Grand Forks, North Dakota; and Do Kangaroos Wear Seat Belts? Several of her books are set in East Africa, where she and her siblings were raised by their missionary parents. Kurtz--who still travels and teaches in Ethiopia and actively supports the literacy project "Ethiopia Reads" and the Ethiopian Children's Book and Educational Foundation--now lives in Lawrence, Kansas.

Attendees will be eligible to enter a drawing for an American Girl Lanie doll, sets of the Lanie books, and other American Girl merchandise donated by the company's store at the Mall of America.

Kerlan friends membership information and the luncheon registration form is available at: <http://special.lib.umn.edu/clrc/whatsnew.php>.

The Kerlan Award is presented annually "in recognition of singular attainments in the creation of children's literature and in appreciation for generous donation of unique resources to the Kerlan Collection for the study of children's literature."

For more information, please contact the staff of the Children's Literature Research Collections at 612-624-4576 or e-mail [clrc@umn.edu](mailto:clrc@umn.edu).



## Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies to host French journalist Meir Waintrater

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**March 16, 2011**

The Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota is hosting Meir Waintrater, French journalist and editor-in-chief of L'Arche, the premier magazine of the Jewish community in France. Waintrater will present "'You, Zionist!' Uses and Misuses of the Z-Word in Current Political Discourse" at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29, at the St. Paul Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave, St. Paul.

For several years, within circles hostile to Israel, there has been a systematic use of the words "Zionism" and "Zionist" where the words "Israel" and "Israelis" would be expected. Meir Waintrater will contrast the use of the word "Zionist" in France, Great Britain and the United States. Waintrater suggests that while criticism of Israel should not be reduced to Jew-hatred, the "anti-Zionist" argument is often used to legitimize genuine anti-Semitism.

Meir Waintrater was born in 1947 in Paris, and lived and worked as an economist and journalist at various institutions in Israel between 1973 and 1988. As editor-in-chief of L'Arche, he is a major commentator on questions of Jewish importance in Europe and France. France is home to one of the largest Jewish communities, while at the same time being home to one of the largest Muslim populations in Western Europe. Waintrater's perspective is crucial to understanding the tensions between the two communities, as well as the recent increase in French Jewish immigration to Israel, which can be seen as a consequence of a new trend in anti-Semitism.

This event is free and open to the public. More information at <http://chgs.umn.edu>.

This event is co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council, St. Paul JCC, U of M Center for Jewish Studies and U of M School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

## Announcement of search committee for the next Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/16/2011) —President-designate Eric W. Kaler has launched a national search for the position of senior vice president for academic affairs and provost at the University of Minnesota. A University search committee has been appointed, with leadership from vice president for research Tim Mulcahy and broad representation from the University community.

Search committee membership includes:

R. Timothy Mulcahy, Chair  
Vice President for Research

Lendley C. Black  
Chancellor, University of Minnesota Duluth

Steven L. Crouch  
Dean, College of Science and Engineering

Connie W. Delaney  
Dean, School of Nursing

Coty N. Jen  
Graduate student, College of Science and Engineering

Regina G. Kunzel  
Professor, Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, College of Liberal Arts

Wendy Pradt Lougee  
University of Minnesota Librarian

Judith A. Martin  
Professor and Director of the Urban Studies Program, Department of Geography, College of Liberal Arts

James A. Parente, Jr.  
Dean, College of Liberal Arts

G. David Tilman  
Regents Professor and McKnight Presidential Chair, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior, College of Biological Sciences

Selwyn M. Vickers  
Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery, Medical School

Eric M. White  
Undergraduate student, Carlson School of Management

Amelious N. Whyte, Jr.  
Chief of Staff, Office for Student Affairs

“I am very pleased with the quality of faculty, staff, and students that we have serving on this committee,” said Kaler. “The position of provost is critical to the academic excellence of the University and I am confident we will find a person of extraordinary talent.”

The search committee aims to develop as rich and diverse a candidate pool as possible and will invite both nominations and applications for the position once the position announcement is completed. The search process will take place through the spring and summer months, in anticipation of public interviews early in the fall semester and a new provost in place before the end of this calendar year.

## U of M announces four finalists for dean of the Humphrey School of Public Affairs

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/17/2011) —University of Minnesota Provost Thomas Sullivan today announced the finalists for the new dean of the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

The new dean will lead the third-oldest public affairs program in the country, which currently ranks 14th among more than 280 schools of public affairs and administration across the United States and sixth among those at public universities.

“From among a diverse and talented pool of applicants interviewed, the search committee has identified four exceptional finalists. Each candidate will visit the Humphrey School for two days in late March and early April to engage in an extensive process of meeting all members of the Humphrey community and to make a public presentation,” Sullivan said.

All candidates’ public presentations will take place at the Humphrey School’s Cowles Auditorium.

The four finalists are:

Rosemary J. Avery, Professor and Chair, Department of Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University.

Greg H. Lindsey, Professor, and Interim Dean, Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Edward C. Luck, Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Eric P. Schwartz, Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State.

“I encourage all members of the Humphrey School and Minnesota’s public affairs and planning community to participate in the interview process and to provide written feedback directly to the committee on this important hiring decision,” Sullivan said.

Each finalist’s curriculum vitae is posted on the Humphrey School’s website: [http://www.hhh.umn.edu/news\\_events/Dean\\_Search.html](http://www.hhh.umn.edu/news_events/Dean_Search.html). The public is invited to participate in the public presentation and Q & A forum for each of the four finalists.

Finalist evaluation forms will be available at each public meeting, or one may submit comments via email to [binks001@umn.edu](mailto:binks001@umn.edu). (One can also submit comments via a survey link on the Humphrey school website.) The search committee appreciates efforts to submit feedback by noon, April 6th. All comments will be reviewed by the search committee before the committee’s recommendations are shared with the provost. The new dean is expected to start by fall semester 2011.

Please direct questions about logistical details to Jon Binks, administrator for the search committee, at (612) 626-8031 or [binks001@umn.edu](mailto:binks001@umn.edu).

## Bruininks statement on passing of Coach Murray Warmath

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Wolter](mailto:daniel.wolter@umn.edu), University  
News Service,  
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(612) 624-5551

**March 17, 2011**

The following is a  
statement from  
University of  
Minnesota President  
Robert Bruininks on  
the passing of legendary Gopher head football coach Murray Warmath:



Legendary University of Minnesota football coach Murray Warmath passed away Wednesday at age 98 in Bloomington, Minn. Warmath led the Golden Gophers to a national championship and went to two Rose Bowls during his 18-year tenure with Minnesota.

“Murray Warmath is one of the great coaches and leaders in the history of Gopher sports, and indeed, intercollegiate athletics. He persevered through losing seasons and harsh criticism to coach his team to a national championship and a Rose Bowl victory—but he should perhaps be best remembered for his efforts to recruit outstanding African-American student-athletes in the 1950s and '60s, which helped to break down the color barrier at universities across the country. I had the privilege of getting to know him during the campaign to bring football back to campus with the construction of TCF Bank Stadium. Coach Warmath was revered by his players, respected by his peers, and will be deeply missed by Gopher fans and friends of the University everywhere.”

## Board of Regents ad hoc committee meetings set

**Contacts:** Dan Wolter, University News Service, [wolter@umn.edu](mailto:wolter@umn.edu), (612) 624-5551

### March 18, 2011

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents today announced the following special meetings of the ad hoc group, formed to determine if there is a conflict of interest for Regent Steve Sviggum to serve as both a regent and an employee of the university's Humphrey School of Public Affairs, as follows:

- 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, West Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street SE, Minneapolis.
- 3 p.m. Thursday, March 24, West Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street SE, Minneapolis.

The purpose of the March 22 meeting is organizational and to receive preliminary materials related to a potential conflict of interest for a regent.

The purpose of the March 24 meeting is to receive any additional materials and to discuss and determine whether a conflict of interest exists for a regent.

Chair Clyde Allen, Vice Chair Linda Cohen and Regent Patricia Simmons serve on the ad hoc committee and will report back to the full board at its next meeting in May.



## President Bruininks reacts to Minnesota House Committee recommended budget

**Contacts:** Daniel Wolter, University News Service, [wolter@umn.edu](mailto:wolter@umn.edu), (612) 624-5551

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/18/2011) —The following is a statement from University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks regarding the proposed budget presented to the Minnesota House Higher Education Committee on Thursday:

“I am disappointed that, once again, the University of Minnesota faces deep cuts to state support. The recommendation of the House Higher Education Committee will mean the loss of more than \$229 million, on top of more than \$190 million in state reductions in the current biennium. This rolls our state support back to levels not seen since before 1998. Despite a decade of unprecedented performance, including more students served, more degrees granted per year, significant spending cuts and productivity gains, and record federal research funding and private support, we will again be forced to freeze wages, reduce investment, eliminate programs and services, and increase class sizes. This course is unsustainable, not only for a world-class university like ours, but also for the state of Minnesota. We have set high aspirations and found creative ways to achieve them. If the legislature chooses to solve a decade’s worth of state financial mismanagement in one fell swoop by disinvesting in education and innovation, the impact will be statewide, and the damage, permanent.”

## Popular American political philosopher Michael Sandel to speak at U of M April 21

Urban legend says  
Sandel was  
inspiration for “The  
Simpsons”  
Montgomery Burns  
character



Michael Sandel, who was born in Minneapolis before moving to Los Angeles, is best known for the widely popular Harvard course “Justice.”

**What:** 2011 Guy  
Stanton Ford Lecture

**When:** 12:15-1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 21

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

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

### March 21, 2011

Michael J. Sandel, the popular American political philosopher and Harvard University professor, will speak on “Morals, Markets and Civic Life after the Financial Crisis” at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, April 21, in Ted Mann Concert Hall at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

Do bankers deserve to make hundreds of times what school teachers earn? Is the free market fair? What have we learned from the financial crisis? What is the role of markets in achieving the public good? Sandel, author the New York Times best seller “Justice: What’s the Right Thing to Do?,” will provide a lively discussion of markets, democracy and the big ethical questions that confront American society today. The talk and Q&A will be followed by a book signing.

His talk is the 2011 Guy Stanton Ford Memorial Lecture, sponsored by the university’s Office of the Provost. Ford was president of the University of Minnesota from 1938 to 1941. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Sandel, who was born in Minneapolis before moving to Los Angeles, is best known for the widely popular Harvard course “Justice” and his critique of John Rawls’ “A Theory of Justice” in Sandel’s book “Liberalism and the Limits of Justice.” He also served on the George W. Bush administration’s President’s Council on Bioethics, 2002–2005.

According to a 2009 New York Times article, there is an urban legend that says Sandel was the inspiration for the Montgomery Burns character in “The Simpsons.” The joke, of course, is that Sandel is the anti-Burns, “a moral philosopher who has devoted his life to pondering what is the right thing to do,” as the Times put it.

For a recent video clip of Sandel discussing his thoughts on American society and justice, see [http://www.amazon.com/gp/mpd/permalink/m2OKTTTTNVGE171/ref=ent\\_fb\\_link](http://www.amazon.com/gp/mpd/permalink/m2OKTTTTNVGE171/ref=ent_fb_link).

## University of Minnesota Police to hand out doughnuts and safety info as part of STAND UP campaign

**What:** University of Minnesota Police to hand out doughnuts as part of STAND UP health, safety and security campaign

**When and Where:** 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 22, in front of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

7:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 23, in the West Bank Skyway, 219 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

7:30 a.m. Thursday, March 24, at the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

**Contacts:** [Patty Mattern](#), University News Service, (612) 624-2801

Tim Busse, University Services, [busse006@umn.edu](mailto:busse006@umn.edu), (612) 624-2863

### March 21, 2011

University of Minnesota Police bearing doughnuts, coffee and safety messages will greet students three days this week as part of the university's Stand Up safety and security campaign.

University of Minnesota Police Chief Greg Hestness and UMPD officers will be serving up the doughnuts at the following times and locations:

- 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 22, in front of Coffman Union.
- 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 23, in the West Bank Skyway.
- 7:30 a.m. Thursday, March 24, at the St. Paul Student Center.

The Stand Up campaign is designed to actively involve the university community in campus safety. It encourages people to stand up and get involved when a situation doesn't feel right or when friends are about to make a bad decision.

In the last few weeks, the Stand Up campaign focused on preventing high risk drinking. Beginning today, the focus of the campaign shifts to campus safety and personal safety.

Messages about campus and personal safety will fill the campus community through posters, tabletop messages in residence halls, social media, e-mails and traditional media. The messages remind members of the campus community that as individuals each person makes countless decisions every day and at times, those decisions have serious and sometimes life long even life altering consequences.

As part of Stand Up, the doughnuts with police is an event where students and police can get to know each other and discuss how they can be partners in keeping the campus safe.

To view the latest Stand Up messages and to learn more about campus and personal safety, visit <http://standup.umn.edu/>



## Spring awakening: U of M students to design campus



The university's Twin Cities campus will serve as "living laboratory" to explore sustainable landscape design strategies.

## demonstration garden this week

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

**March 22, 2011**

A group of University of Minnesota students will use the university's Twin Cities campus this spring and summer as a "living laboratory" to explore sustainable landscape design strategies.

The process kicks off with presentations by Twin Cities landscape design professionals at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, at the College of Design's Rapson Hall, room 100, 89 Church St., Minneapolis.

On Saturday, March 26, the students will then gather at 9 a.m. in the Rapson Hall courtyard for a "design charrette" (consisting of an intense period of design activity) to design an educational and ecologically harmonious garden. This activity will culminate in design presentations and discussion at 3:30 p.m. The most compelling garden designs will be installed by students this summer.

Students interested in learning more and participating in the design process may contact Elizabeth Turner at [turne457@umn.edu](mailto:turne457@umn.edu).

The project is sponsored by the student groups Students for Design Activism and Greenlight in collaboration with the university's Salovich Zero+ Campus Design Project. For more information, visit <http://zeropluscampus.umn.edu/news>.

## U of M Board of Regents revises upcoming schedule

**Contacts:** [Daniel Wolter](mailto:daniel.wolter@umn.edu), University News Service, [wolter@umn.edu](mailto:wolter@umn.edu), (612) 624-5551

**March 22, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents announced the following additions and cancellation of upcoming meetings:

CANCELLED - Ad Hoc Group - 3 p.m. Thursday, March 24.

ADDITION - Ad Hoc Group - 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 30, West Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center: The purpose of the meeting is to receive any additional materials and to discuss and determine whether a conflict of interest exists for a regent.

ADDITION - Board meeting - 12 p.m. Thursday, March 31, Board room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center: The purpose of the meeting is for the board to receive and consider the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Group.

Full information on the Board of Regents can be found at [www.umn.edu/regents](http://www.umn.edu/regents).

## Poet Louis Jenkins to read old and new works at University of Minnesota Libraries

**Who:** Poet Louis Jenkins

**What:** Second Annual Pankake Poetry Series

**Where:** Elmer L. Andersen Library

**When:** 4 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 12



Poet Louis Jenkins, who has been featured on "A Prairie Home Companion," will read from his old and new poems at 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 12.

**Contacts:** Marlo Welshons, University of Minnesota Libraries, [welsh066@umn.edu](mailto:welsh066@umn.edu), (612) 625-9148  
[Preston Smith](mailto:smith@umn.edu), University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

### March 23, 2011

Louis Jenkins will read old and new poems at 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, at the University of Minnesota Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. A reception will follow the reading, with copies of his books available for sale and signing by Jenkins.

Jenkins' poems have been published in a number of literary magazines and anthologies, including "The Best American Poetry" and "Great American Prose Poems." Jenkins, who has been featured on "A Prairie Home Companion" and "The Writer's Almanac," received the 1995 Minnesota Book Award for "Nice Fish" and the 1997 Northeastern Minnesota Book Award for "Just Above Water." His most recent books are "North of the Cities" (2007), "European Shoes" (2008), and "Before You Know It: Prose Poems 1970-2005" (2009), all published by Will o' the Wisp Books.

The Pankake Poetry Series was founded in honor of librarian Marcia Pankake, whose love of poetry was demonstrated in the countless readings and poetry events she hosted at the University Libraries until her retirement in 2007.

This event is free and open to the public; reservations are requested by April 5 at (612) 624-9339 or [stangret@umn.edu](mailto:stangret@umn.edu).

## U of M researchers close in on technology for making renewable "petroleum" using bacteria, sunlight and carbon dioxide



There is enormous interest in using carbon dioxide to make hydrocarbon fuels, researchers say.

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

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/23/2011) —University of Minnesota researchers are a key step closer to making renewable petroleum fuels using bacteria, sunlight and carbon dioxide, a goal funded by a \$2.2 million United States Department of Energy grant.

Graduate student Janice Frias, who earned her doctorate in January, made the critical step by figuring out how to use a protein to transform fatty acids produced by the bacteria into ketones, which can be cracked to make hydrocarbon fuels. The university is filing patents on the process.

The research is published in the April 1 issue of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*. Frias, whose advisor was Larry Wackett, Distinguished McKnight Professor of Biochemistry, is lead author. Other team members include organic chemist Jack Richman, a researcher in the College of Biological Sciences' Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics, and undergraduate Jasmine Erickson, a junior in the College of Biological Sciences. Wackett, who is senior author, is a faculty member in the College of Biological Sciences and the university's BioTechnology Institute.

"Janice Frias is a very capable and hard-working young scientist," Wackett says. "She exemplifies the valuable role graduate students play at a public research university."

Aditya Bhan and Lanny Schmidt, chemical engineering professors in the College of Science and Engineering, are turning the ketones into diesel fuel using catalytic technology they have developed. The ability to produce ketones opens the door to making petroleum-like hydrocarbon fuels using only bacteria, sunlight and carbon dioxide.

"There is enormous interest in using carbon dioxide to make hydrocarbon fuels," Wackett says. "CO<sub>2</sub> is the major greenhouse gas mediating global climate change, so removing it from the atmosphere is good for the environment. It's also free. And we can use the same infrastructure to process and transport this new hydrocarbon fuel that we use for fossil fuels."

The research is funded by a \$2.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency-energy (ARPA-e) program, created to stimulate American leadership in renewable energy technology.

The U of M proposal was one of only 37 selected from 3,700 and one of only three featured in the *New York Times* when the grants were announced in October 2009. The University of Minnesota's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE) and the College of Biological Sciences also provided funding.

Wackett is principal investigator for the ARPA-e grant. His team of co-investigators includes Jeffrey Gralnick, assistant professor of microbiology and Marc von Keitz, chief technical officer of BioCee, as well as Bhan and Schmidt. They are the only group using a photosynthetic bacterium and a hydrocarbon-producing bacterium together to make hydrocarbons from carbon dioxide.

The U of M team is using *Synechococcus*, a bacterium that fixes carbon dioxide in sunlight and converts CO<sub>2</sub> to sugars. Next, they feed the sugars to *Shewanella*, a bacterium that produces hydrocarbons. This turns CO<sub>2</sub>, a greenhouse gas produced by combustion of fossil fuel petroleum, into hydrocarbons.

Hydrocarbons (made from carbon and hydrogen) are the main component of fossil fuels. It took hundreds of millions of years of heat and compression to produce fossil fuels, which experts expect to be largely depleted within 50 years.

## Minnesota startup aims to treat atherosclerosis with noninvasive method licensed from the University of Minnesota

**Contacts:** John Merritt, Office of the VP for Research, [merri205@umn.edu](mailto:merri205@umn.edu), (612) 624-2609  
[Patty Mattern](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), University News Service, [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), (612) 624-2801

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/23/2011) —The University of Minnesota has finalized a license agreement with International Cardio Corporation (ICC), a Minnesota startup company, for a technology that could treat atherosclerosis in a noninvasive manner that is faster, more precise and safer for the patient.

Atherosclerosis is a condition in which arteries become blocked and inelastic due to plaque buildup on the artery walls. These plaques can restrict blood flow or detach from the artery wall to form blood clots. The condition can be treated with drugs, or the patient can undergo an angioplasty -- a procedure in which the arteries are inflated using a small balloon.

Donald Knight, president of ICC, has a brother who nearly died during an angioplasty procedure.

"Angioplasty is an effective procedure, but it carries risks," Knight said. As a result of that experience, he began thinking about alternatives to the procedure. "My goal is to develop a noninvasive alternative to angioplasty," he said.

Emad Ebbini, an electrical and computer engineering professor in the College of Science and Engineering at the University of Minnesota, led the team that developed the technology. His team developed high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU) technology that performs noninvasive, real-time ultrasonic imaging and localized treatment of tissue abnormalities (cancer tumors, fibroids, etc.). The technology can also be applied in the treatment of vascular disease.

HIFU is a form of nonionizing radiation, suitable for localizing treatment to small areas, comparable to a grain of rice or sesame seed. Current systems, under MRI or ultrasound guidance, deliver therapeutic HIFU shots at 2 to 5 second intervals with little or no feedback control while the energy is being applied. The university-developed system images tissue response to the HIFU beam at intervals less than 10 milliseconds apart. These dynamic images serve as feedback for refocusing the energy at the target. Ebbini describes the dual abilities of HIFU technology by comparing the single HIFU shot to firing a bullet.

"They shoot, and then they see what happens, whether they have hit the target correctly, or hit something else that should not have been hit," said Ebbini, referring to existing systems under MRI or ultrasound image guidance. "It's usually too late by then. In our case, we monitor that bullet with millisecond resolution, as the lesion is being formed, and we will be able to make the necessary adjustments to the HIFU exposure to optimize the treatment outcome for every HIFU shot in real time."

Because HIFU equipment is less expensive than other imaging techniques, such as MRI, the procedure could be more accessible to doctors and less expensive for patients. Ebbini's technology also has the unique ability to tightly link imaging and therapy, meaning it would be more efficient and precise than MRI or other ultrasound guidance technologies.

"Other people currently use ultrasound to treat abnormal tissues in the body," said Dale Nugent, marketing manager for the university's Office for Technology Commercialization. "But what they will do is take a picture with an ultrasound system and treat after a significant delay. This is repeated many times. Ebbini's approach allows you to image the tissue of concern, heat it, and sense the temperature simultaneously, so you can interactively monitor and control the levels of the treatment and its safety. It's a procedure that requires a lot of iteration so this closed loop approach greatly reduces treatment time. It's also great for getting the exact amount of ultrasonic energy the doctor wants delivered to the treatment site. No more, no less."

HIFU is also safer than invasive surgery or other forms of radiation therapy.

"This would be safer than anything you can think of," said Ebbini. "For HIFU, we use higher intensity levels to achieve the desired therapeutic effect. The advantage of our approach is that therapeutic exposure is confined to the focal spot without collateral damage to the intervening normal tissues."

Ebbini anticipates applications for HIFU beyond treatment of atherosclerosis.

"The applications are almost limitless, but the obvious ones are in the treatment of cancer," he said. "Our dual-mode ultrasound array technology is especially suited to targets in the abdominal region, like kidney, liver or pancreatic cancers, most of them are inoperable. While our goal would be complete eradication of tumors, this technology may provide cost-effective palliative options for some patients. Other patients may benefit by downgrading their tumors to fall back in the operable range. There is so much good that can be accomplished with this technology."

International Cardio Corporation hopes to submit to FDA testing later this year. Knight is also open to exploring other applications for HIFU.

Ebbini's research, which takes place at the Ultrasound Imaging and Signal Processing Laboratory (UISPL), was funded by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the ARMY's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) and International Cardio Corporation.

## U of M Japan Student Association to sell origami cranes to benefit disaster relief

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**March 24, 2011**

Members of the University of Minnesota's Japan Student Association (JSA) will be selling paper origami cranes and other traditional Japanese crafts to benefit earthquake relief efforts in the lower level of Coffman Memorial Union (300 Washington Avenue S.E., Minneapolis) from noon to 5 p.m. Friday, March 25.

Origami cranes are a traditional symbol of peace, good luck and well wishes in Japanese culture. There will be no set price for the items, says JSA student president Yuusuke Takenokuchi, as passerbys are encouraged to donate whatever they feel appropriate. All proceeds will go to the Japanese Red Cross.

"The night that I heard about the earthquake I knew we had to do something to help those affected," says Takenokuchi, whose own family members in Japan were not impacted by the March 11 quake and subsequent tsunami.

The Japan Student Association has spearheaded a similar fundraising effort for victims of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, says Takenokuchi.

Learn more about the U's Japan Student Association at <http://www.tc.umn.edu/~jsa>.



Origami cranes are a traditional symbol of peace, good luck and well wishes in Japanese culture. Students will be selling cranes in Coffman from 12-5 p.m. Friday.

"Design in 7"  
- Seven  
leading  
Minnesota  
design  
professionals  
to tell tales  
from the  
trenches  
April 14

Early registration is  
recommended for  
this popular event



**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

**March 24, 2011**

Whether you're an aspiring designer or established practitioner looking to compare notes with peers, the University of Minnesota College of Design is hosting the second annual "Design in 7: 7 Stories, 7 Minutes" forum Thursday, April 14.

Design in 7 fosters the exchange of experiences, knowledge and the latest trends in Minnesota architecture, apparel, graphic and interior design, housing, landscape architecture and retail. The College of Design is the only design college in the nation with this varied constellation of disciplines.

A quick sell-out in 2010, this year's event will take place 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the U of M's Campus Club, Coffman Memorial Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Presented by the College of Design Student and Alumni Board, Design in 7 features seven notable Twin Cities professionals who will share thought-provoking, inspiring and sometimes curious tales from the trenches. Speakers will have seven minutes each for their presentation.

Speakers include:

- Julie Snow, founder of Julie Snow Architects
- Quan Hoang, chief creative officer, Pixel Farm Digital
- Alan Arthur, president/CEO, Aeon
- Bruce Chamberlain, vice president and principal, Hoisington Koegler Group, Inc.
- Lyn Berglund, director of interior design, Mohagen Hansen
- Kristina Klockars, vice president, Hot Mama
- Barry Kudrowitz, product designer and assistant professor of product design, U of M College of Design

A reception with presenters will follow the program. General admission is \$20, University of Minnesota Alumni Association member discount is \$15 and students pay \$5; registration is required at [z.umn.edu/d7](http://z.umn.edu/d7). On Twitter: #D7in7.

## Cream of the crop: U of M's top doctoral students present the "next big things" April 5

Doctoral Research Showcase spans the U's disciplines, from English to engineering

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

### March 24, 2011

More than 60 of the University of Minnesota's top doctoral students in more than 40 fields will take part in the 2011 Doctoral Research Showcase from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, at Coffman Memorial Union, Great Hall, 300 Washington Ave., Minneapolis.

The showcase, open to the public and designed to engage Minnesota's business end entrepreneur community, spans the U's disciplines – from medicine and engineering to the social sciences and humanities. Participants come from a pool of students who have won competitive university fellowships. Exclusively dedicated to doctoral research, this showcase gives a glimpse of the future of many fields and of the world's future faculty and intellectual leaders.

This is the fourth year for the doctoral showcase. It began in 2008 as a way to give recipients of the university's Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships (DDFs) exposure to a broader audience. DDF recipients are outstanding, final-year candidates nominated for the fellowship by their departments because of their work's quality, importance and, often, urgency.

For more information about the students and their research projects, visit [www.grad.umn.edu/fellowships/enrolled\\_students/Doctoral\\_Research\\_Showcase\\_2011.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/fellowships/enrolled_students/Doctoral_Research_Showcase_2011.html).



The showcase, open to the public and designed to engage Minnesota's business end entrepreneur community, spans the U's disciplines – from medicine and engineering to the social sciences and humanities.



U of M  
 College of  
 Continuing  
 Education  
 introduces  
 new course to  
 help late-  
 career  
 employees  
 prepare for  
 retirement



**Contacts:** Sam  
 Boeser, College of  
 Continuing  
 Education,

Encore Transitions is a program designed to help Twin Cities employers and employees meet emerging needs related to the transition to post-career life. Participants learn from experts what makes for creating fulfilling encore lives.

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[Preston Smith](#), University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/24/2011) —The University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education has announced a pioneering new retirement preparation course, Encore Transitions, designed to help Twin Cities employers and employees meet emerging needs related to the transition to post-career life.

During four daylong sessions, participants learn from experts what makes for healthy longevity; explore both paid and volunteer post-career work; learn key transition skills like resilience; hear from people who are creating fulfilling encore lives; begin visualizing and creating options for their futures; and take concrete steps toward building a plan for the next stage.

The course, a collaboration between the College of Continuing Education and the university's Office of Human Resources, was originally offered to university employees last fall, and received exceptional reviews.

The success of the offering led to the program's rollout to area employers. The next Encore Transitions course will be offered on four Fridays starting May 6.

University Vice President for Human Resources Carol Carrier says, "Given that University of Minnesota researchers have conducted path-breaking research about retirement, life transitions and the effects of maintaining engaged, purposeful lives, we thought the Encore Transitions course was a tremendous opportunity to offer that knowledge to our own workers who are nearing retirement."

In an anonymous post-course evaluation, one university course-taker remarks, "Before this course, I only had one plan or idea about retirement. Now, I am aware of so many more opportunities and that I should have more than one plan. I really think everyone should take this course."

Overall, responses show that participants come away with greater clarity about what their next stage might look like; options, opportunities and personal strategies for getting there; less fear of the future and enhanced ability to take positive risks; and new energy and ways to contribute, both in their current work and as they move into their futures.

Local employers are invited to learn more about the Encore Transitions program by visiting [www.cce.umn.edu/Encore-Transitions](http://www.cce.umn.edu/Encore-Transitions), or contacting Kay Cooper, director of human resources for the College of Continuing Education, at (612) 625-1206 or [coope001@umn.edu](mailto:coope001@umn.edu).

Encore Transitions is a program of the University of Minnesota College of Continuing Education. Through the College of Continuing Education, motivated adults enrich their personal and professional lives through learning opportunities ranging from courses, workshops and retreats, to credit certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees. For more information about the college, call (612) 624-4000 or visit [www.cce.umn.edu](http://www.cce.umn.edu).

## Bruininks reacts to Minnesota Senate Higher Education Committee budget



## recommendation

**Contacts:** [Daniel Wolter](mailto:daniel.wolter@umn.edu), University News Service, [wolter@umn.edu](mailto:wolter@umn.edu), (612) 624-5551

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/25/2011) —The following is a statement from University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks in response to the budget bill recommended by the Senate Higher Education Committee:

“It should come as no surprise that I do not support the budget recommendation of the Senate Higher Education Committee. The recommended cut of \$243 million or 18.9% is a deeper cut than the one recommended by the House last week and significantly deeper than the recommendation of the Governor despite a 13:1 return on the state’s investment in the U and a statewide economic impact estimated—conservatively—at \$8.6 billion per year. This makes no sense.

“In addition, the proposed cut rolls our state support back to levels not seen since before 1998. Think about that: this fall’s incoming freshmen were just starting kindergarten the last time state funding was at the level proposed today. Ask yourselves, what will this mean for the children of today? Thirteen years from now, will our best and brightest apply in record numbers to the U? Or will they see a once-great university in shambles and look elsewhere?

“Make no mistake: We know we have a role to play in helping Minnesota balance its budget, and we will continue to do our part—both in terms of significantly reducing costs and spending, and generating the external support, outstanding graduates, and breakthrough discoveries that fuel our economy. But cuts of this magnitude in the Senate bill will devastate our ability to deliver on our mission, which serves the needs of every region of Minnesota. This is a backward budget proposal that penalizes productivity and denies a decade of unprecedented performance. As I indicated last week, if the legislature chooses to solve a decade’s worth of state financial mismanagement by pulling the rug out from under the University of Minnesota, the damage will be statewide and permanent.

“I am also concerned about the anti-research provisions of this bill. We are the place that has pioneered the treatments and cures that have improved the lives of families in Minnesota and around the world. Regulation that limits the ability of the University to achieve scientific advances to prevent and cure disease will seriously erode the economic competitiveness of the University and the state.”

## U of M's River Life Partnership launches flood information website

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River Life coordinator Patrick Nunnally says the platforms are intended to be as interactive as possible.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/25/2011) —Predictions across the Upper Midwest this spring are calling for perhaps-record floods in all of our rivers, including the Mississippi, the Red, the St. Croix and the Minnesota. As the waters rise, so do the questions: What impacts are the floods having, and what might be the long term effects of the rising waters? What are the experiences of local citizens as well as policy makers?

The University of Minnesota's River Life Partnership has put together a multi-platform digital flood forum to gather information, diverse perspectives and considerations from across the state and region.

The site, [http://environment.umn.edu/riverlife/river\\_floods.html](http://environment.umn.edu/riverlife/river_floods.html), provides a range of resources and engagement opportunities:

- River Life on Facebook and Twitter, providing an opportunity for people to share thoughts, photographs and links to more information.
- The River Talk blog, <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/ione/rivertalk>, for more analytical, thought-provoking commentaries.
- Links to flood information sites maintained by government agencies, news organizations and academic/educational institutions.
- A River Atlas, [www.environment.umn.edu/atlas](http://www.environment.umn.edu/atlas), with historic photographs and documents.

River Life coordinator Patrick Nunnally says the platforms are intended to be as interactive as possible. He welcomes e-mail at [rlp@umn.edu](mailto:rlp@umn.edu) to make suggestions, add comments and recommend additional sources and leads.

## University of Minnesota Libraries-Google scanning project continues after Google lawsuit settlement rejected

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/25/2011) —The following is a statement from University of Minnesota Librarian Wendy Pradt Lougee regarding the university's participation in the Google scanning project:

"Judge Denny Chin of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit issued this week a long-awaited ruling, rejecting a proposed settlement between Google and the plaintiffs (publishers and authors) in the Google Books lawsuit.

The University of Minnesota is not a party to the Google Books lawsuit, and this ruling does not affect the university's participation in the Google scanning project, which is part of a 2007 joint agreement with the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC). It is the CIC's understanding that Google will continue scanning CIC library materials, including from the University of Minnesota Libraries, under the terms of the CIC/Google agreement.

Earlier this year, the CIC celebrated a major milestone: Google has digitized and returned a million volumes from member libraries. The CIC intends to fulfill the original agreement to scan up to 10 million volumes--public domain material will be returned to HathiTrust Digital Library and made publicly accessible, while in-copyright content will be indexed so users can more easily find relevant print content in our libraries.

Judge Chin ordered a status hearing in the Google Books case in late April, by which time the CIC expects to know more about how Google and the plaintiffs plan to move forward, and what the implications might be for member libraries."

## Heidi Lasley Barajas named executive director of University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/25/2011) —Robert Jones, senior vice president for the Office of System Academic Administration at the University of Minnesota, today announced the appointment of Heidi Lasley Barajas as executive director of the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC).

Barajas is the associate dean for engagement and faculty development in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) and an associate professor (and founding chair) of postsecondary teaching and learning. She has been coleader of the interim executive team guiding UROC since its May 2010 grand opening in North Minneapolis as a hub for university-community research partnerships aimed at strengthening urban communities.

"Heidi brings to UROC a unique breadth of experience as a collaborative leader, creative thinker and community-engaged scholar in diverse settings," said Jones, who oversees UROC and other central University public engagement initiatives.

"Her proven strengths as a consensus builder and communicator, her history at forging strong relationships within and outside the university and her administrative and academic credentials all made her the top choice to lead the center."

As UROC executive director, Barajas will provide both administrative and strategic leadership for UROC, which links the resources of the University with those of government, business and community organizations to address complex urban challenges of education, health and community and economic development. The center is home to a dozen resident programs and many campus-community projects in a University-owned and renovated building at Plymouth and Penn avenues.

"I am thrilled that we have this extraordinary University-community enterprise called UROC. I'm deeply honored that I can be part of it," said Barajas.

Barajas will work with Jones and many University and community partners to advance UROC research priorities; to nurture partnerships that improve quality of life in North Minneapolis and strengthen the entire region and state; and to build new models of university public engagement and urban development. Broadening the engagement of faculty, developing evaluation tools and guiding the center toward long-term impact and sustainability will be among the high-priority challenges, according to Jones, who calls Barajas "an ideal choice to lead UROC to the next level."

As CEHD associate dean since 2007, Barajas has worked to link research and teaching with pressing community needs and to build long-term campus-community partnerships. A sociologist by training, Barajas joined the University of Minnesota faculty in 2000 as an assistant professor in General College. She is a team leader for the Office of Public Engagement and an affiliate with the Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development.

Her research, teaching and public service focus on institutional issues related to access and equity, especially how to build public schools that support students across differences of race, gender and class. Another interest is how innovative pedagogy such as service-learning and universal instructional design may support multicultural learning environments and improve learning outcomes.

Barajas has served as a core member of the University Northside Partnership and helped shape UROC strategic planning. She cochairs the advisory committee for the Hennepin University Partnership, serves on the oversight body for the county's AGRAD initiative to boost graduation rates and reduce achievement disparities, and is a board member of Hope Community, a neighborhood revitalization initiative in South Central Minneapolis.

Barajas, a native of Riverside, Calif., received a doctorate in sociology from the University of Minnesota as a National Science Foundation Fellow; she also holds a B.A. in Spanish and education and a master's degree in sociology from the University of Utah. Barajas, who lives in Minneapolis, has four grown children and four grandchildren.

The search for the executive director post was coordinated by a university-community committee co-chaired by Andrew Furco of the university's Office of Public Engagement and Sondra Samuels of the PEACE Foundation/Northside Achievement Zone.

Jones expressed his appreciation for the contributions of Geoffrey Maruyama and Rose Brewer, who served with Barajas on the interim leadership team and who also were finalists for the executive director post. Both will continue to be involved with UROC.

*UROC Mission:* The Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center in North Minneapolis links the University of Minnesota in vital public partnership with urban communities to advance learning, improve quality of life and discover breakthrough solutions to critical problems.

*UROC Vision:* UROC builds thriving, innovative and respectful collaborations for a healthy and vibrant North Minneapolis, creates new models of urban and community development and strengthens the University of Minnesota as a vitally engaged 21st-century university serving the public good.

## Limited availability of press credentials for "Minnesota Visit" of His Holiness the Dalai Lama May 7-8

Media are encouraged to apply now for credentials



Media may now apply for credential for the Dalai Lama's May 8 visit to the University of Minnesota.

**Contacts:** Tony Baisley, Center for Spirituality & Healing, [baisl001@umn.edu](mailto:baisl001@umn.edu), (612) 624-2141  
**Patty Mattern**, University News Service, [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), (612) 624-2801

### March 28, 2011

The Center for Spirituality & Healing (CSH) at the University of Minnesota and the Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM) have announced that press seating and event access will be extremely limited during the May 7 to 8 "One Heart, One Mind, One Universe" visit by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama to the University of Minnesota campus. We regret that requests for press credentials are likely to exceed our ability to accommodate them. All staff journalists or media representatives are encouraged to apply for media accreditation now or no later than 9 p.m. Monday, April 11, at [www.dalailama.umn.edu/media/credentialing/index.htm](http://www.dalailama.umn.edu/media/credentialing/index.htm).

The Minnesota Visit now features five planned events:

° **Meet the Press:** His Holiness the Dalai Lama greets Minnesota media from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 7, at the Marquette Hotel, downtown Minneapolis

° **Medicine Buddha Empowerment:** A Tibetan Cultural and Spiritual Ceremony Promoting Personal and Societal Healing featuring His Holiness the Dalai Lama 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, May 8, at Mariucci Arena, hosted by TAFM

° **Peace Through Inner Peace:** A Public Address featuring His Holiness the Dalai Lama from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 8, at Mariucci Arena, co-hosted by CSH and TAFM

° **World Premiere of KIPO!:** A Circus of Spirit, Song, and Dance from Tibet, the Land of Snow. Performances are from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., May 6 to 8, plus 2 to 3:30 p.m. May 7, at Rarig Center, presented by TigerLion Arts

° **Second International Tibetan Medicine Conference:** Healing Mind & Body from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 9, at the University Radisson Hotel, co-hosted by CSH and TAFM (His Holiness is not expected to attend this conference.)

All applications for press credentials must be reviewed by the U.S. Department of State. We reserve the right to require additional information on a case-by-case basis. Applicants will be notified of their status beginning on April 25. (The University of Minnesota will not record nor retain your personal information and the Public Information Act and other applicable laws protect your SSN from further disclosure.) Please note that cameras and any other media equipment will be subject to search.

For more information about the "Minnesota Visit," including tickets, visit [www.dalailama.umn.edu](http://www.dalailama.umn.edu).

Minnesota has the second largest concentration of Tibetan Americans in the United States. The Dalai Lama's return to the state coincides with the official launch of the Tibetan Healing Initiative (THI) at the CSH. For the last eight years, the CSH has offered graduate courses in traditional Tibetan medicine. These courses bring students to India annually to visit practitioners at the Men-Tsee-Khang in Dharmasala. New THI initiatives will include research on the benefits of blending Tibetan healing with conventional health practices and integrating Tibetan practices into regional clinic and hospital settings.

The Dalai Lama was born in Tibet 75 years ago. At age two, he was recognized as the 14th Dalai Lama continuing a line of political and spiritual leaders spanning six centuries. Living in exile in India since 1959, the Dalai Lama won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989 and makes frequent speaking engagements around the world promoting non-violence and secular ethics. He frequently states that his life is guided by three major commitments: the promotion of basic human values or secular ethics in the interest of human happiness; the fostering of inter-religious harmony; and the welfare of the Tibetan people, focusing on the survival of their identity, culture and religion.

## Robots take over U of M sports arenas April 1-2

### Media Note:

Practice rounds on Thursday, March 31 - 10 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. -- are open to the media. Media may also interview students and mentors working on their robots in the pit areas. Media should check in at the registration table.

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**Preston Smith**, University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

### March 28, 2011

Two arenas full of screaming fans and more than 120 high school teams from Minnesota and surrounding states are extending the Minnesota tournament frenzy another week at the Minnesota Regional FIRST Robotics Competitions 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 1-2, at the University of Minnesota's Williams and Mariucci arenas. The championship matches are 1-4:15 p.m. Saturday, April 2, when there will be non-stop robot action.

Gov. Mark Dayton and U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar plan to attend the robotics competition on Friday morning, and U.S. Senator Al Franken is scheduled to attend on Saturday morning.

The event is free and open to the public. In addition, the first 250 people entering each arena on Friday and Saturday mornings will receive free admission tickets to the Science Museum of Minnesota courtesy of the Medtronic Foundation.

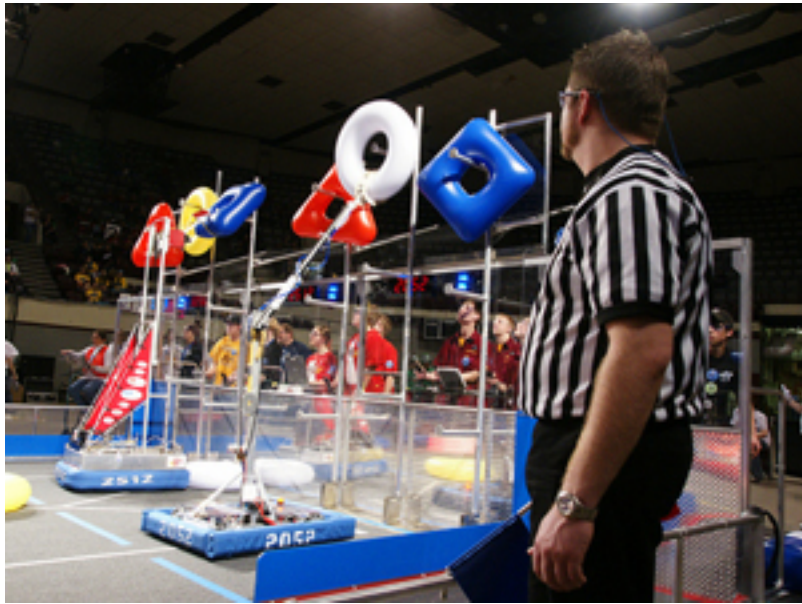
The university's College of Science and Engineering is one of the sponsors of the event.

Borrowing a page from the sports playbook, the robotics competition uses the excitement of sports to promote science, technology, engineering and math in a fun and interactive way.

The FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition challenges each team of high school students and their mentors to build a robot in six weeks and enter the robot in competitions designed by a committee of engineers and other professionals. The competing robots are usually about three feet by three feet and stand up to five feet tall.

This year's game, called "LOGO MOTION," is a game played on a 27-by-54-foot field. Two robot alliances, one red and one blue, composed of three teams each, compete in matches of two minutes and 15 seconds. The object of this year's game is to attain a higher score than your opponent by hanging as many triangle, circle and square logo pieces as possible. Bonus points will be earned for each robot that can hang and assemble logo pieces to form the FIRST logo. Robots can also deploy mini-bots to climb vertical poles on the field for a chance to earn additional points. Robots are autonomous during the first 15 seconds of play and teleoperated for the remaining two minutes.

A video simulation of this year's game is available at <http://z.umn.edu/firstrobotics11>.



The FIRST Robotics Competition challenges each team of high school students and their mentors to build a robot in six weeks and enter the robot in competitions designed by a committee of engineers and other professionals.

University of  
Minnesota  
Debate Team  
to host  
debate on  
public  
financing for  
a new Vikings  
football  
stadium  
March 30



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A concept image for a proposed new Vikings stadium.  
Image courtesy Vikings.com.

## March 28, 2011

The University of Minnesota Debate Team will host a debate, “Is Public Funding for a New Vikings Stadium Justified?,” at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 30 at Willey Hall, room 125/175, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Featured participants will include Jeff Anderson, assistant director of public affairs for the Minnesota Vikings; Art Rolnick, a senior fellow at the U’s Humphrey School of Public Affairs and a former senior vice president and director of research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis; state Sen. John Marty; and Cory Merrifield, founder of [savethevikes.org](http://savethevikes.org).

The debate, free and open to the public, will include an opportunity for audience members to ask questions of the participants.

The University of Minnesota has a long tradition of success in competitive, co-curricular debate, qualifying numerous teams to the prestigious National Debate Tournament. For more information, visit the U of M Debate Team website, [www.debate.umn.edu](http://www.debate.umn.edu).



## Sunlight-to-fuels process is topic of April 5 U of M lecture

**Media Note:** To schedule an interview with professor Davidson, contact Rhonda Zurn at [rzurn@umn.edu](mailto:rzurn@umn.edu) or (612) 626-7959.

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**Preston Smith**, University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

**March 29, 2011**

Turning fossil fuel into energy is easy—you just burn it and live with the carbon dioxide byproduct. What if we could reverse the process and turn carbon dioxide back into fuel?

Find out more about how University of Minnesota researchers are turning the sun's energy and carbon dioxide into liquid fuels that could someday replace petroleum fuels at the next College of Science and Engineering Public Lecture entitled "SUNgas: A Vision for Renewable Fuels" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, at Tate Laboratory of Physics, Van Vleck Auditorium, 116 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The lecture is free and open to the public, but registration is required at <http://cse.umn.edu/publiclecture>.

Mechanical engineering professor and world-renowned solar researcher Jane Davidson will present her research team's efforts to solve one of the world's most pressing challenges—the need to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions while simultaneously meeting an exploding global demand for energy. Davidson will discuss the potential of using concentrated solar energy to produce synthetic hydrocarbons that have properties equivalent to what we are deriving from petroleum today. This sunlight to fuel process would allow us to use conventional automobiles and existing road infrastructure.

Davidson will also talk about the university's new solar simulator, the first of its kind in the nation. Researchers are tapping the power of this high-tech equipment that can replicate the amount of sunlight equivalent to more than 3,000 suns to convert concentrated sunlight, carbon dioxide and water into synthetic hydrocarbon fuels in the lab. The indoor lab provides consistent experimental conditions independent of weather and time of day.

Davidson is the Ronald L. and Janet A. Christenson Chair of Renewable Energy in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Her current research focuses on development of solar systems for buildings and solar-driven thermo-chemical cycles to produce renewable fuels. Davidson's work has been recognized with the highest awards in her field, including the American Solar Energy Society Charles Greeley Abbot Award, and the ASME John I. Yellott Award.

For more information about the lecture and information about the university's new solar simulator, visit <http://cse.umn.edu/publiclecture>.



U of M researcher Jane Davidson will discuss the potential of using concentrated solar energy to produce synthetic hydrocarbons that have properties equivalent to what we are deriving from petroleum today.

## University of Minnesota appoints Howard Oransky as director of Katherine E. Nash Gallery

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/29/2011) —The University of Minnesota has named Howard Oransky the new director of the Katherine E. Nash Gallery in the Department of Art. Oransky was director of continuing studies at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design from 2008 until this month. Previously, he was on staff at the Walker Art Center from 1994 to 2008. As the Walker's director of planning he was the staff project manager on the museum expansion project designed by Herzog & de Meuron. He started at the Nash on Monday, March 28.

"I feel fortunate and excited to become the next director of the Nash Gallery. The University of Minnesota is a major center for research in many fields and my vision for the Nash Gallery is that it will become a research center for the practice and interpretation of the visual arts. The Regis Center for Art studios and gallery are our laboratories for experimentation and discovery. The gallery program will thrive in collaboration with faculty and students in the Department of Art, other university departments in the College of Liberal Arts, and with the Twin Cities community," said Oransky.

"Howard's years of successful experience in museum and gallery management, his art college administrative and teaching skills, and his studio practice as a visual artist make him a passionate advocate for the gallery and ambassador within the university and to the surrounding community," said Alexis Kuhr, chair of the Department of Art.

Oransky distinguished himself during 14 years on staff at Walker Art Center, where he managed institution-wide audience-development initiatives supported by major arts funders such as Lila Wallace Foundation, Bush Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts; coordinated strategic planning; produced policy documents such as the collections accession and acquisition policy; and coordinated the tours of 10 Walker exhibitions that traveled to 40 museums nationally and overseas.

"Howard played an indispensable role in the Walker's institution-wide audience development initiatives as well as the museum expansion designed by Herzog & de Meuron. Now we look forward to collaborating with him in his new role as director of the Nash Gallery," said Olga Viso, executive director of Walker Art Center.

In 1994, he began teaching critical studies as an adjunct in the Fine Arts division at Minneapolis College of Art and Design. His work with students in the undergraduate and graduate programs continued and in 2008 he left his position at the Walker to become the director of continuing studies at MCAD. In this role he established new partnerships in the community and increased scholarship funding for youth programs with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Minnesota State Arts Board.

"Howard's leadership at the college and in the community attracted important national and regional grant-funding that allowed Minneapolis College of Art and Design to bring many talented low-income youth to our studio programs for young artists. We look forward to future collaborations with him at the University of Minnesota," said Jay Coogan, president of the Minneapolis College of Art and Design.

Oransky is a co-founder of Form + Content Gallery, which has just completed its fourth year of operation in downtown Minneapolis. In 2007 he co-curated the exhibition Modes of Disclosure and included artists from Los Angeles, New York, Toronto, Vancouver and the Twin Cities. In 2010 he co-curated the exhibition Love Never Dies and included artists from Beijing, Chicago, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Milan, New York, Oslo, Sydney, Tel Aviv, Toronto and the Twin Cities. He has served on the boards of the Midwest Art Conservation Center and the Center for Arts Criticism, the Hennepin County Library Exhibition Review Committee, and is currently serving as a panelist for the Minnesota State Arts Board.

Howard Oransky was born in Los Angeles. He received a Wasserman Scholarship and MFA in painting from California Institute of the Arts in 1984. At CalArts he was mentored by John Baldessari and worked as a graduate teaching assistant in painting with Douglas Huebler. From 1984 to 1994 he lived in New Jersey and New York where he received painting fellowships from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the Pollock-Krasner Foundation and had a studio at the Snug Harbor Cultural Center studio arts program sponsored by the New York Department of Cultural Affairs. His first exhibition was the 1985 group show *Oppression/Expression* organized by Leon Golub and Lowery Sims at the Contemporary Arts Center in New Orleans. Since then he has been included in 100 exhibitions nationally and currently has a studio at the Traffic Zone Center for Visual Art in Minneapolis.

## U of M Alumni Association Annual Celebration: A Celebration of the U, its alumni and outgoing President Robert Bruininks

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/30/2011) —Tickets are on sale now for the University of Minnesota Alumni Association Annual Celebration on Tuesday, May 3. A cocktail reception followed by a special program in Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis, will celebrate the university, its alumni and outgoing university President Robert Bruininks.

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Carlson School of Management Atrium, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, with hors d'oeuvres, refreshments, music and the opportunity to mingle. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. in Ted Mann Concert Hall and will highlight the important accomplishments as a result of alumni support, as well as celebrate the achievements of Bruininks, the university's 15th president.

“We are thrilled to honor President Bruininks, who has loyally served the university in various roles for over 40 years, as well as celebrate the important work done at the Alumni Association,” said Ertugrul Tuzcu, chair of the Alumni Association's national board of directors. “You won't want to miss this opportunity to socialize with university alumni and supporters and celebrate the university and its alumni.”

Individual tickets for the reception and program are \$50 for Alumni Association members and \$65 for nonmembers. Individual program-only tickets are \$20 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Students who are Alumni Association members can receive a complimentary program-only ticket, or purchase a reception and program ticket for \$20. Students who are not Alumni Association members may purchase a program-only ticket for \$10, or a reception and program ticket for \$25. Complete ticket and event information is available at [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/AC11](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/AC11).

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is a nearly 60,000-member organization whose members are ambassadors for the outstanding teaching and discovery that happens at the university every day. For more information, visit [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org) or call (612) 624-2323.

## Four University of Minnesota students named 2011 Barry M. Goldwater Scholars

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/30/2011) —Four University of Minnesota-Twin Cities undergraduates have been named 2011 Barry M. Goldwater Scholars. The prestigious Goldwater Scholarship is awarded annually to outstanding sophomores and juniors in mathematics, science and engineering who intend to pursue research-oriented careers in mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering. The scholarships provide up to \$7,500 per year for up to two years of undergraduate study. All four Goldwater Scholars are enrolled in the University Honors Program.

The four U of M students awarded are:

**Sean Bowman**, a junior majoring in computer engineering in the College of Science and Engineering, plans to pursue a doctorate in computer science with specializations in robotics and computer vision. Bowman has done research modeling lithium ion battery applications and developing algorithms using time-of-flight cameras for robotic stair detection under the direction of professors J. Woods Halley and Stergios Roumeliotis respectively. Bowman is a Presidential Scholar, a Josephine L. Merriam Scholar and has been awarded two Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program grants. In his spare time, he enjoys playing the French horn in the University of Minnesota Campus Orchestra. Bowman's hometown is Minneapolis; he is a graduate of De La Salle High School.

**Zijun (Jimmy) Chen**, a junior majoring in mathematics and physics in the College of Science and Engineering, plans to pursue a doctorate in condensed matter physics. Under the direction of professor E. D. Dahlberg, Chen has conducted research on a variety of projects at the Magnetic Microscopy Center, including water deformation due to diamagnetism, quantification of magnetic force microscopy and domain wall pinning in permalloy nanowires. A Presidential Scholar and a National Merit Scholar, Chen is also an avid pianist and leads the viola section of the University of Minnesota Campus Orchestra. Chen, who was born in Guangzhou, China, is from Roseville, Minn., and graduated from Roseville Area High School.

**Benjamin Hinton**, a junior majoring in biomedical engineering in the College of Science and Engineering, intends to earn a doctorate in biomedical engineering specializing in large-scale and injury biomechanics. Under the direction of professor Robert Tranquillo, Hinton has conducted research on tissue engineering small-diameter arteries. During a summer program at the University of California-San Diego, Hinton created and tested a method to accurately estimate synovial fluid volume to within a ten percent error. Hinton is a Presidential Scholar, an Elks Most Valuable Student and recipient of YMCA's Super Tutor Award. He also tutors chemistry at the U of M and enjoys Ultimate Frisbee. Hinton's hometown is Berlin, Wis., where he attended Berlin High School.

**Jacob Inda**, a junior majoring in biochemistry in the College of Biological Sciences, plans to pursue an M.D./Ph.D. in molecular biology focusing on the development of clinical treatments for biochemical and genetic anomalies. Inda has co-authored a conference abstract with the research team of professor David Bernlohr on quantitative proteomics and mitochondrial protein carbonylation. He has also co-authored an article with professor Jonathan Schilling on the ability of certain fungi to resist high copper concentrations and has worked on a bioinformatics project with the research team of professor Chad Myers. Inda is a Presidential Scholar, a State of Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholar and works as a computational biology teaching assistant. He is also a hospital volunteer, Eagle Scout and was valedictorian of Aquinas High School in La Crosse, Wis. Inda's hometown is Onalaska, Wis.

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program was established by Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman, including 30 years of service in the U.S. Senate. This year, 275 scholars were selected nationwide from a field of 1,095 students who were nominated by their colleges and universities. Each institution may nominate up to four students. This year marks the fifth time that all four of the University's nominees have been selected. A total of 48 University of Minnesota-Twin Cities undergraduates have been Goldwater Scholars since the program's inception in 1986.

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities students who are interested in applying for the scholarship in the future may consult the Office for National and International Scholarships, [www.honors.umn.edu/scholarships/](http://www.honors.umn.edu/scholarships/).

For more information on the Goldwater Scholarship, go to <http://www.act.org/goldwater>.

## Court dismisses Turkish Coalition lawsuit filed against the University of Minnesota

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/30/2011) —U.S. District Court Judge Donovan Frank today dismissed a lawsuit filed by the Turkish Coalition of America against the University of Minnesota. The lawsuit arose from materials posted on the university's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies (CHGS) website, including a list of websites CHGS considered "unreliable" for purposes of conducting scholarly research. The Turkish Coalition claimed the university violated its constitutional rights, and committed defamation, by including the Turkish Coalition website on the "unreliable" websites list.

The federal court found the materials on the CHGS website reflected the opinions of the university and its faculty regarding the reliability of the various websites, including the Turkish Coalition website. As such, the court held that the University website material was protected by the principle of academic freedom, which gives the university and its faculty a broad right to express their views and engage in scholarly commentary and critique. Because the materials were protected by academic freedom, the federal court dismissed the Turkish Coalition's claims.

University General Counsel Mark Rotenberg stated, "This case has been followed closely by scholars around the world because of its important implications for principles of academic freedom. If scholars faced legal liability each time they engaged in controversial academic critiques, the concept of academic freedom would be greatly diminished. The court's decision today confirms the right of scholars to engage in academic critiques without fear of legal retribution. The university applauds today's decision."

U of M  
School of  
Music  
University  
Singers to  
premiere  
Swan  
Composer  
Prize winner  
Zvonimir  
Nagy's  
"Cantus  
Jubilus" April  
30



As the 2011 Craig and Janet Swan Composer Prize winner, Zvonimir Nagy has been invited to join the School of Music as artist in residence for the premiere of his work and dress rehearsals. The \$1,500 Swan Composer Prize will be awarded formally at the work's premiere.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/31/2011) —The University of Minnesota School of Music's University Singers will premiere the 2011 Craig and Janet Swan Composer Prize winning work "Cantus Jubilus" by Zvonimir Nagy. This choral work will be conducted by Kathy Saltzman Romey and Matthew Mehaffey at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 30, at St. Olaf Catholic Church, 215 S 8th St, Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public.

As the 2011 Craig and Janet Swan Composer Prize winner, Nagy has been invited to join the School of Music as artist in residence for the premiere of his work and dress rehearsals. The \$1,500 Swan Composer Prize will be awarded formally at the work's premiere. Based in Chicago, Nagy was educated at the Academy of Music of the University of Zagreb, Conservatoire "Jacques Ibert", École Normale de Musique de Paris, Texas Christian University, completing his doctoral studies in music composition at Northwestern University. His principal teachers include: composition – Jay Alan Yim, Augusta Read Thomas, Tristan Murail, Marko Ruzdjak; music theory – Robert Gjerdingen; organ – H. Joseph Butler; piano – Tamás Ungár, Sergei Markarov, Eugene Indjic, Damir Sekolan.

As a composer, performer and teacher, Nagy divides his time between teaching and composing at St. Xavier University, where he is professor of music theory and composition, and his post at St. Michael in Old Town Church in Chicago, where he directs the choir, oversees the music, serves as the composer-in-residence and plays the historic Kilgen pipe organ.

The Swan Composer Prize competition, underwritten by the Swans, is an annual event and the emphasis rotates among choral, wind ensemble and orchestral works. The competition was created in response to the generosity, vision and interest in music as a living art on the part of Craig and Janet Swan. The Swan Prize competition is open to composers in the earlier career stages currently residing in the United States; all entries remain anonymous throughout the entire two-tier adjudication process. The American Composers Forum and the U of M School of Music administered the competition.

The American Composers Forum is committed to supporting composers and developing new markets for their music. Through granting, commissioning and performance programs, the Forum provides composers at all stages of their careers with valuable resources for professional and artistic development. By linking communities with composers and performers, the Forum fosters a demand for new music, enriches communities and helps develop the next generation of composers, musicians and music patrons. Visit [www.composersforum.org](http://www.composersforum.org) for more information.

Established in 1902, the University of Minnesota School of Music offers a dynamic, comprehensive program to more than 550 music students in undergraduate and graduate programs, led by a world-class faculty of more than 50 artists, scholars and teachers. The School of Music presents more than 400 free concerts per year. For a complete schedule of events, visit [www.music.umn.edu](http://www.music.umn.edu) or call (612) 626-1094 for a brochure.

## U of M licenses online tool that facilitates tech transfer operations to CaSTT, LLC, a Minnesota startup

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/31/2011) —The University of Minnesota and CaSTT, LLC, finalized a license agreement for CaSTT (Commerce and Search for Technology Transfer), an intellectual property marketing and e-licensing platform for technology transfer offices at universities, hospitals, national laboratories, research and development facilities and corporations.

The CaSTT software uses advanced search engine optimization (SEO) techniques to increase the prominence of technologies in online search results and users can electronically submit inquiries about specific pieces of intellectual property. Additionally, the CaSTT system enables potential licensees to electronically submit licensing and technical inquiries about intellectual property and, in many cases, actually license it with limited human intervention or time-consuming administrative processes.

CaSTT, LLC, is the first company formed from university technology that was incubated in an Internal Business Unit and subsequently spun out by the Office for Technology Commercialization (OTC). Internal Business Units (IBUs) are a new, innovative approach to moving university technologies from the lab to the marketplace. They address a small number of technologies that are nearly market-ready but need some limited investment and market development in order to be more attractive as startup opportunities. IBUs provide additional opportunities to launch startup companies based on university research, helping to drive Minnesota's economic growth and create jobs.

"This is a great story for the university's OTC," said Rick Huebsch, technology manager for OTC. "CaSTT is a solution that will be used by OTC and other technology transfer offices to market and license their research technologies. The additional good news is that it helped launch another Minnesota-based startup company."

## New University of Minnesota projects explore obesity, healthy eating concerns

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (03/31/2011) —A group of new research projects funded by the University of Minnesota will address issues ranging from childhood obesity prevention to whether calorie count postings in restaurants affect menu choices. The university's Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute awarded the seven grants, which involve year-long projects led by both faculty and students.

### Graduate student led projects include:

- \* Determination of how people can most easily move to a lower-sodium diet, including whether gradual reduction is more effective than abrupt change and how providing more information about sodium content affects food choices.
- \* A look at how beliefs about healthy eating habits were affected from the 1920s through the 1960s by federal policy changes such as the introduction of food stamps and changes in federal Farm Bills.
- \* Exploration of whether new laws that mandate nutrition labeling at restaurants affect the nutritional value of the items offered on restaurant menus.

### Faculty led projects include:

- \* Study of ways to speed up the translation of new scientific research about childhood obesity into policy change.
- \* Determination of how *Clostridium difficile* infection is transmitted to humans by evaluation of the prevalence of this bacteria in meat and food animals in Minnesota
- \* Development of hypoallergenic soy protein through novel food processing techniques

"The research funded by these grants will help us answer some important questions about nutrition, health and food safety," said Mindy Kurzer, director of the Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute. "These small research grants will hopefully lead to further, larger research projects, while the data generated by them will provide a basis for helping Americans make smarter choices about what and how they eat as well as influencing public policy regarding food and health."

The institute fosters interdisciplinary research and outreach from areas as wide-ranging as medicine, public health and agriculture, through a collaboration of five colleges within the university. These grants include scientists from a broad range of disciplines at the university, including food science, applied economics, history, infectious diseases, veterinary medicine and public health.



## University of Minnesota student named prestigious Udall Scholar

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST.  
PAUL (04/01/2011)  
—Siri Simons, a  
junior at the  
University of  
Minnesota-Twin

Siri Simons, a junior at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, has been awarded a 2011 Morris K. and Stuart L. Udall Scholarship in recognition of her commitment to the environment.

Cities, has been awarded a 2011 Morris K. and Stuart L. Udall Scholarship in recognition of her commitment to the environment. A graduate of Forest Lake Senior High School, Simons is enrolled in the University Honors Program and is pursuing a bachelor of science in environmental sciences, policy and management through the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. She intends to work in the field of sustainable agriculture. Simons hopes eventually to direct an environmental non-profit organization that fosters collaborative relationships with farmers, consumers and government officials to achieve support for organic farming and soil and water conservation through policy change.

Simons is a founding member and leader of the student organization Campus Beyond Coal, which advocates for the university to transition off fossil fuels. She has interned at Frogtown Gardens, a local nonprofit that is working to establish an urban farm site in St. Paul's Frogtown neighborhood, and at the Northern Alaska Environmental Center in Fairbanks. This semester Simons is studying abroad in Kenya on the Minnesota Studies in International Development program.

Simons is the second U of M-Twin Cities student to receive a Udall Scholarship, following Erick Boustead in 2007. Naomi Wente, a student at the University of Minnesota, Morris was selected as an Honorable Mention this year. Three past students from the U of M-Twin Cities have received Honorable Mentions, including Andrew Pearson and Bridget Ulrich in 2009. Students from the University of Minnesota, Duluth and the University of Minnesota, Morris have also been honored with Udall Scholarships in past years. Udall Scholars receive a scholarship of up to \$5,000 and participate in Udall Foundation activities, including a four-day Scholars Orientation in Tucson in August. Established by the United States Congress in 1992, the Udall Foundation is dedicated to educating a new generation of Americans to preserve and protect their national heritage through scholarships and other programs focused on environmental and Native American issues. It honors brothers Morris K. Udall and Stewart Udall for their lifelong public service. Approximately 80 Udall Scholars are selected nationwide each year.

## National expert on campus sexual assault prevention to speak at U of M April 4

Event is part of U of M's Stand Up safety and security campaign

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### April 4, 2011

Keith Edwards, a national expert on campus sexual assault prevention, will lead a presentation, "She Fears You," from 7 to 9 p.m. Monday, April 4, at the University of Minnesota Sports Pavilion, 1925 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to students and the wider university community.

Edwards' dynamic presentation on sexual violence prevention uses dialogue, activities and multimedia to encourage both men and women to be active in changing a culture that encourages or condones rape.

The event is part of the University of Minnesota's new Stand Up safety and security campaign, which is designed to actively involve students and the university community in campus safety. It encourages students to "stand up" and get involved when a situation doesn't feel right or when friends are about to make a bad decision. More information about the campaign, visit <http://standup.umn.edu>.

Edwards received a bachelor's degree from Hamline University, St. Paul, a master's of science degree from Colorado State University and a doctorate at the University of Maryland, where he completed his dissertation, "Putting my man face on: A grounded theory of college men's gender identity development," which was recognized as Dissertation of the Year by ACPA - College Student Educators International in 2007.

His scholarship interests include diversity and social justice education and college men's issues from a feminist and social justice perspective. He is currently the director of campus life at Macalester College, St. Paul, and an affiliate faculty member at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul.

## U of M students host Agriculture Awareness Day April 19

Dairy cows, pigs, chickens, turkeys and sheep to visit heart of Minneapolis campus

**What:** University of Minnesota students and Minnesota agriculture groups host Agriculture Awareness Day

**When:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 19

**Where:** Church Street, University of Minnesota East Bank campus, Minneapolis

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Jason Kaare, student organizer, [kaare002@umn.edu](mailto:kaare002@umn.edu), (952) 356-5099

### April 5, 2011

University of Minnesota students, faculty and staff will learn more about how American agriculture provides the necessities of everyday life – food, fiber, clothing and fuel – at the second annual Agriculture Awareness Day on Tuesday, April 19.

The event takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Church Street, in the heart of the university's East Bank campus in Minneapolis.

Organized under the leadership of students in the University of Minnesota Agricultural Education Club, the goal of the event is to raise awareness of how food, fiber and renewable resource products are produced and showcase the critical role agriculture plays in maintaining a strong economy. A broad range of Minnesota agricultural producers, associations and government agencies are joining the students in this effort.

Attendees will have the chance to talk with Agricultural Education Club members and industry representatives to learn more about various aspects of the agriculture industry. The event will feature interactive booths and the chance for people to see dairy cows, pigs, llamas, sheep, goats, rabbits, turkeys, chickens and ducks.

The student organizers have created a Facebook page to provide information and exchange ideas on the event, <http://www.facebook.com/AgAwareness>.

Organizations participating in Agriculture Awareness Day include the U of M College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, Minnesota Farmer's Union, Minnesota Corn Growers, Minnesota Agricultural Water Resources Coalition, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, U of M Extension's Minnesota 4-H, Minnesota Pork Board, Minnesota Turkey Growers, Minnesota Beef Council, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, Midwest Dairy Association, Minnesota Buffalo Association, Minnesota Soybean Growers, Cooperative Network and Minnesota State Rabbit Breeders Association.



Dairy cows, pigs, turkeys and sheep will visit the U's Minneapolis campus on Ag Awareness Day April 19.

## Distinguished Teaching Awards ceremony Monday, April 25

15 U of M faculty members will be inducted into Academy of Distinguished Teachers

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/06/2011) —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 25, in McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. A reception will follow the ceremony.

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 15 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 Tom Sullivan, the university's 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 very fitting that we shine a spotlight on these 15 faculty members' remarkable efforts, and extend our deep appreciation."

Seven faculty members will receive the Morse-Alumni Undergraduate Teaching Award for their outstanding contributions to undergraduate education: Christopher Cramer, chemistry, College of Science and Engineering; Kirsten Fischer, history, College of Liberal Arts; Jeanne Higbee, postsecondary teaching and learning, College of Education and Human Development; Gary Jahn, Slavic languages and literatures, College of Liberal Arts; Soo-Yin Lim-Thompson, early childhood education, U of M, Crookston; Susan Mantell, mechanical engineering, College of Science and Engineering; Michelle Page, secondary education, U of M, Morris.

Eight will receive the Graduate-Professional Teaching Award for outstanding contributions to postbaccalaureate, graduate and professional education: Melissa Avery, Child and Family Health Co-operative, School of Nursing; Janet Dubinsky, neuroscience, Medical School; Edward Goetz, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, Humphrey School of Public Affairs; Ralph Holzenthal, entomology, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; Anatoly Liberman; German, Scandinavian, and Dutch, College of Liberal Arts; Raymond Newman, fisheries, wildlife and conservation biology, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; Margaret Root Kustritz, veterinary clinical sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine; Ann Van Heest, orthopaedic surgery, Medical School.

The complete list with the recipients' full titles is available online at [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/DTA](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/DTA).

"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 Phil Esten, president and CEO of the 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.MinnesotaAlumni.org/DTA](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/DTA).

The Distinguished Teaching Awards are sponsored by the Senate Committee on Educational Policy, the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost and the Alumni Association.

## Flexible schedules and results-oriented work environments reduce work-family conflict and turnover, U of M researchers find



Researchers base findings on study of a Best Buy workplace initiative

New U of M research finds that flexible schedules and results-oriented work environments reduce work-family conflict and turnover. Image courtesy [Creative Commons](#).

**Media Note:** For more on Moen & Kelly's studies, visit <http://www.flexiblework.umn.edu/publications.shtml>

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/06/2011) —New research from the University of Minnesota finds that a workplace environment that allows employees to change when and where they work, based on their individual needs and job responsibilities, positively affects the work-family interface and reduces turnover.

Led by U of M sociology professors Erin Kelly and Phyllis Moen, the research is published in an April American Sociological Review study and a February Social Problems study.

Kelly and Moen base their findings on data from surveys of more than 600 employees and company records from Minnesota-based Best Buy before and after the implementation of a so-called “Results Only Work Environment” (ROWE) workplace initiative. Best Buy introduced the ROWE initiative at its Richfield, Minn., headquarters in 2005.

ROWE redirected the focus of employees and managers towards measurable results and away from a set work schedule and location. Employees could routinely change when and where they worked without seeking permission from a manager or even notifying one. Moen and Kelly examined whether the initiative affects work-family conflict, whether schedule control plays a role in these effects, and whether work demands (including long hours) moderate the initiative’s effects on work-family outcomes.

To view a video interview with Moen and Kelly discussing their research, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bT53zByCY9Y>.

“Previous research has not been able to assess whether workplace policies or initiatives succeed in reducing work-family conflict or increasing work-family fit,” Kelly says. “The study points to the importance of schedule control for understanding job quality and for management policies and practices,” Moen says.

“With these changes in the workplace, employees gained control over the time and timing of their work in ways that benefitted them and, by extension, their families and communities,” Kelly says. “It is feasible to broaden access to schedule control and thereby relieve work-family conflicts and improve work-family fit for more workers,” Moen says.

The research also demonstrates positive impact of the ROWE initiative for the company. The researchers found that ROWE reduces turnover by 45 percent – after controlling for multiple factors like job level, organizational tenure, job satisfaction, income adequacy, job security and other turnover intentions. Specifically, only six percent of ROWE participants left the company during the eight month study period while 11 percent of the comparison group left. ROWE also reduces turnover intentions among those remaining with the corporation.

“By showing that a policy initiative like ROWE can reduce turnover, this research moves the ‘opting out’ argument—whether one chooses family over work—from a private issue to an issue of how employers can change the workplace to better meet the needs of employees,” Moen says.

Graduate students Rachele Hill and Eric Tranby also contributed to the studies.

### Additional key findings

- ROWE reduced turnover for all types of employees. Moen and Kelly found no differences in the ROWE turnover effects by employees’ gender, life stage, organizational tenure, job satisfaction, income adequacy, or perceived job security. This finding is important because employers sometimes assume that these initiatives will primarily benefit parents or women.
- People with high levels of work-family pressures do tend to “opt out” of the workforce; however, ROWE reduced the “opting out” of both men and women.
- ROWE reduced work-family conflict and spillover and improved work-family fit and time adequacy.
- ROWE increased employees’ schedule control. This is important because some flexibility policies and programs do not actually increase employees’ control over the time and timing of their work, because managers still determine who can use them.
- ROWE increased schedule control for mothers, for women without children at home, and for men without children at home. Fathers with kids at home benefitted less than other groups, probably because they had the highest schedule control to begin with.
- ROWE increased schedule control for employees regardless of their work demands. Employees’ increased schedule control, in turn, resulted in less work-family conflict and better work-family fit among employees with the highest work demands and those with lower work demands.

This research was funded as part of the Work, Family & Health Network, a collaboration of eight research organizations studying changes in the work environment that can improve the health of workers and their families while benefiting organizations. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) launched the Network in 2005. See [workfamilyhealthnetwork.org](http://workfamilyhealthnetwork.org) for more information.

## University of Minnesota Supercomputing Institute expands resources with addition of new supercomputer

Koronis will aid researchers focusing on biological and medical sciences

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/06/2011) —The University of Minnesota Supercomputing Institute for Advanced Computational Research (MSI) announced today that a new high-performance computing system, Koronis, is fully operational. Koronis will enable research ranging from interpreting molecular level data to aiding in the design of new biomedical technologies. The new system is designed meet the needs of research groups at MSI in the fields of multi-scale modeling, chemical dynamics, bioinformatics and computational biology and biomedical imaging. Koronis was made possible by a National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant.

The new supercomputer, named after one of Minnesota's lakes, includes a powerful shared-memory system, ultrafast disk storage/access and high-end visualization capabilities that set it apart from the rest of MSI's resources. Koronis features 1,152 processor cores that can all access 3.1 terabytes of system memory directly. For comparison, a computer bought by consumers has two processor cores. The system is complemented by 750 terabytes of disk storage and long-term archival capabilities.

"The large memory feature is important because many cutting edge research problems are memory-intensive, and Koronis gives researchers a unique tool to tackle them," said Jeff McDonald, assistant director of high performance computing operations at MSI. "Koronis is the largest shared-memory system at MSI and it also boasts the highest performance of any MSI system."

In addition to enabling breakthroughs in biomedical science, Koronis is making its own breakthrough environmentally. The system is built on "green" computing technology for minimal environmental impact.

Because Koronis, a \$3.6 million system, was purchased with funds from a NIH grant award, only NIH grant recipients and those planning to apply for such grants are eligible to use it. Several MSI researchers are already busy with their research on the new machine. Professor Elizabeth Amin, for example, is working on the detection and mitigation of chemical and biological warfare agents. Koronis allows her group to carry out complex calculations that model biochemical interactions with anthrax. Professor Kelvin Lim is researching how brain networks are altered in psychiatric disorders, and wouldn't be able to accomplish this without Koronis' ability to process their intense datasets.

Taking the place of the recently retired Altix computer system, Koronis will join the other supercomputer resources that MSI houses in Walter Library. These other systems -- Itasca, Calhoun and Elmo -- are, like Koronis, available to all researchers at institutions of higher education in Minnesota. More than 4,000 active users across a wide range of disciplines utilize MSI's diverse computational resources, making MSI a focal point of collaborative research at the University of Minnesota. MSI currently supports almost 500 active research groups by providing complete high-performance computing environments including systems, software, storage, support and services. MSI resources have helped these researchers obtain more than \$150 million in external funding in the past academic year.

## National experts to discuss female athletes and concussions at Tucker Center lecture April 14



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Concussions and their devastating consequences affect athletes in all sports and at all levels, regardless of gender, says Tucker Center director Mary Jo Kane.

**April 7, 2011**

Female athletes and concussions will be the hot topic of discussion at the University of Minnesota's Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport spring Distinguished Lecture, "Female Athletes and Concussions: The Untold and Unexamined Story," on Thursday, April 14. The lecture will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. in Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The lecture is free and open to the public.

While the rising incidence of sport-related concussions has ignited a national conversation about this serious sport injury, attention has focused on male athletes at the professional level. The Tucker Center aims to change that by raising awareness about the realities of how concussions impact female athletes and their families. "Unfortunately, the vast majority of concussion-related research and public dialogue have centered on male athletes, specifically at the professional level. Yet concussions and their devastating consequences affect athletes in all sports and at all levels, regardless of gender," says Tucker Center Director Mary Jo Kane.

Panelists will discuss the latest research on the profound effects of concussions on female athletes, and address questions such as: Do gender differences exist in sport-related concussion risk, symptoms, outcomes and recovery? Strategies for future research and educational and prevention efforts will also be examined.

Panelists are:

### **Jill Brooks**

Brooks is a clinical neuropsychologist who serves on the Medical Advisory Board for the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. Brooks has published numerous articles on neurogenic speech and language disorders, executive dysfunction and concussion in sports. She was instrumental in the creation of the New Jersey State Law for management of concussion in sports, considered the most comprehensive concussion law in the United States. Brooks' research on concussions in female student-athletes has been featured in numerous national media outlets including USA Today and ESPN Outside the Lines.

### **Diane Wiese-Bjornstal**

Wiese-Bjornstal is an Associate Professor of Sport & Exercise Psychology in the U of M's School of Kinesiology. Wiese-Bjornstal is a Fellow of the Association for Applied Sport Psychology and is currently serving a three-year term for the Sport Science Advisory Board of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sport. Her scholarship focuses on two areas of research the health and development of competitive youth sport participants, and the psychological responses of athletes to sport injury. Wiese-Bjornstal is the co-editor of *Counseling in Sports Medicine* and has authored numerous articles in top-tier academic journals.

### **Aynsley Smith**

Smith is an Associate Professor in Orthopedic Surgery and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. She is also the Research Director at the Mayo Clinic Sports Medicine Center and an AASP Certified Consultant. In 2010, Smith co-directed the first-ever Ice Hockey Summit: Action on Concussions. Smith received the Hughston Award from the American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine for a paper entitled, "Head and Facial Protection in Hockey." A widely published scholar, Smith co-chairs the Minnesota Hockey Education Program and has been instrumental in implementing the Fair Play Program which has resulted in less violence and injuries in youth hockey.

## Crop farm income rose in 2010, livestock making comeback, report shows

Rate of return for the average farm went from 3.1 percent in 2009 to 12.5 percent in 2010

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/07/2011) —The median net farm income among crop farmers more than doubled, and livestock farmers moved their median net farm income back into the black in 2010, a new joint report by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the University of Minnesota shows.

Overall, median net farm income was \$119,915 among about 2,500 Minnesota farms in 2010, up from \$33,417 in 2009 when net farm incomes were depressed by low profits in the livestock sector and increased production costs, the analysis shows. Median net farm income means half of the producers earned more and half earned less.

“Most Minnesota producers had a good year in 2010,” said Richard Joerger, system director for agriculture and business at the Minnesota State College and Universities system. “However, these results occurred in an extremely risky and volatile environment.”

“The biggest change in 2010 was the return to profitability of hog farms, which tend to be larger in gross sales than other Minnesota farms,” said Dale Nordquist, Extension economist with the University of Minnesota’s Center for Farm Financial Management. In 2010, hog farms earned median profits of more than \$250,000 compared to losses of \$73,000 in 2009.

The report analyzed results from 2,362 participants in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities farm business management education programs and 97 members of the Southwest Minnesota Farm Business Management Association. Net farm income is used for living expenses, income taxes, retirement and business reinvestment.

For crop farms, the median net farm income increased to \$161,441 in 2010, up from \$60,128 in 2009, Nordquist said. Increased profitability was driven largely by the run-up in crop prices at year-end. Prices received on sales were actually down.

“Most of the increase in crop farm earnings was reflected in increased values in inventory on producers’ balance sheets at the end of the year. Producers have to sell those crops at profitable prices to realize these profits, but they certainly have had that opportunity,” Nordquist said.

“Dairy producers made some comeback in profitability. Yet many still produced milk at breakeven prices or at a loss,” Nordquist said. The median dairy farm made a net farm income of \$57,853 in 2010 compared to just over \$2,000 in 2009.

“Agriculture is one bright spot for the Minnesota economy,” Joerger noted. “The farms that participate in our Farm Business Management Education programs contribute \$1.4 billion to rural Minnesota’s economy.” The analysis also showed:

- As usual, there was wide variation in returns. The 20 percent of the farms with the highest incomes earned a median net farm income of \$462,348; the median for the low 20 percent was \$7,443.
- Profits for crop farmers were up 169 percent after a down year in 2009. Average prices received for major commodities were: corn, \$3.67, down from \$3.81 in 2009; soybeans, \$9.66, down from \$9.84; and spring wheat, \$5.03, down from \$5.81.
- For the 423 dairy farms, median net farm income was 57,823, compared to \$2,193 in 2009. The average price received for milk was \$16.26 per hundred pounds, up from \$13.56 in 2009. Production costs increased to \$16.19 per hundredweight, leaving a profit of only pennies per hundred pounds of milk.
- The median hog producer earned a net farm income of \$265,649 compared to a loss of \$73,525 in 2009. The price-per-hundred pounds sold increased from \$43.30 to \$54.63.
- Beef farm profits improved but were lower than other operations. The median beef producer generated net farm income of \$34,451 compared to a net loss of \$13,138 in 2009.
- Corn yields were virtually unchanged from 2009 at 181 bushels per acre. Soybeans yields averaged 45.5 bushels per acre, up from 42 bushels, while spring wheat yielded 60 bushels compared to 62 bushels in 2009.
- Average cost of production for an acre of corn decreased by 6 percent due mostly to lower fertilizer costs. Seed cost increased 9 percent, fertilizer decreased by 27 percent, and land rent increased by 5 percent.
- Overall, the average farm earned a 12.5 percent rate of return on assets, up from 3.1 percent in 2009.

“The need for business management education is as critical as ever in this economic environment,” Joerger said. “We encourage producers to contact a Minnesota Farm Business Management Education program ([www.fbm.mnscu.edu](http://www.fbm.mnscu.edu)) instructor or University of Minnesota Extension to enroll in an education program.”

Qualified instructors teach producers how to maintain and interpret quality business records. Information from the records is used to make business decisions, execute marketing plans and develop annual business analyses. The information from the personalized annual business analyses is used to apply business management information to improve their farming operations.

Details of the annual report are available at <http://www.finbin.umn.edu> through the University of Minnesota’s Center for Farm Financial Management, which provides educational programs and software tools that are practical, timely and applicable to real-world farm situations.

For more information on University of Minnesota Extension, visit <http://www.extension.umn.edu>.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system comprises 32 state universities and community and technical colleges serving the higher education needs of Minnesota. The system serves about 277,000 students per year in credit-based courses and an additional 157,000 students in noncredit courses.

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The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and the University of Minnesota are Equal Opportunity employers and educators. This document can be made available in alternative formats upon request.

For more news from U of M Extension, visit [www.extension.umn.edu/news](http://www.extension.umn.edu/news) or contact Extension Communications at [extnews@umn.edu](mailto:extnews@umn.edu). University of Minnesota Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer.



Early primates and the Homo erectus come to town: U of M to co-host world's largest annual gathering of physical



U of M assistant professor Michael Wilson, who studies chimpanzee behavior, will present at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting.

## anthropologists in Minneapolis, April 12-16

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), University News Service, (612) 626-1720  
Tessa Eagan, College of Liberal Arts, [teagan@umn.edu](mailto:teagan@umn.edu), (612) 625-3781

**April 7, 2011**

The University of Minnesota College of Liberal Art's Department of Anthropology is the local co-host of the 80th annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists Tuesday through Saturday, April 12-16, at the Minneapolis Hilton, 1001 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis.

Physical anthropology is a biological science that deals with the adaptations, variability and evolution of human beings and their living and fossil relatives. The annual meeting is expected to draw more than 1,600 scientists and students from all over the world.

Martha Tappen, associate professor of anthropology at the U of M, and Barbara O'Connell, professor and chair of Hamline University's anthropology department, are co-chairs of the conference's local arrangements committee, which also includes faculty from Macalester College.

University faculty presenting at the conference include:

- Michael Wilson, assistant professor in the anthropology department and the College of Biological Sciences' ecology, evolution, and behavior department. Wilson studies chimpanzee behavior
- Kieran McNulty, associate anthropology professor. McNulty is currently excavating at a Miocene site in Kenya to document the origins of apes. Miocene is a geological period that extends from about 23.03 to 5.332 million years ago
- William Beeman, professor and chair of the anthropology department. Beeman is an expert on the Middle East and the Islamic World
- Karen-Sue Taussig, associate anthropology professor. Taussig studies medical anthropology

Graduate student presenters include:

- Kirsten Jenkins, who is presenting on evidence for predation on the bones of early primates from McNulty's site
- Ryan Knigge, who is on a poster with Kieran McNulty on evolutionary implications of traits of the face in apes
- Niki Garret, who is on a paper about reconstructing the environment for the early Miocene using isotopes from the teeth of animals

For more information about the conference, including schedules, visit <http://physanth.org/annual-meeting>.

## University of Minnesota undergraduates show off their research and creativity April 13

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

**April 7, 2011**

More than 250 of the University of Minnesota's top undergraduate students will take part in the 2011 Undergraduate Symposium from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 13, at Coffman Union, Great Hall, 300 Washington Ave., Minneapolis. Presentations are in three sessions: 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.; 1:15-2:45 p.m.; and 3-4:30 p.m.

The presentations span a wide and diverse spectrum of disciplines and include students from the university's undergraduate colleges.

"Whether you are finishing your project or are mid-way through, describing your research in the form of a poster presentation is a valuable learning experience for students," says Vicky Munro, coordinator of the university's Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, which organizes the symposium.

Presenters from past years have reported that the symposium provided a capstone experience and closure to their research projects, Munro says. "Students whose projects were in a more formative stage found that the symposium provided them with insights, ideas and inspiration through discussions with the scientists, colleagues and guests who stopped by to view their posters."

The University of Minnesota is one of the most comprehensive public universities in the world and offers 143 undergraduate degree programs.

The symposium is free and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.research.umn.edu/undergraduate/symposium](http://www.research.umn.edu/undergraduate/symposium).

## Media credential deadline for His Holiness the Dalai Lama's visit to the U of M 9 p.m. April 11



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### April 11, 2011

The Center for Spirituality & Healing (CSH) at the University of Minnesota and the Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM) have announced that press seating and event access will be extremely limited during the May 7 to 8 "One Heart, One Mind, One Universe" visit by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama to the University of Minnesota campus. We regret that requests for press credentials are likely to exceed our ability to accommodate them. All media must apply no later than 9 p.m. Monday, April 11, at [www.dalailama.umn.edu/media/credentialing/index.htm](http://www.dalailama.umn.edu/media/credentialing/index.htm).

The Minnesota Visit now features five planned events:

**Meet the Press:** His Holiness the Dalai Lama greets Minnesota media from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 7, at the Marquette Hotel, downtown Minneapolis

**Medicine Buddha Empowerment:** A Tibetan Cultural and Spiritual Ceremony Promoting Personal and Societal Healing featuring His Holiness the Dalai Lama 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, May 8, at Mariucci Arena, hosted by TAFM

**Peace Through Inner Peace:** A Public Address featuring His Holiness the Dalai Lama from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 8, at Mariucci Arena, co-hosted by CSH and TAFM

**World Premiere of KIPO!:** A Circus of Spirit, Song, and Dance from Tibet, the Land of Snow. Performances are from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., May 6 to 8, plus 2 to 3:30 p.m. May 7, at Rarig Center, presented by TigerLion Arts

**Second International Tibetan Medicine Conference:** Healing Mind & Body from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 9, at the University Radisson Hotel, co-hosted by CSH and TAFM (His Holiness is not expected to attend this conference.)

All applications for press credentials must be reviewed by the U.S. Department of State. We reserve the right to require additional information on a case-by-case basis. Applicants will be notified of their status beginning on April 25. (The University of Minnesota will not record nor retain your personal information and the Public Information Act and other applicable laws protect your SSN from further disclosure.) Please note that cameras and any other media equipment will be subject to search.

For more information about the "Minnesota Visit," including tickets, visit [www.dalailama.umn.edu](http://www.dalailama.umn.edu).

## The intersection of water and agriculture in the 21st century takes center stage May 6

**What:** "Water and Agriculture in the 21st Century"

**When:** 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Friday, May 6

**Where:** St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul

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Becky Beyers, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, [bbeyers@umn.edu](mailto:bbeyers@umn.edu), (612) 626-5754

**April 11, 2011**

University of Minnesota researchers are finding new ways to reduce agriculture's impact on our state's streams, lakes and aquifers. At "Water and Agriculture in the 21st Century," a daylong symposium on the St. Paul campus, scientists will share how their discoveries affect the big picture of Minnesota's waters today and in coming decades.

The symposium, part of the Solution-Driven Science series of discussions, will take place from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, May 6 at the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

University of Minnesota experts will discuss examples of successful water management practices including drainage and cropping systems, as well as policy issues surrounding agriculture and water. The day concludes with a panel discussion and audience Q&A.

For more information including registration and an agenda for the symposium, visit <http://www.cfans.umn.edu/ResearchOutreach/Research/SDS/index.htm>. The event is free, but pre-registration is requested.

The Solution-Driven Science symposia are sponsored by the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

## U of M showcases student- designed community- building ideas for North Minneapolis April 15

Event celebrates  
partnership between  
U's College of  
Design and North Minneapolis-based Juxtaposition Arts



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**April 11, 2011**

The University of Minnesota College of Design's Department of Landscape Architecture, Juxtaposition Arts, a North Minneapolis-based youth art and design center, and the university's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) have joined forces for the new exhibit, "Remix/Streetlife," which shines a light on the ways in which physical environments shape people's daily lives.

The exhibit and presentations take place 5 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, April 15, at the Rapson Hall courtyard, 89 Church St., Minneapolis. The event celebrates the six-year anniversary of the college and CURA's partnership with Juxtaposition Arts, called "Remix/Streetlife," which began in 2005 as an interdisciplinary teaching project.

The exhibit will feature work created by some of the more than 300 U of M graduate and undergraduate students and middle and high school students from Juxtaposition Arts who have participated in the program. Their work includes art, design, film and research about community building in North Minneapolis.

In addition to the exhibit, seven program alums and current students will make seven-minute public "Great Idea!" presentations for an art/design project that would help support safe routes to schools in North Minneapolis. The project is based on the national "Safe Routes to School" program, which works to improve safety and encourage more children to safely walk and bicycle to school.

After the presentations, event attendees will have a chance to vote for their favorite "Great Idea!" The winner will receive \$300. For more information about the event and to register, visit <http://landarch.design.umn.edu/index.php>.

"This exhibit is about celebrating the amazing work the students have done, the lessons learned about community/university partnerships and the potential for art and design to build and sustain equitable, healthy and sustainable communities," says Kristine Miller, associate landscape architecture professor.

## International health expert to speak at U of M on global medicine and pediatric infectious diseases April 18

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**April 11, 2011**

Dr. Stephen Swanson, a pediatrician trained in infectious diseases and tropical medicine, will speak on "Beauty and Brutality: An uncustomary journey into a profession of global medicine and pediatric infectious diseases" at 12 p.m. Monday, April 18, at the University of Minnesota's Coffman Union, President's Room, 300 Washington Ave S.E., Minneapolis.

A U of M College of Liberal Arts graduate, Swanson will discuss his career path, share lessons he has learned, provide advice for students and summarize the challenges and rewards of working in global health.

Swanson has lived and worked throughout Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. He holds a diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and has special interests in global pediatric health, infectious diseases, pediatric hospital medicine and medical education. He is currently a physician at Hennepin County Medical Center and member of the University of Minnesota Center for Global Pediatrics.

This event, free and open to the public, is part of the Magraw-Fuller Lecture Series. The Magraw-Fuller Lecture Series was established through the generous support of a College of Liberal Arts alumna and aims to improve the communication skills of pre-med and pre-health students through interdisciplinary topics in the liberal arts.

## University of Minnesota early education and development experts provide insight through new exhibit at the Science Museum of Minnesota

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/11/2011) —Collaborations between the University of Minnesota Center for Early Education and Development (CEED) and Science Museum of Minnesota are giving the public deeper insight into the science of brain development in children from birth through age five.

University of Minnesota Professor of Child Psychology Ann Masten will join Science Museum of Minnesota President Eric Jolly for a public forum on the science of early childhood development during the Week of the Young Child from 7 to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 12 at the Science Museum. Admission is \$5. To make reservations for the forum, please call Alyssa Johnson at the Science Museum of Minnesota at (651) 221-4511.

This public forum is the first of several in conjunction with the new Science Museum of Minnesota's permanent exhibit, *Wonder Years: the Science of Early Childhood Development*. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the exhibit was the brainchild of Karen Cadigan, a research fellow at CEED in the College of Education and Human Development. *Wonder Years* was developed collaboratively between the Science Museum, the University of Minnesota and Public Agenda nonpartisan public dialogue experts.

Visitors to the exhibit explore how young children learn from the world around them and how scientists learn about children's development. The exhibit examines such questions as: Why are experiences an important part of development? What do children learn before kindergarten? What role do grown-ups play in children's development? The exhibit also provides factual context about young children in Minnesota through an interactive quiz show and a feature length video co-produced with Twin Cities Public Television.

Through programs, the exhibition and research the Wonder Years project engages museum visitors, policymakers and caregivers in deliberations around the latest, and often misunderstood, early childhood development research. It also builds on an increased understanding of the importance of early childhood development to expand civic engagement around this urgent social issue.

For more information about *Wonder Years*, including dates for upcoming forums and TPT airings of the video *Brighter Futures*, see [www.smm.org/wonderyears](http://www.smm.org/wonderyears).

## Statement from Tim Mulcahy, vice president for research, on Miromatrix startup

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**April 11, 2011**

The University of Minnesota took a deliberate, methodical approach to the Miromatrix startup and licensing agreement, and we stand firmly behind it, the company, and its business plan. The University cannot comment on the deliberations that led the board of directors of Miromatrix, a privately held company, to vote to remove Dr. Taylor from its board.

We would like to clarify, however, that the technology has been successfully transferred out of the University, Miromatrix has replicated it, and the company is pursuing a viable business strategy to commercialize it. The company is working productively with co-inventor Dr. Harald Ott, is meeting all the milestones in its licensing agreement with the University, and has successfully secured funding in extremely challenging times for all startup companies.

The University does not hold a position on the Miromatrix board of directors and did not “fire” Dr. Taylor. Ultimately, it was the board’s decision to terminate Dr. Taylor as a member, but as a shareholder the University voted its shares in support of a recommendation to remove her from the board. This was done in the interest of fulfilling our goal for Miromatrix: to ensure that the company continues to make progress and move the technology into the public domain as quickly as possible in order to benefit society — a goal shared by Dr. Taylor. That is the objective for any startup company based on University technology, and our obligation under Board of Regents policy.

We remain enthusiastic about the potential impact of Dr. Taylor’s important breakthrough and are confident that Miromatrix will successfully realize its full potential. Dr. Taylor remains a productive and valued faculty member of the University of Minnesota.



## Seed catalogs, the "Green Revolution" and the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible on display in upcoming U of M Libraries exhibits

**Media Note:** Images of each exhibit are available on request

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**April 12, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Libraries today announces the following slate of exhibits opening over the coming year in the galleries of Andersen, Wangenstein and Wilson Libraries. All exhibits are free and open to the public. Dates and times for any opening receptions will be listed as they are scheduled at [lib.umn.edu/events](http://lib.umn.edu/events).

Detailed gallery location and direction information is available below the exhibit details.

### **Seed Stories: Catalogs of Life and Gardens in America**

Now through May 15: Reedy Gallery and Andersen Horticultural Library, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

Aug. 1 – Oct. 28: Andersen Atrium Gallery

Seed and nursery catalogs have long used beautiful images to entice customers. Dozens of selections from Andersen Horticultural Library's rich collection of 57,000 catalogs are a testament to their research value as well as their beauty. Stories of local characters, including three Minneapolis seedswomen, regional pioneers and colonial innovators give a more intimate look at the life and gardens surrounding these publications.

### **Headwaters of History**

April 20 – July 15: Andersen Gallery

Explore the headwaters of our state's history and witness the ripple effect that people, institutions and culture have had on the arts, literature, society and business. From award-winning authors to individuals making a difference; from organizations for social change to multinational corporations, this exhibit documents Minnesota's contributions to the region, the nation and the world.

### **Take Two Lyllie Rootes and Call Me in the Morning: Botanicals and Medical Receipt Books in 17th Century Domestic Medical Care**

May 15 – Sept. 15: Wangenstein Library

In pre-industrial times, those ailing often turned to wives of local landowners or wise women who were knowledgeable in the use of plants to create medicines. Recipes were passed down in families, shared with physicians and recorded in receipt books along with other household information like the care of livestock. This exhibit presents Mary Pewe's books of receipts, compiled circa 1630-1690 in England, alongside botanicals that illustrate many of the plants used in the production of her medicines.

### **Resonance: 21st Century Art Students & the Commerce of the Ancient Mediterranean**

May 23 – Aug. 15: T.R. Anderson Gallery

Oxhide ingots were used in Bronze Age trade—possibly as currency, but certainly as a means of shipping copper for use in the manufacture of bronze. This exhibition pairs images, casts and molds from a student project to reproduce the processes to make these ingots with materials from the James Ford Bell Library, which is dedicated to documenting the history and impact of international trade before circa 1800.

### **Minnesota Roots of the "Green Revolution": A Legacy of Greatness**

July 26 – Oct. 21: Andersen Gallery

If Norman Borlaug was the father of the "Green Revolution", its grandfather was E.C. Stakman of the University of Minnesota's department of plant pathology, which was created in 1907 to combat the devastating cycles of crop-destroying wheat stem rust that periodically threatened the state's economy. Plant Pathology became the premier program of its kind, attracting generations of brilliant young scientists whose work saved millions from starvation worldwide. This exhibit will showcase the rare and unique agriculture records from the University Archives' "Green Revolution" collections, including the Borlaug and Stakman papers.

### **Classified! Naturalists on the Voyages of Discovery**

Aug. 29 – Nov. 18: T.R. Anderson Gallery

Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus is considered the father of modern taxonomy—the finding, describing and naming of species. Seventeen of his most promising students became known as his Apostles, and he sent them out into the world to collect and organize new plants, animals and minerals according to his own classification system. This exhibition features work by Linnaeus himself, as well as that of others intent on drawing European attention to the natural world.

### **The Literature of Prescription: Charlotte Perkins Gilman and "The Yellow Wall-Paper"**

Sept. 18 – Oct. 29: Wangenstein Library

In the late 19th century, women were challenging traditions that excluded them from political and intellectual life as medical experts drew on notions of female weakness to justify inequality between the sexes. This traveling exhibit from the National Libraries of Medicine features artist and writer Charlotte Perkins Gilman, who was discouraged from pursuing a career to preserve her health. Her famous short story, "The Yellow Wall-Paper," indicts the medical profession and social conventions restricting women's professional and creative opportunities.

### **Winter Holidays in Children's Literature**

Nov. 1, 2011 – Jan. 28, 2012: Andersen Gallery

Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hannukah and the New Year's holidays will be explored through picture books, series books and original art from the Children's Literature Research Collections. Highlights will be Clement Moore's "The Night Before Christmas" and the many artists who have illustrated Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol", including some who have interpreted the poem through a specific ethnic lens.

### **The Word Made Flesh**

Nov. 28, 2011 – Feb. 24, 2012: T.R. Anderson Gallery

To celebrate the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible, this exhibit will feature examples of biblical texts, including medieval manuscripts and facsimiles. Highlights will include two leaves from the 42-line Gutenberg Bible; the original New Testament portion of the King James Bible; other early printings such as the Geneva Bible and the "Breeches" Bible; and related works stemming out of the Reformation such as publications, broadsides and pamphlets from Martin Luther, Philip Melancthon and others.

### **Gallery Locations and Directions**

Andersen Gallery is located on the first floor of Elmer L. Andersen Library; the Andersen Atrium Gallery on the second and third floors.

222 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis

Hours and directions: [andersen.lib.umn.edu/visitors.html](http://andersen.lib.umn.edu/visitors.html)

The T.R. Anderson Gallery is located on the fourth floor of Wilson Library, at the entrance to the James Ford Bell Library.

309 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis

Hours and directions: [wilson.lib.umn.edu](http://wilson.lib.umn.edu) | [lib.umn.edu/bell](http://lib.umn.edu/bell)

Reedy Gallery and Andersen Horticultural Library

Both are located at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

3675 Arboretum Boulevard, Chaska

Hours, fees, and directions: [www.arboretum.umn.edu](http://www.arboretum.umn.edu)

Wangenstein Library

The Wangenstein Library is located on the fifth floor of Diehl Hall.

505 Essex Street S.E., Minneapolis

Hours and directions: [wangensteen.lib.umn.edu/hours-directions](http://wangensteen.lib.umn.edu/hours-directions)

Wacky, wise  
and deep: U  
of M's  
Momentum  
2011 Event  
Series  
continues  
with  
international  
health  
speaker Hans  
Rosling and  
ocean  
explorer  
Sylvia Earle



Hans Rosling will headline the second of three events held this spring by the Institute on the Environment to highlight global challenges and the people who are helping to solve them. Photo by Elizabeth Toll.

**Media Note:** For photographs, contact [schmitz@umn.edu](mailto:schmitz@umn.edu); for press passes, contact [maryhoff@umn.edu](mailto:maryhoff@umn.edu).

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**April 12, 2011**

No fooling: April 26's Momentum 2011 speaker is guaranteed to be a crowd pleaser, despite the challenging topic he takes on: daunting problems and inspiring solutions at the interface of international health and the environment.

Hans Rosling, professor of global health at Karolinska Institutet in Sweden and co-founder of the Gapminder Foundation, will headline the second of three events held this spring by the Institute on the Environment to highlight global challenges and the people who are helping to solve them. Known for using enlightening graphics as well as unusual props to make his points, Rosling will speak Tuesday, April 26, on "A Fact-Based World View." Though we aren't sure exactly what he has up his sleeve, we do know that past presentations have included demonstrating population growth with Legos, illustrating economic development with a magic washing machine, and swallowing a sword on stage. The evening, hosted by Minnesota Public Radio's Kerri Miller, will open with a performance by comedian and University of Minnesota alum Cy Amundson.

Wrapping up this season's inaugural series, award-winning oceanographer Sylvia Earle will dive deep into the topic of protecting the world's oceans Thursday, May 12, with her talk on "Sustainable Seas: The Vision, the Reality." National Geographic explorer in residence, Earle has pioneered research on marine ecosystems and has led more than 100 expeditions totaling more than 7,000 hours underwater. Singer/songwriter Mason Jennings will warm up the crowd in advance of Earle's presentation with his unique style blending the insights of a poet, the political flavor of a protest singer, the eclecticism of a jazz musician and the passion of a rock-and-roller.

Both events take place at 7:30 p.m. at the university's Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis.

The events are the second and third of three environment-themed evenings sponsored by the Institute on the Environment as part of its new Momentum 2011 series, with Minnesota Public Radio as media partner. The inaugural presentation by eco-entrepreneur Majora Carter, "You Don't Have to Move Out of Your Neighborhood to Live in a Better One," is available for online viewing at [z.umn.edu/majora2011](http://z.umn.edu/majora2011).

For tickets, contact the Northrop Box Office, (612) 624-2345 or [www.environment.umn.edu/momentum/eventseries](http://www.environment.umn.edu/momentum/eventseries).

The University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment seeks solutions to Earth's biggest problems through cutting-edge research, partnerships and leadership development. For more information, visit [www.environment.umn.edu](http://www.environment.umn.edu).

## New grants will help University of Minnesota researchers advance biofuels research

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/12/2011) —Three new grants to University of Minnesota scientists totaling nearly \$3 million are part of a national effort to gain scientific information needed to support biofuel production and create co-products that will enhance the overall value of a bio-based economy.

The grants were awarded today by the U.S. Department Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and are part of a larger package of 42 similar grants in 28 states. The University of Minnesota's projects include:

- A study of how diversified bioenergy cropping systems -- perennial crops such as grasses and woody plants -- can improve biological control of pests such as the soybean aphid. The project, led by agronomy and plant genetics associate professor Gregg Johnson, is intended to help provide more information for decision-makers about biomass cropping systems design, placement and influence on the surrounding landscape.
- An examination of how useful thermoplastics can be created from lignin, an important co-product from the conversion of biomass to biofuels. Professor Simo Sarkanen of the bioproducts and biosystems engineering department estimates that by 2030, biofuel production using lignocellulose will generate large quantities (more than 200 million tons per year) of lignin, which can be used for new kinds of polymers and plastics. An important focus of the work will be the development of effective plasticizers for these new materials.
- Research on how solid residues of bioenergy production could be utilized to generate nanofiber intermediates, binderless films and adhesives, converting a would-be waste residue into value-added co-products. The project is led by William Tze, an assistant professor in the bioproducts and biosystems engineering department.

Each project will receive about \$1 million. The grants are awarded through NIFA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, which targets the development of regional systems for the sustainable production of bioenergy and bio-based products.

## Garrison Keillor to headline annual dinner of Friends of the U of M Libraries May 10



**Who:** Garrison Keillor

**What:** Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries Annual Dinner

**Where:** McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis

**When:** 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 10

American author, humorist, musician and radio personality Garrison Keillor will appear at the annual dinner of the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries on Tuesday, May 10.

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**April 13, 2011**

American author, humorist, musician and radio personality Garrison Keillor will appear at the annual dinner of the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries on Tuesday, May 10, at McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis. The evening begins with a 5:30 p.m. reception followed by dinner and a program featuring Keillor. Keillor's books will be available for sale and signing courtesy of Keillor's independent bookstore, Common Good Books.

Tickets, which cost \$46 for members of the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries and \$56 for the general public, should be purchased by May 3 at the Northrop Ticket Office: (612) 624-2345 or <http://z.umn.edu/keillor>.

Keillor is the recipient of Grammy, ACE and George Foster Peabody awards, and he has been inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His many books include "Lake Wobegon Days," "The Book of Guys," "77 Love Sonnets," "Pilgrims: A Wobegon Romance" and "Good Poems; American Places," a third volume of poetry selected by Keillor.

For more information about the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries, or to join, visit [www.lib.umn.edu/friends](http://www.lib.umn.edu/friends).

## Minnesota high school "Economics Challenge" is Thursday, April 13

**Media Note:** Reporters need prior permission to attend the event. Contact Jane Stockman, Education Program Coordinator, MCEE, at (952) 846-8146 for details.

**What:** Minnesota's state high school Economics Challenge

**When:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, April 14 (Quiz Bowl competition begins at 12:45 p.m.)

**Where:** Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, 90 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** Becky Beyers, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, [bbeyers@umn.edu](mailto:bbeyers@umn.edu), (612) 626-5754

Claudia Parliament, Minnesota Council on Economic Education, (612) 625-5733

Patty Mattern, University News Service, [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), (612) 624-2801

### April 13, 2011

Minnesota's most knowledgeable high-school economics students will show off their expertise at the statewide Economics Challenge on April 14 at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

Students from 14 high schools across the state will compete in the nation's only Economics Challenge, which includes both written tests and a quiz-bowl style competition. The highest-scoring team will advance to a contest among all state winners, where the six highest-scoring teams advance to the national championship in New York City.

At the state level, schools compete in three divisions: the Adam Smith division (for advanced or high-level programs); the David Ricardo division (large schools); and the Joan Robinson division (small schools).

Each team consists of four members who participate in three rounds. For rounds 1 and 2, the top three individual scores on each team are combined for a team score; in round 3, each team collectively determines the team's answer to the questions. The top two schools in each division after the first three rounds then compete in a winner-take-all, "lightning round" buzzer competition.

"The Economics Challenge recognizes and rewards student achievement in economics," said Claudia Parliament, executive director of the Minnesota Council on Economic Education, which is housed at the University of Minnesota. "The students' ability to respond to difficult questions is impressive. Their understanding is a tribute to the high quality of teaching in Minnesota. We have very talented and knowledgeable teachers of economics."

In 2010, Moorhead Senior High School placed seventh in the semi-nationals; the top six teams won a trip to New York City to compete in the national competition. In 2009, a team from Little Falls competed in the national competition in New York City, outperforming more than 2,000 teams from across the country to become the national champions. Minnesota students and their coaches have reached the national level contest in seven of the 10 years of competition. No other state has done as well.

Student teams competing in the Adam Smith division this year are from St. Cloud Apollo High School; Century Senior High School, Rochester; Moorhead Senior High School; Mounds View Senior High School and St. Thomas Academy.

## University of Minnesota President Bruininks reacts to federal budget bill

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U of M President Robert Bruininks

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/13/2011)

—The following is a statement from University of Minnesota President Robert H. Bruininks regarding the proposed federal budget bill:

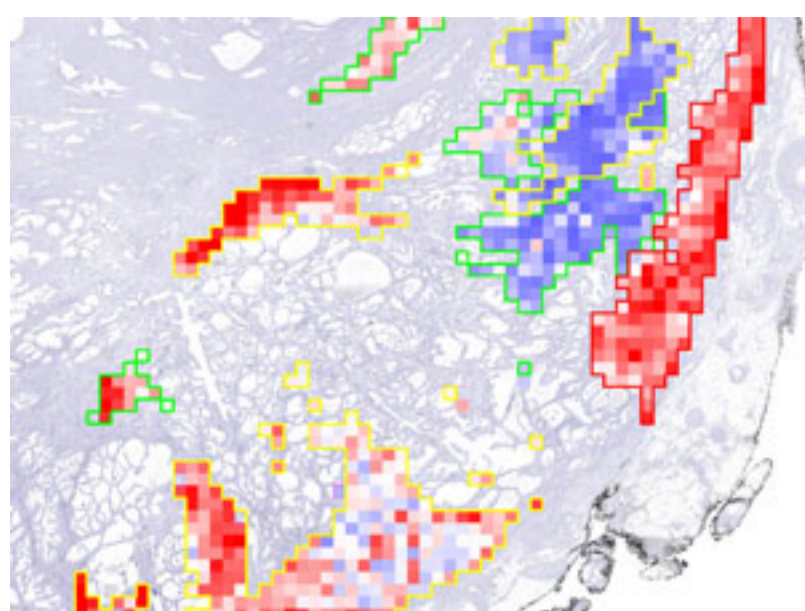
“It is a relief to see that Congressional leaders and the president were able to prioritize Pell grants and research funds among the many difficult choices they made in this budget,” said University of Minnesota President Robert H. Bruininks. “I thank the university’s many advocates across the state and the country as well as the lawmakers who made the case for these programs and their future return to our society and economy during very challenging fiscal times.”

The bill goes to the House and Senate this week. Details of the bill include the following:

- It maintains Pell Grants at their current level of a \$5,550 maximum Pell grant. (Last year 10,712 University of Minnesota undergraduates, or roughly 25 percent, received some level of Pell funding.)
- For cost reasons eliminates the so-called year-round Pell grant, which allowed Pell recipients an additional grant to use for summer classes. (Across its five campuses, the university had 1,590 students take advantage of the second Pell Grant last year.)
- It makes minimal cuts (less than one percent) to research agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (which sponsored \$260 million in U of M research expenditures last year); the National Science Foundation (\$68.2 million), the Department of Energy (\$21.9 million) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (\$18.1 million).

## U of M licenses software that pairs quantitative techniques with pathology expertise

**Media Note:** A high-resolution visual depiction of this software can be found [here](#), with a more detailed explanation [online here](#).



The U has finalized a license agreement with Flagship Biosciences for software that provides quantitative analyses of protein expression levels in human tissue samples. A detailed explanation of this image ([full size version here](#)) can be found below the news release.

**Contacts:** John

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 Patty Mattern, University News Service, [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), (612) 624-2801

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/14/2011) —The University of Minnesota has finalized a license agreement with Flagship Biosciences for software that provides quantitative analyses of protein expression levels in human tissue samples. The software, IHC Map, improves a pathologist's ability to characterize diseased tissues and assists researchers with clinical trials for pharmaceuticals and medical devices.

The exclusive license agreement for the university-developed software has also forged a partnership between BioNet, a central tissue procurement and research histology lab on the university's Twin Cities campus, and Flagship Biosciences, a private company based in Flagstaff, Ariz. Flagship performs histopathology services for biotech, pharmaceutical, medical device and cosmetic companies. Flagship offers IHC Map to its customers and also refers organizations to BioNet for additional tissue procurement and research services that it does not offer.

"Flagship provides digital pathology services, primarily to the pharmaceutical industry," said Dr. Steve Schmechel, director of BioNet, assistant professor of laboratory medicine and pathology and co-inventor of IHC Map. "For many of those functions, companies require both academic surgical pathologist skills and access to biospecimens or techniques that they may not have internally."

BioNet tissue procurement and histology services are available to researchers in both the public and private sector. The lab procures biospecimens, such as tissue and blood samples, from subjects who have given consent, stores the specimens and associated annotation data, and reports the data, from which patient-identifying information has been removed, to the researcher.

The instrumental tool in this partnership between industry and academia is IHC Map, software that analyzes tissue samples and identifies protein markers for disease. Without the software, a pathologist must analyze multiple slides individually, and make a qualitative judgment on the results. IHC Map allows protein or gene signatures taken on multiple sections to be aligned and visualized in a heatmap-like fashion. The technology improves the multiplexing of biomarkers on a tissue section, and allows the computation of expression to be reported as a comparison to other more stable proteins in the sample. The patent-pending software was developed at University of Minnesota and will be refined in Flagship's pharma services by both veterinary and medical anatomic pathologists.

Flagship Biosciences helps pharmaceutical and medical device clients develop tissue-based diagnostics.

"Seventy to 90 million glass slides are analyzed each year in pharmaceutical drug development, and maybe another 10 million in medical device development," said Steven Potts, CEO of Flagship. "We think this collaboration will make it easier for these clients to have specialized medical pathology expertise combined with quantitative techniques from Flagship."

"Most diseases are due to alterations of genes that manifest themselves at the level of protein expression," said Schmechel. "To characterize disease it is very useful to look at protein expression. Often looking at the expression of one protein is not sufficient, or not powerful enough to optimally characterize the disease. It's better to look at multiple proteins simultaneously."

Identifying protein expression across multiple genes can answer key questions for researchers: What is the nature of the disease? How is it likely to behave in the patient? Will the disease be responsive to a given therapy?

"It's been found that combining information from multiple genes to characterize tissue is a powerful way to identify aggressive cancers," said Dr. Greg Metzger, co-inventor of IHC Map and associate professor of radiology at the U of M. In addition to quantifying expression of these proteins in a quantifiable measurement, the software also allows for greater standardization across tissue samples, and requires less time for the pathologist to analyze slides.

IHC Map was invented by Schmechel and Metzger; Stephen Dankbar, a software programmer from the university's department of radiology; and Jonathan Henriksen, an information technology specialist from BioNet. The research was funded by the National Institutes of Health and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. For more info about BioNet, see [www.bionet.umn.edu](http://www.bionet.umn.edu). For more info about Flagship Biosciences, see [www.flagshipbio.com](http://www.flagshipbio.com).

**About the image:**

"Multigene expression signatures assessed at the protein level by immunohistochemistry and displayed as a heatmap. In this example of prostate cancer-containing tissue, provided for illustration, signatures were calculated for those areas annotated by a pathologist to contain carcinoma. The intensity of red indicates domination of the signature by expression of proteins associated with more highly aggressive cancer behavior, whereas intensity of blue indicates domination by protein markers of less aggressive biology. The software allows calculation of a summation signature for the entire area of diseased tissue, and importantly also allows visualization of signature heterogeneity within the disease."

## Spanish judge who indicted Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet to speak at U of M April 25



**Who:** Spanish Investigating Judge Baltasar Garzón  
**What:** Lecture on "Verdad, Justicia, y Reparación" (Truth, Justice, and Reparation). In Spanish with simultaneous English translation

**When:** 2 p.m. Monday, April 25

**Where:** 25 Mondale Hall (Law School), University of Minnesota's West Bank, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** Kelly O'Brien, College of Liberal Arts, [obrie136@umn.edu](mailto:obrie136@umn.edu), (612) 624-4109  
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Baltasar Garzón came to international attention in 1998 when he issued an international warrant for the arrest of former Chilean president General Augusto Pinochet for the alleged deaths and torture of Spanish citizens by his regime.

### April 14, 2011

Judge Baltasar Garzón, the Spanish judge who issued an international arrest warrant for former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet and has himself been indicted for allegedly overstepping his authority in Spain, will speak at the University of Minnesota at 2 p.m. Monday, April 25.

His lecture, "Verdad, Justicia, y Reparación" (Truth, Justice, and Reparation), is free and open to the public and will take place at Mondale Hall, room 25, U of M West Bank campus, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Garzón will give his speech in Spanish while an English translation is projected simultaneously.

Garzón served for many years on Spain's central criminal court, the Audiencia Nacional, which investigates the most important criminal cases in Spain, including terrorism, organized crime and money laundering.

He came to international attention in 1998 when he issued an international warrant for the arrest of former Chilean president General Augusto Pinochet for the alleged deaths and torture of Spanish citizens by his regime. This began the so-called "Pinochet Affair," of crucial importance for International Human Rights Law. The affair was particularly influential in Latin America, in efforts to try former dictators as well as in general processes of transitional justice.

More recently, in 2008, Garzón initiated an investigation into the crimes committed by the Franco regime in Spain, the first time such an investigation has been attempted. He has been temporarily suspended from his position in the Audiencia Nacional as he awaits trial on accusations from right-wing groups of having exceeded his authority with this investigation. In the meantime, he has been working in the International Criminal Court in The Hague since May 2010, and will soon begin working in Colombia under the auspices of the Organization of American States.

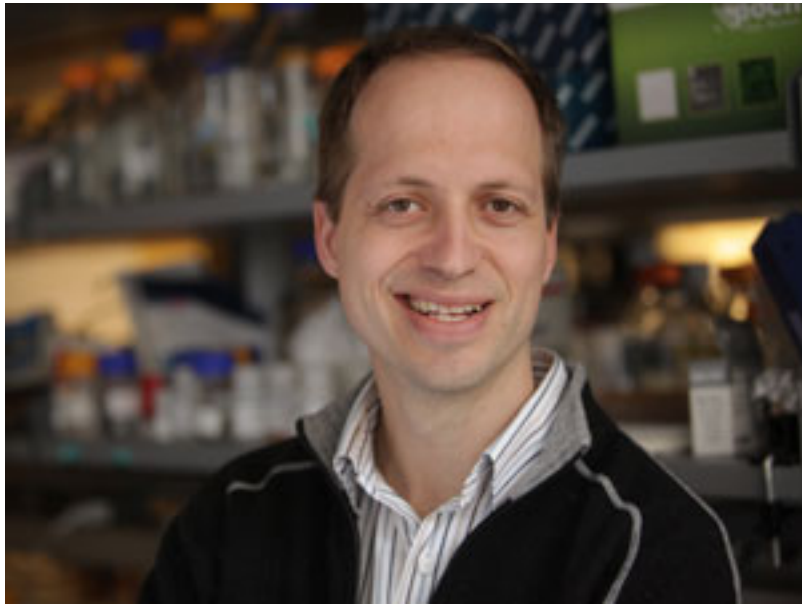
His appearance is sponsored by the university's European Studies Consortium, Department of Spanish & Portuguese Studies, Department of Political Science, Institute for Global Studies, Human Rights Program, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change, Law School, Global Programs and Strategy Alliance's Global Spotlight.



## U of M scientist gets five-year, \$10 million grant to direct innovative HIV research program

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Reuben Harris has been awarded a five-year, \$10 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to direct a large-scale research effort to study a human antiviral protein with potential for treating HIV and other viral diseases.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/18/2011) —Reuben Harris, professor in the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences, has been awarded a five-year, \$10 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to direct a large-scale research effort to study a human antiviral protein with potential for treating HIV and other viral diseases.

The goal of the study will be to produce atomic resolution images of the protein (APOBEC3G) to better understand how it interacts with other proteins in human cells and with HIV to prevent the virus from attaching to and entering cells. This fundamental knowledge could lead to novel methods to alter this protein to make it more effective.

“You have to understand the nuts and bolts of the system before you can make alterations to interfere with the process,” says Harris, an associate professor of biochemistry, molecular biology and biophysics. “I’m very optimistic that this research will enable us to use this novel protein against HIV and other diseases.”

The approach represents a paradigm shift in treating viral diseases. While most other strategies focus on the virus itself, this is among the first to focus on the host.

“Conventional methods focusing on HIV are susceptible to the inevitable emergence of drug resistant virus isolates, whereas drugs that target stable cellular proteins may be much less prone to this problem” says Harris.

Human cells produce a family of antiviral proteins (called APOBECs) that have the ability to destroy HIV. But HIV has evolved a way to overcome them using an accessory protein called Vif (virion infectivity factor) to degrade the APOBEC proteins and allow the virus to spread. In a previous study, researchers in Harris’s lab showed how HIV binds to and destroys one of the APOBEC proteins. This suggests that a simple change in the chemical structure of the APOBEC proteins could convert the human proteins to more effective antiviral agents. A better understanding of the interaction at molecular and atomic levels is needed to move in that direction.

Harris will lead five teams with complementary skills in molecular virology, NMR spectroscopy, X-ray crystallography, biophysics and biochemistry. Matsuo Hiroshi, associate professor in the College of Biological Sciences, is also a project leader, and Joachim Mueller, associate professor in the College of Science and Engineering's Department of Physics, is a key interdepartmental collaborator. Other sites include the University of Massachusetts Medical School, University of Nebraska and Hebrew University in Israel. Funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, this Program Project grant will support training opportunities for students while advancing research. About half of the projected full amount of the \$10 million grant will remain at the University of Minnesota.

College of Biological Sciences faculty conduct research in all areas of biology, from molecules to ecosystems, supporting applications in medicine, renewable energy, agriculture and biotechnology. For more information, go to [www.cbs.umn.edu](http://www.cbs.umn.edu).

## U of M lecture to discuss benefits and burdens of FDA regulation on medical technology

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**April 18, 2011**

Susan Alpert, M.D., senior vice president and chief regulatory officer for Medtronic, will deliver the keynote address at "Benefits and Burdens of FDA Regulations on Global Medical Technology Markets" from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, May 6, in the Carlson School's 3M Auditorium, 321 19th Ave South, Minneapolis.

The event, co-sponsored by the school's Medical Industry Leadership Institute (MILI) and its Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER), will provide insightful and candid conversations about the challenges facing the medical technology market and the evolving role of governments across the globe.

For example, national governments invest substantial energy and resources to develop life-saving medical technologies. At the same time, they also regulate these markets to ensure patient safety. Is there an explicit trade-off between government regulation and path-breaking innovation? Can regulation restrict medical technology development to the point of critical degradation of the capacity to create new innovations?

Panel members at the event will include:

- John Alexander, president, Business Development Advisors; founder and chairman, Twin Cities Angels
- Thomas Gunderson, managing director and senior research analyst, Piper Jaffray & Co.
- Ralph Hall, counsel, Baker & Daniels; distinguished professor and practitioner, University of Minnesota Law School
- Richard Manning, executive director, Global Public Policy, Merck & Co., Inc.
- Simon Stevens, executive vice president, UnitedHealth Group; president, Global Health, UnitedHealth Group; chairman, UnitedHealth Center for Health Reform

Registration is required for this free event. Visit [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/ciber/events/](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/ciber/events/) for more information.

## U of M hosts 400 high school health advocates who are competing for "Golden Femur" traveling trophy



The winner in the third annual video awards will receive the Golden Femur, a traveling trophy.

**What:** 400 Minnesota high school students compete for Golden Femur with displays inspired by *In Defense of Food*

**When:** 10:10 to 11:45 a.m., kiosk contest; 12:00 p.m., awards presentation - Monday, April 18, 2011  
**Where:** Coffman Union Great Hall, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** Diane Cormany, College of Education and Human Development, [dcormany@umn.edu](mailto:dcormany@umn.edu), (612) 626-5650  
Susan Henderson, College in the Schools, [hende002@umn.edu](mailto:hende002@umn.edu), (612) 625-6361  
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**April 18, 2011**

How can teens become advocates for healthy living? Students in a University of Minnesota, Twin Cities College in the Schools (CIS) Anatomy and Physiology course have produced videos and designed multimedia displays that can be used to educate their communities about healthy eating, obesity reduction, atherosclerosis and diabetes. More than 400 students representing 15 high schools across Minnesota will gather Monday at the U of M to compete for the most engaging and educational kiosk. The winners will take home the coveted Golden Femur award.

The kiosk competition is the culmination of the yearlong Smart and Healthy Students, Smart and Healthy Families program, funded by the UCare Fund. Using concepts from Michael Pollan's book *In Defense of Food*, high school students learned about healthy eating and also studied the digestive system, obesity, diabetes and atherosclerosis.

This fall, the students produced videos that feature an interview with an elder (preferably a grandparent) about their diet at age 18, compared with what 18-year-olds eat today. The videos are an integral part of the student kiosks and can spur conversations about healthy diets, the importance of exercise and diseases associated with obesity. The kiosks may be used at school events such as parent-teacher conferences, athletic competitions and even in the school lunchroom.

"Our goal for the kiosks is to put the students' knowledge into action, to show that there is more to anatomy and physiology than learning the names of bones and muscles," says Murray Jensen, associate professor in the U of M's Department of Postsecondary Learning. "Many of these CIS students will become health care leaders who will be interacting with the public, helping people stay healthy. The kiosks give students an opportunity to be health care advocates."

Jensen developed the Smart and Healthy Students, Smart and Healthy Families program as faculty coordinator for the U of M course "Essentials of Human Anatomy and Physiology" offered through CIS.

College in the Schools at the University of Minnesota develops partnerships between the University of Minnesota and high school teachers and administrators. Students get firsthand experience with a faster pace of study and increased academic rigor while earning university credits. For more information, visit <http://www.cce.umn.edu/College-in-the-Schools>.

The winner in the third annual video awards will receive the Golden Femur, a traveling trophy. Second place winners will earn a Silver Scapula, while the third team walks away with a Bronze Ulna. A number of runners up will also be honored during the ceremony.

## University of Minnesota Law School launches campaign

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/18/2011) —The University of Minnesota Law School announced a \$70 million fund-raising campaign at its Spring Alumni Weekend reception on Friday, April 15. The campaign is projected to run for a five-year period.

The campaign theme, "GENERATIONS. The Campaign for the University of Minnesota Law School," recognizes the school's tradition of educating leaders for a changing world. For more than 120 years, the Law School has graduated students who have gone on to represent the school and the profession with distinction, serving in public office at all levels, contributing to the world of private enterprise and reaching out to the community in numerous areas of public service.

Goals of the campaign are to fund new scholarships to attract and assist the most promising students, to add faculty and expand programs in core areas of strength and to support bold curricular innovations aimed at preparing students for an evolving legal world. Meeting the goals is made more urgent by the imminent disappearance of state funding. Like other top public law schools, the University of Minnesota Law School is moving rapidly to financial self-sufficiency.

Half of the campaign goal has already been raised, under the leadership of campaign co-chairs Bruce Mooty ('80), a principal of Gray Plant Mooty, and Elliot S. Kaplan ('61), a partner at Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi. "We're very grateful to the donors who have supported this early phase of the campaign with their generous gifts," said Law School Dean David Wippman. "We are confident that others will follow their lead."

More than 200 faculty, staff, students and alumni attended the reception, held at the Law School. Among the speakers were the campaign co-chairs, University President Robert Bruininks, and Law Council President Catherine Kedzuf ('11).

## U of M students launch campaign to get people to "Do One Thing" to make the world better

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[Preston Smith](#), University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

**April 18, 2011**

Students in the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management undergraduate program recently kicked off the Do One Thing (DOT) campaign, a movement that asks students to select one thing they want to do that will promote personal, social, environmental or economic stability and commit to it.

The Carlson School undergraduate program is now part of an ever-growing list of schools and businesses that have adopted the campaign that was created by the Saatchi & Saatchi advertising agency. Since its inception, 30 million people (and counting) have committed to their DOT worldwide.

"The DOT campaign really raises the awareness that this is our world, as a whole; that we all need to do our part, and that we all need to participate," says Carlson School student Gage Kaefring. "It's really easy to do a small thing to make a difference."

Undergraduate student Sammy Sites' DOT is to pack her lunch in a lunch box rather than a brown bag. The reason, she says, is simple: "Imagine how many people bring their lunch in a bag and then toss that bag out afterwards. Think of how much trash that is!"

For Adam Lueck, his DOT is to serve as mathematics and economics tutor for student athletes at the University. "Education is important to our generation, and for student athletes, getting that degree will be a great asset for them as they move on to their careers."

"I think the DOT campaign will really make a great impact on the Carlson community and the world," added Lueck.

"This really is a student led movement here at the school," says Christiane Bartels, assistant director of Collegiate Life. "It's up to them on where they want to take it. I believe this campaign will encourage great things on our campus and hopefully, as word gets out and more people adopt this movement, the more it will spread."

To learn more, visit the [Carlson School DOT page](#) on Facebook.

## Beautiful U Day to highlight sustainable transportation at the U

**What:** Beautiful U Day -- Sustainable Transportation Expo

**When:** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, April 20

**Where:** Northrop Plaza, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** Tim Busse, University Services, [busse006@umn.edu](mailto:busse006@umn.edu), (612) 624-2863

[Patty Mattern](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), University News Service, [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), (612) 624-2801

### April 19, 2011

The University of Minnesota is encouraging students, faculty and staff to bike, walk, ride or car pool to campus as the annual Beautiful U Day celebration highlights sustainable transportation Wednesday, April 20. More than 200 gently used bikes will be available for sale with prices as low as \$35 during a Sustainable Transportation Expo from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Northrop Plaza in front of Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

"With gas prices rising and construction beginning on the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit line, creative and sustainable transportation options will be more important than ever for our university community," said Kathleen O'Brien, vice president for University Services.

Those walking, biking or taking the bus or carpooling will be rewarded for their efforts during a sustainable commuter appreciation event from 7 to 9 a.m. Volunteers will hand out breakfast treats to students, faculty and staff who park in the car pool lot, take the bus or ride their bikes to campus.

During the Sustainable Transportation Expo, organizations will showcase the Twin Cities Campus' sustainable transportation options. The university's ReUse Program has partnered with used bike retailer Re-Cycle.com to host a used bike sale during the expo. Re-Cycle.com and other local bike shops will also offer tune-ups and other services at Northrop Plaza, the West Bank and in St. Paul.

Rich Wieber's Bicycle Stunt Show will perform on Northrop Mall at noon during the expo. At 2 p.m., a "Franken-bike" competition will take place on Northrop Plaza as local bike shops attempt to create the best bike solely from used parts.

The transportation expo will culminate at 2:30 p.m. with a presentation honoring President Robert Bruininks' nine-year commitment to Beautiful U Day. Bruininks will offer remarks.

Other Beautiful U Day events include:

- U of M Parking and Transportation Department will host presentations on the East Bank, West Bank and in St. Paul regarding the Central Corridor Light Rail Project's impact on the University of Minnesota.
- Volunteers for this year's Beautiful U Day will convene at 9 a.m. on Northrop Plaza and spend the morning cleaning university bus shelters.

A full schedule of Beautiful U Day events is available at [buday.umn.edu](http://buday.umn.edu).

## University of Minnesota professor Peter Reich named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences



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University of Minnesota professor Peter Reich has been named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/19/2011) —University of Minnesota professor Peter Reich has been named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Reich, who is a professor in the Department of Forest Resources, is also a Regents Professor and Distinguished McKnight University Professor, two of the university's highest honors for faculty. He currently holds the F.B. Hubachek Senior Chair in Forest Ecology and Tree Physiology.

He was elected because of his work advancing science and its applications in ways deemed scientifically and socially distinguished. Election as a fellow is an honor bestowed upon academy members by their peers.

Reich's current research focuses on how global environmental change affects terrestrial ecosystems, in particular how the effects of climate change and land use affect health, biodiversity and sustainability of forests and grassland systems. He has been honored many times for his work, including receiving the BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Award in Ecology and Conservation Biology in Madrid, Spain in 2010. He's been a member of the university faculty since 1991 and is part of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences as well as the university's Institute on the Environment.

The 212 new members of the academy will join some of the world's most accomplished leaders from academia, business, public affairs, the humanities and the arts. Its members have included influential Americans down through the ages in the arts, humanities and sciences. Among its members were George Washington and Benjamin Franklin in the 18th century, Daniel Webster and Ralph Waldo Emerson in the 19th century and Albert Einstein, Saul Bellow and Winston Churchill in the 20th century. Members of the prestigious honorary society contribute to academy studies of science and technology policy, global security, social policy and American institutions, the humanities and education. The new class will be inducted at a ceremony on Oct. 1, at the academy's headquarters in Cambridge, Mass.

## "Water for Mulobere" wins national documentary award, chosen for screening at California festival

Institute on the Environment–produced film documents efforts of University of Minnesota students to bring clean water to an African village

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Institute on the Environment multimedia producer Beth Anderson (center) was honored for her Best in Show documentary, "Water for Mulobere," by Cathy Leslie, executive director of EWB-USA, and David Stewart, president of the EWB-USA board of directors, at EWB-USA's 2011 International Conference in Louisville, Ky., in March.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/20/2011) —Surrounded by sweaty engineering students and clamoring school children, enduring unrelenting sun, videographer Beth Anderson kept her camera on her shoulder and her eyes on the vision of improving lives as she filmed a University of Minnesota's Engineers Without Borders (EWB) team installing a safe drinking water supply in Mulobere, Uganda, during the summer of 2009.

Her reward: knowing that her work would help the EWB team share the story with others, inspiring them to use their knowledge and talents to make a difference too.

This spring, Anderson received two more rewards for her work: The documentary she produced, "Water for Mulobere," was selected as the 2011 Engineers Without Borders-USA Film Contest Best in Show award winner in March, and in April chosen for screening at the Awareness Film Festival in Los Angeles.

"Beth's ability to capture the story of an EWB-USA travel team working together with a community is extraordinary," said Cathy Leslie, executive director of EWB-USA. "She has told a story that allows us to learn from the community, from the things that are challenges and helps us come to the conclusion that there are obstacles in every project that must be overcome, and with teamwork, they can."

"Water for Mulobere" depicts the activities of a team of University of Minnesota engineering and public health students who designed, built and installed a solar-powered water supply system for a secondary and vocational school and its surrounding community in Mulobere.

"Access to safe drinking water is a life-and-death matter for many African communities," Anderson said. "In the case of this particular community in Uganda, if a student has to spend hours each day collecting water or becomes sick after drinking unsafe water, the result is less time spent in school. I hope that by seeing the documentary, people will realize what a problem the lack of safe drinking water is around the world."

As an Awareness Film Festival top pick, "Water for Mulobere" will be screened Friday, May 6, in Los Angeles in a shorts program that starts at 3 p.m. As Best in Show winner for EWB-USA, it will be one of 10 films to be featured in the soon to be announced EWB-USA Film Festival which will travel around the country starting in late 2011.

The "Water for Mulobere" trailer can be viewed at

[http://environment.umn.edu/multimedia/video\\_waterformulobere\\_trailer.html](http://environment.umn.edu/multimedia/video_waterformulobere_trailer.html); the entire 37-minute documentary at [www.youtube.com/UMNIonE#p/u/6/F\\_wqY9hwb-0](http://www.youtube.com/UMNIonE#p/u/6/F_wqY9hwb-0).



## University of Minnesota researchers develop



Marc Hillmyer, Distinguished McKnight University Professor of chemistry and director of the Center for Sustainable Polymers says we need to develop alternatives to fossil fuel-based plastics and move toward a sustainable polymer industry.

### environmentally friendly plastics

Degradable plastics from renewable resources are viable alternative to think about this Earth Day

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/20/2011) —This Earth Day, environmentally conscious consumers will pick up litter, renew their recycling efforts or plant a tree. Some consumers will also rethink their consumption habits. They know that plastic shopping bags crowd landfills, and sometimes end up in the ocean, but many don't know that those same bags are derived from oil and gas, the same fossil resources used to produce gasoline and other fuels. University of Minnesota researchers have developed a portfolio of degradable plastics derived from renewable resources that could serve as a viable alternative to plastics made from petroleum and natural gas. These materials have the potential to be safer, more sustainable alternatives to plastics currently on the market.

"Nearly all synthetic chemicals and materials are derived from fossil fuels," said Marc Hillmyer, Distinguished McKnight University Professor of chemistry and director of the Center for Sustainable Polymers in the College of Science and Engineering. "To wean ourselves from such products, we must develop alternatives based on renewable resources as a means toward a sustainable polymer industry."

According to a U.S. Department of Agriculture study conducted in 2008, bio-based polymers could account for up to 33 percent of the global polymer market by 2025.

Polyactides (PLA) are degradable polymers that can be used in a variety of products, from medical devices and sutures to food packaging and diapers. These polymers could reduce the country's reliance on materials derived from crude oil. However, PLA has a few property deficiencies in comparison to other polymers, such as its tendency to soften at higher temperatures, a feature that limits utility in food and beverage packaging applications. Hillmyer and his colleagues have developed new types of polyactide-based materials that have potential to solve these problems.

He envisions technologies based on these discoveries being useful for a wide range of applications that require high temperature stability and toughness. These include bottles, microwave trays, cell phone and other appliance cases and other durable household items.

"Sustainable polymers or 'green materials' can be durable or degradable, can be used in applications from adhesives to packaging to building materials, and can be produced efficiently and economically with low environmental impact," said Hillmyer. "These are the materials of tomorrow."

Dr. Dharma Kodali, a research professor in the department of bioproducts and biosystems engineering, discovered a method for developing plasticizers made from soy oil. Plasticizers are additives that change the properties of the plastic, making them useful for variety of applications.

"The currently used plasticizers, called phthalates, are petroleum-derived, non-renewable materials," said Kodali. "The new plasticizers synthesized in our lab could be a viable replacement for petroleum-derived plasticizers, as they are comparable in price and performance but are safer, are made from renewable resources and degrade readily if leaked into the environment."

Plastics containing plasticizers are used in construction, automobiles, packaging, computers, medical devices, house siding and other household items. The phthalates have suffered criticism because they can leach from plastic and be harmful to the environment and to people.

"There were numerous studies that have shown that some of these phthalates are carcinogenic and cause hormonal disruptions," said Kodali. "The use of renewable and natural resources to make alternate plasticizers that can substitute for phthalates, as is done in this project, provides a safer solution."

Although these technologies continue to undergo extensive application testing, the researchers hope the materials will make up an important piece of the rapidly growing bio-based polymer market.

"The global polymer market is hundreds of billions of dollars," said Hillmyer. "Our technologies could account for some fraction of this huge number."

Hillmyer's research has taken place over the past four years, supported by grants from the university's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment, the USDA and Natureworks LLC, an independent company wholly owned by Cargill. Kodali's project is in its third year and is funded by United Soybean Board, a farmer association that promotes the value of soybean products.

Further information about these technologies is available from Eric Hockert of the university's Office for Technology Commercialization at [ehockert@umn.edu](mailto:ehockert@umn.edu).

## Hmong Minnesotans partner with University of Minnesota in new DVD that teaches immigrants lessons on how to hunt, fish and enjoy the outdoors



Hmong immigrants can learn more about how to hunt, fish and enjoy the outdoors with the help of a new DVD produced through a partnership with the University of Minnesota.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/21/2011) —Hmong immigrants can learn more about how to hunt, fish and enjoy the outdoors with the help of a new DVD produced through a partnership with the University of Minnesota.

"Yos Hav Zoov" was written, acted, produced and directed by Hmong Minnesotans and is being distributed for free at community events this spring and summer. Michele Schermann, a research fellow at the university, led the project through a grant with David Bengston of the U.S. Forest Service.

The DVD uses a variety-show format starring Hmong actors to teach lessons about everything from accessing public lands to gun safety and which wild plants are safe. It even has Smokey Bear speaking -- in Hmong -- about fire prevention. Schermann has worked with immigrant communities for several years to help them learn about farm safety and health; the DVD came about through conversations that made it clear that while immigrants want to take advantage of Minnesota's natural resources, they didn't always understand the rules.

"People want to go outside, and they want to do the right things," Schermann says. "One of our most important public health issues is the need for people to be outdoors and be active, so this is a way to help them do that."

Schermann will be distributing the DVD's at the 15th annual Hmong National Conference from Friday, April 22 to Sunday, April 24, at the Marriott City Center Hotel, 30 S. Seventh St., Minneapolis, Minnesota.

She, Bengston, Fong Heu, May Lee-Yang, Kao Thao, and Tou Thai Lee will also present the workshop "Innovative Solutions to Conservation Education: Integrating Hmong Cultural Traditions, Art and Research" from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. Friday at the convention in the Lafayette Bay room.

The workshop will summarize the research-based project to create the DVD using Hmong artists and traditional Hmong cultural themes to deliver modern-day conservation education messages in an entertaining manner.

Media note: For copies of the DVD and to arrange interviews with the writers, actors and director, contact Schermann at (612) 624-7444. The DVD will be distributed at this weekend's Hmong National Development Conference in Minneapolis.

## Dialogue Earth announces winners of crowd-sourced energy video contest

U of M Institute on the Environment affiliate sets the stage for yearlong Media Challenge focused on energy topics

**Media Note:** View winning videos at [www.dialogueearth.org/2011/04/18/energy-videos-set-the-stage-for-dialogue-earth-media-challenge](http://www.dialogueearth.org/2011/04/18/energy-videos-set-the-stage-for-dialogue-earth-media-challenge).

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/21/2011) —Dialogue Earth, a University of Minnesota Institute on the Environment–affiliated media enterprise focused on increasing public understanding on societal issues, today announced the winners of a crowd-sourced video contest to explain the sources and uses of energy. The contest sets the stage for Dialogue Earth's yearlong Media Challenge, focused on explaining a variety of energy-related topics.

The energy video contest was Dialogue Earth's second successful test of the crowd's ability to accurately convey key science points in an engaging, non-advocacy manner.

Participants were provided a background document with information about how the U.S. sources, distributes and uses energy and were instructed to produce an engaging 60- to 90-second video. The only guidance they received was to keep the video free of additional content, opinions or calls to action.

“Dialogue Earth doesn’t advocate for any particular position, issue or organization, and the winning videos reflect that,” said Kent Cavender-Bares, Dialogue's Earth founder. “Our vision is to become a trusted information provider and to avoid the political pitfalls associated with simultaneously providing information and taking sides on societal issues.”

Dialogue Earth provided \$15,000 in total prize money, spread throughout multiple rounds of competition.

### Yearlong Media Challenge

This energy video contest sets the stage for the Dialogue Earth Media Challenge, a yearlong series of video competitions focused on a variety energy topics, scheduled to kick off July 1, 2011.

“We chose energy as an umbrella topic because it is a key component of so many important societal issues,” said Cavender-Bares.

The Media Challenge will consist of 10 crowd-sourced video contests, each focused on conveying a few key science points about a specific energy topic. The dozens of topics being considered include renewable energy sources like solar, wind and biomass; fossil fuels like coal and oil; nuclear energy; transportation and hybrid vehicles; energy storage; and energy efficiency in business and at home.

Throughout the Media Challenge, Dialogue Earth plans to leverage its Pulse social media analytics tool to monitor the volume and sentiment of online conversations about energy, helping to determine areas of confusion and contention in the dialogue.

Guided by a steering committee of energy thought leaders, the Media Challenge will result in multimedia content available for use by groups including media outlets, schools and educators, and various energy organizations.

### The Winning Videos

1st place: “Marvin and Sprinkles,” by Robert Deutsch  
[www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/0/OQgcZ5VHhLU](http://www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/0/OQgcZ5VHhLU)

2nd place: “Uncle Sam’s Dinner,” by Henry Reich  
[www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/1/8qv7-q5kLjw](http://www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/1/8qv7-q5kLjw)

3rd place: “Energy Is Fun,” by Andre Ferreira  
[www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/2/5RVwe9U6\\_Ng](http://www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/2/5RVwe9U6_Ng)

4th place: “Energy Is All Around Us,” by Cuyler Bryant  
[www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/3/4SWc8H4BCy4](http://www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/3/4SWc8H4BCy4)

5th place: “Turbo Charged Earth,” by Jeffrey King  
[www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/4/JVtRKqmdG6Y](http://www.youtube.com/dialogueearth#p/u/4/JVtRKqmdG6Y)

### About Dialogue Earth

Learn more at [www.dialogueearth.org](http://www.dialogueearth.org) and on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/dialogueearth](http://www.twitter.com/dialogueearth).

## University of Minnesota mourns student losses

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (04/22/2011) —The following is a statement from University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts Dean James Parente regarding Thursday's tragic traffic fatality of a student near the U of M and the recent severe injuries of a student earlier in the week:

"Thursday was an extraordinarily sad day in the College of Liberal Arts. Yesterday morning we received news that Ben Van Handel, an economics major from Appleton, Wisconsin, would not survive the injuries he suffered when he was struck by a hit-and-run driver last Friday. We also learned that Audrey (Kimberly Yeong Sil) Hull, a communication studies major from St. Paul, was killed in a collision while biking to campus yesterday morning.

"We join their families and friends, and the broader university community, in mourning their devastating loss.

"Both Ben and Audrey were seniors who were about to graduate this spring, so the college will award their degrees posthumously. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Ben and Audrey's parents, family and friends at this very difficult time."

## U of M Consortium on Law and Values to host conference on return of research results and findings from genomic biobanks and archives

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**April 25, 2011**

The University of Minnesota's Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences will host a major conference on "Should We Return Research Results and Incidental Findings from Genomic Biobanks & Archives," from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, May 19, at Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, 5701 Marinelli Road, Bethesda, Md.

The conference is sponsored by the U of M's Consortium on Law and Values thanks to a grant from the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), National Institutes of Health (NIH). This grant funds a 2-year project that was convened to develop normative consensus recommendations on managing incidental findings (IFs) and individual research results (IRRs) in genomic research using biobanks and large archives.

University of Minnesota Law School professor Susan Wolf is the principal investigator in this project. Co-principal investigators include U of M professors Jeffery Kahn, Frances Lawrenz and Brian Van Ness.

In order to understand the genetic contribution to a host of diseases and conditions of great importance to public health, scientists are increasingly assembling large biobanks, archiving many individuals' DNA and health information for scientific reanalysis over time. This project brings leading experts on bioethics, genomics, biobanking and law to recommend policies and practices on return of both incidental findings and individual research results that may have importance for the donor.

The May 19 conference will include a keynote session on genomic biobanks and archives facing the problem of incidental findings and return of research results. The project investigators will then present their recommendations to conference attendees, and a panel of experts will provide input before opening up the discussion to the audience.

Break-out sessions will focus on biobank structure and governance, what findings should be returned, returning findings from secondary research, engaging specific populations on managing incidental findings and an empirical assessment of returning incidental findings and research results. For more information, visit [www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/conferences/2011\\_ifbb/about](http://www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/conferences/2011_ifbb/about).

### **About the consortium**

The Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences links together 19 university-wide centers and crosses all colleges. The consortium performs groundbreaking research, develops cutting-edge programming, and trains new leaders in law, health and the life sciences. For more information, visit [www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu](http://www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu).

## University of Minnesota student government to hold its Spring Safety Walk tonight to find areas around campus that pose safety concerns

Two U of M students who died last week will be honored during walk

**Media Note:** Walk will take place even in the rain

**Who:** Minnesota Student Association

**What:** Spring Safety Walk

**When:** Meet at 7:30 p.m. and safety walk will be from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m.

**Where:** Meet in room 235 Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

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**April 26, 2011**

The Minnesota Student Association (MSA) will hold its Spring Safety Walk from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. tonight, April 26.

Students will join with the University of Minnesota Police Department, neighborhood associations, MSA, the Aurora Center, Housing and Residential Life and other groups in finding places in and around campus that pose safety concerns.

"The goal of this walk is to point out unsafe areas on campus so that changes can be made to make the U a safer place," said John Worden, director of Facilities, Transit and Housing for MSA.

MSA coordinates safety walks once or twice per year and today's walk was planned before any of the recent tragedies involving U of M students, but the two students who died last week will be honored during the walk tonight. Kimberly (Audrey) Yeong Sil Hull was killed April 21 after a truck struck her while she was riding her bike near campus. Benjamin Van Handel died the same day after being injured on April 15 when he and three other students were run down by a car on a sidewalk near campus.

For more information about the walk, visit: [www.msa.umn.edu/2011/04/26/safety-walk-tonight/](http://www.msa.umn.edu/2011/04/26/safety-walk-tonight/)

U of M  
Outstanding  
Achievement  
Award  
honoree Dale  
Bachman  
kicks off  
special urban  
garden  
project April  
30



Garden will provide food and science lessons and summer jobs for North Minneapolis' Jordan neighborhood youth

Dale Bachman, CEO and chairman of Bachman's, Inc., graduated from the U of M in 1972 with a bachelor's degree in plant and soil science.

**What:** Community gardening project kickoff at Outstanding Achievement Award ceremony

**When:** 10 a.m. Saturday, April 30

**Where:** Oak Park Center, 1701 Oak Park Ave. N. (near Highway 55 and Penn Ave. N.), Minneapolis

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

**April 26, 2011**

A newly expanded garden at Oak Park Center in the Jordan neighborhood of Minneapolis' Near Northside will be growing food, science lessons and summer jobs for youth, thanks in part to Dale Bachman, recipient of the University of Minnesota Outstanding Achievement Award.

The garden expansion begins as part of a ceremony on April 30 honoring Bachman, who opted out of the typical formal awards ceremony and requested supporting a community project instead. Labor and gardening materials are being donated by Bachman and his wife, Ruth.

The ceremony begins with the planting activity at 10 a.m., followed by a program and award presentation. Speakers include Tim Kenny, University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum education director, who will describe the Urban Garden program. Karen Beamon, a graduate of the program and now one of the program leaders, will talk about how this experience influenced her life. University President Robert Bruininks will also make remarks and present the award to Bachman.

The site is operated by the arboretum's Urban Gardening initiative, in which youth in the community maintain gardens as part of a program to teach urban agriculture and science, and to engage teens and young adults in a summer employment program.

The garden expansion will mark the third year that Oak Park has been a site for the arboretum's Urban Garden program. For 23 years, the Urban Garden initiative has provided children from diverse economic and cultural backgrounds an opportunity to forge connections with nature and experience science in meaningful ways. Through the support of community and philanthropic partners, the initiative has evolved to meet community needs, including out-of-school time outreach, youth employment and building higher education aspirations.

"In addition to celebrating the personal and professional achievements of Dale Bachman, we also want to recognize his volunteer leadership at the university and within the broader community," said University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks. "His decision to pay tribute to the arboretum's Urban Gardening program is an example of his extraordinary generosity and commitment, and we are grateful for his contributions."

"The Urban Garden program has blossomed under the guidance of Tim Kenny in engaging youth to be curious about plants in their daily lives as well as preparing young adults to be leaders," said Edward Schneider, director of the arboretum. "We are appreciative of Mr. Bachman's support to expand the program further."

Other urban gardening sites include the south Minneapolis Phillips, Prospect Park and Eliot Park neighborhoods. The Near Northside's Jordan neighborhood, where Oak Park Center is located, has seen a growth of 33 percent in school-age youth. Revitalizing the "urban garden" at Oak Park Center will benefit the students with new plant science learning and experience, help promote urban agriculture and nutritious eating and add edible and ornamental greenery to the city landscape for all to enjoy.

The University of Minnesota's Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes graduates who have attained unusual distinction in their chosen profession and demonstrated achievement and leadership on a community, state, national or international level. Bachman, who earned a bachelor's degree in plant and soil science in 1972, is being recognized for his role in building Bachman's, the family business founded by his great-grandfather in 1885. He has also been an active volunteer leader in a variety of state and national horticultural organizations and has led the industry in taking steps to increase environmentally-sound practices.

**Note:** Photos of the Urban Garden program at Oak Park in previous years are available by e-mailing [jhohmann@umn.edu](mailto:jhohmann@umn.edu). Photos of the April 30 event will be available on Monday, May 2, and can be requested by e-mailing [smcgraw@umn.edu](mailto:smcgraw@umn.edu).

U of M  
Heller-  
Hurwicz  
Economics  
Institute to  
explore the  
intersections  
of economics  
and  
psychology  
May 4



Event ties into debate sparked by Amy Chua's "Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother"

Aldo Rustichini (left) is a professor in the Department of Economics and Robert Krueger (right) is the Hathaway Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychology.

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**April 27, 2011**

Two prominent University of Minnesota faculty, Aldo Rustichini and Robert Krueger, are the featured speakers at a special U of M Heller-Hurwicz Economics Institute's (HHEI) forum on "Psychology and Economics: Perspectives on Decision Making."

The event takes place 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, May 4, at University Hall, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. It is free and open to the public. Registration is required at [z.umn.edu/hhei5411](http://z.umn.edu/hhei5411).

Research shows that economic success relates to a combination of cognitive skills, human capital accumulation and personality characteristics. Now, researchers are trying to formulate more accurate predictions of life outcomes, from educational achievement to economic success.

The recent debate on the relative virtues of different approaches to education and parenting (such as the discussions around Amy Chua's "Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother") have made clear the need for a systematic evaluation of how character shaping, the formation of social skills and academics enter into economic and personal success – or compromise it, in the case of psychopathological tendencies.

Krueger and Rustichini will present and debate on this topic and related policy implications. The discussion will be moderated by Art Rolnick.

To see a video interview of Rustichini and Krueger discussing these topics and more, visit <http://youtu.be/ra5RjaAwh20>.

**About the speakers and moderator**

Krueger is the Hathaway Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychology. His work focuses on psychopathology and related behavioral problems and their social costs. The method he uses develops empirically-based models of the individual difference domains that underlie tendencies to develop psychopathology.

Rustichini is a professor in the Department of Economics. He does research in microeconomic theory, game theory, experimental economics and neuroeconomics.

Rolnick serves as a co-director for the Human Capital Research Collaborative at the University of Minnesota and is a Humphrey School of Public Affairs senior fellow. He previously served at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis as a senior vice president and director of research and as an associate economist with the Federal Open Market Committee – the monetary policymaking body for the Federal Reserve System. He is a board member of several Minneapolis nonprofit firms, including the Minnesota Early Learning Foundation and Ready 4 K, an advocacy organization for early childhood development.

**About the U of M Department of Economics and HHEI**

Launched in late 2010, HHEI is a new global initiative in the U of M College of Liberal Arts' Department of Economics, created to inform and influence public policy by supporting and promoting frontier economic research and by communicating its findings to leading academics, policymakers and business executives around the world.

The institute is named after Walter Heller and Leo Hurwicz, world-leading economics scholars who were faculty members at the University of Minnesota from the early 1950s through the 1980s.

The U of M Department of Economics consistently ranks among the nation's top economics programs. A recent survey showed that Ph.D. graduates of the department hold faculty positions at over 110 colleges and universities, including eight of the top ten rated departments of economics, eight Big Ten universities and a number of selective liberal arts colleges. They also hold faculty positions at fifteen Canadian universities and forty-five other foreign universities. They serve on the staffs of seven Federal Reserve Banks and the Board of Governors; six United States cabinet departments; a large number of ministries and agencies of foreign governments; and major international economic agencies, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

For more information about HHEI, Heller and Hurwicz, visit <http://hhei.umn.edu>.



## Media approved for press credentials for "Minnesota Visit" of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama have been notified by e-mail



Series of new, official events now extends from May 6 to 8

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**April 28, 2011**

The University of Minnesota's Center for Spirituality & Healing (CSH) and the Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM) have notified media who have been approved for press credentials for the May 6-8 "One Heart, One Mind, One Universe" visit by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama.

For more detailed information about these events, please visit [www.dalailama.umn.edu](http://www.dalailama.umn.edu) and click on "For Media."

The Minnesota Visit now features six planned events. Please see below for more detailed information relevant to media check-in as well as process and flow for the events. Please remember to bring a photo ID and your news organization's press pass to all events that you attend.

### Events

**Official and private University Welcome:** 2:30 p.m. Friday, May 6 at, Eastcliff, 176 N. Mississippi River Boulevard, St. Paul. Although media are not permitted official entrance to Eastcliff for this event, it will be the University of Minnesota's official welcome to His Holiness upon his state arrival. It is expected that the Tibetan community will feature cultural dancing and outdoor entertainment, lining the street to greet His Holiness as he arrives in Minnesota.

**KIPO! World Premiere at Rarig Center:** 7 p.m. Friday, May 6, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. CSH and TigerLion Arts are pleased and excited to add a cultural component to the visit of His Holiness. The world premiere of "KIPO!" celebrates the Dalai Lama's culture and lineage with a "circus of spirit, song and dance from Tibet, the Land of Snow."

**Meet the Press: His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama greets Minnesota media:** 9 to 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 7 at the Marquette Hotel, 710 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis. (Media needs to arrive at 7:30 a.m. for security clearance -- in main lobby -- latecomers will not be admitted)

**Medicine Buddha Empowerment:** A Tibetan Cultural and Spiritual Ceremony Promoting Personal and Societal Healing featuring His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, May 8 at Mariucci Arena, 1901 Fourth St. S.E., Minneapolis. Media need to be at this entrance by 8 a.m. for security clearance in the Mariucci West Lobby, between Mariucci and Ridder Arenas that is between Fourth and Fifth Streets S.E. Latecomers will not be admitted. Media must arrive at this time for coverage of this day's events. There is NOT an afternoon call time for media. If you do not arrive at 8 a.m. for security clearance, you will not be permitted access to Mariucci on May 8.)

**Peace Through Inner Peace: A Public Address featuring His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama** will be held from 2 to 3:30 p.m., May 8 at Mariucci Arena. (8 a.m. arrival for security clearance in the Mariucci West Lobby, see above.)

**Second International Tibetan Medicine Conference: Healing Mind & Body** from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 9 at the University Radisson Metrodome Hotel. (His Holiness is not expected to attend this conference.) Media should arrive for media check in at 8:30 a.m. at registration desk on second floor)

### Media logistics on Sunday, May 8

#### Media check-in

For the Sunday, May 8 events featuring His Holiness the Dalai Lama, please note that media check-in will be at the West Lobby of Mariucci Arena (between 4th and 5th Streets, between Mariucci and Ridder Arenas). **You must be at this entrance no later than 8:00 a.m. or you will not be admitted to the morning or afternoon events on May 8.** There will be a check-in inside where you will pick up your security badge. Please be aware that you will go through a security screening similar to what you would experience at an airport. Additionally, your equipment will need to be placed in the "equipment area" for the security sweep. **Please be aware that the equipment must stay in Mariucci Arena because there will be only one security sweep of equipment. If equipment leaves the building, it will not be allowed back in.**

**Special note:** If you are only interested in coverage of the afternoon event on May 8, you will still need to obtain your security credentials at 8 a.m. but you are free to leave. However, you will need to go through security again but at the main entrance. Please plan accordingly, as we anticipate long lines.

#### Close-up photo opportunities

Between 9 to 9:15 a.m., media interested will be escorted to the floor of the arena for a close photo opportunity of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. There will be a media photo opportunity at 9:30 a.m. for two minutes. Please note that there will be little to no set up time for your camera equipment. At approximately 9:32 a.m. you will be escorted back to the Press Box, where you will have the opportunity to remain, or you can continue your coverage of the events on the main concourse. Security will be at the stairs and elevators to verify credentials and to readmit media to Press Box. (Please note: Equipment may remain in the Press Box area between morning and afternoon events.) If you are only interested in coverage of the May 8 afternoon event, you will still need to obtain your security credentials at 8 a.m. but are free to leave afterwards. However, you will need to be rescreened at main entrance upon your reentry. Please plan accordingly, as we anticipate long lines.

For the "Peace through Inner Peace" 2:00 p.m. public address, media will again be escorted to the floor of the arena for a close photo opportunity of His Holiness at approximately 1:45 p.m.

At 2:00 p.m. another two-minute photo opportunity will be provided. Again, please note that there will be little to no set up time for your camera equipment. At approximately 2:02 p.m., you will again be escorted back to the Press Box, where you will have the opportunity to remain, or you can continue your coverage of the address on the main concourse. Security will be at the stairs and elevators to verify credentials and to readmit media to Press Box.

### Background information on Tibetan Americans and the Dalai Lama

Minnesota has the second largest concentration of Tibetan Americans in the United States. The Dalai Lama's return to the state coincides with the official launch of the Tibetan Healing Initiative (THI) at the CSH. For the last eight years, the CSH has offered graduate courses in traditional Tibetan medicine. These courses bring students to India annually to visit practitioners at the Men-Tsee-Khang in Dharmasala. New THI initiatives will include research on the benefits of blending Tibetan healing with conventional health practices and integrating Tibetan practices into regional clinic and hospital settings.

The Dalai Lama was born in Tibet 75 years ago. At age two, he was recognized as the 14th Dalai Lama continuing a line of political and spiritual leaders spanning six centuries. Living in exile in India since 1959, the Dalai Lama won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989 and makes frequent speaking engagements around the world promoting non-violence and secular ethics. He frequently states that his life is guided by three major commitments: the promotion of basic human values or secular ethics in the interest of human happiness; the fostering of inter-religious harmony; and the welfare of the Tibetan people, focusing on the survival of their identity, culture and religion.

## University of Minnesota solar car to race at Indianapolis Speedway May 5-7

U of M team won the Formula Sun Grand Prix in 2009

### Media Note:

Members of the Solar Vehicle Project team will be available for interviews at their St. Paul campus shop on Friday, April 29, and Saturday, April 30. The team is leaving for Indianapolis on Sunday, May 1.



The U of M team will be driving their current car named Centaurus II that was built for last year's cross-country race.

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### April 28, 2011

University of Minnesota students from the College of Science and Engineering Solar Vehicle Project team will get a thrill of a lifetime when they race their solar-powered car at the famous "Brickyard" track at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on May 5-7 in the Formula Sun Grand Prix. The American Solar Challenge event is part of the 100-year anniversary celebration of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

The Formula Sun Grand Prix is a track event that is held on grand prix or road-style closed courses. This unique style of racing truly tests the limits of solar cars in handling curves, braking and acceleration. Race strategy during these three-day events is different than what teams use in the alternate-year cross-country event.

The University of Minnesota solar car team won the 2009 Formula Sun Grand Prix, completing 827 miles powered only by the sun. Last year, the team came in second place in the 1,100 cross-country American Solar Challenge race.

"We're very excited about our chances of doing well in the race this year," said student team leader Jonathan Nutzmann, a junior majoring in electrical engineering. "We have a very reliable car, and we're ready to take on some good competitors."

University students on 10 teams from across the country will arrive in Indianapolis on Monday, May 2, where they will prepare for a series of inspections. The actual racing begins on Thursday, May 5.

The University of Minnesota team will be driving their current car named Centaurus II that was built for last year's cross-country race. Centaurus II is the ninth car in the team's 21-year history. Upgrades to the vehicle over the last year have been focused on concept testing for the design of the next generation Centaurus III car expected to be unveiled next spring.

For more information about the team, visit their website at [www.svp.umn.edu](http://www.svp.umn.edu).

Follow the team throughout the race on Twitter: [@umnsvp](https://twitter.com/umnsvp).

## U of M Asian American Studies Program to host student shadowing Friday, April 29

Asian American students, many of them children of immigrants, will get their first taste of college



Erika Lee is the director of the Asian American Studies Program.

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### **April 28, 2011**

As part of its Asian American Partners for Tomorrow (AAPT) program, the University of Minnesota's Asian American Studies Program is hosting its annual "Shadow the U" College Day on Friday, April 29.

Shadow the U invites local Asian American high school students and their parents to the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Shadow the U promotes post-secondary education for Asian American students and empowers these potential college students to succeed academically by providing a unique on-campus experience at the university.

During this daylong event, 30 high school students from Brooklyn Center High School and Hmong College Prep Academy will meet current undergraduate students, faculty and staff, and learn about resources and services that can prepare them for college admission and academic readiness. Participants will attend a series of workshops to help prepare them for college, on the topics of admissions, financial aid and career exploration in higher education. High school students will also shadow an undergraduate student to experience a college classroom. Parents will attend a mock class and speak with the financial aid office, as well as tour the campus and learn about support resources.

"The Shadow the U program could not be more timely," says Erika Lee, director of the Asian American Studies Program. "Asian Americans are often thought of as high academic achievers, but the reality is far more complicated. Southeast Asian Americans, who make up the majority of Asian American students at the University of Minnesota and in the Twin Cities, are an overlooked and growing population of students who are at risk educationally. Our students know first-hand what it is like to be the first in their families to attend college and with them we're trying to help these high school students prepare for and succeed in college."

## State FFA convention returns to University of Minnesota campus May 1-3

**Media Note:** Reporters are welcome to cover the convention. Interviews with students from your coverage area can be arranged. Media headquarters will be in Room 156 of the Continuing Education Center, 1890 Buford Ave., on the St. Paul campus starting at 8 a.m. Monday, May 2. If you have specific students you would like to interview, please use this link:

<https://cfans.wufoo.com/forms/minnesota-state-ffa-convention-media-registration>.

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### April 29, 2011

The 82nd annual Minnesota State FFA Convention will bring more than 3,000 high school students to the University of Minnesota campus from May 1-3.

"give2grow" is this year's convention theme. Students will have a number of opportunities to develop leadership and communication skills, gain career and agricultural knowledge and gather new ideas from prominent agricultural leaders and fellow FFA members.

"FFA prepares young people to lead and solve the problems that confront our society. We're pleased to host this group of future leaders in the ag and natural resource communities," says Allen Levine, dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences at the U of M.

At the convention, FFA members and their chapters are recognized for their accomplishments during the past year. Ceremonies honor Minnesota FFA degree recipients, state proficiency award winners and recognize the State Stars in entrepreneurship, placement, business and agri-science. Workshops on a wide variety of topics are taught by dozens of FFA alumni, business leaders and University of Minnesota faculty and staff.

FFA is a national youth organization of more than 500,000 student members. In Minnesota, more than 8,900 members participate in 175 chapters throughout the state. The College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences is a highly ranked research, teaching and outreach organization committed to helping solve problems through science. More information about the college is available at [www.cfans.umn.edu](http://www.cfans.umn.edu).

## U of M engineering seniors present their innovations at May 3 show

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A student works on her senior design project, a set of solar-powered garments - one of many innovations being displayed at the show. Each of the garments includes integrated solar panels that power electronics in the garment.

### May 2, 2011

Clothing with embedded solar cells that can charge electronics, a long-distance sensor for the Woodbury Police Department's K9 unit and a prototype of a wheelchair that can easily switch between standing and sitting positions are just a few of the innovations undergraduate engineering students will present at this spring's University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering Spring Senior Design Show from 2-4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, at the University of Minnesota Coffman Memorial Union, Great Hall, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The event features more than 50 problem-solving innovations and cutting-edge research projects designed by seniors from the university's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Visitors will see the students work and talk with them about their design and research process.

The students are part of the Senior Design class, a four-credit, semester-long course for students in their senior year, with the main objective of providing students with a real-world, team-based design experience through which they develop an appreciation of design methodology and team dynamics, along with refining their oral and written communications skills. Each team of four to six students participates in solving an open-ended design problem starting from developing well-defined project requirements/specifications and concluding with a functioning prototype.

This year for the first time, students in the yearlong Senior Honors Project are also presenting their research posters as part of the show. These students carried out their projects during a two-semester capstone research and design experience.

Projects originate from both industry and faculty sponsors, often require an interdisciplinary effort, and typically have multiple paths for solution and implementation entailing trade-offs between performance, cost and ability to be manufactured.

For a full list of the senior engineering design projects at this spring's show, visit <http://z.umn.edu/seniordesign>.



## U of M President Robert Bruininks to testify before Minnesota House and Senate conference committee on higher education Tuesday, May 3

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**May 2, 2011**

University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will testify before the Minnesota House and Senate conference committee on higher education hearing scheduled for 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, in the basement hearing room, State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul.

Bruininks will testify about the impact of proposed budget cuts on the university and its students.

## Nobel Laureate to give U of M College of Biological Sciences



Victor Bloomfield, U of M biochemistry professor and administrator, was Phillip Sharp's advisor when he was a graduate student in the late 1960s. Bloomfield, who is retiring this year, will introduce Sharp at commencement.

## commencement address and receive honorary doctorate

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**May 3, 2011**

Phillip Sharp, who won the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, will give the College of Biological Sciences (CBS) commencement address on Saturday, May 14, and receive an honorary doctor of science degree from the University of Minnesota during a symposium on Friday, May 13. The commencement ceremony begins at 7:30 p.m. in Mariucci Arena, 1901 Fourth St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Sharp received the Nobel Prize for his 1977 discovery that genes contain "nonsense" segments that cells delete as they use genetic information. The discovery fundamentally changed understanding of the structure of genes and contributed to the rise of genetic engineering as a tool for science and industry.

Victor Bloomfield, CBS biochemistry professor and university administrator, was Sharp's advisor when he was a graduate student at the University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana) in the late 1960s. Bloomfield, who is retiring this year, will introduce Sharp at commencement.

"I knew he was destined for great things when he was my graduate student, and I followed his career with growing admiration," Bloomfield said. "He's one of the most influential scientists of our time, yet he's very unpretentious and has a good sense of humor."

Sharp was born and raised in rural Kentucky, where his parents, who were tenant farmers, hoped to send him to college. When he was young, they gave him a cow so he could sell its calves and save the money for his education. They also provided him with a fraction of an acre to grow tobacco and use the proceeds for college. He maintains strong ties to his family and his hometown, Fairmouth, where a middle school and street are named after him.

After earning his Ph.D. from Illinois in 1969, Sharp did postdoctoral research in molecular biology at Cal Tech. He then spent three years at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, where he worked under James Watson, who shared the 1953 Nobel Prize for discovering the helical structure of DNA. In 1974 Sharp moved to MIT, where he is now a member of the Koch Institute for Cancer Research and an Institute Professor, MIT's highest academic rank. His research has focused on the molecular biology of gene expression relevant to cancer and mechanisms of RNA splicing. In 1978, shortly after his landmark discovery, he founded Biogen, a pioneering biotech company.

Sharp has trained dozens of doctoral students at MIT, including Andrew Fire, who won the 2006 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for discovering RNA interference. In addition to his other accomplishments, he has dedicated a significant amount of his time to providing scientific leadership to academia, government and industry.

Bloomfield is retiring after 40 years of service to the university as a researcher, teacher and administrator, which included leadership for the CBS Biochemistry Department and the U of M Graduate School and Office for Public Engagement. Raised by a single mother who supported the family with a modest chicken ranch in northern California, he earned a B.S. from UC Berkeley and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Several years ago, he used the proceeds from selling his mother's land to establish a graduate fellowship for biochemistry students.

Both Sharp and Bloomfield will be at the annual Bollum Symposium hosted by the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics on Friday, May 13, from 1 to 5 p.m. in Mayo Auditorium, Mayo Memorial Building, 420 Delaware St. S.E., Minneapolis. Sharp will deliver a lecture and receive an honorary doctor of science degree. Bloomfield will be recognized by university President Robert Bruininks, CBS Dean Robert Elde and Department Head David Bernlohr for his many contributions to research, teaching and administration at the University of Minnesota.

## U of M geology and geophysics professor elected to the National Academy of Sciences

R. Lawrence  
Edwards is best  
known for his climate  
change research



University of Minnesota geology and geophysics professor R. Lawrence Edwards in the College of Science and Engineering was elected today as a member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences (NAS).

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/03/2011) —University of Minnesota geology and geophysics professor R. Lawrence Edwards in the College of Science and Engineering was elected today as a member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) for his excellence in original scientific research. Membership in the NAS is one of the highest honors given to a scientist or engineer in the United States.

“This is the honor of a career, and an honor for Minnesota as well,” Edwards said. “It recognizes the research carried out at the University of Minnesota, as I have spent my entire professional career here.”

Edwards is known worldwide for his development of extremely precise methods for measuring the ages of rocks and how that relates to climate change. To determine the age of rocks, he uses the “uranium-thorium” (also called the “thorium-230”) dating method, in which he must detect incredibly small amounts of the elements uranium and thorium. He uses these methods to date rocks found in caves in China to document climate change patterns in history.

By also measuring the proportions of different forms of oxygen, he can tell how much rain fell at the time the rock was deposited. He and his research team have tracked the monsoons with great accuracy back 400,000 years, when *Homo erectus*, not *Homo sapiens*, inhabited the region.

In more recent research, Edwards and his colleagues published research on a rock found in 2007 in a Chinese cave that contained what was determined to be a 100,000-year-old jawbone. In dating the rock with the jawbone, Edwards raised profound questions of whether modern humans could have made it across the vast expanse of Asia far earlier than suspected. Because the remains also bore characteristics of more primitive humans who were already in the area, it is possible that the two groups could have coexisted for some time the way moderns and Neanderthals did in Europe.

“Edwards’ research findings are groundbreaking. We are proud of his accomplishments and his election to the National Academy of Sciences,” said Steven L. Crouch, dean of the University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering. “Like many of our faculty, he is humble about his ongoing, cutting-edge research. We’re happy he’s in the spotlight with this honor.”

Edwards is one of only 72 researchers nationwide to be elected to the National Academy of Sciences this year. He will be inducted into the Academy next April during its 149th annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Among the Academy’s renowned members are Albert Einstein, Robert Oppenheimer, Thomas Edison, Orville Wright and Alexander Graham Bell. More than 180 living Academy members have won Nobel Prizes.

The National Academy of Sciences is an honorific society of distinguished scholars engaged in scientific and engineering research, dedicated to the furtherance of science and technology and to their use for the general welfare.



## U of M medical devices fellows to visit Japan

Trip aims to help Minnesota medical start-ups understand Japanese regulatory process

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**May 3, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows will begin a week-long mission on May 6 to learn more about the Japanese medical device industry to help medical start-up companies in Minnesota.

During their trip to Tokyo, Nagano, and Osaka, the four fellows will meet with various leaders in the medical device industry ranging from corporate executives to government officials and physicians at top medical centers. The highlight of the trip will be a meeting with the executive staff and reviewers at the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency in Japan, the equivalent of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Success in the field of medical devices increasingly relies on having a global strategy, and Japan is seen by many as one of the dominant players in the global medtech economy. Japan in particular is known for having maintained high standards of quality and safety in medicine as well as medical devices.

“While the Japanese market and obtaining Japanese regulatory approval is often seen as important for medical device companies, details of the regulatory process remain quite elusive due to the language barrier, especially for small start-up companies such as those coming out of the University of Minnesota,” said Kiyoyuki Miyasaka, one of this year’s four medical device innovation fellows. “One of the primary goals of our trip will be to gather specific information on where to begin this regulatory process and develop a roadmap of how to proceed.”

Miyasaka, who was born and raised in Tokyo, has an engineering degree from the U.S. and a medical degree from Japan. He initiated the idea for the fellows to visit Japan and has coordinated many of the details with the help of various industry and state groups such as the BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

“Because of my background, I believe I am situated to bypass the highly technical and costly language and cultural barriers that would normally be associated with an endeavor such as visiting Japan,” he said.

The Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows are part of a year-long, full immersion educational and intellectual property development program for medical devices at the University of Minnesota. A cross-disciplinary team, with a combination of degrees in engineering, medicine and biosciences, interface daily with faculty, medical professionals and industry collaborators to develop and test ideas for new medical devices with the goal to improve health care worldwide. The Medical Devices Center is part of the University of Minnesota’s Institute for Engineering and Medicine, a cooperative program between the university’s College of Science and Engineering and the Medical School.

Primary funding for the trip came from the University of Minnesota Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, Japan-North America Medical Exchange Foundation, University of Minnesota Pediatric Intensive Care Unit Fellows Fund, Japan Society of Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care Medicine, Nihon Kohden Corporation and other Japanese health care organizations.

For more information and online updates during the trip, visit <http://z.umn.edu/fellowsjapan>.

## School of Dentistry Dean Patrick Lloyd has been named dean of the College of Dentistry at Ohio State University

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**May 4, 2011**

The following is a statement from University of Minnesota Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Thomas Sullivan regarding today's announcement that School of Dentistry Dean Patrick Lloyd has been named dean of the College of Dentistry at Ohio State University:

“As you may have heard, Dean Patrick Lloyd is resigning his position as dean of the School of Dentistry to take a comparable position at Ohio State University. He will remain as dean here until August 1. I know you will join me in wishing Dean Lloyd every best wish as he assumes new challenges and opportunities at Ohio State University.

“I soon will be scheduling separate meetings with Dentistry faculty, staff, students and alumni to discuss next steps for nominating candidates for the interim dean position as well as nominations for dean search committee membership. As we move forward with these next steps, I will be in consultation with President Bruininks and President-designate Kaler so as to insure an effective and successful appointment of an interim dean and ultimately a search committee.”

## University of Minnesota researchers who map Antarctic are expanding work to include the Arctic

New NSF-funded Polar Geospatial Center will provide geospatial support for research in the most remote places on earth.

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University of Minnesota Department of Geology and Geophysics undergraduate student Spencer Niebuhr stands on Grootes Peak in Antarctica during a research trip in December 2010. One of the most unique things about the Polar Geospatial Center is that current University of Minnesota students conduct much of the research.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/05/2011) —University of Minnesota researchers, who have gained international acclaim for their work mapping the rugged terrain in Antarctica, are now expanding their scope to include research in the Arctic. The work is part of a nearly \$4 million, five-year cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Led by geology and geophysics staff member Paul Morin in the university's College of Science and Engineering, the Polar Geospatial Center (formerly the Antarctic Geospatial Information Center) will now provide logistical support and training for other researchers studying both of the Earth's poles.

"Our work impacts everything from research on the movement of glaciers to the study of penguin colonies to the landing of military aircraft in remote locations," said Morin. "We produce tailor-made solutions to help scientists do their job."

NSF began funding Morin and his team of four in 2007 with \$400,000 per year. The group has since grown to more than 10 members, and has also created a partnership with Google to keep polar data up-to-date in Google Earth and Google Maps for the Arctic and Antarctic. The Polar Geospatial Center is also contributing remote sensing expertise to David Attenborough's upcoming BBC documentary "Frozen Planet."

"Some of the maps we produce are the first of their kind of locations that no person has ever visited," Morin said.



The imagery also provides innovative ways of studying polar animals. Using high-resolution satellite imagery, Morin's and his staff have collaborated with researchers in the U.S. and around the world to complete the first-ever census of emperor penguins, and they've shown that the imagery can be used to count Weddell seals.

The Polar Geospatial Center staffs an office in the U.S. base, McMurdo Station, every year during the Antarctic summer. The center also provides support to research projects in Arctic Alaska, Siberia and Greenland.

"A real strength of the Polar Geospatial Center is its ability to address user needs using innovative and creative solutions," said Alexandra Isern, program director for the National Science Foundation's Antarctic Earth Sciences in the Office of Polar Programs. "This approach has made the center an essential asset that the research, education and logistical communities rely on to get their work done."

Morin said that one of the most unique things about his research team is that most of the team members are current University of Minnesota undergraduate and graduate students.

"With our work in Antarctica, students have been able to see first-hand that the bottom of the world is quite a beautiful place," Morin said. "It is much more than just a blank, white wasteland. It is full of breath-taking peaks and rock-strewn valleys studded with cerulean lakes. It's quite an experience just being there."

For more information about the Polar Geospatial Center, visit [www.pgc.umn.edu](http://www.pgc.umn.edu).

## Scientists sequence genomes of two major threats to American food and fuel

Work expected to help researchers develop effective control strategies

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/05/2011) —An international team of researchers co-led by a University of Minnesota scientist has sequenced the genomes of two fungal pathogens -- one that threatens global wheat supplies and another that limits production of a tree crop valued as a future source for biofuel.

The sequencing of the genetic codes of wheat stem rust pathogen (*Puccinia graminis*) and poplar leaf rust pathogen (*Melampsora larici-populina*) is expected to help researchers develop control strategies to address worldwide threats to wheat fields and tree plantations. The study, which was published this week in the early online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, was a six-year collaborative effort of USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, the University of Minnesota and the French National Institute for Agricultural Research.

The study represents the first genome-wide characterization of any rust fungus, a diverse group of more than 6,000 species, according to Les Szabo, a lead researcher on the project. Szabo works at the ARS Cereal Disease Laboratory on the university's St. Paul campus and is a member of the plant pathology department faculty.

Rust fungi are obligate biotrophs that depend on living tissue of their hosts for survival. These pathogens secrete proteins that enable them to block the host plant's defenses and steal nutrients. The research uncovered evidence that both pathogens have a large repertoire of "effector" proteins, an indication that they likely have adapted and co-evolved with their host plants, according to the study authors.

Because they need a host to survive, the pathogens can't be cultured in a laboratory and are notoriously hard to study. But the genetic sequencing opens a window into the never-ending arms race between these pathogens and their hosts, Szabo said.

Wheat stem rust has caused major epidemics of both barley and wheat worldwide. A new strain known as Ug99 has recently spread across Africa and into Central Asia, and is able to overcome most of the stem-rust-resistant wheat varieties developed over the past 50 years.

Poplar leaf rust can cause losses of up to 50 percent of annual growth in poplar tree plantations. Poplar is an important crop for the wood industry and is becoming increasingly important to the biofuel industry in the United States and Europe because their rapid and significant biomass production.

"These pathogens pose a great threat to two very important agricultural crops. The more we can learn about them, from the molecular underpinnings of the pathogenicity to their survival and spread, the better we will be able to develop effective, safe and long-lasting control strategies," said Marty Carson, ARS-CDL research leader. ARS is USDA's principal intramural scientific research agency, and the research supports the USDA priority of developing new sources of bioenergy and promoting international food security.

The team's sequence data, gathered since the projects began in 2004/2005, has been released in GenBank, a genetic database administered by the National Center for Biotechnology Information at the National Institutes of Health.

U.S.  
Department  
of State  
displays  
artwork by U  
of M  
professor  
David  
Feinberg in  
Kinshasa



**Media Note:** High-res photos of "Life is Struggle" can be accessed at

The artwork, "Life is Struggle," was made through David Feinberg's "Voice to Vision" collaborative studio project and will be displayed as part of the Kinshasa Embassy exhibition "Voices."

<http://art.umn.edu/press>. Details: Acrylic, wood, found objects, plexiglas, collage, 33" high x 27" wide.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/05/2011) —Sally Mansfield, curator with the United States Department of State's ART in Embassies Program, has chosen an artwork by David Feinberg, University of Minnesota Department of Art associate professor, for display at the U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

The artwork, "Life is Struggle," was made through Feinberg's "Voice to Vision" collaborative studio project and will be displayed as part of the Kinshasa Embassy exhibition "Voices." The exhibition addresses the voices and voicelessness of victims of genocide, rape, AIDS, homelessness, poverty and discrimination. It will be displayed for the tenure of U.S. Ambassador James Entwhistle, from spring 2011 to fall 2013.

According to Mansfield, "Professor Feinberg's 'Voice to Vision' project with Holocaust and genocide survivors is a perfect fit for this exhibition. His artwork 'Life is Struggle' addresses many issues of the exhibition simultaneously, in an admirably collaborative manner."

#### About "Voice to Vision"

The "Voice to Vision" collaborative project, directed by Feinberg, captures the extraordinary experiences of genocide survivors from different parts of the world. The stories of the survivors are first shared through dialogue, and then transformed into works of visual art through painting, drawing, collage and mixed media. Each artwork has been created through collaboration with a team of artists and genocide survivors. As the survivors share their experiences, members of the collaborative team exchange ideas and make creative decisions together to produce a work of art that reflects the convergence of each voice involved in the project.

It is the goal of the "Voice to Vision" project to inspire others to use the tools of dialogue and the visual arts to investigate, recover and protect their own indigenous narrative and emotional experiences. There have been six "Voice to Vision" projects; images and participants can be found here: <http://chgs.umn.edu/museum/exhibitions/voice>. "Life is Struggle" was created by "Voice to Vision" Five.

#### Description of "Life is Struggle"

All of the survivors and artists in "Voice to Vision" Five were involved in this collaborative piece. It began with a blank, arbitrary background consisting of a woodwork structure and a random design of yellow stripes. The survivors were asked to paint two symbols anywhere on the background.

Fred, from Hanover, Germany, chose the letter "A," painted in black in the top left corner. "A" stood for the first letter of the name of his only cousin, Aaltje. When Fred and his family fled to America to escape the Nazi regime, baby Aaltje and her family remained behind in Holland. They all were ultimately exterminated at Auschwitz. Fred also chose the model of an old man, in the bottom right corner, which reminded him of an "old wise man." The figure, which was broken, was fitting with the story Fred told: it was the destiny of so many elderly people to be murdered in the Holocaust.

Ting, from Sudan, chose the symbol "LIS," painted in white in the center of the piece, which stood for "life is struggle," and he chose the transparent airplane, which is enlarged in a photocopy on the bottom of the piece. The airplane reminded Ting of a "foreign structure" -- something man-made that was interfering with his culture and his people.

Bunkhean, from Cambodia, chose the broken wagon wheel, which reminded him of an ox-cart he was forced to drive in Cambodia and a representation of his broken country. He also chose the symbol of the skull and crossbones, painted in yellow below the wheel, to illustrate death.

Bunkhean's wife Bounna told her own story, passionately and tearfully. Bounna painted just one symbol, the pink star in the top right corner, which represented "love."

Christine, a Native American, chose a filmstrip, which symbolized the pornographic films she was forced to participate in as a child, and she chose the railroad crossing sign. Christine said that she has a "certain level of loathing and anxiety" when she sees trains, a feeling she couldn't verbalize.

Alice, from Rwanda, chose the cow because cows are important animals in Rwanda and are symbols of status. Alice also painted a blue tree at the bottom of the piece, representing a tree outside of her house that was cut down. She painted the tree blue because when she was living in a refugee center, there was a man who would come in and randomly choose which people would live and which people would die. When this man told people, "You, I want you," the people who were going to die became so frightened their skin turned blue.

After the survivor's contributions to the piece, the artist team tied the symbols together in a cohesive way.

The artists started with an enlarged photocopy of a synagogue, one of the synagogues destroyed during Kristallnacht, an anti-Jewish pogrom in Nazi Germany from November 9 to 10, 1938. During Kristallnacht, 91 Jews were murdered, and 25,000 to 30,000 were arrested and deported to concentration camps. More than 200 synagogues were destroyed. Fred saw this synagogue -- the very synagogue in our piece -- burning on the night his father secretly brought home a Torah, the most holy of Jewish writings, which was illegal to possess at the time. "LIS," or "life is struggle," became the centerpiece of the dome of the synagogue, and the expanded size of the synagogue connected the other symbols in the piece.

## U of M Chinese language students sweep Midwest competition

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/05/2011) —Three students from the University of Minnesota's Department of Asian Languages and Literatures (ALL) won first prizes at the second College Student Chinese Speech Contest of the Midwest Area on April 23 at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind. Forty contestants from 10 universities participated in the contest.

Peter Wagner, a post-secondary education student from Sandstone, Minn., won the only first prize for level one students; Anthony Dodge and Heather Kaus won the only first prizes for level two. Kaus is a communication studies major and Chinese minor from Northeast Minneapolis. Dodge is a native of Shoreview, Minn., and is an accounting and finance major, Chinese minor.

Contestants were required to give a prepared three minute speech in Chinese, followed by a cultural presentation such as a Chinese song, dance, painting, calligraphy, paper cut, puppet show, martial arts or musical performance. For example, Kaus spoke about her experiences studying in China, and then gave a realistic imitation of the Beijing Opera piece "Hong Niang." Wagner performed Chinese-style unicycling and juggling, while Dodge performed a traditional work, "The Butterfly Lovers," on cello.

Hong Wei, director of the Confucius Institute at Purdue University, sent a letter of congratulations, saying "Your students made a foremost impression on each of us, with their extraordinary speech and performance talents."

Kaus was also selected to participate in the 10th Chinese Bridge competition in Changsha, China, in August, where she will face winners from other regional competitions held around the world this spring.

The students were coached by many members of the U of M's Chinese language program, led by instructor Ling Wang. This is not the first time U of M students have swept this competition; at the first event, in 2007, U of M students won five first prizes. Their trip this year was sponsored by ALL and the university's Confucius Institute.

## Logistics and final instructions for approved media for "Minnesota Visit" of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama at events May 6-9



Important press information for events where His Holiness will be in attendance

**Media Note:** All media covering either of the Sunday, May 8 public events will need to check in by 8 a.m. to receive credentials and for security clearance. If you do not arrive at 8 a.m. for security clearance, you will not be permitted access to Mariucci At All on May 8.

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### May 6, 2011

The University of Minnesota's Center for Spirituality & Healing (CSH) and the Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM) have notified media who have been approved for press credentials for the May 6-8 "One Heart, One Mind, One Universe" visit by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. **If you have not received a correspondence by the hosts at this time, you will not be permitted in to the weekend events.**

Please see below for detailed information relevant to media check-in as well as the process and flow for the events where His Holiness will be in attendance. Please remember to bring a photo ID and your news organization's press pass to all events that you attend.

**Official and Private University Welcome:** 2:30 p.m. Friday, May 6 at Eastcliff, 176 N. Mississippi River Boulevard, St. Paul. **Media are not permitted entrance to the University of Minnesota's official welcome.** However, it is expected that the Tibetan community will gather along the streets for His Holiness' arrival, providing multiple photo opportunities, including cultural dancing and other outdoor entertainment.

**Meet the Press:** His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama greets Minnesota media: 9 to 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 7 at the Marquette Hotel, 710 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis. **(Media need to arrive at 7:30 a.m. for security clearance -- in main lobby -- latecomers will not be admitted.)**

### Sunday, May 8 public events at the University of Minnesota

\* Medicine Buddha Empowerment: A Tibetan Cultural and Spiritual Ceremony Promoting Personal and Societal Healing featuring His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, May 8 at Mariucci Arena, 1901 Fourth St. S.E., Minneapolis.

\* Peace Through Inner Peace: A Public Address featuring His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama will be held from 2 to 3:30 p.m., May 8 at Mariucci Arena.

### Media entrance and check in area for Sunday, May 8

**The media check in area will be at the West Lobby of Mariucci Arena (between Fourth and Fifth Streets, between Mariucci and Ridder Arenas)**

**ALL MEDIA COVERING THE MAY 8 PUBLIC EVENTS WILL NEED TO BE AT THIS ENTRANCE BY 8 a.m. to receive credentials and for security clearance. Latecomers will not be admitted.**

**There IS NOT an afternoon call time for media. IF YOU DO NOT ARRIVE AT 8 a.m. for security clearance, you WILL NOT be permitted access to Mariucci at all on May 8.**

### Security screening

Please be aware that you will go through a security screening similar to what you would experience at an airport. Please remember to bring a photo ID and your news organization's press pass to all events you attend.

### Media equipment security sweep

8 a.m. Sunday, May 8: All video cameras, still shot cameras, laptops, and any other recording devices or equipment will need to be placed in the "equipment area" for the security sweep.

**Important: Please be aware that equipment must stay in Mariucci Arena because there will be only one security sweep of equipment in the morning. IF EQUIPMENT LEAVES THE BUILDING, IT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED BACK IN.**

**Special note: If you are only interested in coverage of the afternoon event on May 8, you will still need to obtain your security credentials at 8 a.m. but are free to leave Arena afterwards.** Journalists with no accompanying equipment (see above) requiring security sweep may arrive in the afternoon for coverage of the Peace Through Inner Peace public address only. However, you will be subject to regular event security and are encouraged to arrive by 12:30 p.m. as long lines are anticipated.

### Close-up photo opportunities at the Sunday, May 8 events

#### Morning photo opportunity detail

For the "Medicine Buddha" morning event, between 9 to 9:15 a.m., media interested will be escorted to the floor of the arena for a close photo opportunity of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. There will be a media photo opportunity at 9:30 a.m. for two (2) minutes. Please note that there will be little to no set up time for your camera equipment. At 9:32 a.m. you will be escorted back to the Press Box, where you will have the opportunity to remain, or you can continue your coverage of the events on the main concourse. Security will be at the stairs and elevators to verify credentials and to readmit media to Press Box. (Please note: Equipment may remain in the Press Box area between morning and afternoon events.)

#### Afternoon photo opportunity detail

For the "Peace through Inner Peace" 2 p.m. public address, at 1:45 p.m. media will be escorted to the floor of the arena for a close photo opportunity. At 1:55 p.m. the **NEW** approximate 10-minute photo opportunity will be provided. University President Robert Bruininks, University of Minnesota Board of Regents Chair Clyde Allen, CSH Director Mary Jo Kreitzer, and TAFM President Tsewang Ngodup will assemble on the stage and be joined by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama for a media photo opportunity before program begins.

Again, please note that there will be little to no set up time for your camera equipment. At approximately 2:05 p.m., you will again be escorted back to the Press Box, where you will have the opportunity to remain, or you can continue your coverage on the main concourse. Security will be at the stairs and elevators to verify credentials and to readmit media to Press Box.

### Satellite/Live Trucks parking

The metered area on the east side east side of Oak Street (closest to TCF Bank Stadium) is reserved for Sattelite/Live Trucks. Space reserved for media on a first come, first served basis. No cables or other lines will be allowed to go in or out of Mariucci.

### Parking

There are ample places around campus to park for minimal fees. Please visit the University's Parking and Transportation Services website at <http://www1.umn.edu/pts/> for parking availability and maps.

For more detailed information about these events, please visit [www.dalailama.umn.edu](http://www.dalailama.umn.edu) and click on "For Media."

## Air-quality issues gain importance in animal agriculture, study led by U of M professor shows

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/06/2011) —Air quality around large livestock operations has gained importance as a local, national and global policy issue, a new study led by a University of Minnesota professor shows.

The paper is the first to incorporate comprehensive current research on air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, odors and livestock housing/waste distribution practices, among other topics. Larry Jacobson, professor of bioproducts and biosystems engineering at the university, led a team of experts from six universities who produced the report. It was published today by CAST, an international consortium of 30 scientific and professional societies based at Iowa State University.

Historically, environmental concerns and regulations of animal agriculture have focused primarily on water quality. But in the past 15 to 20 years, air quality issues associated with the livestock and poultry industries have become a growing public concern, leading to increased attention on enforcing air quality regulations for animal agriculture and new multimedia regulatory efforts.

"The idea behind this paper was to go beyond the generalizations," Jacobson says. "We hope that this science-based data will help stakeholders protect the environment and public health in a proactive way." One of the study's most positive findings, he says, is that livestock producers are complying with Environmental Protection Agency requirements through combinations of new mitigation technologies and management practices that depend on the animal species, geography and industry economics.

The full text of Air Issues Associated with Animal Agriculture: A North American Perspective (Issue Paper 47, 24 pp.) may be accessed on the CAST website at [www.cast-science.org](http://www.cast-science.org).



## U of M Board of Regents to meet May 12 - 13

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### May 6, 2011

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents will meet Thursday and Friday, May 12 - 13, 2011, at the McNamara Alumni Center in Minneapolis.

The board will honor a number of university award winners, preview the budget for FY 2012, receive an update on the Central Corridor light rail project and recognize the UMD men's hockey team, which won the NCAA title earlier this year.

Highlights of the meetings include:

### Thursday, May 12

9:45 - 11:45 a.m., Finance and Operations Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will review proposed changes to board policies on the endowment fund and investment functions. It will also discuss the flow of funds within the Medical School and how medical education is financed.

9:45 - 11:45 a.m., Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, West Committee Room. The committee will act on the policy on student education records and review the policy on faculty tenure. Senior Vice President and Provost Tom Sullivan and Senior Vice President Robert Jones will also present on trends and benchmarks in faculty compensation.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. The committee will review and act on a number of real estate transactions and a schematic design. It will also receive an update from Vice President for University Services Kathleen O'Brien on the space utilization initiative and the demolition and/or deconstruction of a number of university buildings. In addition, the committee will act on resolutions pertaining to the demolition and/or deconstruction of three buildings, Norris Hall, the Veterinary Anatomy Building and Westbrook Hall. O'Brien will also provide an update on the Central Corridor light rail project, for which major construction began on campus earlier this year.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Educational Planning and Policy Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will act on the policy regarding academic freedom and responsibility (which had been previously reviewed at the March meeting) and review changes to the tuition and fees policy. It will also review the research agreements with the Hormel Institute in Austin, Minn. Finally, Sullivan and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Robert McMaster will present on undergraduate writing initiatives.

3:45 - 4:15 p.m., Board meeting, boardroom. The board meets to recognize and honor a range of university award winners, including the Distinguished McKnight University Professors, the Academy of Distinguished Teachers inductees, the John Tate Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising, the Josie R. Johnson Award for Human Rights and Social Justice and the Outstanding Community Service Awards.

### Friday, May 13

9 - 11:30 a.m., Board Meeting, Boardroom. The board will recognize the student representatives to the board as well as outgoing Vice President for Human Resources Carol Carrier, Vice President and Chief of Staff Kathryn Brown, Vice President for Cultural and Scholarly Affairs Steven Rosenstone and Vice President and Chief Information Officer Steve Cawley. President Robert Bruininks will provide a preview of the FY2012 budget. Sullivan and Jones will report on the recommendations of the collegiate and coordinate campus Blue Ribbon Committee reports. And, the board will honor the University of Minnesota Duluth Bulldog men's hockey team - the 2011 NCAA national champions.

More information on the Board of Regents and live-streaming of the board meeting can be found at [www.umn.edu/regents](http://www.umn.edu/regents).

## Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture releases new Farmstay publication

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/09/2011) —As interest grows in local foods, more people are hungry to establish a relationship with the farmers who grow their food and the land on which it is grown. They want to reconnect with their agrarian roots, or form new roots.

Agritourism offers farmers a way to capitalize on this interest while sharing their love of the land and farming with others. Farmstays, in particular, are a type of agritourism gaining popularity across the country. In the simplest terms, a farmstay is lodging available to paying guests on a working farm or managed forestland. Beyond this, a farmstay can take many forms: a farm family may convert a room in their farmhouse to accommodate overnight guests, repurpose an outbuilding into a sleeping cabin or build a new structure specifically for guests.

The newly released publication, "Farmstays: Diversifying your Farm Business Through Agritourism: A How-To Manual for Establishing a Farmstay in Minnesota," is a must-have for those considering starting a farmstay in Minnesota. It guides readers through a series of questions that range from "Is operating a farmstay for me?" to "How do I manage reservations?" Chapters include elements of a Farmstay, marketing, Setting up a Farmstay business, regulations, and putting it all together in a business plan. The publication also includes a Farmstay Start-up Checklist and several pages of resources.

The Farmstay Manual is a collaboration of the Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture, Renewing the Countryside, and STEP (Stimulating Economic Progress). The entire publication is available on line at [www.misa.umn.edu](http://www.misa.umn.edu).

Farmers considering establishing a farmstay at their farms can request a print copy by contacting MISA: [misamail@umn.edu](mailto:misamail@umn.edu) or by calling (612) 625-8235, or (800) 909-MISA (6472).

## University of Minnesota team wins solar car race at Indianapolis Speedway

Team completes 512 miles powered only by the sun

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With its latest solar-powered car, named Centaurus II, the team of students from the University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering completed 569 laps on the .9-mile track (512.1 miles total) throughout the three-day, 23-hour race.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/09/2011) —The University of Minnesota Solar Vehicle Project team came away with a first-place finish in the 2011 Formula Sun Grand Prix this past weekend at the famous “Brickyard” track at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. The American Solar Challenge event was part of the 100-year anniversary celebration of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

With its latest solar-powered car, named Centaurus II, the team of students from the University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering completed 569 laps on the .9-mile track (512.1 miles total) throughout the three-day, 23-hour race. This was 39 laps more than the second-place finisher Illinois State University. Northwestern University placed third. Ten solar car teams from across the country participated in the event this year.

The University of Minnesota team ran one of the fastest laps at 1 minute and 24 seconds. The Minnesota team was also the first team to meet all the requirements of inspection and received the pole position for the start of the race. In addition, team member Nick LaMoore, a first-year student in mechanical engineering, was one of only four students to receive the race’s Spirit Award because of the help he provided to the Michigan State team to qualify for the race by working with them on their car’s mechanical system.

“We knew we had a reliable car going into the race, and we were happy that we were able to stay out on the track during the entire race,” said student team leader Jonathan Nutzmann, a junior majoring in electrical engineering. “Our team’s great drivers were a big reason we won. We specifically designed our car so it can fit any team member. We take a hit on aerodynamics, but the payoff is that we can have the best driver out there, not just one that is small enough to fit in the car.”

Over the next year the University of Minnesota team will focus its efforts on designing and building the team’s next-generation, completely solar-powered car, Centaurus III, the 10th car in the team’s 21-year history.

The Solar Vehicle Project team is funded by generous private donations from corporations and individuals. Major sponsors include 3M, Altium, Cirrus Aircraft, Delta Air Lines, PaR Systems, Caterpillar, Earle M. Jorgensen Company, University of Minnesota Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment and General Plastics.

For more information about the Solar Vehicle Project team, visit their website at [www.svp.umn.edu](http://www.svp.umn.edu).

## U of M Tourism Center celebrates National Travel and Tourism Week

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**May 9, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Tourism Center will recognize National Travel and Tourism Week with a poster session Tuesday, May 10, highlighting university research, education and outreach in support of the state's \$9.2 billion tourism industry. The event runs from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the St. Paul campus Student Center, Minnesota Commons Room, 2017 Buford Avenue, St. Paul, and is open to the public.

"Tourism is a major industry in Minnesota and a \$950 billion world-wide industry," said Tourism Center director Ingrid Schneider. "Tuesday's poster session will highlight the cutting-edge research that university graduate students and staff conduct to ensure Minnesota remains a leader nationally and internationally. Research personnel will be on-hand to describe their projects in areas across the state and world on topics as diverse as quality of life and customer service."

Established in 1987, the Tourism Center taps the research and engagement capacity of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and University of Minnesota Extension. The center's focus is to prepare and support the tourism industry for success and sustainability. Center staff and its affiliates research subjects that directly and indirectly enlighten decision making for individuals, communities and businesses.

For more information, visit [tourism.umn.edu](http://tourism.umn.edu).

## Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area hosts BioBlitz 2011, 24-hour race to find, identify plants and animals June 10-11



Every year BioBlitz attracts hundreds of families and scientists from around the state who use sonar detectors, bug lights, live traps and laptops to count and chronicle an area's flora and fauna.

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### May 10, 2011

The University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History invites researchers and volunteers from across the state to explore the Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area (Ordway Field Station) in Inver Grove Heights. This unique natural area, managed by Macalester College, provides the focus for this year's BioBlitz, a 24-hour race to document the plant and animal species in a single area. The event will take place from 5 p.m. Friday, June 10, to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 11.

The area provides a unique opportunity to explore 300 acres of Mississippi River bluff land and backwaters. BioBlitz, now in its eighth year, is held in a new location each year -- proving that nature exists throughout the metro area. The event, coordinated by the University of Minnesota Bell Museum, is free and open to the public.

BioBlitz is part contest, part festival, part educational event and part scientific endeavor. Every year BioBlitz attracts hundreds of families and scientists from around the state who use sonar detectors, bug lights, live traps and laptops to count and chronicle an area's flora and fauna. Volunteers of all ages work alongside biologists to collect plants and insects, and live-trap animals, which are identified before being released. Collection stations and inventory "leader boards" will be set up at the Ordway Field Station main building, the BioBlitz base-camp.

Also on hand will be Macalester College and University of Minnesota researchers and students, and wildlife guides from the Bell Museum and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, as well as National Park Service rangers leading BioBlitz-related activities.

This year's BioBlitz is co-sponsored by the Bell Museum, Macalester College, the Mississippi River Fund, the National Park Service, the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Patagonia.

BioBlitz aims to increase the public's awareness of an area's biological diversity. It also offers a chance for the public to work with scientists and provides a benchmark of Minnesota's environment for natural resources managers. For a complete schedule of BioBlitz 2011 activities, go to [www.bellmuseum.org/bioblitz](http://www.bellmuseum.org/bioblitz). The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

## "See Change" conference brings national media luminaries and creatives to U of M, May 19-20

Conference has  
been acclaimed as  
the Twin Cities'  
answer to the TED  
conference



Participants at last year's first See Change conference.

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### May 10, 2011

The University of Minnesota's School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the College of Design are partnering with the Minnesota chapter of AIGA, the professional association for design, to host the second annual "See Change: The Power of Visual Communication" conference Thursday and Friday, May 19-20, on the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus.

See Change kicks off with a 5:30 p.m. Thursday opening reception at McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis, and a full day of presentations on Friday at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The conference features both national and local luminaries who will share current insights on innovative projects, working philosophies and survival techniques in this fast-paced business and creative climate. It has been acclaimed as the Twin Cities' answer to the TED conference, the international gathering of thought leaders in science, business, the arts and culture.

Independent book publisher Charles Melcher of Melcher Media will be the keynote speaker. The speaker roster includes motion graphics designer Karin Fong from Imaginary Forces; photographer Doug Menez; newly-appointed New York Times.com digital design director Ian Adelman; typography and identity design guru Margo Chase of Chase Design Group; local photographer Paul Nelson; and graphic designers Jeff Johnson of Spunk Design Machine and Jon Forss of Non-Format.

Mary K. Baumann, a partner in the Minneapolis strategic design firm Hopkins/Baumann and a key conference organizer, says See Change is intended for curious creatives to refresh their talents with innovative ideas and imagery. "This exchange is important as visualists struggle to reinvent themselves for the next best thing," Baumann says. "New technology and media outlets continually create new challenges and opportunities that affect how we work and see. The See Change conference is one way to bring visual people together to navigate the ever-morphing communication landscape."

Nora Paul, director of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication's Minnesota Journalism Center says, "We are excited to be bringing the See Change conference to the University of Minnesota for the second year. Last year's event was fun and inspiring and this year's promises to be even better."

The registration deadline is Tuesday, May 17. To learn more about the conference and register, visit [www.seechangeconference.org](http://www.seechangeconference.org).

## Imagining a greener Twin Cities: U of M College of Design students create short films on sustainability

“Green Screen – A Student Grown Film Night” takes place May 12 at U’s Bell Museum

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**May 10, 2011**

Short films created by University of Minnesota College of Design students will be featured at “Green Screen – A Student Grown Film Night” 7 p.m. Thursday, May 12, in the U of M Bell Museum of Natural History Auditorium, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Part of the university’s “Sustainability Film Series ‘11,” the films provide student perspectives on sustainability and how one might transform the Twin Cities campus and the region’s cities and freeways to make them more sustainable. A selection of the films were created as part of the University of Minnesota Salovich Zero+ Campus project, where students are exploring how to create a more sustainable campus. There will be panel discussion about the students’ making of the films following the screening.

To request preview clips of the films, e-mail Barry Lehrman, the event’s curator, at [blehrman@umn.edu](mailto:blehrman@umn.edu).

The event is free to University of Minnesota students with ID; \$5 Bell Museum and Film Society members, non-university students; \$8 general public.

Sustainability Film Series '11 is a collaborative, multi-venue project that represents a partnership between the Film Society of Minneapolis-Saint Paul, the Bell Museum and the university’s Institute on the Environment, with support from the Institute for Advanced Study and Take-Up Productions.

For more information about the Salovich Zero+ Campus project, visit <http://zeropluscampus.umn.edu>.



The films provide student perspectives on sustainability and the transformation of public spaces. Here the Minneapolis campus’ iconic Church Street gets a “green” makeover.

## U of M School of Music professor picks up top classical music honor in London last night

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/11/2011) —The Royal Philharmonic Society (RPS) has honored University of Minnesota School of Music composition professor James Dillon by presenting him with the Large-Scale Composition Award for "Nine Rivers," which premiered in Glasgow last November by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra (SSO).

Presented at the RPS Music Awards at the Dorchester Hotel in London Tuesday, May 10, the jury highlighted the work's "sheer ambition and the consistency of creative thought sustaining it." The first ever staging of this marathon four-hour piece was an ambitious artistic collaboration between Glasgow Life and the BBC.

Dillon is considered one of Scotland's most internationally acclaimed composers and one of the world's leading modernists. Until the premiere of "Nine Rivers" in Glasgow, these nine pieces for orchestra, percussion group, voices and electronics had never before been presented as originally intended. The RPS jury remarked that, "This was an epic conceptual journey, two decades in the making, and an important personal voyage for its composer."

"Nine Rivers" continued Dillon's long association with the BBC SSO, and it was fitting that the world premiere of this cycle should happen in Glasgow to mark his 60th birthday. Presented in both main spaces of Glasgow's City Halls, it featured the combined forces of the BBC SSO, the BBC Singers, renowned American percussionist and conductor Steven Schick, the Strasbourg Percussion Ensemble and Australian conductor Jessica Cottis. It was broadcast in its entirety on BBC Radio 3 on Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010.

Dillon said: "What a marvelous experience working on the 'Nine Rivers' project with the BBC SSO, their artistry and commitment places them at the heart of contemporary performance in Britain; they are a National Treasure."

Svend Brown, director of music, Glasgow Life, said: "Without musicians of towering vision to inspire us we are nothing: congratulations to James Dillon – it was an immense privilege to partner with the BBC in staging the world premiere of this epic piece – one which has defeated so many distinguished teams before us."

Gavin Reid, director of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, said: "Not only am I delighted for James, but I'm thrilled that it was the BBC and Glasgow Life who finally premiered this extraordinary musical creation and that it should be presented in the city of his birth."

With this award, Dillon becomes the most celebrated winner in RPS Music Awards history, having received four awards from the society. The annual Royal Philharmonic Society Music Awards, presented in association with BBC Radio 3, are the highest recognition for live classical music in the UK.

### Background

#### 2011 Royal Philharmonic Society Music Award for Large-Scale Composition

The jury citation reads:

"The award goes to James Dillon's 'Nine Rivers' for its sheer ambition and the consistency of creative thought sustaining it. With its central keystone movement finally in place, both dividing and uniting the whole, this was an epic conceptual journey, two decades in the making, and an important personal voyage for its composer."

"Nine Rivers" was commissioned by the BBC, IRCAM, Ars Musica, Archipel Ensemble InterContemporain, the Oslo Sinfonietta, the Holst Foundation, Greater London Arts, the City of Glasgow and Scottish Arts Council. It is published by Edition Peters.

This year's RPS Music Awards ceremony, at London's Dorchester Hotel, was hosted by BBC Radio 3's Katie Derham and Andrew McGregor, with awards celebrating outstanding achievement in 2010 presented by the pianist Imogen Cooper. Awards, in 13 categories, are decided by independent panels consisting of some of the music industry's most distinguished practitioners. The awards honor musicians, composers, writers, broadcasters and inspirational arts organizations. The list of previous winners reads like a "Who's Who" of classical music.

A special program devoted to the RPS Music Awards will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3 on Sunday, May 15, 2 to 4 p.m. For more information, visit [www.rpsmusicawards.com](http://www.rpsmusicawards.com).



## U of M Board of Regents to recognize new Distinguished McKnight University Professors

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/12/2011) —The University of Minnesota Board of Regents today will recognize four mid-career faculty members who have been named Distinguished McKnight University Professors for 2011. The award aims to honor and reward University of Minnesota's highest-achieving faculty who recently have attained full professor status.

The 2011 recipients and their areas of research are:

- Saif Benjaafar, mechanical engineering, College of Science and Engineering: The Science and Engineering of Supply Chain Operations
- Mark D. Distefano, chemistry, College of Science and Engineering: Protein Chemistry for Biotechnology and Health Applications
- Marc M. Hirschmann, geology and geophysics, College of Science and Engineering: High-Pressure Experimental Studies of Partial Melting of the Mantle and Deep-Earth Volatile Cycles
- Deniz S. Ones, psychology, College of Liberal Arts: Measuring Psychological Characteristics for Employment

The winners are chosen by a committee of prominent faculty based on the merit of the scholarly or creative achievements and their identity with the University of Minnesota; the scope of the national and international reputation; the extent to which the work is distinctive and prestigious, and has developed and flourished at Minnesota; the quality of teaching and advising; and, contributions to the wider community.

The program is made possible through a unique public-private partnership that began in the 1980s with a generous endowment from the McKnight Foundation. The awards are determined through a university-wide competition administered by the Office of the Vice President for Research. Each award includes a research grant of \$100,000 over five years, and recipients of the professorship hold the prestigious title for the remainder of their career at the university.

For more information, visit <http://www.research.umn.edu/advance/distinguished.html>

## A Day for Discovery: Science Field Day 2011 is June 4 at U of M ecology field station

Thirty minutes north  
of the Twin Cities,  
Cedar Creek has  
natural habitats  
representing the  
entire upper Midwest



Cedar Creek is a 5,400-acre ecology research site with natural habitats representing the entire upper Midwest.

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**May 13, 2011**

The gates of the internationally-acclaimed U of M College of Biological Science's Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve will be thrown open to the public from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 4. Located at 2660 Fawn Lake Dr., East Bethel, Cedar Creek is a 5,400-acre ecology research site with natural habitats representing the entire upper Midwest.

The field day will provide visitors an opportunity to talk with researchers and learn about the current research underway in plant ecology and global change as well as explore Cedar Creek's unique natural areas. In addition, representatives from two citizen science projects will be leading tours to showcase their studies in Red-headed Woodpecker and Black-capped Chickadee behavior. From 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. there will be an open house at Cedar Creek's main campus, with the remaining three hours providing a range of guided tours.

In addition, celebrated Minnesota artist Jill Johnson will be on site making beeswax masks of local Scandinavian faces for her upcoming exhibit, "Ordinary Vikings." Johnson adds wooden sticks, or "stavs," to the masks to create sculptures representing Scandinavian gods. Through this exhibit, she explores the question of how connected Minnesota Scandinavians still feel to their Viking heritage.

Visitors are recommended to bring a water bottle, light snack, camera, comfortable clothes suited for the weather on that day and closed-toe, sneaker-type shoes for walking along sandy trails and rustic wooden boardwalks. All tours will involve the use of visitors' personal vehicle to get to the sites and carpooling is encouraged.

For more information, contact Mary Spivey, Cedar Creek education coordinator, at (763) 434-5131 or [spive007@umn.edu](mailto:spive007@umn.edu).

Directions to Cedar Creek can be accessed under the "About" tab on the Cedar Creek webpage, [www.cedarcreek.umn.edu](http://www.cedarcreek.umn.edu).

### **About Cedar Creek**

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve is a 5,400-acre ecology research site with natural habitats representing the entire upper Midwest. It is owned and operated by the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences. A team of university scientists use Cedar Creek as their living laboratory to understand how agriculture, energy use and other human activities are affecting global ecosystems.

## U of M's "Energy and U" shows ignite students' interest in science

About 3,000 metro area elementary and middle school students to visit campus this week



### Media Note:

Members of the media may attend the following "Energy and U" shows at the University of

Minnesota: 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 18; 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Thursday, May 19; and 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Friday, May 20. All shows are in Room 100, Smith Hall, 207 Pleasant St. S.E., Minneapolis.

This flame demonstration is part of a unique and fun University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering outreach program that aims to interest elementary and middle school students in science.

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### May 16, 2011

Explosions, flames, flying pop bottles, rock music and screaming gummy bears—they're all part of a unique and fun University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering outreach program that aims to interest elementary and middle school students in science. About 3,000 students from metro area schools are expected to attend the "Energy and U" shows at the University of Minnesota May 16-20.

Outreach to schools with high percentages of students of color and low-income students is a particularly important component of the "Energy and U" shows.

"We try to emphasize that they, too, could do what we do every day," said David Blank, an associate professor in the University's Department of Chemistry and one of the creators of "Energy and U."

Through engaging and fun demonstrations, the "Energy and U" show teaches students that energy cannot be created or destroyed but it can be stored and change forms. The students learn how chemical reactions play a key role in that process. All of the examples about energy are put in terms that students can understand, including how the sugar in gummy bears can be converted to energy and how many gummy bears it would take to power the world for one day.

In addition to Blank, other "Energy and U" presenters include associate professor Christy Haynes, professor Marc Hillmyer and lecture demonstration director Joseph Franek from the Department of Chemistry, and professor Frank Bates, head of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science. Bates, Blank and Hillmyer started the "Energy and U" program in 2006. The University's Materials Research Science and Engineering Center (MRSEC) offsets bus transportation costs for participating schools as part of their outreach efforts.

## U of M researchers looking to recruit 400 Minnesota National Guard and Reserve families to participate in study to find best ways to support families

Study and resources fill need for military families looking for parenting guidance, mother and retired soldier says



"These interviews will help us learn from families directly about what type of parenting resources are most helpful for [military parents] and their children," researcher Abi Gewirtz says.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/18/2011) —During the next five years, University of Minnesota researchers will be recruiting 400 Minnesota National Guard and Reserve families from the Twin Cities to participate in a study about parenting and children's adjustments as parents deploy and return from military service.

Twin Cities families who have gone through the process of reintegration following a deployment and have 5-to-12 year-old children are eligible to join the study.

Abi Gewirtz, a researcher in the College of Education and Human Development's Department of Family Social Science, is the study's principal investigator. She, project director Laurel Bidwell, and co-investigator Melissa Polusny of the Minneapolis VA, are partnering with the Minnesota National Guard and Reserves to develop and assess parenting resources for families of school-aged children who have gone through the military deployment process. Their project is called ADAPT -- After Deployment: Adaptive Parenting Tools -- and the goal is to examine the effectiveness of an evidence-based parenting intervention that's been modified for military families in the National Guard and Reserves.

In order to understand what parenting resources make a difference for families -- families will be invited to participate in one of two types of parenting resources. The first group will receive pamphlets, web links and other tools for parenting that are currently available. The second group will be invited to take part in a 14-week, web-enhanced parenting program.

Both groups will be interviewed four separate times over the course of two years.

"These interviews will help us learn from families directly about what type of parenting resources are most helpful for them and their children," Gewirtz says. "The knowledge gathered from this study will help other National Guard families around the nation."

Families will be paid \$400 to \$635 over the course of the study. Parents in the 14-week parenting program will also receive on-site childcare and homework help for their school-aged children while they attend groups.

Mother and retired soldier Gwen Zimmerman, who just participated in ADAPT's pilot program, believes military families will benefit from ADAPT.

Both Zimmerman and her husband Steve served in the National Guard (Steve still does) Once, their deployments overlapped and this meant their children stayed with the in-laws, she says.

When returning from one deployment, Gwen found it particularly hard. She struggled with reintegrating back into her family.

"For me, it was hard to be the outsider looking in at my own family," Zimmerman says.

Even though she and her family skyped, wrote letters and shared care packages, Zimmerman no longer knew the routines of her own children. Adaptation proved challenging for her.

"It had been six months and I felt like I was still watching my family through the lens of video camera instead of actually being there."

It takes time to adjust, Zimmerman says. She believes ADAPT will make reintegration a smoother process for families. And ADAPT resources address different stages in the deployment process and that is just what parents and children need, she says. This is especially true as her husband prepares to deploy soon.

For Zimmerman, ADAPT fills a gap in resources for soldiers -- resources involving parenting.

"There always seemed to be lots of things for the soldier; there's lots of things for the couple, and it was that parenting piece that was (missing,)" Zimmerman says.

Are you and your family interested in taking part in this study? Find out how to get involved at <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/fsos/ADAPT/getinvolved.html>.

## U of M Department of Theatre Arts and Dance welcomes Peg Guilfoyle as interim producing director

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/18/2011) —Peg Guilfoyle has been named as interim producing director for the University of Minnesota Department of Theatre Arts and Dance. She will be in position while the department conducts a search for a new producing director to replace Tom Proehl, who passed away in April.

"In Peg, I firmly believe we have found someone prepared and passionately willing to take up the baton and wonderful work left when Tom Proehl suddenly passed," department chair Carl Flink said.

Guilfoyle has been involved in arts work in the Twin Cities for a long time, beginning work as an administrator for the Poets in the Schools program and for the Guthrie Theater. As a stage manager and production stage manager, she has worked in commercial resident and touring stock and for various regional theaters, including the Indiana Repertory Theater, the Denver Center Theater Company and the Arizona Theater Company. She was the production stage manager at the Guthrie, specializing in large-scale projects, and production manager for Liviu Ciulei and Garland Wright.

Her work has also included projects at the Ordway, at Mixed Blood and the Triple Espresso Company. Additionally, she has written commentary and nonfiction for newspapers and for Minnesota Public Radio, and written regional history books, including the award-winning "The Guthrie Theater: Images, History, and Inside Stories." She has produced a string of award-winning regional history books through her company, Peg Projects, and is a small business owner and manager.

## U of M Faculty Consultative Committee statement on academic freedom

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/19/2011) —Following several news and blog accounts of recent discussions in University of Minnesota Faculty Senate committees, Professors Kathryn VandenBosch and Christopher Cramer, the chair and vice chair of the University of Minnesota's Faculty Consultative Committee (FCC), the elected executive committee of the Faculty Senate, provided the following statement:

"We believe that some recent news accounts and blogs have inaccurately characterized discussions of academic freedom issues by the University of Minnesota's Faculty Consultative Committee and Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee. We issue this statement to clarify the record.

"First, it was the FCC, not the University administration, that decided to pursue this discussion. Shortly after the February 7 written statements on the Markinson matter by General Counsel Mark Rotenberg and Regents' Chair Clyde Allen, the Secretary to the Faculty (Gary Engstrand) had an informal and impromptu conversation with General Counsel Rotenberg (a chance meeting walking across the Mall) in which Mr. Rotenberg said it had occurred to him that there were a number of general questions about the issues raised by the Markinson matter that might be of interest to the faculty. Dr. Engstrand mentioned the conversation to us and we agreed it would be useful to consider the broader implications. At our request, Dr. Engstrand asked Mr. Rotenberg to help us begin the conversation by articulating the issues he thought we might address. We thought that could be useful and later received the questions from Mr. Rotenberg. In his message conveying the questions, Mr. Rotenberg wrote that "While I'm not necessarily qualified to address them, here are some broad questions that the committee [FCC] may wish to address, or recommend for a broader discussion within the faculty community."

"Second, portrayals of this discussion as an effort to 'muzzle' or 'silence' a faculty member who is raising questions are simply wrong. The Faculty Senate, its committees, Mr. Rotenberg, and the University administration have been unwavering in their defense of academic freedom, even or even especially with respect to controversial or uncomfortable statements or events. The minutes of the committee meetings at issue demonstrate just that. Not only was there no intent on the part of any of the discussants to stifle criticisms of the kind made in connection with the Markinson matter, the committee members and members of the administration who spoke explicitly defended the right of the critics to speak out in the manner they did. At no point did any of the committee discussions suggest that any faculty member's right to criticize be constrained. Nor has Mr. Rotenberg, in any written or oral communications with us or the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, made any such suggestion.

"Third, the question from Mr. Rotenberg that has generated the most attention, "What is the faculty's collective role in addressing factually incorrect attacks on particular U faculty research activities?" was not intended nor was it used by either the FCC or the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee to reinvestigate the correctness or incorrectness of the particular claims at issue in the Markinson matter. Others with appropriate background and training and who were charged with that responsibility have done so on several occasions. We have instead focused on broader questions: What responsibility, if any, do faculty members have, individually or collectively, to speak out when one of their colleagues continues to be criticized, even though the faculty member being criticized has been exonerated of misconduct by all of the available internal and external bodies constituted to render such judgments? Is it appropriate for faculty members, individually or collectively, to counter those who are delivering the criticism of their colleague? No one has yet reached any conclusion on those questions. Mr. Rotenberg's question was not focused on the bioethicists' statements, either directly (no one's name or publication was mentioned) or indirectly. Rather, his question was intended, and was treated as, raising a general concern—what should be done if attacks seen by others as factually incorrect were made on faculty research activities. It is inaccurate to characterize the question, or the ensuing discussion, as designed to elicit discussion or determinations of a particular matter or to stifle the criticisms themselves. Questions such as those discussed are entirely appropriate for governance committees to consider. Indeed, the suggestion that these questions should not be raised or discussed by faculty bodies is itself an attempt to constrict the faculty's free exchange of ideas that is a hallmark of our university.

"Fourth, those in the media and elsewhere who are interested in the University's stance on academic freedom should be aware of actions undertaken at the University to expand the protections of academic freedom in especially relevant ways. The U.S. Supreme Court, in *Garcetti v. Ceballos* (2006), held that public employees who criticized the actions of their employer may be sanctioned or terminated. Although the court opinion said explicitly it did not rule whether the opinion applied to faculty members at public colleges and universities, there has been widespread concern that it might, and subsequent lower court decisions have confirmed that risk. Immediately after the *Garcetti* decision, the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee took note of the case and, with the strong endorsement of Mr. Rotenberg, Provost Sullivan, and President Bruininks, recommended to the University's Board of Regents that it modify its Academic Freedom and Responsibility policy to explicitly include the freedom "to speak or write, without institutional discipline or restraint, on matters of public concern as well as on matters related to professional duties and the functioning of the University." The Board of Regents approved the change unanimously June 12, 2009. The current policy can be viewed here: [http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/academic/Academic\\_Freedom.pdf](http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/academic/Academic_Freedom.pdf). The national office of the American Association of University Professors and the Director of the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression wrote a joint letter to the Regents congratulating the University on making this change—one of the first institutions to respond to the potential danger posed by the *Garcetti* case. This policy change means that the University stands behind the right of individual faculty members to criticize institutional practices and decisions without fear that their academic freedom will fail to cover such activities.

"In conclusion, we are dismayed and disappointed that some of our colleagues have interpreted our discussions as an attack on academic freedom. We on FCC and our colleagues on Academic Freedom and Tenure are among the last people at the University who would be quiet about, much less advocate, a restriction on the academic freedom of any member of the University community. On the basis of our interactions with Mr. Rotenberg, and our understanding of the discussions that the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee has had, we firmly believe that there was no explicit or unspoken intention on the part of anyone involved in these events to introduce novel restrictions on academic freedom. Nor, under our watch, will any such efforts be undertaken."

## Sustainable development plan will come from residents, U of M expertise

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**May 20, 2011**

A federally funded plan to kick-start central Minnesota's economy and sustainable housing and transportation efforts will gain ground this week with public work group meetings from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday, May 24 at The Lodge in Baxter, Minn.

The work groups, made up of residents from the area, are a first step in a wide-ranging, two-year effort made possible by an \$825,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships will tap the expertise of university faculty, staff and students in areas such as transportation, housing and land use, while relying on the direction and input of residents of Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties -- the five counties of the Region Five Development Commission.

The project aims to crystallize the needs of the region through the creation of a step-by-step plan for social, economic and land use vitality. When implemented, the plan could result in such things as more low-energy affordable housing, efficient transportation options, livable and healthy communities, opportunities for employment and a resilient economy able to respond to 21st century needs. One early result of the project will be an easy-to-use public database of university experts in the areas of sustainable housing, transportation, health care and economic development.

Key to the plan are the citizen-based work groups representing key issues -- and use, transportation, economic development and affordable housing -- which will meet five times with the goal of producing a draft plan by December. The work groups are made up of residents from all walks of life and socio-economic levels -- from farmers to business owners, high school students and stay-at-home moms.

"The people of central Minnesota have faced an increasingly uncertain future in light of changes in our country's economy, demographics and energy prices and options," says Kathryn Draeger, statewide director of the university's Regional Sustainable Development Partnership program, which is a co-sponsor of the project. "Until now, the region has never had the resources to develop an integrated, long-term plan for sustainable development. This community driven, university-assisted project jumpstarts those efforts to ensure planning is done in a big-picture way that will tangibly improve the lives of residents and visitors in this century and beyond."

Jean Coleman, a Minneapolis-based land-use planner, serves as the project's sustainability organizer. "I'm excited to be tasked with matching residents' needs with university expertise and helping them craft a visionary implementation plan for their community," says Coleman.

A final plan will be presented to HUD, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency in December 2012.

The Regional Sustainable Development Partnership is an outreach arm of the university that works to vitalize Minnesota's five geographic regions by addressing community-identified issues. The partnership is a program of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, University of Minnesota Extension and the College of Design. For more details and to sign up for monthly updates on the plan, visit [www.rsdpmn.edu](http://www.rsdpmn.edu).

## Science Teaching and Student Services Building earns LEED Gold certification for green construction and design



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The University of Minnesota's new Science Teaching and Student Services Building (STSS) has been awarded the prestigious LEED Gold certification.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/20/2011) —The University of Minnesota's new Science Teaching and Student Services Building (STSS) has been awarded the prestigious LEED Gold certification. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally-recognized green building certification system administered by the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED measures multiple dimensions of a building's design and construction including sustainable sites, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, water efficiency, and indoor environmental quality.

"It's appropriate that a building that supports science education and overlooks a great river would be built with principles of sustainability at the forefront," said, U of M President Robert Bruininks at the opening of STSS in August 2010.

Highlights of sustainability in STSS include:

- \* **Conserving water** -- Installation of low-flow sinks and bathroom fixtures that use 50 percent less water than a typical building of its size. Outdoor irrigation systems use a monitoring system that measures ground saturation and local weather patterns, so that irrigation only takes place when needed. Native, drought tolerant plants reduce runoff to the river and minimize irrigation needs.

- \* **Recycling and reuse** -- Builders reused sections of the foundation from the Science Classroom Building that previously occupied the site to construct STSS. This saved time and money and reduced the amount of new materials used to build STSS. Recycled materials were incorporated into the carpet, tables, chairs and structural steel of STSS. In addition, 94 percent of the construction debris from the site was diverted from the landfill for reuse or recycling.

- \* **Air quality and air flow** -- An innovative underfloor air distribution system allows fresh air to move into the building while pushing stale air to the ceiling. This air is then collected in air ducts and circulated outside, providing healthy and comfortable air for occupants.

- \* **Exterior glass** -- The exterior glass on the west and south sides of STSS provides an aesthetically pleasing view of the river and downtown and also provides natural lighting. This feature proved challenging for those designing an energy efficient structure. They found a solution with a custom-designed white dot pattern on the glass and strategically-placed columns to maximize views, minimize glare and reduce solar heat gain by 50 percent.

- \* **Building materials** -- When possible, builders used construction materials manufactured within a 500-mile radius of Minneapolis to reduce transportation emissions and to support the regional economy.

- \* **Connections** -- STSS further facilitates connections to alternative transportation and the Mississippi River through its design and structure. Bike racks are located around the building to provide adequate parking. Bus stops are located conveniently near the building.

The techniques used in designing and building helped the University reduce energy use, water consumption and construction waste, all of which save the university money while reducing its carbon footprint.

STSS is the second LEED certified building on the Twin Cities campus and the 10th LEED building in the university system. TCF Stadium achieved LEED Silver certification in 2009. More about the University of Minnesota sustainability programs can be found at <http://portal.environment.umn.edu>.

Take a virtual tour of the sustainable features within STSS:  
<http://www.cppm.umn.edu/sustainability/stss/index.htm>.



## Private-sector role in public transportation projects featured at upcoming transportation conference

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**May 20, 2011**

As state governments struggle to meet growing transportation infrastructure needs, leveraging existing resources through the use of public-private partnerships has become increasingly attractive.

Minnesota leaders and national experts will discuss pros and cons of the increasing role of the private sector in public transportation projects during the opening session of the 22nd Annual Transportation Research Conference sponsored by the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies, which takes place from May 24-25 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 11 East Kellogg Boulevard, St. Paul.

At 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 24, opening-session speaker Adrian Moore, vice president of research at Reason Foundation, will discuss the role public-private partnerships, or P3s, might play in Minnesota's transportation future. He will review trends in transportation P3s and what drives them, examine the pros and cons of P3s, describe current innovations and evolutions in P3s, and discuss how P3s are being used and what crucial elements help them succeed.

Luncheon speaker Joe Cortright, president and senior economist at Impresa and senior adviser at CEOs for Cities, will explain the real reason Americans spend so much time in traffic. His recent report *Driven Apart: How Sprawl is Lengthening Our Commutes and Why Misleading Mobility Measures are Making Things Worse* offers a new view of the relationship between transportation performance and urban development patterns. This work provides an alternative to the 25-year-old industry standard created by the Texas Transportation Institute's Urban Mobility Report (UMR), which is often used to justify expenditures for new roads and highways. Cortright's new report says compact cities are the real answer to reducing traffic delays and lays out an alternative set of accessibility-based measures of urban transportation performance that provide a better guide to policymakers.

The CTS Transportation Research Conference serves as a forum for researchers and practitioners from Minnesota and the Upper Midwest to share their research findings in a variety of transportation-related areas. The conference features leading scholars in the fields of transportation funding, transportation technology, and land-use planning, as well as public officials and transportation professionals.

The conference includes discussions on a variety of topics, including:

- \* Transportation user charges
- \* Driver distraction
- \* Teen driver safety
- \* Communicating with the public during construction
- \* Electric vehicles
- \* Performance of conventional and alternative vehicles

The conference is sponsored by the U of M's Center for Transportation Studies. For a full conference schedule, fees, and registration, see [www.cts.umn.edu/events/researchconf](http://www.cts.umn.edu/events/researchconf).

## University of Minnesota, Twin Cities named one of the greenest colleges

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/20/2011) —"Princeton Review's Guide to 311 Green Colleges" recently identified the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities as one of the most environmentally responsible educational institutions in North America. The Princeton Review chose the U of M based on a 2010 of hundreds of colleges to tally its annual "Green Rating" scores. The survey asked colleges and universities about their sustainability-related policies, practices and programs. The 311 schools in the guide received scores of 80 or above in the assessment.

The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities was recognized for its strength in sustainability education and in improving sustainability of campus operations. At the U of M, students have the opportunity for classroom and hands-on learning in sustainability. The Center for Sustainable Enterprise Development allows students to learn how to use green business practices while remaining competitive in the market. The university also began one of the first Sustainability Minors in the country, with an ever expanding curriculum including internship offerings and multiple study abroad opportunities. In addition, more than 20 environmentally-focused student groups are actively engaged in the sustainability discussion on campus. On the operations side, the Twin Cities campus continues to improve its 25-year-old recycling program and also focuses on energy reduction through the It All Adds Up campaign, resulting in \$2.25 million in cost savings and 25,000 tons in emissions reductions.

The U of M, Duluth has also been listed as one of the greenest colleges.

Created by The Princeton Review in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) ([www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org)), "The Princeton Review's Guide to 311 Green Colleges" is the only free, comprehensive guidebook profiling institutions of higher education that demonstrate a notable commitment to sustainability in their academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities and career preparation. For more Information about The Princeton Review's Green Rating system, go to <http://www.princetonreview.com/green.aspx>.

## Statement on the passing of Richard "Pinky" McNamara

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**May 24, 2011**

The following is a statement on the passing of former University of Minnesota Regent Richard "Pinky" McNamara from President Robert Bruininks:

"Richard "Pinky" McNamara was truly one of the great citizens of the University of Minnesota -- as a star football player with his brother Bob, as a student in the College of Liberal Arts, and as an alumnus and successful businessman. He gave generously of his time and resources over the years, serving as a Regent and as a trustee for the University of Minnesota Foundation, and supporting the College of Liberal Arts, athletics, and the McNamara Alumni Center, which now bears his family's name. But more than that, he was an inspiring advocate for the University, leading by strong example and calling upon other friends and alumni of the University of Minnesota to help provide the types of educational opportunities he and his brother enjoyed in the 1950s. He will be sorely missed by the entire University community."

## Volunteers needed for U of M post-tornado outreach in North Minneapolis

**IF YOU WISH TO VOLUNTEER OR ARE LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (612) 626-8762 OR VISIT <http://www.uroc.umn.edu/tornado/>.**

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**May 25, 2011**

Volunteers are needed starting Thursday, May 26, for North Minneapolis outreach teams to be deployed by the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center in conjunction with city-led tornado relief efforts.

The UROC Hand to Hand effort will deploy teams of volunteers both morning and afternoon to go door to door in North Minneapolis to check in with residents, drop off food and household supplies and provide information about community resources available to meet needs related to housing, health and other areas.

The outreach initiative, which will complement similar efforts under way by Urban Homeworks and other organizations, was spurred by needs identified during city-led coordination meetings involving many officials, community leaders and key North Minneapolis organizations including UROC.

Shifts of volunteers are needed from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and/or from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the UROC building, which is located at 2001 Plymouth Avenue, Minneapolis, just blocks from tornado-damaged streets. Orientation will take place promptly at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Outreach teams are needed on Friday, May 27, as well. Volunteers should report to the UROC building at 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. Friday; UROC staff will connect volunteers wherever they are needed that day for ongoing North Side outreach and assessment efforts.

### Volunteer details

- Volunteers are welcome to drive or carpool to the UROC building.
- A University of Minnesota van (provided by Parking and Transportation Services) will provide transportation to and from the East Bank campus Thursday for faculty, staff and students who wish to join the relief effort. The van will depart from the Oak Street entrance of the McNamara Alumni Center at 8:30 a.m. and return by 12:30 p.m. The next departure time is 1 p.m. and return at 5 p.m. Updated information about van location and departure times will be posted on the web at <http://www.uroc.umn.edu/tornado/>.
- Volunteers are encouraged to wear University shirts, if possible, and closed-toe shoes. Those who don't have University apparel may pick up t-shirts at UROC thanks to a donation by the University Bookstore.
- Box lunches for volunteers will be donated by the University through the Campus Club.
- The UROC staff prefers that volunteers, who should be at least 18 years of age, sign up for a shift in advance, but welcomes everyone regardless.
- University employees may use vacation time to volunteer with the permission of their supervisors.
- To sign up for a shift, call (612) 626-UROC or send an email to [uroc@umn.edu](mailto:uroc@umn.edu) with the subject line "Volunteer" (indicate in the message whether you plan to come at 9 a.m. or 1 p.m.)
- For more information, please visit the UROC tornado relief page: <http://www.uroc.umn.edu/tornado/>.

## Students who struggle with math may have a neurocognitive disorder called dyscalculia, a new paper finds

University of Minnesota researcher co-authors paper on the neural bases of and instructional interventions for the disorder that affects roughly as many people as dyslexia

**Media Note:** Embargoed until 1 p.m., Thursday, May 26

For a copy of the paper, contact Patty Mattern, at [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu)

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/26/2011) —Students who struggle to learn mathematics may have a neurocognitive disorder that inhibits the acquisition of basic numerical and arithmetic concepts, according to a new paper by University of Minnesota and British researchers. Called developmental dyscalculia, the disorder affects roughly the same number of people as dyslexia but has received much less attention (and research funding). The paper by University of Minnesota Educational Psychology assistant professor Sashank Varma and his British colleagues that shines a light on the causes of and interventions for dyscalculia will be published Thursday, May 27 in the journal *Science*.

The paper, "Dyscalculia, From Brain to Education," documents how scientists across the world have used magnetic resonance imaging to map the neural network that supports arithmetic. Through this process, they have discovered abnormalities in this network among learners with dyscalculia.

These findings have the potential to lead to evidence-based interventions for dyscalculia, Varma says. "Knowledge about what parts of the brain we use while learning mathematics is spurring the design of new computer learning environments that can strengthen simple number and arithmetic concepts," he explains. The paper envisions future research where neuroscientists, psychologists and educational researchers collaborate to offer a productive way forward on the important question of why some children struggle with learning mathematics.

Varma co-authored the paper with lead author Professor Brian Butterworth, of the University College London Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, and Diana Laurillard, a member of the Institute of Education at the University of London. "Dyscalculia: From Brain to Education" is published online today in *Science*.

Varma studies how people understand complex symbol systems such as mathematics and language, and the neural underpinnings of this understanding. In 2008, he published an influential paper on the relation between neuroscience and education in the journal *Educational Researcher* with Daniel Schwartz at Stanford University and Bruce McCandliss at Vanderbilt University.

### **About the University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development**

The Department of Educational Psychology is one of eight academic departments in the University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development (CEHD). The college ranks third nationally in research among all public colleges of education, with 260 professionals directly involved in research. CEHD enrolls about 2,350 undergraduate students and 2,900 graduate students.

## U of M's Acara Challenge selects student teams to pursue clean water, safe food projects in India

Winners hail from the University of Minnesota, TERI University (Delhi), Cornell, Duke, K.J. Somaiya Institute of Management (Mumbai) and India Institute of Technology Roorkee

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (05/26/2011) —Four teams of student entrepreneurs have been selected winners of the 2011 Acara Challenge, a competition sponsored by Institute on the Environment's Acara program that invites international student teams to learn about and develop social businesses. The winners will receive \$5,000 plus tuition to attend the Acara Summer Institute in Bangalore, India, this summer, where they will move their proposed businesses from plan to action.

The four teams were chosen this week from a field of 21 teams involving some 175 students from 12 participating universities in the United States, India and Mexico. Teams were charged with developing business ideas to tackle global challenges of food and water security with the help of professors, industry mentors and international university partners.

"Taking part in the Acara Challenge has made me aware of conditions in slums, boosted my desire to be an entrepreneur and shown me how vital access to clean water and access to food is to the well-being of an individual and the entire community," said Adam Witt, civil engineering student at University of Minnesota and member of the TextRA team.

The teams selected to receive further support from Acara are:

### **TextRA**

A partnership of the University of Minnesota and TERI University in Delhi, this team will develop a cell-phone based solution to deliver information on food and water availability at various locations to malnourished and resource-deprived individuals.

### **Sewasan**

Sewasan, another UMN-TERI team, is a cooperative that will create and maintain toilet facilities in urban slums for a fee. The presence of these facilities will decrease the spread of food- and water-borne illnesses, increase quality of life and provide employment for local residents.

### **Swach**

Students at Cornell and the K.J. Somaiya Institute of Management in Mumbai created Swach to improve the lunch audit process in schools. Swach will provide kits and communication infrastructure to test for food quality, allowing time-strapped government auditors to focus where they are most needed.

### **Ankur Initiative**

The Ankur Initiative, a collaboration between students at Duke and the India Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee, aims to combat water stress in rural India by selling affordable miniature greenhouses to subsistence farmers to reduce water loss and increase crop yields.

Acara, a program of the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment, seeks to catalyze social entrepreneurship and create a new generation of global leaders by mentoring university students. In the words of one participant, Kurt McIntire, University of Minnesota civil engineering graduate student and member of the Sewasan team, "How many times in your life do you get the opportunity to save someone else's? How many times do you receive the needed support to create a large global impact? I know I have by participating in the Acara Challenge."

The Acara Challenge is supported by the U of M's Institute on the Environment, Department of Civil Engineering, College of Science and Engineering, Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota, 3M, Honeywell, National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA). Visit [acarainstitute.org](http://acarainstitute.org) or [environment.umn.edu/acara](http://environment.umn.edu/acara) for more information and to follow these teams' progress.

## Stanford ecologist Gretchen Daily to speak at U of M on valuing and pricing



Gretchen Daily is a global leader in efforts to protect the environment by attaching monetary value to all the services that natural systems provide to humans.

### environmental benefits

Fifth lecture in the Moos Family speaker series sponsored by the Freshwater Society and the University of Minnesota

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**May 31, 2011**

What is a wetland worth? Is it only the price a buyer might pay for the land at the moment? Or does the wetland's value include the future flood damage or water pollution it may prevent? How do you put a value on any individual natural site's contribution to keeping plant and animal species from going extinct decades into the future?

Those are the kinds of questions Stanford University ecologist Gretchen Daily has devoted her career to asking and answering.

Daily, a global leader in efforts to protect the environment by attaching monetary value to all the services that natural systems provide to humans, will deliver a free public lecture, "Harmonizing People and Nature: A New Business Model," at 5 p.m. Monday, June 13, in the theater of the University of Minnesota St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford St., St. Paul.

The lecture will be the fifth in the Moos Family Speaker Series co-sponsored by the Freshwater Society and the university's College of Biological Sciences. For information and to register to attend, go to [www.freshwater.org](http://www.freshwater.org).

Daily, a professor in Stanford's Department of Biology, was the author with journalist Katherine Ellison of a 2002 book, "The New Economy of Nature: The Quest to Make Conservation Profitable."

She also is co-founder of the Natural Capital Project, an interdisciplinary project that combines ecology and economics in an effort to put prices on the benefits that ecosystems provide. The three founding partners in the Natural Capital Project were Stanford, the Nature Conservancy and the World Wildlife Fund. Last year, the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment joined the partnership.

The Natural Capital Project has developed a new software system – Integrated Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Tradeoffs, or InVEST – under the leadership of University of Minnesota environmental economist Steve Polasky. The system models future costs and benefits of landscape changes. Within the next couple of years, InVEST will be available on Google's new Earth Engine platform to assist decision makers in visualizing and quantifying the implications of alternative scenarios or policies.

"Around the world, leaders are increasingly recognizing ecosystems as natural capital assets that supply life-support services of tremendous value – and foremost among these are water-related services," Daily said. "The challenge is to turn this recognition into incentives and institutions that will guide wise investments."

The Moos Family Speaker Series honors the late Malcolm Moos, a former University of Minnesota president.

The Freshwater Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating and inspiring people to value, conserve and protect water resources. Located in Excelsior, adjacent to Lake Minnetonka, it has a long history of association with the University of Minnesota. For more information, go to [www.freshwater.org](http://www.freshwater.org).

## Eric P. Schwartz named dean of University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/01/2011)

—University of Minnesota Provost

Tom Sullivan today named Eric P. Schwartz, assistant secretary for Population, Refugees and Migration in the U.S. Department of State, as dean of the university's Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Both university President Robert Bruininks and President-designate Eric Kaler joined in the consultative process and enthusiastically support the selection of Schwartz. Pending approval by the Board of Regents, which is expected to act at its June meeting, Schwartz will begin his service as dean on Oct. 10.

Eric Schwartz has 25 years of senior public service experience at the State Department, the National Security Council, the United Nations and the U.S. Congress, as well as in the foundation and NGO communities. He holds a juris doctor from New York University School of Law, where he was a Root-Tilden-Snow Scholar, and a master of public and international affairs degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. He earned a bachelor of arts degree with honors at Binghamton University, State University of New York.

"Our new dean brings boundless energy, deep national and international experience, and a profound understanding of the needs of the Humphrey School as it continues its remarkable trajectory of progress and impact," Sullivan said. "Eric Schwartz is a trusted leader with a keen sense of collegiality and an exhaustive commitment to public service and to the common good. I am confident he will be an outstanding dean in every way."

Schwartz served for many years as a visiting lecturer of public and international affairs at Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School and was the school's first practitioner-in-residence. While at Princeton, he taught graduate and undergraduate seminars and workshops dealing with the United Nations, democracy promotion, peace operations, international humanitarian assistance, and recovery and reconstruction after disasters. In addition, he was a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and the U.S. Institute of Peace, and a public policy scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C. His academic and research experience has complemented his leadership as a policy practitioner focusing on international humanitarian affairs, human rights, international organizations and peacekeeping.

"I am honored to be appointed dean of the Humphrey School, and deeply grateful for the opportunity to help the school reach even greater levels of excellence," Schwartz said. "Highly effective public institutions will be critical to social and economic advancement in the years and decades to come, especially as governance continues to become increasingly complicated and more demanding. Strong and vibrant democracies require skilled, effective and accountable public servants and public citizens, with the tools to manage complex issues effectively. Hubert H. Humphrey's career embodied these public service ideals, and I intend to work tirelessly to strengthen the institution that serves as his living memorial."

Schwartz's candidacy received strong and consistent support from faculty, students, staff, alumni and Minnesota's public affairs and planning community. The Humphrey School is the third-oldest public affairs program in the country and is critical to helping the university achieve its goal of becoming one of the top three public research universities in the world. Schwartz succeeds Brian J. Atwood, who on Jan. 1, 2011, became chair of the Development Assistance Committee, the permanent forum of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

For an image of Schwartz, see: <http://geneva.usmission.gov/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/08202010Schwartz.jpg>.



Eric P. Schwartz, assistant secretary for Population, Refugees and Migration in the U.S. Department of State, was named dean of the university's Humphrey School of Public Affairs today. Image courtesy U.S. State Department.



## U of M Center for German and European Studies presents major healthcare forum June 21-22

Experts from Germany and United States will discuss and compare management of health care reform

**What:** "Managing Innovation and Reform in Healthcare: Access, Quality, Cost," the 7th annual American and German trans-Atlantic experts forum

**When:** Tuesday-Wednesday, June 21-22

**Where:** University of Minnesota McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis

**Who:** Healthcare policy experts and decision makers from Germany and the United States

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### June 1, 2011

The University of Minnesota's Center for German and European Studies will present a forum on "Managing Innovation and Reform in Healthcare: Access, Quality, Cost" on June 21 and 22.

This seventh annual forum, involving Germany's Federal Ministry of Health, Germany's Federal Ministry of Economics and the Academic Health Center at the University of Minnesota, brings together the full range of healthcare policy constituencies: local, state and national government; doctors; insurers; pharmaceutical companies; employers; and patients. This year, conference attendees will hear from Germany's deputy secretary of health; Minnesota Commissioner of Human Services Lucinda Jesson; Minnesota Commissioner of Health Ed Ehlinger; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota's CEO Pat Geraghty; Frank Cerra, McKnight Presidential Leadership Chair, University of Minnesota; the head of risk adjustment at Germany's Federal Insurance Agency; and many others.

2011 is a pivotal year for health policy in both the United States and Germany. In the U.S., after the Congress' historic passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), state governments, insurers, providers and drug makers are called upon to prepare for 2014 when the full provisions of PPACA take effect – while wondering if PPACA will survive constitutional and political challenges.

In Germany, the provisions of its new law regulating the reimbursement of drug prices (known as AMNOG) are reshaping the pharmaceutical market in fundamental ways. This will exert new pressure on the U.S. pharmaceutical markets — and affect insurers, providers and patients.

Minnesota and Germany both grapple with the core issues of health care quality and costs. Hence the June conference focus on healthcare management, competition and contract tools that would organize medical benefits differently and produce more value.

Registration is required at [www.cges.umn.edu](http://www.cges.umn.edu). This site also provides full program schedules and speaker biographies.

## Alaskan wilderness area featured in new Bell Museum exhibit

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**June 1, 2011**

As the United States continues to debate its national energy policy, Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) remains in the discussion's limelight. A new exhibit, opening June 25 at the Bell Museum of Natural History, presents images and information of this wild region.

"Arctic Sanctuary: Our Collective Refuge" explores a vast and remote land that remains both free and wild, untamed by technology and undisturbed by human development. The exhibit offers a window into a world that is ecologically intact, where we may observe and learn from nature's complex and wonderful patterns.

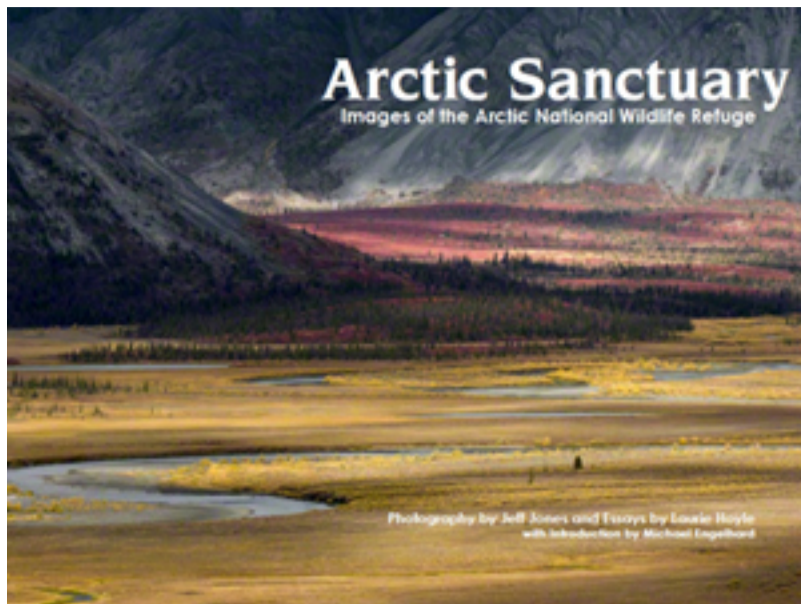
The exhibit features large format photographs along with text from the 2010 book, *Arctic Sanctuary: Images of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge* by wilderness landscape photographer Jeff Jones and writer Laurie Hoyle. The book commemorates the 50th anniversary of the creation of the ANWR.

"This show combines Jeff Jones' spectacular panoramic photographs of America's wildest lands with poetry, interpretive text, maps and information about the refuge," says exhibit coordinator Gordon Murdock. "Whether your interest is wilderness, the arctic, conservation or spectacularly beautiful images this show will speak to you."

Jones' keen understanding of the natural world, coupled with decades of experience in remote backcountry and wilderness areas, forms the foundation for his exceptional landscape photography. His goal is to ask viewers to examine their own ideas of wilderness in the modern world while returning to the intangible values of spirit and place that one can experience in ANWR's mountains, river valleys, forests and coastal plain.

The exhibit opens June 25 in the Bell Museum's Jaques Gallery and will continue through Sept. 4. A celebratory event for the exhibit is scheduled for Thursday, July 14. The exhibit is cosponsored by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Bell Museum of Natural History is Minnesota's official natural history museum where more than four million specimens support ongoing research and teaching at the University of Minnesota. The museum strives to discover, document and understand nature and promote informed stewardship of our world. It is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and welcomes nearly 85,000 visitors a year. Visit [www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org) for hours, admission and location information.



The exhibit features large format photographs along with text from the 2010 book, *Arctic Sanctuary: Images of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge* by wilderness landscape photographer Jeff Jones and writer Laurie Hoyle.

## New U of M research suggests Corporate Social



Carlos Torelli's research specialties include the social psychology of power, self-regulation and persuasion.

## Responsibility can backfire

Doing good can be bad for business, says marketing professor

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/02/2011) —Doing good isn't always good for business, according to new research from the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management. The discovery, to be published in the *Journal of Consumer Research*, found corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts have the potential to backfire for luxury brands associated with a self-enhancement concept.

"When people see brands advertised, they implicitly bring to mind abstract meanings," said assistant professor of marketing Carlos Torelli. "With BMW, for example, people think status and self-enhancement." Torelli is the author of the "Doing Poorly by Doing Good: Corporate Social Responsibility and Brand Concepts" study. "When all of a sudden people see a message that communicates pro-social things about BMW, they feel a disconnect—there's a sense of discomfort trying to put these two things together."

**To view or embed a video interview with Torelli discussing this new research, visit <http://youtu.be/rCCZRhhWEvM>.**

According to Torelli and co-authors Alokparna Basu Monga and Andrew M. Kaikati, this motivational conflict is triggered by the simultaneous activation of self-enhancement and self-transcendence values and an accompanying subjective experience of disfluency - "something does not feel right". This kind of motivational conflict, which draws upon Schwartz's model of human values, had not previously been reported in CSR literature.

In their studies, the researchers identified familiar luxury brands such as Rolex and BMW and presented participants with information suggesting that these brands were also pro-social brands engaged in CSR. Subjects were then asked to evaluate the messages compared to a control condition where the brand only communicated what it typically does—self-enhancement and status appeal.

"What we found is that people evaluated the brands more negatively when they were communicated with a pro-social agenda compared to the control condition. Interestingly enough, brands that were not luxury in terms of their self-enhancing nature didn't have this effect," said Torelli.

While the study suggests CSR presents a danger to luxury brands, Torelli's research found it is possible to counter the subjective experience of disfluency.

"If you're a luxury brand and you're trying to communicate your pro-social actions, you have to put people in a mindset to think carefully about the message and to be prepared to reconcile the information. If you communicate that, you don't get the negative reaction."

In a commercial, Torelli suggested this could be achieved by prior presentation of exemplars that counter the subjective experience of disfluency, such as reminding viewers of well-known philanthropists. The introduction of a sub-brand could also serve to discount it by signaling to consumers that a brand is engaging in inconsistent actions.

### About the Carlson School of Management

Established in 1919 and based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota is a recognized leader in business education and research. Its focus on experiential learning, international education and maintaining strong ties to the business community exemplify the school's commitment to excellence. More information about the school can be found at [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu).

## University of Minnesota mathematics ranks fourth in the world

Rankings based on research citation impact

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/02/2011) —The University of Minnesota is ranked fourth overall among the world's most influential research universities in the field of mathematics, according to a new ranking released today in the London-based Times Higher Education magazine. The University of Minnesota ranked fourth behind Johns Hopkins University, Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley.

In addition, the University of Minnesota ranked third in the world in the number of times mathematics research papers were cited. The three institutions with the highest number of citations are the University of California, Berkeley (14,070), Stanford University (12,548) and the University of Minnesota (11,375).

"These new rankings reconfirm the long-standing quality of research in the University of Minnesota School of Mathematics and the impact of our faculty's research worldwide," said Peter Olver, head of the School of Mathematics within the university's College of Science and Engineering. "We are pleased to see our accomplishments recognized."

The research for the rankings, carried out by Thomson Reuters exclusively for Times Higher Education, was based on citation impact of research papers published during the 10-year period from Jan. 1, 2001 to Feb. 28, 2011. About 20,000 institutions were included to obtain the final rankings.

The rankings list institutions by citation impact or citations per paper. The number of highly cited papers in the field for each institution is also listed, as well as the percentage of highly cited papers in terms of total output for each. Highly cited papers are defined as papers that rank in the top one percent by citations for their field and year of publication.

The nations represented by the institutions in the top 50 institutions are the United States (35 institutions), the United Kingdom (four), France (three), and Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Israel, Singapore and Switzerland (one each).

For a list of the full rankings and more information about the methodology used in determining the rankings, visit <http://z.umn.edu/mathranking>.

## Novel geothermal technology packs a one-two punch against climate change

Researchers have applied for a patent and plan to form a start-up company to commercialize the new technology

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Martin Saar, an Earth sciences faculty member, and graduate student Jimmy Randolph have devised an ingenious "two-for-one" strategy to simultaneously produce renewable energy and reduce the presence of harmful carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Photo courtesy Josh Kohanek.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/03/2011) —Two University of Minnesota Department of Earth Sciences researchers have developed an innovative approach to tapping heat beneath the Earth's surface. The method is expected to not only produce renewable electricity far more efficiently than conventional geothermal systems, but also help reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) -- dealing a one-two punch against climate change.

The approach, termed CO<sub>2</sub>-plume geothermal system, or CPG, was developed by Earth sciences faculty member Martin Saar and graduate student Jimmy Randolph in the university's College of Science and Engineering. The research was published in the most recent issue of *Geophysical Research Letters*. The researchers have applied for a patent and plan to form a start-up company to commercialize the new technology.

Established methods for transforming Earth's heat into electricity involve extracting hot water from rock formations several hundred feet from the Earth's surface at the few natural hot spots around the world, then using the hot water to turn power-producing turbines. The university's novel system was born in a flash of insight on a northern Minnesota road trip and jump-started with \$600,000 in funding from the U of M Institute on the Environment's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE). The CPG system uses high-pressure CO<sub>2</sub> instead of water as the underground heat-carrying fluid.

CPG provides a number of advantages over other geothermal systems, Randolph said. First, CO<sub>2</sub> travels more easily than water through porous rock, so it can extract heat more readily. As a result, CPG can be used in regions where conventional geothermal electricity production would not make sense from a technical or economic standpoint.

"This is probably viable in areas you couldn't even think about doing regular geothermal for electricity production," Randolph said. "In areas where you could, it's perhaps twice as efficient."

CPG also offers the benefit of preventing CO<sub>2</sub> from reaching the atmosphere by sequestering it deep underground, where it cannot contribute to climate change. In addition, because pure CO<sub>2</sub> is less likely than water to dissolve the material around it, CPG reduces the risk of a geothermal system not being able to operate for long times due to "short-circuiting" or plugging the flow of fluid through the hot rocks. Moreover, the technology could be used in parallel to boost fossil fuel production by pushing natural gas or oil from partially depleted reservoirs as CO<sub>2</sub> is injected.

Saar and Randolph first hit on the idea behind CPG in the fall of 2008 while driving to northern Minnesota together to conduct unrelated field research. The two had been conducting research on geothermal energy capture and separately on geologic CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration.

"We connected the dots and said, 'Wait a minute -- what are the consequences if you use geothermally heated CO<sub>2</sub>?' " recalled Saar. "We had a hunch in the car that there should be lots of advantages to doing that."

After batting the idea around a bit, the pair applied for and received a grant from the Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment, which disburses funds from Xcel Energy's Renewable Development Fund to help launch potentially transformative projects in emerging fields of energy and the environment. The IREE grant paid for preliminary computer modeling and allowed Saar and Randolph to bring on board energy policy, applied economics and mechanical engineering experts from the University of Minnesota as well as modeling experts from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. It also helped leverage a \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to explore subsurface chemical interactions involved in the process.

"The IREE grant was really critical," Saar said. "This is the kind of project that requires a high-risk investment. I think it's fair to say that there's a good chance that it wouldn't have gone anywhere without IREE support in the early days."

Saar and Randolph have recently applied for additional DOE funding to move CPG forward to the pilot phase.

"Part of the beauty of this is that it combines a lot of ideas but the ideas are essentially technically proven, so we don't need a lot of new technology developed," Randolph said.

"It's combining proven technology in a new way," Saar said. "It's one of those things where you know how the individual components work. The question is, how will they perform together in this new way? The simulation results suggest it's going to be very favorable."

## Bruininks to present proposed provisional FY2012 budget to Board of Regents next week

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**June 3, 2011**

University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will recommend his provisional operating budget plan for 2012 to the Board of Regents at the board's monthly meetings on Thursday and Friday, June 9-10. The board is scheduled to meet on June 20 to act on the budget proposal.

"Despite the impasse on the state budget, we need to move forward with the university's budget for next year," said Bruininks. "There is no denying that these are deeply challenging times, and we are facing a significant reduction in state appropriation. In the last decade, we've done our best to minimize the impact on our students and research mission. This budget continues that effort by addressing two-thirds of the budget challenge through spending cuts and internal reallocation and only one-third of the challenge through increased tuition."

The proposed provisional budget is based on the state appropriation level in House File 1101. Although vetoed by Gov. Mark Dayton, university leaders believe this to be a "worst case scenario" for state appropriation.

The president's provisional budget includes the following:

- \$40.5 million in unit reductions, including eliminating staff positions, reduced expenses, reduced reserves, restructured operations and program elimination;
- \$23.2 million in productivity improvements;
- a five percent tuition increase for most resident undergraduates; and
- a wage and salary freeze (subject to collective bargaining).

The president's proposed budget also includes a framework to allocate any additional resources appropriated beyond the level of HF 1101: one-third would go to reduce tuition, one-third to reduce budget cuts to academic units and one-third to minimize impacts expected in the second year of the biennium.

Finally, the provisional budget includes contingency plans to address the possibility of a short-term state government shutdown, to reduce any impact on university operations.

"A state government shutdown is both avoidable and unnecessary," Bruininks added. "But we need to take appropriate steps to minimize any impacts on our students and the critical education and research missions of the university."

As part of the board's June monthly meetings, it will also hold its annual meeting to elect a new chair and vice chair as well as hold a public forum on the president's proposed provisional operating budget for FY2012.

Highlights of the board's meetings include:

Thursday, June 9, 2011

8:15 - 9:15 a.m., Audit Committee, East Committee Room. The committee reviews the plan for external audits and hears a report from Compliance Officer Lynn Zentner.

8:15 - 9:15 a.m., Litigation Review Committee, W.R. Peterson Conference Room. The committee will consider a resolution to conduct a non-public meeting to discuss attorney-client privileged matters.

9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. A number of real estate transactions are acted upon, including a 99-year lease for the U of M's Hormel Institute in Austin, Minn. The committee will also act on resolutions regarding the demolition of three university buildings: Norris Hall, the Veterinary Anatomy Building and Wesbrook Hall.

9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Educational Planning and Policy Committee, East Committee Room. The committee acts on an update to the board policy on Tuition and Fees as well as research agreements with the Hormel Institute. Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Education Henning Schroeder will also provide an update on graduate education at the university.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Finance and Operations Committee, West Committee Room. The committee acts on two board policy updates: Endowment Fund and Investment Functions. It will also consider resolutions setting asset allocation guidelines and the issuance of debt for State-supported biomedical facilities.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, West Committee Room. The committee acts on a policy update on Faculty Tenure, receives the annual UPlan health insurance update, reviews proposed changes to the Faculty Retirement Plan for new employees and is briefed by Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Arlene Carney on leadership development for faculty.

Friday, June 10, 2011

9 - 11:30 a.m., Board meeting, boardroom. The board first holds its annual meeting, where meeting dates for the 2011-12 year will be established and officers will be elected. New officers assume their role July 1. Immediately following the annual meeting, the board adjourns and convenes the monthly meeting. The board will recognize Bruininks and his wife, Susan Hagstrum, for their service to the university. Bruininks's service as president ends on June 30. The board then will receive a formal presentation of the president's recommended FY2012 provisional budget described above. Provost Tom Sullivan and Senior Vice President Robert Jones will also present on the system-wide recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Committees.

Noon - 1 p.m., Board meeting, boardroom. The board will conduct a public hearing on the president's recommended FY2012 provisional operating budget. More information can be found at: <http://www1.umn.edu/regents/forum.html>.

More information on the U of M Board of Regents can be found at <http://www1.umn.edu/regents/index.php>.

## Out of Kenya: Field blog to document U of M



University anthropologist Kieran McNulty will travel to Kenya's Rusinga Island to head up an excavation at an Early Miocene site to document the origin of apes.

## anthropologists' study of one of the world's oldest and richest fossil ape sites

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**June 8, 2011**

University of Minnesota associate anthropology professor Kieran McNulty will travel to Kenya's Rusinga Island June 12 through mid-July to head up an excavation at an Early Miocene site to document the origin of apes. The Early Miocene is a geological period that extends from about 23 to 16 million years ago.

Joined by co-project leaders from the University of Rhode Island, Lehman College, Baylor University and Germany's Senckenberg Research Institute, the work is a research partnership with the National Museums of Kenya. A blog, available at <http://amnh.org/news> and coordinated by Will Harcourt-Smith of the American Museum of Natural History, will document the team's various daily activities.

"Our work is focused on understanding the evolution and adaptations of the earliest fossil apes," McNulty says. "Rusinga Island is the richest fossil site in the world that documents these early apes, and the fossils date to a span of time between 17 to 20 million years ago."

Rusinga Island was made famous by archaeologists and anthropologists Louis and Mary Leakey when they discovered the fossil ape Proconsul there in 1948.

Five species of apes and/or catarrhine primates are now known: Proconsul nyanzae; Proconsul heseloni; Dendropithecus macinnesi; Limnopithecus legetet; Nyanzapithecus vancouveringorum. In addition, there are now 95 species of extinct mammals known from Rusinga, plus other fossil vertebrates (reptiles, amphibians and fishes), invertebrates (fossil insects and gastropods), and even fossil plants (leaves, fruits, nuts and trees).

"This means that we have an abundance of material from which we can try to understand the ecological background within which early apes evolved and diversified," McNulty says.

Other University of Minnesota researchers involved in this summer's research are David Fox, associate professor in the College of Science and Engineering's geology and geophysics department, and anthropology graduate students Kirsten Jenkins and Nicole Garrett.

## International leaders in wheat disease prevention to gather in St. Paul

**Media Note:** Reporters and photographers are welcome to cover events both on the St. Paul campus and at the hotel. Contact Becky Beyers (612) 626-5754 or Linda McCandless at (607) 227-5920 to make arrangements.

**What:** 2011 Borlaug Global Rust Initiative workshop

**When:** Monday, June 13 through Thursday, June 16

**Where:** University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus and the Crowne Plaza hotel, St. Paul

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Linda McCandless, Borlaug Global Rust Initiative, (607) 227-5920

### June 8, 2011

Scientists who are working to stop the spread of plant diseases that threaten global food supplies will gather next week in St. Paul for their annual exchange of progress reports and new discoveries.

The 2011 Borlaug Global Rust Initiative technical workshop also includes a showcase of current research at the University of Minnesota, a leader in the fight against Ug99 and other diseases of wheat. Ground will be broken for a new greenhouse facility at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cereal Disease Lab, which is on the university's St. Paul campus.

Scientists from 17 institutions, including the University of Minnesota and the USDA, have been working together since 2008 on the Borlaug Global Rust Initiative, which is headquartered at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. The initiative was created at the urging of Nobel Peace Prize laureate and University of Minnesota alumnus Norman Borlaug, who saw that Ug99, a dangerous and fast-moving wheat disease, could reverse the advances in food production that his team made in the 1960s and '70s Green Revolution.

The initiative's goal is "to systematically reduce the world's vulnerability to rust diseases of wheat through an international collaboration of unprecedented scale and scope." Research is primarily funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

A complete schedule of speakers and events during the workshop can be found at [www.globalrust.org](http://www.globalrust.org).



## Large-scale early education linked to higher living standards and crime prevention 25 years later

Latest findings from Chicago Longitudinal Study published in *Science* today

**Media Note:** Embargoed until June 9, 1 p.m., CST

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/09/2011) —High-quality early education has a strong, positive impact well into adulthood, according to research led by Arthur Reynolds, co-director of the Human Capital Research Collaborative and professor of child development, and Judy Temple, a professor in the Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota. The study is the longest follow-up ever of an established large-scale early childhood program.

In “School-based Early Childhood Education and Age 28 Well-Being: Effects by Timing, Dosage, and Subgroups,” published today in the journal *Science*, Reynolds and Temple (with co-authors Suh-Ruu Ou, Irma Arteaga, and Barry White) report on more than 1,400 individuals whose well-being has been tracked for as much as 25 years. Those who had participated in an early childhood program beginning at age 3 showed higher levels of educational attainment, socioeconomic status, job skills, and health insurance coverage as well as lower rates of substance abuse, felony arrest, and incarceration than those who received the usual early childhood services.

The research focused on participants in the Child-Parent Center Education Program (CPCEP), a publicly funded early childhood development program that begins in preschool and provides up to six years of service in the Chicago public schools. Through the Chicago Longitudinal Study (CLS), Reynolds and colleagues have studied the educational and social development of a same-age cohort of low-income, minority children (93 percent African American) who participated in this program. The CLS is one of the most extensive and comprehensive studies ever undertaken of young children’s learning. Reynolds and colleagues have reported on the Chicago individuals starting in preschool, then annually through the school-age years, and periodically through early adulthood.

The new paper reports on the sample participants at age 28, when they found the most positive outcomes among the 957 individuals who began services in preschool -- especially males and children of high school drop outs. Positive effects also were found for the duration of services, those participating for 4 to 6 years from preschool to third grade. The control group of 529 included individuals of the same age who participated in alternative early childhood programs in randomly selected schools and who matched the program group on socioeconomic status. Among the major findings (preschool group compared to the control group, adjusted for sample attrition):

- 9 percent more completed high school; 19 percent more males
- 20 percent more achieved moderate or higher level of socioeconomic status
- 19 percent more carried some level of health insurance coverage
- 28 percent fewer abused drugs and alcohol; 21 percent fewer males alone
- 22 percent fewer had a felony arrest; the difference was 45 percent for children of high school dropouts
- 28 percent fewer had experienced incarceration or jail

Participants who participated in CPCEP for four to six years (preschool to third grade) compared to the control group receiving less than four years:

- 18 percent more achieved moderate or higher level of socioeconomic status
- 23 percent more had some level of private health insurance coverage
- 55 percent more achieved on-time high school graduation
- 36 percent fewer had been arrested for violence

“When you follow people for more than two decades, an understanding of how early experiences shape later development can be achieved,” Reynolds notes. “A chain of positive influences initiated by large advantages in school readiness and parent involvement leads to better school performance and enrollment in higher quality schools, and ultimately to higher educational attainment and socioeconomic status.”

Findings demonstrate that effects of sustained school-based early education can endure through the third decade of life. Previously, Reynolds and colleagues documented the cost benefits of early education, demonstrating an 18 percent annual return on investment for society. However, policy has yet to support the kind of early interventions needed to solve persistent societal issues.

“Unfortunately, we still spend very little on prevention,” says Reynolds. “Only 3 percent of the \$14 billion dollars allocated to school districts to serve low-income children under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act [No Child Left Behind] goes to preschool. Yet preschool programs are one of the most cost-effective of all social programs.”

He explains that since about half of the achievement gap between children from higher and lower economic statuses at age 10 already exists at age 5, education interventions need to start even earlier. “State and federal policies don’t reflect the knowledge of how much earlier these gaps appear, and therefore the need to start as early as possible,” he says.

Based on this and earlier studies, Reynolds and Temple say the key to CPC’s success lies in both the quality of the program and its teachers, the opportunity for more than one year of participation, small classes, comprehensive family services, structured activity-based curricula focusing on language and literacy, and attention to continuity of learning from preschool to the early school grades.

The study was funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Information on CLS can be found at <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/icd/cls/>.

The Human Capital Research Collaborative is a partnership of the University of Minnesota and the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis dedicated to identifying cost-effective public policies to promote well-being from birth to young adulthood (<http://humancapitalrc.org>)

## Linda Cohen and David Larson elected chair and vice chair of University of Minnesota Board of Regents

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/10/2011) —At its annual meeting today, the University of Minnesota Board of Regents elected Linda Cohen as its new chair and David Larson as its new vice chair. Cohen will replace current Chair Clyde Allen, who completes his two-year term at the end of June. Larson replaces Cohen, who is the current vice chair. Both Cohen and Larson assume their new roles at the board's July meeting.

"It has been a real honor to serve as chair of the Board of Regents over the past two years," said Allen. "I'm proud of the work we've done, even in some challenging times. Regents Cohen and Larson will be an exceptional leadership team for this board and I look forward to continuing to work with them."

Cohen, elected as an at-large member of the board, is a licensed psychologist and licensed marriage and family therapist. Previously, she was a consultant for TCF Bank, directing a business-education partnership with Patrick Henry High School in Minneapolis, assistant director/interim director of Blake Middle School, and a senior administrative team member of the Blake School. Since 2000, Cohen is a member of the Board of Education of Wayzata School District, serving as vice-chair and chair. She also has been a member of the Advisory Council of the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, member and chair of the steering committee of Minnesota Women Psychologists, and a member of the board of the Minneapolis Urban League. A graduate of the University of Minnesota with master of arts and Ph.D. degrees in educational psychology, Cohen also earned a master of arts degree in the history of science from Harvard University and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate in chemistry of Wellesley College.

Larson, who represents the Third Congressional District, is a retired executive vice president for Cargill, Incorporated, where his responsibilities as a member of the Board of Directors and Cargill Corporate Leadership Team included strategic direction and leadership, brand management, employee engagement, business excellence, business conduct and compliance, and overseeing businesses in 67 countries. A graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in political science, Larson currently serves on the boards of the University of Minnesota Foundation, the Minnesota Historical Society, Admission Possible and National History Day. He is past chair of the American Feed Industry Association.

More information about the University of Minnesota Board of Regents can be found at [www.umn.edu/regents](http://www.umn.edu/regents).

## University of Minnesota to host national biotechnology conference June 15-17

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**June 13, 2011**

“Food Security: The Intersection of Sustainability, Safety and Defense” will be the theme of the 2011 National Agricultural Biotechnology Council’s annual conference, hosted this year by the University of Minnesota’s College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

The conference will take place Wednesday through Friday, June 15-17, at the Hilton Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Mall of America, 3800 American Blvd. E., Bloomington. For details about the conference, or to register, visit <http://nabc23.umn.edu/program/index.htm>.

Agriculture faces many challenges that require a rapid response: changing climate, soaring food prices, emerging pathogens and concerns over environmental integrity and food safety. Agricultural biotechnology will be a key player in developing the technologies that help address these challenges and feed a growing population, yet protect and sustain the environment.

The conference will begin with an address, “The Importance of the Convergence of Sustainability, Safety and Defense for World Food Security,” by Daniel Gustafson, director of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization’s North American office. Other speakers during the conference will address a wide variety of issues, including future threats and risks to food security; sustainability in developing countries; and how biotechnology can protect food and water supplies. Cathie Woteki, undersecretary for Research, Education, and Economics at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will deliver the conference keynote address on June 16.

The National Agricultural Biotechnology Council, which involves scientists from 31 agricultural research and teaching agencies in the United States and Canada, has been hosting annual public meetings about the safe, ethical and efficacious development of agricultural biotechnology products since 1988.

## U of M's Donhowe Building qualifies for Energy Star rating

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The University of Minnesota's Donhowe Building, located at the corner of 15th and University avenues, is the first campus building to be rated as an ENERGY STAR Building by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/13/2011)

—The University of

Minnesota's Donhowe Building, located at the corner of 15th and University avenues, is the first campus building to be rated as an Energy Star Building by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

For nearly 20 years, the EPA has administered the familiar Energy Star program for household electronics and appliances. Similar to the Energy Star score sheets displayed on washing machines and water heaters, the EPA also administers a scoring system for buildings. This tool serves as a method for comparing a building's energy efficiency to the efficiency of similar buildings.

To earn the Energy Star rating, the Donhowe Building's energy consumption data (including building hours, size, number of occupants and types of lighting system) were compared to hundreds of similar buildings. Buildings that are more energy efficient than 75 percent of all similar buildings qualify for the Energy Star label. The Donhowe building earned a rating of 88, meaning it's energy efficiency rates in the top 12 percent of all office buildings. To view the statement of energy performance for the Donhowe Building [click here](#).

The Donhowe Building's high energy efficiency came about as the result of the U of M Energy Management group's recommissioning project in 2009. A recommissioning team analyzed and made improvements to the buildings' mechanical and electrical systems' performance, including installing a heat pump equipped water heater and optimizing heating and cooling air flow rates throughout the building.

Energy Management intends to continue to use the EPA's Energy Star rating system and the state of Minnesota's "B3" (Buildings, Benchmarks and Beyond) database to benchmark and compare University buildings' energy performance against similar buildings. Collectively, these tools will facilitate the recognition of the U's achievements in energy efficiency and help direct future efforts and resources to buildings where significant efficiency improvements are possible.

## U of M awarded \$51 million, joins national consortium of Clinical and Translational Science Award recipients

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The University of Minnesota Clinical and Translational Science Leadership Team, from left: Tucker LeBien, Ph.D., Sheila Riggs, D.D.S., Barbara Brandt, Ph.D., Jasjit Ahluwalia, M.D., M.P.H., Andrew Nelson, M.P.H., Connie Delaney, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, FACMI, Mark Herzberg, D.D.S., Ph.D.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/14/2011) —The University of Minnesota has been awarded a \$51 million Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) – the largest single-institution NIH award ever received by the University.

With the award, the U of M joins the renowned CTSA consortium, a national network of institutions working to increase joint research efforts between universities and the community and the efficiency and speed at which the results of clinical trials translate into new treatments, cures and improved health outcomes.

CTSA sites also train a new generation of researchers to engage early in collaborative efforts surrounding clinical research, and to focus on the training needs of both the universities and the communities alike.

“Successfully competing for the CTSA is a major victory for the University of Minnesota,” said President Robert H. Bruininks. “This is just the latest example of the ways in which the extraordinary knowledge and productivity of our talented faculty and staff garner new resources, discover new knowledge and develop real solutions to health concerns in Minnesota, across the nation and around the world. I am proud of the hard work and dedication our people have exhibited to bring this transformative award to fruition.”

For the U of M, the award confirms both the success and future promise of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI).

For the last five years, the U of M has invested substantial resources in the CTSI to actively engage U of M faculty and staff with community partners in the clinical trials and research process.

“Our CTSI provides the underpinning support necessary to exponentially expand our infrastructure and training capacity and push new discoveries forward faster,” said Bruce Blazar, M.D., CTSI director and leader of the CTSA program at the U of M. “Ultimately, this award is about capitalizing on the most promising research and putting findings into practice to improve the health of our patients and communities.”

In addition to maximizing community involvement, the \$51 million CTSA grant will support both new and existing university programs designed to push new treatments, therapies and clinical trials outcomes to patients faster, offering more immediate benefits from discoveries.

According to Aaron Friedman, M.D., Vice President for Health Sciences and dean of the Medical School, the CTSA will also tie together research taking place across focus areas known as the university’s Corridors of Discovery: cancer, cardiology, diabetes, infectious diseases and brain sciences.

“With this distinguished grant award, the NIH recognizes the strength of our university’s clinical research enterprise and our extraordinary capacity to translate scientific breakthroughs into improved health and well-being,” said Friedman. “The CTSA provides a catalytic opportunity to build on the fine foundation already in place at the university and across the state of Minnesota.”

The CTSA will also leverage work taking place in other university programs, with our community partners, as well as with CTSA partners across the region and nation, maximizing the potential impact.

“Success of the CTSA program depends on collaboration among our researchers across a number of disciplines, schools and programs,” said Tim Mulcahy, vice president for research. “Our university’s receipt of this award acknowledges our commitment to a patient-centered and more efficient model for clinical and translational research, as well as our focus on getting promising research to our patients quickly. We’re excited to contribute our strengths to the national consortium effort.”

## U of M President Bruininks to donate one of his prized possessions -- the second-largest walleye caught in Minnesota history

17 pound and 6 ounce lunker finds new home at U's Bell Museum, June 16



At 17 pounds, 6 ounces, the lunker is two ounces shy of the state record. The trophy walleye will find a new home at the U of M College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Science's Bell Museum of National History.

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### June 15, 2011

University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will hold a media availability Thursday, June 16, to donate the second-largest walleye caught in Minnesota history, which he landed on July 4, 1989, on Loon Lake along Minnesota's Gunflint Trail.

The availability takes place at 11 a.m. in Bruininks' office, room 202A Morrill Hall, 100 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

At 17 pounds, 6 ounces, the lunker is two ounces shy of the state record. The trophy walleye will find a new home at the U of M College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Science's Bell Museum of National History. Immediately following the availability, Bell Museum staff members will move the walleye to the museum.

Bruininks has said that the fish would have broken the state record had he gotten it to a scale sooner. At the time, his son, Todd, provided more insight to the Grand Marais newspaper: "I've fished with my dad, and I'm honestly convinced based on my observation that this fish committed suicide."

The walleye will help Bell staff educate visitors about fish and the habitat they need. Exhibit curator Don Luce says Bruininks' walleye will become a key feature of the museum's permanent aquatic exhibit.

"This is a high-quality mount that includes the gill and mouth structures," Luce says. "It'll be a great example for our interpretive staff as they lead families and school children on tours."

For the short-term, the walleye will be in a high-traffic location in the museum, going on display in late July. Longer-term plans are to incorporate the fish in the aquatics exhibit.

The walleye will fit right in at the museum amongst the displays of other creatures Minnesotans enjoy, such as moose, Sandhill cranes, bear, beavers, Peregrine falcons, great blue herons, wolves and whitetail deer.

## U of M study provides insight on why some men are like peacocks

Study shows that flashy may work for the short term but not for marriage

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“The studies show that some men are like peacocks. They’re the ones driving the bright colored sports car,” notes co-author Vldas Griskevicius. Image courtesy [Stock Xchng](#).

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/16/2011) —New research by faculty at the University of Texas-San Antonio (UTSA), University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management and Rice University finds that men’s conspicuous spending is driven by the desire to have uncommitted romantic flings. And women can see right through it, according to the study.

The series of studies, “Peacocks, Porsches and Thorstein Veblen: Conspicuous Consumption as a Sexual Signaling System,” was conducted with nearly 1,000 test subjects and published recently in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.

“This research suggests that conspicuous products, such as Porsches, can serve the same function for some men that large and brilliant feathers serve for peacocks,” said Jill Sundie, assistant professor of marketing at UTSA and lead author of the paper.

Just as peacocks flaunt their tails before potential mates, men may flaunt flashy products to charm potential dates. Notably, not all men favored this strategy – just those men who were interested in short-term sexual relationships with women.

“The studies show that some men are like peacocks. They’re the ones driving the bright colored sports car,” notes co-author Vldas Griskevicius, assistant professor of marketing at the University of Minnesota.

According to the researchers, women found a man who chose to purchase a flashy luxury product (such as a Porsche) more desirable than the same man who purchased a non-luxury item (such as a Honda Civic). However, there was a catch. Although women found the flashy guys more desirable for a date, the man with the Porsche was not preferred as a marriage partner. Women inferred from a man’s flashy spending that he was interested in uncommitted sex.

“When women considered him for a long-term relationship, owning the sports car held no advantage relative to owning an economy car,” added Daniel Beal, assistant professor of psychology at Rice. “People may feel that owning flashy things makes them more attractive as a relationship partner, but in truth, many men might be sending women the wrong message.”

Though often associated with Western culture, extreme forms of conspicuous displays have been found in cultures across the globe and throughout history.

While finding that men may use conspicuous consumption as a short-term mating signal, the researchers discovered that women don’t behave in the same manner and don’t conspicuously consume to attract men.

“Obviously, women also spend plenty of money on expensive things,” Sundie said. “But the anticipation of romance doesn’t trigger flashy spending as it does with some men.”

Other co-authors of the study are Kathleen Vohs, U of M Carlson School of Management; Douglas Kenrick, Arizona State University; and Joshua Tybur, University of New Mexico.

### About the Carlson School of Management

Established in 1919 and based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota is a recognized leader in business education and research. Its focus on experiential learning, international education and maintaining strong ties to the business community exemplify the school’s commitment to excellence. More information about the school can be found at [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu).

## U of M announces major investments in 11 research infrastructure projects

Funding for initiative derived from technology commercialization revenue

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/16/2011) —Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy announced today that more than \$12 million in funds derived from the university's share of technology commercialization royalties will be invested to enhance key infrastructure in support of research and scholarship at the University of Minnesota. This one-time funding follows recent investments of an additional \$15 million, bringing the university's total investment of technology commercialization royalties in critical infrastructure needs to \$27 million over the past 18 months.

The most recent round of awards caps a two-year initiative conducted by the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) in collaboration with the university's academic leadership to identify infrastructure needs deemed critical to the university's continued competitiveness.

For this latest round of investments, OVPR managed a competitive peer-reviewed application process that included reviewers from inside and outside the university. The awards made through the program will provide funds for infrastructure ranging from imaging instrumentation, multimedia facilities and sophisticated data analysis equipment to performance space for the arts. A full list of the projects selected for funding, along with a brief description of each, is available on the OVPR website.

Nearly six years ago, President Robert Bruininks and Mulcahy decided to place a portion of the technology commercialization royalties into a contingency fund to provide options for responding to opportunities, or to provide a critical lifeline in tough budgetary times.

"These strategic one-time investments will support the work of faculty in a broad range of academic disciplines across the Twin Cities and Duluth campuses," Bruininks said. "Even in the face of severe budget challenges, we remain committed to leveraging precious resources in support of the long-term vitality of the university so that it can continue its pivotal role in the state of Minnesota."

The latest round of funding was awarded to faculty in the College of Liberal Arts, College of Science and Engineering, College of Pharmacy, Medical School and the University of Minnesota -- Duluth. A number of funded proposals also included faculty from other colleges, including the College of Biological Sciences and the College of Education and Human Development. Colleges were also required to provide a one-third match for funded proposals.

"This funding will help support high-end research and scholarly needs that will benefit the entire university community, including the arts and humanities," Mulcahy said. "The budget challenges confronted by the university over the past several years have limited investments in critical infrastructure, so we decided now was the time to deploy these funds to address some of our greatest needs. These investments will provide fiscally stable infrastructure that will have a long-term impact for the entire university, and our only regret is that we lacked sufficient funds to respond to all of the legitimate needs across our campuses."

Over the past five years royalties from the commercialization of university technology have also provided support for a number of other critical initiatives, including:

- \$50 million to create the "21st Century Fund," an endowment designed to support graduate fellowships;
- \$7 million to purchase new nuclear magnetic resonance equipment necessitated by construction and operation of the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit project;
- \$5 million to support informatics research across the university; and,
- \$3 million in matching funds to support the purchase of a new supercomputer for the Minnesota Supercomputing Institute for Advanced Computational Research.



## U of M Board of Regents to meet June 20 to act on provisional budget

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**June 17, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents will meet at 10 a.m. Monday, June 20, to act on President Robert Bruininks' recommended provisional annual operating budget plan for fiscal year 2012.

The meeting will take place at McNamara Alumni Center, sixth floor boardroom, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The proposed provisional budget is based on the state appropriation level in House File 1101. Although vetoed by Gov. Mark Dayton, university leaders believe this to be a "worst case scenario" for state appropriation.

The president's provisional budget includes the following:

- \$40.5 million in unit reductions, including eliminating staff positions, reduced expenses, reduced reserves, restructured operations and program elimination;
- \$23.2 million in productivity improvements;
- a five percent tuition increase for most resident undergraduates; and
- a wage and salary freeze (subject to collective bargaining).

The president's proposed budget also includes a framework to allocate any additional resources appropriated beyond the level of HF 1101: one-third would go to reduce tuition, one-third to reduce budget cuts to academic units and one-third to minimize impacts expected in the second year of the biennium.

The provisional budget includes contingency plans to address the possibility of a short-term state government shutdown, to reduce any impact on university operations.

## U of M Board of Regents approves provisional 2012 fiscal year budget

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**June 20, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents today approved the \$3.7 billion provisional budget as recommended by President Robert Bruininks.

Regents voted 9 to 2 to approve the budget. Regents Steve Sviggum and Laura Brod voted against the budget. Regent Dean Johnson was out of the country and unable to participate in the meeting.

Although no state budget has been approved, the university's budget is based on House File 1101 which university leaders believe will be the "worst case scenario" for state appropriation.

The budget includes the following:

- \$40.5 million in unit reductions, including eliminating staff positions, reduced expenses, reduced reserves, restructured operations and program elimination;
- \$23.2 million in productivity improvements;
- a five percent tuition increase for most resident undergraduates; and
- a wage and salary freeze (subject to collective bargaining).

The budget also includes a framework to allocate any additional resources appropriated beyond the level of HF 1101: one-third would go to reduce tuition, one-third to reduce budget cuts to academic units and one-third to minimize impacts expected in the second year of the biennium.

## U of M researchers find smart decisions for changing



“We’re trying to do a good job of leaving behind a habitable planet,” said Stephen Polasky, a University of Minnesota applied economist and Institute on the Environment resident fellow.

## environmental times

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/21/2011) —You’ve just been told you’re going on a trip. The only problem is, you don’t know where you’re going, how you’ll be traveling, or what you’ll do when you get there.

Sound like a wild ride? It’s the one our planet is on right now. As land use, human population, consumption and atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations change at an unprecedented pace with complex and unpredictable interactions, it’s anybody’s guess where we’ll end up or what we can do to ensure the most favorable outcome.

Recognizing that “guess” is not good enough when talking about the viability of an entire planet, researchers from the University of Minnesota’s College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and Institute on the Environment teamed up with others at the University of Wisconsin and the Stockholm Resilience Center to find a better way. Together, experts evaluated existing environmental decision-making tools and constructed an approach they think will give us the best chance at making good choices for an uncertain future. They reported their work in the most recent issue of *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*.

“We’re trying to do a good job of leaving behind a habitable planet,” said Stephen Polasky, a University of Minnesota applied economist, Institute on the Environment resident fellow and lead author on the paper. “It’s easier to be a good planetary steward when you know where you’re going. But we’re driving with a muddy windshield. We could make mistakes and end up where we don’t want to be.”

The researchers looked at four “tools to clear the windshield” -- strategies for making decisions in the face of uncertainty: decision theory, threshold approaches, scenario planning and resilience thinking. Evaluating the strengths and limitations of each, they recommended bringing the best aspects of all together to create a two-phase process that boosts the ability to gather new information and perspectives; make decisions without full knowledge, but using best knowledge; and learn from decisions and then incorporate the lessons learned into future decisions.

“There’s been a lot of review of these different approaches and their utility, but not an integrative framework,” said co-author Bonnie Keeler, an IonE interdisciplinary graduate fellow. “We can’t just use tools from economics; we can’t just use scenarios; we can’t just use thresholds. We need to think of all of these in combination.”

In the first phase of the innovative strategy, decision-makers create a list of possible scenarios that include responses that allow plenty of room for rolling with the punches if something unexpected happens. The second phase involves choosing among courses of action based on those scenarios and available knowledge. After the decision is made and the consequences emerge, the process then starts again with the insights gained from experience factored in.

“The take-home message is that there are some very powerful tools out there, like decision theory, but they typically require that you know a lot [about the likelihood of various possible outcomes],” Polasky said. “We’re trying to think about a broader array of things that possibly could happen and anticipate what we might do about them.”

Polasky said he hopes the new approach will help decision-makers recognize the value of looking at a wide range of possible scenarios when selecting the path most likely to lead to a desirable outcome. So, for example, when making insurance decisions, companies or individuals would consider not only the events that have happened in the past, but also unprecedented events that could occur in the future.

“We may think we know the probability of a storm hitting my house,” he said. “What if the climate is changing so we don’t know the future probability of a storm? [We need to] be clever and creative and take a wide view so we’re not surprised by things.”

## University of Minnesota engineering researchers discover new source for generating 'green' electricity

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During a small-scale demonstration in the lab, University of Minnesota researchers showed how their new material can spontaneously produce electricity when the temperature is raised a small amount. Pictured (from left) are aerospace engineering and mechanics professor Richard James, Ph.D. student Yintao Song and post-doctoral researchers Kanwal Bhatti and Vijay Srivastava.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST.

PAUL (06/21/2011) —University of Minnesota engineering researchers in the College of Science and Engineering have recently discovered a new alloy material that converts heat directly into electricity. This revolutionary energy conversion method is in the early stages of development, but it could have wide-sweeping impact on creating environmentally friendly electricity from waste heat sources.

Researchers say the material could potentially be used to capture waste heat from a car's exhaust that would heat the material and produce electricity for charging the battery in a hybrid car. Other possible future uses include capturing rejected heat from industrial and power plants or temperature differences in the ocean to create electricity. The research team is looking into possible commercialization of the technology.

"This research is very promising because it presents an entirely new method for energy conversion that's never been done before," said University of Minnesota aerospace engineering and mechanics professor Richard James, who led the research team. "It's also the ultimate 'green' way to create electricity because it uses waste heat to create electricity with no carbon dioxide."

To create the material, the research team combined elements at the atomic level to create a new multiferroic alloy, Ni<sub>45</sub>Co<sub>5</sub>Mn<sub>40</sub>Sn<sub>10</sub>. Multiferroic materials combine unusual elastic, magnetic and electric properties. The alloy Ni<sub>45</sub>Co<sub>5</sub>Mn<sub>40</sub>Sn<sub>10</sub> achieves multiferroism by undergoing a highly reversible phase transformation where one solid turns into another solid. During this phase transformation the alloy undergoes changes in its magnetic properties that are exploited in the energy conversion device.

During a small-scale demonstration in a University of Minnesota lab, the new material created by the researchers begins as a non-magnetic material, then suddenly becomes strongly magnetic when the temperature is raised a small amount. When this happens, the material absorbs heat and spontaneously produces electricity in a surrounding coil. Some of this heat energy is lost in a process called hysteresis. A critical discovery of the team is a systematic way to minimize hysteresis in phase transformations. The team's research was recently published in the first issue of the new scientific journal *Advanced Energy Materials*.

Watch a short research video of the new material suddenly become magnetic when heated: <http://z.umn.edu/conversionvideo>.

In addition to Professor James, other members of the research team include University of Minnesota aerospace engineering and mechanics post-doctoral researchers Vijay Srivastava and Kanwal Bhatti, and Ph.D. student Yintao Song. The team is also working with University of Minnesota chemical engineering and materials science professor Christopher Leighton to create a thin film of the material that could be used, for example, to convert some of the waste heat from computers into electricity.

"This research crosses all boundaries of science and engineering," James said. "It includes engineering, physics, materials, chemistry, mathematics and more. It has required all of us within the university's College of Science and Engineering to work together to think in new ways."

Funding for early research on the alloy came from a Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI) grant from the U.S. Office of Naval Research (involving other universities including the California Institute of Technology, Rutgers University, University of Washington and University of Maryland), and research grants from the U.S. Air Force and the National Science Foundation. The research is also tentatively funded by a small seed grant from the University of Minnesota's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment.

For more detail on the research, read the entire paper published in *Advanced Energy Materials* at <http://z.umn.edu/energyalloy>.

## Public to explore the universe at the U of M's Bell Museum this summer

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**June 21, 2011**

For a limited time, when you visit the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History this summer, you will be able to travel into space among the planets and stars of the Minnesota Planetarium Society's ExploraDome.

An inflatable and fully immersive, interactive astronomy and Earth science learning environment, the ExploraDome allows visitors to discover the wonders of the current night sky and journey through a 3-D exploration of the solar system, galaxy and universe. Inside the dome, each audience can decide what to see and where to fly.

The ExploraDome will be at the Bell Museum, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis, for public shows at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. on June 21 and 28; July 12, 19 and 26; and Aug. 2, 10, 17 and 23. No reservation is necessary, and the ExploraDome shows are included with regular Bell Museum admission. Visit [bellmuseum.org](http://bellmuseum.org) for more information.

"This is not the points-of-light-on-a-dome experience many of us envision," said ExploraDome coordinator Sally Brummel. "We use a video game-style controller to pilot our audience through an interactive, digital world."

Through a process of guided inquiry, the audience travels virtually from inside the subatomic realm to the edge of the known universe. The program content is adaptable to audiences ranging in age from 5 to senior citizens. The ExploraDome travels the state and has reached more than 100,000 Minnesotans since it was introduced in 2007.

"We're very pleased to be able to partner with the Minnesota Planetarium Society to make this program more widely available," said Shoghig Berberian, K-12 education coordinator at the Bell Museum.

The Bell Museum of Natural History is Minnesota's official natural history museum, where more than four million specimens support ongoing research and teaching at the University of Minnesota. The museum strives to discover, document and understand nature and promote informed stewardship of our world. It is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and welcomes nearly 85,000 visitors a year.

The Minnesota Planetarium Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to building a new planetarium and space discovery center. Its goal is to inspire, inform and educate about our planet and our universe, and the many benefits of scientific thinking, technological advancement and exploration. Visit [mplanetarium.org](http://mplanetarium.org) for more information about the Minnesota Planetarium Society.

## Six Minneapolis schools selected for U of M literacy program

Funded by the Target Corp., program will help all students read by third grade

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/22/2011) —Six Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) have been selected as locations for Path to Reading Excellence in School Sites (PRESS), a comprehensive approach to early literacy developed by University of Minnesota Center for Reading Research co-directors Lori Helman and Matthew Burns and educational psychology professor Jennifer McComas. The Target Corp. is donating \$6 million to fund PRESS and other district literacy programs over the next three years. The selected schools are Marcy Open School, Anishinabe Academy, Anne Sullivan Communication Center, Pillsbury Elementary, Harvest Preparatory School and Best Academy.

Aimed at preparing all Minneapolis students to read by the third grade, PRESS expands upon research-based strategies developed via the Minnesota Reading First model, which improved student vocabulary, comprehension, word recognition and fluency. Helman, Burns and McComas, in partnership with The Minnesota Reading Corps, helped develop instructional strategies for students of all skill levels in kindergarten through third grade, including expanded support for English Language Learners.

“PRESS integrates the research on what is essential for student success in reading, the instructional practices that help learners advance and the school-wide structures that ensure a continuous focus on data,” Helman said. “There is evidence that each of these areas is critical to improved outcomes in student performance.”

Through PRESS, the selected schools will benefit from four key elements:

- A focus on quality core instruction with a schedule that allows a literacy block of 90 minutes for instruction plus 30 additional minutes for supplemental intervention or enrichment in literacy;
- Professional development that allows teachers to continuously improve and share their learning as well as monitor the progress of each student;
- A systematic process for data collection and prescriptive data analyses; and
- Tiered interventions and support for students who are not making adequate progress toward reading proficiency.

“What makes PRESS unique is: A, the melding of different research-based components, the likes of which has not been done before, and B, the addressing of core principles and practices, rather than implementing of programs,” Burns said.

Through an ongoing partnership that includes the Minnesota Reading Corps, university faculty and graduate students will provide coaching and support over the next three years.

Helman explains that the long-term goals of the project extend far beyond the initial six sites. “We will learn a lot in our collaboration with the individual school sites, the MPS district and the charter school leadership teams. PRESS project leaders will document our challenges and solutions as we engage together to meet our goals. Based on the work in Minneapolis, we hope to extend the model to other schools across the country in years to come.”

The Minnesota Center for Reading Research, located in the University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development (CEHD), conducts applied research on reading and on teaching approaches that facilitate reading instruction. More information can be found at <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/reading>.

The Department of Educational Psychology (<http://www.cehd.umn.edu/EdPsych/>) is one of eight academic departments in CEHD, which enrolls more than 5,200 undergraduate and graduate students.

## University of Minnesota startup to



Karl Vollmers (left) and John Scandurra (right) are former fellows in the U of M's Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows Program. Photo: Josh Kohanek.

## commercialize medical device for pulmonary hypertension

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/23/2011) —The University of Minnesota has licensed technology to Aria CV, Inc., to develop and commercialize a medical device for the treatment of pulmonary hypertension. A devastating disease that often strikes in the prime of life, pulmonary hypertension is abnormally high blood pressure in the arteries of the lungs that can lead to heart failure.

The technology was invented by former fellows in the U of M's Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows Program: John Scandurra, D.V.M.; Karl Vollmers, Ph.D.; Eric Little, Ph.D., J.D.; and, Christopher Scorzelli, M.D. Scandurra, CEO, and Vollmers, VP of research and development, will lead the privately held startup company based in St. Paul, Minn.

“The patients whose lives we aim to improve are extremely sick and aren't being helped by presently available pharmacologic therapies,” Vollmers said. “There is a significant market and medical need to treat these patients.”

The Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows Program is an intensive year-long, full immersion educational and intellectual property development program for medical devices at the University of Minnesota. A cross-disciplinary team, with a combination of degrees in engineering, medicine and biosciences, interfaces daily with faculty, medical professionals and industry collaborators to develop and test ideas for new medical devices with the goal of improving health care worldwide. In just the first three years of the program, the Innovation Fellows have secured 32 provisional patents, one licensing agreement and two start-up companies.

“The Medical Devices Fellows program assembles a team of midcareer professionals, gives them a crash course in medical device product development and sends them into hospitals to identify pressing market needs,” explained mechanical engineering professor Art Erdman, director of the U of M's Medical Devices Center. “The team then works together to narrow down a list of hundreds of needs to only a few that they work to further develop and, ideally, commercialize.”

“This is a great example of an innovative program that fosters collaboration across disciplines at the university,” said Tim Mulcahy, the U of M's vice president for research. “The fact that this technology is moving rapidly to the point where it will benefit those who suffer from this disease is further evidence of the exceptional work being done in the fellows program.”

The invention was initially funded by the Medical Devices Center, which is sponsored by the U of M's College of Science and Engineering and the Academic Health Center. Aria CV Inc., is a Corporation funded by private investors.

## U of M is open during the state government shutdown

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**June 23, 2011**

The University of Minnesota is open during the state government shutdown. Medical and dental clinics are open to treat patients, while summer classes, new student orientation, student services and other activities continue as usual. Buildings and offices are also remaining open during regular hours.

“The loss of state support, either temporarily or permanently, is a challenge to the University of Minnesota,” says U of M Chief Financial Officer Richard Pfitzenreuter. “However, like any large and complex organization, the university is prepared to fiscally manage fluctuations in our cash flow. We can weather a short-term disruption in the flow of next year’s state appropriation to the university.”

The university’s goal in managing the government shutdown is to minimize disruption to students, faculty, staff, patients and research.

U officials are closely monitoring the situation at the Capitol and continue developing contingency plans in case the shutdown should stretch into late summer.



## Dr. Maureen Reed elected chair of the U of M Alumni Association

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/24/2011) —Dr. Maureen Reed, executive director of the Nobel Peace Prize Forum, has been elected volunteer national chair of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) for 2011-12. She is the 75th chair in the organization's 107-year history.

"I'm honored to have the opportunity to serve as the chair of UMAA's National Board of Directors this year," Reed said. "It's a true privilege to have this opportunity to lead the association and serve our great university."

Reed (B.A. '75, M.D. '79) will officially assume her role on July 1. Outgoing volunteer national chair Ertugrul Tuzcu (M.S. '78) presented Reed with the gavel at UMAA's annual celebration on May 3.

"I look forward to working with Maureen to ensure that UMAA remains a relevant advocate to support and advance the university's excellence," said Phil Esten, UMAA president and CEO. "Her extensive and diverse background will benefit us greatly as we execute our new strategic plan, which we hope will set the standard for the next generation of alumni relations."

Reed is the executive director of the Nobel Peace Prize Forum. She has been a physician, administrator and health policy advocate in the Twin Cities for over two decades and has run for both lieutenant governor and U.S. Congress. From 1997 to 2005, she served on the University of Minnesota Board of Regents and held the role of chair for two years. She currently holds an adjunct faculty appointment at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health and the School of Medicine.

Also assuming new leadership roles on the board on July 1 are:

Kent Horsager, chair-elect  
Susan Adams Loyd, first vice chair  
Jim du Bois, vice chair  
Alison Page, vice chair  
Ertugrul Tuzcu, past chair  
Bonnie Welshons, vice chair  
Patrick Schott, secretary/treasurer

New board members elected include:

Clint Schaff, Southwest USA representative  
Martin Schultz, NW Minnesota representative – 2nd term  
Walter Bond, at-large representative  
Natasha Freimark, at-large representative  
Sandra Ulsaker Wiese, at-large representative – 2nd term  
Todd Williams, at-large representative – 2nd term

### About University of Minnesota Alumni Association

University of Minnesota Alumni Association is a nearly 60,000-member organization dedicated to engaging the University of Minnesota's global community to support and advance the University's excellence. For more information, visit [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org).

## U of M researchers contribute to global plant database that will expand research on ecosystems and climate change



A new database of plants' traits will help scientists around the world learn more about how climate change is affecting ecosystems.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/28/2011) —A new database of plants' traits will help scientists around the world learn more about how climate change is affecting ecosystems.

The availability of plant trait data in the unified global database promises to support a paradigm shift in Earth system sciences.

University of Minnesota researchers Peter Reich and Jacek Oleksyn, Department of Forest Resources, and Jeannine Cavender-Bares, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior, are members of the international collaborative that developed the database, which includes 3 million traits for 69,000 of the world's roughly 300,000 plant species.

The initiative, known as TRY, is hosted at the Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry in Jena, Germany, and includes scientists from more than 100 institutions around the world. Among hundreds of scientists, Reich, a resident fellow in the university's Institute on the Environment, is the leading contributor of data to the database.

The first installment of the database was published this week in the journal *Global Change Biology*.

"After four years of intensive development, we are proud to present the first release of the global database," said Jens Kattge, senior scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry and lead author of the publication. Reich, Cavender-Bares and Oleksyn are among the many co-authors.

Plants' traits – specific details about how plants look and function – determine how they compete for resources such as light, water and soil nutrients, and where and how fast they can grow. Ultimately, traits determine how plants influence ecosystem properties such as rates of nutrient cycling, water use and carbon dioxide uptake.

A major bottleneck to modeling the effects of climate change at ecosystem and whole-earth scales has been a lack of trait data for sufficiently large numbers of species.

"Global vegetation models commonly classify plant species into a small number of plant functional types, such as grasses or evergreen trees, but these do not capture most of the observed variation in plant traits," said Christian Wirth, professor of plant ecology at the University of Leipzig, one of the initiators of the project.

In contrast, the new database gives trait information for individual plant species—not just types—around the globe. By using it, scientists now will be able to build more realistic models of terrestrial biodiversity.

Reich says the data and the relationships among traits in the database "will revolutionize the biological underpinnings of Earth systems models, and will help us improve our ability to predict the future carbon cycle and climate change, and suggest mitigation strategies. We, and others, are already incorporating these data into large-scale models of Earth's biological function. In fact, a new initiative co-funded by the U of M's Institute on the Environment and the Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry is aiming to do just that."

## U of M researcher appointed head of National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/28/2011) —Charlie Lakin of the University of Minnesota has been selected to serve as the director of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) in the U.S. Department of Education, starting Aug. 29. Currently the director of the university's Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Community Living in the Institute on Community Integration, Lakin will bring to his new position more than 40 years of experience as a teacher, researcher, consultant and advocate in services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Throughout his career, Lakin's expertise has been widely sought after by federal, state and local government agencies, as well as disability advocacy organizations, in their efforts to provide quality services and supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in community settings. He has directed dozens of research and training projects and has authored or co-authored 300 publications that have contributed to the shift in the U.S. from providing services for persons with developmental disabilities in institutions to supporting community living.

Among recognitions that Lakin has received for his work are appointment by former President Clinton to the President's Committee on Persons with Intellectual Disabilities, the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities' Dybwad Humanitarian Award, the University of Minnesota's Outstanding Community Service Award and, most recently, the 2010 Research Matters! award from The Arc of the United States.

## New U of M President Eric Kaler and wife, Karen, to participate in Delano 4th of July Parade

Kalers will be joined  
by the U of M  
Marching Band and  
Goldy Gopher



Eric Kaler will become the 16th president of the  
University of Minnesota July 1.

**Who:** U of M  
President Eric Kaler  
and wife, Karen

**What:** Delano 4th of July Parade

**When:** 10:30 a.m. Monday, July 4

**Where:** Delano, Minn.

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### June 29, 2011

The new president of the University of Minnesota, Eric Kaler, and his wife, Karen, will take part in Minnesota's oldest and largest Fourth of July celebration parade in Delano Monday, July 4. They will be joined by a 100-member-strong University of Minnesota Marching Band contingent and Goldy Gopher.

The parade starts at 10:30 a.m. in Delano, with all roads to the parade route closing at 9:30 am. The U of M entries are numbers 20 and 21 in the line-up. For more information about the parade, including the route, visit <http://www.delano4th.com>.

Kaler is the 16th president of the university and comes from Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, New York, where he was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Kaler will be only the second university alumnus to serve as president of Minnesota's land-grant and research university.

Appointed as the ninth provost of Stony Brook in October 2007, Kaler received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1978 and his doctorate in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1982.

Prior to his appointment at Stony Brook, Kaler was a member of the faculty of the University of Delaware from 1989 to 2007. He served as chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering from 1996 to 2000 and dean of the College of Engineering from 2000 to 2007. He was an assistant professor and an associate professor of chemical engineering at the University of Washington from 1982 to 1989.

## Ingrid Schneider appointed to state tourism council

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/29/2011) —Ingrid Schneider, director of the University of Minnesota Tourism Center, has been reappointed to the Explore Minnesota Tourism Council by Gov. Mark Dayton.

The council was created by the 2004 Legislature to promote activities that support and expand the state's domestic and international travel market.

The university's Tourism Center, which provides education and research to strengthen tourism in Minnesota, is a partnership between University of Minnesota Extension and the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS). The Tourism Center's educational programs and pioneering research meet tourism industry needs in customer service, festival and event management and tourism development.

Schneider is also a faculty member in the U of M Forest Resources Department and coordinates the university's International Ecotourism Certificate.

"The university has an exciting role to play in this important area of Minnesota's economic development," Schneider says. "We offer pertinent education and research to inform and serve the industry. Council membership accelerates the transfer of that information. We value the opportunity to be on the council among such an esteemed group of tourism leaders."

"The council serves a critical role to guide our \$11 million dollar industry," Explore Minnesota Tourism director John Edman says. "This dynamic group of individuals represents a wide range of the tourism industry and I look forward to continue working with them."

The Explore Minnesota Tourism Council consists of 28 members, including 23 appointed by the governor. The director of Explore Minnesota Tourism chairs the council.

Established in 1987, the Tourism Center taps the research and engagement capacity of Extension and CFANS. The center's focus is to prepare and support the tourism industry for success and sustainability. Center staff and its affiliates research subjects that directly and indirectly enlighten decision making for individuals, communities and businesses.

## U of M announces Fulbright student scholars for 2011-12 school year

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (06/30/2011) —Eight University of Minnesota students (four graduate and four undergraduate) have been awarded Fulbright and Fulbright-affiliated grants for 2011-12 to pursue graduate study, research or English teaching in a foreign country beginning next year. Four of the awards were made to recent graduates. One of the recipients opted to accept a scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

The graduate student recipients are:

**Nicholas Anthony Fisichelli**, a doctoral student in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, received a Fulbright Grant to Germany. He will research the impact of climate change on forests, specifically whether temperate hardwood forests of maple and oak are expanding at the expense of the boreal conifer forests as the climate warms. Fisichelli graduated with a bachelor's degree in resource ecology and management from the University of Michigan in 1997.

**Kristin Elizabeth Garland**, who completed her master's degree in kinesiology in the College of Education and Human Development this year, is the 2011-12 winner of the University of Minnesota Graduate School's Fulbright Scholarship Exchange Program with the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in Trondheim, Norway. Working directly with the Olympiatoppen, an organization responsible for training elite Norwegian athletes, she will assess the differences between college-based (sports-studies programs) and club-based (performance focused) training programs on the performance and life of athletes. Garland graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College with a degree in communication studies in 2006.

**Melissa Rose Heer**, a doctoral student in art history in the College of Liberal Arts (CLA), received a Fulbright Grant to India. For her dissertation, she will look at the use of photographic reenactment across a group of contemporary Indian artists. Heer received her bachelor's in art history from St. Catherine University in 2004 and a master's in art history from the University of Minnesota in 2008.

**Emily Claire Bruce**, a doctoral student in history in CLA, will study in Germany with support of a DAAD scholarship. She will spend the 2011-12 year visiting archives related to her dissertation, which examines the influences of children's books on children in Germany between 1770 and 1850. Bruce received a bachelor's in history from Williams College in 2007. Bruce was awarded a Fulbright Grant but declined it to accept the DAAD scholarship.

The undergraduate student recipients, three of whom participated in the University Honors Program, are:

**Caroline Abadeer**, a 2011 CLA summa cum laude graduate with distinction in global studies and political science, with a minor in French studies, received a Fulbright Grant to Morocco. She will study the evolution of the position of the Islamist Justice and Development Party as Morocco's 2012 elections approach and will enroll in courses at the National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics in Rabat.

**Martin Chorzempa**, a 2011 Carlson School of Management summa cum laude candidate in finance and international business majors, received a Fulbright grant to study in Germany. He will pursue a master's in international relations at Freie Universität Berlin.

**Eleanor McLean-Browne**, a December 2010 CLA summa cum laude graduate with high distinction in Spanish studies, with a minor in English as a second language (ESL), received the Fulbright program's Ecuador English Teaching Assistantship. She will be placed at an Ecuadorian university, where she will assist in the training of future ESL teachers.

**Peter Schmitt**, a 2011 graduate with bachelor's degrees in German studies from CLA and environmental sciences, policy and management from the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, will teach English at a secondary school in Innsbruck, Austria, with support of a U.S. Teaching Assistantship. This Fulbright-affiliated program is financed by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture.

The Fulbright and DAAD competitions for students are administered at the University of Minnesota through the Graduate School and the Office for National Scholarships in the University Honors Program.

The Fulbright Program is an international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Since its inception, the Fulbright Program has provided approximately 300,000 participants, chosen for their leadership potential, with the opportunity to observe each others' political, economic, and cultural institutions; exchange ideas; and embark on joint ventures of importance to the general welfare of the world's inhabitants. The program operates in more than 155 countries worldwide. Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement as well as on demonstrated leadership potential in their fields.

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is Germany's national agency for support of international academic cooperation. It provides about 65,000 fellowships a year and is the largest grantor of international academic mobility in the world. The DAAD enables young academics from around the world to become leaders in science, culture, economics, and politics.

## U of M Board of Regents to meet July 6

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### July 1, 2011

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents will hold its July meeting on Wednesday, July 6, at McNamara Alumni Center, room 600, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis. This will be President Eric Kaler's first Board of Regents meeting.

During the meeting, the board will conduct a preliminary review of the university's 2012 state capital request.

The board meets all day on Wednesday and then convenes its annual two-day retreat on Thursday and Friday in Owatonna, Minn.

The schedule for the meeting is as follows:

### Wednesday, July 6

8:30 a.m., University of Minnesota Medical Center Fairview (UMMCF) Board of Trustees Nominating Committee, Board Office. The purpose of the meeting will be to determine nominees to fill three vacancies on the UMMCF Board of Trustees.

9:15 – 10 a.m., Audit Committee, East Conference Room.

10:15 – 11 a.m., Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, West Committee Room. The committee will act on a resolution amending faculty retirement plan contribution rates for new employees.

10:15 – 11 a.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. The committee will review the university's request to purchase property for the future development of the University of Minnesota, Rochester campus.

11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m., Finance and Operations Committee, West Committee Room. University Chief Financial Officer Richard Pfitzenreuter will provide an update of general tax issues faced by colleges and universities due to Internal Revenue Service compliance initiatives. The committee will also discuss the university's 2012 preliminary state capital request.

11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m., Educational Planning and Policy Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will review and discuss ideas for the committee work plan for 2011-12.

1:30 – 2:30 p.m., Board of Regents meeting. Amy Phenix will be introduced as the chief of staff for President Kaler. The board will review the university's 2012 preliminary state capital request.

### Wednesday, July 6, through Friday, July 8

Board of Regents annual retreat, Gainey Conference Center, Owatonna.

More information on the Board of Regents and live streaming of the board meetings can be found at [www.umn.edu/regents](http://www.umn.edu/regents).



Vladas Griskevicius is an assistant professor of marketing in the U's Carlson School of Management.

## Socioeconomic status as child dictates response to stress as adult

Exposure to danger leads those who grew up poor to gamble for immediate rewards

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/06/2011) —When faced with threat, people who grew up poor are more likely to make risky financial choices in search of a quick windfall, according to new research from the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management.

Published in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, “The Influence of Mortality and Socioeconomic Status on Risk and Delayed Rewards: A Life History Approach” by Carlson School assistant professor of marketing Vladas Griskevicius found that people respond to feeling threatened differently depending on whether people grew up in relatively resource-scarce or resource-plentiful environments.

The studies, which built upon earlier research on how mortality cues influence reproductive timings, found those who grew up resource deprived or felt poor were more likely to take risks for immediate rewards when they felt threatened. Subjects who were raised in a more predictable world never worrying about their needs responded to the same stressors by becoming more cautious.

“You can have two people who appear identical, but if they see that the world is a dangerous place such as by seeing news coverage of a new terrorist attack, they’ll diverge in how they respond,” Griskevicius says. “The difference between the two people is that they had a different socioeconomic experience growing up.”

According to Griskevicius, a prototypical example of the findings is a kid who grows up in a bad neighborhood. “If he hears gunshots down the street, this triggers a ‘live fast and die young’ psychology. He will feel the urge to get what he can while he can because the future is uncertain.” This response is likely related to why poorer individuals purchase more lottery tickets.

The research also suggests that efforts using a “you never know what’s going to happen tomorrow” approach to persuade at-risk kids to stay in school or avoid risky behaviors might be ineffective.

“Why should I go to school if I might not be around to see the benefits of my education?” Griskevicius asks. “Perhaps a more effective strategy would be to highlight the predictable aspects of the world. “It’s a sense of the predictability of the world that’s going to get people to save money, stay in school, be less risky and care about the future.”

Co-authors of the study are Joshua Tybur (VU University Amsterdam) and Andrew Delton and Theresa Robertson (University of California, Santa Barbara).

### About the Carlson School of Management

Established in 1919 and based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota is a recognized leader in business education and research. Its focus on experiential learning, international education and maintaining strong ties to the business community exemplify the school’s commitment to excellence. More information about the school can be found at [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu).



## U of M project will help corn and soybean farmers prepare for climate change

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New research led by the University of Minnesota will help corn and soybean farmers across the country modify farming techniques to deal with climate change.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/06/2011) —New research led by the University of Minnesota will help corn and soybean farmers across the country modify farming techniques to deal with climate change.

The project is funded by a five-year, \$4.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). The aim is to take farmers' already successful practices and find ways to refine them in anticipation of climatic changes such as stronger storms and longer droughts, said Nick Jordan, the U of M agronomy professor who is the project's principal investigator.

"The idea is to look at what corn and soybean farmers are already doing successfully and find ways to ensure some resiliency against the variable climates of the future," he said. Scientists hope to find a way to create conditions that enable rapid crop growth while also enhancing soil characteristics that enable soils to handle spikes in rainfall and temperature that may become common if the Midwest climate changes.

That solution likely will include a technique known as "precision zonal management," in which farmers create a ridge of soil along rows of corn or beans. The ridges create zones where crops get the nutrients and other conditions needed for good yields, while the areas between ridges enable soil-building processes to occur without interfering with crop growth. Cover crops are valuable for soil building, but can reduce crop yield. Zonal management might help Midwest farmers use cover crops for soil building with less cost and risk, Jordan said.

In-field research is underway at the Rosemount Research and Outreach Center and at sites in Illinois, Pennsylvania, Michigan and New Hampshire. "We want to find out how soil properties change under zonal management, and take a close look at the plant and soil processes needed to make the system work," Jordan said. "This could be extremely useful information for the entire Corn Belt."

The project is part of a larger effort by NIFA to find ways for agriculture and forestry producers to adapt to climate change and to best take advantage of variable climate patterns. In addition to the Minnesota grant, a dozen more projects totaling about \$53 million have received funding.

U of M  
School of  
Music  
presents The  
World  
Famous  
Glenn Miller  
Orchestra  
Sept. 8

**Contacts:** Lisa  
Marshall, School of  
Music,



The School of Music is presenting The World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra on Sept. 8 at Ted Mann Concert Hall.

[marsh396@umn.edu](mailto:marsh396@umn.edu), (612) 626-1094

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

**July 11, 2011**

The University of Minnesota School of Music will present The World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis.

Tickets are \$34/\$29 (reserved seating) and are available by calling the University of Minnesota Tickets and Events Box Office at (612) 624-2345 or online at [www.tickets.umn.edu](http://www.tickets.umn.edu).

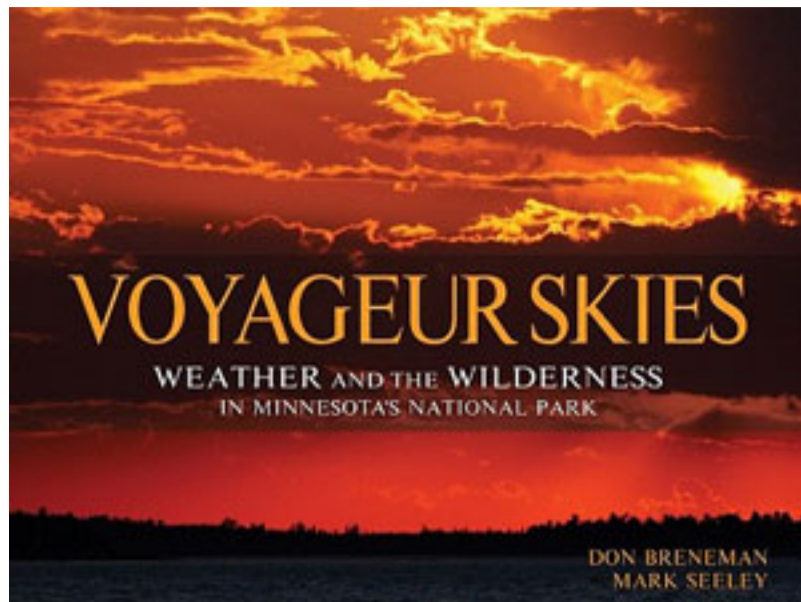
With its unique sound, the Glenn Miller Orchestra is the most popular and sought-after big band in the world today and tours the globe paying homage to its namesake. The band will perform Miller's greatest hits, such as "In the Mood," "Moonlight Serenade" and "Chattanooga Choo Choo," along with other big band favorites from the World War II era.

This program is made possible with support from the University of Minnesota School of Music, Ted Mann Concert Hall, and media sponsor KBEM-FM Jazz 88.

Parking is available in the 21st Avenue ramp, one block southwest of the concert hall. For directions and more information, visit the University of Minnesota School of Music website, [www.music.umn.edu](http://www.music.umn.edu).

U  
climatologist  
Mark Seeley,  
photographer  
Don  
Breneman  
release  
'Voyageur  
Skies'

New book chronicles  
the seasons in  
Minnesota's only  
national park



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**July 12, 2011**

"Voyageur Skies: Weather and the Wilderness in Minnesota's National Park" chronicles the seasons in Voyageurs National Park through University of Minnesota Extension climatologist Mark Seeley's account of how weather and climate have shaped the park's pristine landscape. Retired Extension photographer Don Breneman, co-author of the book, shows the many stunning facets of the park as they appear through his own lens.

"'Voyageur Skies' is educational in that it describes the climate of this unique place, its ecosystem, wildlife, and waters, as well as how all of that is being affected by climate change," said Seeley, who has studied Minnesota's climate for more than 34 years as Extension's climatologist.

Seeley's educational Extension work has brought about progress and better preparedness related to weather/climate impacts on the state's agriculture, transportation, energy, tourism and natural resources. To many Minnesotans, he is known as the reassuring voice of factual information that makes for better decision-making.

About how he came to write the book, Seeley said: "In the 1990s I did a comprehensive study of the climate in Superior National Forest for the U.S. Forest Service. It gave me insights about the far northern climates in the state and how they are influenced by the great border lakes."

While celebrating the spectacular beauty to be found in Minnesota's only national park, "Voyageur Skies" facilitates wider discussion and understanding of implications for the future if the quality of the state's resources is to be preserved.

Written for general readers and also for classroom use, this book will be the centerpiece for educational programs to be offered jointly by Extension and the University of Minnesota Water Resources Center.

Autographed copies of "Voyageur Skies," signed by both Seeley and Breneman, are available through the University of Minnesota Extension Store. Order online at [www.extension.umn.edu/go/1068](http://www.extension.umn.edu/go/1068) or call 1-800-876-8636. Hardcover with dust jacket, 104 pages, 11.5" x 9.5" and more than 80 photographs. \$29.99.

## University of Minnesota to host public meeting on St. Anthony Falls Laboratory renovation project Aug. 2



**What:** Public meeting on St. Anthony Falls Laboratory renovation project  
**When:** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2  
**Where:** St. Anthony Falls Laboratory Auditorium, 2 Third Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

With federal assistance from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the regents of the University of Minnesota are proposing to renovate the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory.

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### July 12, 2011

With federal assistance from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the regents of the University of Minnesota are proposing to renovate the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, an interdisciplinary research center of the university's College of Science and Engineering. The St. Anthony Falls Laboratory comprises a main laboratory building and an Outdoor Stream Laboratory located in the adjacent wasteway. The renovation will make possible significant advances in key research areas of energy and the environment.

NSF and the university, seeking further public participation in the design of the renovation, invite interested persons to attend a public meeting from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2, in the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory Auditorium, 2 Third Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The purpose of this meeting is to describe the main elements of the preliminary architectural design, show examples of the research opportunities that will be possible with the renovated laboratory and to elicit public comments on potential effects the project may have on this historic property and historic district.

The University of Minnesota first considered building a hydraulic laboratory to use the water power at St. Anthony Falls as early as 1908. The plan came to fruition in the mid 1930s as a result of the transfer of city-owned land at the site to the university, the cooperation of the St. Anthony Falls Water Power Co., and, most importantly, the availability of funds through the Federal Works Progress Administration. Construction began in 1936 and was completed in 1938.

The St. Anthony Falls Laboratory is located within the Mississippi River National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA) as designated by Congress. The laboratory is, along with a number of other historic components, a contributing element of the St. Anthony Falls Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and locally designated by the City of Minneapolis.

The university has been awarded a grant from the NSF's Academic Research Infrastructure Program: Recovery and Reinvestment (ARI-R<sup>2</sup>) Program to design and, potentially, construct a portion of the project, which assistance renders the project a federal undertaking pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act ("Section 106"), 16 U.S.C. Section 4700(f), as amended.

NSF, the university, the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the National Park Service (NPS), the City of Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission and the Mississippi Riverfront Corp. have been engaged in consultations as consulting parties in accordance with Section 106 and 36 CFR 800.2(c).

The university has deployed a publicly accessible website that describes the project and the opportunities for input by interested parties. See <http://saflr3.umn.edu>. This website contains information about the project, including the evolution of its design, its effects on historic properties and its potential for promoting discovery in science and engineering.

For more information, contact James Litsheim, U of M Capital Planning and Project Management, at [lits002@umn.edu](mailto:lits002@umn.edu) (612) 624-4359.

## U of M anthropology students learning field archaeology near Hastings, Minn.

**What:** Archaeological field school and dig

**Where:** Near Spring Lake, outside Hastings, Minn.

**When:** July 11 – Aug. 5

**Who:** Students from the University of Minnesota, directed by professor Gilliane Monnier and Science Museum of Minnesota archaeology curator Ed Fleming

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**July 12, 2011**

Anthropology students at the University of Minnesota are taking their classroom to the field this summer. Professor Gilliane Monnier's advanced archaeology students are spending four weeks in July and August conducting field studies at the Bremer Village site near Spring Lake, outside Hastings, Minn.

The 12 students are learning hands-on archaeology basics, such as digging test pits, identifying artifacts and mapping an archaeological site, while contributing to existing research on Native Americans who lived at the site on and off between 200 and 1200 C.E.

This field school will help the U of M undergrads acquire all of the necessary field techniques and skills that they need in order to do North American archaeology; it is essentially on-the-job training for anyone who wishes to work in archaeology someday or to attend graduate school in archaeology.

Bremer Village is part of a complex of sites on Spring Lake that was excavated by the Science Museum of Minnesota (SMM) in the 1950s. SMM archaeology curator Ed Fleming is co-teaching the class with Monnier. He excavated a nearby site last year, and said that the students can expect to find stone tools, pottery shards, post holes and other evidence of people living there.

The goal this summer, he said, is to excavate a new part of the site to get a better handle on the area as a village. "If we can obtain more information from the various components at the site, we can learn more about the people who lived there, how long they were there and how their culture changed over time," said Fleming. Fleming suspects that, due to the many springs in the area, Bremer Village might have been a winter camp. If they can find evidence of what people were eating at the site—animal bones or burned plant remains in remnants of storage or fire pits—it will tell them more about when and how people lived at the site.

Seven high school students from the SMM's Kitty Anderson Youth Science Center will work side by side with the college anthropology students during weeks three and four.

Visitors to the Bremer Village site must cross private property to get there, so reporter/photographer visits must be coordinated with co-directors Fleming and Monnier. Please call Jeff Falk or Kelly O'Brien to arrange a visit to the site. The best photo opportunities are likely during weeks three and four.

## U of M's NorthStar Initiative launches innovative approach to advancing business sustainability and bottom line

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/18/2011) —Building on 18 months of groundwork laid under the guidance of scores of business, nonprofit and government partners, the NorthStar Initiative at the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment has launched a bold new approach to collaboratively meet sustainability challenges.

The approach taps multi-sector teams to identify specific big obstacles to whole-enterprise sustainability that NorthStar members can directly influence. Then U of M sustainability experts take on the task of overcoming them. Team members receive first use of the new knowledge generated, with other NorthStar affiliates and the general public following later on.

Commissioned at a meeting of more than 70 NorthStar affiliates, the effort is beginning with a focus on two specific initiatives:

One, the Sustainable Procurement Initiative, will focus on developing methods to improve the scientific assessment of eco-labels and product claims and producing a tool that business and institutional purchasers can use to make decisions about sustainable purchases. NorthStar is partnering with large retailers and governmental purchasing programs, where purchase volume and impact are greatest.

The second, the GOLDEN Initiative, joins NorthStar with a network of more than 60 researchers around the world to improve understanding of how sustainability actions and culture are integrated with the core functions of business and how they change business models.

"The best companies are increasingly shifting their approach to sustainability from communicating how current products and processes might be better for the environment or society to building competencies that actively pursue new innovative solutions that meet customer needs sustainably," said NorthStar director Tim Smith, a resident fellow at IonE and member of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences faculty. "Understanding how the best companies are doing this, and providing other organizations the tools to benchmark against, is critical to altering the currently unsustainable trajectories of business as usual."

The GOLDEN initiative is a partnership with the European Union–based GOLDEN network, which will be the largest coordinated research effort of its kind in the history of management.

Other potential initiatives discussed at the meeting include using social media to share network resources and reduce impacts of local distribution, setting up material-sharing systems that allow one business's trash to become another's treasure, and establishing new financial markets and instruments for energy efficiency projects in industry and buildings.

The current and potential initiatives emerged from nearly two years of discussions within the NorthStar community. Since December 2009, NorthStar participants have been meeting roughly every six months, collectively building the structure and process necessary to tackle these enormous challenges.

"Current sustainability challenges are bigger than any single person, organization or government," said Smith. "NorthStar provides a mechanism for organizing for sustainability that respects proprietary information while opening doors to sharing business-boosting information to all participants' benefit. It's about innovation, collaboration and mutual benefit."

NorthStar collaborators to date have represented some of the nation's leading companies and organizations, crossing all sectors of business.

Interested regional, national and international businesses, nonprofits and government entities are invited to join one or more of the NorthStar initiatives. For more information on membership, email Michelle Linhoff at [mlihoff@umn.edu](mailto:mlihoff@umn.edu), and for general information see [www.environment.umn.edu/nise](http://www.environment.umn.edu/nise).

## Elizabeth Bye is new head of Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel in U of M College of Design



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Elizabeth Bye's professional experience includes work with Nike, Uniforms To You and Gerber Garment Technology.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/18/2011) —Elizabeth "Missy" Bye has been appointed head of the Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel (DHA) in the University of Minnesota's College of Design. The appointment of Bye, a professor in the department, became effective June 20, following the 16-year tenure of Becky Yust. Bye becomes the department's fifth head in DHA's 28-year history – the second since the College of Design was founded in 2006.

"Missy Bye is a productive scholar, a popular teacher and a respected colleague," said Tom Fisher, dean of the college. "Those traits, combined with her characteristic humility and sense of humor, will serve her well as she carries on the great tradition of strong leadership at DHA, and helps lead the department forward during a time of considerable change in higher education. We all look forward to working with her."

As a professor in the College of Design, Bye co-directs the Wearable Product Design Center, which is an innovative, synergistic "think-tank" that allows researchers to explore methods and technologies that will change how we design, produce and wear clothing. She also coordinates research in the Wearable Innovation Studio -- a space for collaborative development of wearable prototypes and materials testing using current and developing technologies that address issues at the intersection of formation and performance of wearable products.

Utilizing body scanner technology in the Human Dimensioning© Lab, she has developed new ways to analyze body measurements, thereby optimizing fit across a range of sizes, advancing the fit of maternity wear and comparing virtual versus live fit evaluation. One of Bye's current projects, supported by a University of Minnesota Imagine Fund grant, explores and evaluates ultrasonic welding technology for applications that extend beyond its traditional use in low cost medical and industrial applications.

"DHA has a strong reputation for quality, achievement and a culture of looking forward," said Bye. "Our disciplines bring different perspectives to our collective focus on the interactions among people and their near environments, and support a rich, diverse community -- which is the right environment for innovation. I want to strengthen our emphasis on interdisciplinary work around a mission and purpose that transcends individual disciplines. The desire to make a difference in the larger community is something we all share and that is my motivation to serve as department chair."

Bye's professional experience includes work with Nike, Uniforms To You and Gerber Garment Technology. She recently completed a book, "Fashion Design," to introduce undergraduates to the central concepts of fashion design with a focus on significant cultural, economic and ethical issues that designers must balance in the global apparel industry. One of her current collaborative projects, Sustainability for a Global Society: Beginning at Home, explores the role of apparel designers in developing sustainable apparel products and extends our understanding of apparel design practices.

Bye received a doctorate from the College of Human Ecology at the University of Minnesota with a focus on apparel product development. She has a bachelor of science degree in textile science and a master of science degree in apparel design from Virginia Tech.

For more information on the College of Design, visit: [www.design.umn.edu](http://www.design.umn.edu), [www.facebook.com/UofMDesign](https://www.facebook.com/UofMDesign) and [twitter.com/UofMDesign](https://twitter.com/UofMDesign).



## Media availability on U preparations for U2 concert

**Media Note:** MEDIA CALLS ONLY PLEASE

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**July 18, 2011**

The University of Minnesota will hold a media availability at 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 19, to update media on the university's preparations for this Saturday's U2 concert – the first concert to be held at TCF Bank Stadium. Scott Ellison, the university's associate athletic director for facilities, will provide the update.

Media interested in the media availability can gather outside of the stadium on the Minnesota Tribal Nations Plaza (the west plaza.) Media can park in the designated media parking spots next to Williams and Mariucci arenas. Photographers and videographers will be allowed to get shots outside of the stadium, but there will be no access inside the stadium at this time.

For information about transportation to the concert, parking and all concert logistics information, please go to this [page](#).



## U of M Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment awards \$4.1 million to 20 energy projects

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/19/2011) —More affordable photovoltaic energy, better batteries, improved household energy conservation, renewable jet fuel and power-producing bacteria are among the energy innovations that will be advanced by \$4.1 million in grants awarded this week by the Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment to 20 research and demonstration teams at the University of Minnesota.

“We received an unprecedented number of extremely high quality proposals from the university community,” said IREE Science Director John Sheehan. “These projects represent the best of the best. They run the gamut from near commercial to cutting edge R&D.”

Funding for IREE grants comes from Xcel Energy’s Renewable Development Fund and Conservation Improvement Program as directed by the Minnesota Legislature and is awarded in three categories, large grant, early career grant and seed grant. Recipients are chosen by a national team of judges based on scientific and technical merit, the potential for major breakthroughs on national and global scales, alignment with Minnesota’s competitive advantages, a strong interdisciplinary approach, and a clear business plan and exit strategy for securing future support.

Faculty, students and staff at University of Minnesota campuses and research and outreach centers around the state will be involved with the projects. Large grants support integrated, multi-disciplinary research teams working on projects of up to three years in duration. Early career grants enable faculty in the early stages of their careers to launch and/or accelerate innovative research consistent with IREE’s mission. Seed grants are for one year and explore the potential for high-risk, high-potential projects in the initial stages of development.

### Projects Selected To Receive IREE Large Grants:

#### Materials for 1\$/W CIGS-Based Photovoltaics

Project lead: Stephen Campbell, Electrical and Computer Engineering, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$695,000

#### Design Tools for Multivariable Control of Large Wind Turbines

Project lead: Gary Balas, Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$278,600

#### High Energy Density, Nanostructured Supercapacitors for Electrical Energy Storage

Project lead: Philippe Buhlmann, Chemistry, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$695,000

#### Developing Intermediate Wheatgrass for Sustainable Co-production of Fuel and Food

Project lead: Don Wyse, Agronomy and Plant Genetics, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

Award: \$695,000

#### Distributed Ammonia Production Using Wind Generated Hydrogen and Power

Project lead: Alon McCormick, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$400,000

### Projects Selected To Receive IREE Early Career Grants:

#### Engineering Bacterial Bioelectrical Catalysts

Project lead: Jeffrey Gralnick, BioTechnology Institute

Award: \$150,000

#### Enhanced Exciton Harvesting in Organic Photovoltaic Cells Using Engineered, Graded Film Compositions

Project lead: Russell Holmes, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$149,034

#### Evaluating wind farm performance under realistic thermal and complex terrain conditions: the first path towards optimization

Project lead: Michele Guala, Civil Engineering, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$150,000

#### Microbial Communities for Enhanced Biofuel Feedstock Production

Project lead: Brett Barney, Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

Award: \$150,000

#### Solar thermochemical CO2 capture

Project lead: Wojciech Lipinski, Mechanical Engineering, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$149,546

### Projects Selected To Receive IREE Seed Grants:

#### Engineering of protein based nano-bioreactors for biofuel production and biocatalysis

Project lead: Claudia Schmidt-Dannert, BioTechnology Institute

Award: \$58,000

#### Next-Generation Microbial Systems For Bioconversion

Project lead: Robert Blanchette, Plant Pathology, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

Award: \$70,000

#### Concentrated Solar Energy Devices Enabled by Wavelength Selective Mirrors

Project lead: Jane Davidson, Mechanical Engineering, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$69,830

#### Understanding Drivers of Whole-Household Energy Conservation in Minnesota Using the Twin Cities Household Ecosystem Project

Project lead: Lawrence Baker, Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

Award: \$69,365

#### Biomass Torrefaction: Understanding Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Potential Financial Opportunities

Project lead: Vance Morey, Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

Award: \$69,978

#### Development of a Self-powered Wireless Sensor for Structural Health Monitoring in Wind Turbine Blades

Project lead: Rusen Yang, Mechanical Engineering, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$68,280.57

#### Rethinking How We Manage Traffic to Reduce Emissions while Maintaining Mobility: A New Paradigm for Traffic Management

Project lead: Henry Liu, Civil Engineering, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$70,000

#### Drop-in Jet Fuel from Renewable Resources via Enzyme Catalyst

Project lead: John Lipscomb, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology & Biophysics, College of Biological Sciences

Award: \$70,000

#### Production of Lipids for Biofuel Production and Human Nutrition From a Cold-Tolerant Yellow-Green Algae

Project lead: Paul Lefebvre, Plant Biology, College of Biological Sciences

Award: \$70,000

#### New Energy Technology Based on the Direct Conversion of Heat to Electricity Using Multiferroic Alloys

Project lead: Richard James, Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics, College of Science and Engineering

Award: \$70,000

IREE, a signature program of the Institute on the Environment, promotes statewide economic development; sustainable, healthy and diverse ecosystems; and national energy security through development of bio-based and other renewable resources and processes. Since its inception in 2003, IREE has supported nearly 200 projects in areas including bioenergy and bioproducts; solar; hydrogen; wind, hydro and geothermal power; conservation and efficient energy utilization; and policy, economics and ecosystems.

For more information on IREE and to view the complete project database, visit [www.environment.umn.edu/iree](http://www.environment.umn.edu/iree).

## U of M recognizes 2011 Farm Families of the Year

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/19/2011) —Seventy-five families from around the state, one from each participating county, have been named a “2011 Farm Family of the Year” by the University of Minnesota.

The families will be officially recognized in a ceremony Thursday, Aug. 4 at the annual Farmfest near Redwood Falls, Minn. Profiles of the 2011 honorees and information on the recognition event can be found on the the University's farm family website at <http://mnfarmfamilies.cfans.umn.edu>.

“These farm families are a major driver of Minnesota's economy and the vitality of Minnesota's rural communities,” said Bev Durgan, dean of University of Minnesota Extension. “The University of Minnesota is proud to recognize these farm families for their contributions to agriculture and their communities.”

Families receiving honors were selected by their local county Extension committees and have demonstrated a commitment to enhancing and supporting agriculture and agricultural production.

Farmfest runs Aug. 2-4 at the Giffillan Estate, near Redwood Falls, Minn. Event hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Aug. 2 and 3, and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Aug. 4. Admission is \$10 per person, and those 18 and under are admitted free. More information on Farmfest is available at [www.farmshows.com/ffst](http://www.farmshows.com/ffst).

The diversity of Minnesota family farms can be seen by looking at a sample of the 2011 honorees:

### Peterson Family of Clay County

The Peterson farm has undergone many changes over the years. Today, the farm produces sugar beets, wheat, barley, soybeans and grain corn. Sherwood and Marilyn Peterson have three sons who help as machine operators, repair men, planters, harvesters, deliverers and more.

### Sever Peterson Farm and Corn Maze of Hennepin County

The Sever Peterson Farm in Eden Prairie was established by Sever's grandfather in the late 1880s. Today the farm has roadside stands, crops, a corn maze and 17 vegetable stands across the western Minneapolis suburbs. They also have corn and soybean fields. The Peterson corn maze was the first in Minnesota and the second in the U.S. The annual corn maze event includes a pumpkin patch, live music and exotic animals.

### Swentik Family of Lake of the Woods County

George and Judith Swentik of Baudette are producers of grass seed, small grains, commercial hay and registered Polled Hereford beef cattle. George also sets aside 40 acres of the farm for a variety of trees, including a fruit orchard to create a habitat for wildlife.

### Schwarz Family of LeSueur County

Lone Oak Farm of LeSueur is a fifth-generation diversified family farm dating back to 1875. Today, Greg and Joan Schwarz grow corn and soybeans on about 1000 acres. In addition, they market about 70,000 turkeys annually. Greg's parents are still active in the farm operation, and Greg and Joan's two children also help.

### Penner Family of Watonwan County

In 1977, Joel and Bernice Penner built their first finishing barn for 200 head of hogs in Butterfield. Later they added a farrowing and nursery barn, then a gestation barn, and eventually a 600-head finishing barn. Today, Joel and Bernice farm 340 acres and have 120 sows. They also grow corn, soybeans, and some small grains. They have three children and five grandchildren.

### Golden Prairie Dairy of Winona County

Jim and Laurie Orth farm 157 acres in Winona. Their dairy herd consists of Jersey, Guernsey, Holsteins and crossbreeds. They have two daughters who help with tasks on the farm.

Here is a complete listing of the 2011 University of Minnesota Farm Family of the Year honorees, by county:

#### County Family

**Aitkin** Dale and Linda Lueck

**Anoka** Will and Kathy Almendinger

**Becker** Mickelson Farms, Inc.

**Benton** Troy and Melissa Schreindl

**Big Stone** Wade and Vicki Athey

**Blue Earth** Landsteiner Family Farm

**Brown** Gary and Dean Sellner

**Carlton** Suhonen Farm

**Carver** Joel and Barb Grimm Family

**Cass** Walter and Lucille Sowers

**Chippewa** Palke Farms

**Chisago** Heifer Haven Farm (Steve and Lisa Sontag)

**Clay** Sherwood and Marilyn Peterson Family

**Clearwater** John and Pam Arneson

**Cottonwood** Wiebe Family Farm

**Dakota** Carl and Dennis Reuter & Families

**Dodge** Alan and Lori Callister

**Douglas** Mark and Michele Fernholz

**Faribault** Paul and Karla Carr & Roger and Candis Carr

**Fillmore** Craig and Pam Mensink

**Freeborn** Dan and Jenny Erickson Family

**Goodhue** Carlson Brothers

**Grant** Michael and Lynn Marks

**Hennepin** Sever Peterson Farm and Corn Maze

**Houston** Ben and Linda Lind

**Isanti** Laman Farms

**Itasca** Promised Land Farm; Clayton's Produce

**Jackson** Paul and Joyce Henning

**Kanabec** Martens Farm, Inc.

**Kandiyohi** Larry, Mary, Drew and Amy Larson Family Farm

**Kittson** Marshal and Lorna Hemmes

**Lac qui Parle** David and Patricia Craigmile

**Lake of the Woods** George M. Sr. and Judith Swentik

**Le Sueur** Greg, Joan, Tom and Allison Schwarz

**Lincoln** Ken and Laura Krog

**Lyon** Greg and Mary Deutz & Family

**Mahnomen** Paul and Patricia Specht

**Martin** Lawrence and Diane Sukalski & Family

**McLeod** Paul and Heather Wright & Cody, Breanna, Allison and McKenna

**Meeker** Turck's Dairy Farm

**Mille Lacs** Steve and Tammy Olson

**Morrison** Gregg and Valora Stangl

**Mower** Fourway Farm, Inc.

**Murray** Posthuma Family

**Nicollet** Peter and Ann Seitzer

**Nobles** Mahlberg Family Farm

**Norman** Corey and Cassandra Hoseth Family

**Olmsted** Ed and Sherri Twohey & Theresa, Eric, Tim, Jessica and Jacob

**Otter Tail** Justin and Marea Malone Family

**Pine** Saumer Dairy

**Pipestone** Evans Family Dairy

**Pope** McIvers Happy Acres

**Ramsey** Dave Massey, Northwoods Organic Produce

**Red Lake** Calvin and Susan Harmoning

**Redwood** Maas Dairy Farm

**Renville** Neubauer Farms Inc.

**Rice** Danny and Nancy Morris

**Rock** Dan Leuthold Family

**Roseau** Kelman and Elizabeth Kvien

**Scott** Barten Pumpkin Farm

**Sherburne** Golly Farms

**Sibley** The Jaus Family

**Stearns** Jeron and Brenda Nathe Family

**Steele** Wencil Family Farm

**Stevens** Greg and Naomi Fynboh Family

**Swift** Al and Renaee Schreck Family

**Todd** The Bruce Paskewitz Family

**Wabasha** Gene, John and Carol Marx Dairy Farm

**Wadena** Terry and Jean Perius Farm

**Waseca** Winter Family

**Washington** Marvin and Beverly Schroeder

**Watonwan** Joel and Bernice Penner Family

**Winona** Golden Prairie Dairy (Jim, Laurie, Katelyn and Eryn Orth)

**Wright** Paul and Holly Neaton

**Yellow Medicine** Randal & Anna Kamrath and Erin, Rebecca, Nicole, Izzy & James

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Note: Photographs of families who attend the Aug. 4 recognition ceremony will be posted to <http://mnfarmfamilies.cfans.umn.edu/> after Aug. 12.

## Kaler, Kill to star in Aquatennial Torchlight Parade July 20

U of M president, head football coach to be joined by U of M Alumni Marching Band, Goldy Gopher and Spirit Squad

**Who:** U of M President Eric Kaler and Gopher Football Coach Jerry Kill

**What:** Aquatennial CenterPoint Energy Torchlight Parade

**When:** 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 20

**Where:** Downtown Minneapolis

**Contacts:** [Nick Hanson](#), University News Service, [hans2853@umn.edu](mailto:hans2853@umn.edu), (612) 626-3622

[Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

### July 19, 2011

University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler, his wife Karen, and Gopher Head Football Coach Jerry Kill will all take part in the Aquatennial CenterPoint Energy Torchlight Parade Wednesday, July 20. Kill will take the honor of Grand Marshal and be joined by more than 100 members of the University of Minnesota Alumni Marching Band, Goldy Gopher and the U of M Spirit Squad.

Besides the special U of M appearances, the parade is expected to illuminate downtown Minneapolis with bands, floats and other fun sights. The parade runs from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. and is located on Hennepin Avenue, between the Dunwoody College of Technology and 5th Street. For more information about the Torchlight Parade and other events at the Aquatennial, visit: <http://www.aquatennial.com/page/show/238719-210-minneapolis-aquatennial>.

Kaler is the 16th president of the university and comes from Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, New York, where he was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Kaler is only the second university alumnus to serve as president of Minnesota's land-grant and research university.

Kill comes to Minnesota after spending the last three seasons on the sidelines at Northern Illinois University. Kill has led the Huskies to three consecutive bowl games during his tenure. He also coached NIU to a berth in the Mid-American Conference Championship game this season. Kill put together a 23-16 record in his three seasons with the Huskies.

## University of Minnesota sees reduction in size of budget cuts

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/19/2011) —A higher education bill allocating \$545.3 million to the University of Minnesota in each of the 2012 and 2013 fiscal years is expected to be voted on by Minnesota's House and Senate during today's special session.

"The higher education bill has restored some funding to the University of Minnesota, which has seen repeated cuts to our budget in recent years," says university President Eric Kaler. "I am grateful for Governor Dayton's leadership in supporting the university and legislative leadership's willingness to reduce the proposed cuts. This helps protect our critical mission of groundbreaking research as Minnesota's only public land-grant university," Kaler says.

While this allocation is about \$50 million more over the biennium than was in the higher education bill vetoed by the governor earlier this year, it still represents a significant cut to the university's state appropriation. The state is now providing just 18 percent of funding for the university.

"State support for the University of Minnesota has now dipped back to 1998 levels, despite the fact that we train Minnesota's best and brightest future employees, that we are the driver of the state's robust agriculture business, that we are the engine for job creation statewide, that we are the foundation for the vitality of the state's arts, culture and Minnesota's quality of life," Kaler says.

Performance provisions have been included in the bill, which will hold back one percent of the university's appropriation for 2013 until three of five measures are met and certified by the Board of Regents and the commissioner of management and budget.

"I have every expectation that we will meet these performance measures as they reflect some of my major goals, such as ensuring access to the university by increasing financial aid; a focus on excellence with improved graduation rates; and increasing support from private donors."

The final bill must still be passed by the House and Senate and signed by Gov. Dayton, but Kaler is hopeful that the bill will be enacted soon.

## The full moon indicates impending danger from lion attack, a University of Minnesota study shows

**Media Note:** For a copy of the study, e-mail [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu).

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A new study led by Craig Packer, an international lion expert based at the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences, shows that while moonlight limits lions' success at hunting their four-legged prey, the last day of a full moon signals the beginning of a foraging opportunity for bipeds.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/20/2011) —Be sure to check the sky if you ever set out for a nighttime stroll in southeastern Tanzania. If the moon is full, continue. But if the sky is dark, turn back – or you may be a lion's dinner.

A new study led by Craig Packer, an international lion expert based at the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences, shows that while moonlight limits lions' success at hunting their four-legged prey, the last day of a full moon signals the beginning of a foraging opportunity for bipeds. After that day, the moon will not appear until well after dark, but in rural areas where lions may turn to humans as a food source, hungry lions catch up on missed meals after a week of brightly lit nights.

The finding, published in the July 20 issue of PLoS ONE (Public Library of Science) emerged from a study of nearly 500 lion attacks on Tanzanian villagers between 1988 and 2009. More than two-thirds of the attacks were fatal and victims were eaten. The vast majority of victims were attacked between dusk and 10 p.m., when humans are most active, on nights when the waning moon provided relatively little light. (In Tanzania, dusk is short and nights are 12 hours long, even during the summer.)

Packer's research group, which included Alexandra Swanson and Hadas Kushnir, graduate students in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, as well as Dennis Ikanda, of the Tanzanian Wildlife Research Institute, used measurements of belly size recorded at regular intervals since 1978 in the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater, data on lunar cycles (available from the US naval oceanography website) and records of lion attacks in southeastern Tanzania kept by government authorities since 1988.

Overall, lions are more successful at hunting when the cover of darkness allows them to surprise their prey. In wildlife reserves like the Serengeti, lions feed best during moonless nights, but their prey are available all night long. Human prey, on the other hand, are only accessible in the evening. The group's analysis of the data also showed that the incidence of lion attacks on humans increases during the rainy season, when the moon is more likely to be obscured by clouds.

A look at attack rates aligned with phases of the moon shows a clear pattern. The rate of human attacks during the first half of the lunar cycle (when there is lots of moonlight on most evenings) is one-third the rate during the second half (when there is little or no moonlight). Lions are hungriest just after the full moon because the abundance of light just before and during the full moon limits their ability to hunt successfully.

"So people start out at moderate danger during days 0-4, when the moon is only a sliver and sets shortly after sunset," Packer explains. "Danger then declines as the moon gets brighter each evening – with very few attacks in the nights just before the full moon. Then WHAM, danger spikes as those hungry lions can now operate in darkness for the rest of the lunar cycle. The post-full-moon spike is restricted to relatively few hours of full darkness before the largish moon rises later in the evening."

Humans have always lived in close proximity to large nocturnal carnivores. Lions were once the most widely distributed mammal in the world. And lions, tigers, jaguars and leopards still co-exist with humans in Africa, Asia and tropical America. Homo sapiens painted lions on cave walls 36,000 years ago.

This may help explain why the moon has been woven into folklore and mythology, the paper states. While a full moon provides some a respite from attacks, it also indicates that nocturnal predators will be more active in the following days.

It's well known that lions are nocturnal predators, relying on the cover of darkness to successfully attack and kill their prey. This study helps support the long-held belief that nocturnal predators played a key role in human evolution, creating fear of the dark and driving the need for nighttime shelter as well as control of fire.

Lion attacks on humans in Africa increased during the 1990s as civilization encroached on lion territory. But Packer reports that attacks on humans throughout Tanzania have dropped off over the past three years because villagers have killed the big cats to protect themselves and their livestock.

"We may be the last research team to ever collect enough data to publish this sort of analysis," Packer says. "Big cats are disappearing fast all over the world, but their evolutionary impact on our psychology will likely persist forever."

Craig Packer is the world's foremost authority on lion behavior. Stories about him and his research have appeared in the New York Times, National Geographic and on the cover of Smithsonian as well as many other newspapers and magazines. A Texas native, Packer studied at Stanford University and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Sussex. He has directed the Serengeti Lion Project for 33 years. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, he has received a Guggenheim Fellowship and is author of the book "Into Africa."

## Bonding money to help University of Minnesota advance science with new Physics and Nanotechnology building

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/20/2011) —The University of Minnesota will receive \$88.8 million from the bonding bill signed by Gov. Mark Dayton today. The projects funded by the bonding aid the University of Minnesota on three important fronts: the advancement of science; the completion of the Light Rail Transit construction; and the overall health of the infrastructure of our campuses system wide.

“The \$51.3 million from the state for the new Physics and Nanotechnology building is a giant step forward for the state and the university,” says University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler. “It will help the university keep pace with the rapid global innovation in these fields and it secures the state of Minnesota’s position as a leader in these ever-changing cutting-edge technologies.”

From the beginning, the impetus for the new Physics and Nanotechnology building has involved a strong public-private partnership.

“We are thankful to the business community for their support of this project at the Capitol. As the university will be contributing almost \$26 million to the new facility, we look forward to working closely with the business community as this project moves forward,” Kaler says.

The \$12.5 million sharing of the Central Corridor LRT construction is also critical to the university and its research here. As part of the LRT plan, the Met Council agreed to help the university pay for the necessary mitigation of vibration and other interference involving important labs on campus.

“We are thankful the state has lived up to its part of the bargain, and we will contribute our share of \$12.5 million,” he says.

The HEAPR funds are crucial to help keep the university's buildings and water systems safe and up-to-date on many of its campuses. “Preserving our infrastructure now will mean savings in the future,” Kaler says.

“I am especially thankful to Governor Dayton for his strong and continuing support of the university and I want to thank legislative leaders for recognizing the importance of these projects.”

While the university is grateful for the bonding support from the state, Kaler says he is disappointed that the American Indian Learning Resource Center on the Duluth campus and the improvements at the Itasca Biological Station were not funded.



## Media availability today on U of M preparations for U2 concert

**Media Note:** MEDIA CALLS ONLY PLEASE

**What:** Media availability regarding Saturday's U2 concert

**Where:** TCF Bank Stadium, sixth-floor media area

**When:** 3 p.m. Thursday, July 21

**Contacts:** University News Service, [unews@umn.edu](mailto:unews@umn.edu), (612) 624-5551

**July 21, 2011**

The University of Minnesota will hold a media availability at 3 p.m. today, July 21, to update media on the university's preparations for this Saturday's U2 concert – the first concert to be held at TCF Bank Stadium. Scott Ellison, the university's associate athletic director for facilities, will provide the update. He will be joined by a representative from Live Nation, the concert promoter.

Media interested in the media availability can gather outside of the stadium's Dodge County entrance on the east side. The availability will be held in the sixth-floor media area. Media can park in the designated media parking spots next to Williams and Mariucci arenas.

For information about transportation to the concert, parking and all concert logistics information, please go to this [page](#).

## Chance favors the concentration of wealth, U of M study shows

New model isolates the effects of chance in an investment-based economy



Researchers simulated the performance of a large number of investors who started out with equal amounts of capital and who realized returns annually over a number of years. [Image courtesy [Tracy O](#)]

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/21/2011) —Most of our society's wealth is invested in businesses or other ventures that may or may not pan out. Thus, chance plays a role in where the wealth of a society will end up.

But does chance favor the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few, or does it tend to level the playing field? Three University of Minnesota researchers have built a simplified model that isolates the effects of chance and found that it consistently pushes wealth into the hands of a few, ever-richer people.

The study, "Entrepreneurs, chance, and the deterministic concentration of wealth," is published in the July 20 issue of the journal PLoS ONE.

The researchers simulated the performance of a large number of investors who started out with equal amounts of capital and who realized returns annually over a number of years. But wealth did not remain equal, because each year an entrepreneur's return was a random draw taken from a pool of possible return rates. Thus, a high return did not guarantee continuing high returns, nor did early low returns mean continuing bad luck.

Even though all investors had an equal chance of success, the simulations consistently resulted in dramatic concentration of wealth over time. The reason: With compounding capital returns, some individuals will have a string of high returns and, given enough time, will accumulate an overwhelming share of the wealth.

This appears to be a fundamental feature of economies where wealth is primarily generated from returns on investment (for example, through business ownership and growth), the researchers said.

"Predictions from this model about how wealth is distributed were more accurate than predictions from classic economic models," said first author Joseph Fargione, an adjunct professor of ecology, evolution and behavior in the university's College of Biological Sciences.

The model predicts that the rate at which wealth concentrates depends on the variation among individual return rates. For example, when variation is high, it would take only 100 years for the top 1 percent to increase their share of total wealth from 40 percent—a recent level in the United States—to 90 percent.

Healthy economies support diverse entrepreneurial efforts, leading to high economic growth. But concentration of wealth reduces diversity, and with it the most likely growth rate for a country's economy, according to the researchers.

"The implication is that nations with diverse economies should tend to outcompete on the world stage those with large concentrations of wealth, such as monarchies, or established democracies that have allowed their wealth to concentrate," said author Clarence Lehman, associate dean for research in the College of Biological Sciences.

But while the rate of wealth concentration was increased by high variation among individual investors' returns, it bore no relation to the average economic growth.

"This leads to the surprising finding that wealth will concentrate due to chance alone in growing, stagnant or shrinking economies," said author Steve Polasky, professor of applied economics in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

The simulation results showed wealth concentrating regardless of economic cycles of growth and recession and regardless of whether wealth is split between two offspring every generation. As wealth concentrates with a few individuals, the growth of the economy will depend more and more on the returns of those few, making the economy less resilient to disruptions in their investments, the researchers said.

"The irony is that the economic diversity that helps ensure the presence of some successful enterprises and spurs economic growth could be lost if the success of these enterprises undermines economic diversity," said Fargione. "To retain the benefits of a diverse capitalist economy, we need economic policies that counter what seems to be the innate tendency for economies to concentrate wealth and become less diverse."

The simulations showed that a tax (or other mandatory donation to the public good) on the largest inherited fortunes would short-circuit the over-concentration of wealth. But the researchers stress that their point is to advocate not a particular policy, but a policy that accomplishes the goal of protecting long-term economic stability.



## Sixty thousand fans expected as U2 rocks the U this Saturday

Arrive early and enjoy local restaurants and bars prior to and after the concert, the U of M recommends

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**July 21, 2011**

University of Minnesota officials recommend that U2 concertgoers come to campus early and enjoy the many local restaurants and bars prior to and after the Saturday, July 23 concert.

The Irish band U2 will rock the University of Minnesota's TCF Bank Stadium Saturday as part of its U2 360 Tour. More than 60,000 fans are expected in the 50,000-seat stadium, which will add seats on the field to accommodate the crowd.

Due to the number of fans planning to attend the concert and the road closures related to construction of the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Line through campus, university officials advise concertgoers to:

- Arrive as early as possible and stay late
- Walk, bike, carpool or ride public transit, if possible
- Refrain from using GPS or online mapping systems, which won't show road closures
- Plan where to park and the best way of getting there

Gates to TCF Bank Stadium will open at 5 p.m.

The St. Paul fairgrounds lot S108 is a great option for parking:

- Cheaper \$10 to park.
- Free shuttle buses begin operating at noon with 30 minute service, and at 4 p.m. service increases to every 5 minutes. During the concert, shuttles will run every 15 minutes. After the concerts, shuttles will run continuously for an hour.
- Shuttle buses between the Fairgrounds Lot and TCF Bank Stadium take about 15-20 minutes per trip.
- Special note: the State Fair has a car show this weekend as well. That means there is limited access to get into the University's parking lot S108. See turn-by-turn directions here: <http://www1.umn.edu/pts/maps/Library/stadium/Overview/108.pdf> (PDF).

**Detailed information about travel to the event, parking and the concert is available [here](#).**

## TCF Bank Stadium Emergency Weather Information

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[Patty Mattern](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), University News Service, [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), (612) 624-5551

**July 22, 2011**

University of Minnesota officials and Live Nation will utilize three nearby buildings for protective cover as necessary for patrons attending Saturday's U2 360 Tour concert at TCF Bank Stadium.

In the event of severe weather, Mariucci Arena, Williams Arena/Sports Pavilion and the McNamara Alumni Center will be made available as temporary shelter options.

Representatives of Live Nation have indicated that U2 will play through rain. However, lightning would cause a delay in the concert.

Should lightning cause a delay, patrons will be asked to clear the field and stadium bowl and seek shelter on the concourse levels of the stadium. Mariucci Arena, Williams Arena/Sports Pavilion and the McNamara Alumni Center will also be available as needed.

Fans coming to TCF Bank Stadium should also be aware that umbrellas are not permitted inside the facility and instead are encouraged to bring rain gear and ponchos for protection from the elements.

For more information on the U2 360 Tour concert at TCF Bank Stadium, please visit [www.gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com) and click the U2 concert ad on the right side of the homepage.

## U.S. Department of Energy Undersecretary for Science to speak at event organized by the University of Minnesota, July 27

**Media Note:** Undersecretary Koonin will be available to the media from 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 27, at the University of Minnesota campus. To arrange an interview, call Rhonda Zurn at (612) 626-7959.

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### July 25, 2011

U.S. Department of Energy Undersecretary for Science Steven Koonin will be the keynote banquet speaker at the 11th U.S. National Congress on Computational Mechanics Wednesday, July 27, at the Hilton Minneapolis, 1001 Marquette Avenue South, Minneapolis. The conference is organized by several University of Minnesota faculty members.

Koonin's talk will focus on the "Role of Computing to Meet Energy Needs."

Koonin is a former professor of theoretical physics and provost at Caltech. He served as chief scientist at BP between 2004 and early 2009 where he developed the long-range technology strategy for alternative and renewable energy sources. He also played a central role in establishing the Energy Biosciences Institute at the University of California, Berkeley, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Koonin has served on numerous advisory committees for the Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation and the Department of Defense, including the Defense Science Board and the CNO's Executive Panel. He has been involved in scientific computing throughout his career and is a strong advocate for research into renewable energies and alternate fuel sources. His academic research in computational and nuclear physics has impacted the direction of science both nationally and internationally.

For more information or to register for the event, visit the conference website at [www.usnccm.org](http://www.usnccm.org).

## U of M startup analyzes player behavior to enhance online gaming experience



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University of Minnesota computer science researchers finalized an agreement to launch Ninja Metrics, a software startup that can analyze data to identify key traits among massive multiplayer online gaming communities.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/26/2011) —University of Minnesota computer science researchers in the university's College of Science and Engineering finalized an agreement to launch Ninja Metrics, a software startup that can analyze data to identify key traits among massive multiplayer online gaming communities. Using this data, game creators can identify each player's psycho-social motivations, and take action to help ensure enhanced user experience.

Massive multiplayer online gaming describes Facebook games like Farmville, online role playing games like World of Warcraft or online communities like Xbox Live. As each user logs on to play, the game creator is collecting data about that user's game play. In an age when consumer attention is valued at a high premium, the massive communities and high level of engagement seen in online gaming are valuable and player experience is key.

For most online gaming platforms, the game creators generate revenue from subscription fees, third party advertising or sales of virtual goods. Game creators aim to create a massive player community and to keep those users playing. "An average player spends four hours a day on World of Warcraft," said Jaideep Srivastava, University of Minnesota computer science and engineering professor and co-inventor and cofounder of Ninja Metrics, a startup based in Los Angeles. The startup relies on novel data mining techniques, developed in part at the University of Minnesota, that extract key user traits from a massive pool of data being collected from online gaming platforms.

According to Srivastava, Ninja Metrics can analyze social data to identify user trends, target key players and predict when a player may cancel their account. The potential for the technology has earned the interest of a number of major players in the online gaming industry.

Srivastava claims it's the social influences of consumer communities that are key in online gaming, as well as other sales platforms. He hopes to expand the scope of Ninja Metrics to apply to retailers and other businesses.

"If you look at direct mail or other marketing techniques, it's targeted at an individual's behavior, and ignores the social influences surrounding them," he said. "If [marketers] can analyze the social influences, it allows them to better target a customer."

The suite of technologies behind Ninja Metrics was jointly developed by Jaideep Srivastava, University of Minnesota computer science and engineering professor and Dmitri Williams, University of Southern California associate professor; with Noshir Contractor, Northwestern University professor playing an advisory role. Srivastava was assisted by students Kyong Jin Shim, Nishith Pathak, Muhammad Aurangzeb Ahmad and Senthil Krishnamoorthy. The university's Office for Technology Commercialization worked with the University of Southern California to negotiate the license agreement. The research was funded by the National Science Foundation, Air Force Research Labs and the U.S. Army.

### About the Office for Technology Commercialization

The Office for Technology Commercialization oversees all aspects of technology commercialization at the University of Minnesota. Its mission is to translate U of M research into new products and services that provide growth opportunities for licensees, benefit the public good, improve the quality of life and generate revenue to support research and education goals.

## Former President Clinton attends unveiling of Center for Sustainable Building Research home in Haiti

Center at the College of Design partnered with Minneapolis-based groups to build one of 60 model homes in Port-au-Prince



The U of M College of Design's Center for Sustainable Building Research partnered with Minneapolis-based groups to design, build and compete in the Haiti reconstruction project.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/26/2011) —Late last week, former President Bill Clinton, along with Haitian President Michel Martelly, attended the inauguration of the Build Back Better Communities Expo (BBBC) near Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The U of M College of Design's Center for Sustainable Building Research (CSBR) partnered with Minneapolis-based groups to design, build and compete in the Haiti reconstruction project. CSBR's home was one of 60 Clinton helped unveil during his visit.

"This project has been a wonderful opportunity to combine the expertise of the University and other partners with the passion and commitment of our students and staff to address a critical need," said John Carmody, CSBR director. "What we are trying to accomplish in Haiti is not just disaster recovery, but creating a model for a more sustainable world."

Together, CSBR, the American Refugee Committee and THOR Construction founded the Haiti Reconstruction Partnership (HRP) in collaboration with the Dania Foundation and MSAADA Architects. HRP's objective for the project was to present a permanent housing solution to meet the needs of the Haitian people following the devastating earthquake in 2010.

To that end, HRP's home was designed and built to be durable, sustainable, secure, and cost-effective. Its many features include: durable concrete block construction and metal roof, engineered for earthquake and hurricane resistance; flexible and expandable floor plan; 39-square-meter floor area; security grills and shutters over windows to allow natural ventilation; large front and rear porches with outdoor cooking area; and bathroom with toilet and shower.

"Our proposal draws heavily on Haiti's most valuable resource: the resilient spirit of its people," said Jim Lutz, lecturer and co-director of the Master of Science program in architecture, sustainable design track. "The design is based on traditional Haitian homes and will provide an important means of training the next generation of builders in appropriate construction practices. The reconstruction effort will not only provide much needed housing for the people left homeless after the 2010 earthquake, but will help rebuild the devastated economy as well."

For more information on the College of Design's Center for Sustainable Building Research, visit: [www.design.umn.edu](http://www.design.umn.edu), [www.facebook.com/UofMDesign](https://www.facebook.com/UofMDesign) and [twitter.com/UofMDesign](https://twitter.com/UofMDesign).

## Bell Museum exhibit tells story behind world's most popular beverage

"Coffee: The World In Your Cup" goes on display Aug. 27

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**July 27, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History's latest exhibit, "Coffee: The World in Your Cup," opens Saturday, Aug. 27, and showcases how every cup of coffee we buy and drink connects us with a web of hidden stories around the world.

The museum is located at 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Visitors will learn about all things related to the beverage, with a focus on how and what people buy and drink effect and connect each other — culturally, economically and ecologically. People can also learn more about the history of coffee.

With more 500 coffee shops in Minnesota, the state's residents are part of a large community of coffee connoisseurs. Along with that growth come certain impacts. Coffee represents about 70 percent of all caffeine consumption in the United States and for every pound of sun-grown coffee produced, a half-pound of chemical fertilizers and pesticides are needed.

The exhibit engages visitors through images of farms from South America to Africa and the Pacific Islands that tell the story of coffee cultivation and trade. Videos featuring different aspects of the coffee industry will be shown in addition to one of the exhibit highlights – a wall display of coffee bags from around the world.

"Most consumers don't think about the people and places that bring coffee from the field to the roast to the cup, but this exhibit offers visitors a chance to be more socially and environmentally aware of what they drink," said exhibit coordinator Jennifer Menken.

Local coffee purveyors will be involved with the exhibit as sponsors — many of which will be sharing how they play a role in the world of coffee. They'll also be demonstrating brewing techniques and offering samples of their roasts at special events throughout the course of the exhibit.

"Coffee: The World in Your Cup" has been organized by the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture, University of Washington, Seattle. Major sponsorships include the Boeing Company, Microsoft Corporation, Starbucks Coffee Company and the University of Washington. Major local sponsorship for "Coffee: The World in Your Cup" has been provided by Dunn Brothers Coffee, Café Imports and Dogwood Coffee.

A few interesting facts about coffee:

- The coffee plant was discovered in Ethiopian forests at least 1,000 years ago
- The word "coffee" comes from the Turkish word 'qahwa,' for a wine-like drink
- Plants use caffeine as a natural pesticide to paralyze and kill destructive insects
- In 17th-century London, coffeehouses were called "penny universities" because for the price of a cup of coffee, you could listen for hours to enlightening talk

The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. For more information, visit [www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org).



"Coffee: The World in Your Cup" showcases how every cup of coffee we buy and drink connects us with a web of hidden stories around the world.

## Central Corridor work to close Washington and Harvard intersection at U of M

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(07/27/2011) —More changes are in store for drivers and pedestrians as they navigate their way across Washington Avenue on campus. Work related to the Central Corridor will close the intersection of Harvard Street and Washington Avenue, and will extend the closure of the tunnel connecting the Washington Avenue Ramp and Moos Tower.

Beginning Aug. 3, the intersection of Harvard Street and Washington Avenue will close for approximately three weeks to accommodate Central Corridor-related utility work. During the closure, Walnut Street will be opened to help move north/south traffic and signage will help drivers navigate the detour. A north/south pedestrian crossing will remain open at Harvard Street across Washington Avenue during the project. The work is scheduled to be completed on Aug. 22.

The closure of the pedestrian tunnel between the Washington Avenue Ramp and Moos Tower will be extended as crews have encountered some unexpected problems. A timeline to address the issues is still being finalized. Pedestrians will continue to cross at street level while the tunnel is closed.

During this busy construction time, drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians are asked to use extra caution on and around campus. Look both directions for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians at all times. For complete information on Central Corridor construction, go to [www.centralcorridor.org](http://www.centralcorridor.org).

## U of M President Kaler to visit Marshall, Worthington, Lamberton and Farmfest Aug. 2-3



Eric Kaler is the 16th president of the University of Minnesota.

**Who:** U of M  
President Eric Kaler

**What:** Community  
visits in southern  
Minnesota

**When:** Tuesday and  
Wednesday, Aug. 2-3

**Where:** Marshall,  
Worthington, Lamberton and Farmfest near Redwood Falls

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[Patty Mattern](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), University News Service, (612) 624-2801

### July 27, 2011

The new president of the University of Minnesota, Eric Kaler, will visit communities in southern Minnesota next Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 2-3. Kaler will discuss his vision for the future of the university, learn about the university's many connections to Minnesota's agriculture and farm industry, and meet with key leaders.

The president's schedule is as follows:

#### Tuesday, Aug. 2

12 noon – Speech to the Rotary Club of Marshall outlining his vision for the future of the university  
Marshall Golf Club  
800 Country Club Drive  
Marshall

4 p.m. – Tour of Newport Labs, the nation's largest private diagnostic lab and largest manufacturer of autogenous biologics for swine and cattle  
1524 Prairie Drive  
Worthington

#### Wednesday, Aug. 3

8 to 9 a.m. – Participate in Minnesota Farm Bureau breakfast  
Forum tent  
Farmfest, Redwood Falls

9 to 10 a.m. – Tour Farmfest grounds and visit the Minnesota Farmers Union, Minnesota Corn Growers Association and Minnesota Soybean tents.

10 a.m. – Media availability in the University of Minnesota tent, next to Forum tent

10:15 a.m. – Remarks to Farmfest attendees in the Forum tent

11:30 a.m. -- Arrive at the university's Southwest Research and Outreach Center in Lamberton and tour "University on the Prairie," a three-day education program for area kids to learn about science  
Southwest Research and Outreach Center  
23669 130th St.  
Lamberton

Kaler is the 16th president of the university and comes from Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, New York, where he was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Kaler will be only the second university alumnus to serve as president of Minnesota's land-grant and research university.

Appointed as the ninth provost of Stony Brook in October 2007, Kaler received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1978 and his doctorate in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1982.

Prior to his appointment at Stony Brook, Kaler was a member of the faculty of the University of Delaware from 1989 to 2007. He served as chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering from 1996 to 2000 and dean of the College of Engineering from 2000 to 2007. He was an assistant professor and an associate professor of chemical engineering at the University of Washington from 1982 to 1989.



## University names Judith Buchanan interim dean of School of Dentistry

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(07/27/2011) —Judith Buchanan, a professor and associate dean for academic affairs in the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, has been appointed interim dean of the school. She will assume the post Aug. 1, when current dean Patrick Lloyd ends his tenure. The appointment was made by Tom Sullivan, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, based on extensive consultation with the Dental School community and with university President Eric Kaler.

Dr. Buchanan, who was recruited to the School of Dentistry from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, where she was academic dean from 1997 to 2005, is an expert in dental accreditation and virtual technology and curricula. She received a doctorate in biochemistry from the University of Texas in 1977. She received her DMD in 1980 from the University of Florida, College of Dentistry, graduating first in her class.

She served for 22 years in the military (in the National Guard and Army reserves) and attained the rank of lieutenant colonel in the National Guard. In 2003, she was deployed to run dental clinics in Bosnia and Germany.

“We have every confidence Dr. Buchanan will be an exceptional interim dean” said Sullivan. “We know she and the School of Dentistry are dedicated to serving the people of the state of Minnesota, and beyond. With her unique blend of experience, accreditation expertise and curriculum knowledge she will continue the positive momentum of the School of Dentistry.”

A university search committee will be appointed soon to recommend candidates for the permanent replacement for Lloyd, who announced earlier this year that he was leaving the school after seven years of service as dean of the School of Dentistry to take a comparable position at Ohio State University.

## Corporal discipline stunts children's ability to learn, U of M research finds

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(07/28/2011) —Children in a school that uses corporal punishment performed significantly worse than those in a school that relied on milder disciplinary measures such as time-outs, according to research conducted by a professor in the University of Minnesota's Institute of Child Development and Canadian colleagues.

The findings, published by the journal *Social Development*, suggest that a harshly punitive environment may have long-term detrimental effects on children's executive-functioning ability, which refers to cognitive skills involved in self-control and problem-solving. As a result, children exposed to a harshly punitive environment may be at risk for behavioral problems related to deficits in executive function, according to the study.

The study — by Victoria Talwar of McGill University, Stephanie Carlson of the U of M's College of Education and Human Development, and Kang Lee of the University of Toronto -- involved 63 children in kindergarten or first grade at two West African private schools. Their families lived in the same urban neighborhood, and parents were largely civil servants, professionals and merchants.

In one school, discipline in the form of beating with a stick, slapping of the head and pinching was administered publicly and routinely for offenses ranging from forgetting a pencil to being disruptive in class. In the other school, children were disciplined for similar offenses with the use of time-outs and verbal reprimands.

While overall performance on the executive-function tasks was similar in the younger children from both schools, the children in the non-punitive school scored significantly higher than those in the punitive school. These results are consistent with research findings that punitive discipline may make children immediately compliant but may reduce the likelihood that they will internalize rules and standards. That, in turn, may result in lower self-control as children get older.

The findings are relevant to current controversy since 19 states allow corporal punishment in schools in America, Carlson said.

“With this new evidence that the practice might actually undermine children's cognitive skills needed for self-control and learning, parents and policy makers can be better informed,” she said.

Despite the age-old debate over the effects of corporal punishment, few studies have examined the effects on executive-functioning ability. This new study uses a quasi-experimental design to derive data from a naturally occurring situation in which children were exposed to two different disciplinary environments. The parents of children in both schools endorsed physical punishment equally, suggesting that the school environment can account for the differences found.

“This study demonstrates that corporal punishment does not teach children how to behave or improve their learning,” Talwar said. “In the short term, it may not have any negative effects; but if relied upon over time it does not support children's problem-solving skills, or their abilities to inhibit inappropriate behavior or to learn.”

There are many further questions that remain unanswered.

“We are now examining whether being in a punitive environment day in and day out will have other negative impacts on children such as lying or other covert antisocial behaviors. Also, we are pursuing the long-term consequences of experiencing corporal punishment. For example, what would children's cognitive and social development be 5 or 10 years down the road?” Lee said.

University of  
Minnesota  
research  
project  
combines  
astrophysics  
and  
archeology to  
decipher  
ancient texts

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Oxyrhynchus Papyrus 5072 (3rd century AD),

Uncanonical Gospel

Photo courtesy of the Egypt Exploration Society and  
Imaging Papyri Project, Oxford

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (07/28/2011) —University of Minnesota researchers are part of an international collaboration launched this week by Oxford University and the Egypt Exploration Society that applies the analysis tools of astrophysics with archeology to help decipher a collection of ancient Egyptian papyri.

Physics and astronomy associate professor Lucy Fortson in the College of Science and Engineering will lead the University of Minnesota team that includes faculty and staff from the Classical and Near Eastern Studies Department in the College of Liberal Arts and the Minnesota Supercomputing Institute.

The collaborative project, called Ancient Lives, is putting hundreds of thousands of images of fragments of papyri written in Greek online. The collection, named the Oxyrhynchus Papyri, was excavated more than a hundred years ago yet archeologists and classics scholars have only managed to transcribe a small percentage of these fragments.

“It’s like if you have thousands of puzzles, take all the pieces and mix them together in one big box. Then you try to put the puzzles together,” Fortson said. “It’s an enormous task.”

Because of the huge number of images involved, researchers need volunteers from the public to look through and catalog them or transcribe the text using a simple web interface, which displays both known and unknown texts. No knowledge of ancient Greek is required.

This is where Fortson’s expertise and Zooniverse, a collaboration of astrophysicists and public volunteers, comes in. Members of the general public will be able to help “read” the texts by locating the placement of ancient Greek letters and matching the shapes of letters in order to help create strings of letters. This will allow the computer algorithms to learn to translate and recognize the various characters. Using a computer interface first developed for the Zooniverse collaboration to allow the general public to identify the shapes of galaxies, volunteers will be able to click on places where they think a letter might be. This data should train the algorithms to improve their ability to translate the texts.

“It’s very exciting that we can use today’s modern tools of astrophysics to get specific information about everyday life in ancient times,” Fortson said. “But it’s really the help from volunteers that will make the difference.”

Fortson is the lead researcher of a nearly \$250,000 grant, “The Data Deluge: Applying Data Processing Techniques Derived from Astrophysics Citizen Science Projects to Research Problems in Egyptian Papyrology.” Other University of Minnesota researchers who are part of the team are Nita Krevans and Philip Sellw, faculty members in the College of Liberal Arts Classical and Near Eastern Studies Department, and Anne-Francoise Lamblin from the Minnesota Supercomputer Institute. The team will also hire a post-doctoral fellow in papyrology to oversee volunteer citizen transcribers who will identify letters on these ancient scraps of books and documents.

The Oxyrhynchus Papyri are housed at Oxford University and belong to the Egypt Exploration Society. Texts will eventually be published and numbered in the Society’s Greco-Roman Memoirs series in the “The Oxyrhynchus Papyri” volumes.

For more information about the project visit, [www.ancientlives.org](http://www.ancientlives.org). Images of the papyri are available to download at [www.ox.ac.uk/media/news\\_releases\\_for\\_journalists/110725.html](http://www.ox.ac.uk/media/news_releases_for_journalists/110725.html).

## New U of M president, latest agricultural research among Farmfest highlights

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Farmfest, the state's largest farm-related gathering, takes place on August 2, 3 and 4 at the Gilfillan Estate in Redwood County, Minn.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/01/2011) —University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler will visit the 30th annual Farmfest this week, marking the first community visit of his presidency. Every year, the university has a strong presence at Farmfest through its College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, U of M Extension, College of Veterinary Medicine and Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station research and outreach.

"Minnesota's diverse agricultural system provides a tremendous boost for the state's economy and quality of life," Kaler said. "We must work together to ensure that our university and our state are at the forefront of 21st century agricultural research and production."

Farmfest, the state's largest farm-related gathering, takes place on August 2, 3 and 4 at the Gilfillan Estate in Redwood County, Minn. Experts from the university will be on hand to discuss a wide range of agricultural topics, both at the university's exhibit area and in corn and soybean producers' exhibits. Well-known U of M climatologist Mark Seeley also will be on hand to talk with producers.

"We're thrilled that President Kaler's first trip as president into Greater Minnesota will be to strengthen the university's connections with Minnesota's agricultural community," Allen Levine, dean of College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, said. "It highlights his commitment to our longstanding and strong relationship with ag producers and their families, and the agribusiness industry that is so important to Minnesota's economy."

Kaler will attend the Minnesota Farm Bureau's annual breakfast at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3, and will speak in the Forum Tent at 10:15 a.m. as well as tour the grounds and greet Farmfest attendees. His Farmfest visit is part of a southwestern Minnesota tour that includes stops in Marshall and Worthington on Tuesday, Aug. 2, and the university's Southwest Research and Outreach Center in Lamberton on Wednesday afternoon. The tour also includes visits with state Sen. Doug Magnus, R-Slayton, chair of the Minnesota Senate Agriculture Committee, state Sen. Gary Dahms, R-Redwood Falls, and state Rep. Rod Hamilton, R-Mountain Lake, chair of the Minnesota House Agriculture Committee.

Farmfest also is about fun: visitors can have their pictures taken with Goldy Gopher, win prizes and test their knowledge of agriculture, food and renewable fuels, all at the University of Minnesota tent. Corn-flavored ice cream, created by food scientists at the university, will be distributed by the Minnesota Corn Growers Association in its tent.

In addition, 75 Minnesota families will be honored by the university as Minnesota Farm Families of the Year 2011, for their contributions to agriculture and their local communities at a ceremony beginning at 1:30 p.m. Aug. 4 in the Forum Tent.

For more information about the Farm Family of the Year program, visit the website at <http://mnfarmfamilies.cfans.umn.edu>. For more information about Farmfest, visit <http://farmshows.com/ffst>.

## U of M Law School announces environmental and energy law concentration

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(08/01/2011) —This fall, the University of Minnesota Law School will add environmental and energy law to its concentrations.

Professor Alexandra Klass will serve as faculty chair of the new concentration, developed to help J.D. and LL.M. students prepare to practice in a wide range of areas in environmental and energy law.

“Addressing our environmental and energy needs will be one of the great challenges of the 21st century,” Klass said. “Through this program, the Law School will train the lawyers, leaders and problem-solvers we need to tackle those challenges.”

Courses from the new concentration will also be available to students in business law, health law and bioethics, human rights law, and labor and employment law.

Concentrations build on the standard curriculum through interdisciplinary partnerships with other university programs, and completion is noted on graduating students’ transcripts. Professors Brad Karkkainen and Hari Osofsky will join Klass in teaching core courses, and additional faculty will teach required and recommended concentration courses.

Students will be able to experience and learn about environmental and energy law through capstone courses that include simulated exercises, guest lectures, and work with community members on policies, clinics and interdisciplinary course offerings.

Additional participation options include the Environmental Law Moot Court, which trains students to write and present oral arguments on current issues in the field, student-edited journals and the Environmental Law Society and other student organizations that host events to raise awareness of a variety of environmental issues.

“The Law School has extraordinary strengths in environmental and energy sciences and policy,” Karkkainen said. “Complementing those existing strengths, the new environmental and energy law concentration will cement our role as a leader in the fields, not only in Minnesota but nationally and globally.”

For more information, go to

[http://www.law.umn.edu/current/concentrations\\_environmentalandenergylaw.html](http://www.law.umn.edu/current/concentrations_environmentalandenergylaw.html).

## U of M researchers discover a natural food preservative that kills food-borne bacteria

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University of Minnesota researchers have discovered and received a patent for a naturally occurring lantibiotic — a peptide produced by a harmless bacteria — that could be added to food to kill harmful bacteria like salmonella, E. coli and listeria.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST.

PAUL (08/04/2011) —University of Minnesota researchers have discovered and received a patent for a naturally occurring lantibiotic — a peptide produced by a harmless bacteria — that could be added to food to kill harmful bacteria like salmonella, E. coli and listeria.

The U of M lantibiotic is the first natural preservative found to kill gram-negative bacteria, typically the harmful kind. “It’s aimed at protecting foods from a broad range of bugs that cause disease,” said Dan O’Sullivan, a professor of food science and nutrition in the university’s College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. “Of the natural preservatives, it has a broader umbrella of bugs that it can protect against.”

The lantibiotic could be used to prevent harmful bacteria in meats, processed cheeses, egg and dairy products, canned foods, seafood, salad dressing, fermented beverages and many other foods. In addition to food safety benefits, lantibiotics are easy to digest, nontoxic, do not induce allergies and are difficult for dangerous bacteria to develop resistance against.

O’Sullivan discovered the lantibiotic by chance, while researching the genome of bacteria. He then collaborated with Ju-Hoon Lee, a U of M graduate student, to continue the research. The U of M’s Office for Technology Commercialization is currently seeking a licensee for the technology.

In wake of the recent deadly salmonella outbreak, it’s important for researchers to continue developing methods to protect foods from dangerous bacteria.

“Salmonella burden has increased more dramatically than any other foodborne illness,” said Shaun Kennedy, director of the National Center for Food Protection and Defense. “The largest recall in 2010 for food contamination was eggs contaminated with salmonella.”

Salmonella and E. coli, both gram-negative bacteria, account for more than half of all food recalls in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, salmonella contributes to an estimated 28 percent of more than 3,000 deaths related to foodborne illness each year.

## U of M to host informational meetings on proposed heat and power facility

Public meetings scheduled for Aug. 10 and 18

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### August 5, 2011

The University of Minnesota will be hosting two informational meetings about plans to establish a combined heat and power facility at the site of a former university heating plant adjacent to the Dinkytown Bikeway Bridge.

The facility would have natural gas boilers installed to generate a secondary source of steam and electricity for the U of M's Minneapolis campus. The plant would also help the U reach its goal of climate neutrality by 2050. If the project goes forward, there will be a multi-year implementation period and a state pollution control permitting process.

### Meeting information

- 5:30 – 7 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 10, Sanford Hall Dining Room, 1122 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. [Map](#)
- 5:30 - 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18, Sanford Hall Dining Room, 1122 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. [Map](#)

Mike Berthelsen, the associate vice president for U of M Facilities Management, will give a presentation about the heat and power plant and facilitate a discussion with attendees.

Following the presentation and discussion, there will be a short walking tour to the Education Sciences Building, where an outdoor deck facing the river gives a good view of the Combined Heat and Power Plant site.

### Background

The proposed facility would secure a second valuable source of heat and electricity to the U of M Minneapolis campus. Currently the majority of the campus' power and heat comes from the Southeast Steam Plant.

University officials say it's critical to have this second source. Having the campus' sole source of steam at that location poses a risk to Minnesota's \$10 billion investment in teaching, research and outreach.

The natural gas fueled facility would also help lead the U of M towards its goal to reach climate neutrality by 2050, with an intermediate goal of reducing the carbon footprint by half by the year 2020.

**PARKING:** Free parking will be available in contract parking Lot C43. The lot wraps around the south and east sides of Sanford Hall. Parking lot entrances are from 11th Avenue S.E. or University Avenue S.E. After parking, enter at the FRONT ENTRANCE of Sanford Hall (facing University Avenue).

## U of M Alumni Association kicks off 2011-12 Statewide Speakers Tour in Duluth Sept. 2

New theme is U of M's role in strengthening the civic and economic capacity of Minnesota's communities

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/09/2011) —Every year the University of Minnesota Alumni Association travels across the state, talking about current university issues and the university's impact on the state.

The Alumni Association's 2011-12 Statewide Speakers Tour program, "Helping Communities Make Minnesota a Better Place to Live, Work and Play," will highlight how the U of M Extension Center for Community Vitality strengthens the social, civic, economic and technological capacity of communities throughout Minnesota. The center has more than a dozen programs geared to guiding communities in building and growing their capacity, from business retention and expansion strategies to leadership development.

"Minnesota's communities all have both unique and shared challenges and opportunities," says Dick Senese, Extension associate dean for community vitality and public engagement. "The Center for Community Vitality offers training, support and applied research that informs local decision-makers, strengthens leadership and moves communities toward their desired future."

Tour stops in September will be:

- Noon Friday, Sept. 2. Duluth Skyline Rotary Club, Country Inn and Suites, 4257 Haines Road, Duluth.
- Noon Tuesday, Sept. 6. Cloquet Rotary Club, Evergreen Knoll Community Center Club, 1311 14th St., Cloquet.
- 7 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7. Duluth Harbor Town Rotary, Holiday Inn, 200 W. 1st St., Duluth.
- 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14. Fridley/Columbia Heights Rotary, Shorewood Bar and Grill, 6161 Highway 65 N.E., Fridley.
- 7 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 15. Marshall Sunrise Rotary, Marshall Area YMCA, 200 S. A St., Marshall.
- Noon Thursday, Sept. 15. Granite Falls Kiwanis, Jimmy's Pizza, 776 Prentice St., Granite Falls.
- Noon Tuesday, Sept. 27. St. Cloud Rotary, Le St. Germain Suite Hotel, 404 W. Saint Germain St., St. Cloud.

To learn more about the Center for Community Vitality, go to [www.extension.umn.edu/community](http://www.extension.umn.edu/community).

Communities interested in hosting a program visit, may contact Mary Kay Delvo, Alumni Association advocacy director, at [delvo003@umn.edu](mailto:delvo003@umn.edu) or (612) 626-1417. For more information, including upcoming tour stops, visit the Statewide Speakers Tour webpage at [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/Statewide\\_Tour](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/Statewide_Tour).

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is a 57,000-member organization whose members are ambassadors for the excellent teaching and breakthrough research that happens at the University every day. For more information, visit [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org) or call (612) 624-2323.



## University of Minnesota names top St. Jude Medical inventor as director of Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows Program



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Saurav Paul, one of the top inventors at St. Jude Medical with more than 100 U.S. and international patent publications, has been named as the new director of the University of Minnesota's Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows Program.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/09/2011) —Saurav Paul, one of the top inventors at St. Jude Medical with more than 100 U.S. and international patent publications, has been named as the new director of the University of Minnesota's Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows Program. Paul is replacing the founding director, Marie Johnson, who left to pursue other opportunities.

Paul will begin his duties as Innovation Fellows Program director on August 15.

Paul joined the research and development group at St. Jude Medical's Daig Division in 2002. In his nine years at St. Jude Medical, he was instrumental in driving innovation and creating minimally-invasive catheter-based technology platforms for diagnosis and treatment of atrial fibrillation. Most recently he has worked in St. Jude Medical's Atrial Fibrillation Division.

As director of the Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows Program, Paul will lead the intensive year-long, full immersion educational and intellectual property development program for medical devices sponsored by the University's College of Science and Engineering and the Academic Health Center. A cross-disciplinary team with a combination of degrees in engineering, medicine and biosciences works with faculty, medical professionals and industry collaborators to develop and test ideas for new medical devices with the goal of improving health care worldwide.

Since the Innovation Fellows Program launched in fall 2008, the fellows have filed invention disclosures on more than 30 new medical devices concepts, launched two start-up companies and licensed one technology. The third fellows team will complete its work at the end of August and will add to these numbers.

Paul received his Ph.D. in biomedical engineering and M.S. degree in civil engineering from the University of Minnesota. Additionally, he received an M.S. in mechanical engineering from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India, and B.S. in mechanical engineering from the Regional Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur, India. Paul also has a law degree from William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul.

Paul has a long history of research and leadership in engineering and medicine including fluid mechanics; biomechanics; cardiovascular mechanics; hydrodynamic and vibratory cavitation; underwater and physiological acoustics; drug delivery; bio-heat transfer; and thermal and non-thermal tissue ablation. He has had research collaborations with investigators and world leaders in cardiology, cardiac electrophysiology, surgery, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, physiology, physical medicine, kinesiology and psychology. His research has been funded by agencies such as the National Institutes of Health, NASA, Office of Naval Research, Minnesota Medical Foundation and organizations such as Medtronic, U.S. Surgical, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Research to Prevent Blindness and Pacific Gas and Electric Co. He has authored more than 30 publications in engineering and medicine.

Paul completed his legal education with an emphasis on product liability law relating to medical devices and intellectual property law. His research paper was on the Medical Device Amendments, the federal law governing the approval of medical devices. Paul represented his law school in the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition hosted by International Trademark Association, and won the Best Brief in the Midwest Region. He is also trained in Alternate Dispute Resolution.

For more information about the Medical Devices Center or the Innovation Fellows Program, visit [www.mdc.umn.edu](http://www.mdc.umn.edu).

## New U of M grants foster healthy eating in underserved communities

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/09/2011) —A new series of grants from the University of Minnesota's Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute is aimed at helping people who live in disadvantaged communities eat healthier, safer diets.

The grants, which are for about \$50,000 each, include:

- Developing on-farm safe food handling practices for immigrant farmers in the Twin Cities who grow and sell fresh produce and traditional crops at local farmers markets. The project also includes training for farmers. The project is led by leaders from the Farmers Legal Action Group as well as the Association for the Advancement of Hmong Women in Minnesota, and U of M agricultural health and safety program leaders.
- Assessing and creating a plan for a Native American-owned grocery store and deli in Lake Andes, South Dakota, on the Yankton reservation. Researchers will study the economic viability of a business focused on healthy food as well as determine how local agencies and community members can work together to promote healthy nutrition. Brave Heart Society, based on the reservation, and scientists from the U of M's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and Medical School are the project leaders.
- Creating an integrated Anishaabe curriculum at the intersections of culture, history, economics and health with native food practices, including gardening, farming and forestry. The project is led by leaders at the White Earth reservation in northern Minnesota and the University of Minnesota, Morris. New Curriculum models will be tested at the Morris campus in summer 2012.
- Addressing the obesity epidemic in communities of color by creating a sustainable intervention model that can be used by the North Minneapolis Kwanzaa Church community. Forty families will be involved in a six-month campaign to increase healthy eating and exercise through the existing church community network. The project leaders include North Point Health and Wellness Center physicians and the U of M's School of Public Health.

A series of activities for fathers to help them be more involved in growing, preparing and shopping for healthy food with their children -- through visiting farmers markets and community gardens, planning menus and using safe food preparation techniques. The project involves Southside Community Health Services in Minneapolis as well as specialists from University of Minnesota Extension.

"These projects all share a goal: healthy and safe food for everyone," said Mindy Kurzer, director of the U's Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute. "The grants will help each project get off the ground and nurture the creative, innovative ideas the investigators brought to the table."

The Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute fosters interdisciplinary research and outreach from areas as wide-ranging as medicine, public health and agriculture, through a collaboration of five colleges within the university. These grants include scientists from a broad range of disciplines at the university, including food science, applied economics, history, infectious diseases, veterinary medicine and public health.

## U of M tech transfer operation commended for turnaround

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/10/2011) —Reviewers from three of the nation's top university technology transfer operations praised the University of Minnesota for dramatic improvements in its approach to bringing researcher discoveries to the marketplace. Among other findings, their report declared that the U of M "... has an outstanding track record of accomplishments that put it at the highest ranks of university tech transfer offices," adding, "... the office has done so on a much more limited budget and staffing model than most of its peers. The University clearly has much for which it should be proud."

The reviewers, leaders of the technology transfer offices at Stanford, Columbia and the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, noted the dramatic turnaround since Jay Schrankler took over as executive director of the Office for Technology Commercialization (OTC) four years ago. A thorough overhaul of the university's technology transfer operations, including recruitment of a new director, was one of the key strategies that Vice President for Research R. Timothy Mulcahy identified as a top priority when he arrived at the university in 2005.

"We feel that we've made great strides over the past few years, but I commissioned this review in order to have a professional evaluation of the university's current technology commercialization business model," Mulcahy said. "We are extremely pleased that the reviewers affirmed our own assessment of the progress made to date."

The expiration of patents on Ziagen, the AIDS drug that has accounted for the bulk of the university's commercialization revenues over the past decade, was identified by the reviewers as a challenge for the continued success of its tech transfer operation. Because OTC is funded entirely by royalty revenue, the reviewers cautioned against two possible reactions to the withering Ziagen revenue stream: a dramatic cut in OTC's budget, or an increased emphasis on short-term revenue generation in order to fund the office. Citing a report by the National Academies, the reviewers noted the many additional benefits beyond royalty generation that may be derived from a strong tech transfer office, including local economic development, faculty recruitment and retention, and attracting industry-sponsored research and collaboration.

As outlined in the university's recently published economic impact study, over the past five years inventions by university researchers have brought nearly \$390 million in revenue into the state and helped fund numerous initiatives across the university, including fellowships for graduate students, critical research infrastructure and major equipment needs, development investments for university technologies, and funding for additional research.

"I look forward to working with Jay and his leadership team on implementing the quality improvement recommendations made by the reviewers," said Mulcahy. "We will continue our efforts to make this one of most efficient and respected tech transfer operations in the nation, a status befitting this great university and the state it represents."

The reviewers' final report can be accessed on the OTC website at <http://bit.ly/otcreview> (PDF).

## University of Minnesota researchers reveal Wikipedia gender biases

Gender gap shows no sign of closing over the past five years

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research showed that only 16 percent of new editors joining Wikipedia during 2009 identified themselves as female, and those females made only 9 percent of the edits by the editors who joined in 2009.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/11/2011) —Computer science researchers in the University of Minnesota’s College of Science and Engineering are leading a team that has confirmed a substantial gender gap among editors of Wikipedia and a corresponding gender-oriented disparity in the content. The team’s research will be presented at the 2011 WikiSym conference, the seventh annual International Symposium on Wikis and Open Collaboration, in California this fall.

Over the past decade, Wikipedia has become a premier online information resource. About 400 million people around the world visit Wikipedia on the web every month. Remarkably, Wikipedia was not built by experts, but instead harnesses the collective efforts of millions of volunteer editors.

“Anecdotal information suggested that the smaller number of female editors may have led to a deficiency in Wikipedia’s coverage of topics of particular interest to females,” said lead researcher and computer science doctoral student Shyong (Tony) Lam. “A January 2011 New York Times article pointed out that Wikipedia’s coverage of topics like friendship bracelets or ‘Sex and the City’ pales in comparison to that of toy soldiers or ‘The Sopranos.’ We wanted to do the research to see if this disparity was carried throughout Wikipedia.”

In their research paper, “WP:Clubhouse? An Exploration of Wikipedia’s Gender Imbalance,” the researchers from the University of Minnesota’s GroupLens Research Lab present a scientific exploration of gender imbalance in the English Wikipedia’s population of editors. Using self-reported gender information from more than 110,000 editors over a period of time from 2005 to January 2011, the researchers explored three broad areas related to the gender gap.

First, they looked at the nature of the imbalance itself. Their research showed that only 16 percent of new editors joining Wikipedia during 2009 identified themselves as female, and those females made only 9 percent of the edits by the editors who joined in 2009. To make matters worse, female editors are more likely to stop editing and leave Wikipedia when their edits are reverted as newcomers.

Watch a video of the researchers discussing their findings: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=of93QwXixJg>.

In contrast, the gender gap has nearly disappeared in other areas of social media – or has even reversed. Females now outnumber males on Facebook and Twitter. Despite this trend, the researchers found that Wikipedia’s gender gap has shown no sign of closing over the past five years.

“We were stunned to see such a significant gender gap in Wikipedia,” said John Riedl, a professor in the University of Minnesota’s Department of Computer Science and Engineering and a member of the research team. “As Wikipedia continues to be a critical information resource, it is important that all voices be heard. We feel that understanding the challenges caused by Wikipedia’s sizable gender gap can be a first step to finding ways to broaden participation.”

In the second focus area, the researchers involved in the study focused on the effects of the gender imbalance on Wikipedia. The researchers found that Wikipedia articles about topics of particular interest to female editors are significantly shorter than “male” articles. Furthermore, they found that Wikipedia’s coverage of movies with female-skewed audiences is lower quality than its coverage of male-skewed movies. Overall, Wikipedia seems to be growing in a way that is biased toward topics of interest to males.

Another way the gender gap affects Wikipedia is that females seem to be particularly engaged in the community-building activities on the site. For instance, the researchers’ analysis shows that of editors who have substantial levels of editing experience, females are significantly more likely than males to become administrators. The researchers believe that addressing the gender gap is a way for Wikipedia to meet its increasing needs for leadership.

Third, the researchers analyzed the role of gender in conflict among Wikipedia’s editors. The research indicates that the articles females tend to edit are twice as likely to be about controversial or contentious topics. In addition, female editors are significantly more likely to have their early contributions undone by their fellow editors, and are more likely to be indefinitely blocked by fellow editors. Taken together, these findings hint at a culture that may be resistant to female participation.

“We expected to find that females would avoid conflict, but to our surprise we found just the opposite,” Riedl said. “We’re not sure exactly what this means, but it may give us more insights into the Wikipedia culture that could be one of the contributing factors to the gender gap.”

In addition to Lam and Riedl, other members of the research team include professor Loren Terveen, doctoral student Anuradha Uduwage, Chinese visiting scholar Zhenhua Dong, former University of Minnesota doctoral student and current Macalester College professor Shilad Sen and Carleton College professor David R. Musicant.

To read the entire research paper, visit [www.grouplens.org/node/466](http://www.grouplens.org/node/466).

## New U Libraries exhibit highlights Minnesota roots of Green Revolution

Legacy funds support project to catalog and digitize rare agriculture records

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/12/2011) —If Norman Borlaug was the father of the Green Revolution, its grandfather was E.C. Stakman of the University of Minnesota's Plant Pathology Department.

Created in 1907 to combat the devastating cycles of crop-destroying wheat stem rust that periodically threatened the state's economy, plant pathology became the premier program of its kind, attracting generations of brilliant young scientists whose work saved millions from starvation worldwide.

The university Archives documented this story in a new exhibit called "Minnesota Roots of the Green Revolution: A Legacy of Greatness." The university's rich historical collections have recently been cataloged and selectively digitized through projects supported by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund of the Minnesota Clean Water, Land and Legacy amendment.

The U Libraries are celebrating the completion of these projects with a reception that showcases these rare and unique agriculture records.

"The Green Revolution was an unprecedented human achievement in world history, but was little known in affluent countries. In the developing and underdeveloped countries it literally changed their world, lifting hundreds of millions from poverty, malnutrition and misery," said Richard Zeyen, U of M professor emeritus of plant pathology. "The Minnesota roots of the Green Revolution is the University of Minnesota's greatest story never told—it was and remains our highest impact moment, but is unknown to most."

The reception, sponsored by the University of Minnesota Archives, Friends of the University Libraries and the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, will be held 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 30, in the Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. A short program, featuring a preview of the TPT/Department of Plant Pathology documentary film "Saving Wheat: Rusts Never Sleep," will begin at 5:30 p.m.

The "Minnesota Roots of the Green Revolution: A Legacy of Greatness" exhibit is open now through Friday, October 21; exhibit hours and directions to Andersen Library are available at [special.lib.umn.edu/hoursdir.phtml](http://special.lib.umn.edu/hoursdir.phtml). Learn more about the University Archives at [special.lib.umn.edu/uarchives](http://special.lib.umn.edu/uarchives).

## U of M's



Earthducation Expedition 2 team will investigate oil exploration, renewable energy, sustainable fishing, toxic pollutants, school logistics, land and water rights, and culture and language in the indigenous Sami communities of northern Norway.

## Earthducation Expedition 2 heads to the Arctic

U of M adventure team will explore links between education and sustainability in far-reaching outposts of Norway

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(08/15/2011) —How can students get a quality education in a remote village miles above the Arctic Circle? What does global change mean for a 1,000-year-old commercial fishery?

Earthducation Expedition 2 aims to find out—and share what it learns with teachers and students around the world. The expedition is the second in a series of seven-continent explorations investigating the intersection between education and sustainability.

Led by Aaron Doering and Charles Miller of the University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development, it will set out August 23 for the sparsely populated, mountainous regions of Norway located almost entirely above the Arctic Circle.

“Northern Norway embodies a rugged, water-saturated landscape, a blend of remote villages and small cities, several distinct cultures and languages and a number of diverse ecosystems,” Doering said. “These factors have led to some unique educational and environmental challenges, with creative commitments to sustainability. We want to learn about those challenges and the solutions local people have crafted so we can share them with others around the world.”

With financial support from the University's Institute on the Environment and the Learning Technologies Media Lab, the Earthducation Expedition 2 team will investigate oil exploration, renewable energy, sustainable fishing, toxic pollutants, school logistics, land and water rights and culture and language in the indigenous Sami communities of northern Norway.

Stops include Tromsø, the largest city north of the Arctic Circle and a hub of Arctic climate research; the Lofoten islands, home to a 1,000-year-old cod fishing industry and the world's deepest cold-water coral reef; and Drag, a remote community with a unique school that merges Sami and Norwegian language and culture and is also home to Árran, a Sami cultural center with a kindergarten and videoconferencing facilities that provide distance education programs to high school students.

Along the way, the explorers will ask local people a single question: “How do education and sustainability intersect in your life?” Through this inquiry the team will explore the daily and lifelong learning that begins in the home, school and community, as well how different cultures live responsibly and within limits to ensure a healthy future for generations to come. They will post their findings online in the EnviroNetwork, where teachers, students and others around the world can view and discuss them.

Earthducation Expedition 1, which Doering and Miller led last January, explored the interface of education and sustainability in Burkina Faso, one of the world's poorest nations. The team traveled more than 1,000 miles across the country and interviewed more than 35 individuals, including kings, elders, government officials, teachers, students and the public.

They also documented three extraordinary sustainability narratives: an individual's mission to protect the land from deforestation, a shea-butter factory run by widowed women to pay for their children's education and a community-led garden project in a rural village. Future expeditions are planned for Australia, South America, Asia, North America and Antarctica.

“By gathering stories about education and environment from around the world, we hope to create a foundation for embedding sustainability in learning at all levels and in all cultures,” Miller said. “Ultimately, we anticipate that the Earthducation EnviroNetwork will be the world's leading online community focused exclusively on the increasingly vital fusion of education and sustainability.”

For more information on Earthducation, to follow Expedition 2 and to add your message to the global narrative, please visit the Earthducation EnviroNetwork at [www.earthducation.com](http://www.earthducation.com).

## University of Minnesota to save \$3.1 million yearly with revamped custodial program

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(08/17/2011) —The University of Minnesota will save \$3.1 million annually after a comprehensive overhaul of its Facilities Management custodial program.

A new team cleaning model, updated equipment and best-practice hygienic cleaning methods are all part of the plan to help keep university buildings clean in a time of historic budget cuts at the U of M. The university has suffered a budget cut of more than \$90 million over the next two years. State support for the U of M has now dipped back to 1998 levels and the state is now providing just 18 percent of funding for the university.

“The university’s budget realities forced us to review all aspects of how we take care of our buildings,” said Mike Berthelsen, associate vice president for Facilities Management. “These innovative changes allow us to maintain our level of outstanding service to the university with 52 fewer positions on staff. And, we did it without involuntary layoffs.”

The custodial program overhaul is consistent with University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler’s commitment to increased efficiency and reduction in costs at the university. The revamped program is also part of Facilities Management’s efforts to reduce overall expenses, which included a 10 percent reduction in administrative costs.

To undertake the overhaul, Facilities Management spent \$1.5 million on new equipment and training, which will pay for itself in four to six months.

The switch to team cleaning is a key piece of the overhaul plan. Under the old structure, a single custodian was responsible for all cleaning tasks within a given space. This “area” model of cleaning is often more expensive and not the cleaning method of choice for many universities and large office buildings. Beginning this week, university custodians will work in teams where tasks are divided among specialists who concentrate on fewer responsibilities. Specialization frees janitors to spend more time cleaning rather than making multiple trips to a custodial closet for different pieces of equipment.

All custodians and supervisors were trained in the new model during a two month period. A standardized cleaning approach not only improves productivity but also service consistency while making quality assurance easier.

“Under the old model, custodians worked alone in an isolated area and there were 477 different ways to clean a building. In the new system there is only one,” Berthelsen said.

The university is pairing the team cleaning model with new cleaning methods and equipment. Teams received training in hygienic cleaning techniques and they use microfiber cloths, dual chambered buckets and more riding equipment in their cleaning. Under the new plan, microfiber cloth is used in one room and then laundered daily to prevent cross contamination. Gone are the days when a single chamber of cleaning solution was used on multiple floors and one mop head was used for months at a time. These new techniques and products will lead to improved indoor air quality which will be further enhanced because the custodial teams have reduced the number of cleaning chemicals to six, four of which are green seal approved.

“Team cleaning coupled with improved equipment and fewer chemicals will ensure our students, faculty and staff have cleaner, more healthy environments to work in,” Berthelsen said.

In a final effort to boost productivity, Facilities Management consolidated 14 different shift start times to three primary shifts which meant fewer supervisors were needed to start and end shifts. Taken as a whole, these steps enabled Facilities Management to clean the same amount of space with 52 fewer positions. Through actively managing vacancies and offering a retirement incentive, the university reached the reduced workforce without involuntary layoffs.

## U of M to host international cold climate wine competition

**Media Note:** Reporters and photographers are welcome to interview and film the judges between 11:30 and noon; after that the judging area is closed to everyone but the judges. To arrange interviews outside this time frame, please contact Becky Beyers or Gordon Rouse. A list of winning entries will be available Thursday evening.

**What:** The International Cold Climate Wine Competition

**When:** 11:30 a.m. to noon. Thursday, Aug. 18

**Where:** Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul

**Contacts:** Bechy Beyers, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, [bbeyers@umn.edu](mailto:bbeyers@umn.edu), (612) 626-5754

Gordon Rouse, International Cold Climate Wine Competition, [gfrouse@icccwc.org](mailto:gfrouse@icccwc.org), (651) 636-3039

Preston Smith, University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

### August 17, 2011

A panel of experts will taste and judge more than 250 wines from commercial wineries in 12 states on Thursday, Aug. 18, on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus. The competition is the only such event for wines made from fruit grown in cold climates.

The third annual competition is a partnership between the Minnesota Grape Growers Association and the University of Minnesota, which developed several of the cold-hardy grapes used to make the wines in the competition.

The awards will be based on blind tastings by 21 expert judges. Judges include prominent wine writers, restaurateurs, retailers and wine educators. Seven three-judge panels will determine the initial awards, with top-scoring wines evaluated by all 21 judges for "best of" categories and the Governor's Cup award.

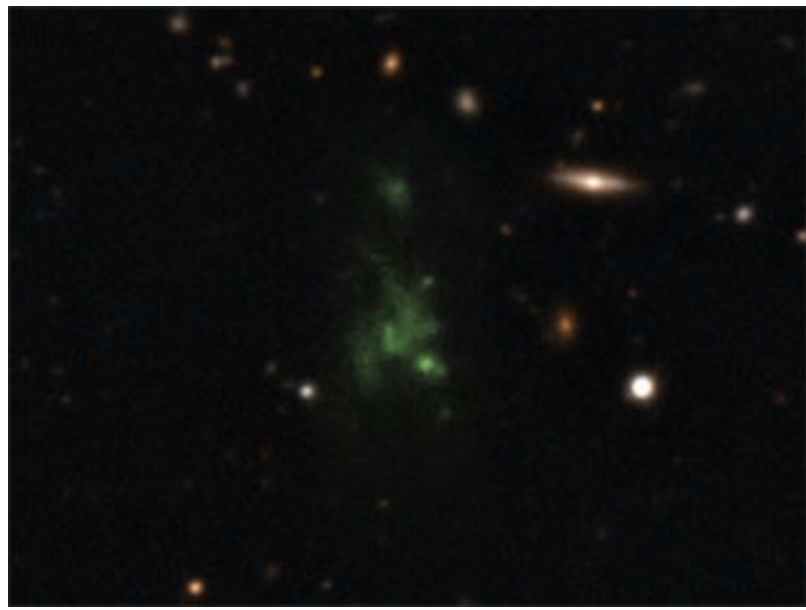
The "Minnesota Governor's Cup" award will go to the Minnesota grape wine placing highest in the competition.

Only professional wineries are eligible to compete. For further details on the event, see [www.mngrapegrowers.com/competition](http://www.mngrapegrowers.com/competition).



## Researchers discover that giant space blob glows from within

University of Minnesota professor part of international team that finds primordial cloud of hydrogen to be centrally powered



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Observations show for the first time that this giant “Lyman-alpha blob”—one of the largest single objects known—must be powered by galaxies embedded within it. Credit: ESO/M. Hayes

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/17/2011) —University of Minnesota physics and astronomy professor Claudia Scarlata in the College of Science and Engineering is part of an international collaboration that has shed light on the power source of a rare vast cloud of glowing gas in the early Universe. The observations show for the first time that this giant “Lyman-alpha blob”—one of the largest single objects known—must be powered by galaxies embedded within it.

The results appear in the August 18 issue of the journal *Nature*.

Scarlata and her collaborators, Matthew Hayes (Université de Toulouse, France and Observatory of Geneva, Switzerland) and Brian Siana (University of California, Riverside) have used the European Southern Observatory’s Very Large Telescope (VLT) to study the blob that holds clues about how galaxies form and evolve in the early Universe. The team found that the light from the blob was polarized.

In everyday life, for example, polarized light is used to create 3D effects in movies. This is the first time that polarization has ever been found in a Lyman-alpha blob, and this observation helps to unlock the mystery of how the blobs shine.

“We have shown for the first time that the glow of this enigmatic object is scattered light from brilliant galaxies hidden within, rather than the gas throughout the cloud itself shining,” said Hayes, the lead author of the paper.

Lyman-alpha blobs are some of the biggest objects in the Universe: gigantic clouds of hydrogen gas that can reach diameters of a few hundred thousand light-years (a few times larger than the size of the Milky Way), and are as powerful as the brightest galaxies. They are typically found at large distances, appearing as they were when the Universe was only a few billion years old. Therefore, they provide an important glimpse at how galaxies formed and evolved when the Universe was younger. But the power source for their extreme luminosity, and the precise nature of the blobs, has remained unclear.

“This discovery is significant because it tells us something about how galaxies are able to acquire fresh gas, in other words, the fuel needed to form new stars and grow bigger,” said Scarlata, a professor in the Minnesota Institute for Astrophysics in the University of Minnesota’s School of Physics and Astronomy.

The team studied one of the first and brightest blobs, called LAB-1, it was discovered in 2000, and is so far away that its light has taken about 11.5 billion years to reach Earth. With a diameter of about 300,000 light-years it is also one of the largest, and is big enough to have several primordial galaxies inside it, including an active galaxy (a galaxy with black hole at its center).

There are several competing theories to explain Lyman-alpha blobs. One idea is that they shine when cool gas is pulled in by the blob’s powerful gravity, and heats up. Another is that they are shining because of brilliant objects inside them such as galaxies undergoing vigorous star formation, or containing voracious black holes engulfing matter. The new observations show that it is in fact the embedded galaxies, and not gas being pulled in, that powers LAB-1.

They tested the two theories by measuring whether the light from the blob was polarized. When light waves are polarized, their electric and magnetic fields have a specific orientation. By studying how light is polarized, astronomers can determine the physical processes that produced the light, or what has happened to it between its origin and its arrival at Earth. If it is reflected or scattered, it becomes polarized, and a very sensitive instrument can detect this subtle effect.

The team found that the light from the Lyman-alpha blob was polarized in a ring around the central region, and that there was no polarization in the center. This effect could not have been produced by light from the gas falling into the blob under gravity. Instead, it is a clear signature that the light originally comes from the galaxies embedded in the central region, before being scattered by the gas.

The astronomers now plan to look at more of these objects to see if the results obtained for LAB-1 are true of other blobs.

Read the entire research paper “Central Powering of the Largest Lyman-alpha Nebula is Revealed by Polarized Radiation,” on the Nature website: [www.nature.com/nature/journal/v476/n7360/full/nature10320.html](http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v476/n7360/full/nature10320.html).

For more information about the Minnesota Institute for Astrophysics, visit [www.astro.umn.edu](http://www.astro.umn.edu).

## Scholarship program benefiting Minnesota businesses returns

Carlson Executive Education to help 10 small companies, nonprofits and entrepreneurs improve knowledge, business skills

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/18/2011) —Carlson Executive Education is awarding 10 scholarships, valued at up to \$3,500 each, to Minnesota-based small businesses, nonprofit organizations and entrepreneurs who best articulate how their organization could overcome challenges or capitalize on opportunities by acquiring new knowledge and skills.

The scholarships can be used to explore a variety of topics taught at the Carlson School including finance, marketing, operations, strategy, leadership and personal performance improvement.

“Last year’s inaugural scholarship program was a great success,” said Mark Kizilos, assistant dean of Carlson Executive Education. “The scholarships enabled Minnesota businesses such as the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank, Netgain Technology and the Jungle Theatre, to gain additional insights that will help them thrive. We hope 10 more organizations can benefit from our experts this year.”

Scholarship winners will be able to attend one of Carlson Executive Education’s open enrollment programs, which typically consist of two or three days of instruction.

The scholarship is available for small companies or nonprofits that have fewer than 100 employees, as well as individual entrepreneurs.

Recipients of the inaugural scholarship program included Atomic Learning, Belgrade Coop Association, Clinical Supplies Management, CLUES, CoreSpine Technologies, Engineered Products, Jungle Theater, Minnesota Lions Eye Bank, Netgain Technology and PlastiComp.

Visit [carlsonschool.umn.edu/execed](http://carlsonschool.umn.edu/execed) for more information or to apply online. The deadline for scholarship applications is Dec. 9.

### **About Carlson Executive Education and the Carlson School of Management**

For more than 40 years, Carlson Executive Education has helped area companies develop talent and solve real business problems by providing high-impact learning experiences. More than 250 Minnesota businesses turn to Carlson Executive Education each year to acquire the knowledge or skills their businesses need to succeed.

Carlson Executive Education is part of the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota, which was established in 1919. Based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the Carlson School of Management is a recognized leader in business education and research. Its focus on experiential learning, international education and maintaining strong ties to the business community exemplify the school’s commitment to excellence. More information can be found at [carlsonschool.umn.edu/execed](http://carlsonschool.umn.edu/execed).

## The U of M at the "Great Minnesota Get Together"

Maroon and Gold Day is Sunday, Aug. 28

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(612) 626-1720



Maroon and Gold Day is Sunday, Aug. 28. Visitors will be able to meet new university President Eric Kaler and see the U of M Marching Band in the State Fair parade.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/18/2011)

—Like the rest of state, the University

of Minnesota is gearing up for the 2011 Minnesota State Fair, promising to be among the largest attractions at this year's "Great Minnesota Get Together."

Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from Thursday, Aug. 25, through Monday, Sept. 5.

Over the course of 12 days, more than 100 university experts and scholars will be on hand to share their cutting-edge research and discoveries that have impacted the world.

"The university has one of its most exciting years of acts and displays," said Drew Swain, who coordinates the university's State Fair presence. "Where else on the fairgrounds can you learn how to juggle, perform a simulated surgery, talk with physics experts and play with the next generation of toy prototypes?"

In addition to the hundreds of experts from the university, visitors can enjoy dynamic stage programs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, meet athletes, get an up-close-and-personal view of the university's solar car and even learn some Chinese.

Maroon and Gold Day is Sunday, Aug. 28. Visitors will be able to meet new university President Eric Kaler and his wife, Karen, proudly wear their maroon and gold attire, stop by the U's building for trivia and Goldy Gopher appearances and see the U of M Marching Band in the State Fair parade.

For a complete schedule and map of university events, visit the U of M's State Fair webpage, [www.statefair.umn.edu](http://www.statefair.umn.edu).

For transportation to the fair, a free shuttle runs daily from free parking locations on the Minneapolis campus. The public is invited to park and ride from these locations. For detailed parking and shuttle information, visit [www.mnstatefair.org/general\\_info/get\\_here/park\\_ride.html](http://www.mnstatefair.org/general_info/get_here/park_ride.html).

University News Service will issue daily news releases featuring the next day's U fair events. The U of M building is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

## U of M study identifies psychological factors that keep young adults employed

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(08/23/2011) —Today’s rapid economic change and labor market turbulence make early careers particularly unstable, but a new study by sociologists affiliated with the University of Minnesota shows that young workers with certain characteristics may weather turbulent times better than their peers.

“The current ‘Great Recession’ in Europe and America has had particularly severe consequences for young workers,” said Jeylan Mortimer, U of M sociology professor. “They suffer high unemployment rates with lasting consequences for their careers.”

The study identifies three psychological orientations and behaviors that influence employment success during the transition to adulthood: educational aspirations, career goal certainty and job search activities.

“Although structural factors like industry, region, etc... are undoubtedly important, these three characteristics are found to be particularly significant career transition resources,” said Mike Vuolo, professor at Purdue University.

Young adults who maintained high career aspirations and clarity of career goals from age 18 to 30 were more likely to be employed between 2007 and 2009 (when they were 33-36 years old) and also to have higher wages in 2009. Young workers who manifested greater indecision in their career goals were less successful in weathering the economic turmoil in the Great Recession. These trends persisted even when educational attainments were controlled.

“The factors identified in this study are interrelated amongst themselves and also influence longer-term successes and vulnerabilities during difficult economic times,” said Mortimer.

The sample examined in this study is part of the Youth Development Study, an ongoing longitudinal study begun in 1988 gathered from St. Paul public schools when the youth were in 9th grade. The original sample included 1010 adolescents. The participants have been surveyed annually since, and now are approximately 37-38 years old. The analysis for this article spans the years from when the participants were 18 to 36 years old.

The study is being presented at the American Sociological Association’s national conference Aug. 20-23 in Las Vegas, Nev.

## University of Minnesota begins search for Carlson School of Management dean

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/23/2011) —University of Minnesota Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Thomas Sullivan has launched an international search for the position of dean of the Carlson School of Management.

Sullivan has appointed Mary Nichols, dean of the university's College of Continuing Education and professor in the Carlson School's Department of Strategic Management & Organization, to chair the search committee. The vice chair will be William Van Dyke, former chair of the board of Donaldson Company, Inc. and past chair of the Carlson School Board of Overseers.

Other search committee members are:

- Ravi Bapna, professor, Department of Information & Decision Sciences
- Bruce Beckman, finance director, General Mills, and former chair, Carlson Alumni Board
- Mark Bergen, professor, Department of Marketing & Logistics Management
- Lynn Casey, chair and CEO, Padilla Spear Beardsley
- Reatha Clark King, former president and executive director, General Mills Foundation
- Judy Corson, co-founder, Custom Research Inc.
- Patricia Frazier, Distinguished McKnight University Professor, Department of Psychology, College of Liberal Arts
- Frank Gigler, professor and chair, Department of Accounting
- Andrea Gorman, undergraduate student, Carlson School
- Mary Maus Kosir, assistant dean, Undergraduate Programs, Carlson School
- James Lawrence, CEO, Rothschild North America, and member of the Carlson School Board of Overseers
- Uriah Melchizedek, MBA student, Carlson School
- Christopher Nachtsheim, professor and chair, Department of Operations & Management Science
- Jeffrey Noddle, retired executive chair, Supervalu Inc., and chair of the Carlson School Board of Overseers
- Myles Shaver, professor, Department of Strategic Management & Organization
- Raj Singh, professor and chair, Department of Finance
- Mary Zellmer-Bruhn, associate professor, Department of Work & Organizations

The search committee aims to develop as rich and diverse a candidate pool as possible and will invite both nominations and applications for the position once the position announcement is completed. The search process will take place during the fall and winter with the goal of naming the next Carlson dean in March.

“Having consulted with university President Eric Kaler as well as those within and beyond the Carlson community, including local business leaders, we all agree that the Carlson School's new dean must continue and expand upon its excellence, great momentum and exceptional progress,” Sullivan said.

Currently, professor Sri Zaheer is serving as the interim dean of the Carlson School.

### **About the Carlson School of Management**

Established in 1919 and based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the highly ranked Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota is a recognized leader in business education and research. Its focus on experiential learning, international education and maintaining strong ties to the business community exemplify the school's commitment to excellence. About 2,186 undergraduates and 2,550 graduate students attend the school. To learn more about the Carlson School, go to [carlsonschool.umn.edu](http://carlsonschool.umn.edu).

## University of Minnesota receives \$14 million estate gift for scholarships

Largest single gift for scholarships in the U's history

**Media Note:** For photos of Charles and Myrtle Stroud, e-mail [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu).



Charles and Myrtle Stroud married in 1943 and the couple settled in Windom for the rest of their lives.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (08/25/2011) —The University of Minnesota has received nearly \$14 million from the estate of Myrtle Stroud, a longtime resident of Windom, Minn., who died in 2010 at the age of 101. The gift is designated for scholarships in the College of Liberal Arts (CLA), making it the largest single gift for scholarships in the U's history.

The gift is being used to establish the Charles E. and Myrtle L. Stroud Scholarship. Beginning this fall it will help 45 students, a number that will grow over the years as the endowment is fully established and invested.

“The Charles and Myrtle Stroud Scholarship will have an enormous impact on many excellent students who dream of attending our great university,” said U of M president Eric Kaler. “With this extraordinary gift, Myrtle Stroud is providing much-needed access to students who might otherwise have difficulty attending the university. Myrtle Stroud’s generosity will have an impact that may be more far-reaching than she ever imagined. For years to come, scores of excellent students proudly will be honored as Stroud Scholars.”

Born Myrtle Erickson in 1909 in Winsted, Minn., Stroud graduated in 1929 from Miss Wood’s School in Minneapolis, one of the first preparatory academies in the nation for kindergarten teachers. She taught in Minnesota schools for several years and attended the University of Minnesota in 1932. She married Charles Stroud, of Windom, in 1943, and the couple settled in Windom for the rest of their lives. Charles was a business owner and investor, and had attended the university in the early 1920s. Neither Myrtle nor Charles had siblings, and the couple had no children.

The Charles E. and Myrtle L. Stroud Scholarship will support new freshmen entering the College of Liberal Arts, and returning students and students transferring from other colleges.

“This generous gift has the potential to open the doors to talented students for whom financial considerations are an obstacle to a college education, and to give us more flexibility to address their changing needs,” said CLA dean James Parente. “With the high rate of transfer students we have entering CLA and the growing need for all students for financial support, it will help us respond to emerging trends. The return on Myrtle Stroud’s investment in CLA students will be felt for generations to come.”

Established in 1868, the College of Liberal Arts supports the University of Minnesota’s land-grant mission as home to disciplines in the arts, humanities and social sciences. With departments throughout the Minneapolis campus, it is the largest college and home to 14,762 undergraduate and 1,954 graduate students.

## U of M State Fair schedule for Thursday, Aug. 25

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### August 25, 2011

The University of Minnesota has a busy schedule planned for the opening day of the Minnesota State Fair. Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25.

Thursday's stage and booth highlights include:

#### On the U of M stage

11 a.m. Salsa dancing

12 p.m. Hoop Club

1 p.m. Transportation Jeopardy

2 p.m. U-Swing

3 p.m. Transportation Jeopardy

#### Inside the U of M building

##### *College of Science and Engineering GO FIRST Robotics Team*

Have you ever seen a flying robot? The University of Minnesota student group GO FIRST provides students with the opportunity to design and build robots for a collegiate robotics competition. They also volunteer in the community by mentoring high school robotics teams. Come see the flying robot that was built to compete in the national competition and talk to students who built the robot.

##### *Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) and the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Institute*

Stop by the CTS and the ITS Institute booth to check out the latest transportation innovations:

- **Gridlock Buster:** Try out the interactive traffic control game developed at the ITS Institute. Gridlock Buster incorporates tools and ideas that traffic control engineers use in their everyday work to give players an idea of what it's like to manage traffic flow.
- **SafeRoadMaps.org:** Browse roadway maps to learn about top rural and urban hot zones. SafeRoadMaps.org, created by the university's Center for Excellence in Rural Safety, is a powerful and visually innovative crash-mapping tool that maps out every roadway fatality in the nation to the local level.

For a complete schedule of Thursday's stage and booth programs, visit [www.statefair.umn.edu/schedule-20110825.html](http://www.statefair.umn.edu/schedule-20110825.html). For more information on the U's state fair activities, visit [www.statefair.umn.edu](http://www.statefair.umn.edu).

## U of M State Fair schedule for Friday, Aug. 26

More than 40 heart pump patients to gather on the U of M stage

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### August 26, 2011

The University of Minnesota has a busy schedule planned for Friday, Aug. 26. Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage, located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

At 3 p.m. Dr. Peter Eckman, an assistant professor of medicine in the university's Academic Health Center, will speak on the U of M stage. With him will be more than 40 patients who have the same type of heart pump as former Vice President Dick Cheney. They will discuss what it's like to live with a heart pump.

Friday's stage and booth highlights include:

### On the U of M stage

10 a.m. Academic Health Center  
11 a.m. Academic Health Center  
Noon Academic Health Center  
1 p.m. Academic Health Center  
2 p.m. Transportation Jeopardy  
3 p.m. Academic Health Center  
4 p.m. Transportation Jeopardy

### Inside the U of M building

#### *Academic Health Center*

Health Science Libraries (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.):

Having a hard time finding good health information online? The U of M Health Sciences Libraries can help steer you in the right direction. Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about freely available online resources for reliable information to help you answer your health questions.

<http://hsl.lib.umn.edu>.

Ventricular Assist Device Program (3 to 9 p.m.):

Interested in learning more about heart failure? Stop by to learn about the latest treatment options available at the University of Minnesota, including mechanical heart pumps (also known as ventricular assist devices, or VADs).

Laboratory Medicine & Pathology (3 to 9 p.m.):

Learn basic genetics as we extract DNA from dried peas, and use Punnett Squares for predicting genotypes and phenotypes. <http://pathology.umn.edu>.

For a complete schedule of Friday's stage and booth programs, visit

[www.statefair.umn.edu/schedule-20110826.html](http://www.statefair.umn.edu/schedule-20110826.html). For more information on the U's state fair activities, visit [www.statefair.umn.edu](http://www.statefair.umn.edu).



## Sunday is Maroon and Gold Day at the State Fair

U president Kaler, athletic director Maturi and Marching Band to headline State Fair parade

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(612) 626-1720



University president Eric Kaler, athletic director Joel Maturi and the Marching Band will headline the State Fair parade.

**August 26, 2011**

An annual highlight for fairgoers takes place this Sunday, Aug. 28: Maroon and Gold Day. Visitors are encouraged to proudly wear their maroon and gold attire, stop by the U of M's building for trivia and Goldy Gopher appearances and see the university's Marching Band in the State Fair parade.

University president Eric Kaler and his wife, Karen, will be joined in the parade by athletic director Joel Maturi and his wife, Lois. It will be Kaler's first day at the fair as president. His schedule includes:

8:35 a.m. Visit with U of M Extension 4-H youth and their animals, Animal Barns

9:25 a.m. Visit Miracle of Birth Center

10:05 a.m. Guest on WCCO-Radio's "Sports Huddle with Sid and Dave" show

10:35 a.m. Guest on KFAN-Radio's "Sunday Sermons with Dan Barreiro" show

11 a.m. The Kalers are celebrity tasters at "Minnesota Cooks" program, emceed by TPT's Mary Lahammer

Noon Visit the main U of M building and stage, located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street

12:45 p.m. Visit with 4-H youth in the SeaPerch Aquatic Robotics exhibit, an educational opportunity for youth to learn about science and underwater robots, 4-H Building

2 to 3 p.m. The Kalers and Maturis take part in the State Fair parade

3 p.m. The Kalers are celebrity guacamole chefs at the Tejas Grill in the Crossroads Building

3:30 p.m. Guest on "Access Minnesota" radio show on the U of M stage, hosted by Jim du Bois

Sunday's stage and exhibit highlights include:

### On the U of M stage

10 a.m. The Enchantments

11 a.m. Face painting with Homecoming Royalty

Noon MinnesoTap

1 p.m. Alumni Band

2 p.m. Face painting with Homecoming Royalty

3 p.m. MinnesoTap

3:30 p.m. "Access Minnesota" interview with president Kaler

4 p.m. "Access Minnesota" interview with athletic director Maturi

### U of M building exhibitors

*9 a.m. to 9 p.m. College of Science and Engineering's "Innovative Engineers"*

Come and see how the "Innovative Engineers" program is extending the reach of renewable energy to the developing world. The exhibit includes an interactive display which invites visitors to spin a 1kW wind turbine and generate electricity. The exhibit also includes informational displays and handouts of the work that Innovative Engineers is currently doing around the world.

*9 a.m. to 9 p.m. College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences*

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Len Ferrington, Department of Entomology

1 to 5 p.m. Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering graduate students

5 to 9 p.m. Paul Porter, Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics

*9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Immigration History Research Center, College of Liberal Arts*

Immigrant stories are the heart of the Immigration History Research Center's research and archival collections. The "Digitizing Immigrant Letters" and "Sheeko" projects include first-hand testimony or letters from Czech, Croatian, Finnish, Hmong, Italian, Latvian, Russian, Somali and Ukrainian immigrants. Learn about past and present immigrant experience through the IHRC's archives and research.

Complete information is available at [www.statefair.umn.edu](http://www.statefair.umn.edu).

"A



Supported by the U of M's Institute on the Environment, the documentary showcases an award-winning project aiming to improve water quality and strengthen a neighborhood.

## "A Neighborhood of Raingardens" to premiere Sept. 9

Supported by the U of M's Institute on the Environment, new documentary showcases award-winning project aiming to improve water quality and strengthen a neighborhood

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**August 26, 2011**

"A Neighborhood of Raingardens," a documentary depicting the transformation of a Minneapolis neighborhood through a community raingarden project, will premiere at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9, at the St. Anthony Main Theater, 115 Main St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Many of Minnesota's waterways are contaminated when rainwater running from urban areas loads them with sediment, nutrients and other pollutants. One increasingly valued solution is to install raingardens, basin-shaped areas filled with native vegetation where water can soak in rather than run off.

"A Neighborhood of Raingardens" documents an inspirational initiative to clean up Powderhorn Lake in Minneapolis one yard at a time. Guided and encouraged by Metro Blooms, hundreds of Powderhorn residents got together over the course of four months to install more than 100 raingardens.

The 60-minute film, sponsored by the University of Minnesota Institute on the Environment (IonE) and The Film Society of Minneapolis/Saint Paul, follows the initiative from inception to fruition, illustrating the promises and problems of this exciting new citizen-centered approach to watershed management. The raingarden project won a 2011 Environmental Initiative Award, which recognizes "innovative projects that have harnessed the power of partnership to achieve extraordinary environmental outcomes."

Produced and directed by College of Liberal Arts faculty member and IonE resident fellow Mark Pedelty, "A Neighborhood of Raingardens" draws on the talents of many U of M students, community members and Karl Demer of Atomic K Studios, who provided much of the professional support.

"This film and the project it showcases could change the way we think about our water, our homes and our neighborhoods," Pedelty said.

Tickets for the premiere are \$8.50 general, \$6 students and seniors. For more information, go to [www.mspfilmsociety.org](http://www.mspfilmsociety.org).

## Motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians urged to use extra caution navigating U of M campus

U of M officials kick-off “Safety is Easy, the Pavement is Hard” campaign



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The U of M is kicking off the “Safety is Easy, Pavement is Hard” campaign, which is designed to target pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists via posters, banners and chalk sprayed messages displayed throughout campus.

(08/29/2011) —University of Minnesota officials are urging anyone navigating the Twin Cities campus this fall to use extra caution as a result of large-scale road and building construction projects in the area.

Washington Avenue – a main artery through campus – is closed for construction of the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit line (CCLRT), slated to open in 2014. That means bicyclists, pedestrians and drivers are sharing campus sidewalks, roadways and streets.

With the fall semester beginning on Sept. 6, thousands of students and faculty are returning to campus in the coming weeks. Nearly 18,000 faculty and staff work at the U of M and about 50,000 students attend school here.

To ease anticipated congestion the university has taken several steps, such as installing new stop lights, implementing new bus routes and creating additional bike lanes.

In addition, the U is kicking off a “Safety is Easy, the Pavement is Hard” campaign, which targets pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists via posters, banners and chalk sprayed messages displayed throughout campus.

“Biker, pedestrian and driver safety is paramount with light rail construction on Washington and University avenues,” said Kathleen O’Brien, vice president for University Services. “That means everyone must slow down and be alert and courteous to others while navigating through campus.”

Basic messages of the “Safety is Easy, the Pavement is Hard” campaign include:

### For pedestrians

- Wait for “walk” signals on street corners.
- Take earphones out. Don’t tune out while walking.
- Look both ways before crossing any the street or intersection.

### For bicyclists

- Don’t run red stoplights.
- Watch for turning cars in both directions.
- Stay off sidewalks.

### For motorists

- Watch for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Don’t text and drive.
- Slow down.
- Stay extra alert at all times.

“Following some basic safety rules will make everyone safer and help get them to their destination quicker,” O’Brien said.

For more information about the campaign and tips on how to stay safe, visit: <http://www1.umn.edu/prepared/safety-is-easy.html>.

## U of M Welcome Week kicks off with move-in day tomorrow

President Kaler will help students unpack 2-3 p.m.

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### August 29, 2011

First-year students and their parents will be sharing hugs and saying their goodbyes tomorrow (Tuesday, Aug. 30) during move-in day, when the first crop of U of M students settle into their dormitories before the fall semester begins.

The move-in experience starts one week before classes begin and also kicks off Welcome Week, six days of orientation and on-campus activities designed to enhance academic and personal experiences for new students.

Move-in day may be a little stressful, but students won't have to move all of their belongings alone. Helpful U of M staff will be on hand. Even U of M President Eric Kaler will be helping students move in from 2 to 3 p.m. tomorrow.

The move-in experience will take place in the U of M SuperBlock (701 Fulton St. S.E., Minneapolis) of dormitories that comprises [Centennial Hall](#), [Frontier Hall](#), [Pioneer Hall](#) and [Territorial Hall](#).

## U of M State Fair schedule for Tuesday, Aug. 30

Department of Civil Engineering to demonstrate interactive earthquake simulations

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### August 29, 2011

Learn about earthquakes, eye donation and more Tuesday, Aug. 30, at the University of Minnesota's main State Fair building. Fairgoers are invited to visit the building and stage, located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Visitors can get a printout of the ground motion that they generate at the College of Science and Engineering's interactive booth and learn about how the vibrations created compare to a real earthquake. Also, people can learn how one person can help up to 10 others through eye donation and transplantation and find out about current research projects that study diseases like macular degeneration.

Tuesday's stage and booth highlights include:

### On the U of M stage

10 a.m. Alumni Band  
10:30 a.m. Women's Tennis  
11 a.m. Athletic director Joel Maturi  
11:30 a.m. Men's Gymnastics  
Noon Rowing  
12:30 p.m. Men's Hockey  
1:15 p.m. Swimming and Diving  
1:45 p.m. Women's Basketball  
2:15 p.m. Soccer  
2:45 p.m. Men's Track and Field  
3:15 p.m. Women's Track and Field  
3:45 p.m. Alumni Band

### Booth highlights

#### **Pediatric Endocrinology (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.):**

Focused on pediatric diabetes, this booth will engage the public with educational questions about anatomy, pancreatic function, diabetes (type 1 diabetes in particular), epidemiology and demographics. [www.med.umn.edu/peds/endocrin](http://www.med.umn.edu/peds/endocrin).

#### **Healthy Foods/Healthy Lives Institute (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.):**

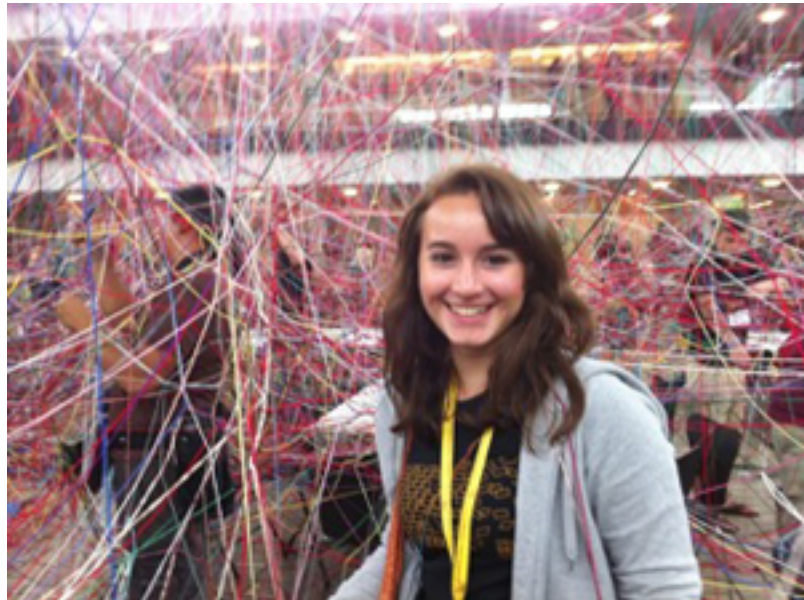
The Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute will display information about food, health and agriculture research taking place at the U of M. Visitors will receive info on the annual research and practice symposium hosted by the institute in the fall 2012; innovative community and university projects that have been funded by the institute; and public engagement projects co-sponsored by the institute. Come spin our food and nutrition wheel to win prizes and learn more about food and issues that concern you. [www.hfhl.umn.edu](http://www.hfhl.umn.edu).

#### **Clinical Neurosciences (3 to 9 p.m.):**

Experience the power of academic medicine in caring for your brain at the University of Minnesota, through quality, compassionate care and medical breakthroughs in research. Stop by to tour healthy and diseased brains, gain knowledge about the neurosciences and "spin the wheel" to win a prize. [www.med.umn.edu/cnc](http://www.med.umn.edu/cnc).

For a complete schedule of Tuesday's stage and booth programs, visit [www.statefair.umn.edu/schedule-20110830.html](http://www.statefair.umn.edu/schedule-20110830.html).

Creativity in action: U of M College of Design students to fill a courtyard with yarn and create rain and



More than 200 first-year students in the University of Minnesota College of Design will participate in unique community and creativity-building activities from 2:15 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, in Rapson Hall.

## thunderstorms

**What:** University of Minnesota College of Design first-year students to explore their creativity and build community as part of U of M Welcome Week

**When:** 2:15 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1

**Where:** Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis

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**Jeff Falk**, University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

### August 29, 2011

More than 200 first-year students in the University of Minnesota College of Design will participate in unique community and creativity-building activities from 2:15 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, at Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. These activities are part of U of M Welcome Week, which runs through Monday, Sept. 5.

At 2:30 p.m. students will gather in the Rapson Hall Courtyard to engage in creative activities about the academic experience that illustrate the importance of collaboration and connection. This exercise will segue into an unusual photo opportunity (beginning at approximately 3 p.m.), as students fill the entire courtyard with balls of yarn, from floor to ceiling.

To finish the day, students will gather about 3:45 p.m. in Rapson Hall's auditorium (Room 100) to create the sounds of rain and a thunderstorm, a special acoustic experiment that needs a large number of students to be an effective experience.

"These activities help demonstrate to students the connections that a university experience provides, and, more importantly, that even a seemingly impossible task can be accomplished with some creativity and your peers," said Brad Hokanson, the college's associate dean for research and outreach and professor of graphic design.

For more information about U of M Welcome Week, visit [www.welcomeweek.umn.edu](http://www.welcomeweek.umn.edu).

## University of Minnesota's historic Folwell Hall to re-open Sept. 6

University landmark underwent \$34.5 million student-centric makeover

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Folwell Hall in 2009, prior to the completion of a \$34.5 million interior renovation.

**August 31, 2011**

Folwell Hall, the gargoyle- and cherub-bedecked landmark at the corner of 15th and University avenues S.E., will re-open for classes on Tuesday, Sept. 6, after the completion of a \$34.5 million interior renovation.

The University of Minnesota's College of Liberal Arts (CLA) will host a public re-opening ceremony at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9, on Folwell's south lawn. Board of Regents Chair Linda Cohen, university President Eric Kaler and CLA Dean James Parente will be on hand to cut the symbolic ribbon.

The opening ceremony will be followed by self-guided tours of Folwell, refreshments and games on the south lawn.

Folwell Hall is the largest foreign-language and culture training center in Minnesota; it serves 12,000 students each academic year. It closed in June 2010 for the renovation, which was supported by the 2010 legislative bonding bill. Built in 1907, Folwell now boasts classrooms that support the teaching of foreign languages and culture using the latest technology, as well as flexible furniture configurations that support small group projects, paired exercises and traditional lectures and film screenings.

Besides the classroom upgrades, the new Folwell has several dedicated student study rooms, convenient laptop recharging stations and student-oriented spaces consolidated in the two lowermost floors of the building. Two more floors house offices for four language departments: Asian Languages and Literatures; French and Italian; German, Scandinavian and Dutch; and Spanish and Portuguese. Graduate students from all four departments will share offices and study spaces on the top floor.

Additional upgrades to Folwell include added elevators, an accessible connection to the university's tunnel system, fire safety features, bathrooms on every floor, and possibly most noteworthy, a quiet central HVAC system that replaces enormous, noisy window air conditioners that made language learning especially challenging during warm weather. The distinctive woodwork and marble on the first floor has been preserved.

"The needs of students guided the planning for the Folwell renovation," said Parente. "Enhanced classrooms and study spaces in Folwell, designed for the learning of foreign languages and cultures, will help our students prepare themselves for our global society."

### **Folwell Hall facts**

Year built: 1907

Renovation architect: Miller-Dunwiddie

General contractor: McGough

Historic designations: National Register of Historic Places, as a contributing element to the Historic Knoll District

Departments housed in Folwell: Asian Languages and Literatures; French and Italian; German, Scandinavian and Dutch; and Spanish and Portuguese. Together they teach more than 20 languages.

Classrooms: 28

Students taught in fall 2011: 5,857 unique students

Class sections offered fall 2011: 468

More info: <http://folwell.umn.edu>

## U of M to welcome students to campus during Convocation ceremony Sept. 1

**Media Note:** Media should meet at 9:15 a.m. in Mariucci Arena's Sundet Lobby (4th St. S.E. entrance) for access to Convocation.

**What:** U of M Convocation ceremony

**When:** 9:45 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 1

**Where:** Mariucci Arena, 1901 4th St. S.E., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** [Preston Smith](mailto:smith@umn.edu), University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552  
[Jeff Falk](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

### August 31, 2011

The University of Minnesota's Class of 2015 can expect something a bit different in this year's Convocation ceremony, which begins at 9:45 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, in Mariucci Arena, 1901 4th St. S.E., Minneapolis.

There will still be the regalia, the tradition and the Marching Band, but new university President Eric Kaler will add his unique mark to the official welcome for new students.

Before Kaler steps up to the microphone, students will be introduced to the president YouTube-style on the video scoreboard.

In his speech, Kaler will offer his words of wisdom and share what he has learned about himself in the StrengthsQuest tool – the same assessment first-year students took as part of orientation this summer. Based on their answers to questions in the assessment, both the students and President Kaler received information regarding their top five talents and how they might use these talents to set personal and academic goals for the upcoming semester.

During his short speech, the president will also reveal something few have seen, but that is a surprise.

The event will run until 11 a.m.

Convocation is part of Welcome Week, six days of orientation and on-campus activities designed to enhance academic and personal experiences for new students. For more information on Welcome Week visit: [www.ofyp.umn.edu/en/welcome-week.html](http://www.ofyp.umn.edu/en/welcome-week.html).



## U of M Bell Museum to host Minneapolis premiere of Aldo Leopold film 'Green Fire'

**What:** Film screening of "Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time,"

discussion and reception to follow

**When:** 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16. Cost: \$8

general admission, \$5 Bell members and U of M students

**Where:** Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis; [www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org), (612) 624-7083

**Contacts:** Barbara Coffin, Bell Museum, [bcoffin@umn.edu](mailto:bcoffin@umn.edu), (612) 624-4986

Andrea Klaassen, Bell Museum, [aklaasse@umn.edu](mailto:aklaasse@umn.edu), (612) 624-7389

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The Bell Museum of Natural History will host the Minneapolis premiere screening of "Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time" on Friday, Sept. 16.

### August 31, 2011

The Bell Museum of Natural History will host the Minneapolis premiere screening of "Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time" on Friday, Sept. 16. The film is the first full-length, high-definition documentary made about legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold, and it explores Leopold's life and the ways his land ethic philosophy continues to be applied all over the world.

Following the film will be a discussion and reception with Stanley Temple, professor emeritus and senior fellow at the Aldo Leopold Foundation. The film and discussion make this event a must-attend for anyone with an interest in our environment and the legacy of conservation in the United States.

"Leopold's 'land ethic' is as relevant today as when he wrote about it in his classic, 'A Sand County Almanac,'" said Barbara Coffin, coordinator of public programs at the Bell Museum. "Our challenge today is to recognize that we all have a stake in the idea and an ongoing responsibility to steward our precious natural resources."

"Green Fire" was produced and funded by the U.S. Forest Service, The Aldo Leopold Foundation and the Center for Humans and Nature.

Just before the documentary there will be a short presentation about the Weeks Act. One hundred years ago this law set into motion the creation of the National Forests in the eastern U.S. These forests continue to be an integral part of America's environmental and economic well-being, as well as outstanding examples of Leopold's land ethic still being carried out today.

The event is hosted by the Bell Museum, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the Minnesota Master Naturalist Program.

It is a Zero-Waste Event in partnership with the University of Minnesota Recycling Program, Nelson Cheese and Deli, and the Bell Museum.

## First-year students to form giant "M" tonight at TCF Bank Stadium

Event is first chance for new football coach Jerry Kill to address students

**Media Note:** Media should meet at TCF Bank Stadium's Jackson County entrance at 8:15 p.m. (to cover the entire event) or 9:15 p.m. (to only cover "M" forming).



Football coach Jerry Kill, athletic director Joel Maturi, the Spirit Squad, the U of M Marching Band and Goldy Gopher will all be in attendance at "Pride & Spirit."

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### August 31, 2011

From 8:30 to 10 p.m. this evening, new students will attend a pride and spirit event at TCF Bank Stadium where they'll learn all the cheers, chants and songs that make the U of M unique on game days. The class of 2015 will also have its picture taken together on the field in the shape of a giant "M."

Football coach Jerry Kill, athletic director Joel Maturi, the Spirit Squad, the U of M Marching Band and Goldy Gopher will all be in attendance.

The Pride and Spirit event is one of many welcoming new students to campus as part of Welcome Week.

## U of M first-year students welcomed to campus during unique Convocation ceremony

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(09/01/2011) —Close to 5,300 first-year students celebrated their entry to the University of Minnesota today during a unique Convocation ceremony that featured President Eric Kaler, current students, videos, lots of cheering and even the U of M Marching Band.

The incoming class is one of the best the U of M has ever seen. As a group, they have the highest ACT average in the history of the U of M. And an extraordinary number of them are National Merit Scholars, the most ever by far for any incoming U class – and right now – the most among public universities in the Big Ten.

Before Kaler stepped up to the microphone, students were introduced to a video that played on the Mariucci Arena scoreboard. The video can be seen here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWkyTqf4t3I>

In his speech, Kaler offered words of wisdom and shared what he has learned about himself in the StrengthsQuest tool – the same assessment first-year students took as part of orientation this summer.

Based on their answers to questions in the assessment, both the students and President Kaler received information regarding their top five talents and how they might use these talents to set personal and academic goals for the upcoming semester.

Kaler's strengths include being competitive, being good at individualization, setting high goals as an achiever and being analytical (not surprising for a chemical engineer). He's also a good learner, which makes sense considering he's someone who spends a lot of time on campus.

"You have accomplished so much to get here. Now, it's time to put your wonderful memories of childhood adolescence and high school on a shelf," Kaler said during his speech. "You're moving into a new world, leaving behind some great stuff, but transitioning into a spectacular phase of your life. "

Kaler also revealed a special surprise for the incoming class – a temporary "Class of 2015" tattoo on his forearm.

He also gave each new student a "2015" tassel to unite the classmates and urge them to finish their education in four years.

"Hang it where you will see it everyday – in your room, on your laptop, on your roommate's nose – as a reminder that graduating in four years is your goal," Kaler said. "And that we're all planning to reconvene in May of 2015 at your graduation. "

Convocation is part of Welcome Week, six days of orientation and on-campus activities designed to enhance academic and personal experiences for new students. For more information on Welcome Week visit: <http://www.ofyp.umn.edu/en/welcome-week.html>.

## Gov. Dayton declares September 'Farm to School Month'

U of M Extension efforts support farmers, schools, students

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/02/2011) —Gov. Mark Dayton has declared September as Farm to School Month in Minnesota, recognizing the hundreds of dedicated farmers, schools and community members active in farm to school efforts around the state.

As part of Farm to School Month, Extension community nutrition educators throughout the state will incorporate food from local farms and school gardens into classroom lessons and cafeteria taste tests.

Farm to school connects nearby farmers and locally grown foods with K-12 students. Locally grown, minimally processed foods, especially fresh fruits and vegetables, are purchased and prepared, and students learn more about the food they eat. In addition, farm to school programs can contribute as much as \$400,000 annually to a regional economy, [according to a University of Minnesota Extension study](#).

“It’s the relationships among farmers, school food service staff, parents, students, teachers and other concerned community members who make farm to school happen in Minnesota,” said Stephanie Heim, University of Minnesota Extension farm to school coordinator. “We’re celebrating their contributions—all toward the common goals of healthier children and stronger local economies.”

Approximately 123 school districts participated in farm to school in Minnesota in 2010, according to a survey by the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy and the Minnesota School Nutrition Association. That’s a 43 percent jump since 2010, when 69 districts reported purchases from local farms.

To build on that progress and foster a spirit of collaboration in the state, Extension and the Minnesota Department of Health co-convened a statewide Farm to School Leadership Team in April 2011. The leadership team works through partnerships across Minnesota to build farm to school initiatives that help kids eat healthy, support nearby farmers, foster economic vitality and strengthen communities.

“Kids have to first try the food and like it before it can begin to impact their health,” said Heim.

For schools with farm to school initiatives, research shows that fruit and vegetable consumption increases by an average of one serving per student per day at school and at home, Heim noted.

The 11 member organizations that comprise Minnesota’s Farm to School Leadership Team are: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota; Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy; Minnesota departments of agriculture, education, health, and human services; Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture; Minnesota School Nutrition Association; University of Minnesota Extension; University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships; and USDA Rural Development.

To learn more about University of Minnesota Extension farm to school resources, including a toolkit for getting started and an educational series, visit [www.extension.umn.edu/farm-to-school](http://www.extension.umn.edu/farm-to-school).

## Sept. 14 conference at U of M to explore biofuels and land use

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

**September 2, 2011**

The nation's leading thinkers on the issues of land use, climate change and biofuel sustainability will meet in St. Paul Sept. 14 to discuss the longstanding debate on indirect land use change -- known as ILUC -- and set the stage for ensuring the sustainability of the next generation of biofuels.

The one-day ILUC conference, sponsored by the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) in collaboration with the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment, will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the university's St. Paul Student Center, Northstar Ball Room, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

"This conference will be different from other ILUC discussions," said Jim Kleinschmit, director of IATP's Rural Communities Program. "With the policy debate around ILUC at a relative lull, we want this conference to be reflective, innovative and forward-thinking. We'll ask participants to take off their expert hats and affiliations and think broadly across disciplines and perspectives. This will be an opportunity for critical reflection on the work so far, and will serve to inform the debate as it moves forward."

For more information and to register, go to [z.umn.edu/iluc](http://z.umn.edu/iluc) or call Julia Olmstead at (612) 870-3431.

## U of M President Kaler's first budget amendment will reduce proposed tuition increases and support critical investments

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**September 6, 2011**

For the first time in his presidency, University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler will make recommendations for critical investments in the university when he presents his plan for allocating an additional \$25 million annually that the university received during the special session.

Kaler will outline his proposal for board action at the Board of Regents meeting from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Sept. 9, at McNamara Alumni Center, Room 600, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. Committee meetings will be held Thursday, Sept. 8.

“A budget is more than just numbers, it’s a reflection of priorities and values. These recommendations underscore mine: to reduce the burden of tuition on students and families and to make strategic investments to drive excellence at the university,” said Kaler.

The proposed changes are the result of a decrease in the expected overall reduction of the state’s appropriation to the university over the 2011 budget. During the special legislative session, the state appropriation to the U increased from an expected \$520.3 to \$545.3 million, or an additional \$25 million per year. Even with this increase, the university’s state funding was cut 7.8 percent. The university’s fiscal year 2012 began on July 1.

The president’s proposal follows the original framework outlined in the provisional budget plan, adopted by the Board of Regents in June, that generated one-third of the needed revenue through tuition increases and two-thirds through program and administrative cost reductions.

“We asked students to help shoulder the pain of budget reductions, and it is only fair that we take a proportional share of this increase in our allocation and give it back to students,” Kaler said. “We will continue to fight to keep tuition increases low by emphasizing the university’s role as the economic engine for Minnesota and a driver of our state’s quality of life.”

It is too late in the billing cycle to impact tuition for FY12. However, for spring 2012 Kaler is proposing to spend \$4.15 million for one-time, average \$310 scholarships for 13,400 low- and middle-income Minnesota students eligible for the U Promise scholarship. This will benefit 46 percent of the undergraduate student body. Also, Kaler wants to spend \$8.3 million to reduce a planned 5 percent tuition increase to 3.5 percent in fiscal year 2013 for undergraduate students.

The current state support is equivalent to the funding the U received in the late 1990s and now represents only 18 percent of total funding for the university.

The president’s amended budget outlines the following spending in fiscal year 2012:

### One-time allocations: \$10.75 million

- \$4.15 million for one-time scholarships for 13,400 low- and middle-income Minnesota undergraduate students eligible for U Promise program during spring semester 2012.
- \$6 million over three years to support Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships. The fellowships recognize high-quality dissertation research and scholarly work and support timely degree completion.
- \$350,000 for a network upgrade on the Morris campus.
- \$250,000 additional academic investment on the Crookston campus.

### Annual allocations: \$8.15 million

- \$4 million for new faculty hires, particularly in the STEM fields, the Carlson School of Management and the College of Liberal Arts. This will restore about 20 of the more than 50 faculty lines that are open as a result of budget reductions over the past few years.
- \$3.05 million to mitigate impacts of state cuts in the Medical Education & Research Costs (MERC) program, of which \$150,000 will be used to restore the Foreign Trainee program within the U’s Medical School. The program helps immigrant doctors qualify to practice in Minnesota.
- \$800,000 to restore state cuts and support the College of Veterinary Medicine’s Veterinary Diagnostic Lab.
- \$150,000 to restore state cuts and support the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program. This will give about 100 more students access to undergraduate research opportunities. Overall, this program benefits 900 students annually.
- \$150,000 to adjust budget reductions in the College of Pharmacy.

These annual and one-time improvements in fiscal year 2012 amount to \$18.9 million. The remaining \$6.1 million will be reserved for unforeseen state reductions or additional investments in fiscal year 2013. In 2013 there will also be an additional \$8.5 million available for strategic investments.

For more information about the president’s recommended amendments to the operating budget, see the September meeting docket materials on the Board of Regents website at [www.umn.edu/regents/meetings.html](http://www.umn.edu/regents/meetings.html).

The complete schedule for the board meeting is as follows:

### Thursday, Sept. 8

8-9:15 a.m., Audit Committee, East Committee Room.

8-9:15 a.m., Litigation Review Committee, W.R. Peterson Conference Room. General Counsel Mark Rotenberg will present the annual report on legal matters.

9:30-11:30 a.m., Finance & Operations Committee, West Committee Room. Vice President and CFO Richard Pfutzenreuter will present on amendments to the operating budget.

9:30-11:30 a.m., Educational Planning & Policy Committee, East Committee Room. Provost and Senior Vice President Thomas Sullivan will present the annual report on undergraduate and graduate academic program changes.

1:30-3:30 p.m., Faculty, Staff & Student Affairs Committee, East Committee Room. Vice President for Human Resources Kathryn Brown will present on the University Plan, Performance and Accountability Report.

1:30-3:30 p.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. Committee members will vote on the purchase of a property for the future development of the University of Minnesota, Rochester campus. They will also vote on plans to remodel the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory.

### Friday, Sept. 9

9 a.m.-noon, Board of Regents meeting, Boardroom. The regents will vote on amendments to the operating budget. They will also announce appointments to UMore Park’s board of governors.

## Minnesota health care experts to travel to Germany, examine health care

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A high-ranking delegation of health care experts from Minnesota and Washington, D.C. will meet in Berlin Sept. 12 to 19 for a seminar on health care policy that compares the U.S. and German systems.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/07/2011) —With health care costs continuing to rise and states pressed for solutions, a high-ranking delegation of health care experts from Minnesota and Washington, D.C. will meet in Berlin Sept. 12 to 19 for a seminar on health care policy that compares the U.S. and German systems.

The trip is organized by the University of Minnesota's Center for German and European Studies in cooperation with Germany's Federal Ministry of Economics and Federal Ministry of Health.

After implementing the first phase of insurance reform contained in the 2010 "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act" (PPACA), states are moving toward establishing health care insurance exchanges.

Germany's nonprofit statutory health insurers provide some parallels to what that new Minnesota exchange could look like. Germany has provided high-quality universal health care for its citizens since 1883, when its conservative chancellor Otto von Bismarck became the unlikeliest person to establish the world's first national health care system.

### Why Germany?

For anyone who believes in balancing the role of government and the market, the Germans provide an interesting case study. It's a system that's based on private providers operating within a government-supervised regulatory framework. Recent reforms have stressed competition. And competition is intense—for patients, among insurers and between hospitals. Recent data confirm that Germany's health care reforms are achieving good results: Everyone is covered, medical bankruptcies are unheard of, insurers compete successfully in a not-for-profit environment and even doctors' fee-for-service based incomes are keeping pace.

Given the challenge of PPACA to cover many new lives, comparing notes with Germany's active health policymakers holds promise. Germany's health care costs are about half the U.S. per capita figure (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development data for 2009). A range of cost-containment measures helped keep the annual increase in per capita health spending at 2 percent for the period 2000 to 2009. Earlier this year, Chancellor Angela Merkel and her conservative-libertarian government coalition fundamentally reformed Germany's drug market. In the United States, drug costs amount to 25 percent of total health care expenditures.

### Who is Attending?

The 19-member delegation consists of elected and government officials, academics, providers and consultants who are actively involved in health care reform efforts at the state and federal levels, including:

Yvonne Pretter Solon, Minnesota Lt. governor  
Lucinda Jesson, Minnesota human services commissioner  
Michelle Fischbach, Tony Lourey and Claire Robling, Minnesota state senators  
Tom Huntley and Kim Norton, Minnesota state representatives  
Linda Berglin, Hennepin County health policy program manager  
Cristine Almeida, CEO of Almeida Public Affairs  
Julie Brunner, executive director of Minnesota Council of Health Plans  
Jim Eppel, senior vice president at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota  
Nancy Feldman, President and CEO of UCare  
Kevin Goodno, Frederikson & Byron government relations chair  
Hubert H. Humphrey III, AARP national board member  
Connie Perpich, CGES advisory board and Planned Parenthood-Minn., No. Dak., So. Dak.  
Stephen Schondelmeyer, U of M Prime Institute  
Brenda Sheingold, department of nursing at George Washington University  
Steven Sheingold, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

The seminar is a special project of the University of Minnesota's Center for German and European Studies and a group of international partners, including Germany's Federal Ministry of Health and Federal Ministry of Economics and the German Academic Exchange Service. Funding is provided through a special German grant that fosters transatlantic exchange and commemorates George Marshall.

The interdisciplinary Center for German & European Studies at the University of Minnesota is one of six centers of excellence created in the United States with German government support. Since 2005 it has hosted the annual American & German Health Care Forum to foster health policy exchanges on best practices between top-level U.S. and German health care experts. Stakeholders from all areas in the health policy field participate. Germany's Federal Ministry of Health is a founding cooperating partner. It is the only such cooperation in the United States.

## University of Minnesota begins search for School of Dentistry dean

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(09/07/2011) —University of Minnesota Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Tom Sullivan and Vice President for Health Sciences Aaron Friedman, M.D., have launched a national search for the position of dean of the School of Dentistry.

Currently, Professor Judith Buchanan, D.M.D., Ph.D., serves as interim dean.

Sullivan and Friedman have appointed Trevor Ames, dean of the University's College of Veterinary Medicine to chair the search committee. The vice chair will be Professor Bashar Bakdash of the School of Dentistry's Department of Developmental/Surgical Sciences.

The School of Dentistry is the state's only dental school and the only dental school in the northern tier of states between Wisconsin and the Pacific Northwest. The school educates 79 percent of Minnesota's general dentists. Also offered are education programs in dental hygiene (B.S. and M.S. degrees), and dental therapy (B.S. and M.D.T. degrees), as well as specialty education in six American Dental Association recognized specialties: endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics and prosthodontics. The school also has a general practice residency program, as well as advanced education programs in oral biology and in TMD and orofacial pain.

Within the school, 117 faculty oversee the education of 569 students. In addition to a major clinical enterprise in the Twin Cities, the school also has six clinical rotations throughout the state and another in South Dakota.

The School of Dentistry also has a rich tradition of productive research, with a focus on virology, biomaterials, the mechanisms of pain and bone development, and the relationship between oral and general health.

In addition to Dr. Ames, the search committee is comprised of:

- Heather Conrad, assistant professor, Department of Restorative Sciences
- Ralph DeLong, professor, Department of Restorative Sciences
- Siara Elovic, student, School of Dentistry class of 2012
- Rajaram Gopalakrishnan, associate Professor, Department of Diagnostic/Biological Sciences
- Sven Gorr, research associate dean and professor, Department of Diagnostic/Biological Sciences
- Gary Hildebrandt, clinical associate professor, Department of Restorative Sciences
- Arnold Hill, D.D.S.
- Paul Jardine, research associate professor, Department of Diagnostic/Biological Sciences
- Richard King, professor, Department of Medicine/Genetics, Medical School
- Sara Johnson, director of Student Affairs, School of Dentistry
- Matthew Vaillant, D.D.S., community representative

The search committee will develop a rich and diverse candidate pool and will invite both nominations and applications for the position once the position announcement is completed. The search process will take place during the fall and winter with the goal of naming the next School of Dentistry dean in the spring.

"Having consulted with university President Eric Kaler, as well as those within and beyond the dental school community, including local professional leaders, we all agree that the School of Dentistry's new dean must continue and expand upon its reputation for excellence in clinical education, training and care, as well as expand its breakthroughs in research," Sullivan said.



## U of M School of Journalism hosts events exploring Latino media history Sept. 22-23

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Félix Gutiérrez, a nationally acclaimed expert in social media and racial diversity and professor of journalism and communication at the University of Southern California, visits the University of Minnesota to discuss the history of Latino media and preview his documentary “Voices for Justice.”

### September 8, 2011

Félix Gutiérrez, a nationally acclaimed expert in social media and racial diversity and professor of journalism and communication at the University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, visits the University of Minnesota on Sept. 22 to discuss the history of Latino media and preview his documentary “Voices for Justice.”

This talk will chronicle the issues addressed by Latino newspapers in the United States and the advocacy role they have played in fighting for civil rights. The event will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at Walter Library's Digital Technology Center, Room 402, 117 Pleasant St. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public. RSVP at [umnvoicesforjustice.eventbrite.com](http://umnvoicesforjustice.eventbrite.com).

After previewing “Voices for Justice,” Gutiérrez will display his traveling 24-panel exhibit, “Voices for Justice: 200 Years of Latino Newspapers in the United States,” which gives a chronological history of Latino media, the issues these newspapers covered and the journalists who produced the stories, photographs and news media. The documentary-in-progress is being produced by Berkeley filmmaker Raymond Telles.

The following day, local journalists who work with and cover Latino communities are invited to attend a roundtable discussion, featuring Gutiérrez, about best practices and ethical issues in coverage.

The event is made possible with funding from the Minnesota Journalism Center, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the College of Liberal Arts' Department of Chicano Studies.

## University of Minnesota gets major grant for research on environment-friendly plastics

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Ph.D. chemistry student Elizabeth Jackson talked with fairgoers about the future of plastics at the 2011 Minnesota State Fair. The Center for Sustainable Polymers created an interactive exhibit for the 2010 and 2011 State Fair as part of its educational and public outreach activities.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/12/2011) —Research on creating more environment-friendly, cost-efficient plastics from natural and renewable materials got a boost today as the University of Minnesota announces a \$1.5 million grant over three years from the National Science Foundation (NSF) Centers for Chemical Innovation program to the university's Center for Sustainable Polymers (CSP). The grant also makes the university eligible for additional funding in the future.

"We are tremendously excited about this new support from the NSF," said Marc Hillmyer, director of the CSP and a chemistry professor in the university's College of Science and Engineering (CSE). "With our strong history in polymer science and seed funding from the University of Minnesota, we have already been able to establish a national presence in the sustainable polymer arena.

The CSP focuses its research on the challenge of creating advanced synthetic polymers (plastics) from renewable, natural and sustainable resources instead of finite fossil fuels. Those resources include vegetable oils, starches, sugars and terpenes (essential organic oils produced by plants, flowers and conifers). Researchers are especially interested in materials that require low energy input, are non-toxic and can be composted.

In addition to advancing cutting-edge polymer research at the university, the center focuses on forming partnerships with industries, teaching students about sustainable materials and educating and engaging the public.

Hillmyer said this newly established Center for Chemical Innovation will help Minnesota become a leading global center of excellence in sustainable polymer science and greatly expand the center's capabilities.

"With Minnesota's leadership in the area of biobased materials and the university's breadth of expertise, we are well-positioned to make significant and important research contributions," Hillmyer added.

The Center for Sustainable Polymers was launched in May 2009 as a research center within CSE. The center secured seed funding provided by the university's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE) large grant program intended to help launch early-stage, high-potential projects in emerging fields of renewable energy and the environment.

Over the last two years, the center has recruited 24 company affiliates with similar ambitions, including 3M, Cargill, Dow and H.B. Fuller.

"There is a tremendous amount of activity in the industrial sector in the area of biobased materials," Hillmyer said. "The Center for Sustainable Polymers aims to partner with industry and provide the necessary fundamental research that underpins new and emerging sustainable polymer technologies."

Over the next three years, the CSP will work to achieve its new goals, which may make it eligible for even more funding. NSF Centers for Chemical Innovation program is a two-phase program. Successful centers receiving the three-year phase I funding are eligible for phase II grants that provide up to \$40 million over 10 years.

For more information about CSP research activities, researchers and university and industry partners, visit [www.chem.umn.edu/csp](http://www.chem.umn.edu/csp).

## University of Minnesota Police to mingle with students during "Coffee and Donuts with the Cops" events

President Kaler to join police officers Tuesday, Sept. 13

**Media Note:** Media interested in covering are recommended to arrive early, as doughnuts go fast



University of Minnesota Police bearing doughnuts and personal safety messages will greet students from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, on the corner of Pleasant Street and Pillsbury Drive. [Image courtesy [Valerie Renee](#)]

**What:** University of Minnesota Police to hand out doughnuts, coffee and safety information  
**When:** 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13. Additional events to take place Sept. 14 and 15  
**Where:** U of M East Bank, corner of Pleasant Street and Pillsbury Drive, Minneapolis

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### September 12, 2011

University of Minnesota Police bearing doughnuts and personal safety messages will greet students from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, on the corner of Pleasant Street and Pillsbury Drive, in the heart of the Minneapolis campus. U of M President Eric Kaler will make a special appearance from 7:30 to 8 a.m.

"Coffee and Donuts with the Cops" is an event where students and police can get to know each other and discuss how they can be partners in keeping the campus safe.

"Everyone plays a role in creating a safe environment. Police officers can't be everywhere at one time, so it's important for students, faculty and staff to be the extra eyes and ears of police and to report suspicious activity or possible crimes," said Greg Hestness, chief of the University of Minnesota Police Department and assistant vice president for public safety.

Police will be out again with coffee and doughnuts from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 14, at the West Bank Plaza, and from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, at the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

The university is promoting a variety of safety campaigns this fall, including "Safety is Easy. The Pavement is Hard," which encourages pedestrians, bikers, and drivers to use extra caution as they navigate campus this fall while Washington Avenue is under construction.

For more information about university initiatives to promote a safe environment, visit: [www.umn.edu/prepared](http://www.umn.edu/prepared).

## University of Minnesota study highlights the potential for boosting global biofuels crop production

Researchers spotlight potential for biofuels production on existing croplands, underscores the importance of “sustainable intensification”

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/13/2011) —New research published online this week in the journal *Environmental Research Letters* by a team from the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin shows that closing agricultural “yield gaps” around the world could lead to more efficient agricultural production – and thus more biofuels – without the need to clear more land globally.

By grouping different areas around the globe that share similar water and climate conditions, the team was able to calculate the impacts of improving distribution of high-yielding cultivars, inputs, irrigation and the application of best-in-class management practices for 20 common agricultural biofuels crops. The study identified hot spots of low-yielding agriculture – in locations such as Latin America, Africa and Eastern Europe – that might benefit from increased use of modern agricultural practices.

The researchers found that increasing the lowest-yielding biofuels crop production to the median for 10 common ethanol crops and 10 common biodiesel crops would translate into approximately 112.5 billion liters of ethanol (30 billion gallons) and 8.5 billion liters of biodiesel (2.25 billion gallons) above what is currently being produced annually.

“With ethanol and biodiesel production expected to grow by 70 percent and 60 percent, respectively, between 2009 and 2018 given current biofuels mandates, the study could have wide-ranging impacts on biofuels policy and hopefully begin to limit the amount of land cleared for biofuels production over the coming years,” said Matt Johnston, lead author and a Global Renewable Energy Leadership Fellow with the University of Minnesota’s Institute on the Environment.

However, while the potential volume of additional biofuel production identified by the study is quite large, it would require all countries across the globe to increase yields for all 20 of the crops to median levels of what was possible in the year 2000 – a logistically challenging prospect. In addition, the 120 billion liters identified by this study would still not be enough to meet even the 136-billion-liter U.S. biofuels target for 2022, reaffirming the need for next-generation biofuels and feedstocks.

“We are not claiming that agricultural biofuels should not be pursued at scale volumes or to their full potential, but simply that policy makers need to set realistic expectations for offsetting the demand for petroleum fuels,” said Johnston.

The cropland data that formed the foundation of this research – gathered from approximately 22,000 county, state and country-level reporting units – represents one of the most comprehensive global collections of agricultural census data ever compiled.

Although a number of earlier studies looked at past yield performance data to better understand agricultural production, this is one of the few forward-looking attempts to estimate yield gaps and future production potential, taking into account factors such as climate and water availability of individual growing regions.

The researchers concluded by advising that future biofuels development be sustainable and responsible. Increased agricultural efficiency – or “sustainable intensification” – can help alleviate some of the most damaging effects of modern agricultural systems while also increasing biofuels production.

For more information and to view the paper, visit:  
[http://environment.umn.edu/gli/gli\\_publications.html#gap](http://environment.umn.edu/gli/gli_publications.html#gap).

## U of M Cochrane Lecture features noted food policy expert

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/13/2011) —Author and professor Per Pinstrup-Andersen will present “Food Policy Challenges and Opportunities 2011 and Beyond – A Political Economy Perspective” later this month as part of the University of Minnesota’s annual Willard W. Cochrane Lecture in public policy.

The lecture will begin at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, in the Cargill Building for Microbial and Plant Genomics on the university’s St. Paul campus. It’s the first in a series of lectures this year and next that will celebrate the Department of Applied Economics centennial.

Pinstrup-Andersen’s research includes economic analyses of food and nutrition policy, globalization and poverty, agricultural development and research and technology policy. He won the 2001 World Food Prize and for a decade was the director general of the International Food Policy Research Institute. He is a member of many prestigious scientific societies and the author of more than 400 books, refereed journal articles, papers and book chapters, including a new textbook on food policy. He is a professor at Cornell University.

This event is free and open to the public, and a reception will follow the lecture. To register, visit <http://www.apec.umn.edu/Events/index.htm#cochrane> and follow the online registration instructions.

U of M  
announces  
performance  
by  
Atmosphere  
at Oct. 21  
Homecoming  
concert

**What:** Homecoming  
2011 "Pep Fest:  
Featuring a  
Performance by  
Atmosphere"

**When:** 8:30 p.m.  
Friday, Oct. 21

**Where:** TCF Bank  
Stadium, 2009  
University Ave. S.E.,  
Minneapolis



Pep Fest is a student-planned event that features the U of M Marching Band and spirit squads, fireworks and speeches from university officials. The night ends with a performance by local hip-hop legends Atmosphere.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/13/2011) —University of Minnesota Homecoming 2011 and Student Unions & Activities present "Pep Fest: Featuring a Performance by Atmosphere" on Friday, Oct. 21 at TCF Bank Stadium, 2009 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins at 8:30 p.m.

Following the annual Homecoming parade, Pep Fest is a student-planned event that features the U of M Marching Band and spirit squads, fireworks and speeches from university officials. The night ends with a performance by local hip-hop legends Atmosphere. The group released their latest full-length album "The Family Sign" in April 2011 and has been touring the world playing their most personal and unique music to date.

Ticket sales will begin at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, online at [MyGopherSports.com](http://MyGopherSports.com). This event is open to all ages. Ticket prices for University of Minnesota, Twin Cities students are \$10 (plus service fees) and \$25 (plus service fees) for the general public. All U of M student ticket purchasers must present a valid U Card upon entry, or they will be required to pay the difference for general public tickets. This event is sponsored by The Current and Vita.mn.

Since 1914, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities has celebrated Homecoming, a week dedicated to honoring the spirit of the maroon and gold. This celebration brings the campus community together with events such as a campus-wide scavenger hunt, cheer and lip sync competitions, sports competitions, community service events, pep rallies, and, of course, the Homecoming parade and football game.

For more information, please visit [homecoming.umn.edu](http://homecoming.umn.edu).

## U of M's urban initiatives celebrated at UROC Community Day Tuesday, Sept. 20

University President Kaler to tour building, meet community partners

**Media Note:** Uof M President Kaler will meet with local and community reporters and editors from 2:45 to 3 p.m. in UROC's Business and Technology Resource Center. For details, call Nina Shepherd, (612) 625-5716.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/13/2011) —University of Minnesota urban-focused research and outreach initiatives will be spotlighted at the university's Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center's (UROC) Community Day from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at 2001 Plymouth Ave. N., Minneapolis.

The celebration marks the center's second year in North Minneapolis and will feature a visit by university President Eric Kaler, who will attend the event as part of his inaugural week activities. Kaler will speak at a short program, tour UROC's collaborative research facility and meet Northside residents at a reception.

Community Day visitors will be able to meet with the university and community partners involved in UROC's research and outreach programs ranging in topic from early childhood education to community-wide computer training, youth entrepreneurship to smoking cessation and obesity research. Award-winning documentary filmmaker Daniel Pierce Bergin also will be on hand to offer a sneak peek of the upcoming University of Minnesota/TPT documentary "Cornerstones: Stories of Place on the North Side."

Other activities will include cooking demonstrations by U of M Extension's Simply Good Eating program; free health screenings by the Center for Health Equity (CHE); and drop-in computer classes with trainers from the Broadband Access Project (BAP). The daylong event will also offer chances to sample basil ice cream developed by the U of M Arboretum's Urban Garden Youth Employment Program, a UROC-based project.

The day will also mark the opening of "Profiles in Partnership," a photographic exhibit in UROC's gallery of large-frame portraits of community and university research-outreach partners including North Point Health and Wellness CEO Stella Whitney West and UROC Executive Director Heidi Lasley Barajas; Sabathani Community Center Manager Bob Lay and BAP Apprentice Hawa Omar; De La Salle High School Sophomore Demarjoin Murry and CHE Director Dr. Jasjit Ahluwalia; and Harrison Heighborhood Association President Maren McDonell and Center for Urban and Regional Affairs Coordinator Jeff Corn.

The day's schedule follows:

- Noon to 1 p.m. Open house with refreshments and live music.
- 1:15 to 2 p.m. Welcome by Kaler, university Senior Vice President for System Academic Administration Robert Jones and Barajas, followed by a sneak peek of the "Cornerstones" production.
- 2 to 3 p.m. Reception for Kaler, community partners and the general public featuring fare from community-based businesses.
- 3 to 6 p.m. Tours, demonstrations, live music and a chance for visitors to record personal memories of life in North Minneapolis at the "Cornerstones: Stories of Place on the North Side" video booth.

The event is free and open to the public. The Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center is an initiative of the university's Office of the Senior Vice President for System Academic Administration. UROC links the university in vital public partnership with urban communities to advance learning, improve quality of life and discover breakthrough solutions to critical urban problems. Visit [uroc.umn.edu](http://uroc.umn.edu) for more information.

## U of M Law School to host Constitution Day program Sept. 16

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**September 13, 2011**



"We the People: Constitution Day" will take place from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in Lockhart Hall (Room 25), U of M Law School, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. [Image courtesy [AnimatedAtlas](#)]

The University of Minnesota Law School will present a program on Constitution Day, Friday, Sept. 16, commemorating the U.S. Constitution.

"We the People: Constitution Day" will take place from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in Lockhart Hall (Room 25), U of M Law School, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

This program will also be presented as a live webcast. For access to the webcast, go to: [www.law.umn.edu/news/law-school-to-host-annual-constitution-day-program-9-16-11.html](http://www.law.umn.edu/news/law-school-to-host-annual-constitution-day-program-9-16-11.html). One CLE credit has been requested.

### Agenda

I. Introduction: Alexandra B. Klass, professor of law; associate dean for academic affairs; and Solly Robins Distinguished Research Fellow

II. "Campaign Finance Reform and the First Amendment: 40 Years in (Very Brief) Review:" Heidi Kitrosser, Julius E. Davis Professor of Law

This summer, the Supreme Court decided *Arizona Free Enterprise v. Bennett*. In *Bennett*, the court struck down an Arizona financing scheme that sought to provide publicly financed candidates with funds equal to those expended on behalf of their privately financed opponents. While the case is important in itself, it is but the latest development in a nearly forty-year history of Supreme Court case law on First Amendment challenges to campaign finance reform measures. In this presentation, Kitrosser will briefly summarize major aspects of the First Amendment case law on campaign finance law and situate the *Bennett* case in that larger context.

III. "From *Roper*, to *Graham*, to *J.D.B.*: Considering the Court's 'Kids are Different' Jurisprudence:" Perry Moriearty, clinical professor of law

In June 2011, the Supreme Court decided *J.D.B. v. North Carolina*, holding that a child's age is a relevant factor in determining whether the child is "in custody" for purposes of *Miranda v. Arizona*. *J.D.B.* is the most recent of three major decisions issued by the court over the last six years which affirm the fundamental premise that "children cannot be viewed simply as miniature adults" under the law. In this talk, Moriearty will describe and discuss the broader implications of these decisions.



## Minnesota native Majka Burhardt to share tale of coffee and hope in Ethiopia at Bell Museum of Natural History Sept. 21

**What:** "Coffee Story: Ethiopia" presentation by author Majka Burhardt, followed by panel discussion

**When:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21. Cost: \$10 public, \$8 members and U of M students/faculty

**Where:** U of M Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

[www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org) or (612) 624-7083

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[Andrea Klaassen](mailto:aklaasse@umn.edu), Bell Museum, [aklaasse@umn.edu](mailto:aklaasse@umn.edu), (612) 624-7389

### September 13, 2011

Can a nation with a history of famine, drought and war, change its global image into one of power and prosperity? Majka Burhardt believes Ethiopia can do so, by embracing the heritage and potential of its defining crop—coffee.

Burhardt will share her message at the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History in a presentation on food anthropology, development, adventure and the impact of coffee on world politics and global understanding. The event, held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, is part of a series of events supporting the museum's current exhibit, "Coffee: The World in Your Cup" and marks the release of Burhardt's latest book, "Coffee Story: Ethiopia."

A world-traveling writer, climber and guide originally from Minnesota, Burhardt's interest in Ethiopian coffee culture was piqued during her many climbing trips to the country. According to Burhardt, "I truly believe that if you take this crop that is the most valuable thing Ethiopia has and you attach it to richness, whether that's cultural richness or commodity richness, then Ethiopia is going to be better off in the long run." Burhardt's writing on Ethiopia has appeared in [Forbes.com](http://Forbes.com) in addition to her work being featured in national news programs, radio shows, magazines and newspapers throughout the world.

A panel discussion with Burhardt and representatives from Peace Coffee and Café Imports will follow the presentation, as well as a book signing of "Coffee Story: Ethiopia."

The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, and strives to advance the quest to discover, document and understand life in its many forms and to inspire curiosity, delight and informed stewardship of the natural world. For details, visit [bellmuseum.org](http://bellmuseum.org).

"Coffee: The World in Your Cup" was organized by the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture, University of Washington, Seattle. Major sponsorship is provided by the Boeing Company, Microsoft Corp., Starbucks Coffee Co. and the University of Washington.

Hosted by the Bell Museum of Natural History. This event is sponsored by Peace Coffee, with additional support from Osprey Packs.

## University of Minnesota Law School launches new Corporate Institute

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/14/2011) —The University of Minnesota Law School is expanding its business law program with the establishment of the Corporate Institute. Building upon the strength of its internationally recognized business law faculty, the Corporate Institute combines current business-oriented activities with new programs to provide more business-related legal opportunities for students, faculty and alumni. The institute has been established through generous support from alumni and local business leaders.

Under the umbrella of the new Corporate Institute, students can receive a business law concentration certification, participate in the business law clinic and corporate externship programs, pursue a dual Juris Doctor/Master of Business Administration degree in collaboration with the Carlson School of Management and study abroad in business programs in Milan, Italy, and Hamburg, Germany.

“Closer connections with the business community are a top priority for the Law School,” said Dean David Wippman. “Creation of the Corporate Institute is a significant step in that direction. I am pleased that professor John Matheson, an internationally recognized expert in the area of corporate and business law, will serve as inaugural director of the Corporate Institute.”

Three new initiatives will be introduced this year with the launch of the Corporate Institute. The Corporate Institute will offer a new Master of Laws business law program for foreign lawyers, exposing them to a broad array of legal skills and knowledge crucial to the global practice of business law.

The new Leadership Foundations Program, which takes place between the fall and spring semesters, offers current students intensive exposure to fundamental leadership skills and concepts. The first program is scheduled for Jan. 11–13, 2012.

On Sept. 19, Eric Nicholson ('93), managing director at the investment bank Greene Holcomb & Fisher, will kick off the “Taking Care of Business,” speaker series with a talk on “Doing Deals with Investment Bankers.” In February 2012, Arne Sorenson ('83), president and chief operating officer of Marriott International, Inc., will share best practices and business tips.

Additionally, the student-led Business Law Association will co-sponsor the speaker series as well as host movie nights and other events to provide networking opportunities for students, alumni and the business community.

“The numerous Fortune 500 companies, major public corporations and large private companies in the Twin Cities provide a vibrant business community and abundant programming opportunities for the University of Minnesota Law School,” says Matheson. “The Corporate Institute will utilize these fantastic resources, and those supplied by our excellent and supportive Twin Cities law firms, to enhance the business law program for the benefit of our students and the business community.”

For more information about the University of Minnesota Law School's Corporate Institute, visit [www.law.umn.edu/corporateinstitute.html](http://www.law.umn.edu/corporateinstitute.html).

## U of M Bell Museum, Minnesota Planetarium Society to integrate



The University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History and Minnesota Planetarium Society (MNPS) have agreed to integrate their programming and operations at the Bell Museum.

## programming, operations

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/15/2011) —The University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History and Minnesota Planetarium Society (MNPS) have agreed to integrate their programming and operations at the Bell Museum.

“This agreement provides a strong foundation for the award winning ExploraDome program,” says Susan Weller, executive director of the Bell Museum. “It ensures the program will continue to inspire and educate children and adults statewide, and it will increase the opportunities to use the ExploraDome’s immersive visualization technology for undergraduate education and faculty research. The agreement also strengthens Minnesota’s regional network of eight planetariums.”

A number of factors brought the Bell Museum and MNPS together in discussions that began a year ago. First, both organizations have a successful history of providing enhanced classroom programming in science education to K-12 schools. Second, the ExploraDome’s visualization technology will give university faculty additional opportunities to support the emerging field of visualizing scientific research, as well as evaluating the technology’s applications in educational settings. Third, there is growing recognition of the importance of a strong, multifaceted approach to science education to support Minnesota’s business community.

The Bell Museum and MNPS also share a need for updated facilities, and both have struggled to address those needs. “The economy and resulting softness in charitable giving, cancellation of the bonds for a new planetarium, and two vetoes of bonding for a new Bell Museum building all require that we develop a new vision for science education delivery and facilities,” Weller says. “It is premature to discuss facilities, but our supporters and I are committed to engaging our Minnesota stakeholders and university community to develop an expanded vision for their state natural history museum that includes the role of our planetary history in shaping our natural world.”

There is no timetable for proposing a new building for the combined programs, but the university has a well-established process for prioritizing future renovation and construction projects.

As a result of the integration, the Minnesota Planetarium Society will cease public operations as of Sept. 30. The organization’s assets were formally transferred to the Bell Museum Sept. 12. The Bell Museum will honor pre-existing bookings and agreements for the MNPS’ ExploraDome program.

More information about the Bell Museum’s programs, including the ExploraDome, can be found at [www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org).

## University of Minnesota to confer an honorary degree on Philip Brunelle

Conferral of degree at School of Music Fall Convocation on Thursday, Oct. 6

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/15/2011) —The University of Minnesota School of Music will confer an honorary degree on internationally renowned conductor and VocalEssence Artistic Director Philip Brunelle at 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 6 during the U of M School of Music's Fall Convocation at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th Street S., Minneapolis. The Doctor of Humane Letters is the highest award conferred by the University of Minnesota Board of Regents, recognizing individuals who have achieved acknowledged eminence in their field.

The School of Music Fall Convocation will also feature keynote speaker Helena Gaunt (London's Guildhall School of Music and Drama) on "Becoming a Musician in the 21st Century." The School of Music Fall Convocation is free and open to the public. Admission is on a first-come, first-seated basis. Parking is available in the 21st Avenue Ramp, one block southwest of the concert hall.

On Brunelle's honorary degree, School of Music Director David Myers said, "Ever since leaving the University of Minnesota School of Music just a few credits shy of his bachelor's degree and serving as the youngest member of the Minnesota Orchestra at age 19, Philip has been advancing the art of music performance and assuring access to rich and varied musical opportunities for thousands of people locally, nationally and internationally. The time has come for the university and music school Philip chose to attend as a young man – the University of Minnesota – to recognize and affirm officially his outstanding lifetime artistic and leadership achievements."

Myers continued, "It was at the School of Music that his career took root when he studied opera history with professor Dominick Argento, with whom he maintains his professional relationship, and organ with professor Arthur Jennings. He has been an advocate for the work of Minnesota graduates, such as Libby Larsen and Stephen Paulus, as well as other living composers around the world. He is repeatedly invited to university functions, having served as an adjunct faculty member in the areas of choral, accompanying and brass choir, is a stalwart advocate for the University of Minnesota and its School of Music, and has been asked for his consultation and advice on an arts profile for the university at large. This award will not simply add to his already lengthy list of distinctions; it shows convincingly that his alma mater honors and celebrates his life of service to a greater good through excellence in the art of music."

Brunelle said, "I am thrilled to be recognized by the University of Minnesota School of Music with an honorary degree. My years at the university, which coincided with my years in the Minnesota Orchestra, were formative ones for me, allowing me the opportunity to study with some 'university greats' - Dominick Argento, Paul Fetler, Mary Malcolm, Robert Laudon, Paul Knowles and Paul Freed. I was granted many wonderful opportunities to excel and am grateful for all that the University of Minnesota offered me. It has been my good fortune since that time to serve the School of Music when asked as an adjunct faculty member, conductor and tenure committee member. Thank you to David Myers and all who made awarding of this Doctor of Humane Letters a reality."

### Philip Brunelle Biography

Born in Faribault, Minnesota in 1943, Brunelle showed signs at an early age of the adventurous spirit that has driven his lifelong enthusiasm for all forms of choral, vocal, opera and symphonic music. At the age of six, he requested and received a vocal score of Handel's "Messiah" for Christmas. As a teenager he was already working as a professional church organist; at 19 he became a full-time member of the Minnesota Orchestra.

At the age of 25, Brunelle was appointed choirmaster-organist of Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis. He immediately established the Plymouth Music Series, which has become today's choral music organization VocalEssence. Brunelle played piano on the very first broadcast of "A Prairie Home Companion" in 1974, forging a connection with Garrison Keillor that has resulted in many creative ventures over the years.

Brunelle has been invited to guest conduct choirs and orchestras across the United States, South America and Europe, including the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Berkshire Choral Festival, the BBC Singers and the Seattle Symphony. He is called upon to adjudicate choral competitions all over the world, with recent visits to South Korea, China, Norway and Hungary.

Brunelle is currently a board member of Chorus America and the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM), where he serves as vice president and served on the artistic planning committee for the 2011 World Choral Symposium in Argentina and the 2008 symposium in Copenhagen, Denmark. He served as president of the sixth symposium, held in Minneapolis in 2002, and is involved in the 2014 symposium to be held in Seoul, South Korea.

Brunelle has been recognized for his commitment to choral music by Norway (Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit), the United Kingdom (Honorary Member of the Order of the British Empire), Hungary (Kodály Medal) and Sweden (Royal Order of the Polar Star). In 2003 Chorus America honored Brunelle with its highest award, the Michael Korn Founder's Award for Development of the Choral Art.

He has been honored with a "Local Legend" award from General Mills and the United Negro College Fund; American Composers Forum "Champion of New Music"; U.S. Bank Sally Ordway Irvine Award for Commitment, recognizing lifetime achievement, contribution and leadership in culture and the arts; and the F. Melius Christiansen Lifetime Achievement Award, American Choral Directors Association-Minnesota Chapter's highest honor. Brunelle holds honorary doctorates from St. Olaf College, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. John's University and United Theological Seminary.

The School of Music presents more than 400 free concerts and recitals per year. For a complete schedule of events, visit [music.umn.edu](http://music.umn.edu) or call the School of Music events hotline at 612/626-8742.

Photographs available upon request. Email requests for photographs to [marsh396@umn.edu](mailto:marsh396@umn.edu).

Established in 1902, the University of Minnesota School of Music offers a dynamic, comprehensive program to more than 550 music students in undergraduate and graduate programs, led by a world-class faculty of more than 50 artists, scholars and teachers. The School of Music presents more than 400 free concerts per year. For a complete schedule of events, visit [www.music.umn.edu](http://www.music.umn.edu) or call (612) 626-1094 for a brochure.

## Tucker Center receives major gifts to support gender equity scholarship, education and outreach

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/15/2011) —The University of Minnesota’s Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport has received two substantial gifts to support a doctoral fellowship and a research and education fund for innovative scholarship related to gender equity in sport.

Heather Burns and Kathleen Maloy have established the Tucker Center Doctoral Fellowship for Gender Equity in Sport and the Tucker Center Research Fund for Gender Equity in Sport. The fellowship will support a Tucker Center doctoral student whose academic focus is dedicated to identifying and eliminating gender bias and discrimination in sport and physical activity. The research fund will provide ongoing support for scholarly activity and educational/outreach initiatives.

Burns and Maloy have long admired the ground-breaking work of the Tucker Center. Their desire to support the Tucker Center’s efforts stems from their work through Live to Give Charitable Trust Fund, as well as their commitment to and passion for gender equity in sport.

“Live to Give makes strategic and catalytic gifts to promote social justice, equity and human rights with a particular focus on girls and women,” says Burns. “Kathleen and I believe that gender equity in sport can catalyze gender equity in other socioeconomic and political arenas.”

Professor Mary Jo Kane, director of the Tucker Center, said, “I am overwhelmed by the generosity of these two amazing women. Their gifts will allow us to attract and support the ‘best and the brightest’ students from around the globe to come to the U of M and conduct research that will truly make a difference. Their investment will create new opportunities for discovery and will allow those of us who work in the Tucker Center to have an impact in the broader society around issues involving gender equity in sport.”

The first of its kind in the world, the Tucker Center is an interdisciplinary research center leading a pioneering effort to examine how sport and physical activity affect the lives of girls and women, their families and communities. Established in 1993 by Dorothy McNeill Tucker, a 1945 graduate of the University of Minnesota, the Tucker Center has provided scientific excellence and national leadership in areas related to bettering the lives of girls and women. The Tucker Center is housed in the School of Kinesiology on the University of Minnesota’s Twin Cities campus.

## University of Minnesota to inaugurate Eric Kaler as the 16th president Sept. 22

“Minnesota All”-themed inauguration starts Monday, Sept. 19; includes campus and community events



Eric Kaler will be inaugurated as the University of Minnesota’s 16th president at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at Ted Mann Concert Hall.

**Media Note:** Room is limited at the inaugural ceremony. Media wanting to cover any inaugural events during the week must contact [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu) for credentials.

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### September 15, 2011

Eric Kaler will be inaugurated as the University of Minnesota’s 16th president at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis.

The formal ceremony will include a faculty procession into the hall; the investiture and presentation of the mace and medallion, symbols of university leadership, by Gov. Mark Dayton and U of M Board of Regents Chair Linda Cohen; and Kaler’s inaugural address.

Kaler will be the second university alumnus to serve as president of Minnesota’s land-grant and research university. More than 1,000 dignitaries from Minnesota, throughout the nation and around the world, including representatives from four consulates, will attend the ceremony.

The inauguration week theme is “Minnesota All,” bringing to life Kaler and his wife Karen’s vision that the inauguration and the week’s festivities be a vehicle to instill and promote pride in the university among faculty, staff and students, among government and business leaders, and among all Minnesotans.

Amidst the tradition will be a new twist: Student social media ambassadors will be following Kaler throughout the week and posting to a special Twitter account, [@PrezKaler](https://twitter.com/PrezKaler). Follow the action there beginning Friday, Sept. 16.

The public is welcome to view the inauguration live in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis, and the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul. To watch the ceremony live online, go to [www.umn.edu](http://www.umn.edu) the morning of the inauguration to be directed to the broadcast site. A special pre-inaugural broadcast will begin at 10:45 a.m., hosted by U of M School of Journalism and Mass Communication alumna Boua Xiong and featuring color commentary by university historian Ann Pflaum.

The ceremony will be carried live in Kirby Rafters on the Duluth campus, in Bede Ballroom of Sargeant Student Center on the Crookston campus, in Room 122 of the Welcome Center on the Morris campus and in Room 419 University Square on the Rochester campus.

### Inaugural week activities

The week consists of a series of activities on and off campus highlighting the depth and breadth of the university’s tripartite mission of research, teaching and outreach – from the university’s Twin Cities’ campus to a family farm in Hugo, the Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis’ Northside neighborhood and a Minnesota Twins game.

#### Monday, Sept. 19 – Campus crawl

9 to 11:30 a.m. Kaler tours the St. Paul campus. Tour highlights include a visit with world-renowned bee researcher Marla Spivak, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; the university’s turf research fields, U of M Extension; presentations on a range of cutting-edge research, from biofuels to epigenetics, in the College of Biological Sciences; an overview of the university’s continuing education and personal enrichment programs, College of Continuing Education; and the Veterinary Medical Center, College of Veterinary Medicine.

1 to 3 p.m. Kaler takes a tour of the Academic Health Center (AHC) on the East Bank campus in Minneapolis. The president will visit the School of Public Health, where he will meet with faculty and students to discuss high-impact local and global public health research. He will tour the AHC Simulation Center, where he will participate in hands-on treatment of a simulated patient. The president will also take a drill in hand at the School of Dentistry’s Simulation Clinic to test his own operative skills on mannequins equipped with cameras, computers and tracking sensors. Finally, he will learn how interdisciplinary health professional teams are learning new models of collaboration in health care delivery at the Teaching Health Professional Collaborative Practice.

#### Tuesday, Sept. 20 – Community day

Kaler will spend the day getting acquainted with the many ways the university and the broader community collaborate to improve the well-being of Minnesota’s people and economy.

7:30 to 8:45 a.m. Kaler tours the Fran and Mary Ann Miron dairy farm, Hugo, and meets with local high school students studying agriculture.

10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Kaler will meet with university and industry leaders in the health- and science-related products and services industry at a Life Science Alley event, Nicollet Island Pavilion, 40 Power St., Minneapolis. Kaler will deliver remarks at approximately 10:55 a.m.

1 to 3 p.m. Kaler visits the U’s Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC) in North Minneapolis at 2001 Plymouth Ave. N., Minneapolis, and learns about the university’s collaborations with urban communities. Kaler will hold a media availability at 2:45 p.m.

4 to 5:45 p.m. Kaler visits the Guthrie Theater, 818 Second St. S., Minneapolis, and learns about partnerships between area arts organizations and university arts departments in the College of Liberal Arts (CLA), including the BFA Actor Training program, which is run in conjunction with the Guthrie Theater. Kaler will deliver remarks at about 4:50 p.m.

6:55 p.m. Kaler, accompanied by Goldy Gopher, throws out the first pitch at the Minnesota Twins game at Target Field. The “Minnesota Rouser” will be played prior to the pitch.

#### Wednesday, Sept. 21 – Campus crawl

9 to 10:55 a.m. Kaler tours the West Bank campus in Minneapolis. He will visit the Law School, the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, the Carlson School of Management, the School of Music in CLA and the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance office, where students will challenge Kaler to a lightning round of trivia on the university’s international history and current international programs.

1 to 3 p.m. Kaler returns to the East Bank campus in Minneapolis beginning at historic Burton Hall, where he will learn about the College of Education and Human Development’s innovative First Year Experience program. Students, faculty and staff will then greet Kaler in Elliott Hall, where they will highlight psychology -- the major that serves the most students in CLA. Next he will visit Walter Library, where College of Science and Engineering faculty will present a 3-D virtual reality demonstration of cutting-edge research for medical device design and the latest in robotics. Kaler will end his East Bank tour by visiting Rapson Hall, home of the College of Design.

#### Thursday, Sept. 22 – Inauguration day

11 a.m. to noon. The inauguration ceremony (ticketed) begins at 11 a.m. at Ted Mann Concert Hall.

2 to 4 p.m. Public post-inauguration reception at Coffman Union (various locations).

#### Friday, Sept. 23 – Portrait unveiling

Noon. Kaler will get a reflection of himself with the public unveiling of the presidential portrait at the Coffman Union front plaza.

#### Saturday, Sept. 24 – Game day

6 p.m. Kaler will finish the week at the Gopher football team’s game against North Dakota State University (ticketed) at TCF Bank Stadium.

For all inauguration-related information, see the official inauguration website, [www.umn.edu/president/inauguration](http://www.umn.edu/president/inauguration).

## Renowned astrophysicist explores the "dark side of the Universe" in Sept. 20 lecture

**What:** 6th Annual  
Misel Family Lecture:  
"The Dark Side of the  
Universe"

**When:** 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 20.  
Event is free and  
open to the public.

**Where:** McNamara  
Alumni Center,  
Memorial Hall, 200  
Oak St. S.E.,  
Minneapolis



Astronomical measurements have demonstrated that about 21 percent of Universe is in the form of “dark matter,” which gravitationally attracts but is otherwise invisible and most of the remaining 75 percent takes the form of “dark energy,” which causes space to expand at an ever-increasing rate. This implies that only a small fraction - about 4 percent - of the Universe is matter that we understand.

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### September 15, 2011

Our understanding of the Universe is undergoing a revolution. Astronomical measurements have demonstrated that about 21 percent of Universe is in the form of “dark matter,” which gravitationally attracts but is otherwise invisible and most of the remaining 75 percent takes the form of “dark energy,” which causes space to expand at an ever-increasing rate. This implies that only a small fraction - about 4 percent - of the Universe is matter that we understand.

World-renowned astrophysicist and Stanford University professor Roger Blandford will explore the evidence for dark matter and dark energy, as well as the experiments being developed to investigate their fundamental nature in his upcoming lecture, “The Dark Side of the Universe” at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, McNamara Alumni Center, Memorial Hall, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public. No background in physics is needed, simply an enthusiasm or curiosity for science.

This 6th Annual Misel Family Lecture is hosted by the Fine Theoretical Physics Institute, which is part of the University of Minnesota’s College of Science and Engineering.

Being primarily a theoretical astrophysicist, Blandford, is known for successfully relating theory to specific observations and fruitfully collaborating with observers. In particular his work on gravitational lensing, applied to specific data, has led to finding new unusual faint objects in the sky. His research spans many of the major areas of astronomy and astrophysics, from cosmology to the properties of specific celestial objects, such as galaxies and stars, to exploring the phenomena through which we receive the knowledge about distant objects, such as the gravitational lensing and the cosmic rays.

The Misel Lecture Series is endowed by a generous gift from Irving and Edythe Misel to honor their life-long friendship with William and Bianca Fine. William Fine’s bold vision and gift to the University, inspired by his genuine interest in physics, were instrumental in the establishment of the Fine Theoretical Physics Institute and its successful development over the past two decades.

For more information about the lecture or the speaker, visit [www.ftpi.umn.edu/misel](http://www.ftpi.umn.edu/misel).

## University of Minnesota to host first-ever Cyber Security Summit Oct. 3

Event focuses on securing the nation's digital infrastructure

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As the global economy increasingly operates in a digital world, the Technological Leadership Institute (TLI) in the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering is hosting the First Annual Cyber Security Summit.

### September 15, 2011

As the global economy increasingly operates in a digital world, the Technological Leadership Institute (TLI) in the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering is hosting the First Annual Cyber Security Summit. The event is 7:30 to 11:45 a.m. Monday, Oct. 3, at the university's Coffman Memorial Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The growing number of attacks on our cyber networks has become, in President Barack Obama's words, "One of the most serious economic and national security threats our nation faces."

The Cyber Security Summit at the University of Minnesota will bring together leaders from the government, business, and non-profit sectors to collaborate on digital infrastructure security issues and share views concerning our nation's readiness to manage the escalating threat.

"Protecting against security threats cannot be accomplished by the sole effort of any entity acting alone," said Gopal Khanna, a senior fellow at the University of Minnesota's Technological Leadership Institute. "Rather, the combined vigilance of government, technology developers and industry serves as the best protection for all."

The summit's keynote topics range from the overall national strategy concerning cyber security to a more in-depth look at risk management. This year's keynote speakers are nationally recognized and come from the Information Technology Laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). William Barker is the associate director and chief cybersecurity advisor and Ron Ross is a senior computer scientist for NIST.

There will also be a panel discussion, moderated by Kathy Grayson, a reporter for the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal. This panel will be represented by leaders from both the public and private sectors, offering perspective on "Linking Public and Private Sector Resources to Strengthen our National Security." Confirmed panelists include Christopher Buse, chief information security officer, State of Minnesota, and Michael L. Kearn, CISSP, NSA-IAM, vice president and information security officer, Interest Rate Derivatives & Principal Investments Group, Wells Fargo Securities.

This event is open to private and public organizations. Discounted rates are available for government employees, students and faculty. Early registration rates end Friday, Sept. 23. To register or for more information, visit [www.cybersecuritysummit.org](http://www.cybersecuritysummit.org).



## Weisman Art Museum reopening media event Sept. 21

**Media Note:** Photography will be permitted in the galleries from 10 to 10:20 a.m. Parking is available in the Weisman Art Museum Garage. To RSVP, contact Erin Lauderman at (612) 625-9685 or email [wampr@umn.edu](mailto:wampr@umn.edu).

**Where:** Weisman Art Museum, 333 East River Rd., Minneapolis

**When:** 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21

**Contacts:** Erin Lauderman, Weisman Art Museum, [wampr@umn.edu](mailto:wampr@umn.edu), (612) 625-9685  
[Preston Smith](mailto:smith@umn.edu), University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

### September 16, 2011

The University of Minnesota's Weisman Art Museum (WAM) will hold a media availability and tour at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 21, to preview the official reopening of four new galleries and the Target Studio for Creative Collaboration. WAM has completed construction of an 8,100 square-foot expansion designed by internationally renowned architect Frank Gehry. This will mark the first opportunity for photographs of the new galleries and opening exhibitions.

The media event will include keynote speakers from several of the partners in this joint effort. For more information on the expansion and opening exhibits, visit <http://wam.umn.edu>.

Speakers include: Lyndel King, WAM director and chief curator, and John Cook, FAIA, HGA vice president and project architect. Also in attendance: Brett Dunlap, JE Dunn Project Manager; Diane Mullin, WAM Curator; Craig Amundsen, WAM Target Studio director and public art curator; and John Allen, WAM security and building operations director.

Official PrezKaler Twitter account has launched; 16 student social media ambassadors to tweet during inauguration week, Sept. 19-24

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](#),  
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 (612) 626-1720



The 16 students were selected among more than 100 applicants. President Eric Kaler's wife, Karen, reviewed the applications and served as part of the selection committee.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/16/2011) —University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler has launched his official Twitter account, [@PrezKaler](#), this week. In addition, the university announced the student social media ambassadors who will tweet on his account during inauguration week, Sept. 19-24.

Kaler's bio reads, "President, University of Minnesota. Love family, newspapers and baseball. Value research, innovation and higher ed. Caffeine enthusiast. Go Gophers!"

During inauguration week, 16 social media ambassadors will be following Kaler on his campus and community events and taking turns posting to the account. However, when Kaler does post his own updates, he will sign off with "- Dr. K." The ambassadors represent six colleges and 20 different majors.

"It's an easy way for me to connect with people and learn about who I am and what my goals are for the university," Kaler says. "I'm especially interested in connecting with students and it's clear to me that you have to be on social media these days when communicating with students."

The students will tweet as Kaler visits a farm, attends breakfasts in residence halls, throws out the first pitch at a Minnesota Twins game, shakes hands at a public reception at Coffman Memorial Union and sees his presidential portrait unveiled.

The 16 students were selected among more than 100 applicants. They had to say why they wanted to do the job and how they would use the account to connect students to the week's activities. They also had to describe an image in 140 characters or less.

Kaler's wife, Karen, reviewed the applications and served as part of the selection committee.

To learn more about the 16 social media ambassadors, see [www.umn.edu/president/inauguration/social-media-ambassadors](http://www.umn.edu/president/inauguration/social-media-ambassadors). For more information about inauguration week, see [www.umn.edu/president/inauguration](http://www.umn.edu/president/inauguration).

## Humphrey School to announce Oberstar scholarship at the University of Minnesota



### What:

Announcement of the creation of the James L. Oberstar Fellowship

**When:** 2:30 p.m.  
Monday, Sept. 19

**Where:** Humphrey Forum, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Jim Oberstar was the state's longest-serving member of Congress in history, representing northeastern Minnesota in the U.S. House from 1975 until early this year.

**Contacts:** Anne Mason, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, [amason@umn.edu](mailto:amason@umn.edu), (202) 210-5742  
[Jeff Falk](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

### September 16, 2011

On Monday, Sept. 19, the University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs will announce the creation of the James L. Oberstar Fellowship, in partnership with the Minnesota Forest Industries (MFI), an association representing the state's forest products companies. The scholarship will annually support one student in public policy or urban planning.

Oberstar, a former Minnesota congressman, joined the university's Humphrey School as chair of the Center for Excellence in Rural Safety's (CERS) national advisory panel in January. CERS is a national center that advocates for safety improvements in rural transportation.

### Speakers will include:

Congressman Oberstar

Interim Dean Greg Lindsey, Humphrey School

Wayne Brandt, Minnesota Forest Industries

Jonathan Creed, fellowship recipient, urban and regional planning graduate student

## Getting kids to eat whole grains: What will it take? U of M researchers may have some answers

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/20/2011) —Children and adolescents aren't eating enough whole grains, but new research from the University of Minnesota offers some insight into how parents and school lunch professionals can improve kids' whole grain intake.

Fewer than 1 percent of Americans between the ages of 9 and 18 currently eat the recommended daily 3 to 5 servings of whole grains. A serving is equal to a slice of bread, a half-cup of pasta or rice, or a cup of cereal.

With relatively small changes by parents and school nutrition programs, however, children could increase their whole grain intake significantly, by about one serving a day, two new studies by University of Minnesota researchers have found. Among the other findings published this month in the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*:

- Substituting whole-grain ingredients in common foods like tortillas and pancakes may be the simplest way to increase intake. In a study that monitored students' preferences at schools in Texas and Minnesota, the researchers found that particularly when foods are made with lighter color, smoother white whole-wheat flour, students showed little preference for refined-grain foods over whole grains and ate about the same amounts of each.
- School food-service managers say the added cost of whole-grain foods is a significant barrier. The researchers note that the foods tested in one study were from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Food program and were widely accepted by students; that could help more schools adopt whole grains in their menu planning.
- A successful method for introducing whole grains is by gradually increasing the percentage of whole-grain ingredients so that changes in texture and taste are less noticeable.
- Successfully shifting consumers of all ages to whole grains will require major changes in the food supply chain. The authors note that whole-grain foods must be tasty, affordable and convenient, but meeting Food and Drug Administration guidelines for fat, sodium and sugar content while making the products acceptable to consumers will be another challenge.

"These studies show that getting consumers, especially children, to eat a healthier diet is possible with some relatively small changes," said Len Marquart, a nutrition professor at the University of Minnesota and a co-author on both studies. "We're making progress, but we still have a ways to go."

## U of M and Macalester College co-host national conference for public scholars in humanities, arts and design Sept. 22-24

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**September 20, 2011**

The University of Minnesota and Macalester College will co-host the country's largest gathering of scholars and leaders from humanities, arts and design disciplines at the 11th annual Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life conference, Thursday, Sept. 22, and Friday, Sept. 23, at Coffman Union on the university's east bank campus and on Saturday, Sept. 24, on the Macalester College campus.

Based at Syracuse University in New York, Imagining America is a national consortium of 88 colleges and universities whose mission is to strengthen the public and civic purposes of humanities, arts and design through mutually beneficial campus-community partnerships that advance democratic scholarship and practice. The event, co-hosted by the university's Office for Public Engagement and Macalester's Office of the Provost and Dean of the Faculty, is expected to attract more than 400 artists and scholars from various higher education institutions and nonprofit organizations who focus on advancing the democratic, public and civic purposes of higher education.

This year's conference theme "What Sustains Us?" focuses on broad questions about sustainability—including environmental concerns and agricultural, social, economic and institutional practices. The three-day event will feature workshops, seminars, roundtables, poster presentations and live performances on a wide range of topics from rural economic development to urban public art, as well as site visits to more than a dozen community-based organizations in the Twin Cities.

Plenary speakers are:

- David Scobey, executive dean at New York's The New School, on "A Copernican Moment: Public Work and the Revolution in Higher Education"
- Seitu Jones, senior fellow in the U's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, and Rose Brewer, professor of Afro-American and African studies at the U, on "Seeding the Future"
- Harry Boyte, co-director of Augsburg College's Center for Democracy and Citizenship and senior fellow at the university's Humphrey School of Public Affairs, on "Architects of Democracy – Moving from Civic Activity to Civic Identity"

"The Imagining America conference brings together the most prominent and influential publicly engaged scholars in the arts and humanities who work to integrate community and academic knowledge to address some of society's most pressing and complex issues," said Andrew Furco, university associate vice president for public engagement and conference organizer.

For a complete schedule of events, visit <http://www.imaginingamerica.org/conferences.html>.

## Inauguration of new U of M President Eric Kaler: Media logistics and timeline

All credentialed media must check-in at Ted Mann Concert Hall by 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 22

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### September 21, 2011

The following are the logistics and timeline for all credentialed media covering the inauguration of Eric Kaler as the 16th president of the University of Minnesota on Thursday, Sept. 22, at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis.

**10 to 10:30 a.m.** Media are encouraged to arrive and park in the university's 19th Avenue and 21st Avenue parking ramps; you must pay a fee to park in these ramps. More information may be found at [www.umn.edu/pts](http://www.umn.edu/pts). The University News Service will be stationed at the main entrance to Ted Mann Concert hall with media credentials and media kits. A multibox will be provided in the concert hall. Please contact [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu) for satellite truck parking information.

**10:35 a.m.** All media must be in their designated seating places in the concert hall. There will be no late seating.

**10:45 a.m.** Student leaders, delegates, faculty/administrators process from adjacent Ferguson Hall to the concert hall, where they will be joined by distinguished guests, including Gov. Mark Dayton, regents, regents emeriti and chancellors. Kaler will be the last one in the procession.

**11. a.m.** Ceremony begins with fanfare as the procession enters the concert hall. Ceremony highlights include (in chronological order):

- Welcome by Frank Bates, Regents Professor, head of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science and chair of the inauguration advisory committee; and Linda Cohen, chair of the Board of Regents
- Investiture and presentation of the mace by Dayton
- Presentation of the medallion by Cohen
- Kaler's inaugural address
- Closing remarks by Bates

The ceremony will conclude at 12:20 p.m. and is followed by a private lunch at the Carlson School of Management. At 1:45 p.m. Kaler, his family and guests will cross the Washington Avenue Bridge and host a public reception at Coffman Union. The bridge will be lined with hundreds of students eager to congratulate Kaler on his inauguration.

The public is welcome to view the inauguration live in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis; the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis; or the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul. To watch the ceremony live online, go to [www.umn.edu](http://www.umn.edu) the morning of the inauguration to be directed to the broadcast site.

A special pre-inaugural broadcast will begin at 10:45 a.m., hosted by U of M School of Journalism and Mass Communication alumna Boua Xiong and featuring color commentary by university historian Ann Pflaum.

The ceremony will be carried live in Kirby Rafters on the Duluth campus, in Bede Ballroom of Sargeant Student Center on the Crookston campus, in Room 122 of the Welcome Center on the Morris campus and in Room 419 University Square on the Rochester campus.

For all inauguration information, visit the official website, [www.umn.edu/president/inauguration](http://www.umn.edu/president/inauguration).

## Cancelled: Famed astronaut James Lovell to visit University of Minnesota for public talk



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Preston Smith, University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

Beth Higdon, Astronaut Scholarship Foundation, [beth@astronautscholarship.org](mailto:beth@astronautscholarship.org), (321) 455-7013

James Lovell will share his experiences of rocketing through Earth's atmosphere and into outer space on four occasions, including commanding the famously ill-fated Apollo 13 mission.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/21/2011) —Cancelled: Gemini and Apollo astronaut James Lovell will present two University of Minnesota undergraduate students with \$10,000 scholarships from the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation and give a public talk on Wednesday, Sept. 28, 12:15 to 1 p.m. at Coffman Memorial Union Theater, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public. Doors open at 11:45 a.m. Space is limited and seating is first-come, first-served the day of the event.

Lovell will share his experiences of rocketing through Earth's atmosphere and into outer space on four occasions, including commanding the famously ill-fated Apollo 13 mission. Lovell will also present scholarships to students Brett Neubauer and Sam Schreiner. Both are enrolled in the university's College of Science and Engineering and the University Honors Program.

Neubauer and Schreiner are two of only 26 students nationwide to receive this scholarship, which is the largest merit-based scholarship program in the nation for undergraduate students in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. Since 1994 the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation has distributed \$191,000 to Astronaut Scholars at the University of Minnesota.

"Brett and Sam are clear leaders in engineering at the University of Minnesota," Lovell said. "They are prime examples of everything Astronaut Scholars are supposed to be: intelligent, perseverant and destined for greatness. I am honored to have the opportunity to present these awards to such worthy U of M students."

Neubauer is currently pursuing his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. This past year he has been researching different methods for robotic locomotion, with applications for first response in disasters such as earthquakes, fires and chemical spills. As a sophomore he designed medical testing equipment to study muscle deterioration in chronically ill hospital patients. He plans to pursue a Ph.D. in a field related to robotic systems, and his long-term aspirations include leading teams of engineers in the design and production of new technology within the field of robotics and system automation.

Schreiner is a senior majoring in aerospace engineering and mechanics. He believes that the next era of space exploration will be marked by greater international cooperation, and to that end is planning to learn Mandarin Chinese. After graduation, he intends to obtain an advanced degree in aerospace engineering, and use his experience in leadership, business and engineering to further humanity's exploration of space.

"We are honored to have Captain James Lovell visit the University of Minnesota and recognize our excellent students," said university President Eric Kaler. "Captain Lovell's distinguished career and heroic problem-solving during the Apollo 13 mission make him a role model for us all."

Selected as a NASA Astronaut in 1962, Lovell has logged more 715 hours in space on four missions. He piloted a then-record 14-day space trip on Gemini 7. He commanded Gemini 12, and piloted Apollo 8, humankind's maiden voyage to the Moon. Lovell is best known for his command of Apollo 13, the third lunar landing attempt in 1970, which was aborted following an oxygen tank explosion en route to the Moon. The mission was chronicled in a 1995 blockbuster movie. Lovell retired from NASA in 1973, and was inducted into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame in 1993. He served as the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation chair from 1997 to 2005 and is still an active member of the foundation.

The Astronaut Scholarship is the largest monetary award given in the United States to science and engineering undergraduate students based solely on merit. To date, more than \$3 million has been awarded nationwide in scholarships to outstanding college students majoring in science, technology, engineering or math.

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Its mission is to aid the United States in retaining its world leadership in science and technology by providing scholarships for college students who exhibit motivation, imagination and exceptional performance in these fields. Today, more than 80 astronauts from the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, Skylab, Space Shuttle and Space Station programs have joined in this effort.

For more information, visit [www.AstronautScholarship.org](http://www.AstronautScholarship.org).

## U of M President Eric Kaler calls on Minnesotans to join him in moving the university forward in excellence, access, research; pledges a more nimble and efficient organization; announces Kaler Family Scholarships

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/22/2011) —University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler issued a strong call to action today -- to students, faculty, business leaders, elected officials, alumni and the citizens of Minnesota -- in his inaugural address. Kaler was inaugurated as the 16th president of the University of Minnesota in a ceremony this morning.

"I'm just one person. I can't achieve excellence alone, not in these unusual times, not amid increasingly scarce resources, not across this vast organization. That's why I'm asking you to help," Kaler said.

Kaler called on them to join him in moving the university forward; building on the university's excellence; ensuring access for students regardless of their economic means; investing in research at this state's only research university; finding and eliminating inefficiencies; and, if possible, making a philanthropic commitment to preserve excellence and access.

"Together, we can fulfill this university's extraordinary promise," Kaler said.

During his address, Kaler emphasized the university's impact by highlighting two people in the audience -- an alumna and a current student.

The first, Ifrah Esse, came to Minneapolis from Somalia as an 11-year-old. She could neither read nor write Somali and didn't know English. In high school she set a goal to become a University of Minnesota student. Esse graduated in 2008 with a bachelor of arts degree in sociology and is now a sourcing specialist with Target.

"Students like Ifrah are the heart and soul of this university, representing excellence, access, personal transformation and promise for our workforce and civic life punctuated with a huge exclamation point of pride," he said.

As the president spoke about the university's efforts to remain connected to its agricultural roots and to advance agricultural innovation, he introduced student Kenny Deutz, who grew up on a farm near Marshall, Minn.

He has always wanted to be a veterinarian and he came to the university -- home to the only veterinary college in the state -- to achieve that goal and return to his community. Deutz is now part of VetFast, an innovative program created to speed up the time it takes to become a veterinarian.

"It saves a year's tuition. It addresses the shortage of large animal vets. It's good for the economy. And it allows young people like Kenny to give back to his community and live the dream he first had in kindergarten," Kaler said.

Along with transforming students, Kaler said, "We innovate. We Discover. We create the future... We are Minnesota's only research university."

And, there needs to be investment in research, Kaler told the audience.

"Our research mission is the economic and creative engine for the state and a critical contributor to a new world of knowledge, discovery and business development," he said.

Kaler also talked about the university's exceptional history of innovation in the health sciences. "I am committed to moving us to the very top tier of excellence nationally."

"Driving excellence in our mission is not enough," Kaler said. "We must be excellent in our operations."

Kaler talked of a culture change and of picking up the pace and reducing bureaucracy.

"Today, I am committing to you that there will be a reduction in administrative costs," Kaler said.

Academic programs, centers and institutes will also be examined.

"If we conduct that examination in an unsentimental and intellectually honest way, we will find programs that we don't need," he said.

Kaler spoke directly to his faculty colleagues at one point.

"Your work drives this university. If your research is stale, if your classroom is boring, if your community engagement is ineffective, you must reinvent yourself. Or, frankly, step aside," he said.

Kaler turned his attention to philanthropy.

"Philanthropy will not -- and should not -- replace public investment," he told the audience. "However, philanthropy does play an absolutely pivotal role in building on the foundation of public investment to catapult us to excellence. It is the difference between good and great."

Kaler acknowledged that these are painful economic times with poverty in the state at an all-time high.

"Giving is difficult for many of us. But for those of us who have benefitted from the generosity of others, and to whom so much is given, contributing to this University will go a long way to preserving the excellence and access we all want," he said.

To that end, Kaler announced that he and his family are establishing a scholarship fund that will support four full tuition undergraduate scholarships annually for students who otherwise couldn't afford to attend the U.

He concluded by saying: "The more we do, the more the rest of the state, the nation and world will know that the University of Minnesota boldly stands for excellence, access, discovery, community engagement, diversity and a global reach in an ever-competitive world," Kaler said. "And we will take our place in the front rank of great public research universities."

Here is the inaugural address as it was prepared:

I first came to the University of Minnesota in September of 1978.

I was about to be 22 years old.

And I was about to be a graduate student in the best chemical engineering program in the world.

I had a fellowship to support me, which was the only way this son of a working class family could go to graduate school.

That was my first encounter with the excellence of this University, and with the mission and public support that made it accessible to me.

That was the University of Minnesota then, and, in many ways, what it still is today.

But those twin pillars of excellence and access at the University, those two foundational stones for the prosperity of Minnesota, have never been more at risk.

That's why I am devoting this next chapter of my life to the mission of this University, and to the future of its students.

But I'm just one person. I can't achieve excellence alone, not in these unusual times, not amid increasingly scarce resources, not across this vast organization.

That's why I'm asking you -- students, faculty, staff, elected officials, business leaders, alumni, and citizens of Minnesota -- . . . I'm asking you today to join me to move this University forward, to tell our great stories. I'm asking you to help me to instill pride in this great University among every citizen of our state.

Together, we can fulfill this University's extraordinary promise.

My friends, we have work to do.

Governor Dayton, thank you for your part in today's ceremony, and for your unwavering support. Thank you very much.

Chair Cohen, Vice Chair Larson, and Regents Allen, Beeson, Brod, Frobenius, Hung, Johnson, McMillan, Ramirez, and Sviggum . . . Thank you for your wisdom, your governance of this great University, and your confidence in me as its President.

Mayors Coleman and Rybak, other honored elected officials, faculty, students, and staff here, and watching in Crookston, Duluth, Morris and Rochester, welcome. Alumni here and watching around the world . . .

Friends in our Extension offices and Research and Outreach Centers across the state, all of our honored delegates from Minnesota, from across the nation and around the world . . . Members of the inaugural Committee and its chair, my good friend, Frank Bates . . . Regents Professor Kathryn SICK-INK, our mee beearer . . .

All our distinguished guests and friends, welcome, and thank you for joining us.

I am particularly touched that so many of my Delaware and Stony Brook friends are here today, including the president of Stony Brook University, Dr. Samuel L. Stanley, Jr.

Sam, thank you for coming.

As I said, September 1978 was important to me, but it pales in comparison to the morning of June 17, 1979. That was the day I first laid eyes on the woman who would become my wife, Karen Kaler. A man could not ask for a better friend, a better companion, or a better partner, than she is to me. She blessed me with two sons, Charlie and Sam, and everyday they give me confidence in our future. To them and to our other family members, thank you for being here with me today.

We have work to do.

I am committed to:

Re-inventing how we teach and learn, ensuring an exceptional undergraduate experience, a rigorous graduate environment, and a world-class research enterprise;

I am committed to:

Re-imagining how we operate and function;

I am committed to:

Championing the value of this University to the people of this state;

I am committed to:

Strengthening our business, community and philanthropic partnerships;

I am committed to:

Unleashing an entrepreneurial spirit among us, reaching globally even as we serve and engage communities locally;

I am committed to:

Leading a University that understands that diversity is critical to achieving excellence.

Together, we can re-invent the land-grant vision of the nineteenth century to meet the global needs of the twenty-first century.

Together, we can place the University of Minnesota among the group of the best public research universities in the nation.

I am sure you recognize these words:

"FOUNDED IN THE FAITH THAT MEN ARE ENNOBLED BY UNDERSTANDING

"DEDICATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF LEARNING AND THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH

"DEVOTED TO THE INSTRUCTION OF YOUTH AND THE WELFARE OF THE STATE."

Complete with the gender bias of the early twentieth century, those are the words inscribed above the grand columns of Northrop Auditorium on the Twin Cities campus.

Those 33 words are an enduring, succinct, description of our noble mission. They are words that have stood the test of time and should continue to serve as a guidepost for all we do.

I will come back to those words in a few minutes, but let me tell you first about Ifrah Esse, and show you the impact this University can have on a student, her family and our state.

Ifrah is from Minneapolis, by way of Somalia. She is the sort of student and alumna who generates enormous pride in this University.

By every measure, she IS our pride and promise.

Ifrah graduated in 2008 with a B.A. in sociology. That achievement came 12 years after she emigrated with her parents and her eight surviving siblings from a Kenyan refugee camp.

When Ifrah arrived in the United States, she was 11. She could neither read nor write Somali, and didn't know a word of English.

That changed.

While in high school, she visited our Twin Cities campus and fell in love with it. She set—and achieved—a goal to become a University of Minnesota student. She remembers being inspired by her professors to think in new ways.

The daughter of a truck driver and a school lunch worker, she worked fulltime while at the U. This helped her family, and paid for books. As a strong student, she received grants and scholarships to help with tuition.

Today, Ifrah is a sourcing specialist for Target, working with vendors worldwide to deliver their goods to stores nationwide. On her own time, she mentors immigrants, who, just like her, possess immense promise.

Three of Ifrah's older siblings have also graduated from the U, including a brother who recently graduated from our Medical School.

A dozen years removed from a refugee camp, Ifrah says the University of Minnesota has become an

"ESSE FAMILY TRADITION."

Ifrah, thank you for letting me share your story . . . Please stand so we can honor you.

By the way, she is now planning to APPLY to law school here. Ifrah . . . if you need a letter of recommendation . . . just let me know!

My friends, we don't do any better than that.

Students like Ifrah are the heart and soul of this University, representing excellence, access, personal transformation and promise for our workforce and civic life . . . punctuated with a huge exclamation point of pride.

She is an example of how this state's only land grant University fulfills its promise. We must keep that promise for -- and to -- all of our students on all of our distinctive campuses . . .

from Crookston -- known for its applied research and online learning innovations

to Rochester -- with its joint programs using Mayo Clinic and IBM facilities

from Morris -- a unique public liberal arts college and model of sustainability

to Duluth -- home to the nation's only large lakes observatory.

We serve the entire state of Minnesota.

We also innovate.

We discover.

WE CREATE THE FUTURE.

It is another essential part of our mission.

The words on Northrop call it "THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH."

That's called research.

AND WE ARE MINNESOTA'S ONLY RESEARCH UNIVERSITY.

With world class talent, laboratories, equipment and technology, our scholars are engaged every day in investigations that offer great promise for cures, for technological advances, and for new understanding of the world's social and political problems.

Why should we care about having a research university in our backyard?

Because we are a home for the innovation that makes Minnesota work, that contributes to the success of Fortune 500 companies, small businesses, and start-ups.

Our research University is also the cradle of creative thought in the arts and humanities. We lead the way in professional studies -- such as law and medicine - in the state. This makes Minnesota and the Twin Cities a cultural magnet within our region, and within the nation.

From the pacemaker to the Black Box, from open-heart surgery to Honeycrisp apples, the University's history of discovery is rich and profound. Today, in labs just a short walk from here, we are investigating food safety, Alzheimer's, diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and childhood illnesses of all kinds.

Can we guarantee that yet another life-saving bone marrow transplant, protocol or another strain of soybeans will be developed here? Guarantees are tough.

But I CAN guarantee you this: If we DON'T invest, if we DON'T attract and retain the best scientists, if we DON'T recruit and support the best young investigators, we absolutely will NOT discover new things.

Instead, we will wither as a University. We will decline as a state.

We don't enjoy today the fruits of investments that were made by our parents and grandparents. If we don't invest in our children just as they did, then OUR grandchildren will not have the benefits, nor the standard of living we enjoy.

Norman Augustine, the former CEO of Lockheed Martin, and a passionate supporter of research and development in higher education, put it this way: "If you happen to find yourself on an airplane that is losing altitude, and if you have to throw out things to cut weight . . .

the ABSOLUTE LAST thing you would throw out is the engine.

We must invest to keep our engine running.

When it comes to excellence, in other words of no great university without a great medical school, without great health sciences. I know of no areas of research and discovery, we have an exceptional history of innovation in the health sciences. I am committed to moving us to the very top tier of excellence nationally. We must ensure we can continue to produce the next generation of health professionals for our state.

But even more than advances, research produces trained people capable of finding the next generation of frontiers. I was a graduate student here, and I know what we can do. That is why we must strengthen our support of graduate students and programs, but also challenge them and enable them to achieve higher levels of discovery. I want us to be the destination of choice for the best and brightest graduate students from around the world.

Our professional students—from pharmacy to public policy, from dentistry to business -- have in their hands the future of our health, our companies, our government, our society.

Excellence in research extends far beyond the laboratory or clinic. The humanities, social sciences and arts are also integral to our research mission.

Don Randel, a former president of the University of Chicago, said it best --

AND I LOVE THIS QUOTE:

"The ultimate foundation of any society ought to be the human imagination, honed to the greatest degree and in the company of its faithfully companion . . . CURIOSITY."

Curiosity is the driver for creative work in all fields. A curious and open mind can yield previously unimagined beauty and expression. Creative works are the core of what we call civilization. In turn, their development and maintenance are a core responsibility of universities, such as ours.

We know that American public higher education is the envy of the world. Why?

Because all of our students get a core liberal arts education. They gain knowledge of cultures and languages, as well as the ability to think critically and communicate effectively. The ability to reason and criticize is essential to our democracy and civil society.

These skills are a bedrock for education across the University of Minnesota.

Let me turn now to public engagement, another mission-critical activity.

We always will respond to the changing needs of our communities, state and world by sharing our expertise, knowledge, resources and discoveries.

We have a tradition of outreach to our rural communities that we will not abandon.

Not only because we're so directed by the Morrill Act of 1862 . . .

And not only because we continue to advance our legacy of agricultural innovation and feeding the world . . .

No, we won't abandon these roots because of students like Kenny Deutz.

Kenny grew up on his family's farm near Marshall, Minnesota, tending crops and milking cows. Since he was a little boy he has wanted to be a veterinarian. Kenny came to the University of Minnesota to achieve that goal.

A few months ago, right after his freshman year, Kenny was accepted into VetFast, an accelerated veterinarian degree program. Across the nation, there's an acute shortage of large animal veterinarians. As the only veterinary college in the state, the University of Minnesota has an obligation to help meet this workforce shortage.

VetFast students receive their bachelor of science and doctor of veterinary medicine degrees in seven years instead of eight. It saves a year's tuition. It's good for the economy. It allows young people like Kenny to give back to his community, and live the dream he first had in kindergarten. Kenny, congratulations, please stand so we can honor you . . .

While we're committed to our roots, the fact is the world keeps getting smaller and, as Minnesotan Thomas Friedman has written, flatter.

We must rethink our mission of public engagement for the twenty-first century and create new pathways for engagement locally, nationally and globally.

Driving excellence in our mission activities is not enough. We must also be excellent in our operations.

Do you remember the solemn and inspirational words on Northrop?

"FOUNDED IN THE FAITH . . .

"DEDICATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT. . .

"DEVOTED TO THE INSTRUCTION. . .

The story behind those 33 words is instructive. It goes like this . . .

The idea for inscribing profound words on Northrop was hatched in 1924 . . . about the same time construction was first proposed.

Four years later, in January, 1928, President Lotus Coffman appointed a committee . . . an inscription committee . . . to write the words.

AN INSCRIPTION COMMITTEE!!

This committee didn't meet until March, 1929 . . . 14 months later.

They must have had scheduling issues.

Because they couldn't come to agreement, the project lost steam and was not revived until the summer of 1935 . . . six years after the first committee meeting!

By then, Northrop had already opened . . . with no inscription.

During this time, the University hired

-- AND I AM NOT MAKING THIS UP --

an inscription consultant.

He was, of course, from California.

By May 1936, the words were settled on by the committee and, soon after, inscribed.

They are beautiful words. But . . . 12 years for 33 words?

I hope this story is inspiration for a culture change, a re-set that drives us to be more entrepreneurial, less risk-averse and better partners. We must reduce bureaucracy, focus on shared values, and pick up the pace.

In every aspect of University operations, we need to question what we do. We need to know if it has the intended outcome, or if we could do it better, or not at all.

There is a real cost to slowness, to long meetings, excessive committee deliberations and endless email chains. There's a cost in human resource time, and in the tangled web of bureaucracy that dogs us. And there are opportunity costs.

Of course, we will be data driven and collaborative. A University President has to be relentlessly consultative, but not to the point of stagnation, indecision and missed opportunity.

This institution needs to have an administrative backbone that is effective in supporting teaching, research and public engagement.

Today, I am committing to you that, while I'm President, we will reduce administrative costs.

I promised you efficiency in our administrative operations, but we also need to closely re-examine the academic programs we offer, the centers and institutes we support, and the methods of engagement we use.

We must be sure they are as effective as they possibly can be.

If we conduct that examination in an unsentimental and intellectually honest way, we will find programs that we don't need. We will find centers that are no longer useful. And we will also find opportunities for transformational advances.

Only the faculty -- in consultation with our constituencies and with the help of our staff -- can ensure that the intellectual mission of this University is at the highest level.

To my faculty colleagues: Your work drives this University.

But

IF YOUR RESEARCH IS STALE, IF YOUR CLASSROOM IS BORING, IF YOUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IS INEFFECTIVE . . .

YOU MUST RE-INVENT YOURSELF. OR, FRANKLY, STEP ASIDE.

I have never met a faculty colleague who did not want to be working at a great university.

As you expect me to deliver on my job, I expect you to deliver on yours.

We also need to look externally. We must better define our partnership with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and more clearly articulate the public value and distinctive role of each institution, while working together to deliver higher education in Minnesota as cost-effectively as possible.

Philanthropy . . .

We cannot achieve our promise without philanthropy.

Private support is profoundly important, especially as we face public disinvestment in higher education and a resulting rise in tuition.

Philanthropy will not -- and should not -- replace public investment.

However, philanthropy does play an absolutely pivotal role in building on the foundation of public investment to catapult us to excellence. It is the difference between good and great.

I'd like to take a minute to speak directly to our more than HALF A MILLION alumni around the world, some of whom are watching from distant places.

This is a great university. I bet many of you would be astounded at the quality of this system today-- I have been. On all of our campuses, facilities and laboratories are world class. Teaching is a priority. Undergraduate research is robust. Study abroad is encouraged. Our athletic programs are creating cheers and champions.

Alumni, we need you. We need your input. We need your financial support. We need your energy. Please consider how you can best give back.

GENEROSITY WITHOUT BOUNDARIES, with only the future of young people in mind, has the transformative power to deliver on the promise of this great University.

These are painful times. Poverty in Minnesota is at an all-time high. Unemployment has severely affected many of our neighbors.

Giving is difficult for many of us. But for those of us who have benefitted from the generosity of others, and to whom so much is given, contributing to this University will go a long way to preserving our shared values: excellence and access.

My wife, Karen, our sons and I are committed to access for students who otherwise cannot afford to attend.

To underscore our commitment, we are establishing today the Kaler Family Scholarship Fund.

It will support four scholarships for undergraduate students each year.

I will be relentless and passionate about encouraging others to join us in making similar commitments.

In addition to individual philanthropy, we must continue to strengthen our partnerships with the business community and foundations. These partnerships reflect business leaders' understanding that having a world-class research university in their back yard is important when it comes to successfully attracting and retaining qualified employees.

You have heard my story, Ifrah's and Kenny's. All three of us were able to attend this wonderful University because of financial aid, from private and public sources. It's up to all of us to ensure that future generations of talented students are not shut out because of the economic circumstances of their families.

Before I conclude, there are two additional points that I feel especially strongly about.

One is diversity. Any great team, organization, or University, must actively pursue diversity. In our faculty . . . among our staff . . . and within our student body.

I can think of no community, no challenge, no classroom that is not enhanced by diversity . . . of thought, of background, of language, of values, of religion, of gender, of ways of knowing.

Diversity pushes us to challenge our assumptions. It sparks our creativity, and it enables a richer and, frankly, more interesting life. A student who, by accident or by plan, has a narrow and homogenous education will be spectacularly ill-equipped to succeed in a modern life.

Diversity is also an economic and civic imperative. By 2035 almost half of the citizens in the Twin Cities metro area will be people of color. Yet, today, our state has one of the nation's largest achievement gaps between students of color and white students from kindergarten to twelfth grade, and that extends to a gap in higher education.



## Gov. Dayton proclaims Friday, Sept. 23, as Maroon and Gold Day in Minnesota

Proclamation recognizes new U of M President Kaler's inauguration

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/22/2011) —In recognition of Inauguration Week at the University of Minnesota, Gov. Mark Dayton has proclaimed Friday, Sept. 23, as Maroon and Gold Day in the state of Minnesota. Dayton is encouraging all Minnesotans to demonstrate their pride by wearing maroon and gold.

Eric Kaler was inaugurated as the university's 16th president today at Ted Mann Concert Hall on the university's West Bank campus in Minneapolis, following a week of community and campus events. Incidentally, Sept. 23 is also Kaler's birthday.

The following is the text of the governor's official proclamation:

WHEREAS: The University of Minnesota and the State of Minnesota have been steadfast partners in advancing the growth and prosperity of our state for more than 150 years; and

WHEREAS: The University of Minnesota, as the only land-grant institution in the State of Minnesota, continues a legacy of creating knowledge in service of all Minnesotans; and

WHEREAS: The University of Minnesota is among the most critical engines of economic and entrepreneurial growth within the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: Research developed at the University of Minnesota has improved the health and well-being of all Minnesotans; and

WHEREAS: The University of Minnesota invests in young people from our state and the nation, nurturing their personal and academic goals, as well as the bonds that connect them to this great state; and

WHEREAS: Alumni of the University of Minnesota have served the State of Minnesota with loyalty and distinction across all professions, industries and endeavors; and

WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota and University of Minnesota display their pride through the vivid shades of maroon and gold;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Friday, September 23, 2011: MAROON AND GOLD DAY and encourage all Minnesotans to join in demonstrating their pride in the Great State of Minnesota and the University of Minnesota by wearing maroon and gold.

## Former counsel for WikiLeaks and Julian Assange to deliver 26th annual Silha Lecture at U of M Oct. 4

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### September 26, 2011

The University of Minnesota's 26th annual Silha Lecture, "Free Speech and the Digital Challenge Around the Globe: A Conversation with Mark Stephens," takes place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, in the Coffman Union Theater, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Stephens is the head of the International and Media department at the London-based law firm Finers Stephens Innocent. Described by The Times of London as "one of the best advocates for freedom of expression," Stephens has appeared in many high profile cases in the United Kingdom, including extradition proceedings involving Julian Assange, the founder of WikiLeaks.

Stephens specializes in defending free speech and freedom of information, and has advised a wide variety of media outlets around the world. He has litigated cases in many countries, including the United States, Iraq, Singapore and Russia.

Stephens has said that of all his cases, he remains proudest of his successful defense of Washington Post correspondent Jonathan Randal, who had been ordered to testify before the Hague War Crimes Tribunal concerning atrocities he observed while covering the Yugoslav War in the 1990s. Stephens successfully argued that "Compelling journalists to give evidence at war crimes trials puts their lives at risk because they become automatic targets."

The event will include an audience Q&A. It is free and open to the public. No reservations or tickets are required.

Parking is available in the East River Road Garage behind Coffman Union. More information about directions and parking can be found at [www.umn.edu/pts](http://www.umn.edu/pts).

The Silha Center is based at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Silha Center activities, including the annual lecture, are made possible by an endowment from the late Otto Silha and his wife, Helen.

For further information, visit [www.silha.umn.edu](http://www.silha.umn.edu).



The University of Minnesota's 26th annual Silha Lecture, "Free Speech and the Digital Challenge Around the Globe: A Conversation with Mark Stephens," takes place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, in the Coffman Union Theater. [Photo courtesy [Sean MacEntee](#)]

## CANCELLED: Astronaut James Lovell's public talk and scholarship presentation

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### September 26, 2011

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Gemini and Apollo Astronaut James Lovell is no longer available to present the 2011-2012 Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF) award winners with a ceremonial check during a public talk at the University of Minnesota. The event was originally scheduled for 12:15 to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 28, at Coffman Union.

The scholarship recipients will still receive their awards.

## New online learning module gives children of domestic violence a voice



**Media Note:** For the Honor Our Voices electronic press kit, see

Honor Our Voices presents information on child exposure to domestic violence by engaging participants with the voices and stories of children who have experienced domestic violence firsthand.

[www.honourourvoices.org/press.html](http://www.honourourvoices.org/press.html).

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/27/2011) —Over half of the residents of battered women's shelters in the United States are children (National Network to End Domestic Violence, 2010). Now, a new, innovative online training program aims to elevate children's voices, so that service providers may better hear, understand, and respond to the children and families they serve.

The project, called Honor Our Voices, [www.honourourvoices.org](http://www.honourourvoices.org), was created by the Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse and the Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare at the School of Social Work at the University of Minnesota, with support from the Avon Foundation for Women.

Honor Our Voices presents information on child exposure to domestic violence by engaging participants with the voices and stories of children who have experienced domestic violence firsthand. The stories are composites of real life experiences and are told through a combination of diary entries, pictures, and audio clips. Alongside each diary entry, the current research and effective practices related to the content of the diary are laid out with headings that detail an area of effective practice.

"This learning experience is informed by some of the best practitioners and researchers in the field," says Jeffrey Edleson, professor of social work at the University of Minnesota and one of the world's leading authorities on children exposed to domestic violence. "It provides a unique focus on the needs of children from the children's perspectives.

"With information gained from this site, professionals will be able to better respond to the needs of these children," he continues. "And it is freely available for those professionals working on the front lines to complete at their own pace while sitting at their desk or at home."

Carol Kurzig, president of the Avon Foundation for Women, said of the project, "Honor Our Voices will enable children's voices to be heard when they speak out about the domestic violence they have experienced, which is the goal of the Avon Foundation's Speak Out Against Domestic Violence program. We are so pleased that our funding has enabled MINCAVA to create such an innovative and essential tool."

The launch of the Honor Our Voices site will be the first week of October, which coincides with October's designation as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

**About MINCAVA:** The Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse was established at the University of Minnesota in 1994 by the Minnesota State Legislature with a charge "to improve the quality of higher education related to violence." Today MINCAVA is considered a leader in innovative violence-related education, research and Internet publishing and now coordinates four nationally and internationally renowned projects: The MINCAVA Electronic Clearinghouse, Violence Against Women Online Resources, the Link Project, and the VAWnet applied research forum.

**About CASCW:** The Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare was established in 1992 with federal Title IV-E funding and a grant from the Bush Foundation. The center brings the University of Minnesota together with county, tribal, state and community social services in a partnership dedicated to improving the lives of children and families involved with public child welfare by educating human service professionals, fostering collaboration across systems and disciplines, informing policy makers and the public, and expanding the child welfare knowledge base.

**About Avon Foundation for Women:** The Avon Foundation for Women, the world's largest corporate-affiliated philanthropy focused on issues that matter most to women, was founded in 1955 to improve the lives of women. Through 2010, Avon global philanthropy has donated more than \$800 million in more than 50 countries for causes most important to women. Today, Avon philanthropy focuses its funding on breast cancer research and access to care through the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade, and efforts to reduce domestic and gender violence through its Speak Out Against Domestic Violence program. Avon also responds generously to provide support for relief and recovery efforts in times of major natural disasters and emergencies.

## 2011 Gopher Adventure Race to be held at the U of M Oct. 7

**When:** 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7

**Start:** Northrop Plaza, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis

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Maddy Bourgeois, Gopher Adventure Race, [bour0137@umn.edu](mailto:bour0137@umn.edu), (414) 708-9391

### September 27, 2011

The University of Minnesota's Recreation, Park, and Leisure Studies program is hosting the Gopher Adventure Race Friday, Oct. 7, from 1 to 7 p.m.

The Gopher Adventure Race (GAR) is modeled after the popular television show "The Amazing Race" and is accessible to participants of all abilities. Students, staff, faculty and alumni in teams of two will test themselves with physical and mental challenges across the U of M's Twin Cities campuses. They will travel by foot and campus transportation and decipher clues that will lead to the discovery of many of the "gems" that exist at the university.

Following the race, participants are invited to attend the post-race party to enjoy food, a drawing for prizes and the awards ceremony.

Click this link to view a video of the 2010 GAR: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKdEf38EXfo>.

The GAR is the first event at the University of Minnesota to earn a "Green Certification" from FitPlanet. A portion of the race fees will be donated to Forests Forever, a program of Three Rivers Park District, for creating and maintaining critical habitats. Metro Transit is providing free rides to GAR participants on race day as part of the green initiative.

The event is sponsored by several additional companies and organizations: Jefferson at Berry, the National Park Service, REI, Outward Bound, Wilderness Inquiry, Play it Again Sports, The North Face Minneapolis, Nice Ride, Midwest Mountaineering and the College of Education and Human Development Alumni Society.

### Race day details

The race will start at 1 p.m. in front of Northrop Plaza, in the heart of the university's East Bank campus in Minneapolis.

The post-race and award ceremony will be at Northrop Plaza; awards will be given to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in every category, and prize drawings for all participants begin when the majority of teams have completed the course. Prizes for team winners will be provided by The North Face Minneapolis, Nice Ride and Midwest Mountaineering.

For more information, including registration and racecourse details, see the GAR website: [www.cehd.umn.edu/kin/adventure](http://www.cehd.umn.edu/kin/adventure).

## Panel of industry experts to discuss the future of magazines at U of M Oct. 5

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**September 27, 2011**

Three magazine and media luminaries will discuss opportunities for writers, editors and designers in a volatile publishing world in a presentation at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 5, at the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication (SJMC), Murphy Hall Auditorium, 206 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

"The Future of the Magazine: Will You Be Part of It?" will feature presentations and a panel discussion with David Schimke, editor of the *Utne Reader*; media guru Kate Byrne and Deborah Hopp, publisher of *Mpls.St. Paul Magazine* and vice president for publishing at MSP Communications.

With creative turmoil in the publishing world, iconic magazines have vanished and hundreds of new titles have sprung to life. Apps, social media, e-readers and smartphones are redefining magazines. Schimke, Byrne and Hopp will discuss changes in store for magazine business models and how these changes may affect the skills required of magazine writers, editors and designers.

The event is sponsored by SJMC, the Upper Midwest chapter of the American Society of Journalists & Authors (ASJA) and the ASJA Educational Foundation. Admission will be \$10, \$5 for ASJA members and free for students with a current ID. A half-hour reception precedes the event.

### **Bios:**

Schimke is editor in chief and general manager of *Utne Reader*, a media digest about politics, culture and the environment. He is a regular commentator on Conscious Talk radio in Seattle and has spoken about politics and media at the Aspen Institute, Nation Institute, Campus Progress, National Conference for Media Reform and Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics. His blog, Fighting Words, can be found at [www.utne.com](http://www.utne.com).

Byrne has been a media leader for more than 20 years. A media guru and former vice president of the Technology Group, she ushered the global company into the mobile world by building an award-winning app. Folio magazine named her one of the 40 most influential and top media industry performers for 2011.

Hopp is publisher of *Mpls.St. Paul Magazine* and vice president for publishing at MSP Communications, which publishes *Twin Cities Business Monthly* and through its Custom Publishing Group provides publishing and digital services to more than 20 companies, including Delta Air Lines, IBM, General Mills, Teradata Corporation, United Health Group, Cambria and the Minnesota Twins. Previously, Hopp ran *Twin Cities Business Monthly*, Skyway Publications, Inc. and *The Twin Cities Reader*.

The panel discussion will be moderated by award-winning journalist and ASJA member John Rosengren.

For more information about the event, visit <https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/futureofmagazine/>.

Official Twitter hashtag: #MagFuture

## U of M Bike Center to open Sept. 29

New facility houses bike parking, a repair service and locker rooms

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The new bike center houses a bike repair service and a bike accessory retail outlet, among other things.

### September 27, 2011

The University of Minnesota will host a grand opening event for the new Campus Bike Center from noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29, in the Oak Street Ramp, 401 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis. The center houses a bike trip planning kiosk, secure bike parking, showers and changing facilities, repair service, a bike accessory retail outlet and space for bike-related training and classes.

The grand opening event will include music, free food, tours of the new center and group ride opportunities.

The bike center will also be the base for an innovative radio frequency identification (RFID) system, which will permit enrolled bicyclists to earn benefits (U of M employees can get reduced health insurance premiums) and biking-related incentives by simply validating their bike trips.

Additionally, the bike center houses one of the 11 Nice Ride bike-sharing locations on campus. For more information on the Nice Ride program, visit [niceridemn.org](http://niceridemn.org).

Speakers at the event include: Bob Baker, executive director, U of M Parking and Transportation Services; Joan Pasiuk, Bike Walk Twin Cities/Transit for Livable Communities; Rolf Scholtz, Dero Bike Rack Co., and Cam Gordon, Minneapolis City Council member.

The bike center is operated in partnership with Bike Walk Twin Cities, Nice Ride Minnesota, The Hub bike co-op and the United States Department of Transportation.

For more information on the bike center, visit [umn.edu/pts/bike/bikecenter.html](http://umn.edu/pts/bike/bikecenter.html).

## Statement Regarding Recent Incident on University of Minnesota Duluth Campus

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/27/2011) —Freedom of expression, fostering diverse views and opinions, and promoting civil debate are core to our democracy, and are an important part of the tradition of this country's public universities and of the University of Minnesota. Freedom of speech on campus is a fundamental tenet of the University of Minnesota, as is a strong commitment to equity and diversity, and to ensuring a safe and civil campus community.

The organization Youth for Western Civilization (YWC) has produced a video that provides edited excerpts of a conversation that took place on Sept. 16, 2011. The exchanges are between a representative from YWC (who is not affiliated with the University of Minnesota), a student from the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD), and a UMD staff member. The conversation took place amid the annual "Taste of Kirby" event in recognition of Constitution Day during which numerous student organizations and outside groups distribute literature. The exchange took place outside UMD's Kirby Student Center. Because the entirety of the video recorded that day has not been shared with us, it would be imprudent to jump to conclusions about the full exchange between the parties portrayed in the edited video that has been made public.

We have discussed the matter with the UMD staff person in the video and it is our understanding that her comment was based on materials being displayed by YWC which weren't made available to her or to the University. Conversations are continuing with involved parties and we are confident that all are committed to the University of Minnesota's values of civility, free speech, and diversity.

No complaints about threats or violence were made to the UMD Police at the time of the incident. One complaint was made on Sept. 27, 2011, after the videotape was made public. Upon review of the video, St. Louis County Attorney representatives determined there is no basis for charges or additional investigation.

The University of Minnesota will continue to foster a culture of open, engaged, and respectful discourse.



## U of M Cedar Creek field station hosts 'Ordinary Vikings' outdoor art installation exploring Scandinavian cultural roots

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**September 28, 2011**

The University of Minnesota's Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve, located in East Bethel, is hosting an outdoor art installation, "Ordinary Vikings," Oct. 8-9 and 15-16.

Swedish American Jill Johnson, Cedar Creek's first artist in residence, created the installation, in conjunction with the Nordic Arts Alliance, to explore the tribal roots of the Scandinavian Viking culture. Cedar Creek is operated by the College of Biological Sciences.

The installation features "bog stav" sculptures, a Scandinavian folk art form in which human faces carved from wood are mounted on trees. Johnson made beeswax castings of Minnesota Swedish Americans, including some individuals who live near Cedar Creek, to create the sculptures and mounted them on found tree branches in Cedar Creek's oak savanna. Her work links some aspect of the real person's life to an aspect of a Nordic cultural archetype from the stories of the Bronze, Iron and Viking ages, including Odin, Thor, Loki, Freya, Frigg and many others.

The sculptures will be hung architecturally as mobiles to move in the wind, creating a living forest. The translucent beeswax faces become lifelike as the sun shines through the wax, making the faces flicker.

"The question I am trying to answer with this work is, 'Are we still tribal 1,000 years after the last Viking axe was thrown?'" Johnson says. "Visitors are encouraged to experience their feelings as they walk through the installation environment. Perhaps people will feel more connected to their heritage, but it's very individualistic. I don't impose an answer on anyone. What is important is to ask the question."

The exhibit is very personal to Johnson because her Swedish ancestors actually settled near Cedar Creek. Johnson has been exhibiting her work for about 15 years and has studied mythology and cultural forms in Viking camps in Sweden and Denmark as well as with mentors. She currently focuses on exhibits constructed from organic materials that reflect her Scandinavian heritage. Her work is recognized in Sweden, where she has two exhibits scheduled in 2012.

Icelandic Viking storyteller Ingibjorg Gisladdottir will join Johnson at Cedar Creek to provide cultural context for the exhibition as well as storytelling sessions, including a special evening bonfire storytelling session. Gisladdottir, a founding member of the Viking storytelling and musical group Krauka, has been featured in numerous Viking and cultural festivals throughout Europe. This is her first appearance in America.

Cedar Creek is located at 2660 Fawn Lake Dr. N.E., East Bethel. For directions, go to [www.cedarcreek.umn.edu](http://www.cedarcreek.umn.edu).

### Schedule

Exhibit hours: Saturdays, Oct. 8 and 15, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Exhibit hours: Sundays, Oct. 9 and 16, 12 to 4 p.m.

Artist talk: Saturdays, Oct. 8 and 15, 11 and 3 p.m.

Artist talk: Sundays, Oct. 9 and 16, 2 p.m.

Storytelling session: Saturdays, Oct. 8 and 15, 1 p.m.

Storytelling session: Sundays, Oct. 9 and 16, 3 p.m.

Bonfire evening session: Saturdays, Oct. 8 and 15, 7 p.m.

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve is operated by the College of Biological Sciences, which provides degree programs and conducts research in all areas of biology, from molecules to ecosystems. David Tilman, Regents Professor of Ecology, is scientific director of Cedar Creek.

The Swedish Council of America and the Minnesota State Arts Board provided funding for this event, which is free to the public. Funding was also provided by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on Nov. 4, 2008.

Nordic Arts Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that connects and educates people through tribal and contemporary Nordic arts. The organization is based in Moorhead.

## University of Minnesota and Algal Biomass Organization to show algae's future in the northern climate

Pre-conference workshop highlights algae research at the University of Minnesota

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/28/2011) —The Algal Biomass Organization (ABO), the leading trade association for the algae industry, is partnering with the University of Minnesota to offer a unique workshop and tour for attendees of the 5th annual Algae Biomass Summit, which will be held Oct. 24 to 27 at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis.

The Oct. 24 workshop, “Algae - A Midwest and Northern Climes Perspective,” will feature presentations by experts on algae growth in northern climates, as well as a tour of the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory at the University of Minnesota. In addition to the physical tour of the laboratory, attendees will participate in virtual tours of two algae-industry firms operating in the region: Algaedyne and BioProcess Algae.

More information on the workshop, including a link to registration and the full agenda, is available at: [www.algalbiomass.org/events](http://www.algalbiomass.org/events).

“The growing algae industry, and the biofuels and other products that come from it, will play a role in the economic development of Minnesota and the surrounding region,” said John Sheehan, scientific director for Biofuels and the Global Environment with the University of Minnesota’s Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment. “We’re excited to show attendees how this region – and the University of Minnesota in particular – is making a unique contribution to the industry.”

With the progress of start ups and commercialization efforts nationwide, continued research breakthroughs, and a new \$510 million investment in next-generation biofuels announced last month by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Department of Energy and the U.S. Navy, the workshop will offer a window into one segment of an industry with high potential.

“This is a unique opportunity to see first-hand how top-notch research institutions and businesses are developing the algae industry in northern regions,” said Mary Rosenthal, executive director of the ABO. “The research and commercialization taking place here in Minnesota demonstrates that algae for energy really is a 50-state economic development and job creation engine. This workshop and tour will showcase innovative approaches to benefiting from algae even in colder climates.”

The workshop will take place just before the opening of the 5th annual Algae Biomass Summit, the largest conference of algae producers, scientists, investors and policymakers. During the course of the event, leaders and attendees will discuss issues of critical importance to the emerging algae industry, including the commercial viability of algae production, current government and private initiatives, evolving technologies, processing concepts, life cycle analysis and venture/project finance.

The Algae Biomass Summit features presentations and poster sessions from more than 200 experts from around the world, with exhibits by more than 60 companies and organizations across the algae industry value chain. The event is expected to attract more than 800 participants, with 20 countries represented among the registrants to date.

### About the University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota is one of the nation’s leading renewable energy research institutions. Saint Anthony Falls Laboratory within the College of Science and Engineering is an interdisciplinary fluid mechanics research and training facility focused on environmental, energy and health challenges. The Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE) – part of the University of Minnesota’s Institute on the Environment and a major sponsor of the pre-conference workshop – has provided over \$35M to nearly 250 renewable energy projects across the university since its inception in 2004.

### About the ABO

The Algal Biomass Organization (ABO) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the development of viable commercial markets for renewable and sustainable commodities derived from algae. Its membership comprises people, companies and organizations across the value chain. More information about ABO, including its leadership, membership, costs, benefits and members and their affiliations, is available at the website: [www.algalbiomass.org](http://www.algalbiomass.org).

## Technology theorist discusses the future of communication at first annual John Beardsley lecture

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**September 28, 2011**

In 2001, Dr. Michael Chorost went completely deaf and had a computer implanted into his head to allow him to hear again. Now, more than 10 years and two books later, Chorost gives his unique perspective about how technology changes communication as part of the first annual John Beardsley Lecture at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs on the University of Minnesota's West Bank campus at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6.

In his first book, "Rebuilt: My Journey Back to the Hearing World," Chorost chronicles his experience and writes about how his cochlear implant enabled him to enhance his creative potential as a human being. Now, his second book, "World Wide Mind: The Coming Integration of Humanity, Machines, and the Internet," he proposes that humanity can incorporate computers in a way that enhances communication and creative work.

The John Beardsley Lecture is held in honor of the late public relations guru and former CEO at Padilla Speer Beardsley in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Beardsley's mantra was to never quit learning and looking to the future, and in this fashion, the lecture looks to future innovations and mindsets.

\$25 for students with ID; \$50 for general public

Thursday, Oct. 6

Cocktail hour and appetizers: 5:30-7 p.m.

Lecture: 7-8:30 p.m.

Humphrey School of Public Affairs, 130 Humphrey Center

301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

For more information about Dr. Michael Chorost, visit [michaelchorost.com](http://michaelchorost.com)

For more information about the Beardsley Lecture and to register, visit [beardsleylecture.com](http://beardsleylecture.com)

## Surprising number of divorcing parents are open to reconciliation, new University of Minnesota study finds

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/29/2011) —There is a surprising level of interest in reconciliation among couples with children involved in the divorce process, something no research had examined before, according to a new study done by University of Minnesota researcher Bill Doherty in collaboration with Hennepin County District Court Judge Bruce Peterson.

The study, "Interest in Marital Reconciliation Among Divorcing Parents," was published recently in *Family Court Review*, the leading academic journal for professionals who work in family courts. This is the first time data has been gathered on divorcing parents' interest in reconciliation. In the study, nearly 2,500 divorcing parents were surveyed about reconciliation after taking a required parenting class.

About one of four individual parents indicated some belief that their marriage could still be saved with hard work, and about one in nine couples believed both partners did, says Doherty, family social science professor in the university's College of Education and Human Development.

When asked if they would be seriously interested in obtaining reconciliation services, about three in 10 individuals expressed openness to receiving help. In one in 10 couples both partners were interested in reconciliation services, and in one in three couples one partner was interested and the other not. Overall, in about 45 percent of couples, one or both of the partners reported holding hopes for the marriage and a possible interest in reconciliation. Males were more interested than females in reconciliation.

This new research indicates that a surprising number of divorcing parents are open to reconciliation, information that Doherty suggests should influence the practice of divorce professionals. Many of the participants in this study were toward the end of the divorce process; further analysis has shown that couples earlier in the process are even more open to reconciliation.

Doherty says that "in the 1960s, many family court professionals viewed themselves as having a responsibility to help couples reconcile if that was possible, or have a constructive divorce if reconciliation was not possible. This reconciliation-first approach did not survive the cultural changes of the 1970s. Instead divorce practitioners generally assume the inevitability of divorce once people begin the legal process."

"While many who enter the divorce process may have made a final decision to end their marriages, those who are uncertain or are open to reconciliation deserve more attention from professionals than they receive currently," says Doherty.

Peterson, formerly a presiding judge in family court, felt a need to add reconciliation and discernment processes to the services offered to divorcing couples with children. His personal experience prompted this research.

"Over the years I had seen a number of divorcing couples who interacted comfortably and solved problems well together, making me wonder if there might be better options for them than putting their children through the trauma of a divorce. I asked Dr. Doherty for advice and the research he supervised now provides a solid basis for these kinds of services," Peterson says.

An immediate outgrowth of this research has been the formation of the Family Law Marital Reconciliation Option Project with a group of collaborative family lawyers in the Twin Cities area. This group has developed practices to more systematically explore whether new clients have made a final decision to divorce or are uncertain about whether it's the best course of action.

When their clients are interested in slowing down the process and looking at their options, the lawyers and collaborating professionals refer them to the Minnesota Couples on the Brink Project at the University of Minnesota, headed by Doherty and colleague Steve Harris, for a new form of assistance called "Discernment Counseling." The goal of this counseling is to help couples have clarity and confidence in their decision whether to divorce or to try to reconcile their marriage. See the project's website, [www.mncouplesonthebrink.org](http://www.mncouplesonthebrink.org), for more information.

## Parents Weekend takes place at the U this weekend

Highlights include a welcome from the president, a parent-student scavenger hunt and the U's Physics Force

**What:** Parents Weekend 2011

**Where:** University of Minnesota, Minneapolis campus

**When:** Friday, Sept. 30, through Sunday, Oct. 2

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### September 29, 2011

More than 1,400 family members will converge on the University of Minnesota this Friday through Sunday, Sept. 30-Oct. 2, for Parents Weekend 2011.

Parents Weekend is an opportunity for parents to reconnect with their student, learn more about campus programs and services, see the university through their student's eyes and explore the larger Twin Cities community with their son or daughter.

This year's schedule is designed to help parents and their student make new memories together, with a special focus on academics, campus life and the community.

Saturday's highlights include:

#### **10 a.m.: Kickoff**

Welcome from Vice Provost for Student Affairs Jerry Rinehart and Parent Program Director Marjorie Savage. Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

#### **10:15 to -11:45 a.m.: StrengthsQuest**

U of M students are focusing on their strengths and leadership skills as they work toward a college degree and a future career. This will be an opportunity for families to learn how they can support their student's strengths and consider taking the Gallup StrengthsQuest assessment themselves. More than a million students across the U.S. have learned about their strengths through this program based on research of the highest performers in hundreds of different roles. Great Hall.

#### **Noon to 12:45 p.m.: Meet President and Mrs. Kaler**

U of M President Eric Kaler and his wife, Karen, address parents and students and present a special keepsake. Coffman Theater.

#### **1 to 2 p.m.: Lunch**

Families will enjoy lunch while mingling with the Kalers and other university leaders. Great Hall.

#### **2 to 3 p.m.: Physics Force**

Physics Force is a group of physics and astronomy faculty members in the College of Science and Engineering who put on a physics circus of entertaining demonstrations. Physics Force educates and entertains with their blend of slapstick, prop comedy and science. Great Hall.

#### **3:15 to 4:30 p.m.: The Great Campus Quest**

Teams of parents and students will explore campus solving clues, finding treasures and completing challenges while discovering the university in a new way. Prizes will be awarded to the top finishers. Starts at the Great Hall.

For more information about Parents Weekend and a schedule of activities, see

[www.umn.edu/parent/news-events/annual-events/parents-weekend-2011/index.html](http://www.umn.edu/parent/news-events/annual-events/parents-weekend-2011/index.html).

## U of M conference to address human rights writing

**What:** Conference on narrative writing and human rights

**Who:** Emin Milli, James Dawes, Annette Kobak, and Vesna Goldsworthy

**When:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10

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### September 29, 2011

The University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts' Human Rights and Creative Writing programs will sponsor a daylong conference on writing about human rights issues on Monday, Oct. 10. The conference, My Letter to the World: Narrating Human Rights, is intended to bring writers, literary scholars and human rights activists together to discuss how human rights issues are presented in first person narrative writing, including memoir, fiction and nonfiction.

The conference will feature many luminaries known for their narrative writing on a host of human rights issues; they include Azeri political blogger Emin Milli, memoirists Annette Kobak and Vesna Goldsworthy, novelist Nuruddin Farah and author James Dawes.

The conference will take place at Coffman Memorial Union Theater, 300 Washington Avenue S.E., Minneapolis, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The capstone event will be the Department of English's Esther Freier Endowed Lecture in Literature, featuring author and foreign correspondent Philip Gourevitch, author of "We Wish To Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed With Our Families", whose talk is titled Salvage: Writing About Aftermaths from Rwanda to Abu Ghraib and Beyond. He speaks at 7:30 p.m.

Questions addressed by the conference will include: What are the ethics of writing about genocide? What is the writer's responsibility in witnessing? And how do we talk about such writing in the classroom?

The support of narrative writing about human rights is an important initiative of and partnership between the Creative Writing and Human Rights programs. Their joint Scribes for Human Rights fellowship supports a creative writing graduate student who does intensive research and writing on a human rights issue during the fellowship.

"Narrative writing can illuminate human rights issues in a way that news reports simply can't," says Regents Professor of English and noted memoirist Patricia Hampl. "Most atrocities are not comprehensible until they are described by memoir or nonfiction prose—think Anne Frank or Adam Hochschild."

"My Letter to the World: Narrating Human Rights" is free and open to the public.

More information is at <http://hrp.cla.umn.edu/>.

Organizers Barbara Frey and Patricia Hampl, and speakers Annette Kobak, Jim Dawes and Meg Jensen, are available for interviews.

Select conference speakers:

**James Dawes** teaches U.S. and comparative literature at Macalester College. He is the author of "That the World May Know: Bearing Witness to Atrocity and The Language of War."

<http://z.umn.edu/dawes>

**Nuruddin Farah** is a Somali novelist and currently holds the Winton Chair in the Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota. His award-winning fiction focuses on human rights issues in Somalia.

<http://z.umn.edu/farah>

**Barbara Frey** is director of the U of M's Human Rights Program. She is well known as an international human rights teacher, advocate and scholar. <http://hrp.cla.umn.edu/about/people.html>

**Vesna Goldsworthy** is the writer of "Chernobyl Strawberries," a memoir of her native Yugoslavia. She is a professor of english literature and creative writing at Kingston University in London.

<http://z.umn.edu/vgoldsworthy>

**Patricia Hampl** is Regents Professor in the Department of English at the University of Minnesota and an award-winning memoirist. She has helped define what Booklist has called "the memoir of discovery." <http://www.patriciahampl.com/>

**Meg Jensen** is Deputy Head of School of Humanities at Kingston University, London. She publishes creative writing and literary criticism, with a focus on writers' lives. She has recently completed her second novel. <http://z.umn.edu/megjensen>

**Annette Kobak** is a writer and broadcaster. Her latest book, "Joe's War: My Father Decoded," was Book of the Week on BBC Radio 4. <http://z.umn.edu/akobak>

**Elaine Tyler May** is a Regents Professor in the history and American studies departments at the University of Minnesota. With Patricia Hampl, she has just co-edited "Tell Me True: Memoir, History and Writing a Life." <http://z.umn.edu/etylermay>

**Emin Milli** is a well-known Azerbaijani blogger who was imprisoned in 2009 for his political activities. He is co-founder of the AN Network. <http://eminmilli.posterous.com/>

**Kathryn Sikkink** is a Regents Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Minnesota. Her most recent book is "The Justice Cascade: How Human Rights Prosecutions Are Changing World Politics." <http://hrp.cla.umn.edu/about/people.html>

## U of M President Kaler to visit Austin and Rochester Oct. 4-5

Who: U of M President Eric Kaler  
What: Community and campus visits in southern Minnesota  
When: Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 4-5  
Where: Austin and Rochester

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### September 29, 2011

The president of the University of Minnesota, Eric Kaler, will make his first visit to the university's Hormel Institute in Austin and the University of Minnesota, Rochester campus next Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 4-5.

While in Austin, he will sign a new partnership agreement between the U of M, the Hormel Foundation and the Mayo Clinic. His Rochester visit includes a public reception. Additionally, Kaler will be meeting privately with area legislators.

"Our presence in Austin and Rochester and our partnership with the Mayo Clinic is of critical importance to the university and the economic vitality of southern Minnesota," Kaler said. "I look forward to visiting with our partners and local community leaders as well as students, faculty and staff."

The president's public events:

### Tuesday, Oct. 4

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Presentation and signing of a new partnership agreement between the U of M, the Mayo Clinic and the Hormel Foundation at the university's Hormel Institute, which is considered a world leader in cancer prevention research. Speakers will be Kaler; Dr. Glenn Forbes, former president of the Mayo Clinic; Richard Knowlton, chair of the Hormel Foundation and former CEO of Hormel Foods Corp.; and Dr. Zigang Dong, executive director of the Hormel Institute. Following lunch, Kaler will tour the institute from 1:15 to 1:45 p.m. (open to media). For more information about the institute, see [www.hi.umn.edu](http://www.hi.umn.edu).

Hormel Institute lobby  
801 16th Ave. N.E.  
Austin

4:15-5:15 p.m. Public reception at U of M, Rochester (UMR), to include remarks by Kaler and UMR Chancellor Stephen Lehmkuhle. For more information about UMR, see [www.r.umn.edu](http://www.r.umn.edu).

UMR campus  
Third-floor student commons  
University Square  
111 Broadway Ave. S.  
Rochester

### Wednesday, Oct. 5

Kaler will spend Wednesday touring the Rochester campus and meeting with students, faculty and staff.

Kaler is the 16th president of the university and comes from Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, New York, where he was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Inaugurated on Thursday, Sept. 22, Kaler is the second university alumnus to serve as president of Minnesota's land-grant and research university.

Appointed as the ninth provost of Stony Brook in October 2007, Kaler received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1978 and his doctorate in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1982.

Prior to his appointment at Stony Brook, Kaler was a member of the faculty of the University of Delaware from 1989 to 2007. He served as chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering from 1996 to 2000 and dean of the College of Engineering from 2000 to 2007. He was an assistant professor and an associate professor of chemical engineering at the University of Washington from 1982 to 1989.

For more information about Kaler and his priorities, visit the president's office website, [www.umn.edu/president](http://www.umn.edu/president).

## Carlson School of Management launches Global Institute

Institute to align school's international management education, research and outreach

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (09/30/2011) —To better coordinate international management education, research and outreach to businesses, nonprofits and schools in the region the Carlson School of Management has established the Carlson Global Institute. The new Institute was introduced to students, faculty, staff and members of the region's business and nonprofit community at an event held at the school on Sept. 29.

“The Carlson School has a 25-year history of global engagement and was one of the first business schools in the country to introduce an international requirement for its students,” says Mike Houston, associate dean, Global Initiatives. “The introduction of the Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) last year elevated our outreach to new levels and creating the Carlson Global Institute will enable us to better coordinate and support efforts and advance the global competence of leaders within the university and the region.”

The University of Minnesota was awarded a \$1.5 million Title VI grant from the U.S. Department of Education in 2010 to establish a CIBER center at the Carlson School to increase and promote the nation's capacity for international understanding and competitiveness. The center has since held a variety of events for business leaders, educators and students and has partnered with Enterprise Minnesota and the Minnesota Trade Office to assist the state's businesses with exporting efforts.

In addition to its CIBER efforts, the Carlson Global Institute provides global learning opportunities in 29 countries to nearly 500 students each year through partnerships with more than 30 business schools around the world. It also teams with more than 150 corporations including Cargill, General Mills, International Dairy Queen, Target, 3M and The Toro Company on various global initiatives including its live-case program.

### Global Management Education Research a Focus of New Institute

“For years we have heard anecdotally how the internationalization experience is valuable not only for students, but for business, and for the region's economy,” says Sri Zaheer, interim dean. “Part of the mission of the Carlson Global Institute is to gain a deeper understanding of this impact and quantify it through research.”

As part of its research mission, the Institute will explore the near and long-term impact of global experiential learning on students, faculty, staff and the corporate community.

“As the Carlson Global Institute we'll be able to study the impact the global engagements that are already taking place in our community are having on the various stakeholders and generate innovative ways to better bridge education with practice, develop more globally-competent leaders and identify future priorities,” says Anne D'Angelo, assistant dean, Global Initiatives.

The Institute is currently surveying Part-Time and Full-Time MBA students to learn more about their current perceptions of their global mindset. Findings of that study are expected to be released in December.

### About the Carlson School of Management

Established in 1919 and based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota is a recognized leader in business education and research. Its focus on experiential learning, international education and maintaining strong ties to the business community exemplify the school's commitment to excellence. More information about the school can be found at [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu).



## "Voyageur Skies: Weather and Wilderness in Minnesota's National Park" opens Oct. 1 at Bell Museum of Natural History

Exhibit highlights effects of climate change

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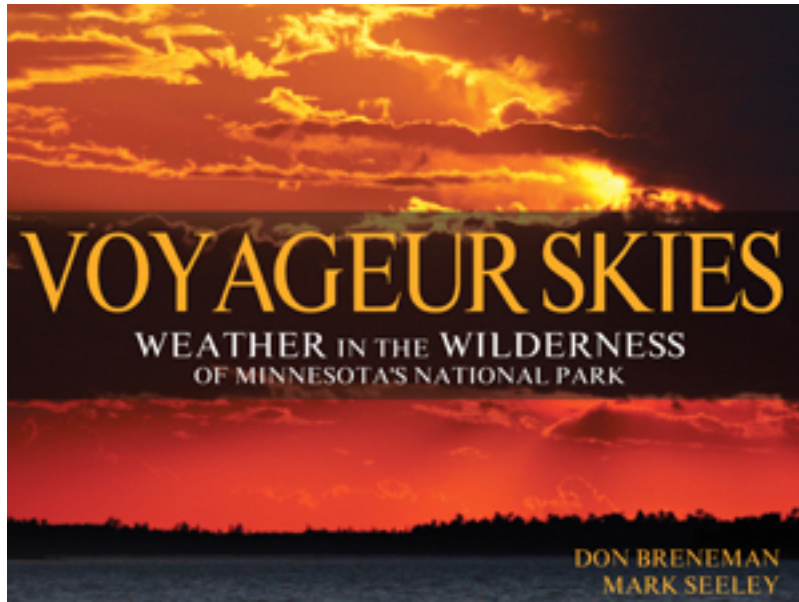
**September 30, 2011**

This fall, visitors to the Bell Museum will be looking to the skies for answers—at least for answers to questions about climate change in the state's only national park. The photography exhibit "Voyageur Skies: Weather and Wilderness in Minnesota's National Park," opening Oct. 1, describes the risk and impact of climate change on Voyageurs National Park's pristine waters and landscape.

The exhibit features University of Minnesota climatologist Mark Seeley's account of how weather and climate have shaped the park's features, and the photography of former U of M professor Don Breneman, who grew up near the park and has captured Voyageurs' changes over the decades with his camera.

"Voyageur Skies" is part of a long tradition of photography exhibits at the Bell that pair breath-taking imagery with valuable information about the natural world. According to Seeley, who is known to many Minnesotans as the voice of weather on Minnesota Public Radio, "Voyageur Skies' describes the climate of this unique place, its ecosystem, wildlife, and waters, as well as how all of that is being affected by climate change."

Seeley and Breneman will headline a 5:30 p.m. dinner on Oct. 20 at the Campus Club in Coffman Union. They will present excerpts from and sign copies of their recently published book of the same name at a Dec. 1 event at the Bell Museum. Copies of the book are available for purchase in the Bell Museum lobby. Visit [www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org) for details.



The exhibit is part of a long tradition of photography exhibits at the Bell that pair breathtaking imagery with valuable information about the natural world.

## University of Minnesota School of Music announces fall 2011 season events

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### September 30, 2011

The University of Minnesota School of Music has finalized its fall 2011 event offerings.

Highlights include the School of Music Fall Convocation honoring VocalEssence's Philip Brunelle, with keynote speaker Helena Gaunt, on Thursday, Oct. 6; the School of Music's annual Collage Concert, a concert showcase of all that the School of Music has to offer, from the University Symphony Orchestra to jazz and world music, on Saturday, Oct. 15; and University Opera Theatre's production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte* Nov. 17-20.

Most School of Music events are free, unless otherwise noted, and all events are open to the public. The School of Music's Ferguson Hall, 2106 4th St. S., Minneapolis, and Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis are both located on the U of M's West Bank campus. Parking is available at the university's 19th Avenue and 21st Avenue parking ramps.

Established in 1902, the University of Minnesota School of Music offers a dynamic, comprehensive program to more than 550 music students in undergraduate and graduate programs, led by a world-class faculty of more than 50 artists, scholars and teachers. The School of Music presents more than 400 free concerts per year.

For the schedule of events, visit [www.music.umn.edu](http://www.music.umn.edu) or call (612) 626-1094 for a brochure.

## \$500 essay contest about hate speech open to all U of M students

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/03/2011) —The University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication will hold an essay contest in which students are asked to respond to the question, “How should communities deal with hate speech?”

The essay contest is open to all undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Minnesota. The first place winner will receive \$500 and have his or her essay published in the Star Tribune. The first runner-up will receive \$150, and both will be honored at the Liberty Tree Keynote Address at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14, in Nicholson Hall. Essays are due Oct. 15 to [liberty@umn.edu](mailto:liberty@umn.edu).

The Liberty Tree student essay contest, sponsored by the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the Star Tribune, is being held as part of a week’s worth of events that commemorate Minnesota’s role in the development of First Amendment law.

For complete details and information on submitting an essay, go to [mnl Libertytree.com](http://mnl Libertytree.com).

## Female athletes and concussions explored in groundbreaking documentary by U of M's Tucker Center and TPT

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**October 3, 2011**

In collaboration with the University of Minnesota's Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sport, Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) Channel 2 has produced a groundbreaking, one-hour documentary on the untold story of female athletes and concussion injuries airing at 8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16.

Concussions and their devastating consequences affect athletes in all sports and at all levels. However, while sport-related concussions have ignited a national conversation and public debate about this serious brain injury, the majority of attention has focused on male athletes. Critical issues surrounding the impact of concussion on female athletes have been largely ignored. Through the personal stories and experiences of coaches, athletes and their families, as well as in-depth interviews with nationally recognized scholars and medical experts, this documentary examines the causes underlying concussion and offers practical solutions to help prevent and treat sports-related concussion injuries in female athletes.

"This partnership with TPT allows us to fulfill the core mission of the Tucker Center—to engage in research that truly makes a difference in the lives of girls and women, their families, and communities," says Tucker Center director and professor Mary Jo Kane. "We are also deeply committed to educational endeavors and community outreach that provides knowledge to a vast audience. In the case of serious brain injuries such as a concussion, this documentary could save lives."

In a unique arrangement, TPT has granted the Tucker Center rights to distribute the documentary as an educational tool to a broad constituency, including high school and college coaches, along with scholars, educators, policy makers and the general public.

"Having the ability to widely disseminate the video will make a difference and impact those who need the information the most," says Nicole LaVoi, associate director of the Tucker Center.

Former U of M President Robert Bruininks, who appears in the documentary, says, "Sport-related concussions are a much more serious issue than we thought just a few years ago. There is no better place than the Tucker Center and the U of M to have a serious conversation about the implications of this injury on the long-term health of girls and women who participate in exercise and sports."

## "Saving Wheat: Rusts Never Sleep" documentary highlights U of M's work in feeding the world

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**October 3, 2011**

A new documentary premiering on Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) this week highlights the University of Minnesota's leading role in making wheat a major food source for the world and protecting it from disease.

"Saving Wheat: Rusts Never Sleep" will premiere statewide on TPT's Minnesota channel at 8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 9, and air again at noon Sunday, Oct. 16, on TPT's Life channel.

The half-hour documentary tells the story of how a small group of scientists from the U of M have led the way in global efforts to develop disease-resistant, productive wheat crops. That work began as a companion to Minnesota's wheat and flour industries in the 19th century, progressed through the 1960s and '70s Green Revolution and continues today as plant disease scientists at the U of M race against the clock to stop the spread of the deadly Ug99 fungus. The fungus is spreading across Africa and parts of the Middle East; by some estimates, 90 percent of the world's wheat is vulnerable to Ug99 and its variants.

"This is the University of Minnesota's greatest story never told," said Richard Zeyen, a professor emeritus of plant pathology and one of the project's organizers. "It was and remains our highest impact moment, but is unknown to most people."

"Saving Wheat" is a co-production of the university's Department of Plant Pathology and TPT, with help from numerous private donations.

## Henry Adams to deliver University of Minnesota Libraries' inaugural Nagel Lecture

**Who:** Henry Adams, art historian and descendent of presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams

**What:** Inaugural Nagel Lecture

**Where:** Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center, University of Minnesota

**When:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, 2011

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/04/2011) —Henry Adams, professor of American art at Case Western Reserve University and descendent of presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams, will deliver the inaugural Paul and Joan Nagel Lecture at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20 in Cowles Auditorium at the Hubert H. Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Adams will be introduced by Eric Black, former Star Tribune reporter and current MinnPost blogger.

Adams--a historian who has written about American artists Andrew Wyeth, Thomas Hart Benton and Jackson Pollock--will speak on the work of noted historian and Adams biographer Paul Nagel.

In 2010 Nagel received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Adams Institute, joining David McCullough and the late Sen. Edward Kennedy as the only three people to receive this award.

At that award ceremony, Adams remarked that Nagel's works "cover the family with a depth and from a range of perspectives that's not been equaled by any other historian ... No one has written about the Adams family with greater perception or truthfulness."

Sponsored by the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries, this event is free and open to the public. Reservations are requested by Thursday, Oct. 13 at [612-624-9339](tel:612-624-9339) or [stangret@umn.edu](mailto:stangret@umn.edu).

### About Paul & Joan Nagel

The University of Minnesota Libraries created this lecture to honor Paul Nagel, a devoted friend of the Libraries who died in May 2011. Nagel was a former university professor and administrator, director of the Virginia Historical Society, and best-selling author of several books, including "Descent from Glory: Four Generations of the John Adams Family"; "John Quincy Adams: A Public Life, A Private Life"; and "The Adams Women". Nagel served on numerous boards, including as senior trustee of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and president of the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries. His late wife Joan, a librarian and genealogist, was a collaborator with Paul in many of his historical works. The Nagel papers were donated to the Libraries this past year.

## Deborah Lipstadt, outspoken scholar of Holocaust denial, speaking in Minn. Oct. 26-27

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### October 4, 2011

Deborah Lipstadt, author of "The Eichmann Trial and History on Trial: My Day in Court with a Holocaust Denier," will speak about Holocaust denial at two events in Minnesota this month.

Lipstadt will speak at the University of Minnesota's Coffman Union at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26. She will address Holocaust denial as a new form of anti-Semitism and the 1961 trial of Nazi Adolph Eichmann.

She will also speak at St. Cloud State University at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27 at the Ritsche Auditorium, in a talk titled "Anti-Semitism: How New? How Bad?"

Both events are free and open to the public.

While in Minnesota, Lipstadt will also visit classrooms at SCSU, speak at synagogue services and a Jewish Community Relations Council interfaith lunch, and meet with various leaders in the faith and academic communities.

Lipstadt is Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish and Holocaust Studies at Emory University in Atlanta. Her most recent book, "The Eichmann Trial," was credited in the New York Times for "recovering the event as a gripping legal drama, as well as a hinge moment in Israel's history and in the world's delayed awakening to the magnitude of the Holocaust." Her earlier book "History on Trial: My Day in Court with a Holocaust Denier" is the story of her libel trial in London against David Irving, who sued her for calling him a Holocaust denier and right-wing extremist. The trial was described by the Daily Telegraph, London, as having "done for the new century what the Nuremberg tribunals or the Eichmann trial did for earlier generations." The judge found David Irving to be a Holocaust denier, a falsifier of history, a racist, an anti-Semite and a liar.

Her book "Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory" is the first full-length study of those who attempt to deny the Holocaust.

It was the subject of simultaneous front page reviews in the New York Times and the Washington Post.

The book has been published in Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

Lipstadt is available to talk to the media on the following topics:

- History on Trial: My Day in Court with David Irving, where Lipstadt will analyze the major issues involved in her lawsuit in London and link them to the rise of "new anti-Semitism"
- Holocaust Denial: A New Form of Anti-Semitism
- The "New" Anti-Semitism: How New? How Bad?
- "In Every Generation They Wish to Destroy Us": Anti-Semitism and anti-Israelism as factors in Jewish Identity
- The American Campus: A Hotbed of Anti-Semitism?
- The Eichmann Trial

Lipstadt video interviews:

- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wnpc8\\_hfxdQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wnpc8_hfxdQ)
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SziZ4iWTOI>

Lipstadt website: <http://www.religion.emory.edu/faculty/lipstadt.html>

## Public trust doctrine applies to state conservation of wolves and other wildlife, U of M and other researchers say

Experts call out states' responsibility to conserve wildlife removed from Endangered Species Act protection

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/04/2011) —When a species such as the gray wolf is removed from the federal endangered species list, states have a legal obligation to conserve it, three scientists contend in the current issue of the journal *Science*.

The researchers are Sherry Enzler, a public trust scholar in the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and resident fellow at the Institute on the Environment; Jeremy Bruskotter of Ohio State University; and Adrian Treves of the University of Wisconsin–Madison. They suggest that a common-law principle known as the public trust doctrine obligates states to conserve a species for their citizens when federal statutory law no longer protects it. The public trust doctrine holds that certain natural resources, including wildlife, belong to all citizens, and therefore deserve such protection.

The researchers cite the case of the gray wolf, which lost federal protection in the northern Rocky Mountains last spring and is currently under consideration for delisting in Minnesota and other Western Great Lakes States. Wolf advocates fear that loss of federal protection could deplete populations so rapidly that the species will require federal protection again if states are not committed to wolf conservation.

Recognizing that the state has a common-law obligation to maintain wildlife populations in perpetuity not just for current residents but for future residents provides a degree of protection for species in the absence of statutory protection, the researchers argue.

“The public trust doctrine holds that if state politicians were to intervene to try to prevent the maintenance of a viable wolf population, they could be taken to court,” Enzler said. “There is a legal mechanism to prevent that type of action.”

To date, wildlife advocates haven't had to rely on the public trust doctrine to guide their management because states generally show a strong desire to conserve species. The case of gray wolves in the northern Rockies has been unusual, with western legislatures expressing the desire to minimize wolf populations or even remove them altogether.

While court cases already have defined the reach of the public trust doctrine, additional cases would help cement states' obligations in managing species no longer covered by federal protection, the authors contend.

“If this obligation is going to be more than just understood, there will need to be case law established, which is going to require somebody to take things to court to see what those obligations are,” Enzler said.

Better clarity about state management could also apply to other species, including the grizzly bear, which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stands ready to delist in the greater Yellowstone region. As part of a recent plan to remove protection, federal officials asked states to agree to certain management practices. A federal court rejected the plan because the agreement would not legally require states to conserve grizzlies. The researchers note that court-made law based on the public trust doctrine could provide the legal requirement needed to allow such a plan to move ahead.

“It's not about protecting any particular species. It's about how we ensure we have adequate protection for all imperiled species under state-led management,” Enzler said. “Not all species are a perfect fit for federal protection, so this is a better long-term solution.”



## U of M research sparks startup to manufacture biodegradable shopping bags

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/04/2011) —Using technology developed by U of M biochemist Simo Sarkanen, Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering, four students from the University of Arkansas have launched a startup company that will manufacture biodegradable plastic bags. The founders formed cycleWood Solutions Inc. after creating a business plan around the technology for an entrepreneurship class.

“The point of the class was to build a viable business,” said Nhiem Cao, president and CEO of cycleWood Solutions. He found the technology, a lignin-based biodegradable plastic, on the U of M Office for Technology Commercialization’s website. They then completed an option agreement for the technology and later licensed it to launch the startup.

According to Cao, one million plastic bags are used globally every minute. Some discarded bags will sit forever in landfills, some will pollute the world’s oceans and landscapes as litter and less than one percent will be recycled. Cao hopes cycleWood will be part of the solution to this problem.

“Our product will biodegrade in 150 days,” said Cao. “Instead of having a growing problem, the problem will gradually go away.”

Although details are not yet finalized, Cao anticipates the startup will provide the product at a slightly higher price point than traditional plastic bags but still be a substantial savings over biodegradable options currently available. Several corporate retailers have already indicated interest in the bags.

There are also talks of developing biodegradable bags for yard waste and BBs for airsoft guns. But the startup’s first priority will be to get investors on board and initiate a manufacturing strategy.

cycleWood last week was named regional champion in the 2011 Cleantech Open Business Competition, and will go on to compete in the national competition in November.

Nhiem Cao has more than five years of experience working as a process engineer and wet-end superintendent in the paper industry. Kevin Oden, COO, has two years of experience consulting for a large plastics manufacturer.

## Public lecture examines how collective motion in nature inspires robotic design

Oct. 11 lecture kicks  
off University of  
Minnesota Institute  
for Mathematics and  
its Applications  
lecture series



Princeton University professor Naomi Ehrich Leonard  
researched motion and decision-making in fish schools.

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### October 5, 2011

From bird flocks to fish schools, animals move together and respond to their environment in remarkable ways. Their natural collective motion patterns appear well choreographed and their collective survival strategies seem ingenious.

In the upcoming University of Minnesota public lecture titled “Flocks and Fleets: Collective Motion in Nature and Robotics,” Princeton University professor Naomi Ehrich Leonard will discuss how these animal group behaviors inspire design for groups of mobile, sensor-equipped robots at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, in Willey Hall, Room 175, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The lecture is the first in a three-part series sponsored by the university’s Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) within the College of Science and Engineering.

The event is free and open to the public.

Leonard, a professor in Princeton’s Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, will show how mathematical modeling and analysis play a critical role in explaining the enabling mechanisms in animal groups and defining provable mechanisms for robotic groups. She will discuss connections among spatial pattern, information passing, and collective behavior in robot and animal networks. She will present applications of her study that include the design of an adaptive ocean observation system using a fleet of underwater robotic vehicles and an investigation of motion and decision-making in bird flocks and fish schools.

Currently, Leonard’s work focuses on the feedback and dynamics of collective behavior. Working with evolutionary biologists, she studies feedback mechanisms and dynamics in animal groups. Inspired by biology, she designs feedback mechanisms to enable teams of robots. In 2010, she began a collaboration with choreographer Susan Marshall, director of the Program in Dance in Princeton’s Lewis Center for the Arts, which culminated in the “Flock Logic” project, which looked at the intersection between the art of dance and the science of flocking. Leonard also recently co-led the Adaptive (Ocean) Sampling and Prediction (ASAP) project, featuring a fleet of underwater robotic gliders equipped with sensors to measure ocean temperature and currents and controlled to move as a group in patterns that yield the richest data set.

For details about this and other IMA public lectures, visit <http://www.ima.umn.edu/public-lecture>.

### About the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications

Founded in 1982, the University of Minnesota Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) promotes vigorous collaboration among mathematicians, engineers, biologists, chemists, physicists, and other applied scientists, attracting more than 1,200 visiting scholars per year. Since its establishment, the IMA has grown to become among the most influential math institutes in the world. Its mission is to engage mathematicians and other scientists from around the globe in programs and activities that advance the nation’s science and technology agendas.

## Professor Judith Martin passes away

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/05/2011) —A message from College of Liberal Arts (CLA) Dean Jim Parente:

Today the College of Liberal Arts and the university mourn the loss of professor Judith Martin, who passed away early Monday morning.

Judith Martin was a home-grown jewel at the U. She received her M.A. in American history and M.A. and Ph.D. in American studies here at the U. She began her service here as a research associate in the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs in 1976, and held various term positions in CLA until she was hired as a professor in geography and director of the Urban Studies program in 1989.

Judith was an exemplary university citizen, one who senior administrators knew they could depend upon for thoughtful leadership and counsel. Her CV is filled with work on committees across the university, many of which she served as chair or vice-chair: Faculty Consultative Committee, University Senate, Senate Committee on Finance and Planning, and countless other committees on governance, planning, teaching and students. She was an invaluable member of CLA's 2015 planning committee last year, and this year served on the provostal search committee.

Judith was a 15-year member of the Minneapolis Planning Commission, seven years as president. Judith brought her knowledge and leadership to the city she loved, contributing to the development of plans for land use, downtown development, light rail stations and the new zoning codes that were developed in the '90s.

In addition to directing the Urban Studies program, Judith was founding co-director of the University Metropolitan Consortium. She seamlessly blended her research, teaching and service, and was widely sought for her expertise on urban planning, policy and governance; historic preservation; urban sprawl; and landscape and culture. Judith advanced the university's public engagement agenda through community-engaged research and outreach in urban and metropolitan issues. She also contributed to early strategic planning discussions to formulate the vision for UMore Park, with a special focus on academic opportunities for faculty, students and staff.

"I have often used the Twin Cities as a base for my work, due to my early belief that all too much urban research ignored the experiences of the most typical of American urban areas," she wrote. Her scholarly and community work were the subjects of a profile in [CLA Today in 2004](#).

Over the course of her distinguished career in CLA and at the U she received many awards for teaching and service, including the Morse Amoco/Alumni Teaching Award, Academy of Distinguished Teachers, College of Continuing Education Teaching Award, CLA Alumna of Notable Achievement and President's Award for Outstanding Service.

University President Emeritus Robert Bruininks said, "I received the news of Judith's passing with deep sadness. She was a dear friend of ours, and frequent confidante and advisor whose leadership, thoughtfulness, and broad perspective on issues impacting the University were invaluable to me over the past many years. We enjoyed so many walks along the Mississippi River together and had looked forward to many more. Susan and I will miss Judith terribly."

Plans for a memorial are pending and will be posted at [www.geog.umn.edu](http://www.geog.umn.edu).

## Healthy Foods Summit at U of M to address human health improvement through changes in food system

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**October 5, 2011**

Everyone should have the right to healthy food, just as they should have the right to a good education for their children and access to adequate healthcare, says Oran Hesterman, author of “Fair Food: Growing a Healthy, Sustainable Food System for All.”

Hesterman, along with Hank Cardello, author of the best-selling “Stuffed: An Insider’s Look at Who’s (Really) Making America Fat,” is part of the University of Minnesota’s Healthy Foods Summit 2011: Optimizing Food Systems for Human Health, Oct. 10-11.

The event is co-hosted by the university’s Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute and Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Cardello has gained national attention for his book, in which he states that the obesity epidemic is connected to food companies that control almost everything the average American eats. But Cardello makes it clear that the food corporations should not take all of the blame, and that they can and should be part of the solution.

During the summit, which is open to the public, presenters will address critical points in our food system where changes can be made through both conventional and sustainable approaches. The summit will include issues in farming practices, water and natural resource use, the impact of climate change, food safety and food security issues and the role of the food industry. Additionally, sessions will focus on current practices that are working as well as challenges for growers, producers, processors, retailers and consumers.

“The purpose of the summit is to look at ways everyone can be a part of the conversation,” says Mindy Kurzer, director of the Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute.

Tim Kenny, director of education at the arboretum, adds that “This country’s population has doubled since 1950. To meet our food needs, we have moved from a food system based predominantly on local food sources to one that is reliant on large-scale food processing and transportation systems. Now seems to be a good time to look at where we’ve come, and how we are addressing food system challenges in ways that can improve human health and the health of our planet.”

The first day of the summit will be held at University Hotel Minneapolis (formerly University Radisson) and will feature researchers from around the world who will share their views on how a coordinated, collaborative research and policy-making approach can improve human health through influencing the food system. In addition to Cardello, the first day’s speakers will include a keynote address by Juan Rivera, an internationally respected public health researcher who will discuss how global nutrition problems in developing countries have shifted from issues of undernutrition to the challenges of overweight and obesity.

On the second day, the summit moves to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanhassen, where Hesterman will be the day’s keynote presenter. He’ll be followed by a number of local food leaders who will present case studies of strategies that are working to improve food-related health issues, and the health of our planet, including presenters from Frogtown Gardens, Sacred Heart Hospitals and Home Grown Minneapolis.

For more information and registration details, call (952) 443-1422 or visit <http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/2011healthyfoodssummit.aspx>.

## Endocrine disruptors, agricultural water use and Asian carp topics at Minnesota Water Resources Conference Oct. 18-19

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### October 5, 2011

Endocrine disruptors and wildlife, Asian carp in Minnesota and what farmers can do to improve water quality are topics of the Minnesota Water Resources Conference, a two-day event hosted by the University of Minnesota Water Resources Center (WRC) Oct. 18 and 19 at the St. Paul RiverCentre, 175 West Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul.

The state's largest annual gathering of water professionals and policy makers, the conference will showcase a range of water-related information, from the latest research to practical solutions to storm water and agricultural run off, aquatic wildlife management and ecosystem health.

This year's breakout sessions include presentations on climate change on Lake Superior, managing water quality near the Interstate 35/Hwy. 62 reconstruction and the Coon Rapids Dam's effect on stopping Asian carp.

Keynote speakers include:

- Beverly Durgan, dean of U of M Extension and university professor of agronomy and plant genetics, on "University Extension and Water Resources: New Opportunities for Education and Sustainable Management in Minnesota"
- Gerald Ankley, toxicologist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and adjunct professor in the university's Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology and frequently cited environmental expert, on "Assessing Risks of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals: A Scientific Odyssey"
- Paul Torkelson, farmer and member of the Minnesota House of Representatives representing District 21B, on "Legislative Update: Agricultural and Water Issues"
- Don Baloun, Minnesota state conservationist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, on "Agricultural Water Management: What Can Farmers Do to Maintain Good Water Quality and Still Do Agricultural Water Management"

The event is sponsored by the WRC and the university's College of Continuing Education and co-sponsored by the College of Science and Engineering's Department of Civil Engineering, the Minnesota Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Minnesota Sea Grant and the Natural Resources Research Institute. For registration details, visit [wrc.umn.edu](http://wrc.umn.edu) or call the College of Continuing Education's helpline at (612) 625-2900.

The Water Resources Center is affiliated with the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and University of Minnesota Extension.

## U of M's Philip M. Raup Lecture features leading Australian agricultural economics expert

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**October 6, 2011**

Jeff Bennett, professor in the Crawford School of Economics and Government at the Australian National University (ANU), will present "Developments in Non-Market Environmental Valuation: An Australian Perspective" at the fifth annual Philip M. Raup Lecture on Land and Environmental Policy at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1.

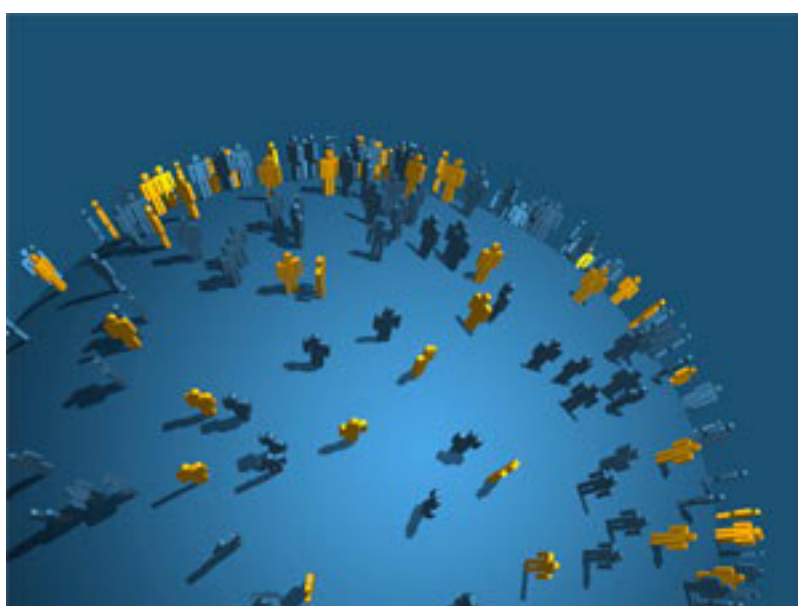
The event takes place in the University of Minnesota's Cargill Building for Microbial and Plant Genomics, 1500 Gortner Ave., St. Paul.

Bennett holds a bachelor of agricultural economics degree from the University of New England and a doctorate from the ANU. He has over 30 years of experience teaching, researching and consulting in the fields of environmental, resource and agricultural economics. His specific areas of interest are non-market valuation and the role of markets in environmental conservation.

Bennett is a distinguished fellow of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society, was president of that society and also co-edited the society's journal for the past three years. He is an elected member of the Mont Pelerin Society and sits on the advisory board of the Centre for Independent Studies.

This event is free and open to the public, and a reception will follow the lecture. Those interested in attending can register at: <http://www.apec.umn.edu/Events/index.htm#raup>.

## University of Minnesota receives \$8M grant for first-of-its-kind use of global population and environment data



Terra Populus: A Global Population / Environment Data Network will integrate the world's largest population database with global data on land use, land cover and climate change.

Terra Populus: A Global Population / Environment Data Network, or TerraPop for short – was awarded a five-year, \$8 million grant from the National Science Foundation's Office of Cyberinfrastructure.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/06/2011) —Recently funded research at the University of Minnesota will create new opportunities for understanding the relationship between population and the environment on a global scale.

The project – Terra Populus: A Global Population / Environment Data Network, or TerraPop for short – was awarded a five-year, \$8 million grant from the National Science Foundation's Office of Cyberinfrastructure.

TerraPop will combine two centuries of census data with global environmental data including land cover, land use and climate records. Beyond the goal of integrating this information into a common database, the team plans to disseminate the newly available data to researchers around the world.

Although a plethora of high quality environmental and population datasets are currently available, they are widely dispersed, have incompatible or inadequate documentation, and include incompatible geographic identifiers. Newly available population data closely integrated with data on the environment will more clearly describe the unfolding transformation of human and ecological systems.

“By creating a framework for locating, analyzing and visualizing the world's population and environment in time and space, TerraPop will provide unprecedented opportunities for investigating the agents of change, assessing their implications for human society and the environment, and developing policies to meet future challenges,” said Steven Ruggles, director of the Minnesota Population Center.

The Minnesota Population Center will lead the effort with support from the Institute on the Environment, the U of M Libraries and faculty from the College of Liberal Arts and College of Science and Engineering. Additional partners include the Center for International Earth Science Information Network at Columbia University and the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan.

The organizations collaborating on TerraPop are uniquely qualified to undertake a project of this scale. The Minnesota Population Center is home to the largest collection of census data in the world, while the Institute on the Environment has one of the most extensive databases of global land use in the country. The University Libraries are leaders in digital preservation and data management. The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research is the world's largest social science data archive, and the Center for International Earth Science Information Network is a leading research and data center focused on human-environment interactions.

“This project represents a quantum leap in our ability to see and map the relationships between people and the environment at the global scale,” said Jon Foley, director of the Institute on the Environment. “And it represents an exciting new frontier of scientific collaboration – between computer scientists, demographers and environmental scientists – to break down our old disciplinary barriers and focus our collective energy on some of the world's biggest problems.”

TerraPop aims to accomplish four specific tasks:

1. Collect, preserve, integrate and describe datasets that measure changes in the world's population and environment over the past two centuries
2. Develop tools and procedures to manage and disseminate the data collections
3. Carry out education and outreach to engage the scientific community and the public and reach the broadest possible audience
4. Establish an organizational structure to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project.

The lead investigators from the University of Minnesota are Steven Ruggles (Minnesota Population Center), Jonathon Foley (Institute on the Environment), Victoria Interrante (Computer Science and Engineering), Wendy Pradt Lougee (University of Minnesota Libraries), Steven Manson (Geography), Jaideep Srivastava (Computer Science and Engineering) and Shashi Shekhar (Computer Science and Engineering).

With this award, TerraPop will be an NSF Sustainable Digital Data Preservation and Access Network (DataNet) Partner. The DataNet initiative aims to provide reliable digital preservation, access, integration and analysis capabilities for science and/or engineering data over a decades-long timeline.

### About the Minnesota Population Center

The Minnesota Population Center (MPC) is a university-wide interdisciplinary cooperative for demographic research. The MPC serves more than 80 faculty members and research scientists from eight colleges and institutes at the University of Minnesota. As a leading developer and disseminator of demographic data, MPC also serves a broader audience of some 50,000 demographic researchers worldwide. Learn more at [www.pop.umn.edu](http://www.pop.umn.edu).

## U of M research finds workplace sabotage fueled by envy, unleashed by disengagement

Managers advised to consider team-building strategies to prevent subversive behavior

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/06/2011) —To avoid workplace sabotage managers need to keep team members connected and engaged, according to new research from the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management. In "A Social Context Model of Envy and Social Undermining," which will appear in the Academy of Management Journal, professors Michelle Duffy and Jason Shaw of the school's Department of Work and Organizations found envious employees are more likely to undermine peers if they feel disconnected from others.

"The working world typically necessitates that people develop strong connections with co-workers in order to thrive. To stray from this path ultimately puts success at risk, so most suffer from envy in silence," says Duffy, who conducted the study with colleagues from the University of British Columbia, Clemson University and Georgia State University.

"However, from our research it seems that when someone sees themselves as a lone wolf, they are less inhibited and more likely to lash out."

According to professor Karl Aquino, a co-author from the University of British Columbia's Sauder School of Business, envy is the fuel and sabotage is most likely to occur when an envious co-worker feels disconnected from others in the workplace.

"The match is not struck unless employees experience what psychologists call 'moral disengagement' – a way of thinking that allows people to rationalize or justify harming others," he says.

"Our study shows that envy on its own is not necessarily a negative thing in the workplace. However, managers would be well-advised to consider team-building strategies to ensure all of their employees are engaged in the group dynamic," adds Duffy, the study's lead author. "It is also important that those in charge don't give incidents of co-worker undermining a free pass, because once it starts the tendency is for it to spread."

To obtain data, the research team conducted two field studies. They first used a sample of 160 employees from a hospital to test whether a person's lack of identification with colleagues increases their likelihood to act on envy. The employees were asked to complete two separate surveys eight months apart. During the first survey, participants were asked to rate their reactions – positive or negative – to a series of statements regarding envy, affinity with colleagues, and comfort with subversive acts. After eight months, the respondents were surveyed again, this time about their actual undermining activities.

When the results of the surveys were compared, it showed people experiencing feelings of envy were significantly more likely to report committing sabotage when experiencing weak relationships with co-workers. Conversely, envious participants reported low sabotage incident rates when they felt they were more strongly connected to their coworkers.

### **Incidents of workplace sabotage spread if not addressed by managers**

In a second study, the researchers explored how the working environment can influence employees to undermine one another. Taking part in this experiment were 247 business students. Randomly divided into numerous workgroups, the students completed a series of questionnaires throughout the semester. The students were asked to rate their level of envy, connections with their group members, and incidences of sabotage committed by themselves and others.

The findings show that students who reported feelings of envy and low levels of identification with their workgroups were significantly more likely to report committing acts of sabotage when they belonged to groups which reported high rates of sabotage as a whole. The researchers point to this result as an indication that if a workplace seems to be permitting sabotage, those who are inclined toward subversive behavior will be more likely to follow through.

### **About the Carlson School of Management**

Established in 1919 and based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota is a recognized leader in business education and research. Its focus on experiential learning, international education and maintaining strong ties to the business community exemplify the school's commitment to excellence. More information about the school can be found at [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu).



## Forum on Libya takes place at U of M's Humphrey School of Public Affairs Oct. 10



**What:** "Forum on  
Libya: The  
Humanitarian  
Perspective"

**Where:** Cowles  
Auditorium,  
Humphrey School of  
Public Affairs, 301  
19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

**When:** 10 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 10

How will Libya rebuild following the toppling of  
Moammar Gadhafi? [Image courtesy [BRQ Network](#)]

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[Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

### October 6, 2011

United States Rep. Keith Ellison will be a featured speaker at "Forum on Libya: The Humanitarian Perspective" from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 10, in Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The forum will explore immediate and long-term humanitarian issues as well as ways Americans can help the Libyan people. Additional speakers include Jamal Tarhuni, a Libyan-American businessman and founding board member of the Libyan Council of North America, and Bas Vanderzalm, president of Medical Teams International.

The discussion panel will be moderated by University of Minnesota, Morris faculty member Cyrus Bina. Bina is author of the new book "Oil: A Time Machine -- Journey Beyond Fanciful Economics and Frightful Politics." A political economist, Bina's work on the transformation and globalization of oil first appeared in "The Economics of the Oil Crisis" (1985) and then expanded through numerous articles in scholarly and policy journals. In addition, he is a scholar of labor relations and social movements around the globe.

Both Vanderzalm and Tarhuni will be available for interviews following the forum.

Medical Teams International, which has worked with Libyan-Americans around the U.S., including those from the Minneapolis area, will be hosting the event.

This forum is organized by Medical Teams International and co-sponsored by the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Minnesota International Center and the Minnesota International NGO Network.

Those who would like to participate in the forum should RSVP to [Libyarsvp@medicalteams.org](mailto:Libyarsvp@medicalteams.org) or call Margaret Li at the Medical Teams International Minneapolis office at (763) 331-0023.

University of  
Minnesota  
president  
Eric Kaler  
names  
alumna  
Karen  
Hanson as  
the new  
provost

Board of Regents to  
vote on the  
appointment at  
October meeting



Hanson will take the post on Feb. 1, 2012, subject to approval by the Board of Regents.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/10/2011) —University of Minnesota president Eric Kaler today announced that Karen Hanson will be the university's new senior vice president for academic affairs and provost – subject to approval by the Board of Regents.

Hanson will take the post on Feb. 1, 2012. She currently works at Indiana University, where she serves as provost of the Bloomington campus and executive vice president of the university. She has been in that position since July 2007.

It is a homecoming for Hanson, who received her bachelor of arts degree in philosophy and mathematics from the U of M in 1970. She went on to earn both her master's degree and doctorate in philosophy from Harvard University in 1980.

"These are exciting times for the U of M, and I'm thrilled to be returning to Minnesota," Hanson said. "In having liberal arts, engineering, agriculture, an academic health center and more, all on one campus in an urban setting, as well as strong coordinate campuses throughout the state, the University of Minnesota is poised to be in the vanguard for repositioning the nation's public universities. I am honored to support President Kaler and his team as we move the U forward."

"With Karen as provost, we get the spectacular combination of a leader with a strong academic record and someone who has honed her skills as a seasoned administrator," Kaler said. "In addition, she comes here with a disciplinary background in philosophy and the humanities, which complements my background as a scientist and chemical engineer."

The senior vice president for academic affairs and provost is the chief academic officer for the university and ranks second to the president. Current provost Tom Sullivan will remain in his position through January 2012.

Prior to being appointed provost at Indiana, Hanson served there as dean of the Hutton Honors College from 2002 to 2007 and as chair of the Department of Philosophy from 1997 to 2002. A philosophy faculty member at IU since 1976, Hanson is also an adjunct faculty member in the comparative literature, American studies and gender studies departments. She has won numerous campus and all-university teaching awards, along with a Lilly Fellowship and a number of research grants.

Hanson's principal research interests are in the philosophy of mind, ethics and aesthetics, and in American philosophy. She's published many articles and essays in these areas and is the author of the book "The Self Imagined: Philosophical Reflections on the Social Character of Psyche" and a coeditor of "Romantic Revolutions: Criticism and Theory."

Hanson has twice been elected to the executive committee of the Central Division of the American Philosophical Association (APA) and to the APA National Board of Officers. She served as chair of the board of the APA from 2004 to 2005. From 1993 to 1997, she served as the APA delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and as a member of the ACLS Executive Committee.

Hanson has been an associate editor of the Journal of Social Philosophy, a member of the editorial board of American Philosophical Quarterly and a trustee for the American Society for Aesthetics. Her current editorial board memberships include Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews and Cognition, and she is an officer of the board of the John Dewey Foundation and a member of both the advisory and the editorial boards of the Peirce Edition Project.

## U of M President Kaler congratulates former U faculty on receiving the Nobel Prize in economics

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/10/2011) —Two former University of Minnesota Department of Economics faculty – Thomas Sargent of New York University and Christopher Sims of Princeton University – have been awarded the 2011 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences “for their empirical research on cause and effect in the macroeconomy.”

Sargent taught at the U from 1971 to 1987, while Sims taught at Minnesota from 1970 to 1990.

Their work has helped explain why economies respond the way they do to intervention by central banks or other government authorities.

“We are beyond excited at the University of Minnesota for our former colleagues Thomas Sargent and Christopher Sims,” university President Eric Kaler said. “Their accomplishments carry on our economics program’s legacy of teaching and research that has had a worldwide impact.”

Sargent and Sims still have strong U of M ties. Sargent is a current member of the U of M Heller-Hurwicz Economics Institute (HHEI) board. The institute was named in part after the late Leo Hurwicz, a longtime professor of economics at the University of Minnesota, who was a co-winner of the 2007 Nobel Prize in economics.

V. V. Chari, University of Minnesota economics professor and HHEI founding director, is available for interviews today to discuss Sargent and Sims’ research.

### **About the U of M Department of Economics and HHEI**

The U of M College of Liberal Arts’ Department of Economics consistently ranks among the nation’s top economics programs. A recent survey showed that Ph.D. graduates of the department hold faculty positions at over 110 colleges and universities, including eight of the top ten rated departments of economics, eight Big Ten universities and a number of selective liberal arts colleges. They also hold faculty positions at fifteen Canadian universities and forty-five other foreign universities. They serve on the staffs of seven Federal Reserve Banks and the Board of Governors; six United States cabinet departments; a large number of ministries and agencies of foreign governments; and major international economic agencies, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

HHEI is a global initiative in the Department of Economics, created to inform and influence public policy by supporting and promoting frontier economic research and by communicating its findings to leading academics, policymakers and business executives around the world.

The institute is named after Walter Heller and Leo Hurwicz, world-leading economics scholars who were faculty members at the University of Minnesota from the early 1950s through the 1980s.

For more information about HHEI, visit <http://hhei.umn.edu>.

## U of M Physics and



The new Physics and Nanotechnology Building at the University of Minnesota becomes a reality during a ceremonial groundbreaking from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, at the future building site just east of Akerman Hall on the university's East Bank campus.

## Nanotechnology Building's ceremonial groundbreaking set for Oct. 12

Building was centerpiece of state's capital investment plan passed during the 2011 special legislative session

**Media Note:** This is an invitation-only event, open to media. Please do not publicize prior to the event. High-resolution versions of the latest exterior and interior architectural drawings of the building are available at [z.umn.edu/pngroundbreaking](http://z.umn.edu/pngroundbreaking).

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### October 10, 2011

After years of planning, a new Physics and Nanotechnology Building at the University of Minnesota becomes a reality during a ceremonial groundbreaking from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, at the future building site just east of Akerman Hall on the university's East Bank campus. The event program begins at 4:30 p.m.

More than 125 people, including government leaders, business partners, university administrators, faculty and students, are scheduled to attend. Those attending will see drawings of the exterior and interior of the building, get up close to the latest building model and talk with faculty about their research.

The formal program will include short remarks from university President Eric Kaler, U of M Board of Regents Chair Linda Cohen, Minnesota Office of Higher Education Interim Director Susan Von Mosch, university Provost Tom Sullivan and university College of Science and Engineering Dean Steven Crouch. Speakers and honored guests will then don hard hats and turn the soil with golden shovels for the ceremonial groundbreaking.

Construction will begin next month on the new \$83 million Physics and Nanotechnology Building, which is expected to revitalize and expand two key science areas.

Highlights of the new building include 43,000 square feet of modern and highly flexible physics laboratories and laboratory support space and more than 15,000 square feet dedicated to nanotechnology research (including a 5,000-square-foot clean room). All together, the facility will contain about 40 new research laboratories.

More than 400 businesses and organizations currently use the university's nanotechnology facilities. When built, this state-of-the-art facility will make a significant impact in expanding research and advancing education of the next generation of high-tech workers in the state.

The University of Minnesota has been working with its architectural partners, Architectural Alliance in cooperation with Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects, LLP. During the planning process, the U of M also selected Mortenson Construction for construction of the future physics and nanotechnology building.

Gov. Mark Dayton and the state Legislature approved \$51.3 million for the building in July as part of the state's capital investment plan during the 2011 special session. In addition to the \$51.3 million, the University of Minnesota received \$4 million in planning money for the Physics and Nanotechnology Building during the 2010 legislative session. The remainder of the funding for the project will be paid by the university and private donations.

The building is expected to be completed in fall 2013.

## Got bedbugs? New U of M resource center can help

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/11/2011) —They're creepy and crawly and they're increasingly a problem for landlords, tenants and travelers. Bed bugs are back, after a nearly 30-year absence in the United States, and a new University of Minnesota resource center is ready to help.

"Increased travel, changing insecticide use and a lack of public awareness brought back the bed bug," says Stephen Kells, U of M associate professor of entomology and a nationally known expert on bed bugs. "The bugs feed on the blood of people and certain animals, and they live close to areas where people typically sleep, rest or sit for long periods. They're most active at night, and some people break out in a rash from the bites, while others see few symptoms beyond a red spot.

Bed bugs are oval, flattened, brown and wingless, about the size of a wood tick," Kells says. "The thing that makes them so challenging to detect and control is their ability to squeeze into cracks and crevices, where they go largely unnoticed." By crawling into travelers' suitcases and clothes, the bugs can easily and quickly spread to other locations from an infested hotel room or residence.

Because the problem is growing so fast, Kells' team has added phone and email hotlines for people dealing with infestations and will be conducting seminars around the state for landlords, hotel managers and consumers.

The phone lines for the "Let's Beat the Bug!" initiative are (612) 624-2200; (612) 624-2200; 1-855-644-2200; and 1-855-644-2200.

The email address is [bedbugs@umn.edu](mailto:bedbugs@umn.edu).

Visit the website at [www.bedbugs.umn.edu](http://www.bedbugs.umn.edu) or check out the team's accounts to help share information and breaking news about bed bugs:

Twitter: [@letsbeatthebug](https://twitter.com/letsbeatthebug)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Lets-Beat-the-Bug/198307516905154](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Lets-Beat-the-Bug/198307516905154)

## University of Minnesota joins launch of \$1 billion 'Green Challenge'

University of Minnesota, Harvard, Stanford and Arizona State commit \$65 million to innovative energy efficiency financing initiative

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/11/2011) —The University of Minnesota joined with 32 other leading institutions today to launch the Billion Dollar Green Challenge. The goal is to invest a cumulative total of one billion dollars in self-managed green revolving funds that finance energy efficiency upgrades on campuses across the country.

As part of the Founding Circle, the University of Minnesota has the distinction of being the only Big Ten institution to take the lead in making this commitment. The challenge is inspired by the exceptional performance of existing green revolving funds, which have a median annual return on investment of 32 percent, as documented by Greening TheBottom Line, a report published by the Sustainable Endowments Institute.

A bright spot in a rocky economy, these profitable investments are helping create green jobs in campus communities, while lowering operating costs on college and university campuses.

“We’re transforming energy efficiency upgrades from perceived expenses to high-return investment opportunities,” said Mark Orłowski, executive director of the Sustainable Endowments Institute, which is coordinating the challenge along with 13 partner organizations. “University of Minnesota should be commended for rising to the challenge and investing in energy efficiency improvements on campus.”

The Billion Dollar Green Challenge launches publicly on Oct. 11 at the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education conference in Pittsburgh. With more than 2,500 participants, including representatives of the University of Minnesota, the conference is the largest gathering to date on higher education sustainability.

“The Billion Dollar Green Challenge asks our higher education systems to invest in green revolving funds to support the campus sustainability movement. AASHE supports the Challenge in that these funds will help institutions become more sustainable and will help the higher education community understand the commitment they are making to a just and sustainable future,” said Paul Rowland, executive director, of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

In advance of the launch, 33 institutions, including the University of Minnesota, have joined the Challenge’s Founding Circle by committing to invest a cumulative total of more than \$65 million in green revolving funds. In addition to Harvard, Stanford and ASU, other Founding Circle institutions include Caltech, Dartmouth, GeorgeWashington, Middlebury, the University of British Columbia and Weber State University.

Investing in energy conservation is not new to the University of Minnesota. The university’s revolving fund, the Energy Conservation Internal Loan Program, was established in 1998 and the University Board of Regents adopted a policy on sustainability and energy efficiency in 2004.

The Energy Conservation Internal Loan Program has been an important tool for financing projects that help the University curb energy use, avoid additional utility expenses, and reduce emissions to the environment. The loan program provides funding to the university’s Facilities Management department for equipment retrofits and other energy conservation projects with paybacks of six years or less. The resulting energy cost savings repay the loan principal and interest, and ultimately help the university avoid additional utility costs. Projects are identified and implemented by Energy Management, a unit of the Facilities Management. Projects ideas come from a variety of sources including recommissioning studies, utility plans and suggestions from the university community. Over the past two years the university’s energy conservation efforts have yielded \$4.6 million in annual avoided utility costs and have reduced CO2 emissions by approximately 50,000 tons.

Guided by a 34-member expert advisory council, the Billion Dollar Green Challenge offers technical assistance, best practices sharing, access to an advanced web-based tool for managing green revolving funds, peer institutions’ project-specific data and invitations to specialized webinars and conferences. The Billion Dollar Green Challenge has received financial support from the David Rockefeller Fund, HOK, John Merck Fund, Kresge Foundation, Merck Family Fund, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Roy A. Hunt Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Green Power Partnership and the Wallace Global Fund.

Visit [www.GreenBillion.org](http://www.GreenBillion.org) for more information.

## University of Minnesota Board of Regents to act on the 2012 state capital budget request at its meeting this week

**When:** Thursday, Oct. 13 and Friday, Oct. 14

**Where:** 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis

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### October 11, 2011

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents is expected to act on President Eric Kaler's recommended 2012 state capital budget request during its meeting Thursday, Oct. 13, and Friday, Oct. 14.

The capital request, which asks for \$169.4 million in state bonds to be matched by \$39.7 million in university bonds, would fund projects to meet health and safety concerns and to make repairs to extend the life of existing facilities; renovation and installation of new gas fired turbines in the 99-year-old Old Main Utility Building serving the energy needs of the Minneapolis campus; improvements to the Itasca Biological Station; the rehabilitation of Eddy Hall in order to optimize space and create a flexible, cutting edge professional work environment for student services staff and a new American Indian Learning Resource Center on the Duluth campus.

The schedule for the board meeting is as follows:

#### Thursday, Oct. 13

9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Faculty, Staff & Student Affairs Committee, Sixth Floor, East Committee Room. Robert McMaster, vice provost and dean of undergraduate education, will present information on the freshman class strengths finder assessment. The committee will also consider a revised consent report that includes the appointment of Karen Hanson as senior vice president for academic affairs & provost.

10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Facilities Committee, Sixth Floor, West Committee Room. The Facilities Committee will review the requested capital budget amendment for the cardiology department's building and infrastructure systems upgrade.

1:30 - 2:45 p.m., Board of Regents Work Session, Sixth Floor Board Room. President Kaler will present information on higher education issues affecting the U of M such as the characteristics of a modern research institution and the importance of graduate education.

3 - 5 p.m., Finance & Operations Committee, Sixth Floor, West Committee Room. Richard Pfitzenreuter, vice president and CFO, will give the Board of Regents a progress report regarding the development and incorporation of long range financial planning into academic and operational plans at the University of Minnesota.

3 - 5 p.m., Educational Planning & Policy Committee, Sixth Floor, East Committee Room. The Educational Planning & Policy Committee will discuss the recommendation to increase undergraduate enrollment on the Twin Cities campus by 1,000 students in the science, technology, engineering and math disciplines in an effort to address needs for a highly trained, specialized workforce. Provost Tom Sullivan will present enrollment data for the fall semester.

#### Friday, Oct. 14

9:00 - 11:15 a.m., Board of Regents Meeting, Sixth Floor, Board Room. President Kaler will introduce Eric Schwartz as the new dean of the Humphrey School of Public Affairs. The Board of Regents will act on the 2012 capital request and 2011 University Plan, Performance, and Accountability Report.

More information on the Board of Regents meeting can be found at [www.umn.edu/regents](http://www.umn.edu/regents).

**Note:** There is no Board of Regents meeting scheduled for November.

## International team crafts plan to feed world and protect planet

U of M-led researchers create a recipe for globally sustainable agriculture

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/12/2011) —Can we feed the more than 9 billion people anticipated to live on this planet in 2050 without destroying Earth's life support systems? In an article slated to appear as the cover story in the Oct. 20 print issue of *Nature*, a team of researchers from the U.S., Canada, Sweden and Germany conclude we can – if we successfully pursue sustainable food production on five key fronts: halting farmland expansion in the tropics, closing yield gaps on underperforming lands, using agricultural inputs more strategically, shifting diets and reducing food waste.

An online version of the article will be available starting today at [www.nature.com](http://www.nature.com).

“For the first time, we have shown it is possible to both feed a hungry world and protect a threatened planet,” said lead author Jonathan Foley, head of the University of Minnesota’s Institute on the Environment. “It will take serious work. But we can do it.”

Scientists from the University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin, McGill University, UC Santa Barbara, Arizona State University, Stockholm Resilience Centre at Stockholm University, Stockholm Environment Institute and the University of Bonn have been working together for two years to find an answer to what could be the most compelling question facing humanity today. Combining new data gathered from satellite imagery and crop records around the world with new computer models of global agricultural systems and their environmental impacts, the team developed a plan for doubling the world’s food production while reducing environmental impacts of agriculture.

The research was a response to what Foley calls “a daunting triple threat.”

“First, a billion people currently lack adequate access to food, not only creating hunger but also setting the stage for worldwide instability. Second, agriculture, the single-most important thing we do to benefit humanity, is also the single biggest threat to the global environment – including the land, water and climate that make Earth habitable. Third, with 2 to 3 billion more people expected in coming decades, and increasing consumption of meat and biofuels, food demand will be far greater in 2050 than it is today,” Foley said. “Given that we’re not even able to meet current needs sustainably, how will we feed the anticipated more than 9 billion of us without destroying the planet?”

The international team of researchers began by characterizing agriculture today. Using new satellite and ground-based observations, the team documented changes in agricultural lands and their yields over the past 40 years. Currently, farm and ranch lands cover nearly 40 percent of Earth’s land area – the largest use of land on the planet. Though modern agriculture has boosted crops yields, increases between 1985 and 2005 were less than half what is commonly reported and are slowing. And because one-third of crops are used for livestock feed, biofuels and other nonfood products, the number of hunger-abating calories produced per cultivated acre is far lower than it could be – even in fields with high-yielding, but animal-feeding, crops.

This comes with a hefty environmental price, the researchers say. Humans have already cleared 70 percent of all grasslands, half of all savannas, 45 percent of temperate deciduous forests and 27 percent of tropical forests. In addition, intensification of agriculture – changes in irrigation, fertilizer use and other practices aimed at boosting per-acre yield –has increased water pollution, local water shortages and energy use. Strikingly, agricultural activities such as clearing land, growing rice, raising cattle and overusing fertilizers make up 35 percent of the single largest contributor of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere.

Based on their data, the researchers proposed a five-point plan for feeding the world while protecting the planet:

1. Halt farmland expansion. Reduction of land clearing for agriculture, particularly in tropical rainforests, achieved using incentives such as payment for ecosystem services, certification and ecotourism. These incentives can yield huge environmental benefits without dramatically cutting into agricultural production or economic well-being.
2. Close yield gaps. Many parts of Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe have substantial “yield gaps” – where farmland is not living up to its potential for producing crops. Closing these gaps through improved use of existing crop varieties, better management and improved genetics could increase current food production nearly 60 percent.
3. Use inputs more strategically. Current use of water, nutrients and agriculture chemicals suffer from what the research team calls “Goldilocks’ Problem”: too much in some places, too little in others, rarely just right. Strategic reallocation could substantially boost the benefit we get from precious inputs.
4. Shift diets. Growing animal feed or biofuels on top croplands, no matter how efficiently, is a drain on human food supply. Dedicating croplands to direct human food production could boost calories produced per person by nearly 50 percent. Even shifting non-food uses such as animal feed or biofuel production away from prime cropland could make a big difference.
5. Reduce waste. One-third of the food farms produce ends up discarded, spoiled or eaten by pests. Eliminating waste in the path from farm to mouth could boost food available for consumption another 50 percent.

“Many scholars and thinkers have proposed solutions to global food and environmental problems. But they were often fragmented, only looking at one aspect of the problem at one time. I always wondered whether these proposed solutions were enough to solve the problem,” said Navin Ramankutty, associate professor of geography at McGill University and one of the team’s leaders.

“What’s new and exciting here is that we considered solutions to feeding our growing world and solving the global environmental crisis of agriculture at the same time,” Foley said. “We focused the world’s best scientific data and models on this problem, showing where, when and how they could be most effective. No one has done this before.”

To move from today’s insufficient food system to one that can, and does, feed us all without compromising the environment, the research team also recommends:

1. Focus on improving agricultural systems where major improvements in food production or environmental protection come with the least expense and effort.
2. Pursue approaches that are resilient – that can adapt to the unexpected circumstances that undoubtedly will arise along the way.
3. Develop better tools for evaluating costs and benefits of alternatives, so the choices we make clearly move us toward better food security and environmental sustainability.
4. Favor the outcome, not the approach. Take the best of conventional and organic agriculture, industrial farming, local production, biotechnology and more to create a sustainably intensified global food system.

Foley says, “Food and nutrition for 9 billion people without compromising the global environment will be one of the greatest challenges our civilization has ever faced. It will require the imagination, determination and hard work of countless people from all over the world, embarked on one of the most important causes in history. So let’s work together to make it happen. There is no time to lose.”



## U of M Homecoming 2011 highlights community service opportunities

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University of Minnesota Student Unions & Activities and Homecoming 2011 welcome the university campus community and the Twin Cities area to get involved in community service opportunities during Homecoming week, Oct. 16-22.

### October 12, 2011

University of Minnesota Student Unions & Activities and Homecoming 2011 welcome the university campus community and the Twin Cities area to get involved in community service opportunities during Homecoming week, Oct. 16-22. All community service events are open to the general public.

The week's highlights include:

"Thank U" is an event taking place Sunday, Oct. 16, that encourages all to give back to the U community by completing service projects in the surrounding neighborhoods. Food and entertainment will also be provided to volunteers. Groups or individuals may register online at [www.homecoming.umn.edu/thank-u/](http://www.homecoming.umn.edu/thank-u/).

In partnership with the American Red Cross, the nation's largest supplier of blood and blood products, Homecoming 2011 will be hosting two blood drive events. The blood drives will be on the East Bank campus at Coffman Union on Monday, Oct. 17, and on the St. Paul campus at the St. Paul Student Center on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

Homecoming 2011 will be partnering with Emergency Foodshelf Network to collect canned good items from Friday, Oct. 14 to Saturday, Oct. 22. Drop-off locations include the information desks at Coffman Union and the St. Paul Student Center. Homecoming 2011 event attendees can also bring canned good items to all events. Incentives for donating canned goods will be given out at some events, including Gopherfest and the cheer competition.

Since 1914, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, has celebrated Homecoming, a week dedicated to honoring the spirit of the maroon and gold. This celebration brings the campus community together with events such as a campus-wide scavenger hunt, cheer and lip sync competitions, sports competitions, community service events, pep rallies and of course the Homecoming parade and football game.

For more information, please visit the Homecoming website at [www.homecoming.umn.edu](http://www.homecoming.umn.edu).

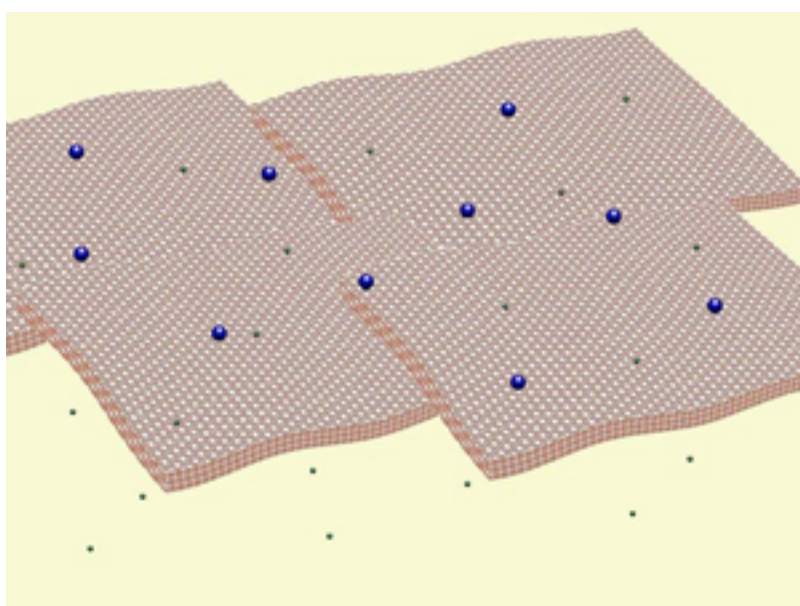
## University of Minnesota discovery could make fuel and plastics production more energy efficient and cost effective

Breakthrough culminates a decade's worth of research

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U of M researchers developed “carpets” of flaky crystal-type nanosheets that can be used to separate molecules as a sieve or as a membrane barrier in both research and industrial applications to save money and energy.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/12/2011) —A University of Minnesota team of researchers has overcome a major hurdle in the quest to design a specialized type of molecular sieve that could make the production of gasoline, plastics and various chemicals more cost effective and energy efficient. The breakthrough research, led by chemical engineering and materials science professor Michael Tsapatsis in the university's College of Science and Engineering, is published in the most recent issue of the journal *Science*.

After more than a decade of research, the team devised a means for developing free-standing, ultra-thin zeolite nanosheets that as thin films can speed up the filtration process and require less energy. The team has a provisional patent and hopes to commercialize the technology.

“In addition to research on new renewable fuels, chemicals and natural plastics, we also need to look at the production processes of these and other products we use now and try to find ways to save energy,” Tsapatsis said.

Separating mixed substances can demand considerable amounts of energy—currently estimated to be approximately 15 percent of the total energy consumption—part of which is wasted due to process inefficiencies. In days of abundant and inexpensive fuel, this was not a major consideration when designing industrial separation processes such as distillation for purifying gasoline and polymer precursors. But as energy prices rise and policies promote efficiency, the need for more energy-efficient alternatives has grown.

One promising option for more energy-efficient separations is high-resolution molecular separation with membranes. They are based on preferential adsorption and/or sieving of molecules with minute size and shape differences. Among the candidates for selective separation membranes, zeolite materials (crystals with molecular-sized pores) show particular promise.

While zeolites have been used as adsorbents and catalysts for several decades, there have been substantial challenges in processing zeolitic materials into extended sheets that remain intact. To enable energy-savings technology, scientists needed to develop cost-effective, reliable and scalable deposition methods for thin film zeolite formation.

The University of Minnesota team used sound waves in a specialized centrifuge process to develop “carpets” of flaky crystal-type nanosheets that are not only flat, but have just the right amount of thickness. The resulting product can be used to separate molecules as a sieve or as a membrane barrier in both research and industrial applications.

“We think this discovery holds great promise in commercial applications,” said Kumar Varoon, a University of Minnesota chemical engineering and materials science Ph.D. candidate and one of the primary authors of the paper published in *Science*. “This material has good coverage and is very thin. It could significantly reduce production costs in refineries and save energy.”

Members of the research team include Ph.D. candidates Kumar Varoon and Xueyi Zhang; postdoctoral fellows Bahman Elyassi and Cgun-Yi Sung; former students and Ph.D. graduates Damien Brewer, Sandeep Kumar, J. Alex Lee and Sudeep Maheshwari, graduate student Anudha Mittal; former undergraduate student Melissa Gettel; and faculty members Matteo Cococcioni, Lorraine Francis, Alon McCormick, K. Andre Mkhoyan and Michael Tsapatsis.

This research is being funded by the United States Department of Energy (including the Carbon Sequestration Program and the Catalysis Center for Energy Innovation – An Energy Frontier Center), the National Science Foundation and a variety of University of Minnesota partners.

To read the full research paper in *Science*, visit <http://z.umn.edu/nanosheets>.

Gov. Dayton  
to be  
recognized as  
Advocate of  
the Year by  
University of  
Minnesota  
Alumni  
Association  
Oct. 20

Also honored will be  
top volunteers,  
groups and programs

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Gov. Mark Dayton will be awarded the Advocate of the Year award for his efforts to preserve funding to the University of Minnesota and emphasize its pivotal role within the state.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/12/2011) —The University of Minnesota Alumni Association will honor its outstanding alumni volunteers, groups and programs Thursday, Oct. 20 at the 2011 Alumni Awards Celebration in the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. The event begins with a 5:30 p.m. reception, followed by a 6 p.m. dinner and program.

“The University of Minnesota community benefits in many ways from the valuable contributions of its dedicated alumni, and we are honored to annually recognize individuals who devote their time and talent to promote the university,” said Phil Esten, president and chief executive officer of the Alumni Association.

This year, in addition to the annual awards presented, Gov. Mark Dayton will be awarded the Advocate of the Year award for his efforts to preserve funding to the University of Minnesota and emphasize its pivotal role within the state.

“Governor Dayton has time and again demonstrated his passion for higher education, and he has gone above and beyond in advocating for the University of Minnesota this past year,” Esten said.

Six groups and three additional individuals will receive Alumni Association awards in recognition of contributing to the mission of the association by connecting alumni, students and friends in support of the university during the past year. For outstanding overall programming, the Outstanding Alumni Society award goes to the College of Pharmacy Alumni Society and the Outstanding Alumni Chapter award goes to Arizona West Valley.

Receiving Program Extraordinaire awards for outstanding and creative, innovative and engaging activities are the College of Design Alumni Society; the College of Liberal Arts Alumni Society; the College of Education and Human Development Alumni Society; and the Southwest Florida Chapter.

The Faculty/Staff Volunteer of the Year award goes to Roger Caspers from the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. Student Volunteer of the Year awards will go to Katrina Sacchetti from the College of Pharmacy and Hannah Rusch from the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is a nearly 60,000-member organization dedicated to engaging the University of Minnesota’s global community to support and advance the university’s excellence. For more information, visit [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org).

## Archie Givens, Jr. honored by the University of Minnesota for leadership and service

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/13/2011) —Archie Givens, Jr. will be honored by the University of Minnesota Alumni Association Oct. 20 for his outstanding volunteer service and leadership to the organization.

Givens will receive the Alumni Service Award at the Alumni Awards Celebration, held as part of the Homecoming 2011 festivities. The award honors long-time service and a legacy of volunteerism.

“Archie has been a dedicated and passionate supporter of the University of Minnesota for many years,” said Phil Esten, president and chief executive officer of the Alumni Association. “He has led with humble honesty and heartfelt desire to guide the Alumni Association and serve the university in the best way possible.”

A graduate of the College of Liberal Arts and the School of Public Health, Givens was a member of the Golden Gopher football team from 1963 until 1966. During his tenure as president of the Alumni Association’s national board of directors, Givens proudly represented the organization as the university community celebrated the return of Gopher football to campus with the opening of TCF Bank Stadium.

Givens was first elected to the board as an at-large representative in 2002. He then served as vice president from 2004-2007, first vice president in 2007-2008, president-elect in 2008-2009, national president in 2009-2010 and past president in 2010-2011. In addition, Givens served as chair of the association’s program committee for several years.

As president of the Givens Foundation for African American Literature, his commitment to literacy and education is unyielding and his family’s contributions to the university have made a significant impact. The Archie Givens, Sr. Collection of African American Literature at the University of Minnesota Libraries provides students, teachers and the public with the opportunity to learn from a rich collection of African American literature pieces.

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is a nearly 60,000-member organization dedicated to engaging the University of Minnesota’s global community to support and advance the university’s excellence. For more information, go to [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org).

## Doctor and international health activist Joia Mukherjee to speak on UN's Millenium Development Goals Oct. 17

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**October 13, 2011**

Dr. Joia Mukherjee will present “Pursuing the Human Rights Framework: Strategies to meet the Millennium Development Goals” at 12 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 17, in Coffman Union, Mississippi Room, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Mukherjee will discuss progress, setbacks and strategies towards meeting the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goals. Adopted by 189 nations in 2000, the Millennium Development Goals provide concrete, numerical benchmarks for tackling extreme poverty in its many dimensions. This pledge became the eight Millennium Development Goals to be achieved by 2015.

Since 2000, Mukherjee has served as the Chief Medical Director of Partners In Health, an international medical charity with clinical programs in Haiti, Rwanda, Lesotho, Malawi, Peru, Mexico, Russia and inner city Boston.

After the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti, Mukherjee treated more than 800 earthquake patients within 24 hours of arriving in the country. She helped establish Partners In Health’s program in rural Haiti to treat patients with HIV. The program has become a model for the World Health Organization and other global AIDS initiatives.

Mukherjee is also an associate professor at Harvard Medical School where she teaches medical students, residents and fellows in the fields of infectious disease, global health and health disparities.

This event, free and open to the public, is part of the Magraw-Fuller Lecture Series. The Magraw-Fuller Lecture Series was established through the generous support of a College of Liberal Arts alumna and aims to improve the communication skills of pre-med and pre-health students through interdisciplinary topics in the liberal arts.

## University of Minnesota sees continued improvement in freshman class

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**October 13, 2011**

The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities saw the highest-ever ACT scores, high school class rank and number of National Merit Scholars in this year's freshman class, according to the university's report today to the U of M Board of Regents.

"We are proud of the Class of 2015, the best first-year class ever to enter the University of Minnesota," said university President Eric Kaler. "Even as we work to attract academically exceptional students, we must also strive to keep the U accessible to all qualified Minnesota students. And our commitment to access must promote diversity among our student body."

The average ACT composite score of the freshman class rose to 27.5, up from 27.2 last year and 25.2 in 2006. High school rank average went up to 85.5 percent, from 85.2 percent last year and 83.2 percent in 2006. There are 166 National Merit Scholars among the freshmen, more than any other public Big Ten university. There were 101 scholars last year and 75 in 2006.

In fall 2011, the Twin Cities campus received 39,721 applications for 5,386 spots in the freshman class. Total Twin Cities undergraduate enrollment is 30,610, graduate enrollment is 13,562 and professional school enrollment is 3,625. Systemwide enrollment has reached 69,221, up 1.9 percent from last year's 67,932 students.

Of special note is the university's Honors Program, now in its fourth year. The 2,500 students in the Honors Program have credentials matching and exceeding those of students at such prestigious schools as MIT and Stanford. "This new signature program is doing just what we wanted it to do," said university Senior Vice President and Provost Tom Sullivan. "It is helping the university keep the very best and brightest students in the state of Minnesota by providing them with a uniquely powerful and challenging educational experience."

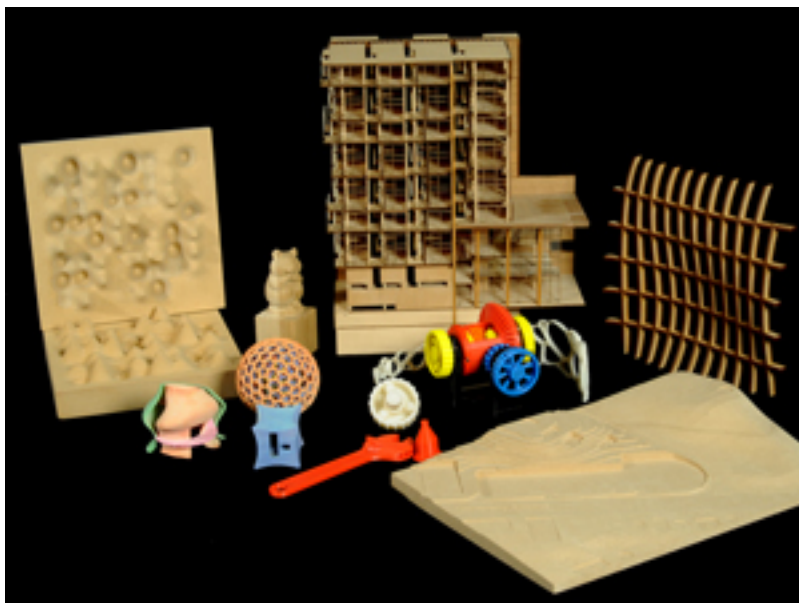
## U of M College of Design's DigiFabLab officially opens Oct. 14

Stratasys  
contribution makes  
university's latest lab  
unique

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DigiFabLab allows students to explore additive and subtractive prototyping and manufacturing technologies, and includes 3D printers, laser cutting systems and CNC milling equipment.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/13/2011) —This Friday, Oct. 14, marks the official grand opening of the College of Design's Digital Fabrication Lab, or DigiFabLab – a state-of-the-art digital prototyping and fabrication facility. The DigiFabLab allows students to explore additive and subtractive prototyping and manufacturing technologies, and includes 3D printers, laser cutting systems and CNC milling equipment.

It is located in Rapson Hall, on the University of Minnesota's Minneapolis campus.

The Eden Prairie, Minn.-based Stratasys corporation – the inventor and world's largest manufacturer of fused deposition modeling (FDM) equipment – has generously donated over \$50,000 in 3D printing equipment, including a Dimension SST 1200 printer and associated materials, for the DigiFabLab.

"I'm grateful our commitment to creativity and advancing technologies is shared with terrific community partners like Stratasys," College of Design Dean Tom Fisher said. "We're preparing students to confront the real challenges of the future, and the new DigiFabLab will allow them to not only conceive unique ideas, but test and implement those ideas as well."

"Education in 3D printing is catching on," Stratasys CEO Scott Crump said. "We're proud to support the U of M College of Design Digital Fabrication Lab, and we look forward to seeing the students' innovative creations."

Product design students at the college will also be touring the Stratasys facilities this week to get a better understanding of the full range of their 3D printing capabilities. The DigiFabLab in Rapson Hall will give these and other students an important tool in the design process.

"A key to developing successful products is rapid iteration," says product design assistant professor Barry Kudrowitz. "Teams that test and iterate more in the early stages of design will have better, more refined concepts. Having in-house 3D printing technology, like the Stratasys machines, will allow students to prototype their ideas faster and more often."

Late last month Stratasys announced an expansion of their facilities that doubles the size of their existing operations. For more information on the Eden Prairie manufacturer, visit [www.stratasys.com](http://www.stratasys.com).

In the coming weeks, the College of Design will unveil a first-of-its-kind virtual reality installation, to be located in the Rapson Hall courtyard. While the space is currently under construction, once complete, it will be the largest virtual reality facility of its type at an educational institution in the country. The space will host state-of-the-art cameras and equipment, and will provide interdisciplinary learning experiences for the entire University of Minnesota.

## University of Minnesota launches "Driven to Discover" 2011 marketing campaign

Ads focus on the value and distinctiveness of the student experience at the U

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This year's campaign ads focus on the value and distinctiveness of the student experience at the U.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/14/2011) —University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler today presented the Board of Regents with the university's 2011 "Driven to Discover" marketing campaign.

This year's campaign ads focus on the value and distinctiveness of the student experience at the U. They are an evolution of previous years' Driven to Discover themes and have a youthful feel, signaling a renewed commitment to the student experience. The spots will begin to air October 16 for two months.

"The ultimate goal of the campaign lines up directly with the U's mission," Kaler said. "We want the public to understand and embrace our educational mission and to become aware of the many ways the university supports our students."

The second layer of the campaign will start in November. The university will ask students to submit a 30-second video about how they are driven to discover. Videos will be judged via Facebook "likes" and winners will be awarded \$30,000 in scholarships.

"Marketing is an essential business practice used by higher education institutions – both public and private - in Minnesota and across the country," Ann Aronson, the university's assistant vice president for marketing said. "It's just one of many ways the university can communicate its value to the state and its residents. Marketing is essential for public engagement and private gift development and is an effective way of informing the public about the University of Minnesota."

The TV ads star university faculty, students and alumni:

- Marla Spivak, a College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences entomologist who is developing practical applications to protect honey bee populations from decimation by disease while making fundamental contributions to our understanding of bee biology. She received a MacArthur Foundation "genius grant" in 2010.
- Ricardo Vazquez, a recent Bachelor of Fine Arts graduate and Twin Cities actor.
- Carl Flink, chair of the College of Liberal Arts' Department of Theatre Arts and Dance and the Nadine Jette Sween Professor of Dance. He is founder and artistic director of the Minneapolis-based performance group Black Label Movement.
- Sommer Walters, a first-year College of Liberal Arts student and dancer from Brooklyn Park.

In addition to the ads, the campaign will feature airport baggage carousel displays at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport wrapped with messaging, a first-ever tactic for the airport. Other tactics include floor clings and scoreboard displays at TCF Bank Stadium, umn.edu home page stories and social media activities.

Minneapolis-based OLSON, an independent agency, created the campaign for the U. OLSON has been the university's agency partner since the campaign was first launched in 2006. The campaign will cost \$850,000 total; less than half what was spent in previous years.



## New Humphrey School of Public Affairs Dean Eric Schwartz to give first public address Oct. 18

**What:** Discussion of humanitarianism, reception opportunity to meet new Humphrey School Dean Eric Schwartz

**When:** Tuesday, Oct. 18; 5 p.m. remarks, 6 p.m. reception

**Where:** Cowles Auditorium and Atrium, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

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### October 14, 2011

Eric Schwartz, the new dean of the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, will deliver his first public address at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18. Schwartz's first day at the Humphrey School was Oct. 12.

Schwartz, who recently left his post as assistant secretary in the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration at the U.S. Department of State, will deliver a speech, "Saving Lives, Securing Interests: Reflections on Humanitarian Response and U.S. Foreign Policy."

Schwartz has 25 years of senior public service experience at the Department of State, the National Security Council, the United Nations and the U.S. Congress, as well as in the foundation and NGO communities. Schwartz served for many years as a visiting lecturer of public and international affairs at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School and was the school's first practitioner in residence.

RSVPs are requested at <http://schwartzspeech.eventbrite.com>.

## Changing Arctic in the spotlight Oct. 27

Symposium presented by the Consulate General of Canada, the Will Steger Foundation and the University of Minnesota will explore international cooperation and development in the Arctic

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### October 17, 2011

Recent Arctic research shows summer sea ice reached one of the lowest levels on record this year. Changes to the environment coupled with other social and economic factors are leading to an array of questions facing Arctic nations.

Who owns the vast resources beneath the Arctic Ocean? What's the role of international cooperation and diplomacy in the far north? How will climate change impact Arctic waterways, infrastructure and ecosystems? How will changes and developments in the Arctic increasingly impact Minnesota?

Experts from Canada and the United States will address these and other questions at the symposium "The Changing Arctic: International Cooperation and Development."

The event will take place on Oct. 27 in the Cowles Auditorium at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, and is being organized by the Consulate General of Canada, the Will Steger Foundation, the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment and the Center for Science, Technology and Public Policy at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Consul General Martin Loken and polar explorer Will Steger will provide opening remarks to kick-off the half-day symposium.

"Canada and the United States have long collaborated in the Arctic as neighbors and friends," said Consul General Loken. "Now the region is transforming in many ways, presenting both challenges and opportunities for our two countries and others in the international community. This event is a unique opportunity to explore these issues with distinguished experts from Canada, the U.S. and elsewhere."

"The Arctic has been my home for over 45 years," said explorer Will Steger. "To survive in these lands, I have become intimately familiar with their vast landscapes, wildlife, and climates. The changes I see deeply affect me in a way neither a scientific study nor a satellite image could. Climate change is having very real implications on the Arctic ecosystem and will affect our economy, security, international relationships and way of life. This symposium provides a unique opportunity to delve deeper into what a changing Arctic means for all of us."

Speakers from universities in Canada and United States, the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and the Swedish government are scheduled to participate in the conference. Whitney Lackenbauer, renowned Arctic author and professor at the University of Waterloo, will provide a keynote address and Commander Mary Ellen Durley of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Alder will summarize her ship's participation in joint naval exercises in the Arctic with Canadian and Danish ships in 2010.

Press passes are available for members of the media. Please contact Christine Davis, Consulate General of Canada, [christine.davis@international.gc.ca](mailto:christine.davis@international.gc.ca), (612) 492-2903, for more information.

To learn more about the conference, visit <http://z.umn.edu/arcticconference>.

## Minn. teachers to be honored for excellence in teaching students about money Oct. 20

**Media Note:** The event begins at 4:30 p.m.; a reception takes place from 5:30 to 6:30. Narayana Kocherlakota's speech is expected to begin at about 6:45 p.m., with awards following. For access and security clearance at the Federal Reserve Bank, contact Jane Stockman.

**When:** 4 to 8:15 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20

**Where:** Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, 90 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis

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Jane Stockman, Department of Applied Economics, [stoc0053@umn.edu](mailto:stoc0053@umn.edu), (612) 624-5707

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### October 17, 2011

Fourteen Minnesota economics and personal finance teachers will be honored for excellence in teaching at the Minnesota Council on Economic Education's annual EconFest this week.

EconFest includes mini-seminars highlighting the teachers' innovative learning activities as well as awards and a speech by Narayana Kocherlakota, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and former professor and chair of the University of Minnesota's Department of Economics.

Teaching award recipients are from Buffalo, Farmington, Melrose, Mounds View, Northfield, Robbinsdale, Mounds View, Rush City, St. James, St. Paul and Stewartville school districts.

MCEE is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization based at the University of Minnesota, with a network of six Centers for Economic Education located at the Minnesota state universities in Moorhead, Mankato, and St. Cloud, the University of St. Thomas and both the Duluth and Twin Cities campuses of the University of Minnesota. Its mission is to provide Minnesotans with the economic and financial understanding they need to function effectively in a complex, global environment. For more information, visit [www.mcee.umn.edu](http://www.mcee.umn.edu).

## University of Minnesota robots to join search for invasive species

\$2.2 million NSF grant funds development of robotic boats to track nonnative carp

**Media Note:** View video of prototype robotic boats in action at



Researchers have been awarded \$2.2 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop robotic boats and train them to locate and follow radio-tagged carp as part of a new approach to controlling populations of the nonnative fish.

[z.umn.edu/carptracker](http://z.umn.edu/carptracker).

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/17/2011) —Computer scientists and biologists from the University of Minnesota and two other universities are teaming up with robots to tackle a major invader of rivers, wetlands and lakes across the United States—the common carp.

Researchers from the University of Minnesota, Johns Hopkins University and Central State University in Ohio have been awarded \$2.2 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop robotic boats and train them to locate and follow radio-tagged carp as part of a new approach to controlling populations of the nonnative fish.

The team is led by computer science and engineering associate professor Volkan Isler in the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering and resident fellow of the Institute on the Environment. He is joined by computer science and engineering associate professor Stergios Roumeliotis, also from the College of Science and Engineering, and fish biology professor Peter Sorensen from the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

"The project touches a lot of very difficult theoretical robotics problems I've been working on for 10 years," Isler said. "At the same time, it allows us to do something useful for society so I'm very excited about it."

Introduced from Eastern Europe more than a century ago, the common carp is a huge threat to lake and wetland health because adult carp uproot aquatic plants and foul the water with their bottom-feeding behavior. Hundreds of thousands of acres of waterfowl habitat and hundreds of Minnesota lakes have been lost to this species. Conventional control often involves large-scale use of poisons but rarely succeeds.

The robotic boats will be able to study carp movement patterns in large lakes and help develop attractants so this species can be located when adult carp form large groups that swim together, called shoals. Sorensen's laboratory has already discovered that when carp form huge shoals they can be netted and removed with very high efficiency. However, finding and controlling these aggregations from conventional boats is expensive and nearly impossible.

The project is an offshoot of work Isler began several years ago with Sorensen. The two used funding from the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment and the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund to build and test a prototype robotic boat. Using the new NSF funds, the project team will develop the next generation of the technology, in which multiple robots will collaborate to quickly find and accurately localize the fish. They will then deploy the robots in Minnesota and eventually in larger and more remote regions where control is especially difficult. The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon, which was founded by Teddy Roosevelt for migrating birds that use the Pacific flyway but is now overrun by carp, is of special interest.

Isler eventually plans to install solar panels on the robotic boats so they can be self-powered. He also hopes to apply robotics technology to a variety of other natural resource management challenges, such as water and soil quality monitoring.

His long-term plans are even loftier: to build a system for what he calls "Googling the Planet" (an idea he came up with co-investigator Andreas Terzis from Johns Hopkins University) that will allow scientists and others to send questions about conditions to any point on the surface of the Earth and receive an answer from a robot positioned in the vicinity.

"Googling the Planet will enable scientists to query nature just like they query the Internet," Isler says. "That's the grand vision."

For more information about the carp tracking project, visit the University of Minnesota Robotic Sensors Network Lab web page at [z.umn.edu/carptracking](http://z.umn.edu/carptracking).

## University of Minnesota Homecoming 2011 Parade is Oct. 21

**What:** University of Minnesota Homecoming 2011 Parade

**When:** 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21

**Where:** 15th Avenue S.E. and University Avenue S.E., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** Molly Gale, Student Unions & Activities,

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The University of Minnesota and Student Unions & Activities present the Homecoming 2011 Parade, which kicks off at 7pm Friday, Oct. 21. The parade will travel down University Avenue, beginning at 15th Avenue.

### October 18, 2011

The University of Minnesota and Student Unions & Activities present the Homecoming 2011 Parade, which kicks off at 7pm Friday, Oct. 21. The parade will travel down University Avenue, beginning at 15th Avenue.

This year will feature Grand Marshal Coach Jerry Kill, represented in the parade by his mother Sonja, wife Rebecca and two daughters, Krystal and Tasha. Coach Kill will be present to address the crowd at the Pep Fest following the parade in TCF Bank Stadium.

Following the parade, the U of M will be hosting "Pep Fest: Featuring a Performance by Atmosphere" at TCF Bank stadium. New this year, attendees must purchase tickets to attend pep fest. Tickets are available at [mygophersports.com](http://mygophersports.com).

Other notable guests in this year's Homecoming Parade include university President Eric Kaler and his wife, Karen, Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Goldy Gopher and the current and alumni marching bands and spirit squads. Additionally, over 80 unique entries will travel down University Avenue, ranging from the men's gymnastics team to the Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity, which includes 73 brothers from 30 different nationalities. Lining University Avenue will also be the traditional house fronts made out of maroon and gold pomp.

Jerry Kill was named head coach of the University of Minnesota football program on December 7, 2010. He came to Minnesota after spending three seasons on the sidelines at Northern Illinois University. Coach Kill led the Huskies to three consecutive bowl games during his tenure. In addition to winning on the field, Kill's tenure at Northern Illinois included high achievement in the classroom. In his first two seasons at Northern Illinois, his team compiled the highest cumulative grade-point averages in school history.

Since 1914, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, has celebrated Homecoming, a week dedicated to honoring the spirit of the maroon and gold. This celebration brings the campus community together with events such as a campus-wide scavenger hunt, cheer and lip sync competitions, sports competitions, community service events, pep rallies and the Homecoming parade and football game.

Visit the homecoming website at [homecoming.umn.edu](http://homecoming.umn.edu).

## Organic farming thought leader Fred Kirschenmann to speak at U of M Nov. 10 on "Water and the Challenges Facing U.S. and World Agriculture in the 21st Century"

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**October 18, 2011**

Fred Kirschenmann, a national leader in the organic food and farming movement, will deliver the sixth lecture in the annual Moos Family Speaker Series at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10 in the St. Paul Student Center Theater, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

Kirschenmann is a distinguished fellow at Iowa State University's Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture. He will speak on "Water and the Challenges Facing U.S. and World Agriculture in the 21st Century."

The event is sponsored by the Freshwater Society and the University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences. It is free and open to the public. Seating is limited. Visit [www.freshwater.org/2011Kirschenmann/](http://www.freshwater.org/2011Kirschenmann/) to register and reserve your place.

There are many ways to describe Kirschenmann: philosopher, farmer, author and advocate. In addition to his work at the Leopold Center, he is president of the board of directors of the Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture in Pocantico Hills, N.Y. He wrote *Cultivating an Ecological Conscience: Essays from a Farmer Philosopher*, published in 2010 by the University Press of Kentucky. This year, he was honored by the James Beard Foundation for "lifelong work on sustainable food and farming systems."

The message of his lecture, Kirschenmann says, will be that serious changes must be made in the way America and the world grow food.

A series of crises -- the drawing down of groundwater reserves around the world; depletion of fossil fuels; looming shortages in two basic agricultural fertilizers, phosphorus and potassium; and a changing climate -- are occurring at the same time that population growth and changing diets around the world are increasing demand for food.

Organic agriculture, the kind Kirschenmann long has advocated and practiced on his own 2,400-acre farm in North Dakota, is not enough of an answer, he says. Nor is any single technological fix.

For the past century, he says, agriculture has been designed as an industrial operation, assuming that the natural resources to fuel that industry and the sinks in nature to absorb its wastes would always be in sufficient supply. Tomorrow's agriculture has to be designed to mimic nature, with the intention to make it more resilient and largely self-renewing.

Kirschenmann's lecture is part of the Moos Family Speaker Series, which honors the late Malcolm Moos, president of the University of Minnesota from 1967 to 1974.

### **About the University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences**

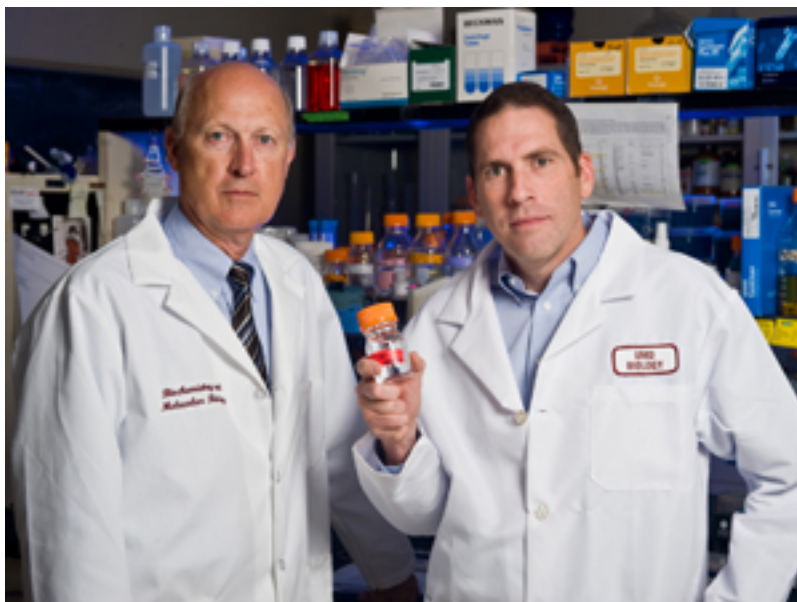
The College of Biological Sciences provides education and conducts research in all areas of biology, from molecules to ecosystems, supporting applications in medicine, renewable energy, ecosystem management, agriculture and biotechnology. For more information about research and degree programs, go to [www.cbs.umn.edu/](http://www.cbs.umn.edu/).

### **About the Freshwater Society**

The Freshwater Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating and inspiring people to value, conserve and protect all water resources. Located in Excelsior, Minn., adjacent to Lake Minnetonka, it has a long history of association with the University of Minnesota. Learn more at [www.freshwater.org](http://www.freshwater.org).

## New U of M startup may save lives of victims of massive blood loss and trauma

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 Michelle Juntunen, University of Minnesota Medical School-Duluth,



Researchers at the Twin Cities and Duluth campuses — including biologist Matthew Andrews (right) and biomedical scientist Lester Drewes (left) — designed a low-volume resuscitation fluid that may increase the survival rates of people who die from hemorrhagic shock.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/18/2011) —A new technology from the University of Minnesota has resulted in a startup that may help prolong the lives of victims suffering from massive blood loss or trauma. The university's Office for Technology Commercialization has signed a license agreement with Denver-based Ariel Pharmaceuticals authorizing the private company to develop and commercialize the therapy.

Researchers at the Twin Cities and Duluth campuses — including surgeon Gregory Beilman, biologist Matthew Andrews and biomedical scientist Lester Drewes — designed a low-volume resuscitation fluid that may increase the survival rates of people who die from hemorrhagic shock. They developed the therapy, called Tamiastyn, based on their studies of the biological process of hibernation in ground squirrels (gophers).

“We’re excited to have the opportunity to further develop the technology and we’re confident this unique therapeutic approach will provide patients with a better chance of survival,” said Steve Orndorff, president and CEO of Ariel Pharmaceuticals.

The technology could offer first responders, emergency department staff and military medics a simple, safe and reliable product that prevents life-threatening complications due to severe blood loss. At the same time, it could help prevent organ damage during resuscitation.

“Licensing with a private pharmaceutical company is the next step in bringing this drug to the marketplace and, more importantly, in bringing this drug first into the hands of the military personnel in harm’s way,” said Andrews. “Ariel Pharmaceuticals’ expertise will shepherd our proposed therapy through the clinical approval to the point that our research begins to save lives.”

## U of M Law School hosts "Citizens United: Democracy Realized or Defeated?" symposium Oct. 21

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/18/2011) —The University of Minnesota Law School's Minnesota Law Review will host its annual symposium, "Citizens United: Democracy Realized—or Defeated?," from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, in Room 25 of Mondale Hall, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Leading academics, political scientists and practicing attorneys from across the country will discuss the Supreme Court's landmark campaign finance decision, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*.

The symposium will examine the state of political processes and the legal landscape after the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that the First Amendment does not permit limits on corporate funding of independent political broadcasts in elections. The 5-4 decision has caused considerable controversy in the already-hot debate over political contributions. Ideally poised to reflect on the decision and its effects on upcoming elections, the symposium will address diverse issues via panels of experts and legal scholars representing perspectives from all sides of the debate—from a needed victory for free speech to a devastating nod to corporate interests.

The first panel, "Citizens United: Right or Wrong," is composed of professor Richard Briffault of Columbia Law School, professor Guy-Uriel Charles of Duke University School of Law and Cleta Mitchell, a campaign finance attorney at Foley & Lardner L.L.P. and author of an amicus curiae brief in support of *Citizens United*. Examination of the merits of the decision, with a focus on substantial legal questions in the sea of public policy arguments presented in the media, will be moderated by U of M Law School professor Heidi Kitrosser.

The second panel, "Don't Look Now! Citizens United: An Empirical Analysis," moderated by Lawrence Jacobs, chair of political studies at the University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs, will analyze the political impact of the *Citizens United* decision with a focus on the numbers—money raised, television bought and races won. The panel features professor Kenneth Goldstein of the political science department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Mike Wittenwyler, an administrative and regulatory attorney at Godfrey & Kahn S.C. and an adjunct professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School.

The final panel, "After *Citizens United* is Campaign Finance Reform a Phoenix—or the Titanic?," will address the decision's effects and the future of campaign financing. Panelist James Bopp Jr., a campaign finance attorney at Bopp, Coleson & Bostrom and lead counsel for *Citizens United* in the lower courts, generally holds that judicial elections preserve judicial independence and enhance judicial accountability. Panelist Spencer Overton, a professor at George Washington University Law School, has spoken on the importance of an effective public financing system, and will point out the flaws of past systems in light of the Court's *Arizona Free Enterprise Club v. Bennett*. U of M Law School professor William McGeeveran will moderate the discussion.

The symposium is open to the public free of charge, but registration is required due to space limitations. Walk-in registration will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. A reception will follow the event. Attendance has been approved for 5.5 standard CLE credits.

For details and registration information, go to [www.minnesotalawreview.org/2011/03/symposia-2/](http://www.minnesotalawreview.org/2011/03/symposia-2/).



## University launches new Wind Energy Research Station at UMore Park Oct. 25 with ceremonial 'flip of the switch'

Wind energy consortium is one of only three in the nation

**Media Note:** A special media tour of the wind turbine is available upon request from 11 a.m. to noon Monday, Oct. 24. Contact Julie Bodurtha at [jgb@umn.edu](mailto:jgb@umn.edu) or Rhonda Zurn at [rzurn@umn.edu](mailto:rzurn@umn.edu) to make arrangements.

A time-lapse video of the wind turbine construction is available at <http://z.umn.edu/turbinetimeline>.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/19/2011) —United States Department of Energy (DOE) officials, energy industry partners, wind energy researchers, political leaders, University administrators and hundreds of local school children will watch the ceremonial “flip of the switch” to start up a 263-foot-tall wind turbine at the University of Minnesota’s new Wind Energy Research Station at UMore Park.

The public commissioning ceremony is 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, at the Wind Energy Research Station on the eastern edge of the UMore Park property in Rosemount, Minn., a 5,000-acre University-owned property in Dakota County (approximately 25 miles southeast of the Twin Cities campus).

The event is free and open to the public, but registration is recommended. To register and for directions to the site, visit [www.eolos.umn.edu/rsvp](http://www.eolos.umn.edu/rsvp).

Following the formal ceremony, guests will be invited to take a self-guided walking tour of the facilities, including the new wind turbine and a 426-foot meteorological research tower. On display will be a wide range of exhibits on University wind research, local educational opportunities in renewable energy careers, state-of-the art research technology and plans for a sustainable community at UMore Park.

The University of Minnesota was one of three university consortia to be awarded a DOE wind energy research grant in 2009. The \$7.9 million award to the university’s St. Anthony Falls Laboratory in the College of Science and Engineering, funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, supports an academy-industry consortium focused on wind energy research and education activities. It also includes construction of the U.S.-made 2.5 megawatt Clipper Liberty wind turbine. The Wind Energy Research Station will host active consortium research as well as education and training of next generation wind industry workers.

“This new Wind Energy Research Station is about promoting research collaboration between academia and industry to improve wind energy efficiency and reliability,” said Fotis Sotiropoulos, director of the St. Anthony Falls Lab and consortium leader. “An impressive array of consortium partners have come together to make this happen. This is about helping the nation reach the goal of producing 20 percent electricity from wind by 2030 through cutting-edge research and work force training.”

The consortium has stimulated new educational initiatives and helped establish collaborative research projects that are leading to acceleration of new wind power technologies. The ongoing research projects deal with capturing more energy from the wind, improving wind farm design, minimizing turbine impact on radar, reducing turbine noise, preventing ice build-up on blades, monitoring turbine performance and improving turbine blade structure. The facility is equipped with state-of-the-art instruments and sensors to simultaneously measure the approach wind fields and the impact wind has on the turbine structural reliability and wind energy capturing ability.

Consortium partners include the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Center for Compact and Efficient Fluid Power, Syracuse University, Dakota County Technical College, Mesabi Range Community and Technical College, 3M, Barr Engineering, Clipper Windpower LLC., United Technologies Research Center, Lockheed Martin, Micron Optics, Ryan Companies, WindLogics, Xcel Energy, Sandia National Laboratories and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. The University of Minnesota’s Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment and UMore Park provided early-stage research funding to support consortium collaborations.

For more information about the Wind Energy Research Consortium, visit [www.eolos.umn.edu](http://www.eolos.umn.edu).



The 263-foot-tall wind turbine at the University of Minnesota’s new Wind Energy Research Station at UMore Park will be publicly commissioned Tues. Oct 25.

## U of M to celebrate first annual nationwide Food Day Oct. 24

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/19/2011) —Monday, Oct. 24, marks the first annual Food Day, a nationwide initiative to promote healthy and sustainable food for all. A team of interdisciplinary students, faculty and staff at the University of Minnesota has organized a celebration that includes a food expo, a good food rally, presentations, a panel discussion and a film screening.

The food expo, held from 9 to 5 p.m. in the Great Hall of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, will showcase more than forty campus and community organizations that do “food work,” with an emphasis on how attendees can get involved and make a difference.

At 11:30 a.m., U of M senior vice president Robert Jones and Minneapolis Councilman Cam Gordon will lead the Good Food Rally and declare Oct. 24 Food Day in Minneapolis and St. Paul, discuss local food-related initiatives in the community and encourage students and community members to get involved.

Food will be provided from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by local businesses Birchwood Cafe and Common Roots Cafe.

There will be a variety of presentations and cooking demonstrations open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Campus Club on the fourth floor of Coffman Union. There will also be a screening of “Dirty Work: The Story of Elsie’s Farm,” a film about a year in the life of an organic farm in Wisconsin at 7 p.m. in the Science Teaching and Student Services building, Room 230. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion including the filmmaker.

Food Day activities at the U of M are led by the Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute and over ten other organizations and departments across campus. Food Day sponsors include: the U of M Office for Student Affairs, TCF Bank, the Coca-Cola Academic Initiative Grant, Whole Foods Market Minneapolis, the Red Stag Supper Club, Pepin Heights and the Campus Club. All Food Day activities are free and open to the public.

For more information and a full schedule of the day’s events, visit <http://www.hfhl.umn.edu> or “[Food Day – U of MN](#)” on Facebook.

## Testing to begin on U of M, Twin Cities' Campus Wide Emergency Alert System Oct. 24

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### October 21, 2011

Activation and testing work will begin on Monday, Oct. 24 on the university's new Campus Wide Emergency Alert System. The activation and testing is scheduled to run Monday, Oct. 24 through Thursday, Oct. 27. Testing will take place beginning at 8 a.m. and will end by 6 p.m.

The Campus Wide Emergency Alert System includes 21 outdoor loudspeakers mounted on poles and building rooftops on the West Bank, the East Bank and in St. Paul. The system will allow for an alert tone and vocal instructions in the event of a campus emergency.

Testing for the system will include an audible alert tone, followed up by a voice message stating "Attention! This is a test of the University of Minnesota Campus-Wide Emergency Alert System. This is only a test."

Each test should last only 30 seconds or so, but may last longer if necessary. The test schedule is listed below. A second round of testing is scheduled for early November and notice will be sent to the university community prior to those tests. The Campus Wide Emergency Alert System is expected to be operational by early November.

### Monday, Oct. 24

Green Hall  
Veterinary Medicine  
Veterinary Lab  
Food Science and Nutrition

### Tuesday, Oct. 25

Anderson Hall  
Rarig Center  
Frontier Hall  
Territorial Hall

### Wednesday, Oct. 26

University Rec Center  
Peik Hall  
Coffman Union  
Bierman Building  
Plant Growth

### Thursday, Oct. 27

2221 University Avenue  
West Bank Office Building

## U of M President Kaler to speak at Governor's Job Summit Oct. 25

**Who:** U of M President Eric Kaler

**What:** A speech on job creation, innovation and research at the Governor's Job Summit

**When:** Approximately 11:30 to 11:50 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25

**Where:** Crowne Plaza Riverfront Hotel, 11 East Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

### October 21, 2011

University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler will speak at Gov. Mark Dayton's Job Summit next Tuesday, Oct. 25.

Kaler will highlight the university's role as an economic engine and key partner of Minnesota's business community in statewide job creation and innovation. He will also discuss the university's technology transfer program.

Following his remarks, Kaler will introduce Michael Mandelbaum, coauthor with Minnesota native Thomas Friedman of "That Used to be Us: How America Fell Behind in the World It Invented and How We Can Come Back." Dayton will deliver the day's closing remarks.

For more information about the event, visit the Department of Employment and Economic Development's website at

[http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/Calendar\\_of\\_Events/Governors\\_Job\\_Summit\\_2011/index.aspx](http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/Calendar_of_Events/Governors_Job_Summit_2011/index.aspx).

## University of Minnesota conference to highlight renewable energy success stories

E3 2011 – scheduled for Nov. 7 – will feature research breakthroughs at the U of M, corporate success stories and Germany's path to becoming a global energy leader

**Media Note:** To receive E3 conference media passes, contact Mary Hoff at [maryhoff@umn.edu](mailto:maryhoff@umn.edu) or (612) 626-2670 in advance for the press registration code.

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

**October 24, 2011**

Despite the economic downturn of the past few years, enterprising researchers, companies and countries have found success in the renewable energy sector. What's their secret?

The "E3 2011: The Latest in Renewable Energy Innovation" conference, taking place Nov. 7 at McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Minneapolis, will provide answers.

Hosted by the university's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment, a program of the U of M's Institute on the Environment, the annual E3 conference explores the latest technical innovations, scientific breakthroughs and policy incentives in renewable energy. This year representatives from academia, business, industry, government, the media and other sectors will hear from entrepreneurs who are spearheading successful renewable energy ventures in the U.S. and abroad.

Events for the day include:

- A welcome from IREE managing director Dick Hemmingsen and university President Eric Kaler, followed by a brief look at IREE research from 2004 to today by IREE science director John Sheehan
- Industry success stories by executives from 3M, DuPont and Abengoa Bioenergy
- A presentation highlighting Germany's path to becoming a global renewable energy leader by Friedo Sielemann, counselor for energy and environment with the German Embassy in Washington, D.C.
- A reflection on the journey from student to energy professional by university alumnus Kevin Hennessy, associate scientist with the Agricultural Utilization Research Institute
- A keynote speech by Alexis Madrigal, senior editor at The Atlantic and host of The Atlantic's Technology Channel, on the business potential of green technology and how technology is changing humans' brains, consumption patterns and environments
- An afternoon filled with success stories and research breakthroughs from University of Minnesota faculty on green chemistry and sustainable polymers, using renewable resources to manage a campus's carbon footprint and solar in cold climates
- A poster session highlighting renewable energy research in bioenergy; solar, wind and geothermal energy; conservation and energy efficiency; policy, economics and the environment; and special topics
- A Renewable Energy Happy Hour with a special performance by the improvisational group Music of the Sun.

The E3 conference is presented by IREE in partnership with lead sponsor Faegre & Benson, keynote sponsor the Consulate General of Canada, media sponsor Twin Cities Business, conference greening sponsor Ever-Green Energy, Corporate Success Stories sponsor Frederickson and Byron, P.A. and numerous other supporters.

Visit <http://environment.umn.edu/e3> for the full conference agenda, registration details and speaker bios.

## Acclaimed novelist and poet to headline NOMMO African American Authors Series at U of M



**What:** Eighth annual  
NOMMO African  
American Authors  
Series

**Who:** Novelist  
Percival Everett and  
poet Elizabeth  
Alexander

**When:** Wednesday, Nov. 2, (Percival Everett); Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2012 (Elizabeth Alexander).  
Both events begin at 7 p.m.

**Where:** Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center, University of Minnesota West Bank  
campus, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/24/2011) —Two widely acclaimed contemporary African American writers have been selected for this year's NOMMO African American Authors series, co-sponsored by the Givens Foundation for African American Literature and the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries. Percival Everett and Elizabeth Alexander will read from and discuss their work with host Alexs Pate, U of M professor and author of the novel "Amistad" on Wednesday, Nov. 2, (Percival Everett) and Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2012 (Elizabeth Alexander) at 7 p.m. in Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, on the university's West Bank.

### About Percival Everett

Everett is the author of nearly twenty novels, three collections of short fiction and two volumes of poetry, including the recent collection "Swimming Swimmers Swimming". Among his novels are "Assumption" and "I Am Not Sidney Poitier," which won the Believer Book Award. Everett is also the recipient of the PEN Center USA Award for Fiction, the Academy Award from an American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award, the Vallombrosa Von Rezzori Prize, the PEN/Oakland-Josephine Miles Award for Excellence in Literature and a New American Writing Award. His stories have been included in the "Pushcart Prize Anthology" and "Best American Short Stories." He has served as a judge for, among others, the 1997 National Book Award for fiction and the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction in 1991. He teaches fiction writing and critical theory and is currently Distinguished Professor of English at the University of Southern California.

### About Elizabeth Alexander

Best known for composing and delivering President Barack Obama's inaugural poem "Praise Song for the Day," Alexander is a poet, essayist, playwright and teacher. Alexander has published five books of poems, including American Sublime, which was listed on the American Library Association's 2006 "Notable Books of the Year" and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize that same year. Her first young adult collection (co-authored with Marilyn Nelson), "Miss Crandall's School for Young Ladies and Little Misses of Color," received the 2008 Connecticut Book Award. Her two collections of essays are "The Black Interior" and "Power and Possibility," and her play "Diva Studies" was produced at the Yale School of Drama. She has also composed words for musical projects with composers Elana Ruehr and Lewis Spratlan.

Tickets are available for \$15 per event or \$25 for the two-event series. Complimentary tickets available to U of M students and Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries. Call (612) 624-2345 or visit [www.tickets.umn.edu](http://www.tickets.umn.edu).

### About the NOMMO African American Authors series

Presented annually since 2004 by the Givens Foundation for African American Literature ([givens.org](http://givens.org)), the series provides rare opportunities to publicly define the state of the art of African American literature and to locate the work and contributions of national as well as Twin Cities African American writers within the present authoring of our literary tradition.

A Dogon word meaning "the magic power of the word," NOMMO has been co-sponsored since 2007 by the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries ([lib.umn.edu/friends](http://lib.umn.edu/friends)). This activity is made possible in part by a grant provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature from the state's general fund and its arts and cultural heritage fund with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on Nov. 4, 2008. Additional sponsors this year are the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center ([uroc.umn.edu](http://uroc.umn.edu)), University of Minnesota Creative Writing Program ([creativewriting.umn.edu](http://creativewriting.umn.edu)) and the Edelstein-Keller Visiting Writers Series ([www.english.umn.edu/engagement/edelstein.html](http://www.english.umn.edu/engagement/edelstein.html)).

U of Minn.  
Professor  
Tetsuya  
Yamada wins  
\$50,000  
ceramics  
prize

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Tetsuya Yamada. *heavenly thought*, 2010. Ceramic.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/25/2011) —Tetsuya Yamada, University of Minnesota associate professor in the Department of Art, has been awarded the grand prize at Gyeonggi Ceramix International, held in Gwangju, South Korea.

This highly regarded international ceramics competition draws hundreds of competitors from over 70 countries. Held since 2001, the contest has established itself as one of the largest and most prestigious of its kind in the world. Yamada received the \$50,000 grand prize, the largest cash award available in contemporary ceramics.

His winning piece, *heavenly thought*, is on exhibition through Nov. 22 at the Icheon World Ceramic Center in Icheon, South Korea.

Born in Tokyo, Japan, Yamada came to the United States in 1994. He earned an MFA from Alfred State College, SUNY and has been with the University of Minnesota since 2004. Additionally, he has served as artist-in-residence at the European Ceramic Work Centre in Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands and the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

Alexis Kuhr, chair of the Department of Art, noted that “Tetsuya’s prodigious talent as an artist and an educator make him a highly valued member of our department. The Gwangju prize is an international honor in the field of ceramics and we are proud and happy for Tetsuya.”

Yamada’s extensive exhibition record includes solo shows at Yoshii Gallery, New York; Francis Naumann Fine Art, New York; John Elder Gallery, New York; Art/38/Basel, Switzerland; and Minnesota Artists Exhibition Program Gallery at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Reviewing his exhibition at the John Elder Gallery, New York for *Sculpture* magazine, Twylene Moyer wrote “pushing the notion of complexity in simplicity to its extreme, he has denatured clay and wood, perhaps the most earthbound of materials, rendering them ethereal.”

The work Yamada submitted to the competition can be downloaded at <http://www.art.umn.edu/press/>.

## U of M to host sustainable fisheries cooking competition

**Contacts:** Sharon Moen, University of Minnesota Sea Grant Program, [smoen@umn.edu](mailto:smoen@umn.edu), (218) 726-6195

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**October 25, 2011**

Some of the Twin Cities' finest chefs are readying their kitchens this week to receive hundreds of pounds of fish from the waters of Lake Superior. The chefs will turn the fish into haute cuisine samples for A Salute to Lake Superior's Sustainable Fisheries, a first-time Twin Cities event to be held at the University of Minnesota McNamara Alumni Center from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Nov. 1. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased through the University of Minnesota Bookstore at Coffman Union in person, by phone at (612) 625-6000 or online at [www.bookstores.umn.edu](http://www.bookstores.umn.edu).

Guests can sample the culinary artistry of award-winning executive chefs such as Eric Baker of the Hilton's Blue Water Grill and Ron Bohnert of the Stoneridge Golf Club in Stillwater. The night's entertainment will be provided by Michael Monroe, a national recording artist who lives along the North Shore. Monroe's guitars incorporate wood from the bottom of Lake Superior.

A Salute to Lake Superior's Sustainable Fisheries was organized by the University of Minnesota Sea Grant Program to celebrate Minnesota's commercial fisheries and those involved in its promising future. The event is also a tribute to Sea Grant founder Athelstan Spilhaus, former dean of the University of Minnesota's Institute of Technology (now called the College of Science and Engineering). Guest presenters will include Minnesota Department of Natural Resources fisheries manager Don Schreiner and Chef Roland Schaeffer, a three-time gold medalist of an international competition considered to be the "Culinary Olympics."

Earlier in the day, Chef Roland will join two other American Culinary Federation (ACF) judges and Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl, Minnesota Monthly's principal food writer, at a related professional chef cook-off. Ten chefs will be preparing a lake herring entrée to compete for ACF honors and a \$1,000 prize.

Chef Roland will announce the ACF competition winners at 6 p.m. Along with prizes for the winning chefs, door prizes will be distributed to guests, including sustainably produced wines and seating for two at the exclusive Campus Club at the University of Minnesota.

More information about A Salute to Lake Superior's Sustainable Fisheries and a list of the competing chefs can be found at [www.seagrants.umn.edu/fisheries/salute](http://www.seagrants.umn.edu/fisheries/salute).

Shele and Harley Toffey, owners of Dockside Fish Market in Grand Marais, generously donated the fish for the competition and tasting event. A Salute to Lake Superior's Sustainable Fisheries is possible through Sea Grant's partnership with the ACF and the support of the Minnesota Zoo's Fish Smart Program, the U of M's Water Resources Center, the university's College of Science and Engineering, Minnesota Monthly Magazine and The Fish Guys.

Minnesota Sea Grant facilitates interactions among the public and scientists to enhance the environment and economies along Lake Superior and Minnesota's inland waters by identifying information needs, fostering research and communicating results. Minnesota Sea Grant is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the University of Minnesota. It is part of NOAA Sea Grant, a nationwide network of 32 similar science-based programs.



## U energy economist develops tool to help car-shoppers compare vehicles

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The increasing availability of alternative vehicles—along with consumer interest in lessening one’s environmental impact—can complicate the car purchase decision.

[Image courtesy [theKCB](#)]

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/26/2011) —University of Minnesota Extension energy economist Doug Tiffany has developed a new tool to help car-shopping consumers answer the common question, “Should I buy an alternative fuel vehicle?”

Accessible online, the free tool helps consumers more easily navigate the differences in the costs of ownership and operation and greenhouse gas emissions among four car types: conventional, hybrid, electric and extended range electric vehicles. By entering information for each type of vehicle they are considering, shoppers can test various scenarios, such as higher gasoline prices and miles driven per year.

“It’s not just about price, personal taste, miles per gallon, interior space and other physical features,” said Tiffany. “The wide availability of alternative vehicles—along with consumer interest in lessening one’s environmental impact—can complicate the car purchase decision even further.”

The tool is meant to help consumers better analyze the factors that go into their purchase decision. It accurately evaluates newer models such as the Nissan Leaf (electric) and Chevy Volt (extended range electric), conventional cars and common hybrids, like the Toyota Prius, Honda Civic and others.

Key input factors include vehicle price, miles per gallon or miles per kilowatt hour performance, the expectation of fuel prices for the life of the car and the number of miles per year the consumer expects to drive.

Tiffany said he was first inspired to create the tool in 2009, when gasoline prices were lower, but the sting from gas prices during the summer of 2008, as high as \$4 per gallon in many areas, lingered.

“I’m happy to help people balance their personal and altruistic goal of greenhouse gas emissions reductions and petroleum conservation within the reality of their own lives and budgets,” he said. “I hope people who use the tool learn that the ownership costs of vehicles are often more important than the operational costs (primarily gasoline), unless you drive enough miles per year.”

For more information on the alternative vehicle tool, including a tutorial video and information on interpreting results, see [www.extension.umn.edu/energy/vehicle](http://www.extension.umn.edu/energy/vehicle).

University of Minnesota Extension is a 100-year-old partnership between the university and federal, state and county governments to provide scientific knowledge and expertise to the public. Through Extension, the University of Minnesota “extends” its resources to address critical public issues in priority areas, including food and agriculture, communities, environment, youth and families. For more information, visit [www.extension.umn.edu](http://www.extension.umn.edu).

For more news from U of M Extension, visit [www.extension.umn.edu/news](http://www.extension.umn.edu/news) or contact Extension Communications at [extnews@umn.edu](mailto:extnews@umn.edu).

## U of M President Kaler to visit Duluth and Cloquet Oct. 27-28

**Who:** U of M  
President Eric Kaler  
**What:** Visit to U of M,  
Duluth campus and  
the U's Cloquet  
Forestry Center  
**When:** Thursday and  
Friday, Oct. 27-28  
**Where:** Duluth and  
Cloquet



UMD's campus consists of more than 50 buildings on 244 acres overlooking Lake Superior.

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), University News Service, (612) 626-1720  
Susan Banovetz, University of Minnesota, Duluth, [banovetz@d.umn.edu](mailto:banovetz@d.umn.edu), (218) 213-4552

### October 26, 2011

The president of the University of Minnesota, Eric Kaler, will make his first visit to the University of Minnesota, Duluth (UMD) campus and the university's Cloquet Forestry Center this Thursday and Friday, Oct. 27-28.

While in Duluth, he will tour a range of campus academic and research activities, host an all-campus public forum and speak to the Duluth Rotary and at the UMD Center for Economic Development's 25th anniversary celebration. He will be welcomed to campus Thursday morning by the MA-IIN-GAN Singers, who will perform an honor song featuring a traditional Ojibwe drum from the Fond du Lac Reservation.

Additionally, Kaler will be meeting privately with area legislators. He will be joined on the visit by his wife, Karen, and Regent David McMillan, of Duluth, as well as other senior university leaders.

"Our presence in Duluth and Cloquet is of critical importance to the university and the economic vitality of northern Minnesota," Kaler said. "I look forward to visiting with Chancellor Black and his team, students, faculty and staff as well as our local partners and community leaders."

The president's public events:

#### Thursday, Oct. 27

Kaler will start the day with a tour of the Cloquet Forestry Center, which is the university's primary research and education forest. The center serves the research, teaching and education needs of Minnesota's natural resources community. It is also home to U of M Extension's Cloquet Regional office. More information at <http://cfc.cfans.umn.edu>.

10:35 a.m. Kaler will be welcomed to the Duluth campus by UMD's American Indian Learning Resource Center in the Marshall Performing Arts Center. The MA-IIN-GAN Singers will perform an honor song featuring a traditional Ojibwe drum from the Fond du Lac Reservation. The singers are led by Mike Munnell, UMD's first American Indian studies graduate.

12 noon. Kaler will speak in front of the Duluth Rotary luncheon at approximately 12:40 p.m.

Radisson Hotel  
505 W. Superior St.  
Duluth

5 p.m. Kaler and Black will give opening remarks at the UMD Center for Economic Development's 25 anniversary celebration. For more information about the center, visit [www.umdcad.com](http://www.umdcad.com).

Duluth Entertainment Convention Center  
Harborside Ballroom  
350 Harbor Drive

#### Friday, Oct. 28

Kaler will spend Friday morning touring the university's Natural Resources Research Institute.

10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Kaler will host an all-campus forum with students, faculty and staff at the Kirby Student Center.

Kaler is the 16th president of the university and comes from Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, New York, where he was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Inaugurated on Thursday, Sept. 22, Kaler is the second university alumnus to serve as president of Minnesota's land-grant and research university.

Appointed as the ninth provost of Stony Brook in October 2007, Kaler received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1978 and his doctorate in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1982.

Prior to his appointment at Stony Brook, Kaler was a member of the faculty of the University of Delaware from 1989 to 2007. He served as chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering from 1996 to 2000 and dean of the College of Engineering from 2000 to 2007. He was an assistant professor and an associate professor of chemical engineering at the University of Washington from 1982 to 1989.

For more information about Kaler and his priorities, visit the president's office website, [www.umn.edu/president](http://www.umn.edu/president).

## University of Minnesota featured in innovative advertisement to be unveiled at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport this week

For the first time ever at MSP, baggage carousels will be wrapped with images

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

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/26/2011) —The University of Minnesota will unveil the first-ever image-wrapped baggage carousel conveyor belts at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport on Oct. 27. The innovative advertising will promote the 2011 “Driven to Discover” marketing campaign.

The advertisement will feature a “Search and Find”-themed map of the U of M campuses and highlights several of the groundbreaking discoveries the U of M has made through its research. Travelers will be able to view the maps at carousels 7 and 8.

In addition to the baggage carousel wraps, the Driven to Discover campaign has launched a series of TV commercials featuring students and alumni; floor clings; scoreboard displays at TCF Bank Stadium; [umn.edu](http://umn.edu) home page stories; and social media activities.

“The ultimate goal of the campaign lines up directly with the U’s mission,” university President Eric Kaler said. “We want the public to understand and embrace our educational mission and to become aware of the many ways the university supports our students and communities.”

Minneapolis-based OLSON, an independent agency, created the campaign for the U of M. OLSON has been the university’s agency partner since the campaign was first launched in 2006. The campaign will cost \$850,000 total, less than half what was spent in previous years.

For more information about the Driven to Discover campaign, visit <http://discover.umn.edu>.

## U of M round table to focus on science of early childhood development

**What:** Round table on child development and child welfare

**When:** 1 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 3

**Where:** Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul

**Who:** Center for Early Education and Development and the Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare

**Contacts:** Nikki Kovan, Center for Early Education and Development, [kovan003@umn.edu](mailto:kovan003@umn.edu), (612) 625-8652

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

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/27/2011) —National experts on children’s issues will discuss the role of child development research in child welfare and the juvenile justice system during the University of Minnesota’s Round Table on Early Childhood Education on Thursday, Nov. 3, at the Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul.

The round table, “Mobilizing Hope: Using a Developmental Approach in Child Welfare,” connects with the Science Museum’s permanent exhibit “Wonder Years: The Science of Early Childhood Development.” Both deliver child development information to audiences who might not otherwise receive it.

Nikki Kovan, research associate in the university’s Center for Early Education and Development (CEED), says that the round table will bring multidisciplinary perspectives to the topic.

“Understanding the developmental history of a child can help child welfare professionals do better work with that child and family,” she says, “but developmental science can also benefit from understanding the methods that social workers know work with families.”

Panelists are encouraged to reflect, explore intuitive hunches and challenge each other’s ideas in an open, constructive environment. Audience response will be a critical part of the discussion.

Panelists are: Thomas Dishion, professor of psychology, Arizona State University; Anne Gearity, early childhood mental health consultant; Lynne Katz, director of the Linda Ray Intervention Center and Department of Psychology research assistant professor, University of Miami; and Judge Cindy S. Lederman, Miami-Dade Juvenile Court.

The panel will be moderated by Karen Cadigan, director of the Minnesota Office of Early Learning, a statewide initiative of the Minnesota departments of education, health and human services.

CEED has sponsored the round table for more than 30 years. This year’s event is also sponsored by the Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare. Both centers are part of the university’s College of Education and Human Development.

The round table is open to the public. There is a \$50 registration fee, but child welfare workers may attend for free. University of Minnesota students may attend for half price.

For round table information and registration, visit the CEED website at <http://education.umn.edu/CEED/>.

## University of Minnesota kicks off National Adoption Month with unveiling of new adoption certificate program

Minnesota Human Services Commissioner Jesson to take part in Nov. 1 news conference

**What:** Kick-off of new Permanency and Adoption Competency Certificate program and National Adoption Month

**When:** 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1

**Where:** U of M School of Social Work, Peters Hall atrium, 1404 Gortner Ave., St. Paul. Parking available in the Gortner Avenue Ramp: [www.umn.edu/twincities/maps/GortRamp](http://www.umn.edu/twincities/maps/GortRamp).

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

Steven Baker, College of Education and Human Development, [s-bake@umn.edu](mailto:s-bake@umn.edu), (612) 624-3430

Beth Voigt, Minnesota Department of Human Services, [beth.voigt@state.mn.us](mailto:beth.voigt@state.mn.us), (651) 431-3833

### October 27, 2011

Minnesota Department of Human Services Commissioner Lucinda Jesson will join Traci LaLiberte, executive director of the University of Minnesota's Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare, for a special news conference Nov. 1.

The news conference will introduce the university's new Permanency and Adoption Competency Certificate (PACC) program and recognize November as National Adoption Month.

The university developed the PACC program together with the Center for Adoption Support and Education, a national resource organization, in response to community demand for a professional workforce to serve the unique and complex clinical and practice needs of adopted individuals and their families.

Public and private child welfare professionals work with children traumatized by abuse, neglect and abandonment as they adjust to life with foster, kin and adoptive families.

"Foster and adoptive families have identified the need for access to adoption-competent mental health and child welfare services," LaLiberte says. "Our goal is to provide a network of competent professionals throughout the state of Minnesota through offering this advanced training program."

The PACC program provides 90 hours of training along with 18 hours of clinical supervision. It teaches the knowledge and skills needed to competently work with the complex needs of families that have been impacted by foster care and adoption. Forty-two mental health and child welfare professionals in Minnesota comprise the first year cohorts this fall in the Twin Cities and Duluth.

"Our goal is to support adopted children and their families – and those yet to adopt – so they remain together forever," Jesson says. "This training can help reduce adoption disruptions and dissolutions so families will not only survive, but thrive."

Representatives from the North American Council on Adoptable Children will also attend the news conference.

The Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare is part of the School of Social Work within the university's College of Education and Human Development.

For more information about the PACC or about the news conference, contact JaeRan Kim at (612) 626-3831 or [blev0001@umn.edu](mailto:blev0001@umn.edu).

Information about the PACC is located online at [www.cehd.umn.edu/ssw/cascw/PracResources/PACC](http://www.cehd.umn.edu/ssw/cascw/PracResources/PACC).



## U of M Board of Regents Litigation Review Committee to meet Monday, Oct. 31

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/27/2011) —The University of Minnesota Board of Regents Litigation Review Committee will hold a nonpublic meeting Monday, Oct. 31 at 9:45 a.m. in Room 215A Morrill Hall, 100 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The meeting will address attorney-client privileged matters on the appeal of James R. Williams v. Orlando Henry “Tubby” Smith and Board of Regents of University of Minnesota.

## First Amendment scholar to discuss Minnesota's role in First Amendment law



First Amendment scholar and president of Furman University Rodney Smolla will deliver a keynote lecture.

**What:** A lecture on Minnesota's role in First Amendment law

**Who:** Rodney Smolla, First Amendment scholar and president of Furman University

**When:** 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14

**Where:** 155 Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Drive SE, Minneapolis

**Contacts:** Sarah Howard, School of Journalism & Mass Communication, [showard@umn.edu](mailto:showard@umn.edu), (612) 625-8095

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

### October 28, 2011

First Amendment scholar and Furman University President Rodney Smolla will deliver a keynote lecture about Minnesota's role in First Amendment law at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14, to kick off a weeklong event focusing on the First Amendment. He will speak in Room 155 Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis.

The event, "They All Began Here: Minnesota's Landmark Supreme Court Cases Then and Now," examines three U.S. Supreme Court cases that took place in Minnesota and how the decisions in these cases still affect First Amendment rights.

Smolla is nationally recognized as a First Amendment scholar, teacher, advocate and writer. His lecture will focus on the important role these Minnesota cases play in First Amendment law today—particularly in the areas of hate speech, government censorship, national security and whether reporters should use confidential sources.

To register for Smolla's lecture, visit [umnl LibertyKeynote.eventbrite.com](http://umnl LibertyKeynote.eventbrite.com).

In April 2011 Smolla published "The Constitution Goes to College: Five Constitutional Ideas That Have Shaped the American University." As part of his stop at the University of Minnesota, Smolla will be at the University Bookstore in Coffman Union at 4 p.m. on Nov. 14 to discuss and sign his book.

The event is made possible with funding from the \$5,000 Liberty Tree Initiative Grant. For a complete listing of all events, including panels about each case and student engagement sessions, visit [mnl LibertyTree.com](http://mnl LibertyTree.com).

The Liberty Tree Initiative is an informal coalition of educators, journalists, librarians, artists and authors with a shared interest in building awareness of the First Amendment through education. The Liberty Tree Initiative brings enlightening and thought-provoking programs to college campuses across the country.

The School of Journalism & Mass Communication (SJMC) at the University of Minnesota is part of the College of Liberal Arts and is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Journalism and Mass Communication.

## U of M President Eric Kaler to speak at Rotary Club of Burnsville luncheon Oct. 31

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

**October 28, 2011**

University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler will address the Rotary Club of Burnsville monthly luncheon at noon Monday, Oct. 31, at the Nicollet Inn, 14201 Nicollet Ave. Burnsville. The Burnsville, Eagan, Apple Valley Rotary clubs and the Burnsville and Dakota County chamber of commerces are co-hosting the event.

Kaler will provide an update on his first four months as president and discuss his vision and priorities for the university, in research, teaching and outreach.

Kaler is the 16th president of the university and comes from Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, New York, where he was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Inaugurated on Thursday, Sept. 22, Kaler is the second university alumnus to serve as president of Minnesota's land-grant and research university.

Appointed as the ninth provost of Stony Brook in October 2007, Kaler received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1978 and his doctorate in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1982.

Prior to his appointment at Stony Brook, Kaler was a member of the faculty of the University of Delaware from 1989 to 2007. He served as chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering from 1996 to 2000 and dean of the College of Engineering from 2000 to 2007. He was an assistant professor and an associate professor of chemical engineering at the University of Washington from 1982 to 1989.

For more information about Kaler and his priorities, visit the president's office website, [www.umn.edu/president](http://www.umn.edu/president).



## U of M Law School's Journal of Law and Inequality hosts symposium on death penalty reform

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Cynthia Huff, Law School, [huffx070@umn.edu](mailto:huffx070@umn.edu), (612) 625-6691  
[Preston Smith](mailto:smith@umn.edu), University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

**October 28, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Law School's journal, "Law and Inequality: A Journal of Theory and Practice," in association with the American Bar Association Death Penalty Representation Project, will host a symposium, "Perspectives on the Death Penalty: Comparative Solutions from the Classroom to the Courtroom," from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11, in Room 25, Mondale Hall, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The symposium will focus on practical methods for reforming the death penalty. The keynote address, "Changing Efforts to Reform American Capital Punishment: An Historical Perspective," will be delivered by Jordan Steiker, a professor at the University of Texas School of Law.

Additional speakers include Jin Hee Lee, assistant counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund; professor Judith Ritter, Widener Law School and co-counsel for Mumia Abu Jamal; professor Andrea Lyon, DePaul University College of Law; Steven Wells, a partner at Dorsey & Whitney; and Jeffrey J. Keyes, U.S. magistrate judge for the District of Minnesota.

The symposium is free for University of Minnesota students, faculty and staff. For attendees not affiliated with the university, the cost is \$25, payable at the door or online at the symposium website: <http://www.law.umn.edu/lawineq/symposiummain/november-2011.html>.

A reception will immediately follow the symposium. Attendees are eligible for 4.75 general CLE credits and one elimination of bias credit.

For more information, contact one of the symposium editors: Britt Johnson ('12) ([brittelsajohnsn@gmail.com](mailto:brittelsajohnsn@gmail.com)), Peter Stiteler ('12) ([peter0061@gmail.com](mailto:peter0061@gmail.com)) or Feras Sleiman ('12) ([sleiman.feras@gmail.com](mailto:sleiman.feras@gmail.com)).

## U of M Heller-Hurwicz Economics Institute to hold first annual policy forum Nov. 16-17

Keynote address will feature Peter Arthur Diamond, a Nobel laureate and pioneer in the economics of social insurance

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

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/28/2011) —The University of Minnesota Heller-Hurwicz Economics Institute (HHEI) will hold its first annual policy forum Nov. 16-17 at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The forum will focus on tax and economic policy and will feature a dinner and keynote address 7 p.m. Nov. 16 by Nobel laureate and pioneer in the economics of social insurance Peter Arthur Diamond. University President Eric Kaler will provide welcome remarks and introduce Diamond.

The event will include three panel discussions on tax policy, health care and pensions as well as presentations on the latest economic research by academics.

“The forum is designed to address key policy issues on a global scale, advancing emerging theories, pushing the boundaries of economic theory and opening new possibilities in the face of pressing problems,” says V.V. Chari, U of M economics professor and HHEI founding director.

The forum is open to the public; however, pre-registration is required.

Visit <http://hhei.umn.edu/policyForum2011> for the full agenda and to register by Nov. 8.

### About the keynote speaker

Diamond is an economist known for his analysis of U.S. Social Security policy and his work as an advisor to the Advisory Council on Social Security in the late 1980s and 1990s. He was one of the three winners of the 2010 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel. Diamond is an Institute Professor Emeritus at MIT, where he taught from 1966 to 2011. He has written on public finance, social insurance, behavioral economics, uncertainty and search theories, and macroeconomics. Diamond has made fundamental contributions to a variety of areas, including government debt and capital accumulation, capital markets and risk sharing, optimal taxation, search and matching in labor markets, and social insurance. He has served as president of the American Economic Association, the Econometric Society and the National Academy of Social Insurance.

### About the U of M Department of Economics and HHEI

Launched in late 2010, HHEI is a global initiative in the U of M College of Liberal Arts' Department of Economics, created to inform and influence public policy by supporting and promoting frontier economic research and by communicating its findings to leading academics, policymakers and business executives around the world.

The institute is named after Walter Heller and Leo Hurwicz, world-leading economics scholars who were faculty members at the University of Minnesota from the early 1950s through the 1980s.

For more information about HHEI, Heller and Hurwicz, visit <http://hhei.umn.edu>.

## U of M School of Music's University Opera Theatre announces 2011-2012 season

The season will feature Mozart's "Cosi fan tutte" and Robert Aldridge's "Parables"

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/31/2011) —The University of Minnesota School of Music's University Opera Theatre's 2011-2012 season will feature Mozart's "Cosi fan tutte" from Nov. 17 to 20 and the world premiere of Robert Aldridge's "Parables" from April 17 to 22, 2012 at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis.

Tickets are \$22 for general admission and \$12 for U of M students. Group rates and two-for-one tickets for university students, faculty, staff, retirees and alumni are available. Call (612) 624-2345 or visit [opera.umn.edu](http://opera.umn.edu).

### **Mozart's "Cosi fan tutte" (School for Lovers)**

Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte, directed by David Walsh, conducted by Mark Russell Smith  
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17; Friday, Nov. 18; and Saturday, Nov. 19; 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20.

### **Robert Aldridge's "Parables"**

Libretto by Herschel Garfein, directed by David Walsh, conducted by Kathy Saltzman Romey  
7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19; Friday, April 20; and Saturday, April 21; and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 22, 2012.

Parking is available in the 21st Ave. ramp, one block southwest of the concert hall. Photographs available upon request. Email requests for photographs to [marsh396@umn.edu](mailto:marsh396@umn.edu). For more information on University Opera Theatre, visit [opera.umn.edu](http://opera.umn.edu).

Established in 1902, the University of Minnesota School of Music offers a dynamic, comprehensive program to more than 550 music students in undergraduate and graduate programs, led by a world-class faculty of more than 50 artists, scholars and teachers. The School of Music presents more than 400 free concerts per year. For a complete schedule of events, visit [www.music.umn.edu](http://www.music.umn.edu) or call (612) 626-1094 for a brochure.

## University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler to visit St. Cloud Tuesday, Nov. 1

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

**October 31, 2011**

University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler will make his first visit to St. Cloud Tuesday, Nov. 1.

While in St. Cloud, Kaler will meet with business leaders, visit the university's St. Cloud Regional Extension Office, speak at the St. Cloud Rotary, meet with CentraCare leadership and meet with U of M residents in the St. Cloud Residency Program.

He will also meet privately with area legislators. Kaler will be joined on the visit by his wife, Karen, Regent John Frobenius, and other senior university leaders.

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Kaler will meet with St. Cloud Regional and Stearns County Extension staff at the regional office, 3400 First St. N., St. Cloud.

12 p.m.

Kaler will speak to the St. Cloud Rotary, which begins its luncheon meeting at noon. He will provide an update on his first four months as president and discuss his vision and priorities for the university in research, teaching and outreach. The Rotary meets at Le St. Germain Suites Hotel, 404 West St. Germain, St. Cloud. Regent Dean Johnson will join the university delegation for this.

During the afternoon, the president will meet with CentraCare leadership, tour the residency clinic and meet with the residency director and U of M residents.

5 p.m.

Kaler will deliver brief remarks at a University of Minnesota Alumni Association Reception at CentraCare Health Plaza, 1900 CentraCare Circle, St. Cloud.

Kaler is the 16th president of the university and comes from Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, New York, where he was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Inaugurated on Thursday, Sept. 22, Kaler is the second university alumnus to serve as president of Minnesota's land-grant and research university.

Appointed as the ninth provost of Stony Brook in October 2007, Kaler received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1978 and his doctorate in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1982.

Prior to his appointment at Stony Brook, Kaler was a member of the faculty of the University of Delaware from 1989 to 2007. He served as chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering from 1996 to 2000 and dean of the College of Engineering from 2000 to 2007. He was an assistant professor and an associate professor of chemical engineering at the University of Washington from 1982 to 1989.

For more information about Kaler and his priorities, visit the president's office website, [www.umn.edu/president](http://www.umn.edu/president).

## U of M Law School announces creation of Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice

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[Preston Smith](#), University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/31/2011) —The University of Minnesota Law School today announced the creation of the Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice.

The new institute, supported by a major long-term grant from the Robina Foundation, will work with policy makers, practitioners and leading scholars to improve criminal justice systems that are widely recognized to be ineffective, overly costly, overly severe and insufficiently attentive to the needs and interests of victims. The institute will engage in interdisciplinary, policy-oriented study of the criminal justice system.

The Minneapolis-based Robina Foundation was established by James H. Binger, a St. Paul native and 1941 graduate of the Minnesota Law School, shortly before his death in 2004. In creating the Foundation, Binger charged it to support projects with potential to transform existing institutions, policies and practices. The new Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice hopes to do just that. Its aim is to participate in the work of creating criminal justice systems fit for the 21st century and for the citizens of a contemporary democracy.

“With this greatly appreciated support from the Robina Foundation, the Law School will be able to build on its remarkable strength in criminal law and criminal justice,” Wippman said.

“‘Transformative’ is a big word, not to be tossed about casually, but even so we expect the new Robina Institute to have transformative effects on the Law School and American legal education, and to play an important part in transforming the American criminal justice system into something of which Americans can be proud.”

Renowned scholars Michael Tonry and Antony Duff head the new institute. Tonry, who came to the Law School in 1990, and for five years also headed the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University, is one of the world’s leading experts on crime and public policy. Duff, who joined the Law School in 2010, is universally recognized as one of the world’s preeminent philosophers of criminal law and punishment.

“The U.S. criminal justice system is in crisis,” Tonry said. “America locks up its residents at rates far higher than those of other advanced democratic countries. Vast sums of taxpayers’ money are spent on systems that are known to be ineffective, to produce massive racial and ethnic disparities, and to do unnecessary damage to offenders, their children and their communities. Americans can do better.”

The institute will focus on three core, interrelated program areas: criminal law theory, headed by Duff; criminal justice policy, led by Tonry; and sentencing law and practice, led by professors Richard Frase and Kevin Reitz. Projects in the three areas will be focused on documenting problems and developing practical, achievable, cost-effective solutions. Faculty will work closely with practitioners and policy-makers from Minnesota and elsewhere.

“An institute by itself can’t fix a system as massive, complex and deeply fractured as our criminal justice system,” Duff said. “But we can stimulate a better recognition and understanding of the system’s problems. We can propose new ways of thinking about those problems and suggest approaches that might be effective in tackling them. By doing this, we can help transform the debate, among experts and the public, from which genuine reform may emerge.”

For more information about the Robina Institute for Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, please contact Zach Hoskins, research fellow in the Institute, at [zhoskins@umn.edu](mailto:zhoskins@umn.edu) or (612) 625-6146.

## U of M documentary 'Cornerstones' traces history of North Minneapolis through place-based memories

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/01/2011) —North Minneapolis' legendary buildings and historic spaces are the backdrops for an exploration of the power of place and community in "Cornerstones: A History of North Minneapolis," premiering statewide at 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, on tpt MN, Twin Cities Public Television's Minnesota Channel.

Co-produced by the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center and tpt, "Cornerstones" presents powerful stories of Northside life interwoven with themes of immigration, race relations and cultural changes through place-based memories.

Using interviews with local historians, architects, city planners, elders, artists and residents, the storyline traces cultural and social change and their impacts on iconic places such as the Sumner Community Library, Emanuel Cohen Center/Oak Park Community Center, KMOJ Radio, Phyllis Wheatley Community Center and Plymouth Avenue.

The hour-long documentary was written and directed by award-winning filmmaker Daniel Pierce Bergin, who won an Emmy award for his 2004 tpt documentary "North Star: Minnesota's Black Pioneers." "Cornerstones" is narrated by veteran Twin Cities performer Jearlyn Steele.

"'Cornerstones' is a powerful and inspiring reminder of the places that bind us and the importance of community," says University of Minnesota Senior Vice President Robert Jones, whose Office of System Academic Administration oversaw the production. "It's our hope that the documentary will serve as a touchstone for common ground and a catalyst for discussions about one of Minnesota's most vital urban neighborhoods."

The documentary's companion website at [uroc.umn.edu](http://uroc.umn.edu) will feature additional interviews with Northside residents on the importance of place and memory. The site will also include interactive storytelling features and content from tpt, university researchers and community historians.

Special screenings and related events will take place during the coming year at North Minneapolis venues and elsewhere.

Rebroadcasts of "Cornerstones" are scheduled for 2 a.m., 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. Nov. 14 and noon Nov. 20 on tpt's Life Channel. Viewers should check with their local PBS affiliates for airing dates and times.

The Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC), located in North Minneapolis, produced the documentary as an extension of the university's land-grant mission to promote scholarship and public engagement for and with Minnesota communities, says Jones.

UROC's mission is to link the university in public partnership with urban communities to advance learning, improve quality of life and discover solutions to complex urban challenges. For more information, visit [uroc.umn.edu](http://uroc.umn.edu).

## U of M researchers join multistate effort to help cold-climate wine industry thrive

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/01/2011) —Wine grapes can be grown in cold climates; that's been established since the University of Minnesota began releasing cold-hardy varieties in the 1970s. But how can the wine industry in the Upper Midwest and Northeast take the next steps toward economic viability?

That's the focus of a new \$2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture Specialty Crop Research Initiative. Researchers from the University of Minnesota are part of a multistate team tackling obstacles in vineyards, wineries, tasting rooms and tourism to bring cold-hardy grapes to a wider market.

The challenges ahead include determining the best growing conditions; how to modify the grapes' higher acidity and showcase their aroma; and how to build tourism networks to draw visitors to tasting rooms, where a majority of sales take place.

Minnesota's wine industry has been growing rapidly and now includes more than three dozen wineries, some of which are cooperatively marketing to tourists.

"Minnesota's grape industry has made enormous strides, but there's still room for much more growth," said Jim Luby, professor in the university's Department of Horticultural Science. "This project will help take the industry to the next level, through research-based tools and practices to help them grow, vinify, and sell quality wines to local and regional markets." Because most Minnesota wineries are in rural communities, helping them thrive will in turn help the greater Minnesota economy.

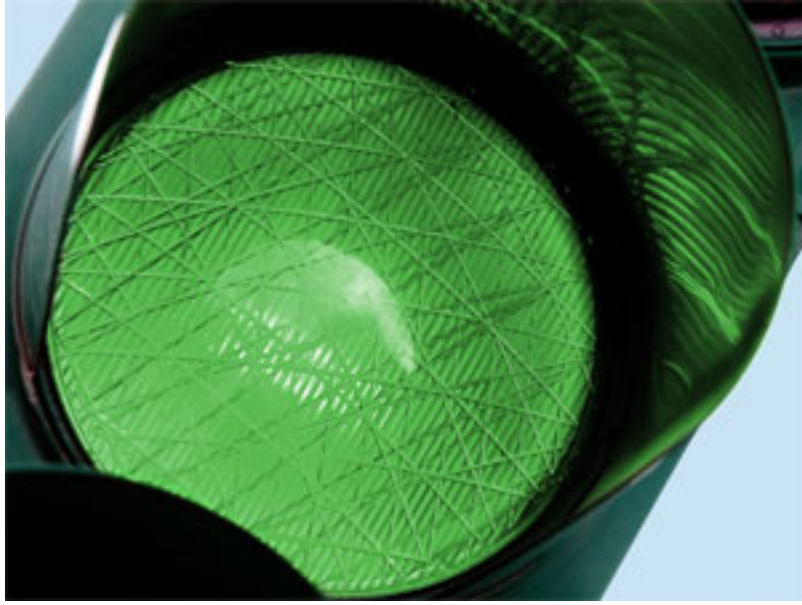
The practices that work in other parts of the world won't work with cold-climate grapes because of differences in their genetic background and fruit chemistry, said Tim Martinson, project director and senior extension associate at Cornell University, where the project is headquartered.

The project will partner with grower organizations from across the northern United States, including the Minnesota Grape Growers Association, the largest cold-climate grower organization in the country.

Along with U of M scientists, the 13-state interdisciplinary consortium includes researchers from Cornell University, Iowa State University, Michigan State University, Oklahoma State University, North Dakota State University, South Dakota State University, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and the Universities of Illinois, Massachusetts (Amherst), Nebraska, Vermont and Wisconsin.

## University of Minnesota startup to improve traffic flow on congested roads

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Based on research from the University of Minnesota, SMART Signal Technologies, Inc., will commercialize a system to better predict and manage the flow of traffic on roads controlled by traffic lights.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/01/2011) —Based on research from the University of Minnesota, SMART Signal Technologies, Inc., will commercialize a system to better predict and manage the flow of traffic on roads controlled by traffic lights. The system could potentially cut down on traffic congestion and help drivers save both time and fuel.

Using data from existing traffic signal equipment, the system accurately calculates queue length at signalized intersections. These data, collected in real time and archived in a database, will allow cities across the state to better mediate the flow of traffic at peak times using real time performance measures provided by the system.

“The technology itself provides both hardware and software solutions to evaluate the performance of traffic signals and measures the traffic conditions on signalized roads,” explains Henry Liu, co-inventor of the technology and a civil engineering professor in the U of M’s College of Science and Engineering.

SMART Signal will also give drivers a more accurate prediction of travel times by accounting for time spent waiting at traffic lights. Unlike traffic information on highways, there isn’t a system currently in place to accurately track congestion on roads with traffic signals with the existing facilities.

“Once you get off the freeway, people have no idea how long it takes to get through lights,” says Ken Shain, president and CEO of SMART Signal. “Because current travel information is based on whether the light is red or green.” Shain hopes to make these travel time data available to drivers. He’s confident the added element of queue length processing will result in more accurate travel time predictions.

The St. Paul startup aims to make the traffic management system affordable for municipalities to implement by allowing them to use existing equipment. The SMART Signal system has already been field tested on three major arterials in Minnesota: Highway 55 in Golden Valley, France Avenue in Bloomington, and Prairie Center Drive in Eden Prairie. It is also being used in Pasadena, California.

This technology was invented by Prof. Henry Liu and his research team; the research was funded by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Local Road Research Board, the U of M Intelligent Transportation Systems Institute and Hennepin County.

The partnership between Liu and Shain and the resulting startup was facilitated by the Office for Technology Commercialization.

### More information

SMART Signal Technologies company website - <http://www.smartsignaltech.com/>  
SMART Signal research project website - <http://signal.umn.edu/>

The mission of the University of Minnesota’s Office for Technology Commercialization is to translate University research into new products and services that provide growth opportunities for its licensees, benefit the public good, improve the quality of life, and generate revenue to support the university’s research and education goals.



## University of Minnesota observes Student Veterans Appreciation Day Nov. 10

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/02/2011) —University of Minnesota students, staff and faculty will celebrate the fifth annual Student Veterans Appreciation Day from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, in honor of student veterans' service to our country. Held at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis, the event is free and open to the public.

At the event, university President Eric Kaler will speak during a brief program recognizing the contributions of university student veterans, military members and their families. A free chili lunch will follow at noon.

Approximately 800 student veterans currently enrolled on the Twin Cities campus receive federal benefits. To facilitate their successful integration into campus life, University Veterans Services helps student veterans and their families discover educational as well as non-educational benefits including, housing, medical, employment, family and transitional issues assistance. These services are provided on campus at 320 Science Teaching & Student Services, 222 Pleasant Street S.E., Minneapolis.

University Veterans Services is part of One Stop Student Services, where counselors offer individual help on a walk-in basis to prospective and current students and their families, as well as university and industry colleagues, on enrollment, financial aid, billing, payment, records and money management.

For more information about the day's events, visit [http://onestop.umn.edu/veterans/news\\_and\\_events/svad\\_archive/index.html](http://onestop.umn.edu/veterans/news_and_events/svad_archive/index.html).

For further information, email [veterans@umn.edu](mailto:veterans@umn.edu) or call (612) 625-8076. To request disability accommodations or information in an alternative format, call (612) 625-9578.

U of M  
 College of  
 Design Dean  
 Tom Fisher  
 and  
 Department  
 of  
 Architecture  
 Head Renee  
 Cheng named  
 two of top 25  
 design  
 educators in  
 the country



Tom Fisher, dean of the University of Minnesota's College of Design, has been recognized as one of the top 25 most admired design educators for 2012 by DesignIntelligence (DI) magazine.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/02/2011) —Tom Fisher, dean of the University of Minnesota's College of Design, and Renee Cheng, head of the college's Department of Architecture, have been recognized as two of the top 25 most admired design educators for 2012 by DesignIntelligence (DI) magazine.

DI selects educators from the disciplines of architecture, interior design, industrial design and landscape architecture who exemplify excellence in design education leadership. The graduate programs for landscape architecture and interior design were also ranked among the most admired of their kind in the country.

This is the fourth time Fisher has received this recognition (2008-2010), and the second time for Cheng (2011). It is a unique distinction for two faculty members from the same institution to be on the top 25 list at the same time. This is the third time, and second year in a row, for the College of Design. Interior design professor Denise Guerin was honored in 2009 and 2011.

"DesignIntelligence has become a primary source for evaluating American architecture and design programs, and I am honored to be ranked among the top 25 educators by that publication this year," said Fisher. "Our college is one of the most comprehensive in the country, and these rankings say a lot about the quality of our faculty and the educational experience here."

Fisher is a leader in the public-interest design movement, and a longtime researcher and advocate for using design to tackle the major economic, environmental and societal challenges facing the world. Recognized as one of the most published academics in his field, Fisher is the author of six books, 45 book chapters and over 250 major articles. His new book, due out in early 2013, is titled: "Designing to Avoid Disaster: The Nature of Fracture-Critical Design."

"I am deeply grateful to be listed alongside Tom on this list," said Cheng. "However, what I appreciate most is the synergy we generate on a daily basis as we guide forward-looking programs and innovative research brought to life by the excellent students and faculty at the School of Architecture. We each teach critically important courses in the professional program; together they instigate rich dialogue about the past, present and future of architecture, generating critical questions that permeate throughout the school."

Cheng's recognition on this list for the second year in a row is for good reason. She has led the School of Architecture in a direction that builds upon its already successful undergraduate and graduate degree programs in order to take advantage of new opportunities in the design and architectural professions.

The school's flagship, the professional M. Arch degree, was restructured to allow three distinct and complementary types of design studio teaching:

- Large fall studios with integrated technical courses;
- Nimble and changeable spring options configured to dive deeply into critical topics;
- One week catalyst workshops that address issues not commonly seen in architecture programs, from tackling urgent needs in society to using new media or emerging technologies.

The new Bachelor of Design in Architecture (BDA) program gives students broader choice in design workshops to best suit their interests. Also, the graduate master of science in architecture, sustainable design track, integrates research and design in an approach that embraces the holistic understanding of sustainable design. This M.S. Arch program is one of only two in the country recognized by the Fulbright scholars program for its excellence.

The graduate landscape architecture program ranked among the most admired "for its community engagement, strong environmental focus and scholarship aligned with education."

The interior design graduate program was chosen "for its strong research and reputation."

For more on Dean Fisher, professor Cheng, the architecture, landscape architecture and interior design programs, or other information about the College of Design, visit the college website, [www.design.umn.edu](http://www.design.umn.edu).

## U of M Law School adds new criminal justice concentration

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/02/2011) —A concentration in criminal justice became available to Law School students this fall, bringing the number of areas of concentration to seven. Concentrations build on and complement the standard Law School curriculum through interdisciplinary partnerships with other university programs. Students who complete the concentration requirements are well grounded in a wide range of topics in the field and prepared for the opportunities that present themselves after graduation.

The Concentration in Criminal Justice is led by Faculty Chair professor Richard Frase. Joining him in teaching core courses are Law School professors Susanna Blumenthal, Stephen Cribari, Antony Duff, Barry Feld, Perry Moriearty, Kevin Reitz, Stephen Simon and Michael Tonry, along with members of the philosophy and sociology departments.

Courses cover criminal law, criminal procedure, juvenile justice, sentencing law and policy, and punishment theory. Hands-on experience is offered through a variety of clinical programs: Child Advocacy and Juvenile Justice, Criminal Appeals, Federal Defense, Innocence Project, Misdemeanor Defense, Misdemeanor Prosecution, and Misdemeanor Defense and Prosecution. Students can also arrange independent research projects or work on issues of interest at Law School institutes, including the newly formed Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice and through the Minnesota Justice Foundation.

Top criminal justice lawyers and judges serve as adjunct professors and provide valuable mentoring and networking opportunities. Student-edited journals offer preparation in legal writing and research, and student organizations host events and speakers on relevant issues. Students can further immerse themselves in criminal justice theory, law, policy and practice through interdisciplinary courses and seminars, public lectures and all the educational events and facilities that the university offers.

Students completing a concentration receive a special notation on their transcripts after graduation. Concentrations are also offered in business law, environmental and energy law, health law and bioethics, human rights, international law, and labor and employment law.

For more information, visit [www.law.umn.edu/current/concentrations\\_criminaljustice.html](http://www.law.umn.edu/current/concentrations_criminaljustice.html).

Michael Smith named executive director of U of M Law School's new Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice



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**Preston Smith**, University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

The University of Minnesota Law School has appointed Michael Smith, Haight-Bascom Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin, executive director of the newly created Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/02/2011) —David Wippman, dean of the University of Minnesota Law School has appointed Michael E. Smith, Haight-Bascom Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin, executive director of the newly created Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice.

The new institute, supported by a major long-term grant from the Robina Foundation, will work with policy-makers, practitioners and a wide range of leading scholars to improve criminal justice systems that are widely recognized to be ineffective, overly costly, overly severe and insufficiently attentive to the needs and interests of victims. The institute will engage in interdisciplinary, policy-oriented study of the criminal justice system.

Michael Smith is one of America's most creative developers of innovative public sector initiatives. During 16 years at the helm of the Vera Institute of Justice in New York City, he made the institute into a national laboratory for developing and testing new ideas. Successful Vera programs on pretrial diversion, work release, community service, financial penalties, and supported employment for recently released prisoners and mental health patients were replicated throughout the United States and in other countries.

The Minneapolis-based Robina Foundation was established by James H. Binger, a St. Paul native and 1941 graduate of the Minnesota Law School, shortly before his death in 2004. In creating the foundation, Binger charged it to support projects with potential to transform existing institutions, policies and practices. The new Robina Institute hopes to do that, by helping to create criminal justice systems fit for the 21st century and for the citizens of a contemporary democracy.

"We are delighted to have attracted someone of Michael Smith's stature and experience to the new Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice," Wippman said. "Smith's appointment enables the Law School to augment its already remarkable strength in criminal law and criminal justice and increase the odds that the new Robina Institute will be transformative, as Jim Binger would have wanted. 'Transformative' is a big word, not to be tossed about casually, but even so we expect the new institute to have transformative effects on the Law School and American legal education, and to play an important part in transforming the American criminal justice system into something of which Americans can be proud."

Renowned scholars Michael Tonry and Antony Duff head the new institute. Tonry, who came to the Law School in 1990, and for five years also headed the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University, is one of the world's leading experts on crime and public policy. Duff, who joined the Law School in 2010, is universally recognized as one of the world's preeminent philosophers of criminal law and punishment.

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"An institute by itself can't fix a system as massive, complex and deeply fractured as our criminal justice system," Duff said. "But we can stimulate a better recognition and understanding of the system's problems. We can propose new ways of thinking about those problems and suggest approaches that might be effective in tackling them. By doing this, we can help transform the debate, among experts and the public, from which genuine reform may emerge."

For more information about the Robina Institute for Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, contact Zach Hoskins, research fellow in the Institute, at [zhoskins@umn.edu](mailto:zhoskins@umn.edu) or (612) 625-6146.

## How should society pay for services ecosystems provide?

Two U of M faculty join the world's leading ecologists in addressing this issue

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[Peggy Rinard](#), College of Biological Sciences, [rinar001@umn.edu](mailto:rinar001@umn.edu), (612) 624-0774

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/03/2011) —Over the past 50 years, 60 percent of all ecosystem services have declined as a direct result of the conversion of land to the production of foods, fuels and fibers.

This should come as no surprise, say seven of the world's leading environmental scientists, who met to collectively study the pitfalls of utilizing markets to induce people to take account of the environmental costs of their behavior and solutions. We are getting what we pay for.

"The best things in life are free, including nature", says author Stephen Polasky, professor of applied economics and ecology, evolution and behavior. "But without a price for nature's services we don't maintain the environment in ways necessary to sustain these valuable services." Polasky is also a resident fellow in the university's Institute on the Environment (IonE).

Their report, "Paying for Ecosystem Services: Promise and Peril," is published in the Nov. 4 issue of the journal *Science*.

Society pays for the products of agriculture, aquaculture and forestry, and has developed well-functioning markets for these products, these experts say

However, author David Tilman, Regents Professor in the College of Biological Sciences and IonE fellow, notes "We also need market mechanisms that reward farmers for the quality of the water that leaves their lands, and for other important ecosystem services." These services include watershed protection, habitat provision, pest and disease regulation, climate regulation and storm buffering.

The problem is that many ecosystem services are public goods. Some lie outside the control of any one government, and the science for others is still only poorly understood. There is no one-size payment mechanism that fits all cases. And bad payment mechanisms can be worse than no payment mechanisms at all, the study's authors warn, pointing to the lessons learned from four decades of agricultural subsidies. Subsidies encouraged the overuse of fertilizers and pesticides, two of the main reasons for the growing number of dead zones in the world's oceans.

A similar lesson can be found in the first generation of cap-and-trade systems, they say. The first U.S. markets for sulfur dioxide emission rights collapsed because of faulty design: They failed to take into account the interactions between multiple pollutants across state boundaries.

Establishing markets and payment for ecosystem services can provide incentives for sustainable supply of these services. Examples of successful approaches to environmental markets include cap-and-trade policies to limit pollution and certification for sustainably made products. But environmental markets need to be designed carefully. Doing it wrong could be worse than not doing it at all.

The scientists' report is timely, given the growing enthusiasm for the use of Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) schemes that allow governments and non-governmental organizations to pay for environmental public goods. For example, carbon sequestration is being paid for through the United Nations' Collaborative Program on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries, or REDD, scheme. The scheme pays countries to not cut down their forests, which in turn puts the brakes on loss of biodiversity, in addition to curbing carbon emissions.

Other authors are Ann Kinzig, Charles Perrings, Terry Chapin III, and B.L. Turner II, experts in economics, business, urban planning and ecology at Arizona State University and the University of Alaska. The study was supported by the International Council of Science.

## Join U of M lion researchers in bringing the Serengeti to the web

“Crowdfunding” strategy relies on small donations

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The camera trapping lions produces a million images a year, but since the researchers don't have Internet access, they have to put them on flash drives or disks and take them back to the university to be recorded and analyzed.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/03/2011) —Imagine being an invisible presence in Serengeti National Park, watching lions, zebras, wildebeests and hyenas stroll a couple of feet away, with no idea that you are watching them. Perhaps a cheetah comes close enough to rub noses.

You can get a sense of what that's like at <http://www.rockethub.com/projects/3725-serengeti-live>. In the video, Craig Packer, who is one of 49 scientists nationwide participating in the first SciFund Challenge, <http://rockethub.com/projects/scifund>, explains how the public can become involved in his research. His goal is simply to raise \$14,000 over the next several weeks for an Internet connection to put the Serengeti online by soliciting small donations in exchange for access to the site. The challenge began Nov. 1 and ends Dec. 15.

Packer, the University of Minnesota's world-renowned authority on lion behavior and Distinguished McKnight University Professor in the College of Biological Sciences, is asking you to help him bring the Serengeti to a computer near you. In exchange, he'll provide you with a window into his world.

Packer, doctoral student Ali Swanson, who is a National Science Foundation graduate research fellow, and a crew of students and staff have placed approximately 200 heat-and-motion-activated cameras over a 1,000-square-mile grid of the Serengeti in order to capture very detailed images of how predatory mammals co-exist within their habitat.

The camera trapping produces a million images a year, but since the researchers don't have Internet access, they have to put them on flash drives or disks and take them back to the university to be recorded and analyzed. It sometimes takes months. For only \$14,000, they could shorten that to seconds.

“This is the most exciting and engaging field research we have ever done,” says Packer, who has conducted field research in the Serengeti for 33 years. National media, including the New York Times, National Geographic, Smithsonian and Discover have reported many of Packer's previous studies.

The camera trap survey began as fieldwork for Swanson's Ph.D. research on carnivore coexistence.

“Understanding how lions, leopards, cheetahs, and hyenas coexist can inform our understanding of coexistence in other systems where species kill or steal food from each other,” she said. “This knowledge has broad implications for management of protected areas, especially with large carnivores.”

The SciFund Challenge is harnessing the power of “crowdfunding” to support scientific research. Crowdfunding works by funding projects through many small donations solicited over the Internet in a short timeframe. Typically, the challenges are fun and creative and offer some kind of incentive. Relatively common in the arts and journalism, crowdfunding is new to science.

Other SciFund Challenge projects focus on sea turtles, ancient Roman DNA, the effects of climate change on corals, urban butterflies, artificial photosynthesis and cellulosic biofuels.

To learn more about the Serengeti Lion Project, contact Packer ([packer@umn.edu](mailto:packer@umn.edu)) or Swanson ([swanson.ali@gmail.com](mailto:swanson.ali@gmail.com)).

## U of M Law School holds inaugural meeting of new Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/07/2011) —David Wippman, dean of the University of Minnesota Law School, announced today the inaugural meeting of the newly created Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, to be held Friday, Nov. 11, at the Law School, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The event, “Rethinking Criminal Justice,” will bring together leading practitioners and scholars from the United States and elsewhere to discuss transformative ideas for achieving better criminal justice policies and practices. Speakers will include John Choi, Ramsey County Attorney; professor Anthony Doob, University of Toronto; Mike Freeman (’74), Hennepin County Attorney; professor Carol Steiker, Harvard Law School; and Andrew Sonner, former judge of the Maryland Court of Special Appeals. Another dozen nationally and internationally prominent scholars and public officials will participate.

The new institute, supported by a major long-term grant from the Robina Foundation, will work with policy-makers, practitioners and a wide range of leading scholars to improve criminal justice systems that are widely recognized to be ineffective, overly costly, overly severe and insufficiently attentive to the needs and interests of victims. The institute will engage in interdisciplinary, policy-oriented study of the criminal justice system.

The institute will focus its work on three core, interrelated program areas: criminal law theory, headed by professor Antony Duff; criminal justice policy, led by professor Michael Tonry; and sentencing law and practice, led by professors Richard Frase and Kevin Reitz. Projects in the three areas will be focused on documenting problems and developing practical, achievable and cost-effective solutions. Faculty will work closely with practitioners and policy-makers from Minnesota and elsewhere.

For more information about the Robina Institute for Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, contact Zach Hoskins, research fellow in the Institute, at [zhoskins@umn.edu](mailto:zhoskins@umn.edu) or (612) 625-6146.



## University of Minnesota statement on appealing case to the Minnesota Supreme Court

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/07/2011) —The following is a statement from University of Minnesota General Counsel Mark Rotenberg regarding the lawsuit Jimmy Williams vs. Tubby Smith and the University of Minnesota:

"University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler and the Board of Regents have decided that the lower court's decision in Jimmy Williams' lawsuit against Coach Tubby Smith and the university should be appealed to the Minnesota Supreme Court. The \$1 million judgment against Coach Smith and the university, if allowed to stand, has the potential to harm the university now and in the future.

I plan to file the appropriate papers with the Supreme Court in the next several days."



## U of M scientists, Master Gardeners part of team to analyze biofuel production and land use



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Research will focus on harvesting perennial grasses—mostly native species such as bluestem and switchgrass—and using the biomass as a feedstock for a biofuel process known as pyrolysis. [Image courtesy [Doctor Swan](#)]

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/07/2011) —Can a single biofuel production system reduce water and nutrient runoff from farm fields, cut down on soil erosion and turn a profit for the farmers who grow it? University of Minnesota scientists and Extension Master Gardeners will explore this possibility as part of a new, five-year, \$25 million multistate grant.

Funded by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, nationwide research will focus on harvesting perennial grasses—mostly native species such as bluestem and switchgrass—and using the biomass as a feedstock for a biofuel process known as pyrolysis. Interdisciplinary research teams from eight states will explore the best ways to grow, harvest, transport and distribute the biomass and biofuel.

In Minnesota, research efforts will center on the use of biochar, a nutrient-rich solid and co-product of the pyrolysis process, as a soil amendment. To help determine biochar's viability as a commercial product for home gardeners, Master Gardeners will test its ability to increase productivity in vegetable and flower gardens. They will design, plant, maintain and collect data from research plots at three Minnesota sites: the St. Paul Campus Display Garden, the Rosemount Research and Outreach Center, and the Landscape Arboretum. In addition, Master Gardeners will share preliminary findings and results at horticulture days, open houses, field days and other public events statewide.

"The unique part is that Master Gardeners get to work on cutting-edge bioenergy research and bring those results out to the people of Minnesota," said Julie Weisenhorn, Master Gardener program state director.

U of M scientists from Extension and the departments of bioproducts and biosystems engineering; horticultural science; soil, water and climate; and applied economics will take part.

"What is so exciting about this project is that it has the potential to improve soil fertility of large agricultural fields as well as small gardens," said Jason Hill, assistant professor in the U's bioproducts and biosystems engineering department and one of the project's lead investigators.

The feasibility of biochar as a new commercial product for home gardeners may bode well for the future of clean energy options like bio-oil. Pyrolysis decomposes biomass to produce both biochar and bio-oil, which with additional refining can be turned into automobile fuels and petrochemicals. So-called "green gasoline" derived from bio-oil is considered a "drop-in fuel" that can be added directly to the U.S. gasoline infrastructure and delivery system.

In addition to the University of Minnesota, the five-year study involves researchers from Iowa State University, Purdue University, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Vermont, USDA research offices in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Nebraska, and the Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory.

University of Minnesota Extension is a 100-year-old partnership between the university and federal, state and county governments to provide scientific knowledge and expertise to the public. Through Extension, the University of Minnesota "extends" its resources to address critical public issues in priority areas, including food and agriculture, communities, environment, youth and families. For more information, visit [www.extension.umn.edu](http://www.extension.umn.edu).

## "MythBusters" stars to hold discussion at U of M

**What:** MythBusters discussion with Grant Imahara and Tory Belleci

**When:** 9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12

**Where:** Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** Mykala Holtz, Student Unions & Activities, [holtz066@umn.edu](mailto:holtz066@umn.edu), (612) 626-6775

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### November 8, 2011

Ever wonder how myths are busted? "MythBusters" stars Grant Imahara and Tory Belleci will discuss their experiences on the show Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Great Hall in Coffman Union. Doors open at 8 p.m., and the show will begin at 9 p.m.

The Student Unions & Activities' Programming Board has partnered with University of Minnesota student groups Campus Atheists, Skeptics & Humanists, Society of Women Engineers, Active Energy Club, GOFIRST, Biology Without Borders and Geological Society. Following the discussion, these groups will perform experiments to bust their own myths.

The event will be free. Two people admitted to the discussion per valid student U Card. University of Minnesota, Twin Cities students must present their U Card at the door. U of M students may bring a non university guest, but the student must arrive with their guest on the day of the event. There will be no tickets required in advance, as seats will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

"MythBusters" is a Discovery Channel science entertainment program. The show's hosts test the validity of popular myths, urban legends and rumors using elements of the scientific method.

Imahara is an electronics and radio-control specialist on "MythBusters." He was also one of the few official operators of R2-D2 and developers of the Energizer Bunny. He is responsible for all the electronics installation and radio programming on the current generation of bunnies, even serving as the bunny's driver and crew supervisor on numerous commercials.

Belleci has been with "MythBusters" since 2003, first doing work behind the scenes and then becoming one of the show's co-hosts. Since being on the show, he has jumped out of several planes, wake-boarded behind a cruise ship, been chased by a crocodile, stared down a bull and swum with sharks.

The Student Unions & Activities Program Board is the main campus-wide programming board for the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Its programming committees are responsible a wide 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.sua.umn.edu/mythbusters](http://www.sua.umn.edu/mythbusters).

## U of M hosts free Math

**Media Note:** For high-resolution photos from previous Math & Science Family Fun Fairs, contact Rhonda Zurn at [rzurn@umn.edu](mailto:rzurn@umn.edu).

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Attendees can hold a meteorite, make their own earthquakes, control robots, build their own FM radios, spin a wind turbine to generate electricity and discover hidden microworlds.

### November 8, 2011

Math plus science equals a day of fun and learning at the University of Minnesota's annual Math & Science Family Fun Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m Saturday, Nov. 19, at the university's Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public. The first 350 students attending will receive free U of M backpacks. Event parking is \$6.

The Family Fun Fair features entertaining, hands-on math and science experiences for kids of all ages. Attendees can hold a meteorite, make their own earthquakes, control robots, build their own FM radios, spin a wind turbine to generate electricity and discover hidden microworlds.

Performances by the Physics Force and the Energy and U group highlight experiments where air pressure crushes a 55-gallon steel drum, ping pong balls can pierce through cans and energy is explained through screaming gummy bears, explosions and flames. A Mystery Science Lab explores the oddities of science with eggs that neither float nor sink, a levitating globe and water flowing with no source.

"This event is for families with kids of all ages, especially kids in kindergarten through sixth grade, who will have a chance to see the excitement that a career in science, engineering and mathematics provides," said Dorothy Cheng, outreach coordinator for the University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering.

For more information, including directions, parking and a schedule of shows and exhibits, visit [www.cse.umn.edu/funfair](http://www.cse.umn.edu/funfair).

## Minnesota energy

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/14/2011) —A delegation of government officials, legislators, researchers and energy industry professionals is in Germany for a joint seminar on green energy and jobs. The group, led by Lt. Gov. Yvonne Prettner Solon and sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Center for German and European Studies, is meeting in Berlin through Nov. 19 with members of Germany's Ministry of Economics and Technology who were responsible for reshaping German policy on green energy and jobs.

### Why Germany

Germany is a world leader in renewable energy adoption. Its landmark renewable energies act (EEG) in 2000 provided the spark for a tremendous boost of investment, generated new jobs and became a model for many other countries interested in securing reliable energy supplies at an affordable cost. This year's decision by the German government to exit nuclear power by the year 2022 is another landmark decision. While the idea to phase out nuclear power had been on the books for more than a decade, the nuclear disaster at Japan's Fukushima plant created a new sense of urgency and a strong public consensus among German citizens. Germany, in effect, has become a huge laboratory and case study for the feasibility and challenge of large-scale energy transformation.

### Issues to be examined

Members of Minnesota's delegation will explore best practices around how Germany's states, counties and cities create effective institutions and structures for the decentralized production and delivery of alternative energies while simultaneously producing new jobs. Sessions will address policy, comparing energy systems, wind and solar, connecting green energy to economic growth and practical challenges.

### Who will attend

In addition to Solon, the delegation members are:

- Robert Ambrose, director of government affairs, Great River Energy
- Ellen Anderson, public utilities commissioner
- State Sen. Scott Dibble, member of the Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications; Tax; and Transportation committees
- Bill Grant, deputy commissioner for energy and telecommunication, Minnesota Department of Commerce
- State Rep. Tom Hackbarth, Capital Investment; Finance; and Ways and Means committees and Energy subcommittees of the Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Policy committee
- Margaret Hodnik, vice president for regulatory and legislative affairs, Allete/Minnesota Power
- Rep. Frank Hornstein, member of Transportation Policy and Finance; Government Operations and Elections; and Ways and Means committees
- State Sen. John Howe, member of Transportation; Energy, Utilities, and Telecommunications; Jobs and Economic Growth; and Tax committees
- Al Juhnke, state agriculture and energy field representative for Senator Al Franken
- Steve Kelley, senior fellow and director of Center for Science, Technology and Public Policy, U of M Humphrey School of Public Affairs
- State Sen. Doug Magnus, member of Agriculture and Rural Economies; Capital Investment; Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications; and Finance committees
- Rolf Nordstrom, executive director, Great Plains Institute
- Dennis O'Brien, MN Public Utilities commissioner
- Connie Perpich, Center for German and European Studies advisory board
- State Sen. David Senjem, member of Capital Investment; Higher Education; Rules and Administration; Tax; and Transportation committees
- Elizabeth Wilson, associate professor of energy and environmental policy, U of M Humphrey School of Public Affairs

### About the seminar

The seminar is a special three-year project of the University of Minnesota's Center for German and European Studies and a group of international partners, including Germany's Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology and the German Academic Exchange Service. Subsequent years will expand the delegation to representatives from the five-state region and Manitoba. Funding is provided through a special German grant that fosters transatlantic exchange and commemorates George Marshall.

The interdisciplinary Center for German & European Studies at the University of Minnesota is one of six centers of excellence created in the United States with German government support. Since 2005 it has hosted the annual "American & German Health Care Forum" to foster health policy exchange on best practices between top-level U.S. and German health care experts. This is the first such exchange addressing green jobs and energy.

## Former Canadian Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy to present 'The Responsibility to Protect' at U of M Law School

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/14/2011) —Lloyd Axworthy, former Canadian foreign minister, will present “The Responsibility to Protect” from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22, in Room 25 of the University of Minnesota Law School, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie will introduce Axworthy.

Axworthy was twice president of the U.N. Security Council and has held seven different Cabinet positions in the Canadian government. He has gained international distinction for his advocacy of an International Criminal Court, the “Responsibility to Protect” principle and, in work for which he was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize, the abolition of landmines. He holds 12 honorary doctorates and is currently President of the University of Winnipeg. His book “Navigating a New World: Canada’s Global Future” was published in 2003.

Over much of the world, autocratic regimes have used the mantle of “national sovereignty” to protect themselves from outside intervention as they undertook genocide or ethnic cleansing campaigns against ethnic or religious minorities, tribal populations, dissident political movements or other allegedly undesirable groups. Traditionally, the rights of states have trumped the rights of people.

But in 2005 the U.N. General Assembly unanimously approved a fundamentally new concept of what sovereignty means, declaring that it not only gives states certain rights but also entails the responsibility of states to protect their own citizens. Further, the new doctrine stipulates that when a state fails to uphold this responsibility, the international community, acting through the United Nations, has not just a right but an obligation to act in the interest of an endangered population and, as a last resort, can even use force to do so when all means of peaceful intervention have been exhausted.

Laudable though the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) doctrine appears, international resolve to apply it has been wanting on multiple occasions. Axworthy will address this reluctance and what can be done about the problem in his presentation. A question and answer session will follow.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

**Sponsoring Organizations:** Minnesota Chapter, Citizens for Global Solutions; United Nations Association of Minnesota; Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers, Advocates for Human Rights; Canadian Consulate General, Minneapolis; Advocates for Human Rights; World Without Genocide at William Mitchell College of Law; the Minnesota International Center; and the following units of the University of Minnesota: Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Human Rights Center of the Law School, Human Rights Program of the College of Liberal Arts, Department of Political Science, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change.

## New study finds that even the cleanest wastewater contains 'super bacteria'

University of Minnesota research suggests that wastewater treated with standard technologies contains far greater quantities



Exemplary wastewater treatment mixed with pristine surface waters made the Duluth, Minn., area an ideal location for this study. Credit: University of Minnesota

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/14/2011) —A new University of Minnesota study reveals that the release of treated municipal wastewater – even wastewater treated by the highest-quality treatment technology – can have a significant effect on the quantities of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, often referred to as “superbacteria,” in surface waters.

The study also suggests that wastewater treated using standard technologies probably contains far greater quantities of antibiotic-resistant genes, but this likely goes unnoticed because background levels of bacteria are normally much higher than in the water studied in this research.

The new study is led by civil engineering associate professor Timothy LaPara in the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities College of Science and Engineering. The study is published in the most recent issue of "Environmental Science and Technology," a journal of the American Chemical Society. The research was part of a unique class project in a graduate-level civil engineering class at the University of Minnesota focused on environmental microbiology.

Antibiotics are used to treat numerous bacterial infections, but the ever-increasing presence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria has raised substantial concern about the future effectiveness of antibiotics. In response, there has been increasing focus on environmental reservoirs of antibiotic resistance over the past several years. Antibiotic use in agriculture has been heavily scrutinized, while the role of treated municipal wastewater has received little attention as a reservoir of resistance.

Antibiotic-resistant bacteria develop in the gastrointestinal tracts of people taking antibiotics. These bacteria are then shed during defecation, which is collected by the existing sewer infrastructure and passed through a municipal wastewater treatment facility.

In this study, the Ph.D. students and professor examined the impact of municipal wastewater in Duluth, Minn., on pristine surface waters by gathering water samples from the St. Louis River, Duluth-Superior Harbor, and Lake Superior in northeastern Minnesota. The treatment facility in Duluth is considered one of the best. After solids and biological matter are removed, the Duluth wastewater treatment is one of only a few in the country that filter water a third time through a mixed media filter to remove additional particles of bacteria and nutrients. Standard wastewater treatment treats water twice to remove solids and biological matter.

“This was a unique and ideal location for this study because of the exemplary wastewater treatment mixed with surprisingly pristine surface waters with very low background levels of bacteria that wouldn’t mask our results,” LaPara said. “Previous studies in which treated municipal wastewater was implicated as a source of antibiotic resistance were more convoluted because multiple sources of antibiotic resistance genes existed, such as agricultural activity and industrial wastewater discharges.”

While the levels of overall bacteria were still relatively low in the surface water samples, researchers in the University of Minnesota study found that the quantities of antibiotic-resistant genes and human-specific bacteria were typically 20-fold higher at the site where treated wastewater was released into the Duluth-Superior Harbor compared to nearby surface water samples.

“Current wastewater treatment removes a very large fraction of the antibiotic resistance genes,” LaPara said. “But this study shows that wastewater treatment operations need to be carefully considered and more fully studied as an important factor in the global ecology of antibiotic resistance.”

In addition to LaPara, researchers involved in the study include civil engineering Ph.D. students Tucker Burch, Patrick McNamara, David Tan; and bioproducts and biosystems engineering Ph.D. student Mi Yan, with help from soil, water and climate Ph.D. student Jessica Eichmiller.

The University of Minnesota research study was funded by the National Science Foundation’s broader impacts effort, which combines research and education. The Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund paid for time on the R/V Blue Heron ship to collect water samples.

To read the full research paper, titled “Tertiary-Treated Municipal Wastewater is a Significant Point Source of Antibiotic Resistance Genes into Duluth-Superior Harbor,” visit <http://z.umn.edu/lapara11>.

## Crime Alert: Comstock Hall window struck by bullet

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**November 14, 2011**

The University of Minnesota Police Department issued the following crime alert today:

At 3:55 a.m. today, a window in Comstock Hall was damaged when it was struck by a bullet. The bullet broke two panes of glass and then landed on the window sill. The resident in the room at the time was not harmed.

University of Minnesota Police responded and officers checked the area directly under the damaged window, as well as areas along the Mississippi River and did not find anything out of the ordinary. The damaged window faced south, and the initial investigation indicates that the bullet was likely fired from a distance, most likely on the West Bank of the Mississippi River, and inadvertently struck the building. It is believed this incident was isolated and was not directed at the resident.

The investigation into the incident continues, and anyone with information is asked to call the University of Minnesota Police Department at 612-624-COPS (2677). Reference case number UM-11-343380.

This Crime Alert is sent in compliance with the federal Clery Act which requires universities to alert the campus community of crimes that may pose an ongoing threat to students and employees. For updates on any developments in this case, please visit the Crime Alerts page on the UMPD website.

For more on campus safety and security, and for a list of campus safety resources available to you, visit the University's Safety and Security Web site at [www1.umn.edu/prepared/](http://www1.umn.edu/prepared/).

## University of Minnesota to host 'Driven to Discover' video contest

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/16/2011)  
—Today the University of Minnesota unveiled a video contest, running November 16-December 28, for

U of M, Twin Cities undergraduate students that asks them to submit a video of up to 30 seconds showing how they are “Driven to Discover.”

In total, the contest will award \$30,000 in scholarship assistance to 16 students, based on the total number of “likes” on the official University of Minnesota Facebook page.

The video contest is another facet of the university’s successful “Driven to Discover” marketing campaign which highlights the distinct experience students receive when they attend the U of M. This experience includes exposure to world-class faculty and a wide array of learning opportunities to make their own self-discoveries, be they new solar systems, cures for diseases or an untold form of dance.

“I’m pleased we are able to encourage our students to think about their college experience creatively and reward their originality and enthusiasm with a scholarship,” said Bob McMaster, vice provost and dean of undergraduate education. “Our students represent some of the best and brightest in Minnesota and I look forward to seeing what they are Driven to Discover at the U of M.”

Video submissions will be accepted at <http://discover.umn.edu>. Facebook voting will begin Jan. 3 and conclude Jan. 17. Two grand prize winners will be awarded \$5,000 scholarships; four \$2,500 and 10 \$1,000 scholarships will also be awarded.

### Student Scholarship contest muse



The University of Minnesota unveiled a video contest for U of M, Twin Cities undergraduate students that asks them to submit a video of up to 30 seconds showing how they are “Driven to Discover.”



## Genome map of legume reveals how ancient gene duplication led to plants' unique properties

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/16/2011) —An international team of scientists has sequenced the genome of the legume *Medicago truncatula* and in the process learned that the genes controlling the plant's symbiotic relationships with fungi and bacteria can be traced back nearly 60 million years. The team's findings are published online today in the journal *Nature*.

The team, led by University of Minnesota plant scientist Nevin Young, recently completed the multiyear effort to map the genome of *Medicago truncatula*, which scientists use as a model to understand the biology of legumes like soybeans, alfalfa and peas. The project's goal, Young says, was to document how symbiosis – the process that legumes like *Medicago* use to create their own nitrogen fertilizer through association with special bacteria – evolved.

The team of scientists found that *Medicago*'s symbiosis can be traced to the time when dinosaurs disappeared from the Earth. Apparently, *Medicago* experienced a massive genome duplication leading to novel pairs of genes essential for symbiosis, says Young. The team found that ancient genes split into pairs that separately control complementary forms of symbiosis, enabling the modern form of nitrogen fixation that makes legumes so central in agriculture. For biologists, this phenomenon is known as "genetic sub-functionalization" and is considered an important scientific theory about how novel genes evolve in both plants and animals.

While *Medicago truncatula* is not grown as a food crop itself, it is very closely related to alfalfa and other edible legumes. Symbiosis in legumes is the world's largest source of natural soil fertilizer, so if plant breeders could enhance legume symbiosis – or even introduce it into other food crops – farmers would save money and reduce the environmental impact of applied fertilizers. The recent discoveries about symbiosis revealed through the sequencing of *Medicago*'s genome could be invaluable as scientists try to increase global food production to feed an ever expanding population.

"The *Medicago* genome sequence will be an essential reference for both applied plant breeders and basic scientists. The insights we've gained into the evolution of symbiosis demonstrate the power of plant genomics to reveal fascinating biological processes," says Young.

Major U.S. research funding for mapping the *Medicago truncatula* genome was provided by the National Science Foundation and the Noble Foundation.

While the project was coordinated at the University of Minnesota, it involved many partner institutions, including the University of Oklahoma; J. Craig Venter Institute; Genoscope; the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute; CNRS/INRA-Toulouse; John Innes Centre; Noble Foundation; University of Wageningen; MIPS-Munich; Ghent University; and the National Center for Genome Resources. The *Nature* paper has 124 co-authors at 31 institutions in 8 countries.

## U of M's 'Minnesota' magazine wins 5 MMPA awards

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/16/2011) —The University of Minnesota Alumni Association's *Minnesota* magazine won five awards, including a silver award for overall excellence, at the 15th annual Minnesota Magazine & Publishing Association (MMPA) Publishing Excellence Awards event Nov. 3.

*Minnesota* was also recognized for four articles published in 2010-2011:

- Gold award for Best Feature Article, for “Who’s Minding the Animals?” by Greg Breining;
- Gold award for Best Profile Article, for “A Doctor and a Gentleman” by Jay Weiner;
- Gold award for Best Column, for first person essays “Campus Fugit” by Jeff Johnson and “A Clean Break” by Mary Winstead;
- Silver award for Best Profile Article, for “The Accidental Memoirist” by Bill Swanson.

The MMPA is an organization of publishing members, associates or vendors, freelancers, educational institutions and sponsors.

“*Minnesota* provides a meaningful way for alumni to connect to the University of Minnesota through its wide range of thoughtful features, profiles and commentary,” said Phil Esten, president and chief executive officer of the Alumni Association. “We are proud that *Minnesota* continues to be recognized among our peers.”

*Minnesota* magazine is a quarterly publication mailed to members of the Alumni Association. The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is a nearly 60,000-member organization dedicated to engaging the University of Minnesota’s global community to support and advance the University’s excellence. For more information, visit [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org).

## New projection shows global food demand doubling by 2050

Increasing yield in poor countries could lower environmental impact

### Media Note:

Embargoed until 2 p.m. Nov. 21

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Global food demand could double by 2050, according to a new projection by David Tilman, Regents Professor of Ecology in the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/21/2011) —Global food demand could double by 2050, according to a new projection by David Tilman, Regents Professor of Ecology in the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences, and colleagues, including Jason Hill, assistant professor in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

Producing that amount of food could significantly increase levels of carbon dioxide and nitrogen in the environment and cause the extinction of numerous species. But this can be avoided, the paper shows, if the high-yielding technologies of rich nations are adapted to work in poor nations, and if all nations use nitrogen fertilizers more efficiently.

"Agriculture's greenhouse gas emissions could double by 2050 if current trends in global food production continue," Tilman said. "Global agriculture already accounts for a third of all greenhouse gas emissions." Much of these emissions come from land clearing, which also threatens species with extinction.

The article shows that if poor nations continue current practices, they will clear a land area larger than the United States (two and a half billion acres) by 2050. But if richer nations help poorer nations improve yields to achievable levels, that could be reduced to half a billion acres.

The research, published Nov. 21 online by the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, shows that adopting nitrogen-efficient "intensive" farming can meet future global food demand with much lower environmental impacts than the "extensive" farming practiced by many poor nations, which clear land to produce more food. The potential benefits are great. In 2005, crop yields for the wealthiest nations were more than 300 percent higher than yields for the poorest nations.

"Strategically intensifying crop production in developing and least-developed nations would reduce the overall environmental harm caused by food production, as well as provide a more equitable food supply across the globe," said Hill.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations recently projected a 70 percent increase in demand. According to Tilman, either projection shows that the world faces major environmental problems unless agricultural practices change.

The environmental impacts of meeting demand depend on how global agriculture expands. Clearing land for agriculture and the use of fuel and fertilizers to grow crops increases carbon and nitrogen in the environment and causes species extinctions.

In the paper, Tilman and his collaborators explore different ways of meeting demand for food and their environmental effects. In essence, the options are to increase productivity on existing agricultural land, clear more land, or do a combination of both. They consider various scenarios in which the amount of nitrogen use, land cleared, and resulting greenhouse gas emissions differ.

"Our analyses show that we can save most of the Earth's remaining ecosystems by helping the poorer nations of the world feed themselves," Tilman said.

Christian Blazer, from the University of California Santa Barbara, collaborated with Tilman and Hill on the research. Belinda Befort, University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences, also contributed.

## U of M President Kaler and statewide campus chancellors sign on to national campaign in support of student aid

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/22/2011) —University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler and the statewide campus chancellors, Charles Casey (Crookston), Lendley Black (Duluth), Jacqueline Johnson (Morris) and Stephen Lehmkuhle (Rochester), today signed the national Student Aid Alliance’s online petition to highlight the importance of preserving student aid.

The campaign coincides with both the activities of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction and those surrounding the remainder of the federal FY2012 appropriations process. Recent budget deals have already cut \$30 billion from the student aid programs.

“As a first-generation college student, I know the benefit higher education brings to people’s lives and their communities,” Kaler said. “I have made access to higher education one of my priorities as president of the University of Minnesota. That’s why it’s more important than ever to preserve, protect and provide adequate funding for the core federal student aid programs—such as Pell grants and student loan benefits. Together, these programs offer students an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills our nation demands to compete in the 21st century.”

In the 2009-10 academic year, more than 10,000 students across the University of Minnesota’s five campuses – 20 percent of all undergraduates – benefited from roughly \$25 million in Pell grants. About 8 million U.S. students rely on Pell grants each year to help pay for college.

As of today, more than 120,000 individuals have signed the petition. For more information, visit the Student Aid Alliance website, <http://studentaidalliance.org>.

## Charlie Bethel returns for one-night performance of 'Gilgamesh' at University of Minnesota Dec. 8

**Who:** Actor and writer Charlie Bethel

**What:** Solo performance of "Gilgamesh"

**When:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8

**Where:** University of Minnesota, Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** Marlo Welshons, University of Minnesota Libraries, [welsh066@umn.edu](mailto:welsh066@umn.edu), (612) 625-9148  
[Preston Smith](mailto:smith@umn.edu), University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552

**November 28, 2011**

The deeply flawed king and his wild-man sidekick take on elemental forces and gods in this solo "Gilgamesh" performance by acclaimed actor and writer Charlie Bethel at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, in 120 Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Presented by the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries, tickets are \$10 for general public, \$5 for members of the Friends. Reserve tickets at [stangret@umn.edu](mailto:stangret@umn.edu) or (612) 624-9339.

## Emmy-nominated screenwriter to discuss long-term environmental and cultural effects of 2010 BP oil drilling disaster

Leigh Fondakowski to present at U of M Dec. 1

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**November 28, 2011**

Emmy-nominated screenwriter, playwright and Tectonic Theater Project member Leigh Fondakowski will speak at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, about her upcoming work based on interviews with the people of coastal Louisiana following the BP Deepwater Horizon drilling explosion. The event will be held in the U of M's Nolte Center for Continuing Education at 315 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., Minneapolis.

Sponsored by the U's Institute for Advanced Study, Fondakowski's presentation will highlight her production's exploration of the environmental and human cost of the pursuit of oil. The presentation will also include a visual installation of life-sized portraits of the interviewees.

Fondakowski has interviewed scientists, environmentalists, oil workers, families who lost members on the Deepwater Horizon, business owners, government officials, community leaders, fishing families and ordinary citizens whose lives and livelihood depend on the delicate estuary systems along the Gulf Coast.

Fondakowski was the head writer of "The Laramie Project" and has been a member of Tectonic Theater Project since 1995. She is an Emmy-nominated co-screenwriter for the adaptation of "The Laramie Project" for HBO. Her work, "The People's Temple," has been performed at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Perseverance Theater and The Guthrie Theater, and received the Glickman Award for best new play in 2005. Another original play, "I Think I Like Girls", premiered at Encore Theater in San Francisco under her direction and was voted one of the top 10 plays of 2002 by "The Advocate." Fondakowski's most recent work, "Casa Cushman," explores the life of 19th century actress Charlotte Cushman. One of the most important actresses of her time, Cushman was famous for her interpretation of the leading roles in Shakespeare.

For more information, visit [www.ias.umn.edu/thursdayscalf11.php](http://www.ias.umn.edu/thursdayscalf11.php).

## University of Minnesota hosts Google Chairman Eric Schmidt Nov. 30



Schmidt to speak on  
“The Future of the  
High-tech Economy:  
How Technology is  
Changing Business,  
Education and  
Government”

**Media Note:** Media must request credentials in advance of the event at [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu). Check-in begins at 9:30 a.m., and doors will close at 10 a.m.

**Who:** Google Chairman Eric Schmidt

**When:** 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30

**Where:** Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.

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

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/28/2011) —Google Chairman Eric Schmidt will speak at the University of Minnesota Wednesday, Nov. 30, on “The Future of the High-tech Economy: How Technology is Changing Business, Education and Government.”

Schmidt joined Google in 2001. As executive chairman, he is responsible for helping the company build partnerships and broader business relationships, reaching out to government entities and leading the way Google thinks about technology.

In his presentation, Schmidt will address such questions as:

- How will technology change the way we work, learn and govern?
- How are new forms of collaboration and efficiency made possible by emerging technology?
- What is the state of the high-technology infrastructure?

The University of Minnesota is one of the leading higher education adopters of Google applications worldwide. There currently are more than 90,000 U of M Google e-mail account users.

**The event is by invitation only.** A webcast will be provided at [www.livestream.com/umntv](http://www.livestream.com/umntv), and Schmidt’s presentation will be recorded for future viewing.

Schmidt’s presentation is being hosted by the university’s Carlson School of Management, College of Science and Engineering, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Office of Information Technology, Office of the President, System Academic Administration and University Relations as well as the Minnesota Business Partnership.

## Science meets theatre in Bell Museum, 'Heart of the Beast' partnership

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/29/2011) —The Bell Museum of Natural History is partnering with In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre (HOBT) to educate students around the state about the lives of animals during winter.

'Winter Dreams,' presented by HOBT gives a magical look into the beauty and wonder of Minnesota winters by exploring the dreams of animals, brought to the stage in puppet form. As the state's natural history museum, the Bell Museum is presenting programming to complement the production. Educators from both institutions designed a package for student groups to enjoy the puppet performance, followed by an interactive tour at the Bell Museum, providing insight into the biology and habits of regional animals during the winter.

"We are thrilled to be partnering with Heart of the Beast Theatre," said Susan Weller, director of the Bell Museum. "Too often our society segregates art and science into separate activities, as if they exist in independent universes. It's a false dichotomy. 'Winter Dreams' is a wonderful example of how theatre, music and science can be blended to inspire wonder and provoke curiosity — two key ingredients for encouraging lifelong learning."

Groups interested in taking advantage of this limited-time opportunity or with questions can contact Stacy Lee King, community engagement manager at HOBT, [education@hobt.org](mailto:education@hobt.org), or call 612-721-2535 ext.15

**Dates:** Tuesday, Dec. 6 - Friday, Dec. 9, Thursday, Dec.15 & Friday, Dec. 16

**Times:** Performance at HOBT at 10 a.m., Bell Museum tour at noon. (Times are flexible.) Students may bring a bagged lunch to eat between and leaving for the Bell Museum.

**Cost:** \$10 per child, one chaperone per every 10 students free, \$10 per each additional chaperone. Discounts available for Bell Museum members.

The Bell Museum is part of the University's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, and strives to advance the quest to discover, document and understand life in its many forms and to inspire curiosity, delight and informed stewardship of the natural world. For details, visit [bellmuseum.org](http://bellmuseum.org).



## Jim



All 90 of Jim Brandenburg's "Chased By the Light" images will be on display in the West Gallery at the Bell Museum.

## Brandenburg's 'Chased By The Light' returns to Bell Museum of Natural History

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/30/2011) —“Chased By the Light: Jim Brandenburg’s 90-Day Photo Journey” comes back to the University of Minnesota’s Bell Museum of Natural History for a new showing that opens Dec. 10 and runs through May 13, 2012. It’s the first time in 13 years the popular exhibit will be available to area residents. The exhibit has thrilled audiences nationwide since its debut.

Brandenburg began his photo journey with a simple plan: "In autumn I set out to make one photograph—one single exposure—each day for 90 days. I hoped with patience and endurance to renew my vision of the natural world."

After 90 days, what emerged from the deep woods in and around the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness was a changed photographer with three rolls of film. Each roll was filled with images that represented Brandenburg’s feelings about the essence of wild places such as a raven feather in the rain, a tree marked by a bear or a vibrant view of an aurora borealis.

In today’s era of quick communication, mind-boggling amounts of media, and digital cameras providing a nearly endless supply of photos to alter, “Chased By the Light” is more relevant than ever.

“Setting aside time to slow down—to study and contemplate nature and the world around us—is a timeless message, and this exhibit is a great way to inspire people to do this,” says Bell Museum exhibit curator Don Luce.

For Luce, documenting our relationship with nature is not only good for the spirit, it’s also key to the preservation of memories. “The BWCA, where many of the images were shot, has been in the news of late,” he says. “With climate change, intense storms and fires, the north woods are changing rapidly. This area we thought we set aside to be preserved forever may be a very different place for our children and grandchildren. Jim’s photos will be an important visual documentation of what this place was once like.”

All 90 of Brandenburg’s “Chased By the Light” images will be on display in the West Gallery at the Bell Museum, along with a selection of images from the same areas Brandenburg took after the major storm of 1999. A video theater provides a behind-the-scenes exploration of methods and meanings of Brandenburg’s remarkable images.

A native Minnesotan, Jim Brandenburg spent three decades traveling the world as a photographer with National Geographic magazine. His piece “NorthWoods Journal,” the impetus for "Chased By the Light," made National Geographic history. According to editor William Allen, it was “the most photographs the magazine had ever published in one feature in its entire history ... and by the way, using the least amount of film.”

The Bell Museum is part of the university’s College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, and strives to advance the quest to discover, document and understand life in its many forms and to inspire curiosity, delight and informed stewardship of the natural world. For details, visit [bellmuseum.org](http://bellmuseum.org).

## Central Minnesotans to get first look at scenarios for regional master plan coordinated by U of M

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (11/30/2011) —Central Minnesotans will meet to vote on four distinct regional possibilities—four futuristic scenarios—for their region’s long-term sustainable development at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at The Lodge at Brainerd Lakes in Baxter, Minn.

The meeting is part of the Central Minnesota Sustainable Development Plan (CMSDP), a two-year, community-led project designed to boost Central Minnesota’s economy, housing, land use and transportation efforts in sustainable ways. The CMSDP is coordinated by the University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Program (RSDP) and the Region Five Development Commission and funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The four scenarios being voted on range in title from “Abundance” to “Doomsday” and represent more than six months of research and community input collected and graphically illustrated by RSDP staff and students. They were created by the CMSDP’s four citizen-based work groups who were asked to identify and address key challenges facing their region—including an aging population; a shortage of affordable housing, transportation options and economic opportunities; and unsustainable land use practices.

Between 150 and 200 community members representing Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties are expected to attend the meeting. The winning scenarios will create a vision, which in turn will determine the policy and action items that will form the basis of the CMSDP. It will be presented to HUD, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency in December 2012.

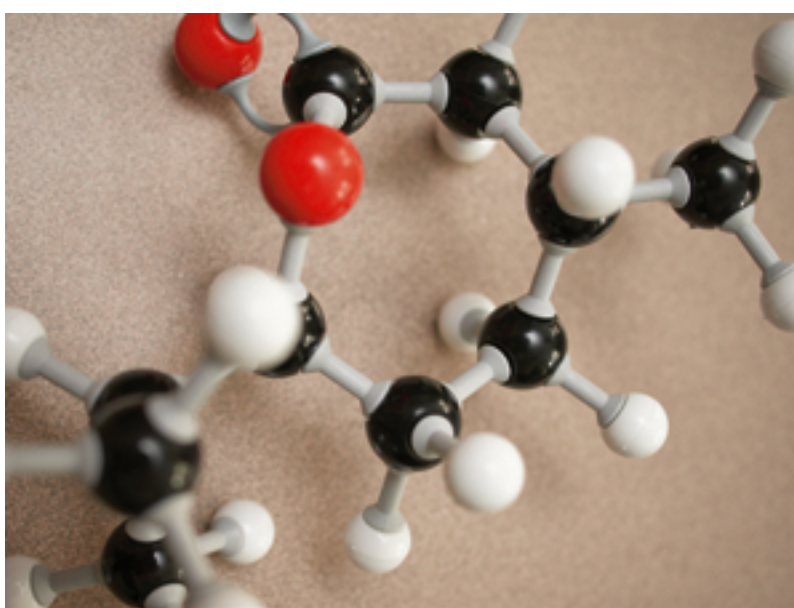
“Each scenario represents a distinct future for Central Minnesota, with each requiring a different method of approach,” says RSDP statewide director Kathryn Draeger. “Details of the scenarios have been teased out and will be powerfully illustrated with maps and graphics to provide a very clear look into the future of the region.”

The Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships program is an outreach arm of the university that works to vitalize Minnesota’s five geographic regions by addressing community-identified issues. For details on the CMSDP project, visit [www.rsdp.umn.edu](http://www.rsdp.umn.edu).

## U of M to receive nearly \$17 million over the next five years from Dow Chemical Company

New partnership will strengthen research and enable a building expansion

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At the University of Minnesota, Dow will fund a variety of research projects focused on developing materials used in photovoltaic devices; polymers that target electronic devices, floor coatings and the delivery of pharmaceuticals; and catalytic compounds that facilitate the transformation of oil and natural gas to feedstock chemicals.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/01/2011) —The University of Minnesota has finalized an agreement with Dow Chemical Company that will result in the University receiving nearly \$17 million over the next five years.

Almost \$2.3 million per year over the next five years will go to chemical engineering and materials science, chemistry and mechanical engineering researchers in the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering. Dow also has made a \$5 million commitment to help fund a building expansion for Amundson Hall, the home of the highly ranked Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science.

The commitment is part of Dow's recently announced investment of \$25 million per year over 10 years at 11 leading U.S. universities to strengthen research in traditional scientific fields important to Dow and to the nation's future. Dow chose the 11 universities for their excellence in science and engineering education, research and willingness to collaborate with industry.

"This unique and industry-leading investment will support breakthrough technologies and increase collaboration between Dow and key universities, while helping to develop America's future pipeline of Ph.D.-level talent," said Dr. William F. Banholzer, Ph.D., Dow's chief technology officer and executive vice president of ventures, new business development and licensing. "It is vital that we support academic research to ensure universities can continue the tradition of excellence in chemical engineering, chemistry and materials science to help address the needs of the industry and our country."

At the University of Minnesota, Dow will fund a variety of research projects focused on developing materials used in photovoltaic devices; polymers that target electronic devices, floor coatings and the delivery of pharmaceuticals; and catalytic compounds that facilitate the transformation of oil and natural gas to feedstock chemicals. Dow will partner with the school's graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and faculty researchers, giving them a chance to work directly with Dow scientists on an ongoing basis. Researchers from Dow and the University meet by telephone each week to discuss the progress of their research and the researchers will meet in person at least four times each year.

"For Minnesota, the donation and research funding are game changers," said Frank Bates, head of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science in the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering. "This investment is a real change in the way companies invest in research and work with universities. It's about a partnership to meet the needs of both the company and the university while contributing to our society."

In addition to strengthening the university's relationship with industry, the Dow partnership is bringing together researchers from across disciplines within the university.

"At the University of Minnesota we have a uniquely close relationship between chemistry and chemical engineering and materials science that helps bring scientists and engineers together in new ways to solve important problems," said William Tolman, chair of the Department of Chemistry. "This investment from Dow will help strengthen that relationship and drive exciting research forward."

In addition to the University of Minnesota, other universities receiving funding from Dow include the California Institute of Technology, University of California at Santa Barbara, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Georgia Institute of Technology, Pennsylvania State University, University of Wisconsin, Northwestern University, University of California at Berkeley, Carnegie Mellon University and University of Michigan.

For more information on Dow's Strategic University Partnerships Program, visit [www.dow.com/innovation/partnership](http://www.dow.com/innovation/partnership).

## Sustainable urban design expert to argue for "streetcar cities" at U of M Center for Transportation Studies event

**Who:** Patrick Condon, sustainable urban design expert, professor and senior researcher with the Design Centre for Sustainability at the University of British Columbia

**Topic:** "Flat City: The Streetcar City and the Revival of the American Dream"

**Where:** A.I. Johnson Great Room, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis

**When:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8

**Contacts:** Michael McCarthy, Center for Transportation Studies, [mpmccarthy@umn.edu](mailto:mpmccarthy@umn.edu), (612) 624-3645

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### December 2, 2011

Sustainable urban design expert Patrick Condon will address the idea of "streetcar cities" and argue why this kind of city plan is again desirable for our future quality of life at the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies fall luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, in the A.I. Johnson Great Room, McNamara Alumni Center.

Condon's presentation, "Flat City: The Streetcar City and the Revival of the American Dream," will challenge the idea that North American cities should be designed with high-density "pointy" centers and gradually flatter edges that slope out to the countryside. This urban design contrasts starkly with what most of these cities were at their most powerful: flat and homogeneous in form and density across large urban landscapes. In that first manifestation of the American Dream, residents of the grid-formed streetcar cities produced almost no greenhouse gas from their transportation choices—either on foot or by streetcar.

Since then, metropolitan governments have invested huge resources in supporting what might be called a "centers strategy" at the expense of everything in between, Condon says. But the vast amount of urban space in between offers the framework of a uniquely North American world where the middle class first gained access to single-family homes—the Streetcar City.

Condon is professor and senior researcher with the Design Centre for Sustainability at the University of British Columbia. Condon's book "Seven Rules for Sustainable Communities: Design Strategies for the Post-Carbon World" will be available for sale at the event, and he will sign copies after the luncheon presentation.

More information about the CTS fall luncheon is available online at <http://www.cts.umn.edu/Events/Luncheon/2011/winter>.

## University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler to address Twin Cities business community at Carlson School of Management event Dec. 6

**Who:** University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler

**What:** Carlson School of Management's First Tuesday Speaker Series

**When:** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6

**Where:** McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

### December 2, 2011

University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler will speak at the Carlson School of Management's First Tuesday Speaker Series at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, in the university's McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Kaler will speak on the U's brand as the state's only land-grant public research university, the importance of the Carlson School as a key partner of Minnesota's business community in statewide job creation and innovation and his efforts to improve the university's operational excellence.

As the university's 16th president, Kaler oversees a \$3.7 billion annual budget and more than 4,000 faculty members and 15,000 staff members serving nearly 70,000 students and the state of Minnesota.

A tradition at the Carlson School since 1992, the speaker series brings together leaders from throughout the region to discuss the most important business, management and leadership topics of the day. Taking place on the first Tuesday of the month, this series is one of the largest regularly-scheduled gatherings of corporate and community leaders in the area.

For more information, see [www.csom.umn.edu/FirstTuesday](http://www.csom.umn.edu/FirstTuesday).

## Scientists discover a climate change warning deep under the Dead Sea

University of Minnesota professor is part of international team that predicts the volatile region's water may once again vanish

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Preston Smith, University News Service, [smith@umn.edu](mailto:smith@umn.edu), (612) 625-0552



A section of exposed sediments along the shoreline of the Dead Sea exposes layers set down in wet and dry seasons when the lake was much higher. The crumpled zone represents disruptions from earthquakes. (Photo: Adi Torfstein)

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/05/2011) —An international team of scientists drilling deep under the bed of the Dead Sea has found evidence that the sea may have dried up during a past warm period similar to predicted scenarios for climate change in coming decades. Emi Ito, professor of earth sciences in the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering, is a research team member.

With nations in the volatile region already running short on water, the finding could be a warning of worse shortages to come, the researchers said. The lakebed cores, which contain about 200,000 years of environmental history—the Mideast's longest archive—also record earthquakes and other natural phenomena, and may shed light on human development and current seismic risks. The preliminary results were presented today at the American Geophysical Union's fall meeting in San Francisco.

Spanning Israel and Jordan, the Dead Sea is the world's lowest-lying place on land, with shores some 1,400 feet below sea level and salty waters going down another 1,200 feet. Fed by the Jordan River, it has shrunk rapidly over past decades as Syria, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority pull water for farming and other uses.

Near the sea's center, under 900 feet of water, the team penetrated some 750 feet of muddy sediment, then hit a layer of nearly pure pebbles, underlain by some 120 feet of salt. The salt suggests to them that the lake dried quickly, precipitating out solids. The pebbles appear to be a beach—given their position near the middle, a signal that the sea more or less disappeared. Research by others has already shown that the sea has fluctuated, but this is the first time anyone has found that it actually disappeared.

The cores have not yet been precisely dated, but the researchers have correlated some layers with isotopes found in Mideast cave deposits, and believe the total drying took place around 125,000 years ago, which was at the height of a warm period between the two most recent ice ages, when the Mideast is already known to have been not only warmer, but drier, than today. Climate projections say that if the world keeps warming as it is now, the Mideast could return to this more arid state within decades.

"The Dead Sea level is currently decreasing very quickly because humans are using all of the fresh water sources," said Steven Goldstein, a geochemist at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and one of the project leaders. "The evidence it has dried down in the past, without any human intervention, means that the water that is currently flowing and completely used actually stopped running. If forecasts of increasing aridity turn out to be correct, such conditions could return soon."

Reports by the United Nations and other bodies have cited water as a potential spark for future Mideast conflicts. In the past, the governments of Egypt and Jordan have said that they would never go to war again against Israel—except over water.

"The Dead Sea has witnessed much of human history, from the migration of early humans out of Africa and habitation by early Stone Age people, all the way to the Near East politics of today," said Ito. "To think that we, the humans, are helping it perhaps dry up, is very sobering."

Ito said the Dead Sea water level has been going down by 3 to 5 feet each year due to a combination of dry climate of the region and human activity. Jordan River's water is heavily used for irrigation and little is left to flow into the Dead Sea. If the previous warm period before the last ice age is any guide, the region is going to become drier and drier under warming climate, she said.

The Dead Sea's basin is a plate boundary like the San Andreas fault in California, and the cores also contain a detailed log of past earthquakes there. When quakes occur, typically flat layers of sediment are twisted into convoluted shapes. With precise dating, these should form a history from ancient times to the present, and perhaps give a better picture of future risks faced in the region. It could also help answer longstanding questions. For instance, some say the Biblical overthrow of the walls of Jericho was performed by an earthquake—but whether such a quake took place, and when, has remained controversial. The research team is now in the process of doing more precise dating.

The drilling, some 10 years in the making, was done by investigators from Israel, the United States, Germany, Japan, Switzerland and Norway, under the auspices of the International Continental Scientific Drilling Program, which sponsored the project. The rest was funded by agencies and institutes from the participating countries. U.S. funding came from the National Science Foundation.

In addition to Goldstein, the project leaders are Zvi ben Avraham of Tel-Aviv University and Mordechai Stein of the Geological Survey of Israel. Other team members come from the GFZ German Research Center for Geosciences; Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich; International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto; and University of Minnesota. The team is hoping to involve scientists from Palestine and Jordan as well.

## U of M study suggests flexible workplaces promote better health behavior and well-being

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/06/2011) —A flexible workplace initiative improved employees' health behavior and well-being, including a rise in the amount and quality of sleep and better health management, according to a new study by University of Minnesota sociology professors Erin Kelly and Phyllis Moen. The reprint appears in the December issue of the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*.

“Our study shows that moving from viewing time at the office as a sign of productivity to emphasizing actual results can create a work environment that fosters healthy behavior and well-being,” says Moen. “This has important policy implications, suggesting that initiatives creating broad access to time flexibility encourage employees to take better care of themselves.”

Using longitudinal data collected from 608 white-collar employees and after a flexible workplace initiative was implemented, the study examined changes in health-promoting behaviors and health outcomes among the employees participating in the initiative compared to those who did not participate.

Introduced at the Best Buy headquarters in Richfield, Minn. in 2005, the workplace initiative—dubbed the Results Only Work Environment (ROWE)—redirected the focus of employees and managers toward measurable results and away from when and where work was completed. Under ROWE, employees were allowed to routinely change when and where they worked based on their individual needs and job responsibilities without seeking permission from a manager or even notifying one.

### Key findings

- Employees participating in the initiative reported getting almost an extra hour (52 minutes) of sleep on nights before work.
- Employees participating in the initiative managed their health differently: They were less likely to feel obligated to work when sick and more likely to go to a doctor when necessary, even when busy.
- The flexible workplace initiative increased employees' sense of schedule control and reduced their work-family conflict. This improved their sleep quality, energy levels, self-reported health, and sense of personal mastery while decreasing their emotional exhaustion and psychological distress.
- “Narrower flexibility policies allow some ‘accommodations’ for family needs, but are less likely to promote employee health and well-being or to be available to all employees,” says Kelly.

## Student-designed winter light shows begin Dec. 9 at the University of Minnesota

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The high-tech light show features 75,000 LED lights, 400 individual controllable lights and 450 microcontrollers.

### December 6, 2011

Join the University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering over the next few weekends in December for a dazzling light show designed by students. The high-tech light show, titled “Aurora Digitalis,” features 75,000 LED lights, 400 individual controllable lights and 450 microcontrollers. The show is set to music for a 3D outdoor experience.

The CSE Winter Light Show kick-off event is Friday, Dec. 9, with shows at 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Civil Engineering Building Plaza, 500 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., Minneapolis. Each show will last 15-20 minutes. Entertainment begins at 5 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Stop by the event before the Gopher hockey game, volleyball game or wrestling match for some hot chocolate, cookies and food samples from local restaurants.

Entertainment at the kick-off event is provided by the MinnesoTap dance group, Man Choir, Fencing Club, Alpha Chi Sigma (AXE) chemistry outreach group, and others. Food will be provided by Qdoba, Raising Canes, Toppers, Hot Diggity Dog and the University Dining Services.

The project features the technical and creative skills of University of Minnesota science and engineering students and their ability to have fun on campus—even in the winter. The student group leading the effort is the Nikola Tesla Patent Producers (NTP<sup>2</sup>).

Preceding the CSE Winter Light Show kick-off event, the Science and Engineering Student Board (SESB) is hosting a “Freezin’ for a Reason” 5K Run. Proceeds will be donated to charity.

After the kick-off event on Friday, Dec. 9, the show will run at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. as follows (depending on weather and attendance):

- Saturday, Dec. 10
- Sunday, Dec. 11
- Friday, Dec. 16
- Saturday, Dec. 17
- Thursday, Dec. 22
- Friday, Dec. 23

In addition to NTP<sup>2</sup> and SESB, other student groups involved are IEEE-UMN Student Chapter, Active Energy Club, Triangle Professional Engineering Fraternity, Theta Tau, GO FIRST Robotics and RadioK.

Event sponsors are 3M, Parsons Electric, and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and School of Physics and Astronomy in the University of Minnesota’s College of Science and Engineering.



## University of Minnesota Board of Regents to meet this week

Tuition surcharge, annual research report, graduation and retention rates among the key discussion items

**What:** University of Minnesota Board of Regents Meeting

**When:** Thursday, Dec. 8 and Friday, Dec. 9

**Where:** 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis

**Contacts:** [Patty Mattern](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), University News Service, [mattern@umn.edu](mailto:mattern@umn.edu), 612-624-5551

### December 6, 2011

#### Highlights:

The Educational Planning and Policy Committee will discuss a proposal to levy a tuition surcharge on Carlson School of Management undergraduate students. The revenue generated would be used for scholarships and for faculty hiring and retention. That committee will also receive an update on improvements in undergraduate retention and graduation rates. On Friday, at a meeting of the full Board, the Vice President for Research will present the annual report on grant and contract activity. He will also introduce a new approach to industry-sponsored research.

### Committee Meetings and Board Meeting Agenda

#### Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011

8 - 9:30 a.m., Audit Committee, East Committee Room Cloud Computing – Office of Information Technology Senior Director of Strategy Management Bernard Gulachek will present on cloud computing and realizing its opportunities responsibly.

9:45 - 11:45 a.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room Capital Budget and Sustainability Efforts – University Services Vice President Kathleen O'Brien will report on and review plans for residence hall projects on the Twin Cities Campus and the Crookston Campus. O'Brien will also report on sustainability and energy efficiency policy & university sustainability goals.

9:45 - 11:45 a.m., Faculty, Staff & Student Affairs Committee, East Committee Room Student Finances – Office of Human Resources Vice President Kathy Brown will present to the committee on "The Student Experience: Financial Aid & Financial Literacy."

1:30 - 2:30 p.m., Board of Regents Work Session, Sixth Floor, Boardroom State Budget – State Economist Thomas Stinson will give a State of Minnesota economic update.

2:45 - 4:45 p.m., Educational Planning & Policy Committee, East Committee Room Tuition Surcharge – The University of Minnesota Board of Regents Educational Planning and Policy Committee will discuss a proposal for a tuition surcharge on Carlson School of Management's undergraduate students.

2:45 - 4:45 p.m., Finance & Operations Committee, West Committee Room University Financial Update – University Budget and Finance Vice President and CFO Richard Pfutzenreuter will discuss the debt capacity forecast model for the six-year capital improvement plan.

#### Friday, Dec. 9

9 a.m. – Noon, Board of Regents Meeting, Boardroom Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy will present the annual report on the status of university research. He will also introduce a new approach to industry-sponsored research. University of Minnesota Foundation President and CEO Steven Goldstein and Minnesota Medical Foundation CEO Becky Malkerson will present the annual report on private giving. Pfutzenreuter will deliver the annual financial report.

More information on the Board of Regents meeting can be found at [www.umn.edu/regents](http://www.umn.edu/regents).

## Innovative new approach to industry-funded research announced by U of M

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/09/2011) —The University of Minnesota today announced a new, unique approach to the way it handles intellectual property arising from research projects funded by business and industry partners. The new approach eliminates the need for protracted negotiations over rights to intellectual property that may result from industry-funded research.

Dubbed “Minnesota Innovation Partnerships,” or MN-IP, the new approach is part of the university’s ongoing efforts to work more effectively with the business community. With MN-IP, a company sponsoring research at the university will be able to pre-pay a fee and receive an exclusive worldwide license with royalties taking effect only in cases of significant commercial success (details at end of release). MN-IP offers the added advantage of removing the uncertainty and financial concerns that often surround industry-funded research projects.

At the university and other higher education institutions, industry-funded research often involves complicated research contracts and protracted negotiations over terms related to any intellectual property that might result from the research. Both sides frequently find the experience frustrating, time-consuming and counter-productive to effective partnerships.

“We are very excited to announce this innovative strategy,” said university President Eric Kaler. “Using feedback from business partners who often criticized the university’s traditional approach, Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy and his team have come up with a new approach that is a true game-changer. We expect that MN-IP will make the University of Minnesota a research destination of choice for major corporate partners looking to sponsor research at a world-class research university.”

MN-IP is the result of an initiative launched in 2010 under Mulcahy’s leadership. Staff from the Office for Technology Commercialization evaluated the university’s approach, reviewed peer institution best practices, and consulted with researchers and members of the business community before formulating this innovative strategy. The resulting MN-IP proposal was vetted with internal and external partners and received an enthusiastic response.

“We believe that MN-IP will result in a wide range of positive effects on our relationships with industry research sponsors,” Mulcahy said.

“We’re transitioning from an approach that focused almost exclusively on the remote probability of royalties to one that values the many tangible and intangible benefits that accrue to the university, our corporate partners and the state from truly effective partnerships.”

“Our technology commercialization staff will be encouraged to work with faculty to attract sponsors and establish beneficial partnerships,” Mulcahy added. “Companies will have a stronger incentive to commercialize technology resulting from university research. And consumers will benefit as these innovations are developed and ultimately make their way to the marketplace.”

MN-IP agreements are available immediately to industry research sponsors. Further information is available at the Office for Technology Commercialization website at:

[www.research.umn.edu/techcomm](http://www.research.umn.edu/techcomm).

### Basic Information About UMN-IP

- Involves pre-paid exclusive option fee amounting to 10 percent of sponsored research contract or \$15,000, whichever is greater.
- Includes option to exclusive license with pre-set terms: no annual minimums or other fees; no time limits or milestones; sponsor is free to sublicense/cross-license technology; if annual sales involving licensed IP exceed \$20 million, licensee pays one percent royalty fee; no cap on royalties unless invention improves on sponsor’s pre-existing product or processes.
- Sponsor pays patent costs and has the benefit of driving prosecution while collaborating with the University on patent claims.

## U of M students present largest robot show in Twin Cities Dec. 12

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A robotic cheese slicer, a head massager and a poker game card dealer will be among nearly 250 machines on display at the University of Minnesota Robot Show.

### December 9, 2011

A robotic cheese slicer, a head massager and a poker game card dealer will be among nearly 250 machines on display at the University of Minnesota Robot Show 2:40 to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 12, in the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

The walk-through show is the largest collection of robots assembled in one place in the Twin Cities. The event is free and open to the public and is suitable for all ages.

The show is the culmination of six weeks of work for University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering students in the Introduction to Engineering class who created computer-controlled machines that “do something interesting.” Students received a kit of parts, including the computer, and could add no more than \$40 worth of their own materials.

“That means the students had to be creative, prowling the back aisles of Target or looking in dumpsters,” said William Durfee, University of Minnesota mechanical engineering professor and director of engineering design education. “There are serious objectives to these limits, because in the real world, these future engineers will have to deal with cost constraints when they design things.”

The robots must act for no more than 60 seconds and have at least one moving part, but it is up to the students whether the unique machines do something useful – such as polishing a shoe or making tea – or exist solely to amuse and delight – like the crawling ladybug or an automatic player piano. One especially interesting robot does nothing for 31 seconds, then surprises the viewer by completely shredding a soda pop can in a half second.

For more information on this event and photos from previous years, visit [www.me.umn.edu/robotshow](http://www.me.umn.edu/robotshow).

## U of M Bell Museum of Natural History to unveil new sculpture this morning

**What:** Sculpture  
installation

**Where:** Bell Museum  
of Natural History  
front plaza, 10  
Church St. S.E.,  
Minneapolis

**When:** 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 12

**Who:** Susan Weller, Bell Museum director, and Ian Dudley, Lindstrom, Minn. sculptor

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### December 12, 2011

The University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History is adding a new sculpture today to enhance the educational impact of the museum's scientific and artistic displays. The bronze piece highlights the ten bas-relief sculptures that adorn the Bell Museum's façade. As a Late Art Deco style frieze, the originals appear near the top of the museum's exterior and form a decorative band. The new sculpture brings the ten images together in one location for easy viewing.

The new sculpture joins the museum's "Northwoods" plaza, which was designed by University of Minnesota landscape architecture students and installed in 1999. A favorite of museum visitors, the plaza's focus is on a sculpted moose and wolves frozen in an epic struggle for survival in the iconic northern Minnesota landscape.

#### Key facts:

- The original bas-relief sculptures were created in plaster of paris in the late 1930's by Samuel H. Bell (1910-1987), son of the museum's namesake, James Ford Bell, and later carved in stone.
- The sculpture features images of ten iconic Minnesota animals: bear, beaver, buffalo, crane, eagle, owl, pelican, raccoon, squirrel and wolf.
- The sculpture was commissioned by the James Ford Bell Foundation and donated to the Bell Museum.
- Lindstrom, Minn. artist Ian Dudley created the sculpture as well as the moose and wolves already installed on the plaza.
- The sculpture weighs just over 200 lbs and measures approximately 65" x 36" x 2".
- American Bronze Casting of Osceola, Wis., cast the sculpture and its pedestal was created by Linder Specialty Co. of St. Paul.

## University of Minnesota Debate Team to host voter ID debate featuring four Minnesota state legislators Dec. 15

**When:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15

**Where:** Willey Hall 125, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

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### December 12, 2011

The University of Minnesota debate team will host a Voter ID debate featuring four Minnesota state legislators at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, in room 125 Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The debate, featuring state Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Minneapolis), state Sen. John Marty (DFL-Roseville), state Rep. Mary Kiffmeyer (R-Big Lake) and state Sen. Warren Limmer (R-Maple Grove), will focus on the merits of imposing a voter ID requirement in Minnesota. The Minnesota Student Association and the Minnesota Student Legislative Coalition are debate co-sponsors. Doug Chapin, director of the Humphrey School of Public Affairs program for Excellence in Election Administration, will moderate the event.

Debate organizers say the controversy surrounding Voter ID laws is relevant to students, as these laws could prevent them from voting where they attend school. The debate, free and open to the public, will include an opportunity for audience members to ask questions of the participants.

The University of Minnesota has a long tradition of success in competitive, co-curricular debate, qualifying numerous teams for the prestigious National Debate Tournament. For more information, visit the U of M Debate Team website, [www.debate.umn.edu](http://www.debate.umn.edu).

## University of Minnesota Libraries mark 400th anniversary of the King James Bible

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**December 13, 2011**

The 1611 King James Bible is one of the best known and most frequently printed books in the English language, but most don't know the story behind its creation. A series of exhibits and events at the University of Minnesota Libraries will reveal that story.

"The Word Made Flesh" exhibit, open now through Friday, Feb. 24, 2012, features examples of biblical texts, medieval manuscripts, and facsimiles from the University Libraries' special collections. Highlights include two leaves from the 42-line Gutenberg Bible; the original New Testament portion of the King James Bible; other early printings such as the Geneva Bible and the "Breeches" Bible; and related works stemming out of the Reformation such as publications, broadsides and pamphlets from Martin Luther, Philip Melanchthon and others.

The traveling exhibit "Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible" will be installed from Wednesday, Jan. 25 through Wednesday, February 15, 2012. Organized by the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., and the American Library Association Public Programs Office, "Manifold Greatness" is based on an exhibition of the same name developed by the Folger Shakespeare Library and the Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, with assistance from the Harry Ransom Center of the University of Texas, to mark the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible. The traveling exhibition was made possible by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Learn more at [manifoldgreatness.org](http://manifoldgreatness.org).

Free and open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday (except University of Minnesota holidays) on the 4th floor of Wilson Library, 309 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis. A reception and colloquium, featuring presenters Bernard Levinson, David Haley, Michael Hancher, Mark Granquist and Chris Armstrong, will be held from 4 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, 2012.

Other related local events are listed at [z.umn.edu/kjv400mn](http://z.umn.edu/kjv400mn).

## Carlson School and Wells Fargo launch Sustainability Initiative

\$250,000 grant supports research to help increase consumer demand for 'green' products

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/14/2011) —The University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management has received a \$250,000 grant from Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) to help develop the Sustainability Initiative at the Carlson School. The Sustainability Initiative will sponsor and conduct research on the consumer behavior associated with the purchase, use and disposal of environmentally beneficial products and processes. The research will be funded and guided by a group of business executives, community leaders and academics.

"Nearly 98 percent of all funding for sustainability initiatives goes toward developing new technologies," said professor Akshay Rao, the General Mills Chair in Marketing at the Carlson School and head of the Sustainability Initiative. "To make sure there is a viable market for new 'green' technologies, we must understand underlying consumer beliefs and behaviors associated with the adoption and use of those technologies."

With the support of corporations such as Wells Fargo, the Carlson School is creating a research program to help corporate strategists and decision-makers design and implement more effective sustainability strategies based on reputable consumer research.

"The Sustainability Initiative will help drive consumer understanding and demand for energy efficiency and other such efforts that can improve our communities, our environment, and our society's competitiveness in the new 'greener' economy," said Jim Henney, senior vice president of Enterprise Customer Insights and Analysis at Wells Fargo. "We're proud to be the first corporate sponsor of the Sustainability Initiative and support the Carlson School's leading efforts. We encourage other leading corporations to do the same."

### About the Carlson School of Management

Established in 1919 and based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota is a recognized leader in business education and research. Its focus on experiential learning, international education and maintaining strong ties to the business community exemplify the school's commitment to excellence. More information about the school can be found at [www.carlsonschool.umn.edu](http://www.carlsonschool.umn.edu).

### About Wells Fargo

Wells Fargo & Company is a nationwide, diversified, community-based financial services company with \$1.3 trillion in assets. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through more than 9,000 stores, 12,000 ATMs, the Internet ([wellsfargo.com](http://wellsfargo.com) and [wachovia.com](http://wachovia.com)), and other distribution channels across North America and internationally. In 2010, the company invested a record \$219 million in grants in 19,000 nonprofits, and team members contributed more than 1.3 million volunteer hours around the country. For more information, visit:

[www.wellsfargo.com/about/csr](http://www.wellsfargo.com/about/csr).

## University of Minnesota to host 31st annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Concert featuring Committed Jan. 15



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The University of Minnesota will host the 31st annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Concert, featuring Committed, winners of NBC's The Sing-Off.

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/14/2011) —The University of Minnesota will host the 31st annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Concert, featuring [Committed](#), winners of NBC's The Sing-Off, and [Larry Long](#), with musical guests [Tonia Hughes](#), [Billy Peterson](#) and [Billy Steele](#) from 4-6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15. The concert will take place at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis.

The program honors Martin Luther King, Jr. and Reginald Buckner, founder of the MLK Concert.

When the University of Minnesota's Martin Luther King, Jr. Concert began more than 30 years ago, it was the only tribute of its kind in Minnesota. The late Reginald Buckner, School of Music professor and an accomplished performer and composer, founded the concert and began the tradition of celebrating the life and accomplishments of King through the performing arts. After Buckner's death in 1989, the University continued to honor Buckner's memory and artistic genius by carrying on the inspiring legacy of this annual program. The Martin Luther King Celebration is now a joint program of the University of Minnesota's Office for Equity and Diversity and School of Music.

The concert is free and open to the public; no advance tickets or reservations are required.

For more information about the program, or for disability accommodations, contact the Office for Equity and Diversity at [oed@umn.edu](mailto:oed@umn.edu) or (612) 624-0594. Visit [z.umn.edu/MLK2012](http://z.umn.edu/MLK2012) for more information.



## U of M experts weigh in on how to safely consume alcohol; spot and treat alcohol addiction; consequences of drinking and driving

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**December 15, 2011**

As holiday parties continue to ramp up this season, so will the number of opportunities to consume alcohol. While most adults over the age of 21 have a general idea of how to safely consume, holidays can pose a greater risk to overindulge.

The following University of Minnesota experts are available to comment on this topic:

### How to safely consume alcohol

*Robert Levy, M.D., assistant professor, U of M Medical School Department of Family Medicine and Community Health*

Levy says the dangers with alcohol come when you've consumed more than you've intended or more than you're aware of. So, if you're heading out for a social gathering, Levy recommends a number of precautions to take to promote safe consumption.

According to Levy, the easiest way to minimize the risk of overconsumption of alcohol is to keep track of the number of drinks consumed.

"In general, depending on a person's muscle mass, men will metabolize about one drink per hour, and women will metabolize about ¾ a drink per hour," said Levy. "So if you're an average-sized male and you've only had two drinks over the course of two hours, you're probably safe to drive. But if you've had any more than that you're liable to be over the legal limit."

Levy offers the following tips on how to safely consume alcohol:

- Be cognizant of where you're getting drinks. Never take a drink if it is handed to you by a stranger, and don't continue drinking your beverage if it tastes funny.
- Beware of the myth of alternating alcoholic beverages with water. The reality is that nothing—not even food, water or coffee—can speed the process of lowering one's blood alcohol level. If you've had three alcoholic drinks and three glasses of water in one hour, that isn't going to change how much alcohol is in your system.
- If you're taking a prescription medication, ask your doctor if it is safe to drink. Certain prescribed medications may interfere with alcohol once it enters your body.
- If you're planning on overconsuming, plan a safe ride home. Designated drivers save lives, so arrange to either get a taxicab or have a sober driver pick you up.

### Spotting and treating alcohol addiction

Overconsuming alcohol poses many risks and dangers, and one of the biggest is alcohol addiction. Like any other addiction, alcohol addiction is a neuro-chemical disease of the brain that has manifested itself both psychologically and also physically. Between 6 and 10 percent of people will struggle with alcoholic behavior in their lifetimes.

If you or someone you know is concerned that a friend or family member may have a drinking problem, Levy points to a few signs to look for in his/her behavior:

- Lying about how much they've consumed
- Sneaking alcohol or hiding it around the house
- Missing activities or work due to drinking
- Building up a tolerance for alcohol
- Unsuccessfully trying to cut down on alcohol use

There are two primary ways of treating alcoholism: absence therapy and harm reduction therapy. Absence therapy uses a medically supervised detox program to cut alcohol out of everyday use, and harm reduction therapy teaches people not to stop drinking, but to control their consumption.

Levy notes that it is dangerous to stop drinking on your own.

"Quitting without medical support may stimulate symptoms like high blood pressure, seizures, and even death," said Levy. "If you or someone you know is looking for help, the best approach is to speak with a doctor and figure out a plan that works best for you."

For those without insurance, Medicaid or Medicare may help cover costs. If not, Levy recommends talking to a doctor at a free clinic; there are medications available that can help with withdrawal and abstinence. Finding free support groups like Alcoholics Anonymous and other 12-step programs may also be beneficial.

### The dangers of drinking and driving

*Steve Simon, clinical professor at the University of Minnesota Law School*

Simon founded and directed the Minnesota Criminal Justice System Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) Task Force for 28 years. He has done extensive empirical research on DWI, evaluating different parts of Minnesota's DWI laws to determine what works and what doesn't. Simon answered questions about DWI and the harsh consequences impaired drivers face.

#### *Why do DWI and domestic assault arrests rise during the holidays?*

DWI arrests increase during the holidays because of increased enforcement by local law enforcement agencies and the State Patrol. Alcohol use outside the home does increase during the holidays because of the office holiday parties and family gatherings. Domestic assaults increase because people are drinking more during the holidays, Holidays are stressful and people have more time at home because of being off work.

#### *What are the legal implications for individuals?*

The reason why law enforcement is concerned with alcohol-impaired drivers is that they have a significantly increased risk of being in a crash. More DWI crashes resulting in injury occur on rural roads at night. If you are involved in a crash in an urban area you have 1 in 367 chance of dying, whereas crashes in a rural area leave you at a 1 in 66 chance of dying.

Alcohol-impaired drivers are also less likely to wear seatbelts. If you are involved in an alcohol-related crash and sustain a brain injury, the injury will be more severe, you will take longer to recover and will not recover to the same extent compared to brain injury where alcohol was not involved.

Alcohol-impaired individuals have a greater chance of being in a crash because they lose their peripheral vision. As the alcohol level increases, their glare response time degrades, which means it takes significantly longer for their pupils to dilate after constricting when oncoming headlights shine in their eyes.

It takes longer for your brain to process information and to make a decision after seeing a car changing lanes or a pedestrian entering the street.

A DWI incident, apart from the increased risk of being in a crash, includes:

1. A license revocation for a period of 30 days to one year for a first offense
2. License reinstatement fees of close to \$700
3. A criminal conviction for DWI on your driving record, which will seriously affect your insurance rates
4. The costs associated with a criminal charge of DWI include the costs of the tow of your vehicle, attorney fees between \$700 and \$2,000 and for a first offense and fines of up to \$1,000
5. The penalty for repeat DWI incidents increases, with the fourth one in 10 years becoming a felony

*Levy is available for media interviews Thursday, Dec. 15, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. To schedule an interview, contact Emily Jensen, (612) 624-9163, [jense888@umn.edu](mailto:jense888@umn.edu), or Kelly O'Connor, (612) 624-5680, [oconn246@umn.edu](mailto:oconn246@umn.edu).*

*To schedule an interview with Simon, contact Jeff Falk, (612) 626-1720, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu).*

## U of M to host media tour of Northrop revitalization project Friday, Dec. 16

Two-year construction project will bring new life to Minnesota's second most recognized iconic building

**Media Note:** Media interested in attending the tour, must RSVP to [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu) and gather in the Morrill Hall main floor lobby, 100 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis by 10:55 a.m.

**Contacts:** [Jeff Falk](#), University News Service, [jfalk@umn.edu](mailto:jfalk@umn.edu), (612) 626-1720

**December 15, 2011**

The University of Minnesota will host a special tour for media of the Northrop revitalization project at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 16. Since February of this year, the 82-year-old facility has been undergoing major construction, with completion of the academic space by fall 2013 and the new main hall by mid-February 2014.

The tour will be led by university senior vice president and provost Tom Sullivan, vice president for University Services Kathleen O'Brien and Mike Denny, director of development services in University Services and Northrop's project executive.

### Background

On Feb. 11, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota gave final approval for the \$80.4 million revitalization of Northrop.

An architectural treasure, Northrop is an enduring symbol of the university, the focal point of the Twin Cities campus and the anchor of the Northrop Mall. Since opening in 1929, Northrop has served as the university's primary gathering place for the performing arts, concerts, academic ceremonies and major civic events.

The new Northrop will serve as a place of creativity and innovation that contributes to the life of the university community, the state of Minnesota and the world for the next century. Other features include:

- A vital center of academic discovery that brings together three university-wide signature programs: The University Honors Program, the Institute for Advanced Study and Innovation by Design.
- A preeminent cultural and performing arts center with a world-class, multi-purpose 2,750 seat main hall and 170 seat lecture/recital hall featuring state-of-the-art acoustics, fabulous sightlines, cutting-edge technologies and updated amenities, all designed by HGA Architects and ARUP theater/acoustical consultants.
- The new Northrop will be home to Northrop Concerts and Lectures, bringing to campus and the state some of the most creative and innovative artists and changemakers of our time.
- A bustling, dynamic destination for collaboration and study, central to everyday life on campus, complete with a global conference center and premium seminar and meeting rooms. The new Northrop will increase by 50 percent the amount of public study and collaborative space on the East Bank campus east bank.
- A café and coffee bar will serve students, faculty and patrons at Northrop.

For further information about the Northrop overhaul, visit <http://northrop.umn.edu/about/northrop-revitalization>. For a map with parking information, see <http://www1.umn.edu/twincities/maps/NMA>.

## Abandoned mines hold potential to capture wind energy

**Contacts:** June Kallestad, NRRI,



A study released by the University of Minnesota Duluth's Natural Resources Research Institute shows that the water-laden pits have the potential to store wind energy using a process developed in Europe in the late 1800s.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/16/2011) —Minnesota's Iron Range is pocked with ponds – abandoned open pit mines – that could help energy providers more efficiently use intermittent renewable energy sources, such as wind, to meet state renewable energy mandates. A study released Friday by the University of Minnesota Duluth's Natural Resources Research Institute shows that the water-laden pits have the potential to store wind energy using a process developed in Europe in the late 1800s.

The pumped-hydro storage process would use excess late-night wind energy to pump water uphill from the pits to a higher-elevation holding pond. Then, when electricity demand goes up during the day, the process reverses the flow and captures the energy in hydro turbines. For every 100 megawatts used to pump the water upward, the plant generates nearly 80 megawatts through the turbines.

The study was funded by the university's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (part of the Institute on the Environment), with additional contributions from Minnesota Power and Great River Energy. It weighs a variety of considerations necessary to implement the concept using existing reservoirs on the Iron Range.

Local utilities have invested heavily in wind power, a variable energy resource whose output doesn't always match customer energy requirements. Market prices can be depressed when wind energy is plentiful, but customer demand for this energy is lower. Pumped-hydro would allow utilities to store excess power when it is not needed by customers and return that power to market during higher demand hours when customer needs are greater. The utility will be able to better integrate wind-type resources into its power supply while maintaining system reliability.

"The altered landscape of the Iron Range makes it ideal for this purpose," explained Don Fosnacht, NRRI director and the study's lead investigator. "There are over 100 mining pits, and those near ridges or cliffs would provide the necessary water reservoir prospects to allow the concept to be practically implemented."

Pumped-hydro storage could have long-range impact on the adoption of renewable energy technologies in Minnesota.

"Minnesota Power will continue to assess energy storage development and the role pumped hydro might play in its long-range plans to best serve our customers," explained Al Rudeck, vice president of strategy and planning for Minnesota Power. "This study provides a good basis for that continued assessment."

Rick Lancaster, vice president for generation at Great River Energy, is also enthusiastic about the potential. "We feel that this technology could be a very good fit with our existing wind power and increasing renewable energy requirements," he said.

Researchers from UMD's Department of Civil Engineering and the University's St. Anthony Falls Laboratory and Humphrey School of Public Affairs worked with NRRI on the study. The mission of the Natural Resources Research Institute is to foster the economic development of Minnesota's natural resources in an environmentally sound manner to promote private sector employment.

The full study report can be viewed online at:

[www.nrri.umn.edu/egg/REPORTS/TR201150/TR201150.html](http://www.nrri.umn.edu/egg/REPORTS/TR201150/TR201150.html).

## U of M awarded \$15 million grant to implement one of the nation's most comprehensive childhood education programs

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/21/2011) —The University of Minnesota and partners have been awarded an Investing in Innovation or “i3” grant of \$15 million over five years from the U.S. Department of Education. The project will implement the Child-Parent Center (CPC) education program, one of the nation’s most comprehensive early childhood interventions, at 33 sites in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois.

The CPC education program provides intensive and continuous educational and family-support services for pre-kindergarten to third-grade children in low-income families and high-poverty neighborhoods. Its goal is to promote school readiness, parent involvement and early school achievement that enhance longer-term effects on achievement, graduation and career success. Cost-benefit analyses indicate a return of \$8 to 11 for each dollar invested in the program, among the highest returns of any social program.

“The University of Minnesota is pleased to have been awarded a grant to bolster a long-running and highly effective educational program which directly works to close the achievement gap within our schools and communities,” said project director Arthur Reynolds, a professor in the Institute of Child Development in the U of M’s College of Education and Human Development. “The Child-Parent Center education program is an exemplary model with strong evidence of large and sustained effects on school achievement and social competence. Because of this new grant, the project will expand for the first time into other school districts in the Midwest.”

An estimated 9,000 children ages 3 to 9 across the three states will be served. Partners in Minnesota include the St. Paul Public Schools, Arrowhead Head Start and Virginia Public Schools.

Beginning in fall 2012, St. Paul Public Schools will implement the intensive education enrichment and family-support intervention in six schools serving more than 1,000 students over the duration of the project. St. Paul has committed district Title I funds to support implementation.

“Professor Reynolds’ research has been a driver in our efforts to improve children’s school readiness and achievement for years,” said St. Paul Public Schools Superintendent Valeria Silva. “We’re honored to now be partnering directly with Arthur, the university and the project partners.”

The project was developed by the Human Capital Research Collaborative and its partners. HCRC is a partnership between the University of Minnesota and the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis to promote effective public policies and programs for young people through multidisciplinary research on human development and learning. Reynolds and Art Rolnick, senior fellow at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs and former vice president and research director at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, co-direct the HCRC.

Combined federal, private, and district funding for the project totals more than \$20 million. Contributors in Minnesota include the Greater Twin Cities United Way, Target Corporation, McKnight Foundation and the Saint Paul Foundation. Others include Northwestern University, the Evanston Community Foundation, Foundation for Child Development, Foundation65, J. B. and M. K. Pritzker Family Foundation, Robert R. McCormick Foundation and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

The i3 innovations grant follows the recent news of two other federal grants received in Minnesota for early childhood education, the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant and the Promise Neighborhood Implementation Grant.

For more information, see the Human Capital Research Collaborative website, <http://www.humancapitalrc.org>.



## Minnesota Supreme Court grants university's petition to review lower courts' decisions in lawsuit brought by James Williams

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/21/2011) —The University of Minnesota today received notice that the Minnesota Supreme Court has granted the university's petition to review the lower courts' decisions in the lawsuit brought by James Williams against U of M Head Men's Basketball Coach Tubby Smith and the university.

"Today's Supreme Court order provides a welcome opportunity for the court to consider and correct some very significant errors in this case," said university General Counsel Mark Rotenberg.

## U of M researchers discover new target for HIV drugs

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/22/2011) —Researchers from the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences, working with colleagues at the University of California, San Francisco, have discovered a new target for HIV drug therapy that could make it possible for natural human antiviral proteins to destroy HIV.

The discovery was published by Nature online on December 21.

"Keeping HIV at bay is challenging because the virus is notorious for its ability to evolve resistance to both human immunity and antiviral drugs," said Reuben Harris, professor of biochemistry, molecular biology and biophysics. "We've discovered a human protein that the virus absolutely requires for copying itself."

Harris and doctoral student Judd Hultquist, working with UCSF researchers, learned that an HIV protein (called Vif) hijacks a human protein (called CBF-beta) and uses it to degrade the important antiviral protein, APOBEC3G.

"Our data show that if HIV is unable to hijack CBF-beta, it is unable to launch a counterdefense against our innate immune system and unable to replicate efficiently," Hultquist explained.

Harris's lab has long focused on a family of antiviral proteins (called APOBECs) produced by human cells that have the ability to destroy HIV. HIV has evolved a way to overcome that natural defense using Vif. This new data shows that Vif requires CBF-beta to function.

The finding presents a new target for antiviral drugs and helps scientists understand how HIV overcomes normal cellular defenses. The next step, Hultquist says, is to screen molecules in order to find one that could stop the Vif/ CBF-beta interaction. Harris's lab has already initiated this process, but it could take years to find, develop and test the molecule.

"We hope this fundamental research will ultimately lead to a treatment that is more effective and has fewer side effects," Harris said. "The main advantage is that HIV shouldn't be able to evolve resistance to the new drug as easily as it has to other therapies."

HIV is a small virus with only a tiny amount of genetic material in its own genome—about 10,000 times less DNA than that of the human genome. While human cells may include thousands of different proteins, HIV brings fewer than 20. Once inside a human cell, however, the virus uses the cell's molecular machinery to hijack the function of many human proteins, shut down others and subvert still more. Understanding how HIV works within human cells and devising ways to block it are essential to developing new drugs to treat people with HIV/AIDS and ultimately eradicate this disease.

UCSF co-authors include Nevan Krogan, John Gross and members of their labs.

In a related Nature article published simultaneously, the Krogan group reported hundreds of new connections that HIV makes with other cellular proteins, and many of these will have to be explored in the same detail as the Vif-CBFbeta connection.

Last April, Harris was awarded a five-year, \$10 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to direct a large-scale research effort involving several universities worldwide to study APOBEC3G. The goal of the study is to produce atomic resolution images of the antiviral protein to better understand how it interacts with other proteins in human cells and, when functioning as it should, prevents HIV from attaching to and entering cells.

College of Biological Sciences faculty conduct research in all areas of biology, from molecules to ecosystems, supporting applications in medicine, renewable energy, agriculture and biotechnology. For more information, go to [www.cbs.umn.edu](http://www.cbs.umn.edu).

## Bell Museum exhibit "Freeze Frame" to be shaped through public photo submissions

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/30/2011) —"Freeze Frame: Capturing Nature in Winter," a collaborative effort between the public and the Bell Museum of Natural History's artist in residence, Areca Roe, has begun accepting image submissions from photographers of all levels that, as the name suggests, capture nature in winter.

Roe will use the submitted photos as her medium, creating an ever-evolving installation celebrating the season and exploring people's individual and collective experiences of nature and winter in the Midwest as captured through the camera lens.

Roe is an artist and photographer who explores the human relationship to the natural world and to animals in her artwork. She has studied both art and biology and currently teaches college photography courses in Minneapolis. She recently received an MFA degree from the University of Minnesota.

For the Bell Museum, Freeze Frame is part of ongoing efforts to involve the public in the state's natural history museum and use the museum as a gateway for exploring the intersection of art and science. "It's important that we reach out to the community in an imaginative and creative way," said education and public programming coordinator Leah Peterson. "Doing something like Freeze Frame, where we invite the community to engage with us is really exciting."

Anyone over the age of 18 is invited to submit a photo at [www.bellmuseum.org/FreezeFrame](http://www.bellmuseum.org/FreezeFrame). Selected photos will be credited and put on display as part of the installation, while all photographs meeting entry criteria will be featured in the Bell Museum's Freeze Frame Flickr set and will stream live on the museum's website.

Roe's first phase of the installation will open January 21, 2012, with continued expansion throughout the winter and spring.

Completion of the final installation will be marked by a Bell Social event on April 13, 2012. Bell Social was recently named to Minnesota Monthly's "Best Of" list for "Best Geek Chic Event."

Important information & image requirements can be found at: [www.bellmuseum.org/FreezeFrame](http://www.bellmuseum.org/FreezeFrame).