



What's Inside

[Brief](#)[Campus Conversations](#)[Features](#)[People](#)[Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

[Office of the President](#)[Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (1-7-2009)Vol. XXXIX No. 1; January 7, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Inside This Issue**

--Support the U by attending the 2009 legislative briefing.
 --Christy Haynes constructs an immune system, one cell at a time.
 --The Federal Relations Report suggests that not all is grim and gloom.
 --People: Stergios Roumeliotis has been awarded a prestigious Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

SUPPORT THE U BY ATTENDING THE 2009 LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING. Learn how your personal story can drive home the statewide value of the U during this crucial legislative session that will address Minnesota's \$4.8 billion budget deficit. Jan. 28, 5:30-8 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Registration deadline is Jan. 22. For more information, see [Legislative Briefing](#) or call 612-626-1417.

U RESEARCHER CHRISTY HAYNES CONSTRUCTS AN IMMUNE SYSTEM, ONE CELL AT A TIME. It's been said that no one understood how birds could fly until the airplane was invented. Now, Haynes is applying the same tactic to understanding the human immune system: She's building one. For more information, see [Immunity builder](#).

THE LATEST FEDERAL RELATIONS REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2008 suggests that while national and state economies appear bleak, not all is grim and gloom. The University is actively advocating for higher education to be part of a federal infrastructure package now in the works and for improved budgets for research accounts, which may fare better despite the current economic climate. For more information, see [Federal Relations](#).

PEOPLE: Stergios Roumeliotis has been awarded a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers; The American Association for the Advancement of Science has awarded the distinction of Fellow to seven members from the U; indigenous law scholar John Borrows will join the U Law School faculty in fall; family social science professor Sharon Danes, graduate student Jinhee Lee, and staff member Sayali Amarapurkar were selected to receive the John Jack Award; Keith McFarland, administrator and dean at the U for more than 44 years, died Dec. 27; U in the News, featuring a selection of U faculty cited in the media; Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

QUALITY FAIR LOOKING FOR WORKING SMARTER IDEAS. Bring Working Smarter ideas to the Quality Fair, Feb. 5, 9:45 a.m.-3 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Exhibits will have a chance to win \$75 for one of the top 25 ideas or \$25 for entering. The U is looking for ideas that can cut costs, increase revenue, provide better service to students, faculty, and staff. In the fall, departments that implement a Working Smarter idea may apply for \$500 awards. For more information and an application, see [Quality Fair](#).

THE U IS RESOLVED TO REWARD STEPS TO HEALTH IN THE NEW YEAR. Members of the UPlan medical program may take a preventive health screening to pinpoint individual health risks and earn a \$65 wellness reward for completing the online wellness assessment. Members may earn another \$65 reward (up to \$130 per person) for working with a health coach, enrolling in a walking program, or completing an online health program in 2009. Walk-in health screenings are offered regularly through the end of April at various locations on the Twin Cities campus. For more information, see [Wellness Program](#).

NOMINATIONS FOR THE DISTINGUISHED WOMEN SCHOLARS AWARD are invited by the Graduate School and the Women's Center. Annual awards are made to two women faculty members--one in the sciences and engineering, and one in the humanities, social sciences, and arts. Nominations are due Jan. 23 to college deans, with final nominations from college deans to the Graduate School due on Jan. 30. For more information see [Distinguished Women Scholars Award](#).

GRANT-IN-AID OF RESEARCH, ARTISTRY, AND SCHOLARSHIP: The Spring 2009 application for the FY2010 Grant-in-Aid Program is due Feb. 2. The Office of the Dean of the Graduate School administers the Grant-in-Aid Program to promote the scholarly and artistic activities of faculty and their graduate students and to foster academic excellence at the U. In FY2009, 115 grants were awarded with an average award of \$24,914. Applications must be submitted electronically. For more information, see [Grant-in-Aid](#).

TCF BANK STADIUM WILL BE A MODEL OF ACCESSIBILITY, thanks in part to efforts led by University Disability Services staff member Roberta Juarez. Juarez is working to make certain the facility is accessible to the entire University community and its visitors, including individuals with disabilities. The completed stadium will be one of the most accessible in the nation. For more information, see [Ensuring access](#).

Crookston:

UMC WENT TOBACCO FREE JAN. 1. Students, faculty, and staff with questions or concerns or who would like information on cessation resources may contact Laurie Wilson, 218-281-8587; Vicki Svedarsky, 281-8583; or Stacey Grunewald, 281-8512.

STUDENTS MAJORING IN BIOLOGY AND HEALTH SCIENCES recently presented anatomy and physiology-themed activities to local middle school students in Crookston and Fisher, Minn. under the direction of UMC associate professor of biology Pam Elf. Activities were sponsored through grants awarded to the Northwest Minnesota Area Health Education Center. Middle school students learned through teaching activities that demonstrated neural sensation, blood pressure and heart rate, respiration, pharmacology, and other topics.

Duluth:

WIND VELOCITY ALONG THE NORTH SHORE OF LAKE SUPERIOR was measured by a team of students and UMD assistant professor Mike Mageau to determine if the area has more wind than was previously suggested by the state. The results show a considerable increase in wind speed over past forecasts and have prompted significant interest in and development of smaller-scale community wind generation projects. For more information, see [Tapping wind power](#).

Morris:

AMONG COLLEGES THAT AWARD BACHELOR'S DEGREES, UMM RANKS THIRD in the percentage of students who participate in a study abroad experience during college, according to the recent "Open Doors Report 2008" study by The Institute of International Education. The report analyzes data from the 2006-07 academic year. Other colleges named in the same category are St. Olaf College (10th), Concordia College-Moorhead (18th), Carleton College (21st), and Macalester College (25th).

UMM'S WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM earned the National Soccer Coaches Association of America College Team Academic Award for the 10th time. The team earned a collective cumulative GPA of 3.56 in the 2007-08 academic year, the third highest in the nation among the 400 plus NCAA Division 3 schools sponsoring women's soccer. For more information, see [soccer GPA](#).

Rochester:

UMR LAUNCHED A WEB SITE for the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences this week. To take a look, visit [UMR Health Sciences](#).

THE JAN. 9 EDITION OF THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION will include a commentary by William Massey discussing the need for increased academic efficiency and touting UMR's Center for Learning Innovation and Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences degree program as an example of cost-effective and personalized learning. For more information, see [Chronicle](#).

Twin Cities:

THE U'S LAW SCHOOL RECEIVED A \$6 MILLION ROBINA GRANT to be administered over five years. The funding will provide backing for the Law School's new Program on Law, Public Policy, and Society, which will support innovative public policy research and prepare law students to serve as agents of social transformation. For more information, see [Robina Grant](#).

A \$300,000 GRANT FROM THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION will benefit researchers at the U's Schools of Nursing and of Public Health. Together with the Department of Veterans Affairs at Minneapolis and Palo Alto, Calif., the researchers will study better ways to care for heart failure patients. The grant is part of the Foundation's Interdisciplinary Nursing Quality Research Initiative, which aims to generate, disseminate, and translate research to understand how nurses contribute to and improve the quality of patient care. For more information, see [nursing quality](#).

EXTENSION CENTER FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT WILL HOST THE SYMPOSIUM: "More Than Safe Spaces: Adolescent Development and Relationship Building in After-School Settings," presented by Nancy Deutsch. U faculty and staff are invited to attend the event, Jan. 23, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Memorial Hall, McNamara Alumni Center. Free, but registration is required. For more information, see [youth development](#).

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: THE JOSEPH M. JURAN CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP IN QUALITY is seeking proposals for the 2009 Juran Fellowship for Ph.D. students. Fellowships are open to U students and are due Mar. 10. An information session will be held Jan. 30, 11:30 a.m., 2-250, Hanson Hall, Carlson School of Management. For more information and to RSVP, e-mail [Jill Pearson-Wood](mailto:Jill.Pearson-Wood) or call her at 612-626-4555.

APPOINTMENTS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR PHARMACEUTICAL CARE EXPERIENTIAL CLINIC PATIENTS. Participation helps pharmacy students learn how to deliver medication therapy management services--a new health benefit covered by some insurers and government programs. An advanced standing pharmacy student conducts a comprehensive assessment of a patient's medication-related needs in the presence of experienced faculty. All U employees, friends, and relatives are encouraged to participate at no charge. For more information and to set up an appointment, call Brian Isetts at 612-625-7929.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: EXERCISE YOUR MIND. When it comes to resolutions for the New Year, most people hit the gym to work on their physical well-being. But the U's Compleat Scholars Program is offering a series of enrichment courses that stimulate mental well-being. Lara Roy, director of the program, explains in a recent [University of Minnesota Moment audio recording](#). For additional U of M Moments, see [recent recordings](#).

THE BELL MUSEUM CALENDAR OF UPCOMING PROGRAMS includes everything from exhibits and adventure science to field trips and family programs. For more information, see the [calendar](#).

THE CAMPUS CLUB INVITES U FACULTY AND STAFF TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS with lunch during their birthday month. Membership is not required; make reservations, two days in advance at 612-626-7788. For more information, see [Campus Club](#).

MORE EVENTS include Headliners: A Culture in Peril: Hmong Grave Desecration in Thailand ([Jan. 8](#)); Men's Gymnastics Alumni Meet ([Jan. 9](#)); Women's Gymnastics vs. Arizona ([Jan. 10](#)); Men's Basketball vs. Penn State ([Jan. 11](#)); The Green House: New Designs in Sustainable Architecture & Design ([Jan. 12-Mar. 8](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (1-14-2009)

 Vol. XXXIX No. 2; January 14, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu
Inside This Issue

- Maintain a healthy work life.
- The Quality Fair is looking for quality ideas.
- People: John Sheehan will join the Institute on the Environment; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

STRESS ERODES THE QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY OF OUR WORK LIVES. To maintain a healthy work environment and the balance between work and personal life, consider the strategies at [Take a slice out of stress](#).

DO YOU HAVE A WORKING SMARTER IDEA? Staff and faculty members who have ideas to save the University money, increase revenue, increase efficiency, or provide better service are invited to submit their ideas at the Quality Fair, Feb. 5, 9:45 a.m.-3 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. You could win \$75 for one of the top 25 ideas or \$25 just for entering. Later in the semester, there will be a \$500 challenge to departments that try to implement a Working Smarter or Quality Fair Poster project idea. The Working Smarter application and fair registration form are [online](#).

PEOPLE: Arthur Hill and Susan Meyer Goldstein are the recipients of the Best Empirical Paper Award; Mark Sellner has been presented the 2007-08 R. Glen Berryman Award; John Sheehan will join the Institute on the Environment; Peg Lonquist has been selected as the director of the Women's Center; Yuqing (Ching) Ren is a co-principal investigator of a proposal funded by the National Science Foundation; Kathleen Vohs was recently named a McKnight Presidential Fellow; Ivy Zhang received the *Journal of Accounting and Economics* 2007 Best Paper Prize. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**University-wide:**

CELEBRATING CHINA: To kick off its 30th anniversary, the China Center will host its annual Griffin Lecture and Chinese New Year celebration at 4 p.m., Jan. 24, Ted Mann Concert Hall. Rob Gifford, former National Public Radio China correspondent and author of the book, *China Road*, will present the lecture. [The China Center](#), in the Office of International Programs, is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

U OF M MOMENT: Arguably the most difficult part about starting a business is securing the right financing, especially when faced with a difficult economy. Carlson School lecturer Dileep Rao's new book, *Finance Any Business Intelligently*, offers business owners and entrepreneurs a practical framework. For more information, listen to the [U of M Moment](#).

NOMINATIONS FOR THE DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR INTERNATIONALS are now being accepted. This U-wide award honors international alumni, former students, and friends of the U who have distinguished themselves in their post-University work. Deadline is Feb. 2. For more information, see [distinguished leadership](#).

Crookston:

THE LIFE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. will be celebrated with a Jan. 15 presentation at UMC. "Honoring the Dream" will be held in Kiehle Auditorium at noon. Under the direction of Thomas Williams, director of diversity and multicultural services, the program will feature highlights of King's life. Following the presentation there will be questions and conversation regarding the influence of Dr. King and the civil rights movement. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [King](#).

UMC'S ANNUAL AG ARAMA WEEKEND is scheduled for Jan. 30-31. Most of the activities take place Jan. 31 in the University Teaching and Outreach Center. Ag Arama features contests in agronomy, animal science, horticulture, and natural resources. The contests are opportunities for students to showcase their knowledge and skills and to interact with alumni and faculty members. For more information, see [Ag Arama](#).

Duluth:

UMD OFFICE OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY will hold a presidential inauguration celebration featuring live television coverage of the inauguration of Barack Obama. Jan. 20, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Kirby Student Center Lounge.

"A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM," a presentation by Curtis Austin, director of the Center for Black Studies at University of Southern Mississippi and former director for the Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage, will take place Jan. 20, 3:30 p.m., Kirby Student Center lounge. His most recent book is *Up Against the Wall: Violence in the Making and Unmaking of the Black Panther Party*. For more information, see [freedom](#).

UMD GRADUATE AND CURRENT MISS MINNESOTA, Angie McDermott, will compete in the Miss America pageant Jan. 24 in Las Vegas. For more information, see [Miss Minnesota](#).

Morris:

THE ADVANCED BIOMASS ENERGY WORKSHOP, featuring current and near-term biomass use in energy production, will take place Jan. 15, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Student Center. The event is cosponsored by the U's West Central Research and Outreach Center and UMM. For more information, see [biomass](#).

UMM STUDENTS HAVE BEEN WORKING TO REVITALIZE THE ECONOMY in downtown Hoffman. Students have been working with Muriel Krusemark, who heads the Hoffman Economic Development Association. For more information, see [Hoffman economy](#).

UMM IS RANKED AMONG THE TOP 100 COLLEGES NATIONALLY as a best value in the 2009 Kiplinger Best Values in Public Colleges survey. The Morris and Twin Cities campuses of the U are the only Minnesota schools to make the list.

UMM WILL RECEIVE FUNDING from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield (Minnesota) tobacco settlement to promote healthier eating to improve the lives of Minnesotans. For more information, see [health funding](#).

Rochester:

THE ROCHESTER HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP, which includes UMR, Winona State University, Mayo Clinic, and Hawthorne Education Center, are partnering with Rochester Public Schools in a joint effort to identify health education needs and promote good health practices in low-literacy populations in the community. For more information, see [healthy communities](#).

Twin Cities:

GOOD TO EAT: Brenda Langton's cooking style is all natural and spiced with color. Find out how this local chef shops for a meal and cooks at home, when she leads the "Healthy Living, Healthy Eating" course in February. For more information, see [benefits of whole food shopping and cooking](#).

OBAMA INAUGURATION: An open viewing of the historic Obama inauguration will take place via live Internet feed in 140 Nolte, Jan. 20. Preliminary festivities will begin at 9 a.m., with the swearing in of Barack Obama at 11 a.m. Refreshments will be served. The full inaugural schedule is available at [historic inauguration](#).

REGENTS PROFESSOR LECTURE SERIES: Allen Goldman, Regents Professor and head of physics, will present "Superconductivity: High Science and High Technology," Feb. 2, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. His talk will be followed by a reception. The entire U community is invited to attend. The event is the first of the semester in the Regents Professor Lecture Series. For more information, see [Goldman](#).

PHYSICS CIRCUS: The Institute of Technology's Physics Force will present their largest public show of the year at the annual Physics Circus. The show is a unique mix of large-scale physics demonstrations and humor for adults and children of all ages. It is free and open to the public. Demonstrations include dropping a team member from a 20-foot gantry while shooting a ball at him to demonstrate the effect of gravity, a human rocket to show the mechanics of collisions, collapsing a 55-gallon drum to show the force of air pressure, and much more. Jan. 15, 7 p.m., Northrop Auditorium. For more information, see [Physics Circus](#).

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS WILL OFFER TWO PROJECT MANAGEMENT courses in February. Introduction to Project Management for Administrative Staff is designed for administrative support staff and others who wish to apply project management skills to their work responsibilities. Project Management Fundamentals is a two-day course designed for project managers, administrators, and other project team leaders. For more information, see [project management](#).

THE THIRD IN A FIVE-PART SERIES OF 3M-SPONSORED SEMINARS for graduate students in technology and science programs, entitled "Financing Your Technology-based Venture," will be held Jan. 26, 5-7 p.m., 2-206 Carlson School. To register, e-mail hce@umn.edu. For more information, see [entrepreneur](#).

A FEAST OF WORDS: THE UNCANNY PHYSICS OF SUPERHERO COMIC BOOKS features a social hour, dinner, and commentary by Professor James Kakalios. Presented by the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries and the Campus Club. Tickets are \$25.99 for adults and \$12.95 for students. Jan. 29, 5 p.m. social hour, 5:30 p.m. dinner buffet, Coffman Union, Campus Club. Reservations required; call 612-626-7788. For more information, see [uncanny physics](#).

THE 2009 DEINARD MEMORIAL LECTURE ON LAW & MEDICINE will host Professor M. Gregg Bloche, Georgetown and Brookings Institute, as he presents "The Emergent Logic of Health Reform," Jan. 29, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. For more information, see [Deinard Lecture](#).

PRESIDENT'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARDS highlight the U's outstanding student leaders. Nominations will be accepted through Feb. 6. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional students may be nominated by colleagues, faculty, students, and staff. For more information and nomination forms, see [student leadership](#).

THE BUILDING TIES EXHIBIT AT THE HENNEPIN HISTORY MUSEUM showcases culturally sensitive housing designs for Mexicans and Somalis developed by interior design students of the U. Opening reception is Feb. 8, 1-3 p.m., Hennepin History Museum, 2303 Third Ave. S. The exhibit will run until Mar. 8. For more information, see [housing design](#).

THE CONSORTIUM ON LAW AND VALUES' 10TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE "What's Next in Law, Health & the Life Sciences? Debating Openness, Access & Accountability," takes place Mar. 6, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center. For more information, see [Law and Values](#).

THE 29th ANNUAL SUNBOWL BOWLING TOURNAMENT will take place at Goldy's Gameroom and the Gopher Spot, Feb. 2-Mar. 6. Grand Prizes are \$1,000 and \$500 travel vouchers. For more information, see [Sunbowl](#).

FREE BOWLING: The 70-year-old bowling lanes of Goldy's Gameroom were replaced during winter break. Try out the brand-new lanes with free bowling and shoe rental, Jan. 20-21, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., subject to availability (two games per person). For more information, see [free bowling](#).

MORE EVENTS include Gather News and Updates in One Place with Web feeds Like [Jan. 14](#)); Web Tools for Working Collaboratively ([Jan. 15](#)); Men's Hockey vs. St. Cloud State ([Jan 16](#)); Women's Hockey vs. Bemidji State ([Jan. 17](#)); Women's Basketball vs. Michigan ([Jan. 18](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (1-21-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 3; January 21, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- Announcing The Economy and the U Web site.
- Notes to mend a nature deficit disorder.
- Practical saving strategies by Extension educator Shirley Anderson-Porisch.
- People: Diane Wiese-Bjornstal has been appointed to the 2009 Science Board of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

ANNOUNCING THE ECONOMY AND THE U WEB SITE. As the University is called to respond to Minnesota's budget deficit in the coming months, providing timely and transparent updates to faculty and staff will be a top priority. The Economy and the U Web site was created to ensure that faculty and staff hear emerging budget news as quickly as possible, while also providing opportunities for suggestions and feedback. For more information, see the [Economy and the U](#).

NOTES TO MEND A NATURE DEFICIT DISORDER. Nature requires a patience and attention difficult to pay in this age of deficit. To be sure, there is not a deficit of nature at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. The sights, sounds, and smells inspire patience and observation with more than 1,000 acres of gardens and landscapes, 5,000 plant varieties, and natural areas from woodlands and wetlands to prairie. And it's a great place to take a walk--just ask arboretum research fellow Julia Bohnen and naturalist Matt Schuth. Or better yet, take a look at their ever-evolving creation, the Nature Notes blog. For more information, see [Modern day Muir](#).

THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION calls for all of us to use common sense and be practical with our money. That means evaluating current spending, saving money, and being purposeful about using money that comes into our household. In the column *Connect @ Home*, family resource management Extension educator Shirley Anderson-Porisch writes about practical saving strategies. For more information, see [Connect @ Home](#).

PEOPLE: Diane Wiese-Bjornstal has been appointed to the 2009 Science Board of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports; the Office for Equity and Diversity has named Donna Johnson the new director of Disability Services; a paper coauthored by professor of plant biology and Bell Museum curator of fungi David McLaughlin has been featured in *ScienceWatch*; a memorial service for Roger Page will take place Jan. 25, 2 p.m., Weisman Art Museum; Keith Stelter recently received the WCCO Radio Good Neighbor Award; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**University-wide:**

THE RESEARCHCHANNEL'S SECOND ROUND OF CONTENT SUBMISSION provides an opportunity to promote the outstanding research and discovery that takes place at the U. Faculty, staff, and eligible students are invited to submit videos to the ResearchChannel by Jan. 30. To view the selection criteria and for additional information, visit [OIT Video Solutions](#) or the [ResearchChannel Web site](#).

THE IMAGINE FUND SEEKS PROPOSALS from individuals, groups, departments, and centers to identify candidates of distinction for the new Visiting Distinguished Chair in the Arts, Humanities, or Design. The chair will attract a world-class scholar or scholars to spend up to one academic year at the U. This position will be a catalyst with the goal of stimulating wide-ranging discussion on the arts, design, and humanities across the University. For more information, see [Imagine Fund](#).

THE CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION STUDIES (CTS) is sponsoring a free transportation career expo, open to undergraduate and graduate students, employers, and representatives of professional organizations. The expo offers the opportunity to learn about transportation career options, career preparation strategies, networking opportunities, and job openings. Students are advised to bring their resumes for feedback. Feb. 5, 4:30-7:15 p.m., President's Room, Coffman Union. Register online or download the brochure and [registration form](#). For more information, call 612-625-5608 or e-mail haaq0025@umn.edu. CTS is part of the U's [System Academic Administration](#).

REGISTER FOR THE QUALITY FAIR BY JAN. 28 FOR A FREE LUNCH. See your colleagues leading change at the U: more than 30 poster projects, 16 working smarter ideas, and 5 projects in process. Breakout sessions include Tools U Can Use to Drive Quality Improvement, Project Management Fundamentals, and Resources for Process Improvement. Feb. 5, 9:45 a.m.-3 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For more information and an application, see [Quality Fair](#).

KEEP YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM FROM FREEZING. Minnesotans have survived the latest wave of arctic temperatures, but we're not out of winter yet. For nearly 600,000 residents who have septic systems, severe cold temperatures pose a serious threat. Nick Haig, [Water Resources Center](#) program coordinator, has tips to keep your system regular. For more information, see [U of M Moment](#).

Crookston:

UMC'S CENTER FOR ADULT LEARNING (CAL) has been selected to act as the student support call center for the U's Digital Campus. The six-month contract is based upon the expansion and initiatives of online education growth within the U of M system and the Digital Campus. CAL launched the call center Jan. 12. The Digital Campus has 18 degrees available online along with noncredit professional development activities. For more information, see [Digital Campus](#).

THE AGRICULTURAL UTILIZATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE (AURI) hosted a reception in late December for students who worked with David DeMuth, associate professor of physics, on a collaborative effort with AURI to develop a Web-based communications portal for members of Minnesota's Renewable Energy Roundtable (MNRER). Members of MNRER and individuals interested in renewable energy topics will use the portal for information, news, and networking. For more information, see [MNRER](#).

Duluth:

VALENTINE'S DINNER AT GLENSHEEN. The historic estate is setting the stage for a unique and romantic dinner just in time for Valentine's Day. In addition to dinner, the evening includes a tour, live music, beer and wine tasting, and a take-home rose. Feb. 13 and 14, 6 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 218-726-8910 or 1-888-454-GLEN. For more information, see the [events calendar](#). For Glensheen winter tour hours, see [winter hours](#).

GLENSHEEN MAIN ENTRANCE GATE RESTORATION. The west gate entrance to Glensheen Historic Estate is being restored to the original design style. Restoration began Jan. 9 and will be completed in one month. UMD Facilities Management is doing the project.

Morris:

THE SCIENCE MUSEUM OF MINNESOTA'S ONLINE *SCIENTIST ON THE SPOT* program will feature UMM professor of biology Van Gooch. Gooch will field questions related to his research, Jan. 23-Mar. 5. For more information, see [Scientist on the Spot](#).

Rochester:

UMR HELD THE FIFTH BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS AND COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY (BICB) RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM Jan. 16. Approximately 130 researchers and administrators from collaborating institutions (UMTC, IBM, Mayo Clinic, Hormel Institute) attended the symposium. The purpose of the event was to provide BICB program updates, seed grant status reports, trainee poster sessions, networking opportunities, and research team meetings. For more information, see [symposium](#).

THE ROCHESTER *POST-BULLETIN* RECENTLY FEATURED AN EDITORIAL ABOUT THE UMR campus and its recruiting efforts. The editorial, "UMR offers perks for pioneering students" touts UMR's curriculum, state-of-the-art educational environment, and unique learning environment. For more information, see [UMR editorial](#).

Twin Cities:

EPA'S CHIEF SCIENTIST WILL SPEAK AT THE U ABOUT SCIENCE PRIORITIES IN THE NEW PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATION. "Science Priorities and Using Science for Decision Making at the U.S. EPA" will begin at 11 a.m., Jan. 29, 105 Cargill Building for Microbial and Plant Genetics, St. Paul. The lecture is sponsored by the U's Water Resources Center, whose codirector Deborah Swackhamer was recently named chair of the EPA's Science Advisory Board. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, see [EPA lecture](#).

CHANGING IDENTITY: RECENT WORKS BY WOMEN ARTISTS FROM VIETNAM, is the first major touring exhibition to feature Vietnamese women artists in the United States. The Weisman exhibition explores the roles of women in Vietnamese society and challenges the stereotypes they face. A preview party will take place Jan. 31. Open to the public. The exhibit opens Feb. 1. For more information, see [Changing Identity](#).

ART EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION: Vietnam, an exhibit by artist Justin Finch, opens Jan. 21, reception 4-6 p.m., W120 Gailon Roen Room Gallery, Boynton Health Service. Supported by the Boynton Health Service Art Committee and the Center for Arts and Medicine. For more information, see [Vietnam](#).

THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOPRODUCTS AND BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING will hold its Centennial Seminar to celebrate 100 years of innovation. Cornell University professor Norm Scott will kick off the event with his presentation "Nanobiotechnology, Renewable Energy, and Sustainability: Where Is Agriculture Going?" Jan. 26. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Colien Hefferan will present "Looking Ahead to Agriculture in the 21st Century: The Next Big Thing, What Does the Future Hold for Agriculture Science and Education?" Jan. 29. Both take place 3-4 p.m., North Star Ballroom, St. Paul Student Center. For more information, see [centennial](#).

SAVE THE DATE: "From Every Voice," the U's annual concert in honor of the life and work of Martin Luther King Jr., will take place Feb. 22, 4 p.m. Ted Mann Concert Hall. This year's concert will feature Take 6, the award-winning a cappella group. In two decades of performing jazz and R&B standards, Take 6 has won 10 Grammy Awards, 10 Dove Awards, 1 Soul Train Award, and 2 NAACP Image Award nominations. Free and open to the public; no tickets or reservations required. For more information, see [From Every Voice](#) or call 612-624-0594.

MORE EVENTS include "Wastelands and Wilderness": A presentation by Peter Galison ([Jan. 22](#)); actor/performer Charlie Bethel's "Gilgamesh!" ([Jan. 23](#)); Round Table Discussion on Morrill Hall Takeover ([Jan. 24](#)); The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra Presents the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment ([Jan. 25](#)); conference on Internet privacy ([Jan. 26](#)); Handling Discrimination Concerns Effectively ([Jan. 27](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (1-28-2009)

 Vol. XXXIX No. 4; January 28, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu
Inside This Issue

- The 2010-11 budget recommendations will impact the U.
- Join in a discussion about the U's academic mission in a declining economy.
- Reminder: Jan. 28 legislative briefing.
- People: McKnight Land-Grant Professors for 2009-11 include 11 early career faculty members; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE 2010-11 BUDGET RECOMMENDED BY GOV. PAWLENTY includes cuts to the University of Minnesota. The recommendations are the first step in a long budget process that will include difficult choices at the U. The U has been working aggressively to reduce costs, scale back investments, and take other actions to help resolve the shortfall. For more information, see a statement by President Bruininks at the [Economy and the U](#). For detailed budget information for the state, see [budget plan](#).

OPEN FORUM WITH PROVOST SULLIVAN: Faculty, staff, and students are invited to join in a discussion about the U's academic mission in a declining economy. Jan. 29, 3-4 p.m., 101 Fraser Hall. To participate electronically, visit the [Economy and the U](#) Web site the day of the event for details.

REMINDER: SUPPORT THE U BY ATTENDING THE 2009 LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING. Drive home the statewide value of the U during this crucial legislative session that will address Minnesota's budget deficit. Jan. 28, 5:30-8 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For more information, call 612-626-1417.

PEOPLE: McKnight Land-Grant Professors for 2009-11 include 11 early-career faculty members; Michael O'Connor succeeded Brian Van Ness as head of the Department of Genetics, Cell Biology, and Development; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS
University-wide:

THE U'S THIRD ANNUAL QUALITY FAIR offers an opportunity to see quality improvement in action. More than 20 posters will be on display, as well as summaries of 16 "Working Smarter" ideas and 5 new projects. Feb. 5, 9:45 a.m.-3 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Register online by Jan. 28 to reserve a lunch. For more information, see [Quality Fair](#).

CONFLICT DYNAMICS: SIMPLE STRATEGIES FOR COMPLEX TIMES is the topic of two workshops designed for faculty. Participants will learn how to recognize and respond more effectively to conflict in a variety of settings. Sessions will feature current research in the field, case studies, and tools to help manage conflict. Feb. 2 and 9, 3-5 p.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, UMTC. Free, but registration is required. For more information, see [conflict dynamics](#).

THE DEADLINE FOR THE \$3,000 ARTS, DESIGN, AND HUMANITIES Faculty Awards is Feb. 2. All tenured/tenure-track arts, humanities, and design faculty are eligible. For more information, see [faculty awards](#).

DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE BASE for interdisciplinary graduate programs is the topic of a workshop for faculty and staff. Participants will identify resources necessary for sustaining programs, and a U panel will share strategies to gain essential support, including agreements with department and college administrators and revenue-generating possibilities. Feb. 4, 3-5 p.m., Mississippi Room, UMTC. Free, but space is limited and registration is required. For more information, see [resource base](#).

BROWN BAG FINANCIAL SERIES offers three seminars designed to help U employees become more savvy investors. Topics include Taking Control of Your Financial Life, A Perspective on Today's Economy and Portfolio Diversification, and Keeping Your Investment Strategy on Track. Feb. 4, 11, and 25, noon-1 p.m., 215 Donhowe. The seminars will also be available through UM Connect. For more information and to register, see [brown bag series](#).

CALL FOR PROPOSALS (DEADLINE EXTENDED): The U's Academy of Distinguished Teachers, the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Office of Information Technology, and Instructional Development Services (UMD) are sponsoring a one-day conference focusing on making connections between teaching and learning. Presentation and poster proposals will be accepted through Feb. 2. The conference takes place Apr. 27, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For more information and proposal submission guidelines, see [proposals](#). Questions can be directed to [Jeremy Hernandez](#).

U OF M MOMENT: STEM CELL INSTITUTE SEARCHING FOR CURES. Parkinson's Disease, diabetes, and paralysis are devastating illnesses and conditions that were once thought permanent. Now, with advanced stem cell research, cures may be on the horizon. Jonathan Slack, director of the U's Stem Cell Institute, says the possibilities are limitless. For more information, listen to [U of M Moment](#).

THE SYSTEMWIDE U OF M JOB AND INTERNSHIP FAIR is free and open to all undergraduate and graduate students, as well as recent U graduates (2006-present). Last year's fair served 2,700 job seekers and over 250 employers. Feb. 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Minneapolis Convention Center. Preregister at [Job Fair](#).

U TWITTER: The U's News Service recently launched a presence with the online phenomenon Twitter. With the 24-hour news cycle, increasing prominence of blogs, and dramatic transformation in the news business, Twitter has become an emerging tool for journalists, bloggers, PR pros, social networkers, and others. For more information, see [U of M Twitter](#).

Crookston:

MARKETPLACE FOR ENTREPRENEURS is in its 20th year, and two representatives from UMC participated in the recent event. Business instructor Kenneth Johnson was joined by Rick Chapin, a business management major and member of the Students in Free Enterprise team. For more information, see [marketplace](#).

WARM YOUR HEART ON A COLD WINTER EVENING and raise funds for student scholarships. UMC's Valentine's Day Gala is slated for Feb. 14, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased through a member of the UMC Women's Project Fund or by calling the Chamber of Commerce at 218-281-4320. For more information, see [student scholarships](#).

Duluth:

THE WEBER STREAM RESTORATION INITIATIVE was presented with the Milton Pelletier Environmental Stewardship Award by the St. Louis River Alliance Jan. 21. The award was given for the initiative's efforts to enhance habitat and biodiversity in Lake Superior tributary streams by protecting and restoring watersheds along the North Shore. For more information, see the [Weber Stream Restoration Initiative](#).

UMD HEALTH SERVICES WAS AWARDED the certificate of accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. Health Services underwent an extensive onsite survey that evaluated all aspects of patient care. This is the sixth consecutive time Health Services has received a three-year accreditation.

THREE 2008 HUBERT H. HUMPHREY FELLOWS, Elizabeth da Cunha Sussekind, Maria del Rocio Bermeo Sevilla, and Juan Carlos Arjona Est?vez, will speak on "Human Rights Issues in Latin America: Environment, Energy and Indigenous Rights." Feb. 4, 7 p.m., Fourth Floor Rotunda, UMD Library. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Alworth Institute](#).

"UFOs: FACT OR FICTION?" Join the Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium for a history of UFO sightings. Free. Jan. 28, 7 p.m. For more information, see [planetarium](#).

Morris:

MORRIS RESIDENTS ARE INVITED to partake in the first in a series of four community meals designed to strengthen and enrich the community through food. Morris Community Meals is an effort of students and local residents. Meals are prepared by volunteers and served at Legacy Living, Ltd. Jan. 26, 5:30-7 p.m. Subsequent meals will be served on the last Monday of the month through April. For more information, see [Morris Community Meals](#).

THE COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS event will welcome approximately 200 students and their families to campus Feb. 6-7. Students will be competing for the Prairie Scholars Award and the Morris Scholars Award. For more information, see [community](#).

Rochester:

UMR WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE GRAND RECEPTION at the sixth annual Rochester on Tour at the Capitol, Jan. 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m., National Guard Armory, St. Paul. Last year, more than 85 legislators from across the state learned from 700-plus citizens how important Rochester is to the economic vitality of the state. For more information, visit the Rochester Area [Chamber of Commerce](#) Web site.

Twin Cities:

OPEN FORUMS TO PREVIEW UMTC MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS will take place Feb 2, 1-2:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center; Feb 3, 10-11:30 a.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union; Feb 4, 1-2:30 p.m., 33 McNeal Hall, St. Paul; Feb 5, 7-8:30 p.m., Multi-purpose Room, Van Cleve Park, 901 15th Ave. S.E. The plan will be presented to the Board of Regents on Feb. 12. A public comment period will run Feb. 6-20 on the [Master Plan Web site](#).

WARRIOR TO CITIZEN: Stories of Minnesota's Most Recent Veterans debuts Jan. 27, and continues through Jan. 31, at the Humphrey Forum. The exhibit showcases various elements of veterans' experiences, from preparing for war to understanding their role as citizens upon returning home. Free and open to the public. For more information, including hours, see [Warrior to Citizen](#).

TEL SEMINAR SERIES: DATA-DRIVEN APPLICATIONS IN TEACHING AND LEARNING. Panelists will discuss how they developed databases and data mashups to create multimedia learning opportunities, a repository of case studies, an Internet mapping application, and an online learning style module to promote authentic, engaged learning in varied modalities. Free and open to the public. Feb. 4, noon-1:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library. For more information, see [TEL Seminar](#).

KONOPKA LECTURESHIP: "THE PANIC OVER GIRLS" features keynote speaker Mike Males, senior researcher for the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice in San Francisco, a columnist for *Youth Today*, and principal investigator and content director for the information service YouthFacts.org. Males is also the author of *The Scapegoat Generation: America's War on Adolescents and Framing Youth: Ten Myths About the Next Generation*. Feb. 11, 10 a.m. For more information, see the [Konopka Institute](#).

MINI-MEDICAL SCHOOL SPRING 2009: New Frontiers in Medicine. The biannual five-class endeavor will feature health topics spanning new frontiers in medicine. The series runs Mondays, Feb. 23-Mar. 23, 6-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$75 (includes binder and printouts of PowerPoint presentations), or \$60 (paperless, with ability to download presentations). For more information and registration, see [Mini-Medical School](#).

THE RUSSIAN NATIONAL BALLET WILL PERFORM AT NORTHROP for the first time ever, performing the fairytale *Sleeping Beauty* on Jan. 30 and 31, 8 p.m. Staff and faculty receive \$4 off regular ticket prices. For more information, see [Northrop](#) or call 612-624-2345.

THE STUDENT-RUN MEDICATION MANAGEMENT CLINIC is seeking pharmaceutical care experiential clinic patients. Advanced standing pharmacy students conduct comprehensive assessments of a patient's medication-related needs in the presence of experienced faculty. Free. To schedule an appointment, obtain a brochure, or ask questions, call Brian Isetts at 612-625-7929.

TREAT YOUR SWEETHEART to a four-course dinner at the Campus Club, Feb. 13. Membership is not required. Social hour is at 5 p.m. and dinner seating is 5:30-7:30 p.m. Reservations are required. For more information, call 612-626-7788.

MORE EVENTS include Usability Lab Open House ([Jan. 29](#)); SJMC Alumni Society's Twin Cities Media Stars Quiz Bowl ([Jan. 29](#)); Minnesota Geospatial Futures Symposium ([Jan. 30-31](#)); Changing Identity Preview Party ([Jan. 31](#)); "Superconductivity: High Science and High Technology" ([Feb. 2](#)) Healthy Eating/Healthy Living With Brenda Langton ([Feb. 3-10](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (2-4-2009)Vol. XXXIX No. 5; February 4, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Inside This Issue**

- Federal Relations update.
- Faculty and staff are contributing suggestions to The Economy and the U Web site.
- People: Andrew Oxenham was honored by the National Academy of Sciences; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

FEDERAL RELATIONS UPDATE: Stimulus moves quickly in congress. There is an unusual rule in effect in Washington these days: the amount of funding at stake is inversely proportional to the amount of time allotted to consider it. Congress's alacrity reflects the deep concerns that House and Senate leaders and the new president have about the economy. In this era of superlatives, there has likely never been a funding bill better for higher education than the House's H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. For more information, see [Federal Relations Update](#).

THE ECONOMY AND THE U WEB SITE was launched Jan. 14 as a resource for faculty and staff to stay up to date on emerging budget news. A key feature of the site is a suggestion box where employees are contributing solutions to questions that will change periodically to address budget challenges. The first question posed on the site has generated an outpouring of responses about ways to conserve energy to reduce costs. For more information, see [From common sense to common practice](#).

PEOPLE: Assistant professor of psychology Andrew Oxenham was honored by the National Academy of Sciences for extraordinary scientific achievements in psychology; the Center for Spirituality & Healing has named physician and former corporate managed care executive Archelle Georgiou a senior fellow; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

STAY UP TO DATE ON THE ECONOMY AND THE U WITH AUTOMATIC UPDATES. Receive e-mails about updates, new communications, and related information by subscribing to the Economy and the U Web site. You can help contribute solutions to budget challenges by visiting the suggestion box, now asking "How can the U maintain the strength of its mission in lean times?" For automatic updates, enter your name and e-mail address (must be a umn.edu address) at [subscription](#). For the suggestion box, see the [Economy and the U](#).

THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (OIP) announces Global Spotlight, its biennial focus on a region of the world and a pressing global issue. In 2009-10, the focus will be on Africa and the issue of water. OIP will sponsor events and activities to educate the campus and local community about the U's work. Departments systemwide are encouraged to incorporate Global Spotlight themes into events and programs. For more information, see [Global Spotlight](#). OIP is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

DARK AGES MAYBE NOT SO DARK? The Dark Ages only appear dark because few writers have illuminated the period's cultural richness. But archaeological sites tell a different story. Anthropology professor Peter Wells sets the record straight. For more information, see the story [Dark Ages](#).

THE CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION STUDIES (CTS) has a number of upcoming events. Intelligent Speed Adaptation, which can warn drivers and prevent speeding, will be the topic of a presentation at the 2009 Winter Luncheon. Feb. 11, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Innovative construction practices, infrastructure investment strategies, sustainable pavements, and more will be discussed at the 13th Annual Minnesota Pavement Conference, Feb. 12, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m., Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul. For more information, see [CTS events](#).

A VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER AT THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM will include gourmet meals, orchid previews, and more. Feb. 14, 6:30 p.m. \$60 members, \$65 nonmembers. Call 612-624-7173 to reserve. For more information, see [dinner](#).

Crookston:

EXPLORING TRIBAL GOVERNMENT, SOVEREIGNTY, AND CULTURE will be the focus of a presentation at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center (NROC). Guest speakers include Dawn Newman, American Indian and tribal partnership liaison with U Extension; Susan Beaulieu, who works with 4-H youth development; and Jennifer Garbow, part of Extension's family resource management team. Feb. 5, noon, Youngquist Auditorium, NROC. For more information, see [presentation](#).

UMC WILL HOST SEVERAL EVENTS IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH. Highlights include former Minnesota Vikings player Chuck Foreman and the Reverend Samuel "Billy" Kyles. The Black Student Association and the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs are sponsoring the events. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [black history](#).

UMC ASSISTANT PROFESSOR Alvin Killough and his wife, Eryn, were guest speakers recently at Century College. Their presentation was part of a series of events focusing on both Black History Month and in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. For more information, see [speakers](#).

Duluth:

SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS PRESENTS THE TWIN PORTS WIND ORCHESTRA, Feb. 8, 3 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Tickets are \$8/\$7/\$5/\$3. For reservations, call 218-726-8877. For more information, see [orchestra](#).

BROWN BAG PRESENTATION: "The Anglo American Roots of the New Rhetoric: A Visit to Cambridge University." UMD assistant professor of writing studies David Beard will present. Feb. 5, noon, fourth floor, Library Rotunda. For more information, see [brown bag](#).

STARGAZING TONIGHT: What's up in the Sky for February! Feb. 4, 7 p.m., Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium. Free. For more information, see [planetarium](#).

Morris:

COMMUNITIES 2050: BUILDING A LIVABLE, RENEWABLE, AND RESPONSIBLE FUTURE, is the theme of the Seventh Annual Symposium on Small Towns, June 2-3. The symposium will be preceded by the Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability conference, May 31-June 1. For more information, see [symposium](#).

ADVANCE TICKET ORDERS FOR THE ANNUAL MORRIS JAZZ FEST will be processed Feb. 27. Order forms can be obtained by calling student activities, 320-589-6080. The fest features guest artists Adam Rogers, Robin Eubanks, and Kenni Holmen, along with student jazz ensembles and alumni jazz musicians. Apr. 2-4. For more information, see [jazz fest](#).

Rochester:

UMR IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for the new bachelor of science in health sciences degree program, which offers a health sciences-focused curriculum and integrated career exploration. For more information, see [BSHS application PDF](#).

Twin Cities:

UMR IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for the new bachelor of science in health sciences degree program, which offers a health sciences-focused curriculum and integrated career exploration. For more information, see [BSHS application PDF](#).

Twin Cities:

A GARBAGE TRUCK WILL DUMP A TRUCKLOAD OF TRASH in front of Coffman Union at 9 a.m., Feb. 4. Volunteers will then pull out the cans, bottles, and newspapers that could have been recycled. The event is part of an effort to increase recycling on campus. It's part of the U's involvement in RecycleMania--a national competition and tool to promote waste reduction at university campus communities. For more information, see the [news release](#), [U recycling](#), and [RecycleMania.org](#).

THE U'S REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS will present research findings on two local foods projects. "Philanthropic Funding of Local Foods Work" looks at the funding sources and priorities of Minnesota's foundations and their contribution to building local food systems. "Mapping Local Foods Assets in Minnesota" presents research on the potential for geographic mapping and planning of the state's future local food system. Feb. 4, 1:15-3 p.m., 306 Borlaug Hall.

PANEL DISCUSSION: "The Local and National Economies: Light at the End of the Tunnel?" will feature financial experts tackling the question of how best to manage the financial crisis at both the national and Minnesota levels. Free and open to the public. Feb. 4, 4-5:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium.

U OF M LIBRARIES HAS RECEIVED the Association of College and Research Libraries 2009 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. U Libraries was praised for developing excellent strategies to transform and rebrand the libraries to secure a valued position on campus. For more information, see the [news release](#).

GOPHER FOOTBALL RETURNS TO CAMPUS SEPT. 12. With attendance expected at more than 50,000 people per game, football will transform the TC campus into a busy, spirited environment. It will also present challenges on home game days. When planning campus events for 2009 and beyond, be aware of the dates for the seven Saturday home games. More details will be forthcoming in the coming months. For more information see [TCF Bank Stadium](#) or [Gopher football](#).

THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY will host daylong seminars and presentations by vendors Apple and Adobe. Learn about Apple's mobile-learning-environment platforms Feb. 10, 8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Adobe will present workshops Feb. 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Both events held at 332 Coffman Union and are open to the campus community. Free, but attendees should [R.S.V.P.](#) by Feb. 6, for Apple, and Feb. 19, for Adobe. For more information, see [presentations](#).

PUBLIC FORUM ON POTENTIAL BIKE SHARING PROGRAM: Share your opinions at an open forum to discuss a public bike system on campus and throughout Minneapolis. Feb. 10, 7 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information, see [bike sharing](#).

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE TWIN CITIES AT THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT FAIR. The event provides staff, faculty, and students a chance to learn about local volunteer and internship opportunities. Representatives from more than 90 organizations will be available. Feb. 11, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information, see [community involvement](#).

THE SUCCESSFUL MANAGER'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM can help U supervisors develop essential leadership skills. A free information session will be held Feb. 13, 10-11 a.m., 210 Donhowe. Sponsored by Organizational Effectiveness and the College of Continuing Education. For more information, program dates, costs, or to view the brochure, see [successful manager](#) or call 612-624-4000.

MIDWEST GREEK STEP SHOW TO BENEFIT URBAN 4-H. The fund-raiser features competitive step teams from traditional black college fraternities and sororities. All proceeds benefit Minnesota Urban 4-H, which provides learning opportunities for youth in the metro area. \$15 to attend, open to the public. Feb. 14, 6 p.m., Northrop Auditorium. For more information, call Cara Miller at 612-624-8132.

HELP DESK CONSORTIUM ESTABLISHED. The Office of Information Technology (OIT) has developed a help desk consortium, bringing together representatives from nearly 40 campus IT help desks. The next meeting of the consortium takes place Feb. 18, 10-11:30 a.m., 401-402 Walter Library. [R.S.V.P. to KTCragg](#) by Feb. 16, noon. The meeting will also be available via [UMConnect](#). For more information, see [help desk](#).

THE CENTER FOR WRITING'S TEACHING WITH WRITING PROGRAM offers a series of panel discussions and workshops to all faculty members, TAs, and instructors. From hands-on workshops like Wiki Writing, Grading & Responding, and Summer Teaching, to panel discussions on a variety of topics and the Engaging Controversies series, the sessions are provocative--especially when paired with powerful coffee. For more information, see [Teaching with Writing](#).

THE CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS. Individuals interested in English conversation with nonnative English speaking graduate students are invited to apply. Commitment is one hour a week for one semester. For more information, contact [Aubrie Adams](#).

UNIVERSITY DINING SERVICES NOW OFFERS ONLINE ORDERING for the M deli sandwich shop and the Terrace Caf?. UDS online ordering accepts credit cards, FlexDine, and Gopher Gold. For more information, see [online ordering](#).

MORE EVENTS include University of Minnesota Quality Fair ([Feb. 5](#)); First Fridays: Focus on Our Resources ([Feb. 6](#)); Men's Hockey vs. Wisconsin ([Feb. 8](#)); Men's Basketball vs. Indiana ([Feb. 10](#)); What's Up in Sustainable Agriculture Seminar Series: Mill City Farmers Market ([Feb. 11](#)); "Who Owns Your Scholarship? Copyright, Publication Agreements, and Good Policy" ([Feb. 16](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

[Brief](#)[Campus Conversations](#)[Features](#)[People](#)[Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

[Office of the President](#)[Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (2-11-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 6; February 11, 2009

Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--Minnesota Medical Foundation announces second largest donation in U history.

--The U will restructure the administration of its graduate programs.

--The Board of Regents will meet this week.

--People: Julie Schumacher's novel *Black Box* has been named an American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL NAMING: The Minnesota Medical Foundation (MMF) on Feb. 10 announced a \$50 million gift for the naming of the new children's hospital, which will be named after medical device pioneer Dr. Kurt Amplatz. The gift is the second largest donation in U history. For more information, see [\\$50 million gift](#).

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING ANNOUNCED: The U will restructure the administration of its graduate programs to enhance graduate education for students, strengthen the programs, and reduce costs. As part of the restructuring, the current Graduate School will be changed from a free-standing administrative unit to which all graduate programs report, to the Office for Graduate Education within the provost's office. New reporting lines will be effective July 1, with full implementation expected by fall 2010. For more information, see the [news release](#) or the [provost's office Web site](#).

THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL MEET FEB. 11, 12, and 13. The agenda and docket materials are available on the [Board of Regents Web site](#).

PEOPLE: Julie Schumacher's novel *Black Box* has been named an American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults; the National Association of Conservation Districts presented the Friend of Conservation award to U of M Extension; the Institute on the Environment has selected five new projects to receive major funding from its Discovery Grants program; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

THE ECONOMY AND THE U WEB SITE has been updated with links to the president's message to faculty and staff, the announcement of the Graduate School restructuring, budget principles, and new suggestions from employees around the U. For more information, see the [economy and the U](#). To receive e-mail updates from the economy and the U, [subscribe here](#).

URBAN RESEARCH AND OUTREACH/ENGAGEMENT CENTER (UROC) will host a conference for stakeholders to discuss the vision of UROC as it coordinates the U's partnership with the Northside community. Participants will review and analyze the past, examine current operations, develop future scenarios, and construct action plans for both short- and long-term recommendations. Findings will be used to develop a five-year strategic plan for UROC. Feb. 20-21 at Parents in Community Action, 700 Humboldt Ave. N. For more information, [e-mail UROC](#) or call 612-626-UROC. UROC is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

THE EQUITY AND DIVERSITY WORKSHOP SERIES includes sessions on diversifying the search process, working as an ally in equity and diversity efforts, and understanding identity theories related to the development of students of color. Free and open to the U community. For a full list of workshops, see [Equity and Diversity](#).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: Identify nominees to receive Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowships for 2009-10. Fellowships aim to support outstanding Ph.D. students whose current or proposed dissertation topic is interdisciplinary and who would benefit from interaction with faculty at one of the U-wide interdisciplinary centers or institutes. Students must be nominated by their program director. At least 14 fellowships will be awarded. For more information, see [call for nominations](#).

THE "IT'S GLOBAL" PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT (PSA) CONTEST is a chance to tell the world about pollution, clean water, climate change, second-hand smoke, or any other global public health topic--and to win up to \$500. Submissions should be 30 seconds or less, entry deadline is Mar. 6. For more information, see the 2009 ["It's Global" PSA contest](#). Sponsored by the School of Public Health.

THE U LIBRARIES ASSIGNMENT CALCULATOR has been adapted by dozens of college and university libraries and writing centers around the world. A new, enhanced version gives instructors and students greater control over their assignments and allows for seamless integration into courses. Instructors can now build assignments from templates such as video projects, speeches, research papers, and soon from lab reports. For more information, and to try the site, see [assignment](#).

THE WEB AND E-MAIL TEMPLATES AND REVISED STANDARDS SITE is online. Updated Web and e-mail templates along with graphics for unit headers are available for download. Checklists ensure the basics are covered before publishing a site, modifying a template, or sending mass e-mail. For more information, see [eCommunication Standards](#).

Crookston:

THE ALSETH-NWSA BUSINESS BOARDROOM, named in honor of Alumnus Stanley Alseth, '35, and the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA), will be dedicated Feb. 24, 11 a.m., 116 Dowell Hall. The classroom will be a focal point of the business major, the largest program at UMC. For more information, see [dedication](#).

THE UMC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION adopted a new mission statement at a recent board meeting, reading, "The mission of the University of Minnesota, Crookston, Alumni Association is to visibly promote and support the University of Minnesota, Crookston, through communication, outreach, and recognition while building lifelong connections and preserving our legacy."

Duluth:

DISCOVERY AT TWEED is a new educational program at the Tweed Museum. Every Tuesday, 12-4 p.m., the public is invited to observe museum staff and interns as they inventory and assess the museum's collection, noting the condition and history of each object. For more information, see [Tweed](#).

"STRATEGIES FOR OVERWINTERING IN ARTIC ANIMALS" will be presented by Brian Barnes as part of International Darwin Day. Feb. 12, 3:30 p.m., 175 Life Science. Barnes is director of the Institute of Arctic Biology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Barnes will also speak during the Biology Seminar Series, Feb. 13, 3:15 p.m., 185 Life Science, coffee and cookies at 3 p.m.

OUT COLD WINTER WEEK is set for Feb. 23-28. Join in a variety of fun activities and celebrate school spirit. The annual decorating contest for departments is Feb. 25. Creative displays of all shapes and sizes are welcome. For rules and a list of events, see [out cold](#).

THE ALWORTH BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES PRESENTS "The Pakistan You Don't Know," by Waqas Ahmad and Nisar Ahmed, graduate students in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Feb. 12, noon, fourth floor Library Rotunda. For more information, see [brown bag](#).

Morris:

CHANCELLOR JACQUELINE JOHNSON and students Kate Grabosky, Joseph Hartmann, Qinglu (Chris) Shao, and Rachel Olm will participate in the Clinton Global Initiative University, Feb. 13-15, University of Texas at Austin. Johnson will serve as a panelist during a session on "The University as Laboratory: Towards Carbon Neutral Communities." For more information, see [global initiative](#).

THE UMM CONCERT CHOIR has been selected to perform during the Minnesota Music Education Association Midwinter Clinic, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m., Minneapolis Convention Center. In addition to the choir's performance, Martin Seggelke, Morris campus director of wind ensembles, will present two sessions. For more information, see [UMM concert choir](#).

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE COMMUNITY FOODS DAY is Feb. 17, 1-7 p.m. The event will showcase local foods and producers of west central Minnesota, and include an afternoon farmers market followed by a local foods meal. For more information, see [community foods day](#).

Rochester:

ACTION ON THE RESOLUTION RELATED TO THE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN for University of Minnesota, Rochester, will be taken during the Board of Regents meeting Feb. 12, 1:15-3:15 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center, sixth floor, West Committee Room. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

Twin Cities:

ASHIS BRAHMA, DOCTOR TO DARFUR REFUGEES, will speak at the U on the continuing genocide in Darfur, focusing on public policy, health, and the refugee crisis. Brahma is a Dutch physician who worked as the sole doctor at the Oure Cassoni camp in Chad from July 2006 through July 2007, caring for 27,000 Darfur refugees forced from their homes in Sudan. Feb. 11, noon-1:15 p.m., 250 Moos Tower. For more information, see [Darfur refugees](#). For more information about Brahma's activities in Minneapolis, see [Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies](#).

RECYCLING MEDIA EVENT: University Services staff and U of M students dumped six tons of garbage on the snow-covered lawn in front of Coffman Union on Feb. 4 to highlight the need for recycling and to raise awareness about what is recyclable. The U's News Service produced an interesting video with some amazing stats on recycling at the U, available at [YouTube](#).

THE COLLEGE OF DESIGN'S SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE WAS RECOGNIZED by DesignIntelligence as a world-class architectural school of the United States in a new listing of programs that have distinguished themselves over the past 10 years. For more information, see [DesignIntelligence](#).

FACULTY AND CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING STAFF will hold a series of stand-alone seminars examining incivilities in academic contexts, strategies for fostering civilities, and approaches to conflict mediation. For registration and more information, see [incivilities](#).

"HOW UNLEASHED CAPITALISM PRODUCES ECONOMIC CRISES: WHAT IS TO BE DONE?" will feature a presentation by Robert Pollin on the consequences of operating without tight regulations on financial markets, among other public policy interventions. Pollin is professor of economics and founding codirector of the Political Economy Research Institute at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. Feb. 23, 4 p.m., 275 Nicholson Hall. For more information, see [economic crises](#).

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HOST INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS attending an orientation in St. Paul, Feb. 23-24, Mar. 23-24, or April 6-7. Hosts provide students with a reassuring welcome and typically house students three to four nights. Hosts are asked to provide room and board as well as transportation to and from campus. For more information, e-mail [Susan VonBank](mailto:Susan.VonBank) or call 612-625-8797. For more about the program, see [MAST International](#).

PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH (PAR) WORKSHOPS engage U researchers and community members in investigations to derive solutions that can effectively address real life, complex issues in the local community. The Office of Public Engagement is sponsoring a three-hour introductory workshop designed to involve U faculty, staff, and students, as well as community members, in exploring the principles and practice of PAR. Mar. 24, 1-4 p.m., 332 Coffman Union. For registration or more information, call Michelle Wittcoff Kuhl at 612-624-1562.

P & A AUDIO SPOTLIGHT: Jim Turman, Department of Recreational Sports. As assistant vice president for Student Affairs and director for the Department of Recreational Sports, Jim Turman has seen the U's recreational sports thrive during his tenure. For more information, [listen here](#).

DRY ICE MARTINIS? LIQUID NITROGEN ICE CREAM? Only at the Campus Club. These and more new selections that demonstrate key principles of chemistry will be featured at the second annual Kitchen Chemistry Buffet, Feb. 19, Campus Club. Families and nonmembers are welcome. Demonstrations begin at 5:30 p.m., with buffet seating at 6:30 p.m. Call 612-626-7788 for reservations. For pricing information and more, see [campus club](#).

THE INSTITUTE FOR MATHEMATICS AND ITS APPLICATIONS will hold a public lecture entitled "Sports Scheduling and the Practice of Operations Research," Mar. 4, 7 p.m., 125 Willey Hall. For more information, see the [Math Matters](#) lecture series.

MORE EVENTS include U of M professor Nabil Matar discusses his book *Europe Through Arab Eyes 1578-1727* ([Feb. 12](#)); "The Future of Liberalism," public lecture by Alan Wolfe" ([Feb. 13](#)); "Reinventing Community: The Role of Philanthropy" ([Feb. 16](#)); Batsheva Dance Company ([Feb. 18](#)); "Dedicated to You" Kurt Elling Sings: Coltrane/Hartman, featuring Ernie Watts, Ethel, and the Laurence Hobgood Trio ([Feb. 20](#)); panel discussion of Gran Torino with the film's actors ([Feb. 20](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

[Brief](#)[Campus Conversations](#)[Features](#)[People](#)[Resources for Internal Communications](#)

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[Office of the President](#)[Government & Community Relations](#)

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Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (2-18-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 7; February 18, 2009

Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Inside This Issue**

--The Board of Regents met Feb. 11-13.

--Higher education fared well in the fiscal stimulus bill.

--The Feb. 5 Quality Fair featured innovations from around the U.

--OVPR is working to help U researchers understand funding opportunities in the fiscal stimulus bill.

--People: Jane Davidson received the Ada Comstock Distinguished Women Scholar Award; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE BOARD OF REGENTS addressed a number of topics at its Feb. 11-13 meeting. President Bruininks reported to the board on the critical challenge of the economy and its effect on the U. Robert McMaster presented the board with an overview of how students pay for college, present and future. The UMR campus master plan was approved. For more information, see [Regents](#).

FEBRUARY FEDERAL RELATIONS UPDATE: Higher education fared well in the fiscal stimulus bill. For more information on some key elements of the bill related to higher education, see [Federal Relations](#).

BACKACHES, BALLPOINT PENS, SCHOLARSHIP, AND THE QUALITY FAIR. It is difficult to define quality, but it was obviously on display Feb. 5 at the McNamara Alumni Center, during the U's third annual Quality Fair. For more information, see [Quality Fair](#).

THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH (OVPR) is creating a new Web site and several Listserves for University researchers interested in new funding opportunities within the fiscal stimulus bill. The infusion of these new, presumably one-time funds, will be tracked closely by the OVPR. For more information, see [OVPR stimulus](#). For more information about other initiatives that OVPR is launching, see [research funding](#).

PEOPLE: Jane Davidson has received the Ada Comstock Distinguished Women Scholar Award for spring 2009; the Association for Computing Machinery has awarded the distinction of fellow to Joe Konstan; associate professor R. Lee Penn has been named a McKnight Presidential Fellow 2008-11; several faculty have been awarded National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development grants; David Pitt and Lance Neckar have been named as coeditors of *Landscape Journal*; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**University-wide:**

PRESIDENT BRUININKS GAVE THE BOARD OF REGENTS a more detailed report on the short- and long-term financial challenges facing the U and the cost-cutting actions under way or being considered. His PowerPoint presentation is now available online at the [Economy and the U](#). To receive e-mail updates from the Economy and the U, [subscribe here](#).

SUPPORT THE U DAY: The Minnesota Student Association invites you to join hundreds of U students and supporters at Support the U Day, Feb. 25, noon, State Capitol rotunda, St. Paul. For more information, see the Support the U Day [registration page](#) or e-mail the [legislative network](#).

DEVELOPING SUCCESSFUL INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAMS AND PROPOSALS, a workshop for faculty, will cover stages of project and team development, including formulating a vision, recruiting a team, and meeting challenges. A faculty panel will include Linda Bearinger, Arthur Erdman, David Feinberg, Kristen Nelson, Claudia Neuhauser, and Scott Selleck. Mid-career faculty are especially encouraged to attend. Free, but space is limited and registration is required. Feb. 23, 3-5 p.m., rooms A & B, fourth floor, Coffman Union. For more information, see [workshop](#).

CONNECT @ HOME: WATCH OUT FOR PREDATORY CREDIT. Within our struggling economy, many consumers look for alternatives when managing personal finances. Consumers who find themselves in a fraudulent situation probably did not get the information they needed before "signing on the dotted line." For more information, read [Connect @ Home](#), by Shirley Anderson-Porisch.

LOSING THE AMERICAN DREAM. As foreclosure notices are being posted on houses throughout the Twin Cities, one faculty member at the U wondered about the impact of the mortgage crisis on immigrants in the metro area. Ryan Allen, assistant professor at the Humphrey Institute, will discuss his findings at the next Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) Housing Forum. Feb. 20, noon-1:30 p.m., L-110 Honeywell Auditorium, Carlson School of Management. CURA is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

Crookston:

UMC's SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE will present at a session Feb. 19, noon-2 p.m., Bede Ballroom. The committee will discuss their charge and responsibilities as they relate to the U's participation in the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment. Dan Daly from the Energy & Environment Research Center at the University of North Dakota will speak, preceded by presentations from the sustainability committee and UMC Students for Sustainable Development.

THREE REPRESENTATIVES FROM UMC PRESENTED AT THE GREEN CAMPUS FORUM held in late January at Bemidji State University and sponsored by the Northwest Clean Energy Resource Team (CERT). Linda Kingery, director, Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership, presented an overview of the various sustainability projects at UMC; Paul Aakre, assistant professor, agricultural systems management, discussed his CERT-funded farm-scale biofuels project; and natural resources student Chris Waltz spoke about a CERT-funded project involving LEED certification for the new residence hall.

Duluth:

WALKABILITY CATCHES THE ATTENTION OF DULUTH. Olaf Kuhlke, associate professor and chair of the Geography Department, is interested in the design of sustainable cities and transportation. After attending a conference where he heard a lecture about what makes cities walkable, he got the idea to explore the "walkability" of Duluth. For more information, see [walkability](#).

Morris:

JUNIOR CHELSEA PETTIT WILL JOIN OTHERS FROM THE MORRIS AREA IN WASHINGTON D.C., Feb. 28 through Mar. 5, to lobby for the revision of cuts to the Agricultural Research Service budget. Cuts are affecting work at the North Central Soil Conservation Research Laboratory, located in Morris. The opportunity comes as part of Pettit's internship with UMM's Center for Small Towns. For more information, see [agricultural research](#).

Rochester:

THE UMR CAMPUS MASTER PLAN WAS APPROVED by the Board of Regents at its Feb. 12 meeting. The plan calls for the newest U of M campus to remain in downtown Rochester and anticipates potential growth of up to 5,000 students over the next 20 years. For more information, see [master plan](#).

THE BIOBUSINESS ALLIANCE OF MINNESOTA SAYS IN ITS DESTINATION 2025 project that Rochester will need to play a key role to help the state regain its competitive edge in the life sciences. For more information, see the [Post Bulletin](#).

Twin Cities:

WILL FEDERAL SUPPORT KEEP MINNESOTA FAMILIES IN THEIR HOMES? A Humphrey Institute panel will discuss the ongoing housing crisis and the possible benefits from federal housing support, Feb. 19, 8 a.m., Humphrey Center. The event is free and open to the public, although space is limited. Please RSVP to hhhdev@umn.edu.

MANAGEMENT OF THE LES BOLSTAD GOLF COURSE recently transferred from Intercollegiate Athletics to the Department of Recreational Sports. Golf course staff and Rec Sports will work together to enhance the programming, facilities, and services at the course and to continue to provide exceptional golfing experiences, educational opportunities, and diverse programming to local communities and the University. For more information, see [Les Bolstad Golf Course](#).

PROFESSOR JASBIR PUAR OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, Women's & Gender Studies Department, will present "Prognosis Time: Towards a Geopolitics of Affect, Debility, and Capacity," Feb. 23, 3:30 p.m., 101 Walter Library. For more information, e-mail AmericanStudies@umn.edu or call 612-624-4190.

OIT SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH GOOGLE. The Office of Information Technology (OIT) signed an agreement with Google in December and has put together a project team to begin work on plans to integrate Google applications for use at the University and explore potential implementations of Google applications. Send questions to qpilot@umn.edu.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, hosted by the Carlson School of Management and entitled "Leveraging the Power of You!", will take place Apr. 10, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Coffman Union. Keynote speakers include Gail Evans, author of *Play Like a Man, Win Like a Woman*, and Verna Cornelia Price, president and principal consultant, J. Cameron & Associates and JCAMA Publishers. General admission is \$150 with a U student rate of \$50. To register, visit [Carlson](#) or call Emily Nelson at 612-626-9334.

THE HARTFORD CENTER WILL HOST VISITING SCHOLAR KEELA HERR, professor and chair of adult and gerontology at the University of Iowa College of Nursing, Apr. 14-16. Herr is an international expert in evidence-based guidelines in pain management in older adults and in end-of-life curriculum. Three public lectures, including an evening community presentation cohosted with the U's Center on Aging, will take place Apr. 14 and 15, noon-1 p.m., Mayo Memorial Auditorium; and Apr. 15, 5-6 p.m., 2-201 Hasselmo Hall. For more information, see the [Hartford Center](#).

MORE EVENTS include Wishing Won't Make It Go Away: Strategies for Graduate Students Navigating Academic Bullying and Other Incivilities ([Feb. 20](#)); Adventure Science: "Buzzing With Bees in India" ([Feb. 22](#)); "Poetics, Politics, and Place II" ([Feb. 23](#)); "(Un)Common Ground: Space and Place in African American and Native American Contexts": A talk by LaRose Davis ([Feb. 24](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

[Brief](#)[Campus Conversations](#)[Features](#)[People](#)[Resources for Internal Communications](#)

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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (2-25-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 8; February 25, 2009

Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Inside This Issue**

--U continues to make plans for substantial budget reduction.

--The U's Wellness Program offers healthy rewards.

--People: Yoichiro Mori has received the Sloan Research Fellowship; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE U CONTINUES TO MAKE PLANS TO ADDRESS A SUBSTANTIAL BUDGET REDUCTION from the state for the coming biennium. The budget news from the state may grow worse with next week's new revenue forecast, but another factor in the mix is funding that may come to the U through the recently approved federal stimulus package. It might not be until much later this spring that the University discovers its final budget parameters. For more information, see the story [U prepares for cuts in state funding](#), by Rick Moore. To receive e-mail updates from the Economy and the U, [subscribe here](#).

THE U'S WELLNESS PROGRAM OFFERS REWARDS BOTH MONETARY AND PERSONAL. More than 10,000 U of M employees and their family members are participating in a comprehensive approach to wellness available through the UPlan Medical Program. The program gives a participant a \$65 wellness reward when he or she completes an online wellness assessment. Another \$65 reward is earned when the participant takes steps to improve his or her health. For more information, see [Rewarding health](#).

PEOPLE: Yoichiro Mori has received the Sloan Research Fellowship; A "Great Conversation" with Larry Jacobs and Daniel Ellsberg has been accepted by the ResearchChannel; UMC faculty members Ken Myers and Marilyn Grave presented during the Rocky Mountain Chapter Regional Conference; Deon Stuthman is featured in the latest installment of *Speaking of Science*; Roger Wareham has accepted the position of director of grants development at Morris; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

PROVOST SULLIVAN RECENTLY ANNOUNCED AN IMPLEMENTATION TEAM that will make recommendations for restructuring the oversight and support of graduate education. The Graduate School will be changed to an Office of Graduate Education that parallels the Office of Undergraduate Education within the provost's office. Implementation recommendations are due to the provost by mid-April and will be posted at that time for public comment. Implementation is expected to continue through Fall 2010. For more information, see the implementation [announcement PDF](#) or visit the [provost's office Web site](#).

THE BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS REQUESTING COMMENTS about experiences with U medical, pharmacy, and wellness plans in 2008 and 2009 to date. Comment deadline is March 6. Anonymous summaries of comments are used in performance reviews of UPlan health benefits. For more information, contact the appropriate representative at [Comments on 2008 UPlan Medical Plans](#).

THE HEALTHY FOODS, HEALTHY LIVES INSTITUTE ISSUED AN RFP Feb. 16. The Institute will award U faculty members and community partners a research grant of \$25,000-\$50,000 in the areas of food policy, prevention of obesity and chronic disease, or food safety. RFPs will be accepted until May 4. For more information, [see the RFP](#), call 612-625-8693, or e-mail [healthy foods](#).

CURA DIRECTOR OPEN FORUMS. During the week of March 9, the Office for Public Engagement will host open forums for finalists for the position of director of the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA). The candidates include Ed Goetz, professor, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; Scott McConnell, professor, Department of Educational Psychology; and Michael Oakes, associate professor, Division of Epidemiology and Community Health. For more information, see [open forums](#).

THE CENTER FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS (CURA) ANNOUNCES ITS CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS for the 2009-10 Faculty Interactive Research Program. The program was created to encourage faculty to pursue projects that involve issues of public policy for the state. Awards cover the faculty member's salary for the summer, plus a research assistant for one year. For more information, see [Research Proposals](#). CURA is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

U OF M VIDEO: MINNESOTA WATER IS GETTING SALTIER. There's no doubt that road salt helps drivers, but what happens to the chemical when spring arrives? U researchers discovered that salt is flowing into lakes and rivers. Civil engineering professor Heinz Stefan says this will affect aquatic life and drinking water. For more information, see the [News Service video](#).

Crookston:

THE OTTO BREMER FOUNDATION AWARDED \$85,000 to the Minnesota Rural Health Association (MRHA) to help build advocacy and ensure that the rural voice is not left out of statewide discussions and decisions on health care. For more information, see [Otto Bremer](#). For more about the MRHA, see [rural health](#).

ENJOY INTERNATIONAL CUISINE during UMC's International Dinner Series, a popular annual event highlighting the foods and customs of featured countries over four evenings. March 2, 9, and 23, and April 1. For more information, see [international cuisine](#).

THE MINNESOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY awarded Chris Waltz the Student Conservationist Award at its annual meeting. The award is the top student award given by the professional organization. This is the eighth time in 12 years that a UMC student has received the award. For more information, see [conservationist award](#).

Duluth:

UMD DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS *Falstaff*, a comic opera by Giuseppe Verdi, conducted by School of Fine Arts dean Jack Bowman. Performances will be held Feb. 27 and 28, 7:30 p.m., Marshall Performing Arts Center. Tickets: \$17 adult, \$13 senior, \$8 student, \$6 UMD student. Call 218-726-8877 or see [tickets](#).

A CHORAL CONCERT with the Concert Chorale, University Singers, and Chamber Singers, directed by Stanley R. Wold and Tina Thielen-Gaffey, will take place March 1, 3 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Call 218-726-8877 or see [tickets](#).

A UNIVERSITY FOR SENIORS Journey Jargon event, "Egypt: A Glimpse at the Ancient and a Glimpse of the New," will be presented by Leonore Baeumler March 2, 11:30 a.m., 311 Kirby Plaza. Free and open to the public. For more information, e-mail [Clara Weitz](mailto:Clara.Weitz).

A GEOLOGY SEMINAR ENTITLED "The Not-so-Deep Biosphere of Active Methanogenesis in Ancient Black Shales" will be presented by Steven Petsch, associate professor of geosciences and adjunct professor in microbiology at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. Feb. 26, 3:30 p.m., 175 Life Science. For more information, e-mail [Laura Chapin](mailto:Laura.Chapin).

Morris:

VIEW THE NIGHT SKY THROUGH THE 16-INCH TELESCOPE in the observatory of the Science Building. Public viewing is scheduled beginning Feb. 28. For more information, see [night sky](#).

Rochester:

EXPANSION PLANS FOR UMR WERE PRESENTED to the Rochester City Council Feb. 23. Several council members voiced support for a proposal to use sales tax dollars for University-related construction. For more information, see the [Post Bulletin](#).

Twin Cities:

EXPANSION PLANS FOR UMR WERE PRESENTED to the Rochester City Council Feb. 23. Several council members voiced support for a proposal to use sales tax dollars for University-related construction. For more information, see the [Post Bulletin](#).

TWENTY-SIX DIMENSIONS: ART TO Z. Art to Z is getting the message out that the U does not discriminate against your cultural or scholarly tastes. From the two-dimensional poster, showing 26 letters, each embedded in a square of vivid imagery, to the 26 dimensions those events represent, Art to Z has something for everyone. The program's second installment is under way. For more information, see the story [Twenty-six dimensions](#).

THE FINAL SESSION OF THE BROWN BAG FINANCIAL SERIES takes place Feb. 25, noon-1 p.m., 215 Donhowe. Bring a lunch and participate in "Keeping Your Investment Strategy on Track," sponsored by Employee Benefits. For those unable to attend, the seminar will be broadcast through UM Connect. For more information, see [brown bag](#).

REPLACE U CARDS ISSUED ON OR BEFORE JAN. 9, 2002. Get a free replacement at the Coffman U Card Office before June 7. U Cards issued on or after Jan. 10, 2002, no longer had Social Security Numbers encoded in the magnetic strip and do not need to be replaced.

OIT TECH STOP WILL CELEBRATE ITS GRAND OPENING during an open house, Feb. 26, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 101 Coffman Union. Attendees can register for prizes, visit with staff, learn about Tech Stop services, meet UMart vendors, and participate in demonstrations and other activities. Refreshments will be served. Tech Stop offers walk-in consultation, assistance, and support for U technology services. Most help is available at no cost. For more information, see [Tech Stop grand opening](#).

CELEBRATE TECHFEST 2009. The Institute of Technology Alumni Society invites faculty and staff to this National Engineers Week event. Activities for the family include viewing an aircraft, robot demonstrations, building a mini hovercraft with the kids, seeing a futuristic vehicle, having a photo taken with Goldy Gopher, and more. Free and open to the public. Feb. 28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., The Works museum, third floor, Edina Community Center, 5701 Normandale Road.

CANCER AND THE HUMAN BODY will include hands-on exhibits where visitors of all ages can learn about cancer and research being done at the U. Feb. 28, 1-4 p.m., Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul. For more information, see [Masonic Cancer Center](#).

TEL SEMINAR: COPYRIGHT IN THE AGE OF YOUTUBE. Emerging technologies can create confusion about the use and creation of copyrighted materials in education and research. Panelists from different disciplines will offer insight and clarification on the intersection of copyright, technology, and university life. Mar. 4, noon-1:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [TEL seminar](#).

THE CONSORTIUM ON LAW AND VALUES' 10TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE, "What's Next in Law, Health, and the Life Sciences? Debating Openness, Access, and Accountability," will take place March 6, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center. For more information, see [law and values](#).

THE FOURTH IN A FIVE-PART SERIES OF 3M-SPONSORED SEMINARS for graduate students in technology and science programs, entitled "Technology Commercialization for Web 2.0 Businesses," will be held Mar. 9, 5-7 p.m., 2-206 Carlson School of Management. To register, e-mail Carlson. For more information, see [3M seminars](#).

DON'T LET THE BEDBUGS BITE. Bedbugs are a growing problem in some cities in the United States. Stephen Kells, Department of Entomology assistant professor and leading expert on the control of bedbugs, will give a presentation about how to recognize an infestation and what to do about it. Free and open to the U community, local landlords, colleges, universities, companies, and others. March 12, 10 a.m.-noon, Mississippi Room, Coffman Union.

THE 2009 SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY BANQUET is the Institute of Technology's premier scholarship fund-raiser and networking event. Cynthia Leshner, retired president and CEO of Northern States Power, Minnesota, will give the keynote presentation "Energy--It's Everyone's Business." Registration deadline is March 17. March 26, 5 p.m. reception, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program, Hilton, 1001 Marquette Ave. S. For more information or to register, see [S & T banquet](#).

THE SPLIT ROCK ARTS PROGRAM IS BACK WITH ITS SUMMER WORKSHOPS. Earn academic credit during an unforgettable learning experience close to home. The Split Rock Arts Program is the U's series of summer workshops in creative writing, visual art, and design. Choose from more than 35 weeklong and three-day workshops, June 14-July 24. Open to all University students, faculty, and staff. For more information and online registration, see [summer workshops](#), e-mail Split Rock, or call 612-625-1976.

MORE EVENTS include Regional Planning and Policy Brown Bag ([Feb. 25](#)); Experimental and Media Arts Exhibition ([Feb. 27](#)); Kung Fu Class ([Feb. 28](#)); Adventure Science: "Travels in Tropical America Looking for Dirt" ([March 1](#)); "Leading for Minnesota's Future": Public Forum with Speaker Margaret Anderson Kelliher ([March 2](#)); What is Web 2.0? Discovering the Participatory Web ([March 3](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

[Brief](#)[Campus Conversations](#)[Features](#)[People](#)[Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

[Office of the President](#)[Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (3-4-2009)Vol. XXXIX No. 9; March 4, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Inside This Issue**

--President Bruininks will deliver his seventh State of the U Address March 5.
 --The U's News Service has had phenomenal success with a recent YouTube video.
 --OVPR has created a Web page and Listservs for U researchers interested in funding opportunities within the fiscal stimulus bill.
 --People: Humphrey Institute names Carol Becker as finance director; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

MARCH 2009 MARKS THE PRESIDENT'S SEVENTH STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS. Entitled "New Realities, Renewed Urgency," it examines current trends to set the context for the U's long-term future. President Bruininks asks: What are the new realities we face even after the economy recovers? What actions can we take now to preserve the University's strength and ensure sufficient resources to meet the challenges of the future? What shared values are essential to our future as a public research university, and how can we apply them to the problems of today--and tomorrow? The address will be delivered March 5, 3 p.m., Coffman Union theater. A question-and-answer period will follow the speech.

THE U'S NEWS SERVICE IS WELL AWARE OF THE EVOLUTION OF THE MEDIA LANDSCAPE. For some time, the U has been augmenting its tried-and-true tools like the news release, with new social media tools like Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and blogs. The News Service recently had phenomenal success with a James Kakalios YouTube video about the physics professor's consulting role in the upcoming movie, *Watchmen*. For more information, read the story [It's a jungle out there](#).

THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH (OVPR) has created a new Web page and several Listservs for researchers interested in new funding opportunities within the fiscal stimulus bill. The infusion of the new funds is being tracked closely by the OVPR. For more information, see the [OVPR Web page feature](#).

PEOPLE: The Humphrey Institute announced Carol Becker as finance director; Morris professor of biology Paul (PZ) Myers is a featured "Scientist on the Spot" in the Science Museum of Minnesota's "Science Buzz"; Paul Rosenblatt has been named a Fellow of the National Council on Family Relations; the Office of Information Technology (OIT) was highlighted in a *Baseline Magazine*; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

REGENTS PROFESSOR PROFILE: BOOKS LINE THE WALLS OF MADELON SPRENGNETHER's office in Lind Hall. She's read most of them. At home, she admits, she doesn't have enough bookcases to hold her collection. Knowledge is built like this; sometimes, what we know is so much that we cannot hold it all in our mind, and so we write it down. For more information, read the story, [And so we write it down](#).

ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR THE 2009 TEACHING AND LEARNING CONFERENCE is now open. "Making Connections Between Teaching and Learning" will feature a keynote address by John Bransford. April 27, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Sponsored by the Academy of Distinguished Teachers, the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Office of Information Technology, and Instructional Development Services (UMD). The event is free, but registration is required. For more information and registration, see [teaching and learning](#). E-mail [Jeremy Hernandez](mailto:Jeremy.Hernandez) with questions.

THE RESEARCHCHANNEL HAS CHOSEN three U video productions for its "Video on Demand" series, to be broadcast on cable in upcoming months. ResearchChannel is a consortium of leading research and academic institutions that share their work with the world through online, on-air, and on-demand video distribution. For selected programs and their schedules, see [ResearchChannel selections](#).

THE INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN MARKETING ANNOUNCES its fourth annual call for research proposals. The institute seeks to support research that is of potential interest for the discipline of marketing. Faculty from economics, psychology, statistics, anthropology, and sociology are encouraged to submit proposals by March 16. For a proposal application, e-mail [Rebecca Monro](mailto:Rebecca.Monro) or call 612-626-7940.

THE STUDENT-LED SUPPORT THE U DAY rally was a success. An estimated 300 students and supporters from all five U campuses filled the Capitol rotunda on Feb. 25 to meet with legislators, write letters of support for the U, and hear from a host of student speakers and guests, including President Bob Bruininks, regents chair Patricia Simmons, and Minneapolis mayor R.T. Rybak. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. From maple syrup tours and a pancake brunch, to the Arboretum Auxiliary Spring Plant Sale, the arboretum is blooming with activities for the whole family. For a complete schedule of upcoming events, see [Arboretum](#).

P & A AUDIO SPOTLIGHT: Roberta Juarez, Disability Services. As a disability specialist, Juarez reviews and makes recommendations on accessibility conditions for students, faculty, and staff across campus. She's also in charge of disability accommodations in the new TCF Bank Stadium. For more information, hear [P & A Audio Spotlight](#).

Crookston:

MINNESOTA STATE AUDITOR REBECCA OTTO will be the guest speaker at spring convocation. Otto was a Women's History Month Project 2009 honoree for her commitment to a greener planet. March 4, 10 a.m., Kiehle Auditorium. For more information, see [spring convocation](#).

A PRESENTATION FOR FACULTY AND STAFF ON AQIP (Academic Quality Improvement Program) will take place March 5, 12:15-2 p.m., Youngquist Auditorium. Faculty and staff from Dakota State University will discuss their experiences with AQIP. All faculty and staff are invited.

THE FIRST EVER VALENTINE GALA AT UMC RAISED \$2,000 for student scholarships. More than 70 community members gathered to celebrate Valentine's Day, enjoy dinner and dancing, and connect with friends of the U. For more information, see [Valentine Gala](#).

Duluth:

OVATION GUEST ARTIST SERIES: The Kenny Werner Trio performs March 5 and 6, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Werner attended the Manhattan and Berkeley schools of music, has recorded numerous albums, and published the book *Effortless Mastery*, which has had a major impact on the music world. For tickets and more information, see [Kenny Werner Trio](#).

THE UMD INTERNATIONAL CLUB WILL PRESENT THE 41ST ANNUAL FEAST OF NATIONS, featuring foods and performers from around the world. March 7, 5:30 p.m., Kirby Ballroom. Tickets: \$10 students, \$15 adults, children five and under free. For more information, e-mail [Trisha O'Keefe](mailto:Trisha.O'Keefe) or call 218-726-7531.

VISUAL LECTURE SERIES: The Tweed Museum of Art presents photographer and pharmacologist Vance Gellert, March 10, 6 p.m. Gellert has researched how healing rituals within particular cultures work with medicinal plants to affect healing. He uses photography both as a recorder of fact and as an art form. For more information, see the [Tweed Museum](#).

Morris:

THE 25TH ANNUAL TINMAN TRIATHLON WILL BE HELD APRIL 25. The event features an 1,100-yard swim in an eight-lane competition pool, a 19-mile bike ride, and a 6.2-mile run. UMM Alumni Association will host a spaghetti dinner on April 24, 5-7 p.m., LaFave House, for alumni, and friends, and their families who plan to participate. To register for the event, see [triathlon](#). For more information and to RSVP, e-mail [Alumni Relations](mailto:Alumni.Relations) or call 320-589-6067.

Rochester:

MORE THAN 200 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED FOR UMR'S FIRST FRESHMAN CLASS in the bachelor of science in health sciences. With the first round of acceptance letters sent out last week, interest in the BSHS is strong and applications continue to come in. For more information, see the [Post Bulletin](#).

Twin Cities:

GOPHER FOOTBALL GAME DAY PLANNING UNDER WAY: The return of Gopher football to campus is six months away. A comprehensive game-day planning effort, which began over a year ago and includes a steering committee and six subcommittees, is addressing everything from parking and transportation to tailgating and game day traditions. Learn more about the work under way to plan for the [ultimate homecoming](#).

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT BEGAN A PILOT PROGRAM in February to refocus custodial services in several buildings by spending more time cleaning high-impact public spaces and less time on private spaces like offices and labs. If successful, the new model could be implemented campuswide. For more information, read the story [Pitching-in](#).

UMTC HAS BEEN NAMED AMONG THE TOP U.S. WORKPLACES FOR POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARS in an annual survey conducted by *The Scientist*, an international magazine of the life sciences. The U is the only public university among the top 20, ranking 10th among U.S. laboratories, agencies, and companies. The U employs about 900 postdoctoral researchers each year, with the majority in the sciences and engineering. For more information, see the [news release](#).

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PLANT BREEDING SYMPOSIUM "Plant Breeding in a Changing World: Overcoming Environmental Challenges" will take place March 20, 8 a.m., Cargill Center for Microbial and Plant Genomics, St. Paul campus. Free and open to the public. For more information and registration, see [plant breeding symposium](#).

"NEW FRONTIERS IN PLANT HEALTH: WILL CLIMATE CHANGE TIP THE BALANCE TOWARD DISEASE?" will take place March 25, 12:30-5 p.m., Northstar Ballroom, St. Paul Student Center. Free, but registration is required by March 18. For more information, see [plant health](#).

THE FOOD INDUSTRY CENTER'S SPRING CONFERENCE AND NETWORKING EVENT will take place April 1, 1:30-5 p.m., Great Hall, Coffman Union. "How Safe is our Food Supply? Expectations, Technology, and Regulation" features topics related to food safety issues and recall. For more information and to register online, see the U's [Food Industry Center](#).

LYNNE ROSSETTO KASPER TALK AND DINNER: A look at food today in America and one woman's lust for good eating. Kasper is host of The Splendid Table on Minnesota Public Radio and the author of three cookbooks, see the [Campus Club](#).

MORE EVENTS include New Media Research Breakfast ([March 5](#)); Writing: Solitary Genius or Communal Geist? ([March 6](#)); Experimental and Media Arts Exhibition ([March 8](#)); Zotero: An Introduction ([March 9](#)); Religious Accommodation at the University of Minnesota ([March 10](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (3-11-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 10; March 11, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue
 --If you missed it, a video of the 2009 State of the U Address is now online.
 --The state legislative summary discusses changes to the state budget forecast.
 --Federal funding of human stem cell research is good news for U researchers.
 --People: Recipients of Distinguished Teaching Awards announced; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE PRESIDENT DELIVERED HIS SEVENTH STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS on March 5. Entitled "New Realities, Renewed Urgency," it examined current trends to set the context for the U's long-term future. For more information, read the speech or watch a [video of the address](#).

STATE LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY: Commissioner of management and budget Tom Hanson released the revised state budget forecast to the Legislature with Governor Pawlenty on March 3. There has been no material change in Minnesota's FY2010-11 budget outlook, but there have been significant changes to the forecast. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

FEDERAL FUNDING OF RESEARCH ON HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS--beyond those approved by President Bush--is good news for researchers at the U's Stem Cell Institute. For more information, watch the [U of M video](#).

PEOPLE: Recipients of the Horace T. Morse-Alumni Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education and of the Award for Outstanding Contributions to Postbaccalaureate, Graduate, and Professional Education were recently announced; former senator, vice president, and U.S. ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale will be honored at a reception given by the Japanese ambassador; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:
 NEWLY ELECTED REGENTS WILL BE SWORN IN AT THE BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING THIS WEEK. Incumbents Patricia Simmons, Clyde Allen, and John Frobenius and first-term Regent Richard Beeson will take the oath of office from Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Christopher Dietzen March 12, 1:30 p.m., Boardroom, McNamara Alumni Center. Beeson replaces retiring member David Metzger of the Fourth Congressional District, a regent since 1997. For more information including the full schedule, see [Board of Regents](#).

ONLINE GAMING OPENS NEW DOORS TO UNDERSTANDING HUMAN BEHAVIOR. A University professor of computer science and engineering and his social scientist colleagues concluded that massively multiplayer online (MMO) games represent a microcosm of human society. But unlike real society, MMOs can reveal much greater detail about human social behavior. For more information, read the story "[The quilded age](#)."

THE ECONOMY AND THE U WEB SITE LAUNCHED AN ONLINE DISCUSSION BOARD. It's a place to participate in discussions about budget challenges facing the University by offering suggestions, asking questions, and making comments. You can log in and join the conversation at the [Economy and the U](#). To receive e-mail updates from the Economy and the U, [subscribe here](#).

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT CLAIMS DEADLINE IS MARCH 31. Employees with a health care or dependent care Flexible Spending Account for Plan Year 2008 must send claims for expenses incurred through March 15, 2009, to Employee Benefits (via campus mail or post) by March 31 for payment. Pursuant to IRS regulations, any funds remaining in accounts after March 15 will be forfeited. To view your account balance, see [flexible spending](#). For more information, see [Employee Benefits](#) or call the service center at 612-624-9090 or 800-756-2363, option 3.

2008 TOTAL COMPENSATION STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE MARCH 11. Total compensation statements provide information on the total dollar value of an individual employee's pay and benefits. U of M benefits-eligible employees with appointments of 75 percent or more will receive an e-mail notification with log-in information to access their statement. For more information and to access individual statements, see [total compensation](#).

A REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY ON VACATION LEAVE for faculty and academic professional and administrative employees went into effect March 1. Academic vacation leave is now accrued annually over 26 pay periods, and tracking of accrual and use is automated. Vacation detail and balances will be available to view in online employee pay statements beginning March 25. For more information, see the Human Resources [Leave Policy](#).

THE COLLEGE READINESS CONSORTIUM (CRC) IS SPONSORING A CONFERENCE, "Bringing Lessons From the World's Top Educational Performers to Minnesota," March 23, 9-11 a.m., Coffman Union. The featured speaker is Andreas Schleicher, head of the indicators and analysis division in the Directorate for Education at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Paris. Free, but registration is required. E-mail [registration](#) or call 612-625-3695. CRC is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2009 OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS are due by March 23. The award, sponsored by the Office for Public Engagement, recognizes members of the U community who have devoted time and talent to make substantial, enduring contributions to the community. For more information and nomination forms, see [community service](#).

THE OFFICE FOR EQUITY AND DIVERSITY REQUESTS APPLICATIONS FOR "IDEA GRANTS" by March 31. Idea Grants fund projects, programs, events, and research that support historically underrepresented students, faculty, staff, and communities. Academic and administrative units across the U campuses are eligible to apply. Grants are awarded quarterly. For more information, see [Idea Grants](#).

WITH THE ECONOMY IN DOUBT, individuals around the country may be confronted with job losses and home-ownership challenges. In the siege of uncertainty, families face new issues, and it becomes crucial to consider financial strategy. In two separate columns, U Extension educators Shirley Anderson-Porisch and Kathleen Olson address these concerns. For more information, read [Keeping your home](#) and [Job losses require family adjustments](#).

Crookston:

THE GLBTA OFFICE AT UMC is hosting a series of training sessions by the Minnesota GLBTA Campus Alliance on March 12. The training is made possible by a grant from PFund. It consists of four one-hour sessions on the topics What is an Ally?, How to Teach Others to be Allies, Gender 101, and Transgender Identities. For more information, e-mail [Kim Jorgenson](mailto:Kim.Jorgenson@umn.edu).

THE CROOKSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE is sponsoring a career day March 17, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., UMC. The event brings more than 300 high school juniors to campus to learn about careers from local professionals.

UMC'S SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE has established a Web site to serve as an information clearinghouse for activities, events, presentations, and reports pertaining to sustainability issues at UMC. For more information, see [sustainability](#).

Duluth:

THE NINTH ANNUAL "PROFESSOR FOR A DAY" EVENT, hosted by the Labovitz School of Business and Economics, will take place March 11, 11 a.m., Weber Music Hall. Dave Anderson, founder of Famous Dave's, will be this year's featured speaker. The title of his speech is "Think Big--Entrepreneurship and Leadership in Challenging Times." Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Professor for a Day](#).

UMD THEATER: *CRIMES OF THE HEART*, written by Beth Henley and directed by William Payne, will be performed March 12-14, and March 24-28, 7:30 p.m., and March 29, 2 p.m. The comedy follows the hardships of the McGrath sisters in small town Mississippi. For more information, see [theater](#).

THE CHILDREN'S MUSICAL "*TEDDY ROOSEVELT AND THE GHOSTLY MISTLETOE*," by theater professor Tom Isbell, will be performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., as part of its 2009-10 Young Audiences Season. The musical is a sequel to Isbell's first Teddy Roosevelt play. For more information, see [theater](#).

THE UMD MOCK TRIAL TEAM HAS ADVANCED to compete in the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) Opening Round Championship Tournament, March 13-15, Waukegan, Ill. Qualifiers will advance to the AMTA National Championship Title Tournament in April. For more information, see [mock trial](#).

Morris:

THE INAUGURAL DR. JOINN LEE LECTURE will be given by John Barry, reader in the School of Politics and International Studies and Philosophy and associate director of the Institute for a Sustainable World, Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland. March 25, 7 p.m., Recital Hall, Humanities Fine Arts. For more information, see [Joynn lecture](#).

HOW UMM HAS RESEARCHED AND INVESTED IN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY is the topic of the article "Eco-Trifecta: A University of Minnesota-Morris sets sights on triple bottom line." The article appeared in the publication *Sustainability Smarts: Best Practices for College Unions and Student Activities*. For more information, see the [Sustainability Smarts PDF](#).

Rochester:

PROSPECTIVE MBA STUDENTS RECENTLY PARTICIPATED IN AN OPEN INFORMATION SESSION with Rajiv Vaidyanathan (UMD) and Dean Kjell Knudsen (UMD). The event featured a short presentation by Vaidyanathan, highlighting behaviors that market researchers use in numerous consumer industries. Knudsen's MBA students joined the group for dinner. For more information, see the [MBA program in Rochester](#).

Twin Cities:

OUTDOOR PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM TESTING: U of M Emergency Management will conduct audio tests for a planned outdoor campus public address system March 16, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The tests will occur in six locations across campus, and will include a short alert tone (the Westminster Chimes) followed by a recorded voice message saying "This is a test of the University of Minnesota Warning System. This is a test and only a test." The entire process may be repeated a second time to allow observers to record data. The campus public address system is the latest step in a long-term strategy for strengthening emergency communications on campus.

WORK ON THE WASHINGTON AVENUE BRIDGE WILL BEGIN THE WEEK OF MARCH 16. Hennepin County will begin to reinforce the pedestrian level. While the work won't require any additional restrictions on the pedestrian level, periodic lane closures on the traffic level are expected. Hennepin County will use changeable message boards on University Avenue to notify drivers of the lane restrictions, and University Services will provide information to the campus community on a timely basis. A delay in parts manufacturing has pushed the expected completion date back to early May.

THE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF GRADUATE EDUCATION will hold an open meeting for University faculty, staff, and students on reshaping the structure of the Graduate School. The U community is encouraged to suggest ideas about the present strengths and weaknesses of the Graduate School and the best distribution of administrative responsibilities among a central office and collegiate units. Additional open meetings are likely in the coming weeks. March 11, 12:20-1:50 p.m., 5 Blegen Hall.

THE 2009 SENATOR PAUL SIMON AWARD FOR CAMPUS INTERNATIONALIZATION NAMED UMTC a recipient. The award recognizes outstanding and innovative efforts in campus internationalization, and is sponsored by NAFSA: Association of International Educators, the world's largest nonprofit association dedicated to international education. The award will be given during the organization's conference, May 29, Los Angeles. For more information, see [Simon award](#).

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA NORDIC SKI TEAM celebrates its 70th birthday this month, with just enough time to pull on the spandex and click into the skis for winter's last hurrah. For more about the ski team, read "[From knickers to spandex](#)."

U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS will be speaking April 15, 3:30-4:30 p.m., 175 Willey Hall. Thomas was appointed by President George H. W. Bush and took his seat in 1991. RSVPs required by April 10th to [law event](#).

HEALTH CARE REFORM AND HEALTH EQUITY is a group forum geared toward Academic Health Center students, staff, faculty, minor and community health agency representatives, and health care professionals. Keynote speakers include Sen. Amy Klobuchar, among others. April 17, 8:45 a.m.-noon, Coffman Union theater. Open to the public. For more information and registration, see [health equity](#).

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, under the baton of conductor Mark Russell Smith, will perform *Mahler's Symphony No. 9*, March 12, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. Free. For more information, see [Orchestra](#).

STUDENT DANCERS FROM THE U OF M DANCE PROGRAM WILL PERFORM with the Limón Dance Company March 19, 7:30 p.m., Northrop Auditorium. All ticket holders are invited to a performance preview, 6:45-7:15 p.m., Studio 4, Northrop basement, where director Ben Johnson will interview Limón Dance Company artistic director Carla Maxwell. Staff and faculty receive \$4 off tickets. For more information, call 612-624-2345 or see the story [Watch them soar](#).

MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO HOST AND AUTHOR CATHY WURZER will hold a reading and book signing March 24, 4 p.m., Bookstore, Coffman Union. Wurzer will discuss her book, *Tales of the Road: Highway 61*, which explores the 440-mile route of Highway 61 as it snakes through Minnesota from La Crescent to the Canadian border. For more information or to order a signed copy, see [Wurzer](#).

THE 30TH ANNUAL HR TOMORROW CONFERENCE, "Building Capabilities--Driving Results," will take place April 17, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Carlson School of Management. Presented by the Center for Human Resources and Labor Studies, the conference will highlight current trends, issues, challenges, and opportunities in Human Resources and Industrial Relations. For more information and registration, see [HR Tomorrow](#).

A NEW U OF M BIKE CENTER is among the biking and walking improvements announced March 10 by Bike Walk Twin Cities, a federally funded initiative to increase biking and walking and reduce driving in Minneapolis and neighboring communities. President Bruininks and Minneapolis mayor Rybak spoke at a special announcement ceremony at the site of the to-be-opened U of M Bike Center in the Oak Street Parking Ramp. For more information, see [Bike center](#).

GOOGLE AT THE U: The Office of Information Technology (OIT) has begun work on plans to integrate Google applications for use at the U. OIT developed the Google Initiative project Web site to serve as a central source for information and updates on the project. For more information, see the [Web site](#).

MORE EVENTS include Sharing Their Journeys (March 12); Women Leaders (March 11); Some Rights Reserved: An Introduction to Creative Commons (March 10); "Playing at Border-Crossing in a Mexican Indigenous Community: Seriously," a talk by Tamara Underiner (March 12); Racism vs. Xenophobia: Transatlantic Perspectives (March 13); Nature Play: Turtle Through Time (March 14); Marvels of Modernism exhibition (March 16); Grant Funding for Graduate Students (March 17). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (3-18-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 11; March 18, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--The March Federal Relations Report includes good news for research universities.
--The Board of Regents March meeting focused on the economy and budgetary challenges.
--People: UMC bookstore manager Leanne Butt received the 2009 Exceptional Service Award; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

MARCH FEDERAL RELATIONS UPDATE: Congress checks FY 2009 funding off its list. After a year of teeth gnashing and garment rending, Congress passed the remaining federal budget for FY 2009 on March 10, five months into the fiscal year. The omnibus bill contains good news for research universities and college students. For more information, see [March Federal Relations Report](#).

THE MARCH BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING took on a serious tone as consequences of the souring economy became tangible. State economist Tom Stinson provided the regents with an overview of the state economy and its effects on the U. The regents approved an adjustment to the 2008-09 operating budget to reflect a \$20 million unallotment from the state. The proposed Regents Scholarship changes were considered in committee. Newly elected members of the board were sworn in March 12. For more information, see [March Board of Regents](#).

PEOPLE: Leanne Butt, UMC bookstore manager, received the 2009 Exceptional Service Award; Joseph Resch, former Head of Neurology, died Feb. 28; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

THE SUCCESS OF A BURGEONING CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION IN A TIME OF ECONOMIC DOWNTURN might seem unlikely. But University of Minnesota staff member Eric Schnell is seeking to turn the tide of generosity one wave of a dollar at a time. For more information, read the story, "[Positive change, one dollar at a time.](#)"

BELL BONDING BILL: The Senate Capital Investment Committee has released its 2009 bill. It includes \$59 million in bonding for the University, for the Bell Museum of Natural History and HEAPR projects. The bill is scheduled to go to the full Senate for a vote on March 16. For more information, see the [State Relations update](#).

A REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY, PROCEDURES, AND FORMS ON FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE (FMLA) are now available. Eligible employees receive 12 weeks of leave related to their own or their family's serious health conditions, or for birth, adoption, or foster care placement. FMLA protections now include military family leave. The types of paid leave that can be used now include compensatory time for newly initiated FMLA leaves. New customized forms are available for each leave type. For more information, see the [FMLA Policy](#).

THE CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION STUDIES (CTS) will host the 2009 International Transport Economics Conference, June 15-16. The conference brings together researchers, practitioners, and policy makers interested in questions of transport economics. Online registration is available, with early registration rates until May 15. For more information, e-mail [David Levinson](mailto:David.Levinson) or conference coordinator [Sara Van Essendelft](mailto:Sara.Van.Essendelft), or call 612-624-3708. For more information and registration, see [Transport Conference](#). CTS is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: The U of M Southeast Regional Sustainable Development Partnership and the U of M Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute are announcing a \$100,000 RFP to support a U research project that utilizes novel analytical approaches to strengthen the infrastructure of regional food systems in the southeast region of the state. For more information, e-mail [Erin Meier](mailto:Erin.Meier). Exploratory meetings for potential applicants will take place March 18, 10-11:30 a.m., Humphrey Institute, and April 3, 1-2:30 p.m., St. Paul campus. For more information, see [healthy foods or sustainable partnerships](#).

Crookston:

THE 71ST ANNUAL HONOR BANQUET, sponsored by the Minnesota Red River Valley Development Association, will take place March 21, noon, Sahlstrom Conference Center. Individuals from northwest Minnesota counties will be honored as Valley Farmers and Homemakers for the examples they have demonstrated in their family lives, communities, and farming or agribusiness operations, and their efforts to conserve natural resources. For more information, see [banquet](#).

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE FROM PESTICIDES, a photo and voice display, followed by the documentary *A Sense of Wonder: Rachel Carson's Love of the Natural World and Her Fight to Defend It*, will take place March 24, noon-2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center.

THE ANNUAL RIVER WATCH FORUM will showcase the work of approximately 200 regional students and the results from their river and stream monitoring efforts. March 18, 8:30 a.m. registration, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. program, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center.

Duluth:

UMD TWEED MUSEUM OF ART is the sole beneficiary of the \$3.2 million Marguerite L. Gilmore Charitable Foundation--a bequest from the estate of Duluth resident and retired teacher, the late Marguerite Louise Gilmore. The gift is designated to the Tweed Museum "to acquire art of high quality with a focus on three-dimensional art." The museum will also include photography, a favorite hobby of Ms. Gilmore. For more information, see the [Tweed Museum](#).

UMD STORES IS HOSTING A FOOD DRIVE throughout March. Nonperishable food items may be dropped off at any UMD store. The food items will be donated to CHUM Emergency Food Shelves. Minnesota FoodShare Campaign and the Feinstein Foundation will match contributions received in March.

WEBER MUSIC HALL EVENTS: A Faculty Artist Recital: Faculty at Play II will be presented March 23, 7:30 p.m. Free. Guitar Ensemble Concert will take place March 25, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8/\$7/\$5/\$3. For more information, call 218-726-8877 or see [tickets](#).

Morris:

DANCE STUDENTS WILL PERFORM "THE SHOULD," choreographed by guest artist Jeffrey Peterson, at the American College Dance Festival. March 18-22, Barbara Barker Center for Dance. The Morris group will perform in an adjudicated concert March 21, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. Free. For more information, see [dance](#).

THE 31ST ANNUAL JAZZ FEST will feature renowned Morris campus jazz ensembles, three guest jazz artists, the Alumni Jazzers, and more than 800 high school jazz musicians. All that jazz will take place April 2-4. For more information, see [jazz](#).

MORRIS YOUNG ALUMNI PACKED FOOD BOXES for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, March 12, at Second Harvest Heartland in Maplewood. The packages are distributed to low-income seniors and mothers with children under six.

Rochester:

IBM/UMR SUMMER COMPUTER PROGRAMMING WORKSHOPS for grades 9-12 include Web page design and beginning C++ game programming. July 20-24, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., UMR. The workshop fee of \$350 per student includes text, software, lunches, and snacks. For more information, see [computer camp](#) or call 507-280-4658.

Twin Cities:

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE will host open meetings March 25, 2:30-3:20 p.m., 402 Walter Library, and March 30, 3:35-4:25 p.m., B25 Classroom Office Building (St. Paul campus). Faculty, staff, and students are invited to the meetings to discuss reshaping the current structure of the Graduate School. Meetings will be available online via UMConnect through a link available prior to the meeting on the [provost's Web site](#). The committee can also be reached by [e-mail](#).

REGENTS PROFESSOR LECTURE SERIES: Elaine May, Regents Professor of American Studies and History, will present "Explosive Issues: Sex, Women, and the Bomb in Cold War America," April 7, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Her talk will be followed by a reception. The event is the second of the semester in the series. For more information, see [regents lecture](#).

FIRST ANNUAL U OF M PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FAIR will be held April 22, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Coffman Union. Certified career management professional Trudy Canine, founder of Pathfinder, an executive coaching, career management, outplacement, and human resources consulting firm, will give the keynote address. The fair will include breakout sessions and an information expo featuring training and development organizations from across the U. Keynote address is limited to 200 participants. For more information, see [professional development](#).

WRITE WINNING GRANTS is a daylong seminar for U faculty and staff who have had exposure to writing grant applications through training, mentoring, or personal experience. The seminar addresses practical and conceptual aspects important to proposal writing. Program content is appropriate for senior graduate students, postdoctoral research fellows, and junior faculty members. Space is limited to 100. April 23, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Radisson University Hotel. For more information and registration, see [write grants](#).

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY FOR TAILGATING ON FOOTBALL GAME DAYS. With the completion of the new stadium, the University will allow tailgating in surface lots on football game days. The policy and tailgating rules will help frame the on-campus football experience, as well as promote a safe campus environment. Comments on the policy are welcomed. For more information, see [tailgating](#).

NURSING RESEARCH DAY. Creating Synergy: Linking Nursing Research and Practice will take place April 24, noon-4:30 p.m., Mayo Memorial Auditorium. The featured speaker is Ada Sue Hinshaw, dean of the Graduate School of Nursing, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Hinshaw was the first permanent director of the National Center of Nursing Research and the first director of the National Institute of Nursing Research at the National Institutes of Health. Free, but registration is required. For more information, see [nursing](#).

TANGO DANCE AND MUSIC JAM. A free tango class and music jam with visiting instructors Homer and Christina Ladas from San Francisco will take place March 23, 4:30-6 p.m., tango class; 7-9 p.m., tango jam, Coffman Union. Free. For more information, see [tango](#).

UNIVERSITY VIDEO USERS COMMUNITY (UVUC) will hold its quarterly meeting March 27. The professional peer network of video professionals at the U work in all types of video, including production, presentation, networking, event coverage, and classroom use. For more information and to join UVUC, see [quarterly meeting](#).

AN OPEN RECEPTION FOR "MIMICKING MONET," an exhibition of works by Michael J. Peters, will take place March 27, 4-6 p.m., 3rd floor gallery, Boynton Health Service. The exhibit runs through April 30. Free. For more information, see [exhibit](#).

20TH AND 21ST CENTURY FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM, "[Séismes/Seismic Shifts](#)," will challenge participants to consider how seismic shifts in literature, philosophy, art, politics, racial and sexual consciousness, media, and technology are registered on historical, social, cultural, and aesthetic seismographs. Sponsored by the Department of French and Italian. March 26-28, Coffman Union.

CALL FOR HOMECOMING ROYALTY NOMINATIONS: A new nomination process for Homecoming royalty asks faculty and staff to nominate undergraduate (with at least 60 credits) and graduate/professional students to be the 2009 Homecoming king and queen. Examples might include students who work with faculty or staff and possess strong leadership skills. The application process begins March 23, with a deadline of April 27. To nominate a student, e-mail [homecoming](#).

MORE EVENTS include Limon Dance Company ([March 19](#)); 2009 Plant Breeding Symposium ([March 20](#)); Nature Explorers: Magnificent Mammals ([March 20](#)); 2009 Lanting Nature Photography Seminar ([March 21](#)); "Civic Engagement in America: Will the 2008 Election Matter?" ([March 23](#)); Global Policy Workshop: Labor Rights in East Asia ([March 24](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (3-25-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 12; March 25, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- The governor's revised state budget outlines his plans for federal stimulus funds.
- UMC will discontinue its men's hockey program.
- People: Doris Taylor is on *TIME* magazine's list of the 100 Most Influential People of 2009; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

MARCH 16 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Governor Pawlenty proposed a revised state budget outlining his plan for how federal stimulus funds would be used. Media reports implied that cuts to higher education, and the U in particular, would be scaled back. In fact, the governor's plan would reduce the U's base budget further and use one-time, temporary federal stimulus funds to replenish the proposed cut to the FY 2009 budget and the coming biennium (2010-11). For more information, see [state relations](#) and [The economy and the U](#).

UMC WILL DISCONTINUE ITS MEN'S HOCKEY PROGRAM EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. Facing the current economic climate, looming state budget cuts to higher education, and difficulties in scheduling, officials explored many options before making the decision. Coach Gary Warren will be reassigned to work with game management, athletic facilities, and assistant AD duties. For more information, see the [news release](#).

PEOPLE: Doris Taylor is on *TIME* magazine's list of the 100 Most Influential People of 2009; John Tate Award recipients for excellence in undergraduate advising were recently announced; Douglas Norman Arnold was elected as a foreign member in the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters; the Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment awarded \$4.85 million to seven projects; William Hueg is a recipient of the Siehl Prize For Excellence in Agriculture; the Office of Institutional Research recently won a national award; CFANS alumnus Norman Borlaug celebrates his 95th birthday March 25; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

U-WIDE STUDY ABROAD CURRICULUM INTEGRATION SUSTAINABILITY RETREAT will take place March 30, UMD. Sessions will be led by faculty, advisers, and staff from around the U and include topics such as internationalizing the disciplines, intercultural learning in study abroad experiences, service learning, and study abroad advising with first-year students. For more information, e-mail [UMD International Education](mailto:UMDInternationalEducation) or visit [learning abroad](#).

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: The Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) invites proposals from faculty across the U for its Faculty Interactive Research Program. The purpose of the program is to encourage faculty to carry out research projects that involve a significant issue of public policy for the state or its communities and that include interaction and engagement with groups, agencies, or organizations in Minnesota. Applications must be received by March 31, 4:30 p.m. For application procedures and more information, see [CURA grants](#).

MINNEWEBCON is a Web design and usability conference. The event will include keynote presentations by two internationally acclaimed experts on Web communications: Doc Searls, Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard; and Bruce Schneier, British Telecommunications; plus 15 breakout sessions on a variety of topics. Cost: \$150 for U faculty and staff, \$100 for students. April 6, Continuing Education and Conference Center. For registration and more information, see [MinneWebCon](#). Organized by [System Academic Administration](#).

THE PRESIDENT'S EMERGING LEADER'S PROGRAM (PEL) is currently accepting applications for its 2009-10 cohort. The program is designed to identify and develop the leadership skills of talented P&A, civil service, and bargaining unit staff. PEL offers participants a structured but flexible development opportunity, featuring both educational and experiential components. The application deadline is April 24. For the application and more information, see [emerging leaders](#).

PROFILE: U PROFESSOR JANE DAVIDSON USES SOLAR ENERGY TO MAKE FUEL. Davidson, who directs the U's Solar Energy Laboratory, was recently named an Ada Comstock Distinguished Scholar, an award that honors the accomplishments and leadership of distinguished female faculty at the U. For more information, read "[Power from the sun](#)."

U OF M MOMENT: What makes Wall Street tick? An old Pink Floyd song probably sounds more on the money these days to taxpayers as they learn that the failed firms on Wall Street are paying out hundreds of millions of dollars in bonuses after being bailed out. U anthropology professor Karen Ho studied Wall Street's unique culture and provides some answers on how it might have contributed to the current crisis. The feature, as well as an archive of more audio content, can be found at [U of M Moment](#).

BEFORE THE U-LED RED WING RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT, some utility companies thought rural electrification would be a profit-buster. Starting in 1923, a University project showed the value of bringing electricity to farms. Its success became a model for the national Rural Electrification Administration when it formed in 1935. On March 26, the Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering will commemorate the project during its centennial celebration. For more information, read [rural electrification](#).

LAST WEEK'S STORY ABOUT THE WEB SITE POSTIVECHANGE.COM, created by U staff member Eric Schnell, may have been just the boost the young charity needed. Schnell says that since the article's publication in *Brief*, more than \$300 has been raised. The site has gathered enough donations so far to feed 1,300 people for a day. For more information, read the story, "[Positive change, one dollar at a time](#)."

Crookston:

BUSINESS ACTIVITIES DAY scheduled for March 25 has been CANCELED due to flooding.

THE 25TH ANNUAL NORWEST URBAN FORESTRY WORKSHOP scheduled March 26 has been CANCELED due to weather.

THE PLAY *STARKLE, STARKLE, LITTLE TWINK*, will take place March 27, 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. Coauthor, actor, and Vietnam veteran Basil Clark will perform in the play. Clark will be joined by cast members from the campus and community. Free. Donations accepted in support of veterans' scholarships at UMC. For more information, see [Little Twink](#).

Duluth:

"REFLECTIONS ON THE KOSOVO WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL," an Alworth International Institute Event, will be presented by Norman Sepenuk, March 25, 7 p.m. "Spain: A Winter Odyssey" will be presented by Pauline Nuhring, March 26, noon. Both events will be in the UMD Library Rotunda. For more information, e-mail [Cindy Christian](mailto:Cindy.Christian).

A COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS RESEARCH THURSDAY presentation will feature Ryan Goei, UMD Department of Communications. His talk is entitled "Chasing Indebtedness: An Examination of the Normative Components of Human Reciprocity." March 26, 3:15 p.m., Library Rotunda. For more information, e-mail [Jerry Pepper](mailto:Jerry.Pepper).

THE UMD SUMMIT ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND MULTICULTURALISM will take place March 30, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Kirby Student Center Ballroom. Workshops, discussion circles, films, and lectures are scheduled throughout the day. The 4 p.m. keynote presentation features Beverly Daniel Tatum, president of Spelman College. For more information, see [summit](#).

Morris:

WORLD TOUCH CULTURAL HERITAGE WEEK is March 23-28. This year's theme, Diversity Is Yours to Discover, offers a tour through a diversity of cultures, presented by way of fashion, writing, song, humor, food, and more. The public is welcome to attend. For more information and a schedule, see [heritage week](#).

THE 23RD ANNUAL EDITH R. FARRELL FRENCH POETRY READING CONTEST will feature students, staff, and faculty who've prepared a French or Francophone poem for recitation. April 7, 7 p.m., Oyate Hall. For more information, see [poetry](#).

THE 2009 JURIED STUDENT ART EXHIBITION opening reception takes place March 26, 7 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Gallery. The show runs until April 16. For more information, see [student art](#).

Rochester:

UMR IS COSPONSORING A WORLD TB DAY EVENT with the Rochester Healthy Communities Partnership. Dr. Nicole Zitterkopf will present "Fact or Fiction? Tuberculosis Infection Revisited." March 24, 12:30 p.m., 417 University Square. The event will available on UM Connect. For more information, see [TB day event](#).

Twin Cities:

LECTURE: "FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AT NSF in History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Science and Technology" will be presented by Frederick Kronz of the National Science Foundation. After reviewing research areas covered by the program and the various modes of support, the discussion will turn to other funding opportunities at NSF for researchers. March 26, noon, 2-233 Carlson School of Management. For more information, see [funding opportunities](#).

CHILDREN IN CLINICAL RESEARCH TRIALS: Dr. Brad Miller will discuss the unique set of challenges and considerations in conducting trials with pediatric research subjects. Open to the research community. April 1, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., 2-520 Moos.

"SCIENCE IN THE SUPREME COURT: Hypotheses and Hypocrisy in Constitutional Decision Making" will feature David Faigman, the John F. Digardi Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. His talk will focus on the role of science in legal decision making. April 3, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., 25 Mondale Hall. For registration and more information, see [science court](#).

BIOMEDICINES FROM PLANT SOURCES: Cornell University professor Eloy Rodriguez will present a lecture on "The Healing Forest: The Origin and Discovery of Natural Organic Medicines From the Forbidden Forests of Africa and the Amazon in Peru." April 7, 7:30 p.m., Bell Museum. Free. For more information, see [natural medicines](#).

THE FIFTH ANNUAL SPH FILM FESTIVAL, hosted in celebration of National Public Health Week, will take place April 6-11. Nightly, 5:30 p.m., Mayo Memorial Auditorium. Free. A new addition to the festival is a Family Fun Film Day, April 11, 10:30 a.m., which includes short films for kids, crafts, and pictures with Goldy Gopher. For more information, see [SPH Film Festival](#).

JOHN GERZEMA WILL BE THE BRAND MATTERS featured speaker April 9, 8 a.m., 3M Auditorium, Carlson School. Gerzema is chief insights officer for Young & Rubicam Group and author of *The Brand Bubble*. Brand Matters is a speakers forum that provides tools and insights to help companies build their brands. For registration and more information, see [brand matters](#).

THE INSTITUTE FOR MATHEMATICS AND ITS APPLICATIONS will hold a Math Matters Lecture April 28, 7 p.m., 125 Willey Hall. "From the Web to Human Diseases" will show recent studies that indicate that the evolution of complex networks is governed by simple but generic laws, resulting in universal architectural features. For more information, see [Math Matters](#).

THE 2009 SUMMER PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE will provide public health professionals with an opportunity to immerse themselves in a chosen field of study for a single day or three weeks. The institute offers a variety of courses for those practicing or studying public health or related fields. May 26-June 12. For more information, see [summer health](#).

LEARN ABOUT CSA FARMS AT THE CAMPUS CLUB. If you want fresh food this summer, you many want to invest in Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). CSA farms provide a way for the food-buying public to create a relationship with a farm and to receive a weekly basket of produce. April 1, 5-7 p.m., Campus Club. The Campus Club will be a CSA drop-off point this summer. For more information, see [Campus Club](#).

REMINDER: HENNEPIN COUNTY SERVICE CENTER IS NOW LOCATED AT COFFMAN UNION. Services range from vehicle registration to hunting, fishing, and marriage licenses, and birth and death certificates. For more information, see [service](#) or call 612-348-8240.

MORE EVENTS include "Darfur and the Crime of Genocide": A Presentation by John Hagan ([March 26](#)); "Celebrating New Books by English Faculty" ([March 27](#)); Cabin Fever--Summer Camp Preview ([March 28](#)); panel discussion on *Uncivil Wars* with David Weissbrodt, Caroline Palmer, and Leslie Van Duzer ([March 30](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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- What's Inside**
- [Brief](#)
 - [Campus Conversations](#)
 - [Features](#)
 - [People](#)
 - [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
 - [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (4-1-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 13; April 1, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue
--A late-March legislative update highlights a broad agenda.
--People: Adel Ali (UMC) served as program coordinator for the 15th Annual Conference on Industry, Engineering, and Management Systems; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: University Extension Service recently hosted a day at the State Capitol. VP Tim Mulcahy testified before the Joint Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy concerning potential funding for research grants and the OVPR's promotion of funding opportunities. Mayor Rybak and President Bruininks testified before the Senate Economic Development and Housing Committee in support of the campus neighborhood improvement bill. VP and chief of staff Kathy Brown and athletics director Joel Maturi testified before the Senate Higher Education Committee against liquor legislation. For more information, see [legislative update](#).

PEOPLE: Adel Ali (UMC) served as program coordinator for the 15th Annual Conference on Industry, Engineering, and Management Systems; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

MINNESOTA COMPANIES SAVED \$3 MILLION IN 2008 WITH HELP FROM THE MINNESOTA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MnTAP). MnTAP worked with Minnesota companies to maximize resource and energy efficiency, reduce costs, and prevent pollution. For more information, see [MnTAP's full Environmental Benefits Report](#).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: The Office for Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action invites nominations for the Lillian H. Williams Award. Candidates include those who have shown commitment educating the community on issues and topics related to equity, diversity, and the struggle against discrimination and harassment. A one-paragraph nomination of an individual or unit should be submitted to [Richard Kronstedt](#) by April 15. For more information, see [Williams Award](#).

"SO YOU HAVE AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTER--WHAT'S NEXT?" is the topic of a workshop for research center and institute directors. The workshop will explore ways to maintain interdisciplinary centers' and institutes' vitality over their lifespan with a faculty panel including Mary Jo Kane, Steven Ruggles, and Deborah Swackhamer. April 13, 3-5 p.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. Free, but registration is required. For registration and more information, see [workshop](#).

A NEW UNIVERSITY WEB SITE, K12@U, debuted this month. The site helps high school students to find college-level courses, parents to discover summer camps for their grade-schoolers, and K-12 educators and administrators to determine options for professional development. The site was created and will be managed by the College Readiness Consortium, part of System Academic Administration. For more information, see [K12@U](#).

CONNECT @ HOME: At any income level, it takes discipline and planning to save money. Most people realize that saving should be an ongoing strategy but many will ask, "Are there any rules or guidelines for saving?" Extension educator Shirley Anderson-Porisch answers this by looking at saving basics and strategies. For more information, read [Connect @ Home](#).

THE U OF M CREATED TWO OF THE MOST VIEWED VIDEOS on YouTube's new YouTube Edu section, where colleges and universities can showcase their schools with scholarly and entertaining content that functions as both educational and promotional material. The *Wall Street Journal* reported that the U received top-ranked spots on the site for its *Watchman* and HIV/AIDS videos. For more information, see [U on YouTube Edu](#).

Crookston:

UMC STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE (SIFE) TEAM brought home its 10th championship trophy from the regional competition in Minneapolis, March 20. The SIFE team now advances to the national competition in Philadelphia, May 10-12. For more information, see [SIFE team](#).

FACULTY AND STAFF FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-STOUT will discuss their experiences with AQIP (Academic Quality Improvement Program), April 2, 12:15-2 p.m., Bede Ballroom. With AQIP, an institution develops continuous quality improvement activities, and accreditation becomes a continuous process. Faculty and staff are encouraged to attend.

A CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL with games, prizes, food, and fun will take place April 4, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Crookston High School. While it is designed for children 3 to 11 years old, it is a time the whole family can enjoy. For more information, see [children's carnival](#).

Duluth:

MARSHALL ALWORTH PLANETARIUM: Join the planetarium for Stargazing Tonight and learn what will be visible for the month and where to look. Star maps will be available to help find constellations. Suitable for ages 6 and up. April 1, 7 p.m. For more information, call 218-726-7129 or see [stargazing](#).

TWEED MUSEUM Visual Lecture Series presents Cole Rodgers, artistic director and master printer at Highpoint Center for Printmaking, April 2, 10 a.m., and Twin Cities graphic designer Mike Tincher, 2 p.m. For more information, see [Tweed visual lectures](#) or call 218-726-8222.

THE AMERICAN STUDIES COLLOQUIUM, an Interdisciplinary Forum for the Study of the Americas, presents UMD assistant professor of English Rochelle Zuck speaking on "Phillis Wheatley and the Poetics of Romanticism: How do we read the life and work of Phillis Wheatley, one of the first published African American poets?" April 3, 2:30-4 p.m., UMD Library Rotunda. For more information e-mail [Jeffrey Hole](#) or call 218-726-7316.

EDWIN EDDY LECTURE: Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders presents the annual Edwin Eddy Lecture titled "Voice Rehabilitation Across the Spectrum: K-12 Children, Singers/Actors, and Transgendered Adults," featuring Anita Kozan, April 3, 5-7:45 p.m., and April 4, 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., 90 Bohannon Hall. Registration is required. For more information, see [lecture](#).

WEBER MUSIC HALL has events in April including Vocal Jazz Cabaret Concerts, where Lake Effect and Chill Factor Vocal Jazz Ensembles will perform. April 2, 3, and 4, 7:30 p.m. A faculty artist recital featuring Betsy Husby, cello, and Alexander Chernyshev, piano, will take place April 5, 3 p.m. For more information, see [music](#).

GEOLOGY SEMINARS: Ken Lepper, assistant professor of geology and adjunct professor of physics, North Dakota State University, will present "Optical Dating: A remote in-situ dating method for paleoclimatic and geomorphological research on Mars." April 9, 3:30 p.m., 175 Life Science. For more information, see [Mars](#).

Morris:

TWO UMM STUDENTS HAVE BEEN NAMED 2009 TRUMAN SCHOLARS. Kellcee Baker and Ashley Gaschk were 2 of 60 selected in the United States to receive the award. Both juniors at Morris, they were selected from among 601 candidates nominated by 289 colleges and universities. For more information, see [Truman Scholars](#).

UMM CONTINUING EDUCATION HAS BEEN AWARDED A GRANT of \$174,258 by the Renewable Energy Marketplace-Alliance for Talent Development initiative. The funding will be used to develop new curricula in biomass gasification technology. For more information, see [grant](#).

JOSEPH J. LATTERELL MEMORIAL VISITING ALUMNUS LECTURE: "Chemometrics: Using Statistics Towards Chemical Discovery" will be presented by Jessica Kraker ('99), April 2, 7:30 p.m., Science Auditorium. For more information, see [alumnus lecture](#).

Rochester:

MINNESOTA SCIENCE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION held its 2009 conference in Rochester, March 27-28. UMR had a booth at the conference. UMR hosted approximately 100 of Minnesota's PK-12 science teachers at a reception for the attendees. The event introduced UMR and its degree programs to PK-12 science educators from all parts of the state. For more information, see [science teachers](#).

Twin Cities:

SECOND ANNUAL DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP RESEARCH SHOWCASE will feature more than 60 of this year's DDF fellowship recipients--outstanding, final-year Ph.D. candidates nominated by their graduate program directors in a U-wide competition. Meet and hear some of the top recipients of 2008-09 doctoral dissertation fellowships as they describe their work in fields from engineering to entomology. April 7, noon-2 p.m., Coffman Union. For information and to register by April 1, see [DDF event](#).

A 50 PERCENT DISCOUNT FOR FACULTY AND STAFF on professional development one- and two-day short courses is available through the College of Continuing Education (CCE) and the Office of Human Resources. Courses include management and supervision, communication and writing, project management, and human resources. For more information, including a full list of discounted courses, see CCE's [professional education page](#).

LECTURE: "Why Aren't There More Women in Science and Engineering?" Christina Hoff Sommers, author of *Who Stole Feminism* and *The War Against Boys*, will speak on the topic April 3, 7:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. General admission \$10, students \$1. For more information, e-mail [MnScholars](#).

NEW COLLOQUIUM SERIES: SELF-AUTHORSHIP AND LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS: Intersections of Student Learning, Development, and Diverse/Multicultural Identities will explore the interaction of pedagogy, teaching, and student support with the learning and development of diverse student populations. Through six presentations, eight faculty and staff from UMTC will share their research. Begins April 6. For more information, including full descriptions of each session, see [colloquium series](#). For general questions, e-mail [Andy Howe](#) or call 612-626-5977.

THE FIFTH IN A FIVE-PART SERIES OF 3M-SPONSORED SEMINARS for graduate students in technology and science programs, entitled "Technology Commercialization in Medica/Healthcare Industry," will take place April 6, 5-7 p.m., 2-206 Carlson School. To register, e-mail [3M Seminar](#).

ANNUAL PLANT SALE: See blooming annuals, tropical plants, herbs, carnivorous plants, succulents, and orchids, and hear from an orchid professional who will answer questions about that plant's care. CBS greenhouse staff will be available to answer any questions about the plant selections. April 8-9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., [St. Paul Student Center](#). For more information, call Jodi Bjork at 612-625-4788.

TEL SEMINAR SERIES: "Technology-Enhanced Learning and Assessment in Health Professions Education" will be the topic of the next session of the series. Panelists will discuss technology-enhanced learning and assessment activities created for future veterinarians, family physicians, and surgeons. Free. April 8, noon-1:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library. For more information, see [TEL Seminar](#).

THE FIFTH ANNUAL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, entitled "Leveraging the Power of You!," will take place Apr. 10, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Coffman Union. Keynote speakers include Gail Evans, author of *Play Like a Man, Win Like a Woman*, and Verma Cornelia Price, president and principal consultant, J. Cameron & Associates and JCAMA Publishers. General admission is \$150, with a reduced rate of \$50 for full-time U students. To register by April 3, see [Carlson](#) or call Emily Nelson at 612-626-9334.

THE WOMEN'S FACULTY CABINET IS HOSTING A SPRING RECEPTION for Twin Cities women faculty, April 15, 3:30-5 p.m., Weisman Art Museum. Join women faculty colleague and hear about the work of this year's Women's Faculty Cabinet. For more information, e-mail [Karen Zentner-Bacig](#).

APRIL IS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH, designated by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center to encourage organizations to raise public awareness about sexual violence and educate communities about prevention. A number of activities will be held at the U, beginning April 20-21 with the Clothesline Project, which bears witness to the prevalence of violence with a collection of t-shirts, many made by survivors of sexual violence who are or were part of the U community. For more information, including a complete schedule of events, see [awareness month](#).

LEARN ABOUT COURSESHARE: Two free webinars are planned for those wanting to learn more about sharing students for low-enrollment courses or graduate seminars at other Big Ten institutions via the [CourseShare](#) program. April 29, 1:30 p.m.; April 30, noon. Interested faculty or staff should contact [Amber Marks](#) or the U's [Jeremy Hernandez](#) by April 27 for registration or more information.

THE 19TH ANNUAL COMMUNICATORS FORUM CONFERENCE will take place May 6, Coffman Union. This year's conference includes a special keynote address from widely acclaimed grammarian, writer, and entrepreneur "Grammar Girl." The day will bring sessions and networking opportunities as well as the Maroon & Gold awards, a vendor fair, and more. An early registration discount runs through April 6. Admission covers the daylong conference plus a full year's membership in the forum. For more information and registration, see [communicators forum](#).

MORE EVENTS include Regional Planning and Policy Brownbag ([April 1](#)); New Media Research Breakfast ([April 2](#)); Critical Consciousness and Critical Thinking, and Writing ([April 3](#)); LIFE: A Journey Through Time Exhibit Walkabout ([April 5](#)); seminar: Economic Inequality, Economic Segregation, and Political Participation. ([April 6](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
 - [Campus Conversations](#)
 - [Features](#)
 - [People](#)
 - [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
-
- Related Links**
-
- [Office of the President](#)
 - [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

 A weekly internal news digest for all campuses
 
[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (4-8-2009)

 Vol. XXXIX No. 14; April 8, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu
Inside This Issue

- Flexible work arrangements are becoming more common at the U.
- 2009 Imagine Fund award winners were recently announced.
- State legislative update: The House released their 2009 capital investment bill.
- People: President Johnson Sirleaf will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree on April 10; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

FLEXIBLE WORK ARRANGEMENTS. From being on duty throughout the night, to an early morning start, U employees are on and off the clock with variable hours and schedules that allow them to balance career, childcare, eldercare, household obligations, and time for themselves. For more information, read "[Flexible work arrangements](#)."

2009 IMAGINE FUND AWARD WINNERS WERE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED. The Imagine Fund is a systemwide program open to arts, design, and humanities faculty to support research and enhance the presence of these disciplines at the U. The 217 recipients of this year's inaugural awards have been granted a total of \$651,000 (\$3,000 each). For more information, see the recent [news release](#).

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: The House released its \$200 million 2009 capital investment bill. The bill includes \$20 million for the University in HEAPR funds and \$3 million for a solar certification testing lab. This lab was not part of the U's 2009 capital request, and it is not clear at this time how the \$3 million would be used. The Bell Museum of Natural History was not included in the legislation. For more information, see the [legislative update](#).

PEOPLE: President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree April 10; UMM's Kellcee Baker and Ashley Gaschk are two of 60 2009 Truman Scholars; four U students have won the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship; the U's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment announced awards totaling more than \$745,000; Morgan Kinross-Wright was honored by the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*; UMD's Elaine Hansen has been named the Women in Business Champion of the Year; UMD's Susana Pelayo-Woodward has been named the 2009 winner of the Josie R. Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice Award; Peixuan Guo was named Distinguished Research Alumnus at the College of Veterinary Medicine; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS
University-wide:

SPRING ASSEMBLY OF THE NETWORK OF INTERDISCIPLINARY INITIATIVES will feature presentations by U cochairs of study groups on graduate education, research, and collaborative technologies, which are part of the national Consortium on Fostering Interdisciplinary Inquiry. Discussion items include the potential impact of budget cuts and proposed restructuring of graduate education on interdisciplinary initiatives. April 20, 3 p.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, with ITV connection in 173 Kirby Plaza, UMD. [Register online](#) by April 13.

USE OF THE UNIVERSITY'S TRADEMARKS, LOGOS, COLORS, AND SEAL policy is available for a 30-day review and comment period. The policy outlines the requirements for establishing a consistent visual and brand identity. Feedback received will be considered prior to the policy going into effect. For more information, view the [policies under review](#).

A U-LED TEAM OF RESEARCHERS HAS RECEIVED \$5.7 MILLION from the National Science Foundation to search for ways to make legumes like alfalfa, peas, beans, and soybeans more nutritious. For more information, read "[A fine fix](#)."

THE SENATE BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BAC) has two vacancies. As representatives of civil service employees, BAC advises U administration on benefit offerings, recommending changes to existing or new programs. Applicants should have some experience or knowledge of insurance and benefit issues. An application is available at [BAC vacancy](#).

ONLINE REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE ON APRIL 15 for the 2009 Teaching and Learning Conference: Making Connections Between Teaching and Learning. April 27, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Sponsored by the Academy of Distinguished Teachers, Center for Teaching and Learning, Office of Information Technology, and Instructional Development Services (UMD). Free. For registration and more information, see [teaching and learning](#).

AN AWARDS PROGRAM HONORING OUTSTANDING UNIVERSITY WOMEN will take place April 20, 2:30 p.m., Memorial Hall, McNamara Alumni Center. Sudha Shetty, executive director of the International Fellowship Program, will deliver opening remarks. Free and open to the public. RSVP to [outstanding women](#) or call 612-625-9837. For more information, see [awards program](#).

HENNEPIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER MIKE OPAT will deliver the 2009 State of the County address on the Twin cities campus. The location was chosen because of the ongoing Hennepin-University Partnership supporting collaborations in health care and public service between the U and the county, and shared challenges on issues such as the Central Corridor. April 23, 5 p.m., 3M Auditorium, Carlson School of Management.

INSIDE WALL STREET: Some anthropologists explore lost tribes, but Karen Ho studies the people and culture of Wall Street. It's all about groupthink and overconfidence, she says, and in a new book, she shows how collective financial mores spread across America and do damage. For more information, watch a [News Service video](#).

CURBING THE URGE: It appears a drug commonly used to treat alcohol and drug addiction has a similar effect on the compulsive behavior of kleptomaniacs; it curbs their urge to steal, according to new research at the U led by associate professor of psychiatry and principal investigator of the study, Jon Grant. For more information, watch the [video](#) or see [Curbing the urge](#).

Crookston:

THE DESIGN OF A SIXTH STREET GREENSPACE west of the underpass will be the focus of a collaborative session April 9, 6 p.m., 212 Dowell Hall. For more information, see [greenspace](#).

A CELEBRATION OF MEXICAN CULTURE AND TRADITION will be the focus of a Cinco de Mayo dinner and festivities, April 17, 4:30 p.m., Brown Dining Hall, followed by a program in Kiehle Auditorium featuring music and dance. Dinner is free. Sponsored by VOICES, a group that provides community cultural awareness education, and the UMC Office of Diversity and Multicultural Services, and Student Support Services. For more information, see [celebration](#).

"THE COURSEWORK OF CONSERVATION--ARE UNIVERSITY CURRICULA ON TARGET?" was presented at the recent North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference held in Arlington, Virginia. The focus was an analysis of wildlife programs in North America. The session was organized and cochaired by Steve McMullin, Virginia Tech, and Dan Svedarsky, UMC professor and head of the Natural Resources Department and past president of the Wildlife Society. For more information, see [conservation](#).

Duluth:

APRIL IS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH. A brown bag "Myths and Facts About Sexual Assault" will take place April 8, noon, 268 Kirby Student Center.

WRITING WORKSHOP: Joyce Zonana, author of *Dream Homes: From Cairo to Katrina, An Exile's Journey* will hold a workshop April 14, 12-2 p.m., 333 Kirby Student Center. An Egyptian Jew by birth, Zonana explores issues of gender, cultural, and racial identity in the context of a multicultural, international, and ever-changing world. Free.

OVATION GUEST ARTIST SERIES CONCERT: The St. Petersburg Quartet with pianist Maxim Mogilevsky will be presented April 14, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Tickets are \$32/\$27/\$17/\$15. One of the world's leading string quartets, the St. Petersburg was founded as the Leningrad Quartet. The group received a Grammy nomination, "Best Record" honors in both *Stereo Review* and *Gramophone Magazines*, and the Chamber Music America/WQXR Prize for Best CD of 2001. For tickets, see [ovation](#) or call 218-726-8877.

Morris:

THE 2009 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM will celebrate student research representing all academic disciplines. April 17, 12:30 p.m. registration and opening ceremony, John Q. Imholte Hall Atrium. 2:30 p.m. oral presentations. 5 p.m. poster presentations, Science Atrium.

THE MORRIS MOCK TRIAL TEAM IS THE ONLY MINNESOTA TEAM TO QUALIFY for the National Tournament. Jonathan Bringewatt (cocaptain), Jeremy Jost (cocaptain), Collin Tierney, Adam Kopel, Grace Riedel, Anne Krohmer, Katie Wutchiett, and Eva Wood will compete with teams nationally, April 17-19, Des Moines, Iowa.

Rochester:

UMR AND THE ROCHESTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will host a Lunch & Learn April 30, noon. The topic "Will Your Business Thrive or Dive? Learn How to Stay Afloat During Sinking Times" will address branding and building strategic partnerships to keep business alive during a tough economy. For more information, see [thrive or dive](#).

A LECTURE ON OUR NATION'S ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE featuring Massoud Amin, director of the Center for the Development of Technological Leadership, will take place April 15, 7 p.m., 417 University Square. Amin is a nationally recognized expert on the North American electrical power network. For more information, see [energy infrastructure](#).

Twin Cities:

FIRST ANNUAL U OF M PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FAIR will be held April 22, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Coffman Union. Trudy Canine, founder of Pathfinder, an executive coaching, career management, outplacement, and human resources consulting firm, will give the keynote address. The fair will include breakout sessions and an information expo featuring training and development organizations from across the U. For more information, see [professional development](#).

THE U'S NEW CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE opened April 6. Based in the Academic Health Center, the institute will integrate clinical translational science resources and services to improve the health of communities. For more information, see [new institute](#).

A WORLD PREMIERE OF NEW WORK BY CONTROVERSIAL ARTIST EDUARDO KAC will take place at the Weisman Art Museum. The exhibition is the result of a three-year collaboration between the artist and U scientist Neil Olszewski. The exhibit features a genetically modified petunia with Kac's DNA in its red veined petals, as well as prints based on the seeds produced for the project. Kac calls the plant "Edunia." Kac also created a large public sculpture for the U's St. Paul campus based on a protein from the petunia. Meet the artist at an opening reception April 17, 6 p.m. The exhibition runs through June 21. For more information, see [Edunia](#).

THE TEACHING WITH WRITING PROGRAM through the Center for Writing will offer a panel discussion on first-year writing April 15, noon, 115 Nicholson Hall. Another on senior papers and projects will take place April 29, noon, 2-260 Electrical Engineering/Computer Science. Lunch provided for the first 30 registrants. For more information and registration, see [Teaching With Writing](#) or call 612-626-7579.

THE WOMEN'S FACULTY CABINET SPRING RECEPTION for Twin Cities women faculty takes place April 15, 3:30 p.m., Weisman Art Museum. Join women faculty colleagues and hear about some of the work of this year's Women's Faculty Cabinet. To RSVP, e-mail Cheryl.Johnson. For more information, e-mail Karen.Zentner.Bacig.

"DIALOGUE AND NOTES ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY" will cover the development of synthetic biology and the challenges the field poses. April 16, 11:30 a.m., Mayo Auditorium. Presented by Drew Endy, assistant professor of bioengineering at Stanford and president of the BioBricks Foundation. For registration and more information, see [biology](#) or e-mail law@value.

AN ART EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION sponsored by Boynton Health Service and the Center for Arts and Medicine will take place April 17, noon, Gailon Roen Room Gallery, Boynton Health Center. The exhibit of works by Donna Bruni, "Places of Origin," will run through June 1. Free. For more information, see [art opening](#).

EARTH DAY FILM SCREENING: A Sense of Wonder, based on the life and writings of environmentalist Rachel Carson, will be shown April 22, 7 p.m., Bell Museum Auditorium. Free. The film was shot by two-time Academy Award-winning cinematographer Haskell Wexler. A panel discussion with experts from the U's School of Public Health and the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy's Healthy Legacy campaign will follow. For more information, see [film screening](#).

A HELPDESK CONSORTIUM MEETING will take place April 23, 10 a.m., 101 Walter Library. The meeting will include general updates from OIT, a discussion on escalation of network issues, and group survey results and next steps. [RSVP by April 20 to KTCragg](#). For those unable to attend, the event will be available via [UMConnect](#).

CONFERENCE AND EVENT SERVICES WILL HOLD AN OPEN HOUSE April 29, 8:30 a.m., Northstar Ballroom, St. Paul Student Center. Using event space on campus can be a cost-savings mechanism when planning events. Representatives from more than 20 venues and services will be on hand to answer questions and inform event planners about what's available at the U. Tours of St. Paul venues will be available. RSVP to [event services](#) by April 21 or call 612-625-9090. Free and open to all U employees. For more information, see [open house](#).

REGENTS PROFESSOR OF CULTURAL STUDIES AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE RICHARD LEPPERT will present the third and final talk of the semester in the Regents Literature Lecture Series. Leppert will discuss "Music and Political Economies of Order, Disorder, and Violence," April 29, 2 p.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. The lecture will be followed by a reception. For more information, see [lecture](#).

P & A AUDIO PROFILE: Dennis Donovan, Humphrey Institute research fellow. Between teaching, working with young people, and organizing community programs, Dennis Donovan says he "has the best job at the University of Minnesota." For more information, [listen to Dennis Donovan](#).

MORE EVENTS include What's Up in Sustainable Agriculture Seminar Series: Race and Politics of Alternative Food ([April 8](#)); Conversations on Body and Knowing ([April 9](#)); Biogenity Production and Sustainability ([April 10](#)); Nature Play: A Celebration of Pollination! ([April 11](#)); GLBT Ally Training: Minneapolis Campus ([April 13](#)); Slaking a City's Thirst: The Quest for Water in Raaso, Ethiopia ([April 14](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (4-15-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 15; April 15, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--The U will save money using a new financial tool to borrow for capital projects.
--Open forums to discuss U sustainability goals are coming to a campus near you.
--People: Geology and geophysics professor R. Lawrence Edwards has received the Guggenheim Award; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE U WILL BE THE FIRST UNIVERSITY IN THE NATION TO USE A NEW FINANCIAL TOOL that will save money in borrowing for capital projects. The new tool came about from the nation's economic stimulus package. It's expected to save \$2 million by using Build America Bonds. For more information, see [financial tool](#).

OPEN FORUMS TO DISCUSS U SUSTAINABILITY GOALS will gather input from faculty, staff, and students regarding goals and measures in implementing the regents policy on sustainability and energy. Forums will take place April 20, 1 p.m., Prairie Lounge, Student Center, Morris; April 24, 10 a.m., Youngquist Auditorium, Crookston; April 27, 2:30 p.m., 3-100 Mayo Building, east bank; April 28, 2:30 p.m., 105 Cargill, St. Paul campus; April 29, 10:30 a.m., Weber Music Hall, Duluth. For more information, see [sustainability](#).

PEOPLE: Geology and geophysics professor R. Lawrence Edwards has received the Guggenheim Award; Distinguished McKnight University Professors for 2009 were recently announced; Eli Coleman will receive the Master and Johnson Award for lifetime achievement; Edward Goetz accepted an offer to serve as director of the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs; 2009 Distinguished Women Scholar Awardees are professors Ann Fallon and Dianne Neumark-Sztainer; UMM junior Tara Greiman is a recipient of the 2009 Udall Scholarship; UMM student Melinda Kernik is a 2009 recipient of the Katherine E. Sullivan Scholarship; the U took second place in CLARION's 2009 National Case Competition; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

THE DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD CEREMONY will be held April 27, 3:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. RSVP by April 20. For registration and more information, including this year's winners, see [award ceremony](#).

THE OFFICE OF SERVICE AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT (OSCI) will be the featured organization at a May forum of the Minnesota Quality Council and is a lead participant in a conference on LEAN practices in higher education. Scott Martens, director of OSCI, will head the education division (K-16) of the American Society for Quality for two years, beginning with the [international conference](#) in Minneapolis, May 18-20. OSCI is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE is seeking representation from four broad areas of the U: (1) one seat, senior vice president of academic affairs/provost; (2) two seats, senior vice president for health sciences, (3) one seat, at large; and (4) one seat, Morris. For an application and more information, see [Civil Service Committee](#). Application deadline is April 24. E-mail Peq.Wolff with questions.

U OF M MOMENT: DON'T MISS THESE TAX INCENTIVES. Tax day is April 15, but the recently passed federal stimulus bill has advantages for next season. Paul Gutterman, tax code expert and accounting senior lecturer at Carlson School, outlines some of the top incentives the bill offers. The feature can be found at [U of M Moment](#).

ARBORETUM OFFERS RESOURCES FOR VEGETABLE GARDENERS: If you're looking for ways to save money in a tough economy, search no farther than your own backyard. From the White House to the corner bungalow, everyone is grabbing a hoe and planting a home vegetable garden to help stretch family food dollars. Find out how at [Arboretum gardening](#).

MIDDLE MAN: As scientists search for answers, philosopher Alan Love focuses on questions. Rarely do students choose a graduate school just to work with an assistant professor. Yet two of five in the U's latest entering class of philosophy graduate students have. For more information, read "[Middle man](#)."

MOBILE APPLICATION CONTEST \$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP: The Office of Information Technology encourages entry into AT&T's "2009 Big Mobile on Campus Challenge." Open to all full-time students and staff, the contest encourages development of "innovative mobile learning, mobile identity, and student system integration applications." Take the challenge and enter to win a \$10,000 scholarship (among other prizes). Open to individuals and teams. For a list of prizes, for contest rules, and for additional information, see [mobile contest](#).

Crookston:

PRESIDENT ROBERT BRUININKS AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT ROBERT JONES will be on campus April 16. They will meet with faculty, staff, students, and administration. President Bruininks will address the Campus Assembly at 12:30 p.m., Sargeant Student Center.

UMC WILL HOST ITS SECOND ANNUAL PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT DAY April 21. Activities during the day will provide an opportunity for the campus and community to collaborate, to learn more about dimensions of public engagement, and to cultivate new relationships. For more information, see [engagement day](#).

SPRING IS IN THE AIR AND THE HORTICULTURE CLUB is hosting an orchid workshop April 22, 6 p.m. Registration is required. For more information, see [orchid workshop](#).

Duluth:

2009 BAEUMLER-KAPLAN HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION EVENTS: A keynote lecture titled "Standing Up to the Nazis: Jews' Armed and Spiritual Resistance in the Vilna Ghetto" will be presented by Ellen Kennedy, interim director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the U. April 21, 5 p.m., Kirby Student Center Ballroom. A brown bag program titled "History is Not Enough: The Symbolic History of Nuremberg" will take place April 21, noon, UMD Library Rotunda. The film *The Counterfeiters* will be shown April 19, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Darfur: An interactive awareness and education event that brings attention to the ongoing genocide in Darfur, Sudan, April 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., UMD Library. For more information on all events, e-mail Cindy.Christian.

UMD'S LABOVITZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS will host its ninth annual "Professor for a Day" event, April 22, 9 a.m., Weber Music Hall. The featured speaker will be David Anderson, founder of Famous Dave's. The title of his speech is "Think Big--Entrepreneurship and Leadership in Challenging Times." Free. For more information, see [professor for a day](#).

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMY DAY will feature videos, lectures, demonstrations, booths, and workshops for all ages. A presentation entitled "Return to the Moon" will outline NASA's plans to once again explore the moon. April 18. Free. For more information, see [astronomy](#).

GLBT EVENTS: Mandy Carter, a self-described "out, southern, black, lesbian, social justice activist," will speak about new possibilities under President Obama. April 20, 7 p.m., Kirby Student Center. For more information, see [GLBT events](#).

Morris:

A FASHION SHOW FEATURING styles by students from the Basic Studio 3D Design course will feature outfits created from recycled, found, and repurposed materials. The show's title is "Fashion Trashion: Where Style Meets Sustainability." April 17, 7 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Gallery.

UMM MEMBERS OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP and others concerned with environmental legislation recently traveled to the state capitol to lobby. For more information, see [environmental legislation](#).

Rochester:

A SENIOR ART EXHIBITION entitled "Past & Present," by Brenda Wiech, opens with a reception on April 20, 4 p.m. The gallery will be open until April 24. Third floor, 111 South Broadway.

Twin Cities:

U OF M RECYCLING PROGRAM CELEBRATES 25 YEARS. In the summer and fall of 2008, prices for metal, paper, and plastic reached record highs. Revenue for recyclable commodities at the U was more than \$500,000. It was a good year for recycling, but the U's program has seen the ups and downs of the industry over its 25-year history. For more information, read [Recycling celebrates](#).

REPOWER MINNESOTA TOWN HALL WITH SENATOR AMY KLOBUCHAR: Senator Klobuchar will highlight Washington's response to the economic downturn and the opportunities that lie ahead. She will be accompanied by a panel including Doug Cameron, Piper Jaffray Investments; Louis King, H.I.R.E. Minnesota and Summit Academy OIC; J. Drake Hamilton, Fresh Energy; Professor Alfred Marcus, Carlson School of Management. Seating is limited. April 17, 11:45 a.m., Honeywell Auditorium, Humphrey Center. For registration and more information, see [Town hall](#).

SIGMA PI FRATERNITY RECENTLY HOSTED ITS THIRD ANNUAL UNSUNG HEREOS DINNER. For the past three years, the fraternity has hosted the event in appreciation of the U's Facilities Management second-shift workers. Sigma Pi philanthropy chair Aaron Katz organized this year's event as part of the fraternity's A.C.E. Project (Altruistic Campus Experience). For more information, read "[Unsung Heroes](#)."

EARTH DAY: The Hennepin County Board, in partnership with ICLEI: Local Governments for Sustainability and the Hennepin-University Partnership, will host a "National Spotlight Conversation on Climate Action," April 22. Eighty experts on nine topical issues will discuss how to maximize partnerships between the county and the U in the area of climate change. The keynote speaker is Kent Cavender-Bares from the Institute on the Environment. The event is one of only 10 spotlight conversations nationwide. For more information, see [cool county](#).

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LIBRARIES WILL RECEIVE THE PRESTIGIOUS Excellence in Academic Libraries Award in recognition of its success integrating expertise and resources into campus life. Sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and Blackwell's Book Services, the \$3,000 award and a plaque will be presented by ACRL President Erika Linke to Provost Sullivan and U librarian Wendy Pradt Lougee. April 22, 3 p.m., Great Hall, Walter Library. Refreshments will be served. For more information, see [library award](#).

BEAUTIFUL U DAY IS SET FOR APRIL 23. Join the U community for the kick-off event at 8 a.m., Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences building. The U and Energy Management will roll out a new campuswide energy conservation campaign. Enjoy doughnuts and coffee with President Bruininks and VP O'Brien, learn more about energy conservation efforts on campus, and make a pledge to conserve energy. For more information, see [Beautiful U Day](#).

THREE CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR OF THE LEARNING ABROAD CENTER WILL VISIT THE U for on-campus interviews and a presentation at a public session. Candidates are Lynn Anderson, dean of international education and director of the International Center, University of California, San Diego (April 23); Inge Steglitz, assistant director, Office of Study Abroad, Michigan State University (April 28); and Martha Johnson, interim director, Learning Abroad Center, University of Minnesota (April 30). All are scheduled from 3-4:30 p.m., 101 University International Center. For more information, see [learning abroad](#).

THE 93RD ANNUAL MINNESOTA ROYAL EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE APRIL 13-18, St. Paul campus. On April 16, faculty, staff, students, and the surrounding community will work to help fill a trailer with food during the fifth annual "Stock the Trailer" event. Other nonperishable food items and cash donations will be accepted to benefit Second Harvest Heartland food shelf. Other events include a Milk Maid contest, Ag Olympics, 2K Royal Run, concert, and more. For more information, e-mail Janelle.Kuechle. For a complete list of activities, see [Royal event](#).

RADIO K, THE STUDENT-RUN RADIO STATION IN THE COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION, is holding its Spring Drive event April 22-May 1. Radio K installed a new antenna on top of Rarig Center and can now be heard at 104.5 FM, from 4:30 p.m. to 8 a.m., weekdays, and all weekend long. During the summer, the station will be available 24/7 on 104.5 FM. The station broadcasts at 770 AM, 104.5 FM, and online at RadioK.org. For more information or to become a member, see [Spring Fund Drive](#).

CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR'S GROUP MEETING: April 23, 7:30 a.m., 5-125 Moos Tower. Topic: Navigating the IRB Continuing Review Process--an interactive discussion on the continuing review process, its regulatory basis and significance, and how to avoid the common pitfalls encountered in the process. Open to anyone in the research community.

"REACHING YOUR DREAMS: How Women Can Use Money to Take Charge of Their Lives" will be presented by nationally recognized financial consultant Ruth Hayden, May 12, noon, Mayo Memorial Auditorium. Free. RSVP to [take charge](mailto:takecharge). For more information, call Teaona Hasbrouck at 612-625-9837 or see the [Women's Center](#).

NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: BELL MUSEUM BRINGS BUZ TO THE CLASSROOM. The U's Bell Museum joined Cedar Park STEM Elementary School to create the BUZ (Building Understanding Zone) room to boost students' interest in science as they study hundreds of insects and exotic animals. For more information, watch [BUZ video](#).

THE HORTICULTURE CLUB WILL HOLD ITS SPRING PLANT SALE featuring grown locally, May 9, annuals, vegetables, fruits, and a few surprises. All plants are grown locally, May 7-8, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., May 9, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., May 10, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Gortner Ave. between Larpenteur and Folwell. For more information, e-mail hort club.

GOLDY'S GAMEROOM AND GOPHER SPOT ARE OFFERING year-end party deals. April 15-June 30, staff receive 20 percent off reservations and 5 percent off advance food orders. For more information, call Stephanie Broom at 612-625-7707, or see [Goldy's](#).

MORE EVENTS include "Understanding Meditation in Health Care Begins With You" ([April 16](#)); "Iron Pour Blood" ([April 17](#)); Eduardo Kac: "Natural History of the Enigma" ([April 18](#)); Nature and Found Object Craft Workshop ([April 19](#)); Clothesline Project ([April 20](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES CAMPUS EVENTS.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication. All Twin Cities event submissions are handled through the events calendar at <http://events.tc.umn.edu>.

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
 - [Campus Conversations](#)
 - [Features](#)
 - [People](#)
 - [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
-
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
 - [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (4-22-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 16; April 22, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--State Legislative Summary.
 --Thirty-five U employees have been recognized for ideas submitted at February's Quality Fair.
 --People: John Freeman and A. Stephen Polasky have been elected into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

STATE LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY: The House Higher Education biennial budget bill passed through the committee process, and a floor vote is expected this week. The Senate bill passed off the floor last week. For a comparison of the proposals, see [legislative summary PDF](#).

THIRTY-FIVE U EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED WITH WORKING SMARTER AWARDS based on ideas they submitted at February's Quality Fair. The Office of Service and Continuous Improvement and the Improvement Liaisons, sponsors of the fair, sought ideas that would help departments and the U increase revenue, cut costs, improve service, or increase sustainability. The top 99 ideas were submitted to President Bruininks's executive team. For more information, see [Quality Fair](#).

PEOPLE: John Freeman and A. Stephen Polasky have been elected into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; UMM assistant professor of English Bradley Deane is this year's recipient of the Morris Alumni Association Teaching Award; U philanthropist Larry Bentson died April 12; linguistics student Dustin Chacón has won a Beinecke Scholarship; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**University-wide:**

UPLAN MEMBERS EARN \$65 BY TAKING THE WELLNESS ASSESSMENT BY APRIL 30. The 20-minute health questionnaire can be taken during an employee's scheduled workday. Faculty and staff who are covered by the UPlan Medical Program (and their spouses or same-sex domestic partners) can each earn \$65 for completing the assessment. For more information, see [Wellness Assessment](#), or begin the [assessment](#).

WALK-IN HEALTH SCREENINGS provide faculty and staff with personal health information that's useful in taking the wellness assessment. In the Twin Cities, faculty and staff can participate in a walk-in health screening April 28, Great Hall, Coffman Union. Tests will be administered by Boynton Health Service, sponsored by the Wellness Program. For more information, including available tests and times, see [health screenings](#).

FACULTY AND ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS WHO ASSEMBLE EXAM RESULTS using the Office of Measurement Services (OMS) for courses will now be able to retrieve results from a secure portal site managed by OMS. The new portal allows instructors to access and download their files from a single location. The process eliminates delays, provides a more secure transmission, and reduces paper reports. For more information, see the [OMS portal](#) or call OMS at 612-626-0307. OMS is part of System Academic Administration.

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE is seeking representation from four broad areas of the U: (1) one seat, senior vice president of academic affairs/provost; (2) two seats, senior vice president for health sciences, (3) one seat, at large; and (4) one seat, Morris. For an application and more information, see [Civil Service Committee](#). Application deadline is April 24. E-mail [Peg Wolff](mailto:Peg.Wolff) with questions.

TEN TIPS TO SPRING CLEAN YOUR LIFE. Plant a tree in honor of Arbor Day; calculate your personal expenses and commit to a budget; share garden space with your community; Feng Shui your day. Just a few of the tips from the spring issue of *Wellness Works*. For more information, see [Ten spring tips](#).

ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF TREES ON ARBOR DAY. Landscape beautification, living screens, and green spaces can reduce noise while increasing property value. Home energy costs can be reduced 25 to 30 percent with properly placed trees. Selecting the right tree for the site is an important landscaping decision. For more information, see [U of M Extension](#).

Crookston:

SUSTAINABILITY WEEK is ongoing until April 24. A theme highlights each day, and a booth located in the Sargeant Student Center has educational materials with information on the day's theme. For more information, see [sustainability week](#).

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION CENTER AT UMC recently announced the selection of five technical assistance requests from economic development agencies across Minnesota to constitute its 2009 work plan. For more information, see [center](#).

THE COMMUNICATION PROGRAM IS MARKING ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY. Students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends are invited to a reception April 28, noon-2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Guests will have an opportunity to visit with communication faculty and students, play Guitar Hero, and enjoy refreshments. For more information, see [anniversary](#).

Duluth:

MR. ENVIRONMENT: THE WILLARD MUNGER STORY will be presented April 22, 2 p.m., UMD Library Rotunda. Mark Munger is a district court judge and author of the recent publication about Minnesota's longest serving member of the House of Representatives. For more information, call Jodi Carlson at 218-726-7880.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE AND ACTION CENTER BROWN BAG: A compilation of writings by women in prison reveals the connection between incarceration and the violence that brings them there. *Any One of Us* will be performed by members of UMD V-Day, April 22, noon, Kirby Rafters. \$2 or a food donation, with proceeds benefiting the Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault. For more information, see [brown bag](#).

SHAKESPEARE'S MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, directed by Tom Isbell, will be performed April 23-25, 29-30, and May 1-2, 7:30 p.m., as well as April 26, 2 p.m., Marshall Performing Arts Center. For tickets, see [Nothing](#) or call 218-726-8561.

A GEOLOGY SEMINAR entitled "Recessional Phases of the Superior Lobe in the Western Lake Superior Basin" will be given by Howard Hobbs, senior scientist at the Minnesota Geological Survey, April 23, 3:30 p.m., 175 Life Science. For more information, e-mail [Laura Chapin](mailto:Laura.Chapin).

ACCESSIBLE CONTEMPORARY MUSIC, a Chicago-based nonprofit promoting the performance and understanding of contemporary music, will present a night of music April 24, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. For tickets, see [new music](#) or call 218-726-8877.

Morris:

IMAGINE FUND WINNERS INCLUDE 13 MORRIS FACULTY. The Imagine Fund is supported by the McKnight Foundation to support research, projects, and creative works in the Humanities. For more information on the UMM award winners, see [Imagine Fund](#).

UMM'S CHEMISTRY DISCIPLINE HAS BEEN CERTIFIED by the American Chemical Society. Morris is one of 20 schools in Minnesota with a certified program.

Rochester:

A COLUMN IN THE ROCHESTER POST-BULLETIN SUGGESTS that Soldiers Field Golf Course is an unlikely location for UMR expansion. For more information, see the [Post-Bulletin](#).

Twin Cities:

MSP HOME TOUR: MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS...and peek inside their homes. If you've been putting off that bathroom or kitchen remodel out of a gnawing fear that you could end up with a toilet where the oven should be, it might be time to try a low-commitment jaunt down inspiration lane this weekend during the Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour of "real homes, real people, and real ideas." For more information, see [MSP Home Tour](#).

U OF M MOMENT: In the past, Beautiful U Day has been an annual event focused on campus aesthetics. This year the priority is energy conservation. Tim Busse, University Services communications director, says the day's "It All Adds Up" theme is about getting everyone on campus together to think about the little ways to cut energy consumption. The feature, as well as an archive of more audio content, can be found at [U of M Moment](#). For additional information, see the [news release](#).

U ATHLETICS HAS RECEIVED THE HIGHEST NCAA CERTIFICATION. The intercollegiate athletics program has received official certification from the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Committee on Athletics Certification. It's the highest form of certification from the NCAA. For more information, see the [news release](#).

"THE CHANGING COMPETITIVE POSITION OF PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES" will be presented by M. Peter McPherson, president of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, April 30, 3:30 p.m. Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center. The event will be followed by a panel of local higher education representatives. Free and open to the public, but reservations are required at 612-625-5002.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (OIT) WILL BE MAKING CHANGES TO MULTI-LINE TELEPHONES. If you have 12- or 30-button telephone, an OIT technician will standardize its features and layout. The changes will not remove phone features, but some features may need to be accessed differently. Phones will be converted within the next year. To see if you will be affected by the change, visit [OIT telephone](#). For more information, including a complete list of changes to your telephone and a schedule, see [telephone changes](#). E-mail phones or call 1-HELP with questions.

HEADS UP: HEADS DOWN DURING STATEWIDE TORNADO DRILL DAY April 23. Fairview is participating at 1:45 p.m. and 6:55 p.m. Metro emergency sirens will sound and Fairview will follow with announcements over the public address system. The U is not participating in the drill. The University's TXT-U service can provide emergency messages to all who use cell phones. For further information on TXT-U, weather, and other emergencies, see [emergency preparedness](#).

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA OPERA THEATRE PRESENTS LEOS JANACEK'S JENUFA. April 23-25, 7:30, p.m., and April 26, 1:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. A preperformance discussion begins 45 minutes before each staging, in the lobby. Tickets: \$20 general admission; \$10 U students. For more information, see [opera](#) or call 612-624-2345.

BEETHOVEN'S SYMPHONY NO. 9 will be performed at Northrop Auditorium, featuring the University Symphony Orchestra and Combined Choirs. May 1, 8 p.m. For more information, see [Beethoven](#). For tickets, call the Northrop Ticket Office at 612-624-2345.

EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGIST SEARN CARROLL WILL VISIT THE U for a public lecture, honorary doctorate, and commencement address. The lecture, entitled "Remarkable Creatures: Epic Adventures in the Search for Origins of Species," is based on his new book. May 15, 7:30 p.m., Bell Museum. A reception and book signing will follow. Free, with seats available first come, first served.

"PUBLIC HEALTH 2050: Impact of Technology on the Field of Public Health" will take place June 4, 8:30 a.m.-noon, theater, Coffman Union. Free, but advance registration is requested. For registration and more information, see [public health](#).

THE 2009-10 POLICY FELLOWS PROGRAM AT THE HUMPHREY INSTITUTE is now accepting applications. The program equips participants with core leadership competencies to inspire, organize, and work effectively with others to advance the public good. Applicants from government, private, and nonprofit sectors are all welcome. For more information, see [applications](#), e-mail csqa@umn.edu, or call 612-625-8330. Applications are due June 15.

THE SPLIT ROCK ARTS PROGRAM returns this summer with workshops and retreats in creative writing, visual art, and design. Earn academic credit and escape the city for a retreat at Cloquet Forestry Center, or stay in the city and immerse yourself in art for three or five days. For registration and more information, see [Split Rock Arts](#) or call 612-625-1976.

HOMECOMING 2009: THE ULTIMATE HOMECOMING will be filled with new traditions, many that focus on engaging academic units and increasing visibility of the U's core academic mission. Homecoming Week activities can provide unique, low cost opportunities to showcase units, departments, or colleges to wide and varied audiences. Oct. 4-11. For more information and to sign up, see [homecoming](#).

UNIVERSITY DINING SERVICES IS HOSTING A SPECIAL GUEST CHEF EVENT ON EARTH DAY, April 22, Bistro West Restaurant, lower level, Humphrey Center. For more information, see [quest chef](#).

EAT AN "ODE TO SPRING" BUFFET AT THE CAMPUS CLUB featuring many fresh and local products. The dinner is cosponsored by the School of Music, and all members of the University are welcome. May 1, 5 p.m., reservations required. For more information, see [Campus Club](#).

MORE EVENTS include "Planning Communities as if People Eat: The Role of Urban Planning in Building Sustainable Food Systems" ([April 24](#)); Field Trip: Spring at Nine Mile Creek ([April 25](#)); Curbing Cancer's Growth in the Body: Advances in Research and Treatment ([April 26](#)); Sustainability Goals Open Forums ([April 27](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

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Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (4-29-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 17; April 29, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--State legislative summary: higher education bill next steps.
 --The University is committed to providing up-to-date information on swine flu and its impacts.
 --People: John Romano, professor in educational psychology, was corecipient of the American Counseling Association 2009 Research Award; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY: Both the House and Senate have passed their respective higher education bills. The bills now move to conference committee, where members from both houses will reach a compromise on the legislation. Additionally, the Capital Investment conference committee has been meeting; House conferees have offered to accept some of the original Senate language that includes the Bell Museum and a larger portion of funding for asset preservation. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

SWINE FLU UPDATE: The University is committed to providing up-to-date information on swine flu and its impacts. As home to the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy ([CIDRAP](#)), the U is at the forefront in planning and researching critical public health issues. Monitor events as they develop and know where to go for accurate, timely information at the U's [swine flu information page](#).

PEOPLE: John Romano was corecipient of the American Counseling Association 2009 Research Award; Joachim Savelsberg was recently inducted as a Fellow of the American Society of Criminology; Steven Harris has been named director of the Marriage and Family Therapy graduate program; two faculty from UMC were honored at the Minnesota State FFA Convention; The Law School's Asylum Law Project received a Tony Diggs Excellence Award for Outstanding Graduate or Professional Student Group; Duane Burnham, former CEO and chairman of Abbott Laboratories, was presented with an Outstanding Achievement Award; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**University-wide:**

THE COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE EDUCATION has released its recommendations regarding restructuring the Graduate School. Provost Sullivan received the report April 24. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to review the recommendations and [offer comments](#) during the 30-day public comment period ending May 24. For more information, see the [recommendations](#).

NEW OR REVISED EDUCATION POLICIES covering a range of topics from admissions to use of personal electronic devices in classrooms are now available. For more information, see [education policies](#).

HEALTH TALK AND YOU: YOUR AGING BRAIN. Worried about the consequences of aging? You're not alone. As the baby boomer population continues to grow older, more and more people are interested in what happens to their brains as they age. Associate professor of neurology Susan McPherson suggests that continually striving to learn new things may keep the brain fit. For more information, read "[Your Aging Brain](#)."

BLOGS AT THE U: Adjunct assistant professor of English Michael Tortorello recently began writing a recurring [gardening column](#) for the *New York Times*, chronicling his own adventures in gardening at his Minneapolis home. Tortorello will continue to update his blog throughout the summer. Keep up with other high-flying U blogs, like Gary Schwitzer's health news blog and Eric Ostermeier's Smart Politics at [Faculty and Staff](#).

U OF M MOMENT: When mom and dad start Facebooking. A few years ago, online social networking sites such as Facebook were dominated by college students. Now mom and dad have discovered they can use them, too. That was one of the reasons why Parent Program director Marj Savage has updated her book, *You're On Your Own (But I'm Here If You Need Me)*. Savage says parents are increasingly embracing social networking, which is unsettling for some newly independent students. To listen, visit [U of M Moment](#).

SHOP THE ARBORETUM AUXILIARY PLANT SALE. Shop for specialty plants, University of Minnesota introductions, and old-time favorites at the annual Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Spring Plant Sale, one of the largest plant sales in the region. May 9 and 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, see [arboretum](#) or call 952-443-1400.

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM at UMD has graduated its third cohort, consisting of 10 University staff and faculty members. Projects stemming from this year's graduates are strategically aligned to multiple University goals, such as sustainability, staff development, diversity, and student support services. For more information see [TLP program](#).

Crookston:

THE MINNESOTA BOARD OF PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING has approved the certification of the criminal justice program in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Department. With certification, UMC graduates are eligible to become licensed police officers in Minnesota. The program, under the direction of David Seyfried, is the only certified criminal justice program at the U. For more information, see [criminal justice](#).

MINNESOTA EXTENSION'S Juan Moreno will present an intercultural development workshop for faculty and staff, April 30, noon-2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center.

A RETIREMENT RECEPTION in honor of professor Bernard "Barney" Selzler and Barbara Ricord will take place April 30, 3-5 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. For more information, see [retirement honor](#).

UMC AND THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION SAFETY TEAM will sponsor two speakers, April 30, 7 p.m., Youngquist Auditorium. Dan Riddle, National Weather Service, will present "Weather Forecasting for the Pilot," and Jim Niehoff, FAA Safety Team, will present "Pilot Performed Maintenance." Free.

Duluth:

"SUSTAINABILITY AND U: VIEWPOINTS FROM UMD," the culmination of April sustainability events, will be held April 29, 10:30 a.m., Weber Music Hall, with Chancellor Kathryn Martin and U VP Kathleen O'Brien. For more information, see [UMD Sustainability](#) or [U-wide sustainability](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS AT UMD INCLUDE CHORAL MASTERWORKS CONCERTS, May 1 and 2, 7:30 p.m., and May 3, 3 p.m., Weber Music Hall, \$12/\$10/\$7/\$5. For tickets, call 218-726-8877 or see [events](#).

A SCREENING OF THE POV DOCUMENTARY FILM *Made in L.A.*, by Almudena Carracedo and Robert Bahar, will be presented May 5, 2 p.m., 90 Bohannon. Dylan Savall will facilitate a discussion after the film. For more information, e-mail [Dylan Savall](mailto:Dylan_Savall) or call 218-726-8645.

A NEW BA IN WRITING STUDIES will begin in fall 2009, providing writing studies majors with two tracks—journalism, and professional writing. For more information, see [Writing Studies](#).

DOCUMENTARY FILM SCREENING: *Resonance: The Odyssey of the Bells*, a screening and discussion about the Duluth Peace Bell, will be presented by filmmaker Paul Creager, April 29, 7 p.m., 80 Montague Hall.

Morris:

A FACULTY AND STAFF RECOGNITION DINNER will honor 10 employees with nearly 300 years of combined service to UMM. April 30, 4:30 p.m., Retirees Association reception, LaFave House; 6 p.m., dinner, Oyate Hall. For more information, see [recognition dinner](#).

STUDENTS IN THE MUSIC DISCIPLINES' OPERA WORKSHOP will perform *New York, New York*. Directed by Melissa Hanson, music faculty, and Ray Schultz, theatre arts faculty, the performance will focus on the theater music of Leonard Bernstein and feature selections from *West Side Story*, *On the Town*, *Wonderful Town*, and *Candide*. May 1 and 2, 7:30 p.m., Recital Hall, Humanities Fine Arts.

Rochester:

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS AND COMPUTATION BIOLOGY (BICB) Symposium at UMR June 26. The purpose of the event is to broaden BICB research areas and report results of past seed grants. For more information, see [BICB](#).

Twin Cities:

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PROMOTION AND TENURE WORKSHOPS for UMTC probationary faculty and associate professors will be offered in May. The *Becoming a Full Professor* workshop for newly tenured associate professors (within the last two to three years) will take place May 14, 10 a.m.-noon, 105 Cargill Building, St. Paul campus. *Demystifying the Promotion and Tenure Process*, a workshop for probationary faculty, will be offered twice: May 15, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., 110 Shevlin Hall, (focus on women faculty); and May 21, 1-3 p.m., 105 Cargill Building. For registration and more information, e-mail [Cheryl Johnson](mailto:Cheryl_Johnson).

POSITIVE AGING ACROSS THE LIFESPAN, featuring Peter Whitehouse, is the topic of the annual Ruth Stricker Mind-Body Lecture. Dr. Whitehouse will dispel common myths about Alzheimer's disease and will address the importance of prevention and creating healthier intergenerational stories of brain aging. Evidence will be discussed regarding the important role of nutrition, exercise, environmental exposures, stress, cognitive stimulation, and the power of community. April 30, 3-4:30 p.m., Mayo Memorial Auditorium, \$15. For registration and more information, see [tickets](#).

BEAUTIFUL U DAY UPDATE: What began as a day has become a way. Beautiful U Day has evolved into a commitment to campus beautification and sustainability through student involvement, employee contributions, and community collaborations. With the rollout of the campuswide energy conservation program, U community members are taking the pledge to reduce annual campus energy usage by 5 percent by the end of 2010. For more information, see [It all adds up](#).

SPRING RAPTOR RELEASE: The annual event, sponsored by The Raptor Center, will take place May 2, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Hyland Lake Park Reserve, Bloomington, Minnesota. Attendees can learn about and photograph eagles, falcons, hawks, and owls, and win a chance to release a raptor. Children's activities and a climbing wall will be onsite. Free. For more information, see [raptor release](#).

THE REUSE WAREHOUSE WILL HOLD A SEALED BID AUCTION April 30, May 1, and May 4. The used University property includes antique furniture, a commercial refrigerator, a high-end used bicycle, a warehouse dock-leveling system, and more. The public auction will take place at the warehouse, 883 29th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. A complete list of auction items will be posted April 29 at [ReUse Warehouse](#).

THE 2008-09 TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED LEARNING (TEL) GRANT PROGRAM will hold a TEL Grant recipient poster presentation sponsored by the Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost and the Office of Information Technology. May 4, 1-3 p.m., 401 Walter Library. For more information, see [TEL Grant](#).

THE EXTENSION CENTER FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT will hold a free public symposium, "A European Perspective on Youth Work Concepts, Policies, and Practices." Presenter Lasse Siurala, director of the Department of Youth, City of Helsinki, will talk about nonformal learning among youth. May 8, 8:30 a.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [youth development](#).

THE ANNUAL KERMIT OLSON LECTURE, held by the Department of Horticultural Science, will feature best-selling writer Amy Stewart. The free lecture, entitled "The Global Garden: Translating the World of Horticulture," will detail the stories to be found in places such as laboratories, greenhouses, farms, and backyards. May 6, 4 p.m., 110 Green Hall (St. Paul campus), with awards and scholarships at 3:30 p.m. For more information, see [horticulture stories](#).

2009 INTERDISCIPLINARY GRANT PROGRAM. The Medical Industry Leadership Institute is seeking applications for grants to fund faculty research focused on the medical industry. Grants will be awarded through a competitive review process. One grant will be funded at a maximum of \$20,000. [Apply by May 8](#).

A DAY-LONG SYMPOSIUM FOCUSED ON THE INNOVATIVE WRITING-ENRICHED CURRICULUM PROJECT includes a keynote address by renowned literacy and assessment scholar Kathleen Blake Yancey. May 13, Al Johnson Great Room, McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [writing](#) or call 612-626-7579.

MINNESOTA CUP PRIMER: Business Planning and New Venture Financing. To encourage participation in the 2009 Minnesota Cup, the Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship is hosting a 90-minute session on business planning and new venture financing, featuring columnist, author, and Carlson School instructor Dileep Rao. May 14, 4:30 p.m., 1-106 of Hanson Hall. RSVP to hce@umn.edu.

MELANOMA MONDAY: This year marks the 25th anniversary of Melanoma Monday, the free skin-cancer screening event sponsored by the American Academy of Dermatology. Dermatologists at the U Medical Center, Fairview will perform full body checks or simply check suspicious lesions, depending on preference. Literature and sunscreen samples will also be available. May 4, Dermatologic Surgery and Laser Center, 4th floor, Phillips-Wangensteen Building. Open to the U community and the public on a first-come first-serve basis. For more information, call 612-624-9964 or see [Melanoma Monday](#).

TAILGATING WILL BE PERMITTED ON FOOTBALL GAME DAYS AT UMTC. For specific rules and locations of the new policy, see [game days](#).

U EMPLOYEES RECEIVE A 50 PERCENT DISCOUNT ON THE MOMENTUM SERIES of high-impact learning programs, which begins next month. Half-day and one-day courses offered by Carlson Executive Education cover topics such as personal operations management, enhancing the power of your executive presence, and critical thinking and communications. For more information, see [momentum](#).

MORE EVENTS include What's Up in Sustainable Agriculture Seminar: Farm Beginnings Program ([April 29](#)); Violence and Culture in Contemporary Brazil ([April 30](#)); Field Trip: Bird Migration at Tamarack Nature Center ([May 1](#)); Eduardo Kac: Natural History of the Enigma ([May 2](#)); Hand In Health 5K Fun Run ([May 3](#)); Lecture by Marilyn Ivy ([May 4](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (5-6-2009)

 Vol. XXXIX No. 18; May 6, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu
Inside This Issue

- Research at the U shows cancer-killing prowess of human immune cells.
- Updates on H1N1 influenza continue to be posted to the Emergency Preparedness Web site.
- People: Two U professors have received the nation's top scientific honor; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

CANCER-KILLERS: In a study of human tumors growing in mice, researchers have found that immune cells derived from human embryonic stem cells completely eliminated the tumors in 100 percent—13 of 13—of mice tested. For more information, see [cancer research](#).

H1N1 FLU: Updates on H1N1 influenza continue to be posted to the Emergency Preparedness Web site, including guidance for students returning from Mexico, mental health resources for anxiety due to the potential of the flu, and guidelines for commencement handshaking. For more information, see [Emergency Preparedness](#).

PEOPLE: Two U professors were elected to the National Academy of Sciences; Mary Koskan was awarded the APEX award for excellence in education administration and outstanding achievement; UMM assistant vice chancellor for student life Henry Fulda is the recipient of the 2009 Morris Academic Staff Award; U of M psychology and neuroscience senior Anh Tran receives *USA Today* honor; CLA student Philip Brodeen has been awarded a 2009 Morris K. Udall Native American Congressional Internship; the Law School recently announced its fifth student to receive the Burton Award; U graduate Amber Damm has been chosen 2009 Minnesota Teacher of the Year; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**University-wide:**

SYMPOSIUM: "NEIGHBORHOOD RESPONSES TO THE FORECLOSURE CRISIS," sponsored by the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) and the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership, will feature an overview of the foreclosure crisis with responses from members of the Twin Cities community. Local and national housing experts from more than 10 cities will be sharing their expertise. May 12, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Humphrey Center. For more information, e-mail CURA, call 612-625-9040, or [register online](#). CURA is part of System Academic Administration.

A NEW TECHNIQUE ALLOWS PRECISION GENE MODIFICATION IN PLANTS. In a paper published April 29 in *Nature*, a team led by researcher Daniel Voytas describes how a new, precise method restores control over where genes integrate into the genome and what effects that may have. For more information, see "[Genetic modification, modified](#)."

OFFICIALS BROKE GROUND ON THE NOvA DETECTOR FACILITY in northern Minnesota, May 1. The international physics laboratory of the School of Physics and Astronomy will be the world's most advanced neutrino experiment. Construction of the facility, supported under a \$45 million cooperative agreement between the Department of Energy and the U, is expected to generate 60 to 80 jobs over the next two years. For more information, see [NOvA Detector](#).

LOCAL AND LUSCIOUS: The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's SummerHouse garden market opens soon. The summer market features locally grown produce, breads, baked goods, U bacon and brats, gifts, garden tools, and gear. Open May 15 through late August, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. For more on the market, see [Arboretum](#).

GOOGLE APPS FOR THE U IS UNDERWAY, with implementation planned for early fall. The Google Initiative project Web site is the place to find the most current information on the project. This site includes a Q&A page, as well as general information. Regular and timely updates will be posted to the site. Questions and comments can be sent to the [project team](#). For more information, see [Google Apps](#).

LOW PROFILE, BIG REPUTATION. The Office of Institutional Research (OIR) is an operation at the U that most employees and students are unaware of. OIR supports planning, policy analysis, and strategic management across the U. Nationally, OIR is well known among institutional research professionals. For more information, see [OIR progress](#).

Crookston:

THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA) awarded UMC the NCAA CHOICES grant. The \$30,000 will establish the Golden Eagle Positive CHOICES program. The program's goal is to encourage and engage students in choices that result in better academic and athletic performance, while educating and integrating athletics into campuswide efforts to reduce alcohol use and help students make legal, healthy, appropriate, and safe choices. For more information, see [UMC grant](#).

UMC RECENTLY HONORED STUDENTS WITH ACHIEVEMENT AND SERVICE AWARDS at the annual Student Awards Reception. The ceremony is held each year to honor those who have made outstanding leadership and service contributions or who have achieved high academic standing. For more information, see [student awards](#).

Duluth:

UMD HAS BEEN SELECTED AS A CHARTERED CHAPTER OF MORTAR BOARD, a national honor society that recognizes college seniors for outstanding achievement in scholarship, leadership, and service. The Tau Delta chapter at UMD inducted 21 students April 23. Philosophy professor Eve Browning is UMD Tau Delta Chapter adviser. Since Mortar Board's founding in 1918, the organization has grown from 4 chapters to 226 with nearly a quarter of a million members nationwide.

A MEDICAL SCHOOL LECTURE presented by Donald Dengel, School of Kinesiology associate professor, titled "The Decline of Arterial Health in Children: The Roles of Obesity and Physical Activity," will take place May 8, noon, 130 UMD School of Medicine. For more information, see [child health](#).

GLENSHEEN HISTORICAL ESTATE will present three celebrations in honor of Mother's Day. A tour and celebratory buffet will be held May 10, 9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. For reservations, call 218-726-8910 or e-mail Glensheen.

REMINDER: JEFFERSON LINES DAILY BUS SERVICE from the UMD campus to the Twin Cities is year round. Purchase tickets at UMD Stores, Campus Center.

Morris:

THE FIRST ANNUAL SIX-TON CAMPAIGN to raise food and monetary contributions for the Stevens County Food Shelf was a success. After a month of fund-raising, the tally exceeded the goal with the equivalent of 7.47 tons (744 pounds and \$2,366) in food and monetary contributions. For more information, see [raise six tons](#).

AUTHOR AND OUTDOORSMAN WILL WEAVER will provide the keynote address during the May 16 Commencement ceremony. Weaver will sign copies of his books in the lobby of the Student Center at 10:30 a.m. Prairie Renaissance Cultural Alliance will host a free community event featuring Weaver May 15, 7:30 p.m., Common Cup. For more information, see [Weaver](#).

Rochester:

BICB RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM. The Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology (BICB) Program will be holding a Research Symposium June 26, Leighton Auditorium, Mayo Clinic-Siebens Building. For more information, see [symposium](#).

Twin Cities:

CDC REPRESENTATIVE ANNE HADDIX WILL DISCUSS rethinking America's public health system, May 6, noon, Humphrey Center. Haddix has served as chief policy officer of the Centers for Disease Control's Office of Strategy and Innovation since 2006. For more information, see [America's health](#).

A WALKABOUT THROUGH THE EXHIBIT "LIFE: A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME" with U associate professor David Fox, paleontologist in the department of geology, and Franklin Barnwell, professor of ecology, evolution, and behavior, will take place May 6, 5:30 p.m. Free. Frans Lanting's photographic exhibit has been held over through May 10 by popular demand. Listen to their thoughts and bring questions to the encore event.

U.S. ORGANIZATIONS WASTE \$2.8 BILLION A YEAR IN ENERGY COSTS by leaving computers on overnight. Shutting down one computer during the workweek and sometimes on weekends saves approximately \$34 a year. Multiply that by the number of computers connected to the U network, and the impact on the environment and budgets is massive. More than 1,000 U staff have pledged to help reduce annual campus energy usage by 5 percent by the end of 2010. To join in the effort, see [It all adds up](#).

HELPDESK TELEPHONE HOURS TO CHANGE. Beginning May 11, the technology helpdesk hours of operation will be Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed Sunday, with varying hours on holidays. Hours may be adjusted, based on demand, at the beginning of the semester and during holiday and spring breaks. For more information, see [helpdesk telephone hours](#) or call 612-301-4357.

NORTHROP JAZZ AND THE WALKER ART CENTER present Jason Moran and The Big Bandwagon, *In My Mind: Monk at Town Hall 1959*, May 9, 7 and 9:30 p.m., McGuire Theater, Walker Art Center. In a related event, Moran will participate in a special evening with the U's Whole Music Club, May 7, 7 p.m., McGuire Theater. For tickets and more information, see [Walker Art](#) or call 612-375-7600.

MORE EVENTS include Nature Tots: Life Under a Rock ([May 7](#)); SCImagine! 2009 ([May 8](#)); Nature Play: Seeds and Sprouts in Springtime ([May 9](#)); Psychoanalysis, Islam, and the Other of Liberalism ([May 11](#)); Reaching Your Dreams: How Women Can Use Money to Take Charge of Their Lives ([May 12](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (5-13-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 19; May 13, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: The last issue of Brief for the academic term will be May 20. 2009 summer publication dates will be June 10 and 24, July 8 and 22, August 5 and 19, and Sept. 2. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 16. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication.

Inside This Issue
 --Board of Regents May meeting highlights.
 --The state legislature is set to adjourn, but much of the budget still needs resolution.
 --People: Thirteen University faculty and staff were recently awarded the President's Award for Outstanding Service; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

BOARD OF REGENTS MAY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: The University Board of Regents held its monthly meeting May 6-8 on the Twin Cities campus. The board considered a range of topics, including the six-year capital improvement plan, the Regents Scholarship, faculty compensation, and more. For more information see [May meeting](#).

THE MINNESOTA STATE LEGISLATURE IS SET TO ADJOURN MAY 18. At this time, much of the state budget still needs to be resolved, including the budget for higher education. Legislators are now working around the clock to reach agreements. Constitutionally, Minnesota must have a balanced budget by June 30. If the legislature does not complete its work by midnight, May 18, a special session will be necessary. For the most current information on the state's budget and how it affects the U, see the [budget PDF](#). As the state budget develops, updates to the University's budget will be posted at [The economy and the U](#).

PEOPLE: Thirteen University faculty and staff were recently awarded the President's Award for Outstanding Service; UMD names recipients of Outstanding Service Awards and faculty awards; UMD professor Thomas Farrell is retiring; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

FEATURE: Taking stock: U researcher hones tool for unemployed job seekers. For the tens of thousands of Minnesotans who have joined the ranks of the unemployed, finding a new job can boil down to using the various tools at their disposal, whether browsing job postings, using the Internet to post a resume, or networking with friends and acquaintances. U researcher Connie Wanberg is leading the refinement of one of those tools. For more information, read "[Taking stock](#)."

CONNECT @ HOME: RETIREMENT PLANNING IN THE CURRENT ECONOMY. The current economy has had financial impact on many aspects of family life, including plans for retirement. Stay aware of your retirement funding status and take the action steps needed to achieve long-term retirement goals. For more information, read extension educator Shirley Anderson-Porisch's latest column, [Connect @ Home](#).

THE USE OF UNIVERSITY TRADEMARKS, LOGOS, COLORS, AND SEAL POLICY is now official. The graphic standards site has been updated. In addition, new resources include templates for Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and InDesign; wordmark unit combination templates; and templates for Web headers and footers. University Relations is available to consult, advise, assist development, and answer questions on brand policy specifics. Workshops will be held in June to answer questions regarding the policy and related standards. Interested participants should e-mail [Laura Johnson](#). For more information, see [brand policy](#).

THE MANURE CHRONICLES: MICHAEL TORTORELLO says he has no truck with chickens. "And yet, on a recent Friday afternoon I had an appointment to keep with 30 of them, on an odd little river island in downtown Minneapolis." The adjunct assistant professor of English recently began writing a gardening blog for the *New York Times*, chronicling his adventures in gardening at his Minneapolis home. In the latest installment, Tortorello quotes from U extension soil scientist Michael Schmitt, and Jeff Gillman, a professor of horticultural science. You can access [Tortorello's blog](#) and other U blogs at [Faculty and Staff](#).

THE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH CONFERENCE luncheon will feature keynote speaker Tom Vanderbilt, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Traffic: Why We Drive the Way We Do (and What It Says About Us)*. Lunch and keynote presentation is \$30. May 19, Sheraton Bloomington Hotel, 7800 Normandale Blvd. The conference, sponsored by the Center for Transportation Studies (CTS), runs May 19-20. For a full conference schedule, fees, and registration, see [CTS conference](#). CTS is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

A NEW FACEBOOK APPLICATION TO FOSTER STUDENT NEWS-SHARING is under way involving a partnership between researchers in learning technologies and new media and the *Minnesota Daily*. Researchers will use data provided by 16- to 25-year-olds to investigate how online social network sites within Facebook can engage youth. The study seeks to discover which strategies work best to engage in current events and how the Internet can be used to educate, inform, and connect students. For more information, see [Minnesota Daily Facebook](#) or the March [news release](#).

Crookston:

MORE THAN \$25,000 WAS RAISED IN TWO DAYS to help fund scholarships for student-athletes at UMC. Director of athletic fundraising Bill Tyrrell was the focus of a special effort on April 23 to raise money for athletic scholarships. Student-athletes joined Tyrrell in his third annual Student-Athlete Walk With Bill. The walk raised more than \$8,000, bringing the three-year total for the event to approximately \$29,000. For more information, see [fund-raising](#).

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CAMPUS RESIDENCE HALL APARTMENT COMPLEX is progressing on schedule and on budget. Sheet rock installation and painting have begun in the north wing, and furniture and fixtures have been ordered. To watch the progress, view the evolving [photo gallery online](#).

THE ANNUAL FACULTY AND STAFF CELEBRATION AND AWARDS PROGRAM on May 11 included faculty and staff from UMC, the Northwest Research and Outreach Center, Regional Extension, and the Area Health Education Center. The program recognized years of service and included the presentation of distinguished service awards for 2009.

Duluth:

THE UMD GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY will take place May 14, 7 p.m., Romano Gymnasium. Advanced degrees will be awarded to 170 of the 225 students who will receive graduate degrees this year. UMD professor and distinguished geoscience researcher Vickie Hansen will deliver the commencement address.

THE UMD UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY will take place May 16, noon, Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center. The commencement will be UMD's largest ever, with more than 100 faculty and 1,200 of the 1,800 students who will receive undergraduate degrees this year. Civic leaders, humanitarians, and internationally recognized entrepreneurs Lois and Jeno Paulucci will be honored during the ceremony. Mrs. Paulucci will be presented the Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award, and Mr. Paulucci will be awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree for public service. Student speaker will be James Cook.

THE NORTHEASTERN MINNESOTA BOOK AWARDS program will take place May 17, 12:30 p.m., UMD Marshall Performing Arts Center. The community celebration features a book fair and reception, and readings by the nominated authors. Keynote speaker is historian Annette Atkins, author of *Creating Minnesota: A History From the Inside Out*. Free and open to the public. For information, call 218-726-7889 or see [book awards](#).

Morris:

UMM HAS PARTNERED WITH A LEADING design/build construction, engineering, energy services, and facilities management firm to help achieve the campus vision for 2010 of carbon neutrality and energy self-sufficiency. For more information, see [carbon neutrality](#).

STUDENT EXCELLENCE WILL BE CELEBRATED during a series of events, beginning with the seventh annual honoring ceremony for American Indian graduates. A light reception will follow. May 15, 3:30 p.m., Oyate Hall. Honors Recital, 5 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall. Parents reception, 6 p.m., Turtle Mountain Cafe, For more information, see [student excellence](#).

NEARLY 300 GRADUATING SENIORS WILL RECEIVE BACHELOR'S DEGREES during the 46th commencement, May 16. Division receptions begin at 11 a.m., Student Center. For more information, see [commencement](#).

Rochester:

UMR WILL HOST THE ROCHESTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "Business After Hours EXTRA!" with more than 80 booths from Rochester area vendors. The event typically draws more than 350 attendees and gives UMR a chance to introduce its new and existing programs to the community. May 21, UMR. For more information, see [EXTRA!](#)

LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS TO THE UMR CAMPUS WERE APPROVED AT THE MAY Board of Regents meeting. The health sciences degree program (approved in Jan. and now recruiting freshman for fall semester) will require the addition of new organic chemistry and multipurpose science labs, the conversion of six constructed but unfurnished classrooms into learning studios, and additional support space.

Twin Cities:

THE SPRING 2009 PREPARING FUTURE FACULTY (PFF) RETREAT for graduate students and postdocs will be held May 21, 1-5 p.m., Heritage Gallery, McNamara Alumni Center. The retreat, facilitated by the Center for Teaching and Learning, offers teaching and career planning workshops as well as panel discussions designed to prepare participants for potential faculty positions in higher education. For more information and the complete workshop agenda, see [PFF retreat](#).

TCF BANK STADIUM PLANNING UPDATE. The Golden Gophers will come back to campus 27 football seasons after their final game at Memorial Stadium. The new era begins when the Gophers play the United States Air Force Academy in the inaugural game in TCF Bank Stadium, Sept. 12. An update provides more information, from the benefits beyond football to game day traditions, policies, procedures, and more. For more information, see [Back to Campus](#).

STIMULATING CHANGE IN HEALTH CARE IT is the theme for the 8th Annual Health Information Technology Institute. The pace of change is constant in health care IT, and the past year has brought more than usual. Keynote speaker Howard Burde will present the Obama administration's stimulus package from a national perspective, while Brian Osberg, deputy commissioner of human services for the State of Minnesota, will discuss state implications. May 20, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Carlson School of Management. \$100 members, \$25 full-time students, \$130 nonmembers. For registration and more information, see [change in health care](#).

ROOM FOR A LOOM? The Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel is selling the department's weaving floor looms on May 20 and 21, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. A sale preview day will take place May 16, 1-3 p.m. For more information, see [weaving sale](#).

THE MINNESOTA CUP is a statewide competition that seeks Minnesota's new and innovative business ideas. The competition provides greater incentives this year by raising contest winnings to a total of more than \$130,000 and expanding to six divisions. Entrepreneurs, inventors, and creative minds are encouraged to submit breakthrough business ideas by May 22. For more information, see [Minnesota Cup](#).

"CARING FOR A PARENT WITH MEMORY LOSS: Practical Tips and Strategies," will take place May 30, 8 a.m.-4:45 p.m., 2-650 Moos Tower. Free. The conference will provide information, support, and education for adult children, parents, community care providers, and other individuals. The presentations will focus on medication issues, legal and financial planning, depression, pain in persons with memory loss, and filling out Medicaid and Medicare forms. For more information or to RSVP, e-mail Joseph.Gaugler or call 612-626-2485.

REGISTER FOR THE AUGUST TEACHING AND ENRICHMENT SERIES. The Center for Teaching and Learning offers 12 different teaching workshops at the start of the academic year to promote community among faculty and college instructors. The August series will be held Sept. 1-3, 9-11:45 a.m. New teaching assistants are invited to an orientation Aug. 31, 8 a.m.-noon. For a complete description of workshops, times, and locations, see [enrichment series](#).

EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGIST SEAN CARROLL WILL VISIT THE U for a public lecture, honorary doctorate, and commencement address. The lecture, entitled "Remarkable Creatures: Epic Adventures in the Search for Origins of Species," is based on his new book. May 15, 7:30 p.m., Bell Museum. A reception and book signing will follow. Free. For more information, see [epic adventures](#).

MORE EVENTS include Strategic Planning and Measurement ([May 14](#)); MFA Exhibitions at the Nash ([May 15](#)); Field Trip: Spring Plants in the Big Woods ([May 16](#)); Minnesota Guitar Society Youth Guitarathon ([May 17](#)); Field Trip: Birding in Maplewood ([May 19](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication. All Twin Cities event submissions are handled through the events calendar at <http://events.tc.umn.edu>.

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What's Inside

[Brief](#)[Campus Conversations](#)[Features](#)[People](#)[Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

[Office of the President](#)[Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (5-20-2009)Vol. XXXIX No. 20; May 20, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Brief publication calendar:** Weekly on most Wednesdays during academic terms. Published every other week during the summer. 2009 summer publication dates will be June 10 and 24, July 8 and 22, August 5 and 19, and Sept. 2. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 16. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication.**Inside This Issue**

--State legislative update.

--May Federal Relations report.

--People: Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Tony Kushner will receive an honorary doctorate from the U's College of Liberal Arts; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Governor Pawlenty signed the capital bonding bill on May 16. It includes \$25 million for HEAPR and \$2.5 million for a solar project. The Bell Museum project was vetoed. The higher education bill was also signed by the governor. It reduces the University's funding by \$105 million for the biennium. The University's FY2010 annual budget, based in part on state funds, will be presented to the Board of Regents at their June meeting. For more information, see [legislative updates](#).MAY FEDERAL RELATIONS REPORT: Budget Process Underway. A new administration is always pressed to get its budget out in a timely manner because it comes into office in the middle of the fiscal year. The Obama administration released (and submitted to Congress) a FY 2010 budget outline at the end of February, and a more complete budget on May 7. For research funding, the Obama budget is good news given economic circumstances. For more information, read May's [Federal Relations Report](#).PEOPLE: Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Tony Kushner will receive an honorary doctorate from the U's College of Liberal Arts; Margaret Sughrue Carlson, chief executive officer of the Alumni Association, announced plans to retire in early 2010; School of Nursing alumna General Clara Adams-Ender spoke at the school's commencement on May 15 and received an honorary doctor of humane letters; two UMD faculty and two students have been named Fulbright Scholars for 2009-10; fourteen U students have received Fulbright Grants for 2009-10; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:SUMMER PROGRAMS DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILIES, AND EDUCATORS can be found easily through the [PreK-12 activities Web site](#). Just check the boxes that match your interests, such as the age(s) of the children involved, or the subject, and watch the list of programs realign in response.

THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE (NCI) HAS RENEWED THE MASONIC CANCER CENTER'S designation as a comprehensive cancer center. NCI awards this highest level designation only to institutions that make ongoing, significant advances in cancer research, treatment, and education. Only 41 cancer centers in the United States are designated by NCI as comprehensive cancer centers. The Masonic Cancer Center first applied for the designation in 1998 and received it. The designation was successfully renewed in 2003 and now in 2009.

FEATURE: News of the weir (*weir*: a dam in a stream or river to raise or divert water). Researchers are using remote-controlled sensors to track pollutant loads from storms. The next cup of stale coffee you pour down the drain may end up as evidence. Not in a courtroom, but in a study of how well Twin Cities sewers and waterways handle the loads of pollutants washed into them by storms. For more information, read "[News of the weir](#)."VIDEO: Professor Bin He has developed a new technique that has led to preliminary successes in noninvasive imaging of seizure foci. The technique promises to play an important role in the treatment of epileptic seizures. For more information, watch the [News Service video](#).A CASE STUDY OF THE TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (TLP), offered through the Office of Service and Continuous Improvement (OSCI), has been published in the April issue of the national [Journal for Quality and Participation](#). Multiple cohorts on both the Twin Cities and Duluth campuses have participated in the TLP since its start in 2005. The program supports faculty and staff in leading process improvement projects across the U. OSCI is part of [System Academic Administration](#).MEDICATION THERAPY MANAGEMENT (MTM) SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO UPLAN MEMBERS and covered dependents who take four or more UPlan-covered prescriptions and over-the-counter medications for chronic conditions. For more information, including a list of participating pharmacists and how to save up to \$192 over six months on four covered prescriptions, see [MTM services](#).BEGINNING MAY 18, ALL EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION FORMS (I-9 forms) for new hires at the U will be completed online. The decision was driven by a federal regulation requiring electronic verification of employment eligibility. For more information, see [Online I-9](#).VIDEO: BABY GIRAFFE COMES TO THE U FOR CARE. A giraffe has been steadily progressing since getting off to a rough start after being born recently at the Como Zoo. Micky Trent, College of Veterinary Medicine, talks about the giraffe's progress in a [News Service video](#).**Crookston:**

BUSINESS OFFICE STAFF FROM UMC WILL BE IN MORRIS May 27 for Enterprise Financial System training. The business office will be closed that day so staff can attend the training.

RECIPIENTS OF THE SATHER SCHOLARSHIP were recently named by the UMC Office of Development and Alumni Relations. For more information, see [Sather](#).**Duluth:**UMD'S GLENSHEEN HISTORIC ESTATE WILL OFFER FREE TOURS May 22 in celebration of its 30 years in service to the public as a historic house museum. The complimentary community day begins at 9:30 a.m. (last tour at 4 p.m.). The regular tour season begins May 23. For information, e-mail Glensheen or call 218-726-8910.THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT LAKES RESEARCH (IAGRL) selected Duluth as the site of its 54th annual conference, set for May 2010. The Duluth proposal was developed and submitted by the UMD Center for Fresh Water Research and Policy, working with University and local partnerships, including UMD Large Lakes Observatory, NRRI, Minnesota Sea Grant, GLMRI, Minnesota DNR, Great Lakes Aquarium, MPCA, and the U.S. EPA. This is the first time since its inception in 1953 that the IAGRL annual conference will be held in Minnesota or anywhere on the shores of Lake Superior. For more information, see [Great Lakes](#).**Morris:**

RENOVATION OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDING IS UNDER WAY. Built in 1915 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the building will be the first in Minnesota to use energy-efficient chilled beam technology. Chilled beams, using water (not air) and in-floor radiant heat, will cool and heat work spaces, with a projected energy cost savings of 37 percent. The completed project, referred to as a gateway center, will be the U's first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum building, one of only 13 such higher education buildings in the world.

THE SECOND ANNUAL SUMMER JAZZ EXPERIENCE FOR HIGH SCHOOL MUSICIANS is June 14-17. The four-day clinic will feature artists in residence and international jazz greats Byron Stripling and Kenni Holmen. For more information, see [summer jazz](#).THIRTY TREES WERE PLANTED by 25 seniors near the entrance of Big Cat Stadium, with the help of Plant Services, as the Class of 2009's senior legacy gift to the campus. In addition to enhancing the outdoor space and serving as a windbreak, the trees symbolize the growth the members of the Class of 2009 experienced; the renewable, sustainable liberal arts degrees they earned; and their support of the campus's green initiatives. For more information, see [30 trees](#).**Rochester:**UMR WILL HOST THE ROCHESTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "Business After Hours EXTRA!" with more than 80 booths from Rochester area vendors. UMR is anticipating more than 500 guests at the event, which gives UMR a chance to introduce its new and existing programs to the community. May 21, UMR. For more information, see [EXTRA!](#)**Twin Cities:**

A CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATORS GROUP MEETING will introduce the new Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI), which will provide streamlined access to specialized resources for collaborative clinical translational science research. Tim Tracy, CTSI's director of clinical translational research services, will describe the mission, vision, and values of the new organization, as well as its services, facilities, and resources. Open to anyone in the research community. May 21, 3 p.m., 5-125 Moos Tower.

A HEALTH CARE REFORM SEMINAR will focus on a potential bipartisan proposal for health care reform, a political strategy for its implementation, and the likely impacts of its adoption. Douglas Holtz-Eakin, president of DHE Consulting LLC, will discuss "Health care Reform 2009," May 28, 3 p.m., 1-103 Hanson Hall. Sponsored by the Medical Industry Leadership Institute. For more information, see the [PDF](#).A ONE-HUNDRETH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF ELMER L. ANDERSEN will feature remarks by U librarian Wendy Pradt Lougee, Andersen's son Julian Andersen, and *Star Tribune* columnist and Andersen biographer Lori Sturdevant; a showing of a new documentary on Andersen's life, "Legacy of a Leader: Elmer L. Andersen"; and an opening dessert reception for "A Man's Reach: A Transforming Life," a new exhibit exploring Andersen's interests, philosophies regarding government and business practices, and impact on the U, the state, and the nation. June 17, 7:30 p.m., Willey Hall. Free and open to the public. RSVP by June 10 to Andersen or call 612-624-9339. For more information, see [Elmer Andersen](#).AN APPRECIATION EVENT FOR ALL UMTC FACULTY AND STAFF will take place Aug. 25, 2-6 p.m., TCF Bank Stadium. The event, called "Celebrate U!" includes a preview of the new stadium, complimentary refreshments, a video presentation on the second largest screen in the nation, a performance by members of the U of M Marching Band, and an opportunity to visit with senior leaders and Goldy Gopher. For more information, see [Celebrate U!](#)THE FIRST OF THE BELL MUSEUM'S SUMMER DISCOVERY DAY CAMPS takes place soon. The popular weeklong day camps are packed with hands-on projects that encourage kids to explore the fields of science, art, and technology. Each year, these interactive camps, led by Bell Museum education staff, are offered on a range of stimulating topics. Examples of upcoming camps include "Education in Nature," "Reptiles Rule and Amphibians are Cool," "Forensic Science," and "Mysteries of the Plant World." Camps run June 15 through September 4. For registration, call 612-624-9050. For more information, see [summer camps](#).UNIVERSITY DINING SERVICES (UDS) WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER ONLINE ORDERING THIS SUMMER at the M Deli Sandwich Shop in Coffman Hall, and at Subway in the St. Paul Student Center. Avoid the line and [order online](#).JOIN THE SUMMER CHORUS, sponsored by the U's School of Music and the Oratorio Society of Minnesota (OSM), in performing Haydn's *Creation* (with full orchestra) at Ted Mann Concert Hall, with U faculty member and OSM artistic director, Matthew Mehaffey. For registration and more information, see [summer chorus](#) or [oratorio](#).MORE EVENTS include Mobile Music for Everyday People: A Symposium on Mobile Music and Sound ([May 22](#)); Field Trip: Fobies Frog Calls ([May 23](#)); Chinese for Travelers ([May 26](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication. All Twin Cities event submissions are handled through the events calendar at <http://events.tc.umn.edu>.*Brief* is published by e-mail and on the Web at <http://www.umn.edu/umnnews/Publications/Brief.html>.**Notice:** *Brief* is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information. You may choose to unsubscribe from *Brief*, but please be aware that if you do, you will not receive this up-to-date information, compiled and delivered directly to you, in any other University communications. To unsubscribe, visit <http://www.umn.edu/umnnews/Publications/Brief/Subscribe.html>

What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (7-8-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 23; July 8, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: 2009 upcoming summer publication dates will be July 22, August 5 and 19, and Sept. 2. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 16. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication.

For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#).

Inside This Issue

- The President's report on changes to graduate and professional education is available.
- Provost Sullivan has appointed a search committee for the new vice provost and dean of graduate education.
- Board of Regents meets July 8.
- People: Three professors were recently named Regents Professors--the highest level of recognition given to faculty by the University; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON CHANGES TO GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION is available. Some highlights of the report: the Graduate School will retain its current name and reporting line; a vice provost and dean of graduate education will oversee the school (VP for Research Tim Mulcahy was named interim); the Diversity Office became part of the Office of Equity and Diversity on July 1; and more. Changes in other processes and practices are not expected before July 1, 2010. Five working groups will be charged by Sept. 1 to explore additional improvements. For more information, see the [report PDF](#).

PROVOST SULLIVAN HAS APPOINTED A SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE NEW VICE PROVOST AND DEAN OF GRADUATE EDUCATION. The committee will conduct an internal search to ensure continuity in leadership and to recruit candidates who are knowledgeable about the University of Minnesota system. Faculty, staff, and students will be invited to participate in the public interview process at the beginning of the fall semester to provide input on the final candidates. An appointment will likely be made shortly thereafter, in early- to mid-fall. For more information, see the [provost's Web site](#).

THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL MEET JULY 8. This will be the first meeting in which newly elected chair Clyde Allen and vice chair Linda Cohen will preside. The agenda includes recognition of a new Civil Service Committee chair and a new chair of the Council of Academic & Professional Administrators; action upon the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters Local 320; an update on the underground physics laboratory along the Ash River; and action on a revision to the Board of Regents policy on diversity, equal employment opportunity, and affirmative action. For more information, including docket materials and live-streaming video of the meeting, see [Regents](#).

PEOPLE: Three professors were recently named Regents Professors--the highest level of recognition given to faculty by the University; *Mobilization, Participation, and Democracy in America*, a book written by Steven Rosenstone and John Hansen, has been selected to receive the Philip E. Converse Book Award; the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities has recognized William Angell with its 2009 Excellence in Extension Award for the North Central Region for his work in radon mitigation; Ruthann Manlet has been awarded a 2009 Association of Physical Plant Administrators Pacesetter Award; Mark Teragawa was recently appointed director of University Stores; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**University-wide:**

FARMERS MARKET RETURNS FOR THE FIFTH FABULOUS YEAR. When the U's farmers market launched in 2005, its success wasn't guaranteed. But as it opens July 8 for its fifth season along Church Street on the east bank of the Twin Cities campus, it seems its longevity may be perennial. Every Wednesday through Oct. 7, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., visitors can buy locally grown berries, produce, fresh flowers, and more. For more information, read "[Five years old and all grown up](#)."

THE HENNEPIN UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP, the only known major university-county partnership in the United States, is in the process of determining its major policy areas for 2009-10. After a strategic planning session by representatives of the U and Hennepin County in late April, staff have been developing next steps in three policy areas identified as most critical and doable. For more information, read "[Local policy partnership looks for new research issues](#)."

DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD RECIPIENT. As a public affairs faculty member, Sally Kenney believes in putting her research, teaching, and advising into practice in the world. A recent Humphrey Institute Teacher of the Year, Kenney creates a classroom culture that is challenging, questioning, and supportive of risk taking. For more information, see [distinguished teaching](#).

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY: The Regents Scholarship Program policy has been updated to reflect recent changes. The University will cover 90 percent of the tuition costs for those employees enrolled for the first time in a baccalaureate degree program and 75 percent of the tuition cost for all other eligible employees enrolled in covered courses. The update also covers the impact of voluntary termination or layoff/nonrenewal if an employee is currently enrolled in a course. Two other administrative policies (Graduate Assistant Employment and Postdoctoral Appointments) have been revised to allow for appointment terminations prior to the end date, either for just cause (current policy) or fiscal emergency (new language). This change was made to be consistent across all appointment types. Policies are available for comment through July 22. For more information, see [administrative policy](#).

THE EARLY CAREER FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITY is designed to develop and enhance the teaching skills of faculty members in their first five years at the U. Participants work one-on-one and in interdisciplinary small groups with resource teachers chosen for their commitment to mentoring and their superior classroom skills. Space is limited. For registration and more information, call 612-625-3041 or see the [Center for Teaching and Learning](#).

THE SYSTEMWIDE OFFICE OF PLANNING HAS BEEN REORGANIZED into the Office of Planning and Analysis. This change creates a more unified planning portfolio for the U and brings together the offices and staff responsible for a wide spectrum of planning activities. Peter Radcliffe, director of the Academic Health Center planning and analysis office, has been appointed executive director of the new office. Associate VP Robert Kvakik will undertake systemwide planning projects. For more information, see the [Office of Planning and Analysis](#).

MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM AUXILIARY GARDEN TOURS are July 12, 14, and 15. Tour guests take escorted air-conditioned buses to view four of the area's best private gardens and enjoy a luncheon at the arboretum. Cost for the tour and lunch/brunch is \$55 on July 12 and \$50 on July 14 and 15. Space is limited. For more information and reservations, see [garden tours](#).

Crookston:

THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (NWSA) honored two outstanding alumni with the "Top Aggie" award during a recent banquet and program, concluding a weekend of events during the annual NWSA alumni reunion. For more information, see [Top Aggie](#).

TO INTEGRATE MORE OPTIONS FOR STUDY ABROAD into the curriculum, a small team of faculty (Harouna Maiga, Chuck LaRiviere, and Terrill Bradford) visited the French National Agricultural Research Institute (INRA) in Paris and its allied agricultural universities. The group made several stops, including Tours, France, where they investigated options for collaboration and linkages with INRA. The trip was funded in part by a grant from the Office of International Programs and by professional development funds.

Duluth:

JULY CONCERTS: Enjoy the second annual chamber music concert by musicians from the Aurora-based Northern Lights Music Festival and the Young Artists Piano Camp. July 13, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. And swing to the talents of UMD Jazz faculty and friends featuring standards and new music written exclusively for the concert. July 20, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Tickets to each event: \$14 adult, \$12 senior, \$8 student/child, \$6 UMD student/faculty/staff. For tickets and more information, call 218-726-8561 or see [music concert](#).

A VIEW FROM THE LAKE CRUISES, sponsored by the Minnesota Sea Grant Program and the University of Wisconsin Extension, are ongoing. The remaining schedule for the science-infused cruises aboard a Lake Superior research vessel, the L.L. Smith, includes departure from Two Harbors, MN, July 25 and 26; Duluth, July 30, 31, and Aug. 1; and Superior, WI, July 16, 17 and 18. For reservations and tickets, see [Minnesota Sea Grant](#) or call 218-726-8106.

DISCOVERY AT THE TWEED. On Tuesdays through Aug. 11, noon-4 p.m., Tweed Museum staff and UMD interns publicly inspect and assess extraordinary objects from the museum's collection. For more information about the free events, call 218-726-8222 or see [Tweed Museum](#).

Morris:

THE 2009 GATEWAY PROGRAM will be held July 13 through Aug. 7. The high school to college transitional program exposes talented students from diverse cultural backgrounds to the challenges of college and the abundance of resources at UMM. Peer mentors, staff, and faculty encourage and assist new students within an environment conducive to learning and personal development.

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE ALUMNI will return to campus on July 18 for the annual all-school reunion with special recognition planned for the Class of 1959, celebrating its 50th reunion; the Class of 1954, celebrating its 55th reunion; and the Class of 1949, celebrating its 60th reunion.

THE UMM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IS ON THE ROAD TO ALEXANDRIA for a summertime social gathering. Alumni, friends, and guests are invited. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served. July 21, 5 -7 p.m., Sixth Avenue Wine and Ale, 115 6th Avenue East. RSVP by July 15 [online](#), by [e-mail](#), or by calling 320-589-6066.

Rochester:

UMR HAS A NEW WEB SITE. UMR is growing, and its new Web site shows it. Take a tour and see all UMR has to offer, at the [UMR homepage](#).

Twin Cities:

AN ENERGY SHOWCASE RECOMMISSIONING OPEN HOUSE will be held July 15, 11 a.m., Vincent Hall, as part of the U's commitment to reduce annual campus energy usage by 5 percent by the end of 2010. A 5 percent reduction will save the University \$2.25 million each year and result in 25,000 fewer tons of CO2 released into the atmosphere. To learn more about what you can do to help the U community in achieving this goal, see [It All Adds Up](#) or attend the energy showcase.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND EXCEPTION FROM INFORMED CONSENT is the topic that will be presented at the next Clinical Research Coordinators' Group meeting. Federal regulations allow research, without informed consent, to study emergency conditions if there is no satisfactory treatment for the condition and no time to obtain advance consent from the patient, and if there is community involvement through public disclosure and community consultation. Michelle Biros, vice chair of research, Department of Emergency Medicine, will discuss her experience with and issues around obtaining exception from informed consent and community consultation. Open to anyone in the research community. July 15, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., 5-125 Moos Tower.

UNIVERSITY VIDEO USERS COMMUNITY (UVUC) is holding its quarterly meeting July 17. UVUC is a professional peer network of video professionals at the U. Members work in all types of video, including production, presentation, networking, event coverage, and classroom use. For more information, see [video community](#).

HATHA YOGA AND MEDITATION SPECIAL EVENT: An Evening With Swami Veda Bharati is a free event that will introduce participants to the relationship between Hatha yoga and meditation. Yogi Swami Veda has traveled from Sadhaka Grama Shram in India to share these teachings with the Minnesota community. The event is part of the 2-credit CSPH course, Yoga: Ethics, Spirituality, and Healing. Instructor Miriam Cameron is opening the class to the community so that as many people as possible can attend. July 22, 4:40-6:30 p.m., Mayo Auditorium. For more information, see [yoga](#).

SUMMER INSTITUTE IN ADOLESCENT HEALTH: Participants in Social and Emotional Health for all Young People: Expanding Approaches will learn strategies for enhancing supportive environments and fostering skills for social and emotional health. All who work with young people are invited to attend. July 27-29; July 30 for grad students. For more information, see [adolescent health](#).

JULY TECHNOLOGY TRAINING COURSES: The Office of Information Technology offers a number of technology training courses through the University Technology Training Center. Courses on Dreamweaver CS3, Microsoft Excel, Moodle, and more provide solid introductions to a number of tools. For more information and a course list, see [technology training](#) and [registration](#).

SAVE THE DATE: HISTORY OF NURSING CONFERENCE. The School of Nursing and the American Association for the History of Nursing will examine current issues through the lens of historical research and learn about the nursing profession and its impact across time, populations, and geography. Featured speaker Steven Berlin Johnson is author of the national bestseller, *The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic*. Sept. 24-27, The Saint Paul Hotel. For registration and more information, see [nursing history conference](#).

WIN COFFEE WITH BAGELS AND CREAM CHEESE FOR YOUR OFFICE. The Gopher Express (Coffman Cube) and Gopher Express West (West Bank Skyway) challenge you to solve their summer riddles for a chance to win! For more information, see [coffee bagel riddle](#).

MORE EVENTS include The Galactic Cowboy Orchestra ([July 9](#)); Sizzlin' Summer Specials ([July 10](#)); "Intersections: Where Art and Fashion Meet" ([July 11](#)); Curiosity Camp: Blown, Slumped, Molded, and More: The Living Color of American Art Glass ([July 13](#)); Field Trip: Discovering Lichens ([July 14](#)); World Superpower ([July 15](#)); St. Paul campus noontime concerts: Chris Koza ([July 16](#)); Presentation Featuring Claudia Mills ([July 17](#)); Nature Printing Workshop ([July 19](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
 - [Campus Conversations](#)
 - [Features](#)
 - [People](#)
 - [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
 - [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (7-22-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 24; July 22, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

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Inside This Issue
 --Feature story: The Imagine Fund: a stimulus package for the mind.
 --People: Deborah Swackhamer named president elect of the National Institutes of Water Resources; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

FEATURE STORY: Consider it a stimulus package for the mind: The Imagine Fund is an annual, \$1.3 million program supporting faculty systemwide in arts, humanities, and design. It provides up to 250 awards of \$3,000, which recipients can use to enhance their research or teaching. For more information, read [Images of imagination](#).

PEOPLE: Deborah Swackhamer has been named president elect of the National Institutes of Water Resources; UMR's Teresa Puetz was recently appointed as state conference director for the Society of Human Resource Management; the Children, Youth and Family Consortium recently selected four Scholars and three Fellows to participate in its Scholars Program; researchers at the Center for Lung Science and Health have been awarded an \$8.4 million five-year grant; Bobbi Daniels has been selected as the next chief executive officer for University of Minnesota Physicians; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

A NEW TEST KIT BASED ON U RESEARCH DETECTS MELAMINE, a chemical that has killed children when added to infant formula. The kit utilizes an enzyme discovered by U researchers that produces a color change when melamine is present. For more information, read [test kit detects deadly chemical](#).

THE U RECENTLY BECAME HOME TO THE STATE'S FIRST FEDERALLY FUNDED LEND PROGRAM (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Other Related Disabilities), coordinated by the Department of Pediatrics and the Institute on Community Integration (ICI). The program will be funded by a two-year, \$900,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. LEND prepares future leaders who will serve children with autism and other neurodevelopmental related disabilities. For more information, see [LEND](#).

CLOQUET FORESTRY CENTER CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION. The Cloquet Forestry Center will be celebrating 100 years of education, research, and outreach with events through July 25. Established in 1909, the center is the longest continuously operating forestry field station of its kind in the United States. For more information, see [Cloquet Forestry](#).

WEST CENTRAL RESEARCH AND OUTREACH CENTER'S ANNUAL HORTICULTURE NIGHT will take place July 30, 5-9 p.m. The free event includes demonstrations and garden tours (including the raspberry high tunnel, annual flowers, tried-and-true perennial flowers), and many hands-on family activities and food booths. For more information, see [horticulture night](#).

THE JULY ASQ HIGHER EDUCATION BRIEF, published by the American Society for Quality, focuses on systems thinking in universities and includes an article, "How to Launch Lean in a University," a U case study from the Office of Service and Continuous Improvement. For more information, see [OSCI](#).

GARDENING CLASSES AT THE ARBORETUM continue throughout July and August. Upcoming classes include "Botanical Latin: The Naming of Plants," "Lavender: Growing and Using Its Essential Oils," "Perennials for Sun and Shade," "Designing and Creating Rain Gardens," and more. For registration and more information, see [gardening](#).

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA HAS A FACEBOOK FAN PAGE. Become a fan of the U and get the latest news, videos, and pictures by joining at [U of M Facebook](#).

Crookston:

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS WILL HOST ITS SECOND ANNUAL CAMPUSWIDE PICNIC, July 22, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Peterson Gazebo, Campus Mall. Food, tables, chairs, and dinnerware are provided. All campus faculty and staff who are working throughout the summer, contracted personnel, and summer student workers are invited.

UMC HOSTED MORE THAN 120 HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH during the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) Camp, July 12-18. RYLA is Rotary's leadership training program for young people. The camp is held annually at UMC.

Duluth:

UMD THEATER STUDENTS WILL PERFORM *FOOTLOOSE* (based on the 1984 hit movie) with young artists from the Istanbul University State Conservatory. July 23-25 and July 29-Aug. 1, 7:30 p.m.; July 26, 2 p.m., Marshall Performing Arts Center. Tickets: \$14 adult, \$12 senior, \$8 student/child, \$6 UMD student/faculty/staff. For information, call 218-726-8561 or see [Sieur Du Luth arts fest](#).

OPERA AT GLENSHEEN. *Le Nozze di Figaro*, a comic opera by Mozart, will be performed at Glensheen, Aug. 3, 5, 9, and 11. The famous opera is transported to the shores of Lake Superior, where each act will take place in a different space at the historic estate. \$50. Seating is limited.

THE FESTIVAL OF FINE ART AND CRAFT will take place Aug. 15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The region's finest artists participate in the show, named a "best bet" by the *Duluth News Tribune* and attended by thousands every year. For more information, call 218-726-8910, e-mail [festival](#), or see [Glensheen](#).

THE ANNUAL SOCIAL WORK AND HUMAN SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS CONFERENCE theme is "Diverse Populations: Challenges for Rural Social Work in the 21st Century." Sponsored by UMD Continuing Education and the Department of Social Work. July 27-28, Holiday Inn, downtown Duluth. For more information, see [rural social work](#).

A PUNT, PASS, AND KICK COMPETITION for all area boys and girls ages 8-15 will be held Aug. 8, Malosky Stadium. Punt, Pass, and Kick is a yearly national event sponsored by the National Football League. UMD Facilities Management teamed with the Boys and Girls Club of the Northland to bring the event to campus. All participants must submit a signed entry form and release of liability. Forms are available at 241 Darland Administration Building or [online](#).

Morris:

RENOVATION ON THE U'S FIRST LEED-CERTIFIED BUILDING IS PROGRESSING. Listed on the National Historic Register and built in 1915, the Community Services Building at UMM is designed to become one of only 13 LEED Platinum buildings in higher education throughout the world. It is the first building in Minnesota to use energy-efficient chilled beam technology. The building is scheduled to be complete fall 2009.

Rochester:

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES (BSHS) ORIENTATION AND REGISTRATION EVENTS are July 21, 24, and 30. Students and family members will be on campus 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., learning more about the details of UMR. Faculty and staff are encouraged to interact with the new students and their families. For more information, see [BSHS orientation](#).

Twin Cities:

FEATURE STORY: AGENT DOUBLE-O-WAM! As a WAM registrar, Laura Muessig is the day-to-day keeper of all physical records and other information about the nearly 20,000 artworks in the Weisman's collection—far more than the museum can display. Rather than let inspiration sit unseen in the depths of the Weisman, several times a year Muessig acts as an art courier, taking to the skies or hitching a ride on an 18-wheeler. After all, Georgia O'Keeffe isn't going to Europe or anywhere else on her own. For more information, read "[Agent double-O-WAM!](#)"

FEATURE STORY: If an artist falls in the forest, does he or she make a sound? A new exhibit opened July 9 at the Weisman Museum, presenting the works of the inaugural set of artists sponsored by Twin Cities based arts agency Northern Lights with support from the Jerome Foundation. Included among the displays are an electrifying mix of technology and art. For more information, read, "[I am art!](#)"

CHANGING LANDSCAPES: AN ART EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION. An imaginary creature—a bulbous three-legged "froomish"—encounters an orange. A turbaned woman looks out at you with soft, haunting eyes. A beetle journeys through a landscape of twisty architecture and globes of nerve ending-like tendrils. These paintings, which adorn the walls inside Pattee Hall, are not just about evoking beauty but about creating awareness of and showcasing works made by Twin Cities area artists with disabilities. Opening reception, July 22, 3-5 p.m., 325 Education Sciences Building. Tours begin at 4:30 p.m. lobby, Pattee Hall. For more information, read "[Changing Landscapes](#)."

FEATURE STORY. Anticipating budget cuts, Facilities Management began a pilot program in January whereby individuals manage their own desk-side trash and recycling. Surveys indicate that 90 percent of respondents believe the new service meets their needs. Campuswide, the changes are expected to save \$3 million. July 20 through Aug. 14, each UMTC campus building's custodial service will be reduced. For more information, read "[Garbage disposal changes](#)."

JUNIOR ENTREPRENEURS OF MINNESOTA. Twenty high school students spread out throughout the classroom in the Carlson School of Management on the west bank of the Twin Cities campus in their final week in the new three-week intensive program Junior Entrepreneurs of Minnesota. For more information, read [Junior entrepreneurs](#).

STAFF AT U LIBRARIES HAVE CREATED AN INTERACTIVE DIGITAL ARCHIVE: "MEMORIAL STADIUM 1924-1992." The "Brickhouse," as fans affectionately called it, was built in 1924 and stood for nearly seven decades until its demolition. For more information, read "[Brickhouse redux](#)" or view the [exhibit online](#).

THE CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING offers professional development workshops for faculty, teaching staff, and teaching assistants. The August teaching enrichment series and new TA orientation will take place Aug. 31-Sept. 3. Workshop sessions are held from morning to noon. Workshops include "Teaching With Technology for the First Time," "Teaching Through Interactive Lectures," and more. For registration and more information, see [teaching and learning](#).

"AMERICA'S BEST IDEA," A PANORAMIC TRIBUTE TO U.S. NATIONAL PARKS, opens Aug. 8 at the Bell Museum. Democratic in design, the U.S. National Park System is quintessentially American. The exhibit features stunning color panoramic prints of America's national parks taken by famed landscape photographer Stan Jorstad. For more information, see the [Bell Museum](#).

U RESEARCHERS AT THE ST. ANTHONY FALLS LABORATORY (SAFL) RECEIVED \$400,000 to help generate clean energy for New York City. Fotis Sotiropoulos, director of SAFL, will lead a team of researchers in developing computational models for optimizing underwater turbines to help generate power from tidal, river, and ocean currents. For more information, see [SAFL](#).

COPYRIGHT PERMISSION REQUESTS FOR FALL 2009 course materials should be submitted to the copyright permissions center ASAP. Source information may be dropped off at any Printing Services location, faxed to 612-626-9810, mailed to 102 Printing Services Building, or [submitted online](#). For more information, e-mail Dale.Mossestad or call 612-626-9416.

NORTH MINNEAPOLIS KWANZAA FREEDOM SCHOOL STUDENTS VISITED THE U for the third consecutive year, in partnership with the Konopka Institute for Best Practices in Adolescent Health (Dept. of Pediatrics). The school is a six-week, literacy-rich summer and after-school program designed to create positive learning environments for youth.

A WOLVES AND WILD LANDS EXHIBIT WALKABOUT will take place July 22, noon-1 p.m. The event is free to staff, faculty, and students. Internationally recognized wolf researcher David Mech will share stories and insights about one of Minnesota's most fascinating animals. For more information, see [wolf walkabout](#).

SAVE THE DATE: Institute for Engineering in Medicine Innovation Showcase, Sept. 22, 4-8 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. The engineering will present a variety of interdisciplinary research between engineering and medical fields using resources available at the U. Attendees will include local industry representatives, faculty, graduate students, and students working on research projects. IEM Showcase welcomes units that wish to have a table, (\$60).

MORE EVENTS include Introduction to E-Learning and Webinars ([July 23](#)); *Opera Arriva* and Summer Orchestra Concert ([July 26](#)); Curiosity Camp: Florence: Birthplace of the Renaissance ([July 27](#)); Create Your Poster in PowerPoint ([July 28](#)); Curiosity Camp: Wine That's Found Its Time: Minnesota Vineyards ([July 29](#)); Noontime Concerts Series: Ashleigh Still and Nick Salisbury ([July 30](#)); Curiosity Camp: Take Me Out to the Ballgame ([August 4](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication. All Twin Cities event submissions are handled through the events calendar at <http://events.tc.umn.edu>.

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (8-5-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 25; August 5, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: Remaining summer publication dates are Aug. 19 and Sept. 2. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 16. Deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication.

For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#).

Inside This Issue

--The search committee for a vice provost and dean of graduate education encourages applications.
 --People: Professor Julie Jacko has been appointed to serve on the Minnesota e-Health Advisory Committee to represent academics and clinical research; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR A VICE PROVOST AND DEAN OF GRADUATE EDUCATION welcomes and encourages nominations and applications for the leadership position. The committee will begin reviewing applications Aug. 20, with public interviews to take place mid-September. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For more information, see the [position description](#) (requisition #162148).

PEOPLE: Professor Julie Jacko has been appointed to serve on the Minnesota e-Health Advisory Committee to represent academics and clinical research; Ellen Kennedy has received the Anne Frank Center USA's Outstanding Citizen Award; Matt Kramer has been named director of U of M Academic and Corporate Relations Center; Labor Education Service has won the 2009 CAPA Outstanding Unit Award; Robert Washabau has received the 2009 World Small Animal Veterinary Association Waltham International Award for Scientific Achievement; William Angell, professor and Extension housing specialist, was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the United Kingdom's Radon Council; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

AN ONGOING HEALTH CARE SAVINGS PLAN SURVEY FOR P & A EMPLOYEES will remain open throughout the summer. Those who have not yet completed the survey may do so by going to the CAPA Web site. For more information, [access the survey at CAPA](#).

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS (OE), part of the Office of Human Resources, has had a busy summer. With offices spanning from one side of the river to the other on the Twin Cities campus, OE offers a variety of education, training, and consulting services designed to support U employees, with more than 14,000 participants each year. For more information, read [opportunity](#).

FACULTY PROFILE: DISTINGUISHED TEACHER DON ALSTAD. Walking into the first day of a big ecology class, students hardly expect the professor to greet them by name. But Don Alstad does. He makes a point of studying student ID pictures and memorizing all 100-plus names before the first day. More than 600 universities on six continents use his computer program, Populus. Alstad is a 2009 recipient of the Horace T. Morse-University of Minnesota Alumni Association Award for outstanding contributions to undergraduate education. For more information, read "[Rigor and respect](#)."

FACULTY PROFILE: DISTINGUISHED TEACHER BUD MARKHART. Professor Bud Markhart isn't afraid to get his students' hands dirty. Students consistently rank him as one of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences best instructors. Markhart is a 2009 recipient of the Horace T. Morse-University of Minnesota Alumni Association Award for outstanding contributions to undergraduate education. For more information, read "[Distinguished teaching--the organic way](#)."

THE MINNESOTA STATE FAIR IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER, Aug. 27-Sept. 7. Receive special savings on admission tickets from the U of M Bookstores at Coffman Union, St. Paul Student Center, UMC Bookstore, UMM Bookstore, or the M Gear Store at UMR. Maroon & Gold Day is Aug. 30; special edition State Fair '09 t-shirts are available. For more information, see [tickets](#) and [t-shirts](#).

THE SOUTHERN RESEARCH AND OUTREACH CENTER IN WASECA WILL HOST AN OPEN HOUSE Sept. 10, 4-8 p.m., with a picnic supper from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Entertainment and activities include a corn maze, wagon and trolley rides, farm animals, games for kids, food samples and wine tasting, a sanctioned Kids' Power Pedal Pull, and more. For more information, call 507-835-3620 or see [SROC Extension](#).

U OF M MOMENT: Obliviousness together. From ignoring a relative you notice having a few too many drinks at every family function, to not even thinking about the threat of being struck by a meteorite, everyone operates at a level of obliviousness to the world around them. But that's normal, says family social science professor Paul Rosenblatt, whose new book explores the subject. The feature, as well as an archive of more audio content, can be heard at the [U of M Moment site](#).

P & A AUDIO SPOTLIGHT: Between books on native literature and Japanese animation, University Press editor Jason Weidemann is always working on something to satisfy his hungry curiosity. For more information, [listen to Weidemann](#).

TWEET TWEET! U FACULTY AND STAFF ON TWITTER. The littlest birds may sing the prettiest songs, but the big gopher is tweeting away on twitter just for U faculty and staff. Follow the latest news at [UFacultyStaff](#).

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA HAS A FACEBOOK FAN PAGE. Become a fan of the U and get the latest news, videos, and pictures by joining at [U of M Facebook](#).

Crookston:

THE PRINCETON REVIEW RECENTLY NAMED UMC ONE OF THE BEST colleges and universities in the Midwest. The education services company selected the school as one of 158 institutions in its "Best in the Midwest" section of its Web site feature "2010 Best Colleges: Region by Region."

UMC WAS SELECTED AS OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY'S CAMPUS ENERGY CHALLENGE WINNER. UMC will work with Otter Tail in a first-of-its-kind program to reduce electric energy consumption on campus by as much as 15 percent. For more information, see [campus conservation](#).

JUNIOR THOMAS HAARSTICK AND ASSISTANT PROFESSOR PAUL AAKRE converted a tractor to run on straight vegetable oil (SVO). The tractor began using SVO on June 15 and has logged more than 160 hours. For more information, see [research at UMC](#).

A STUDY RELEASED BY THE EDA (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION) CENTER finds that 89.7 percent of rural businesses maintain an Internet connection, up from the 66 percent reported in 2004. And unlike in 2004, when 38.6 percent of rural businesses were still connecting with a dial-up Internet connection, today 96 percent utilize broadband. For more information, see [UMC EDA study](#).

Duluth:

GLENSHEEN WILL HOST A FESTIVAL OF FINE ART AND CRAFT Aug. 15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The region's finest artists participate in the show named a "best bet" by the *Duluth News Tribune* and attended by thousands every year. For more information, call 218-726-8910 or 1-888-454-GLEN, or see [festival of art](#).

UMD AT THE STATE FAIR. Stop by the fair and learn more about UMD's vibrant campus and programs. UMD will be at the "Connect to the U" booth in the U's Crossroads building, on Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Aug 27-29, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. For more information, see [UMD booth](#).

MINNESOTA SEA GRANT. Planting and landscaping has begun in Duluth's Lakeside neighborhood as part of the Stormwater Runoff Reduction Project. Researchers and Sea Grant staff are working with neighborhoods and civil engineers to find ways to reduce runoff to streams in Duluth's cold climate and heavy clay soils. For more information, see [runoff reduction](#).

TWEED MUSEUM OF ART. Story Time at Tweed is held every Thursday at 10 a.m., for children ages three to five with a parent or guardian present. Every Saturday at 2 p.m., join the Tweed staff for an afternoon gallery talk. For more information, including current exhibits, call 218-726-8222 or see [Tweed](#).

Morris:

UMM IS INCLUDED IN THE *FISKE GUIDE TO COLLEGES 2010* as one of the country's best and most interesting colleges and universities. For more information, see [interesting](#).

Rochester:

UMR HELD BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES (BSHS) ORIENTATION and registration events recently, with 100 percent participation on each of the three days. Students and parents followed separate tracks where they discovered more about what it means to be in the inaugural class of BSHS.

Twin Cities:

LANE CLOSURES AND TRAFFIC DISRUPTIONS ARE EXPECTED ON CAMPUS NEXT WEEK as crews conduct soil borings and testing associated with the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit line. The work will primarily be done in one- to two-block sections on Washington Avenue between Huron Boulevard and the Washington Avenue Bridge. Drilling rigs will also test for soil and groundwater contamination on East River Road and Arlington Street, and around Weisman Art Museum. The work is expected to last about a week.

HOUSEPAINTING 101. On Aug. 1, the associate dean for undergraduate programs and 10 other staff members of the Carlson School's undergraduate program got down to the business of house painting 101. The staff members teamed up to paint the outside of Morgan Kinross-Wright's Brooklyn Center home—in just one day. For more information, read "[Operation Paint Max's House](#)."

WELCOME WEEK 2009 VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR FACULTY AND STAFF. Events include a new student move-in, convocation, and the Class of 2013 cookout. More than 5,000 first-year students will participate in Welcome Week, a first-year initiative designed to enhance the academic and student development experience. Sept. 2-7. For more information and volunteer opportunities, see [Welcome Week](#).

CELEBRATE U! AN APPRECIATION EVENT FOR UMTC FACULTY AND STAFF will take place Aug. 25, 2-6 p.m., TCF Bank Stadium. The event includes a free gift (while supplies last), complimentary refreshments, information booths, a video presentation on the Daktronics screen, a performance by members of the marching band, an opportunity to walk the field and tour the home team locker room, and a chance to visit with U senior leaders and Goldy Gopher. The event is made possible through the support of Coca Cola and TCF Bank Stadium. For more information, see [Celebrate U!](#)

THERE IS NO FEE FOR OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (OIT) TRAINING CLASSES for U faculty and staff. OIT now offers all technology training classes at no charge to U faculty, staff, and students. For more information, see [OIT training classes](#).

THE FIRST SEMINAR-STYLE ENERGY SHOWCASE EVENT was recently held in Dwan/MRCB. The events are designed to provide students, faculty, and staff in buildings that are scheduled to be recommissioned with information, process, and tips about how they can contribute to energy conservation. The next Energy Showcase will be Aug. 18, noon, room 105, 717 Delaware building. For more information, see [It all adds up](#).

A HELPDESK CONSORTIUM MEETING will include information about the Google Apps for the U initiative, and more. Aug. 13, 10:30-11:30 a.m., 101 Walter Library. [RSVP to KT Cragg](#) by Aug. 11. The meeting will also be available via [UMConnect](#).

THE ANNUAL UMORE PARK OPEN HOUSE will highlight U research and innovation and its benefits to families in areas such as crop production, nutrition and local food production, disease prevention, environmental quality, renewable energy, and natural resource conservation. Activities include a wagon ride tour; the chance to meet Goldy Gopher, farm animals, and birds of prey; a scavenger hunt, and more. Free corn-on-the-cob and lemonade. Aug. 20, 4-8 p.m. For more information, call 651-423-2455 or see events at [UMore Park](#).

THE UNIVERSITY IS SEEKING FACULTY AND STAFF VOLUNTEERS TO WELCOME UPPERCLASSMEN to campus. Working together with homeowners, landlords, and businesses, the two-hour meet-and-greet will benefit sophomores, juniors, and senior student renters in the surrounding neighborhoods. Sept. 2, 3, and 4. For more information or to volunteer, e-mail [Kendre Turonie](mailto:Kendre.Turonie) in the Office for Student Affairs or call 612-625-8939 by Aug. 24.

AN ENERGY-EFFICIENT METHOD OF CHEMICAL SEPARATIONS has been developed by a team of researchers led by chemical engineering and materials science professor Michael Tsapatsis. The method could revolutionize processes in the petrochemical and biofuels industries. The new discovery is published in the July 31 issue of [Science](#).

ALL NEW AND TRANSFER INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARRIVING for fall semester 2009 should be advised to visit International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) for a document check to complete federal requirements. Students will not be allowed to register for classes until they complete the check. For more information, see [ISSS document check](#).

"ALL IN THE FAMILY: FETAL EFFECTS OF MATERNAL OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY" will be presented by the National Children's Study Speakers' Series, 3-4 p.m., Sept. 9, Wilder Center, St. Paul. Patricia Fontaine of the Medical School presents. Free, limited seating. For more information, RSVP to [Laurie Ukestad](mailto:Laurie.Ukestad) or see [family](#).

GOPHER GAME DAY PREVIEW. Beginning at noon on Sat., Aug. 22, football season ticket holders have a chance to preview TCF Bank Stadium. Attendees will learn the best routes to TCF Bank Stadium, locate their parking places and seats in the stadium, watch a 3 p.m. scrimmage, and more. Campus will be busier than normal. Contract parkers can park in their normal spots. For more information, see [game day preview](#).

HAPPY HOUR AT THE CAMPUS CLUB RUNS THROUGH THE END OF AUGUST. All U faculty and staff are welcome during summer happy hours; club membership is not required. Drink and food specials may be enjoyed in the bar or on the terrace. For more information, see [happy hour](#).

MORE EVENTS include Nature Tots: Shapes, Colors, and Numbers in Nature ([Aug. 6](#)); Exhibit: "America's Best Idea: A Photographic Journey Through Our National Parks" ([Aug. 8](#)); Delegating to Enhance Job Performance ([Aug. 12](#)); Foundations in Business Writing and Design ([Aug. 18](#)); Field Trip: Early Autumn Migrants ([Aug. 22](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (8-19-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 26; August 19, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: The next issue of *Brief* will be Sept. 2. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 16. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication.

For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#).

Inside This Issue

--Feature story: Teaching with technology.
--People: The National Institutes of Health has awarded a five-year, \$9.5 million project grant to Bruce Blazar; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

TEACHING WITH TECHNOLOGY. Wikis and blogs, YouTube and iTunes, podcasts and vodcasts, Twitter and Moodle—it can sound like a foreign language. The landscape of learning is changing, and instructors and students are working together to develop and refine new ways of teaching at the U. Incorporating these tools into teaching is simply a next step in the evolution of education, and it's happening now. For more information, read "[Teaching with technology](#)."

PEOPLE: The National Institutes of Health has awarded a five-year, \$9.5 million project grant to Bruce Blazar of the U's Masonic Cancer Center; three UMD faculty members have been recognized for their work with undergraduates; Carlson School of Management has named Mark Bergen and Rajesh Aggarwal to endowed positions; Catherine Morrison has been appointed as the U Card Office program director; Karen Seashore has received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the University Council for Educational Administration; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

THE U'S GREAT DISCOVERIES WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THE MINNESOTA STATE FAIR with engaging exhibits and experts from all five campuses. The U's stage will feature performances, demonstrations, and appearances by U personalities. Maroon and Gold Day will be Aug. 30. U of M Bookstores offers [discounts on admission](#). Aug. 27-Sept. 7, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., U building, Dan Patch Avenue. Booth space is still available. If your department or unit is interested in showing, e-mail [Drew Swain](mailto:Drew.Swain) or call 612-625-8962. For more information, see [State Fair](#).

STAFF CAN HELP INFORM U STUDENT VETERANS AND SERVICE MEMBERS that they can now apply for grants of up to \$1,800 for unpaid or low-paid internships. The grant opportunity is open to degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate students U-wide. Grants will be awarded for fall and spring semesters and summer session. The grant program is currently funded for the 2009-10 academic year. For more information, e-mail [One Stop Veterans Certification Office](mailto:One.Stop.Veterans.Certification.Office) or call 612-625-8076.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: The Medical Industry Leadership Institute (MILI) Interdisciplinary Grant Program has announced its 2009 call for proposals. Two kinds of grants are available; one provides seed funds to support faculty research and discovery; the other funds the development of a letter of intent for faculty research focused on the medical industry. The application deadline is Sept. 18. For more information and to apply, see [MILI Grants](#).

MEMBERS OF THE 2009-10 PRESIDENT'S EMERGING LEADERS (PEL) PROGRAM are developing leadership skills through hard work and diligent training. The 2009-10 PEL cohort, consisting of 22 members from throughout the U community, is ramping up for a yearlong educational and experiential training program that will prepare them for future leadership positions at the U. For more information, see [PEL 2009-10](#).

A NEW ARTS AND HEALING INITIATIVE AT THE CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY AND HEALING kicks off with *The Buddha Prince*, an outdoor "walking play" that celebrates the life of the 14th Dalai Lama. A special, public performance will be held at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Sept. 10, 4:30 p.m. The play will also be performed Sept. 17-21, Powderhorn Park. For more information, see [walking play](#).

UNIVERSITY E-MAIL ACCOUNT CHANGES. The Office of Information Technology recently made adjustments to e-mail accounts. As of Aug. 17, the maximum e-mail message size is 25MB. Trash/sent folders will be auto-filed after 30 days. Note that when e-mails are auto-filed they remain accessible in an archive folder. Large attachments can be shared through Netfiles. The changes will help facilitate users' potential move to Gmail this fall. For more information, see [e-mail accounts](#).

GOOGLE E-MAIL AND APPLICATIONS ARE COMING. The U is partnering with Google to offer Google Apps for registered students, faculty, and staff. Google Apps includes tools like Gmail, Docs, Calendar, Talk, and sites that may enhance collaboration. The optional service is slated to launch in October. For more information, see [U Google initiative](#).

ECOPUTING TIP OF THE WEEK. Turn off your monitor when you are not going to use your computer for more than 20 minutes. Turn off your computer and monitor if you are not going to use your computer for more than 2 hours. For more tips, see [It all adds up](#).

Crookston:

ORIENTATION CONVOCATION will be held Aug. 21, 3:15 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. Other opening week highlights include a picnic sponsored by the Crookston Retail Merchant's Association and the Crookston Area Chamber of Commerce. The annual Welcome Back Picnic is scheduled Aug. 27, 5 p.m., Brown dining room. Local restaurants and businesses will provide samples.

AS SUMMER WINDS DOWN, UMC IS RAMPING UP. While a number of faculty and staff have worked throughout the summer, all officially returned Aug. 17 to prepare for fall semester classes, beginning Aug. 25. For more information, see the [Opening Week Agenda PDF](#).

Duluth:

THE 14TH COLD REGIONS ENGINEERING CONFERENCE will be held in Duluth, Aug. 30-Sept. 2. The theme for the conference is "Cold Regions Impacts on Research-Design-Construction." The schedule includes a variety of tours, including one of the landmark Aerial Lift Bridge and the Skyline Parkway. Registration opens Aug. 30, noon. For more information, see [cold engineering](#).

UMD AT THE STATE FAIR. Join UMD at the Minnesota State Fair, Aug. 27-29, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. UMD takes the stage Aug. 28 with the pep band and a music students' performance. UM Crossroads building, Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street. For more information, see [UMD fair](#).

MN SEA GRANT ON TWITTER. The MN Sea Grant is sending out regular "tweets" through the social networking site, Twitter. The messages contain facts about Lake Superior and Minnesota's inland waters, and news and information about upcoming events and opportunities. For more information, see [MN Sea Grant Twitter](#).

TWEED MUSEUM. "Force of the North: Selections from the Potlatch Collection of Royal Canadian Mounted Police Illustrations" closes Sept. 6. The exhibition, featuring a selection of original paintings, advertisements, and Mountie archival materials, was developed from conception to installation by the museum's 19 interns. For more information, see [Mountie](#).

Morris:

UMM HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY BY FORBES for the magazine's "America's Best College Buys" list, with a ranking of 78 in the top 100. UMM is the only Minnesota school to make the list. Read more at [Forbes.com](#).

UMM STUDENTS WERE SELECTED TO PRODUCE A SUSTAINABILITY VIDEO for Apple, Inc., and the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment initiative. The Morris campus was one of only five institutions nationwide chosen for the film project. For more information, [watch the video](#).

Rochester:

SOUTH BROADWAY IN DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER WAS RECENTLY CLOSED as UMR installed an air-purifying unit on the roof of University Square. The unit is 30 feet long and 8 feet wide. It was installed in conjunction with UMR adding an organic chemistry lab at University Square. For more information and pictures, see [UMR news](#).

Twin Cities:

FOOTBALL SATURDAYS ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER and campus will be abuzz with activity seven Saturdays this fall. Whether you're a football fanatic or a U staffer wondering how to navigate campus, here are some things you may wish to know about the game-day experience. For more information, read [game day](#).

CELEBRATE U! AN APPRECIATION EVENT FOR UMTC FACULTY AND STAFF will take place Aug. 25, 2-6 p.m., TCF Bank Stadium. Attendees must have a U Card to enter the stadium. For more information, see [Celebrate U!](#)

HOMECOMING 2009: THE ULTIMATE HOMECOMING IS LOOKING FOR STAFF AND FACULTY VOLUNTEERS. Volunteer opportunities include TCF Bank Stadium Tours and University Open House, Student Scholar and Public Engagement Showcase, Maroon and Gold Pre-Parade Party, and The Ultimate Volunteer Experience. Oct. 4-11. For more information or to volunteer, see [Homecoming 2009](#).

CONTRACT PARKING ON GAME DAYS. The Gophers will have their first audience at TCF Bank Stadium, for a preview game, Aug. 22. This game does not affect parking contract locations. Contract parkers are relocated for regular-season home games. Plan ahead and allow extra time, because campus streets will be busier than usual with both vehicular and pedestrian travel. For more information, see [gameday parking](#) or [e-mail parking](#).

HEALTHY FOODS, HEALTHY LIVES SYMPOSIUM: CRITICAL ISSUES IN RESEARCH AND PUBLIC POLICY will take place Sept. 21, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H Humphrey Center. Nationally and internationally renowned speakers will present science on four controversial topics related to the effects of food consumption on human health: food processing, consumption of organic foods, high fructose corn syrup, and antibiotic use in animals. Register by Sept. 11 for a \$10 discount. Cost: \$10 students, \$50 U faculty and staff members, \$100 non-U attendees. Online registration ends on Sept. 14. For registration and more information, see [healthy symposium](#).

THE U MEDICAL SCHOOL HAS RECEIVED A \$6.24 MILLION GRANT FROM THE National Institutes of Health to establish a Center of Excellence in Minority Health. More than 30 percent of Minneapolis is composed of ethnic minorities, and the grant will help provide the school with the resources to enhance opportunities for diverse populations and to improve minority health.

GO AROUND THE WORLD WITHOUT LEAVING YOUR BACKYARD with the 2009-10 Compleat Scholar Sampler. This free event offers a "sneak peek" of three of the most intriguing short courses on tap for this season. Attend and receive a coupon for \$20 off the price of tuition for one Compleat Scholar course. Sept. 8, 6:30-8 p.m., Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul campus. For registration and more information, see [free sampler](#).

THE U RECEIVED A "100 BEST FLEETS IN NORTH AMERICA" award from *Government Fleet Magazine*. This is the fifth year in a row that the U has received this designation. Of 38,000 public fleet departments in North America, the U was among two universities that made it into the top 100.

A HISTORY OF NURSING CONFERENCE features bestselling author Steven Berlin Johnson with a keynote presentation based on his 2006 book, *The Ghost Map*. The presentation tells the story of how two unlikely allies turned London's most deadly cholera epidemic into a scientific breakthrough. Johnson is a contributing editor to *Wired* magazine. He lectures widely on technological, scientific, and cultural issues. Sept. 24-27, with Johnson on Sept. 25. For registration (\$35) and more information, see [nursing conference](#).

HELEN QUINN, PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS, STANFORD UNIVERSITY, will give a free public lecture entitled, "Wandering Planets, Falling Apples, Curving Spaces, Curving Stars: How Unraveling the Mystery of Gravity Has Taught Us About the Universe." Oct. 6, 7 p.m., Memorial Hall, McNamara Alumni Center. Quinn's presentation is the fourth in the William I. Fine Theoretical Physics Institute's annual Mises! Family Lecture Series. For more information, see [lecture series](#).

CAMPUS CLUB WILL BE OPEN ON GAME DAYS THIS FALL. Rooms are available for members to rent for private parties. Other parts of the club will be open to members and guests. The general public is invited to make advance reservations for the Campus Club Breakfast or the Gridiron Grill. For more information, see [Campus Club](#).

MORE EVENTS include Field Trip: Early Autumn Migrants ([Aug. 22](#)); Create your Poster in PowerPoint ([Aug. 24](#)); Celebrate U! ([Aug. 25](#)); Field Trip: Hunting for Mushrooms ([Aug. 29](#)); Multicultural Kickoff ([Sept. 1](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication. All Twin Cities event submissions are handled through the events calendar at <http://events.tc.umn.edu>.

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- What's Inside**
- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

Home > [Brief](#) > Brief (9-2-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 27; September 2, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: The weekly schedule returns Sept. 16. The submission deadline is **noon** on the Friday before publication.

For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#).

Inside This Issue
 --H1N1 and the fall flu season will likely bring unusual challenges.
 --People: Michael Osterholm has been elected to membership of the Council on Foreign Relations; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

H1N1 AND THE FALL FLU SEASON are likely to bring some unusual challenges. It's important to review current expectations for impact on the U community, the challenges this flu outbreak may cause, and the U's plans for addressing them. Stay alert to H1N1 messages during the academic year. Pandemics can change quickly, and all need to be cooperative, flexible, and resilient in responding. For more information, see [H1N1 update](#).

PEOPLE: Michael Osterholm has been elected to membership in the Council on Foreign Relations; Deborah Swackhamer has been reappointed by Governor Pawlenty to the Clean Water Council; the National Council of University Research Administrators will present Pamela Webb with its Distinguished Service Award; Jim Cotner received a National Science Foundation grant to support research into the potential for carbon sequestration in temperate lakes; Ronald Poling has been named as head of the School of Physics and Astronomy; William Tolman has been named chair of the Department of Chemistry; eight outstanding individuals will be honored with induction into the U's "M" Club Hall of Fame; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:
 FACULTY AND STAFF SHOULD ENCOURAGE outstanding undergraduates from diverse cultural backgrounds who demonstrate academic achievement in academic performance and community outreach and activism to apply for the 2009 undergraduate Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity (SEED Awards). Eight to twelve SEED Awards, ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000, will be awarded. Application deadline is Sept. 25, 4:30 p.m. For more information, see [SEED Awards](#).

NOMINATIONS FOR MCKNIGHT LAND-GRANT PROFESSORSHIPS are invited by the Office of the Vice President for Research. The program provides two-year awards to junior faculty through an annual competition with the aim of strengthening faculty for the future. Deadline: Oct. 1. For more information, see [McKnight nominations](#).

APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE GRANT-IN-AID fall 2009 competition. The Grant-in-Aid of Research, Artistry, and Scholarship Program in the Office of the Vice President for Research seeks to promote the scholarly and artistic activities of faculty and their graduate students and to foster academic excellence at the U. Deadline: Sept. 21. For more information, see [grant application](#).

STUDENT-STAFF DIRECTORY: DEADLINE FOR UPDATES TO INDIVIDUAL LISTINGS is Sept. 23. Go to "Update Personal Information" at [Employee Self-Service](#).

HEALTHY FOODS, HEALTHY LIVES SYMPOSIUM: CRITICAL ISSUES IN RESEARCH AND PUBLIC POLICY will take place Sept. 21, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H Humphrey Center. Renowned speakers will present science on four controversial topics related to the effects of food consumption on human health: food processing; consumption of organic foods; high fructose corn syrup; and antibiotic use in animals. Register by Sept. 11 for a \$10 discount. Online registration ends on Sept. 14. For more information, see [healthy symposium](#).

U OF M MOMENT: Battle of the brands. Hershey's chocolate chips in Pillsbury cookies, and Intel processors running Dell computers. Sometimes it seems like we hear more about the pieces in a product than the product itself. It's called component branding, and Professor George John, chair of the marketing department at the Carlson School of Management, says it can lead to some interesting problems, especially in an era of government bailouts. For more information, see [U of M Moment](#).

SHOW YOUR MAROON AND GOLD, Sept. 4, in honor of national College Colors Day. Stop by the U of M Bookstore in Coffman Union, St. Paul Student Center, UMC, UMM, and UMR (M Gear store) and enter to win a \$50 gift card.

FEATURE STORY: Their own devices. Innovators take wing with help from Marie Johnson and the Medical Devices Fellows Program. The program brings in cross-disciplinary teams comprising postdoctoral level engineers, scientists, and physicians for a rigorous, one-year initiation as inventors of medical devices. For more information, read ["Their own devices."](#)

Crookston:

AN ALUMNUS GIFT TO UMC will provide scholarships for upper division students majoring in agriculture beginning in the fall semester 2010. Harris Peterson, '42, recently made a gift that establishes a scholarship fund of more than \$141,000. For more information, see [scholarship](#).

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR ALVIN KILLOUGH recently attended the 2009 National HIV Prevention Conference on behalf of Strengthening Africans' Resilience and Excellence (S.A.R.X.), a Minneapolis-based community organization investing in the future of Africans in Minnesota. For more information, see [HIV prevention](#).

UMC ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT kicked off the NCAA CHAMPS/Life Skills Program in Lysaker Gymnasium on Aug. 26. UMC is one of 34 institutions selected to participate in the program during the 2009-10 year. For more information, see [NCAA program](#).

A FOOTBALL PRACTICE FIELD WAS DEDICATED IN HONOR OF alumnus James "Jim" LeClair on Aug. 28. In 1972, LeClair was drafted by the National Football League's Cincinnati Bengals, for whom he played 12 seasons. The field is located just east of Evergreen Hall, the new residence hall. For more information, see [practice field](#).

Duluth:

UMD PROJECTED FRESHMAN ENROLLMENT is anticipated at 2,150, with nearly 90 percent of freshmen living on campus. Total enrollment is estimated at 11,300 students (approximately the same as last year), with 500 new transfer students.

UMD STUDENT MOVE-IN DAY IS SEPT. 3. Campus will be filled with students and their families, as well as food, music, and orientation activities. Unloading of vehicles will take place at Lake Superior Hall and Griggs Hall. Food tents will be set up near "Griggs Beach" (behind Lake Superior Hall). Chancellor Kathryn Martin, along with vice chancellors, deans, faculty, and staff, will be on hand with the more than 150 student volunteers. For more information, see [moving in](#).

UMD BULLDOG WELCOME WEEK begins Sept. 4. Required for all Freshmen, with new transfer students invited to participate, UMD Bulldog Welcome Week will offer four days packed with information and activities, all aimed at preparing new students for their transition to the college and community. The program is an all-campus effort that will involve more than 100 faculty, 150 staff members, and 175 student leaders. For more information, see [Bulldog welcome](#).

Morris:

UMM IS AMONG THE TOP 10 "COOL SCHOOLS" according to *Mother Jones* magazine's recently published "Mojo Mini College" guide. *Mother Jones* cites UMM as a best value for "alt-energy enthusiasts." It states: "This public liberal arts college has academic chops and green-energy cred." For more information, see [cool schools](#).

Rochester:

UMR IS HOSTING A BLOCK-PARTY LUNCHEON, SEPT. 3, for faculty, staff, and the mall merchants in University Square. The luncheon is a celebration of the opening of UMR's new student learning spaces and a show of appreciation to the mall merchants for their patience during the summer's construction of classrooms and labs.

MEMBERS OF THE ROCHESTER HIGHER EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE were on campus Aug. 28. The focus of the meeting was to update the committee on advancements at UMR, on the development and approval of the new bachelor of science in health sciences program, development of facilities to support the program, and to celebrate the inaugural freshman class of UMR.

Twin Cities:

THE "IT ALL ADDS UP" CAMPAIGN WILL HAND OUT FREE REUSABLE TOTE BAGS at remaining farmers markets while supplies last. Stop by the It all adds up booth on Sept. 2 and find out how the campaign, through the pledges of the University community, is reducing energy consumption and saving money at the U. The goal of a 5 percent reduction by the end of 2010 will save \$2.25 million each year and 25,000 tons of CO2. Take the pledge today at [It all adds up](#).

THE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY HAS A NUMBER OF UPCOMING EVENTS, including public tours of the solar house, Sept. 16-18, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., St. Paul campus; a public lecture on Sept. 10 featuring hometown astronaut and U alumnus Duane "Digger" Carey; and the free Minnesota Math and Science Fun Fair, Sept. 26, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information on upcoming Institute of Technology events, see [iTems](#).

THE OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY IN GRADUATE EDUCATION HAS MOVED under the auspices of the Office for Equity and Diversity, at the recommendation of the [Committee on Graduate Education](#). The office will remain at 333 Johnston Hall. Staff have retained phone and e-mail addresses and will continue to offer services and support to students, including assistance with the graduate admissions process, mentoring, academic support, career counseling for current graduate students, and national outreach initiatives. For more information, see [diversity](#).

COURSE RESERVES FOR FALL 2009. U Libraries offer course reserve services to help instructors provide course materials, publications, and other information resources--both print and Web-based--to their students. Students can access electronic content from within the libraries or remotely. For more information about placing materials on course reserve for fall semester, see [reserves](#), e-mail [Jerrie Bayer](mailto:Jerrie.Bayer), or call 612-624-8530.

UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY TRAINING CENTER courses are available to current faculty, staff, and students at no charge. For more information, see [UTTC classes](#).

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL AND DISABILITY SERVICES HAVE BEEN AWARDED a \$75,000 "Taking It to the Next Level: Advancing Awareness and Equity of Medical Trainees with Invisible Disabilities" grant from the Marcus Foundation. The project's goal is to promote welcoming and inclusive learning environments for all medical trainees, including those with invisible disabilities (e.g., psychiatric, attentional, learning, systemic). For more information, e-mail principal investigator [Marilyn Becker](mailto:Marilyn.Becker) or call 612-626-7196.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HAS A NEW WEB SITE currently featuring a video of the cover shoot for the just-published fall issue of *Minnesota* magazine. For more information, watch ["Football comes home."](#)

TWENTY-THREE COMPUTERS WERE DONATED TO FAMILIES through the Student Parent HELP Center (SPHC). Academic Support Resources, in partnership with Student Legal Services, donated the computers to SPHC students and their families to assist them in furthering their academic goals. For more information, see [SPHC](#).

U OF M ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WILL HOST AN ETIQUETTE DINNER on Oct. 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Memorial Hall, McNamara Alumni Center. From salad forte to telling someone whether they have food in their teeth, opportunities to try out new skills will arise during the three-course meal by D'Amico Catering. Cost: \$20, student; \$30, alumni association member; \$35, general public. For more information, see [etiquette](#).

THIS FALL JOINING THE CAMPUS CLUB FOR HALF PRICE. The club will collect no dues during your first six months. Joining members receive a certificate good for a free lunch and a Campus Club member mug. For more information, see [Campus Club](#).

MORE EVENTS include Design Indaba 10X10 Low Cost Housing: "The Sandbag House" ([Sept. 8](#)); University Women's Consortium Fall Meeting ([Sept. 9](#)); "Choreography and the Brain": A Conversation With Random Dance Founder Wayne McGregor ([Sept. 10](#)); Guest Workshop: Alfredo Ortiz, Harp ([Sept. 13](#)); Creating a National Data Enclave System for Health Data Resources, presented by Peter Meyer, director, Research Data Center, National Center for Health Statistics ([Sept. 14](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (9-16-2009)

 Vol. XXXIX No. 28; September 16, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu
Brief welcomes returning faculty, staff, students, and the class of 2013!

 For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#).

Inside This Issue

- Board of Regents September meeting: ARRA, 2010 Capital Request, H1N1, and more.
- September Federal Relations Report
- People: The School of Music will confer an honorary degree on conductor Marin Alsop; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

 BOARD OF REGENTS SEPTEMBER MEETING. The Board of Regents' Sept. 10-11 meeting was its first of the new academic year. The board recognized new Regents Professors, examined the impact of the federal stimulus act, reviewed the 2010 State Capital Request, discussed the U's H1N1 flu preparedness, and more. For more information, see [September BOR meeting](#).

 SEPTEMBER FEDERAL RELATIONS REPORT. The report includes updates on State Fiscal Stabilization Funds, examples of how American Reinvestment and Recovery Act research and formula funds are being used at the University, and more. For more information, [read the report](#).

 PEOPLE: The School of Music will confer an honorary degree on conductor Marin Alsop; Nobel laureate and University alumnus Norman Borlaug died; Masonic Cancer Center scientist Jian-Min Yuan has been awarded a grant of more than \$3 million from the National Cancer Institute; Michael Sadowsky has been appointed director of the BioTechnology Institute; Charla Hollingsworth recently accepted a position with the USDA; former U of M College of Liberal Arts dean Fred Lukermann died; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS
University-wide:

 PUBLIC FORUMS FOR THE VICE PROVOST AND DEAN OF GRADUATE EDUCATION FINALISTS will be held Sept. 22, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; Sept. 23, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Sept. 28, 10-11 a.m., 402 Walter Library. The forums can be viewed live at [UM Connect](#). Archived presentations of each candidate will be posted online. Finalists will be announced Sept. 21. For more information, see [public forums](#).

 UMD CHANCELLOR KATHRYN MARTIN ANNOUNCED THAT SHE WILL RETIRE July 31, 2010, after the end of the academic year. Martin came to head the UMD campus in August 1995, becoming the first female chancellor in the U system. This school year will mark Martin's 15th year as chancellor. Under her leadership UMD has undergone a heightened period of growth, academic stature, and program development. For more information, see [Chancellor Kathryn Martin](#).

 2009-10 RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY CALENDAR. The Religious Holiday Calendar can be found on the [Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action](#) Web site. For the most updated version of the policy, see [Employee Absence for Religious Holidays](#).

 GUIDELINES FOR THE 2009-10 DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AND ADVISING AWARDS AND THE JOHN TATE AWARD for excellence in undergraduate advising are now available. For details, see each award: [Horace T. Morse-U of M Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education](#); [Award for Outstanding Contributions to Postbaccalaureate, Graduate, and Professional Education](#); [John Tate Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising](#). For more information, e-mail [Jeremy Hernandez](mailto:Jeremy.Hernandez), or call 612-625-5652.

 REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR A 30-DAY review and comment period. "Selling Goods and Services to External Customers" reflects recent process changes, procedures on developing rates and creating external sales contracts, and information on the sales accounting structure. "Managing Student Records" has been broadened to address how to handle external requests for student information, such as background checks for students applying for admission into law school or a professional school. For more information, see [policy review](#).

 FACULTY PROFILE: Iron man. Alumnus Lawrence Que is a standout as a chemistry researcher, teacher, and mentor. A new Regents Professor at the U, he is known for discoveries involving "diamonds" in the hearts of enzymes. For more information, read [Iron man](#).

 FACULTY PROFILE: Profit teetering. In her book *Liquidated: An Ethnography of Wall Street*, U anthropologist Karen Ho documents what she describes as an arcane culture in which the single-minded pursuit of high stock prices and deals helped cause the recent financial crisis. For more information, read [Up against the Wall Street](#).

 "AUTUMN UNPLUGGED" AT THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM. From mid-Sept. through Nov. 1, celebrate the beauty of fall. Opportunities include Pumpkin Palooza, Oct. 3-Nov. 1; Arboretum AppleHouse, Sept. 1-Oct. 31; Apple-Tastings at Oswald Visitor Center, Meditation Walk, and more. For more information, see the [arboretum](#).

Crookston:

 UMC HAS IMPLEMENTED NEW ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS with Minnesota West Community and Technical College and Hocking College to assist students interested in attaining their four-year degree. Articulation agreements help students by providing a smooth transition. For more information, see [transfer students](#).

 UMC WELCOMES NEW FACULTY. With the academic year under way, UMC welcomes seven new faculty and staff, who will help provide the education and applied learning that are hallmarks of UMC. For more information, see [new faculty and staff](#).

Duluth:

 "LIVING ON A SHRINKING PLANET: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE" will be presented by Jonathan Foley, Sept. 17, 5 p.m., fourth floor, Library Rotunda. Foley is director of the Institute on the Environment (IonE), professor, and McKnight Presidential Chair in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior. For more information, see [IonE](#).

 UMD HAS ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF THE IRON RANGE/UMD GRADUATE ENGINEERING EDUCATION PROGRAM, offered by the UMD Swenson College of Science and Engineering in cooperation with the Arrowhead University Consortium. Classes began in September at Mesabi Range Community and Technical College in Virginia, Minnesota, and are taught by UMD faculty. The program will provide better access to advanced engineering degree programs for people living and working on the Iron Range. For more information, see [Iron Range](#).

Morris:

UMM'S SIXTH ANNUAL COUGAR FEST takes place Sept. 19. All Cougar football fans are encouraged to join the fun for an afternoon of football action--the Cougars vs. Westminster College. Kickoff is at noon in Big Cat Stadium. Free, for all ages.

 UMM'S HUMANITIES FINE ARTS GALLERY begins the 2009-10 exhibition season with work by McKnight fellowship and residency recipients from the Northern Clay Center in Minneapolis. For more information, see [fine arts](#).

Rochester:

 THE NEW HEALTH SCIENCE MAJOR AT UMR REDEFINES INTERDISCIPLINARY. The curriculum, spearheaded by Professor Claudia Neuhauser, is designed to integrate seemingly unrelated topics, such as biology and statistics, or chemistry and ethics. For more information, see [chemistry to Classics](#).

 UMR WELCOMED ITS FIRST FRESHMAN CLASS, of 55 students, on Sept. 8. For more information, read a story in the [Rochester Post-Bulletin](#).

Twin Cities:

 ENERGY CONSERVATION IS IMPORTANT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE U's BOTTOM LINE. Recently, the class of 2013 got in the spirit during Welcome Week with more than 1,200 pledges, bringing the campaign's total to more than 3,500. With a goal of 10,000 pledges by the end of fall semester, faculty, staff, and students will have to work together. Success could save the U \$2.25 million each year. Take the pledge today at [It all adds up](#).

 THE COLLEGE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES IS HOLDING AN AUCTION to help fund needed renovations to Itasca Biological Station and Laboratories. Tickets to the Gopher Homecoming football game, cabin getaways, original art, and other priceless opportunities are up for bid through Sept. 18. For more information, see [Itasca auction](#).

 THE ULTIMATE HOMECOMING IS LOOKING FOR STAFF AND FACULTY VOLUNTEERS. Opportunities include TCF Bank Stadium Tours and University Open House, Student Scholar and Public Engagement Showcase, Maroon and Gold Pre-Parade Party, and the Ultimate Volunteer Experience, Oct. 4-11. Sign-up deadline is Sept. 21. For more information or to volunteer, see [Homecoming 2009](#).

 FREE PUBLIC TOURS OF THE U'S ICON Solar House will take place Sept. 16, 17, and 18, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., St. Paul campus. The house is located on the north side of Buford Place, east of Gortner Ave. Visitors should park in the Gortner ramp or take the Campus Connector. Students will give public tours during the DOE's Solar Decathlon competition in Washington, D.C., Oct. 8-16. The U is one of 20 competing college and university teams. For more information, see [solar house](#).

 "WAM CHATTER: WHAT IS NEWS NOW?" will highlight the markers of the changing arena of journalism in the United States, from newspapers folding to talk radio, Web 2.0, videography, citizen journalists, and more. The presentation will be moderated by Nora Paul, professor of journalism and mass communication and director of the Institute for New Media Studies. Sept. 17, 7-9 p.m., William G. Shepherd Room, Weisman Art Museum. For more information, see [WAM Chatter](#).

 "CHAOTIC ELECTIONS: WHY DON'T WE ELECT WHO VOTERS REALLY WANT?" The lecture by [Donald Saari](#), distinguished professor, mathematics and economics, University of California-Irvine, exposes the many surprising problems that can occur in elections and explains how they are uncovered through the power of math. Sept. 22, 7 p.m., 125 Willey Hall. For more information, see [IMA lectures](#).

 CONDUCTING A JOB SEARCH IN THE TWIN CITIES, a workshop for spouses and partners of recently relocated new faculty and staff, will be held Sept. 24, 9-11:30 a.m., 215 Donhowe. Sponsored by the Relocation Assistance Program. Prospective attendees should [RSVP at relocation](#) by Sept. 18 or call 612-626-0385.

INCIDENTAL FINDINGS IN GENETIC RESEARCH: IMPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCHERS will be the topic for the next Clinical Research Coordinators' Group meeting. Bonnie LeRoy, director of the graduate program in genetic counseling, will look at some of the more common incidental information that can be unintentionally identified with genetic research studies and will discuss ways in which these challenges can be managed. Sept. 24, 3:15-4:45 p.m., 5-125 Moos Tower.

 A SMALL BUSINESS NETWORKING FAIR will be held by the Office for Business and Community Economic Development. The fair is an opportunity to meet and network with qualified women and minority owned businesses. Sept. 30, 8 a.m.-noon, Great Hall, Coffman Union. The second annual Awards Incentive and Recognition Luncheon will follow, noon-1:30 p.m. Vendors in the areas of catering, printer/copier services, IT, printing, travel, temporary staffing, and more will be on display. For more information, see [small business networking](#) or [register online](#).

 ACADEMIC AND CORPORATE RELATIONS CENTER'S NEW DIRECTOR Matt Kramer will discuss challenges of Minnesota's business climate, at the Carlson School of Management's First Tuesday Luncheon, Oct. 6, 11:30 a.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Kramer will offer "Observations From a Public Stakeholder on the Challenges of Doing Business in Minnesota." Advance registration deadline is Oct. 1. A \$28 fee includes lunch and parking. For registration, e-mail first_tuesday, call 612-626-9634, or see [Carlson events](#).

 U WOMEN OF COLOR FALL WELCOMED will be Oct. 29, 9-11 a.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. An hour of storytelling will be presented at this year's program, "Missing Our Women's Stories: An Oral Tradition." Applications will be accepted through Oct. 5 for the annual Tapestry Award, to be presented at the fall welcome. For more information, [e-mail UWOC](mailto:ewoc).

 THE MEDICAL DEVICES CENTER INNOVATION FELLOWS PROGRAM will host a special set of ongoing lectures representing state-of-the-art in fields related to medical device invention. During the 2009-10 Fellowship Program, top innovators from the Twin Cities area will present. Lectures take place at 545 Shepherd Labs. For more information, see the [schedule of lectures](#) or call Marie Johnson at 612-624-1060.

 OFFICE OF CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT (OCM) LAUNCHED A REDESIGNED WEB SITE featuring improved navigation and information for general-purpose classrooms. Visit the site to learn more about OCM, review remodeled classrooms, or look at a classroom's schedule. For more information, see the [OCM Web site](#) or [e-mail OCM](mailto:ocm).

 U OF M MOMENT: Maroon, gold, and green TCF Bank Stadium. It's not easy being a green 50,000-seat sports venue. But that's what the new TCF Bank Stadium is, according to the standards set forth by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The feature, as well as an archive of more audio content, can be found at the [U of M Moment site](#).

 THE FOURTH ANNUAL "IT'S GLOBAL" PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT (PSA) CONTEST is accepting entries through March 5. The top 15 PSAs will be screened and cash prizes (\$500 top prize) will be awarded April 5. All PSAs will be showcased throughout National Public Health Week, April 5-9, 2010. For more information and to view past winners, see the [School of Public Health](#).

UNIVERSITY DINING SERVICES WILL HOLD ITS ANNUAL "EAT WELL, LIVE WELL" event Sept. 28, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Great Hall, Coffman Union. The event will showcase UDS's sustainability and health and wellness programming. The first 500 people will receive a reusable shopping bag.

 M DELI ONLINE ORDERING HAS A NEW CASH PAYMENT OPTION "Pay at Location" when placing your order. For more information or for lunch, visit [M Deli online](#).

 MORE EVENTS include Successfully Dealing With Conflict at Work ([Sept. 17](#)); New Media Research@UMN 7th Annual Exposition and Networking Event ([Sept. 18](#)); The Buddha Prince ([Sept. 20-24](#)); 6th Annual Women's Health Research Conference ([Sept. 21](#)); Grant Funding for Graduate Students ([Sept. 22](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (9-23-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 29; September 23, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#).

Inside This Issue

--U takes action to protect research along the Central Corridor LRT line.

--People: William Craig will be inducted into the Geographic Information Systems Hall of Fame; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE UNIVERSITY TOOK ACTION SEPT. 22 TO PROTECT RESEARCH ALONG THE CENTRAL CORRIDOR LRT LINE. The U filed suit against the Metropolitan Council in district court seeking protection from the adverse effects of construction and operation of the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit project on the University's East Bank Campus. For more information, see [Central Corridor project](#).

PEOPLE: William Craig, associate director of the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, will be inducted into the Geographic Information Systems Hall of Fame; the College of Biological Sciences will confer an Honorary Degree on paleobotanist David Dilcher at the Itasca Centennial Celebration; Robert Johns has accepted a position with the United States Department of Transportation; University Libraries have appointed Nancy Sims to lead their Copyright Education Initiative; Pamela Solvie has been appointed director of UMM's Global Student Teaching program and English Language Teaching Assistant Programs; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

PROVOST SULLIVAN RECENTLY ANNOUNCED TWO WORK GROUPS that will build on work begun last spring by the Committee on Graduate Education. The work groups will focus on unresolved issues noted in President Bruininks' [June 26, 2009 report](#). Recommendations are due to the provost Dec. 1 and will be posted for public comment. For more information, see the work group on [academic issues and processes](#) and the work group on [student administrative processes](#), or see the [provost's Web site](#).

FORUMS FOR FINALISTS FOR THE POSITION OF VICE PROVOST AND DEAN OF GRADUATE EDUCATION will be presented by professors Sally Gregory Kohlstedt, history of science and technology, Sept. 23, 10:30-11:30 a.m., and Gary Balas, aerospace engineering and mechanics, Sept. 28, 10-11 a.m., 402 Walter Library. Henning Schroeder, pharmaceuticals, presented Sept. 22. The forums can be viewed live at [UM Connect](#). Archived presentations of each candidate will be posted online. For more information, including information on student forums (and religious accommodations for the Sept. 28 forum), see [vice provost and dean search](#).

Crookston:

UMC WILL DEDICATE A NEW RESIDENCE HALL as part of homecoming events on Oct. 2, noon. Dubbed Evergreen Hall, the facility boasts the first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for a residence hall in the U system. The building features green building materials, including recycled glass countertops, banana peel fibers or paper, recycled vinyl and plastic in the flooring, energy-saving lighting, and more. For more information, see [evergreen](#).

A SEPT. 17 THURSDAY COMMONS FOCUSED ON DIVERSITY in honor of Constitution Day and featured a discussion with the U's vice president for equity and diversity, Rusty Barcelo. Thomas Williams, director of diversity and multicultural services, facilitated a question-and-answer session with faculty, staff, and students.

Duluth:

UMD COUNCIL FOR ADVANCEMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING will host a mini-conference on student learning and assessment Sept. 23, third floor, Kirby Student Center. The conference is a kickoff for continued work on student learning outcomes and program assessment plans, and is designed for faculty and staff from all academic and student development programs. Topics include assessment philosophy, guidance for developing assessment plans, and technology to support assessment. Open to all UMD faculty and staff. For more information, see [student learning PDF](#).

UMD THEATER DEPARTMENT HAS ANNOUNCED ITS 2009-10 SEASON. *Sugar* (based on the film *Some Like It Hot*) will open the season, Oct. 22-31; *Sausage* (a commedia scenario) will run Dec. 4-13; Annual Dance Concert: *Action/ReAction*, takes place Feb. 11-13; *Factory Girls* March 11-28; *Is He Dead?* (a play by Mark Twain) April 22-May 1. For tickets and more information, see [UMD theater](#).

ALWORTH LECTURE SERIES. Erik Peterson, Senior VP of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and director of CSIS' Global Strategy Institute will present "The World to 2025," Sept. 23, 7 p.m., 90 Bohannon Hall. Peterson will analyze what he argues are the seven most important trends shaping our world: population; resource management and environmental stewardship; technological innovation and diffusion; the development and dissemination of information and knowledge; economic integration; the nature of conflict; and the challenge of governance. Peterson will also present a brown bag luncheon titled "Global Water Futures," Sept. 24, noon, third floor, Kirby Student Center. For more information, see [Alworth](#).

Morris:

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT will begin with a speak-out Sept. 24, 7 p.m., Black Box Theatre, Humanities Fine Arts (HFA) building. A silent, candlelit march in support of survivors of sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking will follow the speak-out as a symbol of participants' common decision to stand against rape and abuse. The march begins outside HFA. For more information, e-mail [Bridget Joos](mailto:Bridget.Joos) or call 320-589-6061.

Rochester:

UMR IS ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER. Sign up to receive UMR news, photos, and more, and keep up with the ongoing development of the innovative bachelor of science in health sciences degree program. For more information, see [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Twin Cities:

IT ALL ADDS UP is centered around a pledge in which students, faculty, and staff commit to energy saving measures while they are on campus. The goal is to collect 10,000 pledges by the end of the fall semester and show Minnesota and the state legislature that the U is committed to saving energy and money. The class of 2013 got in the spirit during Welcome Week, contributing more than 1,200 pledges, bringing the total to more than 4,000. For more information, read "[Take the pledge](#)".

MAXINE HONG KINGSTON WILL PRESENT THE ESTHER FREIER ENDOWED LECTURE Sept. 30, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. Hong Kingston has created some of the most widely read (and taught) literature of the late 20th century. She has won the National Book Critics Circle Award, the National Book Award, NEA Awards, an American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Literature, and, in 2008, The Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters. She has taught and mentored thousands of writers, including veterans she has met through her writing-and-mediation workshops (and whose work she edited in the award-winning 2006 collection *Veterans of War, Veterans of Peace*), and she continues to write today. For more information, read "[The Art of Making Peace](#)".

WEEDING OUT MARIJUANA. Regarded as a miracle by some and a menace by others, the cannabis plant nevertheless holds exciting possibilities for a number of fields in Minnesota, from health care to agriculture and beyond. George Weiblen, Department of Plant Biology, talks about creating a distinct, non-THC hemp plant that would make enforcement easier for authorities and allow farmers to grow lucrative, environmentally friendly crops. Once a thriving industry in Minnesota, both hemp seed and fiber are now imported to the United States because all cannabis plants are considered controlled substances. For more information, watch the [News Service video](#).

TCF BANK STADIUM ACHIEVED LEED SILVER CERTIFICATION, becoming the first collegiate or professional football facility to achieve LEED status. For more information, see the [news release](#).

FORBES CHIEF INVESTMENT STRATEGIST and the author of *Even Buffett Isn't Perfect*, Vahan Janjigian, will speak at the Carlson School Sept. 23, 3-4:30 p.m. Janjigian will discuss profitable investment paths and the marketing principles underpinning his approach. Hosted by the Institute for Research in Marketing. For registration and more information, see [investment](#) or e-mail [marketing](#).

THE U's MATH AND SCIENCE FAMILY FUN FAIR will feature entertaining, hands-on math and science experiences including hovercrafts, microscopes, miniature racecars, robots, and an Exploradome inflatable planetarium. The event, sponsored by the University's Institute of Technology, is free and fun for the whole family. Sept. 26, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Coffman Memorial Union. For more information, see [math and science](#).

THE GLOBAL SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE WILL HOST A POETRY READING by award-winning Nigerian poet and human rights activist Niyi Osundare. Following the reading will be a reception for Twin Cities Africanists. Sept. 25, 3 p.m., 101 University International Center. For more information, [RSVP](#) or see Sept. 25 [Global Spotlight](#).

"FATIGUE AND CORROSION INFLUENCE ON THE DURABILITY OF STEEL BRIDGES" is the title of this year's Warren Seminar for the Robert Dexter Memorial Scholarship. The event features John Fisher, professor at Lehigh University and a renowned steel bridge expert. Sponsored by the Center for Transportation Studies and the Department of Civil Engineering. Sept. 25, 3:30 p.m. For more information, see [Warren Seminar](#).

TRAINING ON THE STUDENT RESPONSE SYSTEM, TURNINGPOINT, will be offered to faculty, teaching staff, and technical coordinators. TurningPoint transforms a standard PowerPoint presentation into an interactive learning system that engages students in active participation. Sept. 30, 8:30-11 a.m. (basic) and 2-3 p.m. (advanced), 210 Walter Library. Hosted by the Office of Information Technology. For more information, see [TurningPoint Training](#).

"WATER FOR PEACE: AN IRAQI-USA PARTNERSHIP," brings together a multi-disciplinary panel of speakers to discuss the impact of clean water on education, health, and other aspects of public life, and how a bilateral community organizing effort can mobilize citizens to impact community health issues. The program is sponsored by the Iraqi and American Reconciliation Project, the Muslim Peacemaker Teams, College of Education and Human Development, and Office of International Programs. Sept. 30, 2-4:30 p.m., 64 [Biological Sciences Center](#), St. Paul campus.

TACKLING THE HEALTH CARE CRISIS IN AMERICA discussion with the Humphrey Institute's Larry Jacobs is the first of the College of Continuing Education's "Headliners" series of discussions for the 2009-10 academic year. Oct. 1, 7 p.m., Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul campus. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased online, by phone (612-624-4000), or at the door. Season tickets (\$50) for all seven events are available until Sept. 25 and include an eco-friendly Headliners water bottle. For more information, see [Headliners](#).

LITERACY AND EDUCATION IN 21ST CENTURY AFRICA will take place Oct. 2, 1-7 p.m., Humphrey Center. United States Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Johnnie Carson will speak at 2 p.m. Breakout sessions will run from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m., a panel discussion with African ambassadors is scheduled for 5 p.m., with a reception to follow at 6 p.m. Sponsored by the U's Global Spotlight Initiative and Books for Africa, a St. Paul organization. For registration and more information see [conference](#). The Office of International Programs is part of [System Academic Administration](#).

THE ULTIMATE HOMECOMING OCT. 4-11 will feature many new events on campus, including TCF Bank Stadium tours and University open house, Oct. 4; Freeman Lecture-Great Conversations, Oct. 5; Student Scholar and Public Engagement Showcase, Oct. 7; UMAA Alumni Awards Celebration, Oct. 8; Parade Party and Homecoming Parade, Oct. 9; Ultimate Volunteer Experience, Oct. 11. For more information, see [homecoming](#).

FREEMAN LECTURE-GREAT CONVERSATIONS SERIES hosted by the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and the College of Continuing Education will feature U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. Senator Amy Klobuchar is scheduled to introduce the secretary. The conversation will cover food aid and international development, obesity and nutrition, food security, farm and foreign trade policy, and a host of other topics related to the USDA's mission. Free, but tickets are required (limit of four). For tickets or more information, call 612-624-2345 or see [Northrop](#).

MINI MEDICAL SCHOOL delves into health and medicine education in an easy-to-understand five-week exploration into the scientific basis of health and disease. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the program, presented twice each year by the Academic Health Center. The fall course "Back to the Basics," will teach about the body's building blocks through anatomy, genetics, biochemistry, pharmacology, and physiology. Mondays, Oct. 12-Nov. 9, 6-8:30 p.m., theater, Coffman Memorial. Cost: \$45-80. For registration and more information, see [Mini Medical School](#) or call 612-626-7072.

U EMPLOYEES RECEIVE A 50 PERCENT DISCOUNT on over 25 noncredit professional development short courses, through Carlson Executive Education. Classes enhance skills in finance, operations, marketing, leadership, and more. For more information, see the [program calendar](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers in the Environment Lecture Series ([Sept. 23](#)); "Food From Here, For Here: Rekindling the Intimacy of our Food System": A talk by Margaret Adamek ([Sept. 24](#)); Bufandas By Yolanda: An Intergenerational Knitting Group ([Sept. 25](#)); Wearibrot 5k ([Sept. 26](#)); Fall Raptor Release ([Sept. 26](#)); Lucy Dunne, University of Minnesota, "Habitat Sensors" ([Sept. 27](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (9-30-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 30; September 30, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#).

Inside This Issue

- Earth on the edge
- People: Susan Noakes of the Department of French and Italian will hold the first appointment of the new Arts, Design, and Humanities Chair program; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

EARTH ON THE EDGE. The University's Jon Foley is on a team that has specified how far the Earth can be pushed on climate change, freshwater use, ocean acidification, and other factors and still avoid the irreversible or the catastrophic. The team says that global environmental "tipping points" can no longer be ignored. For more information, see the [news release](#).

PEOPLE: Professor Susan Noakes of the Department of French and Italian will hold the first appointment of the new Arts, Design, and Humanities Chair program; seven groups and two individuals will receive Alumni Association awards for outstanding service and programming; U in the News features a selection of U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

STAFF MEMBERS FROM THE INSTITUTE ON COMMUNITY INTEGRATION (ICI) traveled to Zambia to continue the work of the Twin Cities-Zambia Disability Connection. The partnership between ICI and four Twin Cities disability organizations provides advanced leadership training in disability advocacy, policy, and services to government officials, missionaries, and educators. For nearly three weeks they traveled around Zambia working to improve the status of children and adults with disabilities. For more information, read "[Disability knows no boundaries](#)."

THE U OF M NEWS SERVICE AND JAMES KAKALIOS WON A MIDWEST EMMY AWARD for the "Science of Watchmen" video produced last February. The YouTube video of Kakalios interspersed rich and vivid visual elements of the movie itself with intriguing didactic monologue from the physics professor. The News Service informs the public about the U's research, discoveries, unique offerings, events, and more. Subscribe to the U's videos at [U of M YouTube](#). For more information, [watch the video](#).

YOUTH VOICES CONFERENCE AT THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM will offer garden-based programs, teaching what works in the world of youth garden programs, what else is needed, and what role adults can play. \$60 Arboretum members; \$70 nonmembers; special rate for teachers/practitioners and students by calling 952-443-1422. Halfprice without lunch. Oct. 3, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Oswald Visitor Center, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

U-WIDE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL DAY will represent more than 100 graduate and professional programs from throughout the country. The event provides students the opportunity to speak with representatives from law, business, education, health sciences, and other graduate and professional programs, and will feature workshops on applying to and funding graduate and professional school. Oct. 14, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Great Hall, Coffman Union. For more information, see [graduate school](#).

THE UNIVERSITY IMPLEMENTED NEW SOFTWARE that will make the U's existing directory of home, mailing, and billing addresses compliant with United States and Canadian postal standards. This new software will run periodically throughout the year to look for new addresses to clean and to check that existing addresses are still conforming to postal standards.

Crookston:

FALL CONVOCATION WILL BE HELD AT NOON, Oct. 1, Kiehle Auditorium. Crookston Student Association president Thomas Haarstick will serve as master of ceremonies. Featured speaker Kim Pederson, manager for market planning at Otter Tail Power Company, will discuss the Campus Energy Challenge. Chancellor Charles Casey and Vice Chancellor Tom Baldwin will recognize student academic achievement. Fall season varsity coaches will recognize their respective teams and provide team updates.

MORE THAN 20 BUSINESSES HAVE SIGNED UP to take part in the Crookston Community Maroon and Gold Fridays program. On Sept. 18, student communications assistant Stephanie Onken and Regal the Eagle randomly visited three local businesses and distributed complimentary game passes and buttons. The goal of the program is to encourage local community spirit in support of UMC.

THE HEALTH CARE AUXILIARY OF MINNESOTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE featured presentations by Jan Amoth and Deanna Patenaude, both of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, along with Kenneth Johnson, business instructor, and assistant professor Kevin Thompson. Health Care Auxiliary of Minnesota (HCAM) represents 90 health care auxiliaries in Minnesota totaling in excess of 21,000 persons volunteering in services to hospitals and long-term care facilities.

Duluth:

UMD ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (EHS) Web site was reviewed and rated by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and listed for use as a technology supported learning resource by DOE staff. The site was included in the top 25 among American research universities by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. UMD's Web site was also noted for its user-friendly design, content, and technical features. For more information, see [environmental health and safety](#).

THE NEWLY REMODELED UMD EDUCATION BUILDING (located in the former School of Business and Economics) has been named Education Endaszhi-gikinoo'amaading, which means "place of teaching and learning together." Dean Paul Deputy said the new name was chosen not only to honor the history, culture, and contributions of the Ojibwe people to Minnesota, but also to confirm UMD's commitment to training American Indian educators. The abbreviation for the building is EduE. Faculty and students began using the building this fall. For more information, see the [EduE](#).

"ANDY WARHOL: POP AND POLAROID" runs through May 16 at the Tweed Museum. The 48 black-and-white photographs and 102 Polaroids are from the Andy Warhol Photographic Legacy program. The collection features the famous and the unknown, in Warhol's serial style: a single image progresses in groupings of four, six, and as many as nine repeated images. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Tweed](#) or call 218-726-8222.

Morris:

O. TRUMAN DRIGGS DISTINGUISHED LECTURE. Jill Doerfler, UMM alumnus and assistant professor of American Indian studies at UMD, will give the 25th annual Driggs Lecture. "You can go dig him out of his grave: Anishinaabe Resistance to Racialization in the 1910s" derives from Doerfler's research into the question of tribal identity revealed in her investigation of fraudulent land sales on the White Earth Reservation in the early 20th century. Free and open to the public, Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall. For more information, see [Driggs lecture](#).

Rochester:

UMR COHOSTED AN INTERNSHIP ROUNDTABLE with the Chamber's Business Learning Network on Sept. 24. The session facilitated dialogue on the benefits of internships to area organizations and potential enhancements of businesses' internship programs. For more information, see [internship roundtable](#).

Twin Cities:

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE ANNUAL U SERVICES STAR PERFORMER AWARDS. Star Performer Awards are given out each fall to University Services employees and teams of employees who have received rave reviews from their customers over the past year. Award recipients are honored at the University Services Leadership Forum in November. Nominations are welcome from faculty, staff, and students on the Twin Cities campus. For more information, see [Star Performer Awards](#).

AN EDIBLE EDUCATION. The University of Minnesota Edible Landscape was conceived in January 2009, while several inches of snow still covered the beds in the Demonstration and Trial Gardens on the St. Paul campus. With the rising cost of food, growing concern about 'food miles' and food safety, and the push toward eating locally, a demonstration of edible landscaping seemed a logical choice for the season. For more information, read "[An edible education](#)."

IT ALL ADDS UP IPOD GIVEAWAY. There will be two chances to win an iPod during the It All Adds Up Homecoming iPod Giveaway, Oct. 9. One iPod will be given away to faculty, staff, or students who have taken the energy pledge on the It All Adds Up home page and another to fans of the It All Adds Up-U of M Facebook page. The pledge consists of a commitment to take simple actions, like turning out the lights or taking the stairs, to help conserve energy. For more information, see the [It all adds up](#) home page and the [Facebook page](#).

THE CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE is recognizing the 60th year anniversary of the People's Republic of China on Oct. 1 with a photo display at the University International Center. For more information, see [Confucius Institute](#).

"WOMEN IN CHARGE! COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES FOR CONFIDENT WOMEN" will be presented by African American educator Tish Norman as part of the Discover Exceptional Women series. Free and open to the public. Oct. 5, 7 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center. For more information, see [women](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE NORTHPROP include [Larry Ochs Sax & Drumming Core](#), Oct 8, 7 and 9:15 p.m., The Whole Music Club, Coffman Memorial Union; [Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company](#), Oct. 11, 4 p.m., Northrop.

THE 17TH ANNUAL KUEHNAST LECTURE will be given by Dennis Baldocchi, Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management, University of California Berkeley. Baldocchi, recipient of the American Meteorological Society's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Biometeorology, will deliver the lecture "Breathing of the biosphere: How physics sets the limits, and biology does the work." Sponsored by the Kuehnast Endowment and Sigma Xi. Oct. 15, 3:30-5 p.m., 335 Borlaug Hall. For more information, see [Kuehnast Lecture Series](#).

U OF M STAFF RECEIVING A 10 PERCENT DISCOUNT on LearningLife Transition Workshops and Compleat Scholar courses. Upcoming LearningLife courses include Networking for Everyone (Oct. 5); Blueprint for a Successful Retirement (Oct. 17); and Financial Planning for Life (Oct. 29). Upcoming Compleat Scholar courses include Near Space (participants build and fly their own miniature spacecraft,) (Oct. 13); Great Composers and Their Cities: Vivaldi and Venice (Oct. 19); Politics of Wine, (Oct. 19); World War II: Europe and the Pacific (Oct. 20). For more information, see [Compleat Scholar](#), [LearningLife](#) or call 612-624-4000.

INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN BEING ENGLISH CONVERSATION PARTNERS with nonnative English speaking graduate students enrolled in the international teaching assistant program can contact the Center for Teaching and Learning. Commitment is one hour a week for one semester. An orientation is provided. Sign up at [English partner](#).

GAME DAY HOSPITALITY AT THE CAMPUS CLUB ON HOMECOMING is open to nonmembers. Campus Club Game Day is offered before the game. Reservations are required. For more information, see [Campus Club](#).

MORE EVENTS include Pride @ Work Fall Kickoff Picnic ([Sept. 30](#)); Electric/Plug-in Hybrid Cars and Renewable Energy: A Critical Marriage ([Oct. 2](#)); Homecoming Kick-Off ([Oct. 5](#)); Handling Discrimination Concerns Effectively ([Oct. 6](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (10-7-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 31; October 7, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#).

Inside This Issue

- Board of Regents will act on the 2010 state capital request this week, and more.
- People: Narayana Kocherlakota becomes head of Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Oct. 8; and more.
- Features: Innovative couple; A-maizing grease; The news from 13.7 billion years ago; Getting to know U.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL ACT ON THE 2010 STATE CAPITAL REQUEST, hear a report on 2009-10 enrollment, hold a work session on and listen to a presentation of the report of the "Financing the Future Task Force," and more at its Oct. 8-9 meeting, McNamara Alumni Center. The capital request asks for \$193.3 million in state bonds (matched by \$46.7 million in University bonds) and would fund \$100 million in maintenance to existing facilities, a Folwell Hall renovation, a new physics and nanotechnology building on the UMD campus, a new American Indian Learning Research Center on the UMD campus, and improvements to the Itasca Biological Station. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

PEOPLE: Narayana Kocherlakota becomes head of Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Oct. 8; Julie Jacko was awarded a Research and Research Infrastructure "Grand Opportunities" Grant from the National Institute for Nursing Research; Professor Stuart Speedie was awarded a three year, \$1.1 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration; the Medical School appointed Badrinath Konety as professor and chair of the Department of Urologic Surgery; the NIH awarded a \$900,000 grant to the U's Consortium on Law and Values; Vice Provost Jerry Rinehart received the first IMPACT Award from Students Today, Leaders Forever. U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

IT OUTAGE ON OCT. 24. At 2 a.m., Oct. 24, many important University IT systems and applications will be unavailable for use, including PeopleSoft Financials, Student Registration, and approximately 1/3 of University e-mail accounts. All applications are expected to be restored to service by 7 a.m., Oct. 25. OIT is working on a plan to keep some of the U's key applications running during this period-- particularly those used by students and faculty. OIT will provide regular updates regarding this outage. For more information, see [IT outage Oct. 24](#).

INFORMATION SESSIONS for those compiling dossiers for the Morse Alumni and Graduate/Professional Teaching Awards and the John Tate Advising Award will be held Oct. 13, 2-3 p.m. (RSVP by Oct. 12), and Nov. 30, 3:30-4:30 p.m. (RSVP by Nov. 25), for those on the Twin Cities campus. Two interactive television (ITV) sessions are being arranged for the coordinate campuses. For more information or to RSVP, e-mail [Jeremy Hernandez](mailto:Jeremy.Hernandez) or call 612-625-5652.

GOOGLE TOWN HALL FORUMS. OIT is working on plans to provide the Google Apps Education Edition for use at the U. In addition to e-mail, a University Google account will offer access to the University Google Apps suite and will provide users the opportunity to share documents. OIT will host two forums, scheduled for Oct 12, 3-4 p.m., and Oct. 14, 9-10 a.m., Walter Library. Both events will be available via [UMConnect](#). For more information, e-mail [Google pilot](mailto:Google.pilot) or see [Google Town Hall](#).

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES: "University State of Emergency: Human Resources Implications of Pandemic Influenza" allows for temporary changes in certain human resource benefits and practices in the event of a pandemic influenza, and clarifies procedures around the three stages of an influenza emergency: prior to declaration, state of emergency, and post-state of emergency. "Accepting Revenue via Payment Cards," consolidates existing materials related to payment card acceptance and helps ensure compliance with industry laws and standards. Both policies are available for review and comment at [administrative policy](#).

U OF M EMPLOYEES WILL RECEIVE FREE ADMISSION TO THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM Oct. 15 and 31. Employees can enjoy the metro area's most diverse collection of Minnesota trees during "Autumn Unplugged," featuring weekend apple tastings, happy hour Thursdays, and the indoor display, "Pumpkin Palooza." Employees must present a U Card at the gate. For more information, see [fall at the arboretum](#).

FEATURE STORY: David Masopust and Vaiva Vezys share a laboratory, an office, and a home. And despite the odds, both have received separate NIH New Innovator Awards to study infectious disease and the immune system. For more information, read ["Innovative couple."](#)

FEATURE STORY: About five years ago, U adjunct professor Kim Joo heard from North Korean corn breeders about a variety with high oil content and asked if they would give her an ear. They did, and she brought it back for her colleague Ron Phillips to study. An analysis showed its oil content reached a whopping 20 percent. Corn with high oil content holds potential as a source of fuel and feed. For more information, read ["A-maizing grease."](#)

FEATURE STORY: Physicist Vuk Mandic is on a hunt for a prize quarry: gravitational waves generated as far back as the Big Bang. For more information, read ["The news from 13.7 billion years ago."](#)

THE U OF M ICON SOLAR HOUSE TEAM is blogging during the construction of their solar-powered house at the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon competition in Washington, D.C. The U team is one of only 20 university teams chosen to participate in the international competition. For more information, follow the team [on their blog](#) or see the [ICON Solar House Web site](#).

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATIONS are being accepted until Nov. 16. The grant is for assistant professors who have no independent national funding and are engaged in cancer-related research, including genetic mechanisms of cancer, molecular mechanisms of cancer progression and metastasis, development of novel cancer therapeutic models and translational research, cancer immunology, and immunotherapy. Funding is available up to \$30,000. For more information and applications, e-mail [grant application](mailto:grant.application) or call 612-625-2912.

COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS NEWS. CAPA held its monthly meeting Sept. 18. Features include a sit-down with the new chair of CAPA, Sarah Waldemar, and a "P & A Audio Spotlight" with Patty Bales, Organizational Effectiveness consultant. President Bruininks will be at the November CAPA meeting. For more information, see [September CAPA](#).

GREEN IT ENERGY SAVING TIP: Turn down the brightness setting on your monitor. The brightest setting on a monitor consumes twice the power used by the dimmest setting.

Crookston:

A SUSTAINABILITY DISCUSSION WILL FEATURE guest speakers addressing topics including energy conservation and renewable sources, building design, climate changes, and agriculture. "Connecting the Dots of Sustainability--a Game Everyone Can Play" will take place Oct. 15, 12:15-2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. For more information, see [sustainability](#).

UMC AND OTTER TAIL POWER WILL UNITE TO REDUCE ELECTRIC ENERGY CONSUMPTION on campus. The project was formally announced at the dedication of a new residence hall, Oct. 2. A number of dignitaries and guests were on campus for the building dedication and energy challenge announcement. For more information, see the [news release](#).

Duluth:

"ART FOR HIRE: PRINTS FROM THE MINNESOTA WPA," will feature lithographs by Minnesota artists employed by the Works Progress Administration, 1933-43. Through Jan. 3, Tweed Museum. For more information, [e-mail museum](mailto:e-mail.museum) or see [Tweed Museum](#).

ALWORTH INSTITUTE EVENT: "Backpacking through the Scottish Highlands: A Cultural Experience" will be presented by Shawn Grund, a senior in UMD's communication department, Oct. 8, noon, Fourth Floor Rotunda, UMD Library. For more information, [e-mail Alworth](mailto:e-mail.Alworth) or see [institute event](#).

Morris:

HOMECOMING 2009: BACK IN BLACK! The official UMM welcome back to campus takes place Oct. 9-11, with a variety of activities. For more information, see [schedule](#).

DIVISION OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS INVITATIONAL EXHIBITION at the Prairie Renaissance Cultural Alliance Gallery features the artistic expression of members of the Morris Division of Science and Mathematics. A reception will take place Oct. 10, 5-6:30 p.m. The exhibition can be viewed during select hours through Oct. 30, PRCA gallery, 630 Atlantic Avenue. For more information, see [exhibition](#).

Rochester:

THE COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP FELLOWS (CLF) PROGRAM will host a reception Oct. 9, 3-5:30 p.m., fourth floor, University Square. CLF Fellows will present their Community Engagement Projects and Tim Penny, president and CEO of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, will give a keynote presentation at 3:30 p.m. entitled "Taking Collaboration to the Next Level." A reception will follow. For more information, call Margo Herman at 507-280-2981.

Twin Cities:

FEATURE STORY: NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION AND THE FIRST DAYS. The University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus is expansive, to say the least. With more than 60 miles of campus streets and sidewalks, and nearly 70,000 students, faculty, and staff, it's bigger than most Minnesota towns. Three new-to-the-U-in-2008 faculty offer insights into getting to know the ropes. For more information, read ["Getting to know U."](#)

THE DOCUMENTARY "THE ROAD TO TCF BANK STADIUM" WILL PREMIERE ON THE BIG TEN NETWORK during Minnesota's programming block, Oct. 8, 10 a.m., 4 p.m.; and Oct. 9, 4 a.m., EST. The documentary will be available on the Web and distributed for local and state programming. The Office of Information Technology's Video Solutions produced the video. For more information, see ["The Road to TCF Bank Stadium."](#)

IT ALL ADDS UP IPOD GIVEAWAY. There will be two chances to win an iPod during the It All Adds Up Homecoming iPod Giveaway, Oct. 9. One iPod will be given away to faculty, staff, or students who have taken the energy pledge on the It All Adds Up home page and another to fans of the It All Adds Up-U of M Facebook page. The pledge consists of a commitment to take simple actions to help conserve energy. For more information, see the [It all adds up home page](#) and the [Facebook page](#).

"TEACHING WITH WRITING" WORKSHOPS AND PANELS provide support and create community for instructors across the U who use writing in their teaching. Upcoming offerings include Writing/Research (Oct. 8, noon-1:30 p.m.), Using Writing to Assess Student Learning (Oct. 9, noon-1:30 p.m.), and Teaching (with) Digital Writing (Oct. 14, 2-3:30 p.m. Free, open to all U instructors on any campus. For registration and more information, see [teaching with writing](#).

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING is hosting its seventh biennial open house, featuring keynote speaker Jamie Thingelstad, entrepreneur and former CTO and vice president for the Wall Street Journal Digital Network, and Gopal Khanna, Minnesota's chief information officer. Industry and research exhibits will give attendees a sneak peek into the latest research and technology. Oct. 9. For registration and more information, see [computer science](#).

SENATOR KLOBUCHAR WILL SPEAK ABOUT HEALTH CARE PRIORITIES and the latest reform discussions at the U of M Medical School during the second annual David A. Rothenberger Lecture, hosted by the University of Minnesota Medical School Department of Surgery. Oct. 12, 4 p.m., Mayo Memorial Auditorium. Free, open to the public. For more information, see [Rothenberger Lecture](#).

U OF M STAFF RECEIVE A 50 PERCENT DISCOUNT on noncredit professional development courses through Continuing Professional Education. Upcoming courses include Problem Solving and Decision Making (Oct. 13); Advanced Editing and Proofreading Strategies (Oct. 20); Leading Through Change (Oct. 29); and Developing Leadership Skills (Nov. 18-19). For more information and a full list of courses, see development or call 612-624-4000. The discount is not applicable to noncredit professional certification test preparation, Successful Manager's Leadership Program, and Train-the-Trainer courses. For more information, see [discount courses](#).

"HOW SPIRITUAL OUTCASTS NOURISH THE SOUL" will feature Rabbi Stacy Offner, vice president of the Union for Reform Judaism. Offner's lecture will explore the parallels between outcast communities: Jews, women, and the LGBT community. Oct 14, 7:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Institute. Free, open to the public, reception to follow. For more information, see [nourish the soul](#).

CENTER FOR INTEGRATIVE LEADERSHIP will host a lunch and conversation with internationally renowned leadership expert Ronald Heifetz regarding his recent research, "Leadership in a (Permanent) Crisis." The discussion will focus on how these exceptionally difficult times present a challenge for leadership education and development. Oct. 19, Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Institute. Cost \$50, preregistration is required. For registration and more information, see [leadership](#).

"OVERCOMING RACIAL DISPARITIES IN HEALTH CARE: THE ROLE OF PATIENT-CENTEREDNESS," will be presented by Lisa Cooper, Pfizer visiting professor in Health Literacy and a nationally renowned expert on patient-provider communication issues and overcoming barriers to equitable health care in diverse populations. Oct. 21, 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m., Mayo Memorial Auditorium. Lunch will be served for the first 100 people. For more information about the Program in Health Disparities Research, see [health disparity](#) or [e-mail program](mailto:e-mail.program).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE ARTS AND DISABILITY SYMPOSIUM, Oct. 30, Weisman Art Museum. The event is sponsored by the U's Institute on Professional Integration, the Weisman, Disability Services, and by VSA arts of Minnesota, the Interact Center for the Visual and Performing Arts, Rise Inc., and Partnership Resources Inc. For registration and more information, see [symposium](#).

EXPERIENCE MINNESOTA: AN OPEN HOUSE FOR MULTICULTURAL STUDENTS will be held on Oct. 31, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. During the event, prospective students and their families get information about the U's academic opportunities, multicultural organizations, and financial aid; meet top faculty and current students; and tour campus. For more information, e-mail [Sara MacKenzie](mailto:Sara.MacKenzie) or call 612-625-3274.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL MINNESOTA NANOTECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE will include presentations on Nano Materials, Magnetic Structures and Devices, Spintronics, Novel Techniques in Characterization, and Organic Photovoltaics. Includes a reception and poster session as well as special short courses at the Nanofabrication Center. Registration is required. Nov. 17-18, Radisson University Hotel. For more information, see [nanotechnology](#).

MORE EVENTS include Around the World in 180 Minutes ([Oct. 7](#)); Blood Drive ([Oct. 8](#)); National Depression Screening Day ([Oct. 8](#)); Directions in Healthcare Reform ([Blood 9](#)); Adam Zagajewski Reading ([Oct. 10](#)); Project Leadership ([Oct. 12](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)

[Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (10-14-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 32; October 14, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--Board of Regents hears the report of the Financing the Future Task Force, acts on the 2010 state capital request, and more.

--People: Karen Hsiao Ashe, Michelle Biros, Selwyn Vickers, and Susan Wolf have been elected to the Institute of Medicine; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

BOARD OF REGENTS OCTOBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS. The Oct. 8 and 9 Board of Regents meetings dealt with the financial future of the University of Minnesota. Cochairs of the Future Financial Resources Task Force, Richard Pfitzenreuter and Steven Rosenstone, detailed for the board what President Bruininks referred to as "the new normal"—and what the University must do to meet its long-term challenges. The board also approved the 2010 State Capital Request, including a \$2 million reduction to the cost of the proposed renovation of Folwell Hall. For more information, read [October Regents](#).

PEOPLE: Karen Hsiao Ashe, Michelle Biros, Selwyn Vickers, and Susan Wolf have been elected to the Institute of Medicine; the Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment, and the Life Sciences has been awarded a \$900,000 grant; a memorial service for Rose Blixt, a long-time U employee will be held at the Weisman Art Museum, Oct. 27; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

CALL FOR INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY (IAS) FACULTY FELLOWS 2010-11. The IAS Faculty Fellows program enables up to 20 scholars to spend a semester in residence at the institute, where they can benefit from the community of scholars and share their work across disciplines. Applications due by Oct. 23. The online system will be open on Oct. 19. Open to all U faculty. For more information, see [faculty fellows](#).

NETWORK OF INTERDISCIPLINARY INITIATIVES (NII) FALL ASSEMBLY will provide an opportunity to consider the role and leadership of the NII. Discussion will include ways in which the NII can effectively serve member needs and advocate for institutional change. Oct. 19, 3-5 p.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, UMTC, with ITV connection in 173 Kirby Plaza, UMD. For more information, see [fall assembly](#) or [register to attend](#) by Oct. 16.

THE RESEARCHCHANNEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS AGAIN REQUESTING VIDEOS about University research and discovery. The ResearchChannel brings together leading research and academic institutions to share the work of their researchers with the public through video programs available via satellite, cable TV, and the Web. Colleges, departments, and centers may submit programs before the end of the academic year. Recent U features include "Adventure Learning!" by the College of Education and Human Development; "Great Conversations: Innovative Science" by the College of Continuing Education; and, "Discovering Fluid Power" by the Center for Compact and Efficient Fluid Power. For more information, see [ResearchChannel](#) or contact [OIT Video Solutions](#).

CALL FOR PAPERS: The Ethics and Politics of Research with Immigrant Populations. The President's Interdisciplinary Conference supports collaboration between scholars in divergent fields and across institutions. Proposals that address researchers' dilemmas in their work with immigrant communities are encouraged. Submission deadline is Dec. 21. Conference is June 4-5. For more information and to submit a proposal, see [call for papers](#).

Crookston:

AUDIO CONFERENCE: "Riding a Tightrope: University Policies vs. Needs of Students with Chronic Illness" will be held on Oct. 15, 2 p.m., 270B Owen Hall. The workshop will highlight ways to deal with conflict and create an environment in which more unconventional methods are accepted. Participants will learn approaches to serving students with chronic illnesses within the context of postsecondary institutions. For more information, call Laurie Wilson at 218-281- 8587 or see [needs of students with illness](#).

DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS Kimberly Gillette published an article about the U of M and the Crookston campus in the September edition of *Bolashak*, a magazine published by the Center for International Programs in Kazakhstan, a former Soviet republic in Central Asia. The article is for students who may wish to study at UMTC or UMC. Fifteen years ago, Kazakhstan set up the competitive Bolashak program to finance student study abroad. For more information see [Bolashak](#).

Duluth:

UMD HOMECOMING IS OCT. 15-17. This year's theme is "Dog Eat Dog." Highlights of weekend events include bonfire (with free hot dog feed), Oct. 15, 6 p.m., Malosky Stadium parking lot; free concert, Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall; hockey tailgate gathering, Oct. 16, 4 p.m., Canal Park; men's hockey vs. MN State Mankato, Oct. 16 and 17, 7:07 p.m., DECC arena; football vs. St. Cloud State, Oct. 16, 1 p.m., Malosky Stadium. The class of 1959 will also be celebrating its 50th reunion. For more information, see [UMD homecoming](#).

A FACULTY ARTIST RECITAL is set for Oct.18, 3 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Soprano Regina Zona, UMD Opera Program coordinator, will present a solo performance, accompanied by pianist Susan Tang. For tickets call 218-726-8877. For more information, see [music](#).

Morris:

LECTURE: A PATHWAY INTO CHEMISTRY, will be presented by UMM alumnus Ken Haug ('79), who has been chosen as 2009-10 Latterell Visiting Alumnus. Haug is an associate professor of chemistry at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. Oct. 26, 5:30 p.m., Science Auditorium. A question-and-answer session and a reception follow. For more information, see [Latterell Alumnus](#).

UMM WOMEN'S GOLF COACH JANA KOEHLER has been named the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference's women's golf coach of the year. This year, under Koehler, the Cougar women's golf team won the UMAC championship while placing three individuals on the all-conference team. Koehler's team set a preseason goal of shooting below 400 as a team, and on the second day of the UMAC championships they posted a 395, clinching the title. For more information, see [coach of the year](#).

Rochester:

UMR IS FEATURED IN A ROCHESTER MAGAZINE PROFILE. With one escalator ride to the third or fourth floor of University Square, suddenly one arrives on a college campus. For more information, read [Higher Education](#).

Twin Cities:

REGENTS PROFESSOR LECTURE: Matthew McGue, Regents Professor of Psychology, will present the first talk of the year in the Regents Professor Lecture Series. McGue will discuss "The End of Behavioral Genetics? How Minnesota Has Helped to Shape Contemporary Psychology." Oct. 27, 11:30-1 p.m., Coffman Memorial Union, President's Room. Followed by a reception. For more information, see [Regents Professor Lecture](#).

WORKSHOP ON DEVELOPING SUCCESSFUL INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAMS AND PROPOSALS will feature dialogue with faculty experts in interdisciplinary work and grant-proposal reviews. Topics will include what makes interdisciplinary work distinct and how grant proposals can be shaped to include diverse disciplines. Oct. 28, 3-5 p.m., Campus Club, Coffman Union. New faculty are especially encouraged to attend, but all faculty are welcome. Space is limited and early registration is encouraged. For more information, see [interdisciplinary workshop](#).

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC ANNUAL ENSEMBLE CONCERT will feature more than 300 students and faculty performing in a nonstop, surround-sound, musical extravaganza. The program will include the University of Minnesota Symphony Orchestra and Combined Choirs performing Leonard Bernstein's *Make Our Garden Grow*. Proceeds support the School of Music Community Engagement Initiative. Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. For more information, including tickets, see [Northrop](#).

TUCKER CENTER DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES. The Borghild-Strand lecture series is given twice yearly and exemplifies community outreach and public education to the Twin Cities metro and outstate areas. Influential individuals in women's sports share their knowledge and expertise. "Facing Off Over Facebook: The Impact of Social Media on Women Sports," will take place Oct. 19, 7 p.m., Humphrey Center. For more information, see [lecture series](#).

CENTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOR STUDIES is hosting two upcoming events. "Meet the Authors" will feature professor John Budd and Law School professor Stephen Befort, authors of *Invisible Hands, Invisible Objectives: Bringing Workplace Law and Public Policy Into Focus*. Oct. 20, 5-6 p.m., 3-306 Carlson School of Management. "Social Networking in Business: How to Navigate the Playing Field without Fumbling the Ball" will feature a panel of speakers. Oct. 20, 6-7:30 p.m., 1-109 Hanson Hall. Both events are free, but registration is requested. [RSVP by Oct. 14](#).

THE BELL MUSEUM HUNGRY PLANET exhibit looks at food in the 21st century--what people around the world eat, how much it costs, and where it comes from. Beginning with an international snack food tasting event, Oct. 22, 7 p.m., 29 Thursday evenings will feature food--from lectures on the anthropology of table manners and exhibit walkabouts on food and culture to tastings of local produce and films. Free with museum admission. For more information, see the [news release](#).

THE CONSORTIUM ON LAW AND VALUES LECTURE SERIES will host professor Kenneth Goodman of the University of Miami for the lecture "Computers, Patients, and the Health of Populations: Next Steps in Ethics and Informatics." Oct. 28, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. Free. For registration and more information, see [law and values lecture](#).

HEALTH CARE SUMMIT OF SAGES, "Inspiration, Innovation, and Transformation," will feature six "sages" from all walks of health care speaking about how they were able to transform health care delivery. The keynote presentation will be given by Daniel Pink, author of *A Whole New Mind*. Faculty and student rate: \$225. Nov. 4-6. For more information or to register, see [summit](#).

THE COLLEGE OF DESIGN IS OFFERING TWO FREE FILM SERIES THIS FALL. Every Wednesday through Dec. 2, 6-7:30 p.m., 225 Rapson Hall, the student group Greenlight offers films on issues such as climate change, social justice, natural disasters, and dependence on nonrenewable resources. On the second Thursdays of the month, Nov.-April, 7 p.m., 33 McNeal Hall, "Design in the Dark" will feature design-related films, presented by the Friends of the Goldstein Museum of Design. For schedules and more information, see [Greenlight](#) and [Design in the Dark](#).

100 YEARS OF NURSING: A HISTORICAL DISPLAY OF NURSING ARTIFACTS will be at the Owen H. Wangensteen Historical Library of Biology and Medicine until mid-December. The exhibit portrays significant accomplishments from the U of M School of Nursing's 100 years. For more information, see the [historical library](#).

FACULTY/STAFF ADVISERS FOR FRATERNITIES/SORORITIES. The Office for Student Affairs and the Office for Fraternity and Sorority Life are announcing an opportunity for faculty and staff to develop relationships with students and help fraternities and sororities connect to resources on campus and become more aligned with the academic mission of the U. For more information, see [advisers](#).


THE COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION LAUNCHED ITS NEW WEB SITE. The domain remains the same but many URLs have changed, including those with information on staff and faculty discounts on CCE courses. For more information, see [CCE's new site](#) or e-mail [continuing education](#).

MORE EVENTS include Here and Now ([Oct. 15](#)); The Future of the Common: "Expression Management and the Cultural Commons;" a talk by Steve Kurtz ([Oct. 16](#)); Faculty Ballroom Dance "Oktoberfest" ([Oct. 17](#)); Anne Carson: "Possessive Used as Drink (Me)" + "Bracko" ([Oct. 17](#)); The Scholar Engaged Scholar ([Oct. 19](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

Related Links

- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (10-21-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 33; October 21, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--U of M among three winners of new federal wind energy grant.
 --People: Janet Dubinsky has received the Science Educator Award from the Society for Neuroscience; and more.
 --Features: A vision for the future; CURA director Tom Scott retires.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

A UNIVERSITY-LED CONSORTIUM WILL RECEIVE UP TO \$8 MILLION for wind power research and education as part of an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant. The U plans to install a new Siemens 2.3 MW turbine research facility at the University of Minnesota Outreach Research and Education (UMore) Park to study novel mechanical power transmission and electric generator systems. For more information, read "[...federal wind energy grant.](#)"

PEOPLE: Janet Dubinsky has received the Science Educator Award from the Society for Neuroscience; Genevieve Melton-Meaux was awarded the American Surgical Association Foundation's \$75,000 annual fellowship; Orlyn Miller is one of four recipients of UMC's Torch & Shield Award; Extension dean Bev Durgan honored faculty members Jim Linn and Jeff Gunsolus at the organization's annual conference; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

FEATURE: THROUGH THE HOMEOWNERSHIP PRESERVATION PROGRAM, THE UNIVERSITY DISTRICT ALLIANCE buys options on properties in University District neighborhoods and purchases the homes when they come up for sale. The plan is designed to protect homes from conversion to rental, and preserve them until owners decide to move or sell. For buyers, while it's not exactly like Publishers Clearing House pulling up to your home with a gigantic check, it is free money. For more information, read "[A vision for the future.](#)"

FEATURE: CURA DIRECTOR TOM SCOTT RETIRES. Center for Urban and Regional Affairs director Tom Scott has been with the U more than 30 years. In the past decade, Scott says, University and community research partnerships have been redefined. Scott says the emphasis on the value of public and community engagement has given outreach more legitimacy in relation to research and teaching. And that's good for faculty who really want to do their research in partnership with communities. For more information, read "[Tom Scott.](#)"

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL OPEN ACCESS WEEK to broaden awareness and understanding of open access to research within international higher education takes place Oct. 19-23. For more information about the issue of unrestricted public access to scholarly articles, including why researchers and students feel open access is important and what effect the National Institutes of Health's open access mandate has had, see [Open Access Week](#).

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATIONS are being accepted until Nov. 16. The grant is for assistant professors who have no independent national funding and are engaged in cancer-related research, including genetic mechanisms of cancer, molecular mechanisms of cancer progression and metastasis, development of novel therapeutic models and translational research, immunology, and immunotherapy. Funding is available up to \$30,000. Obtain an application by calling 612-625-2912 or e-mailing caner_funding.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: HEALTHY FOODS, HEALTHY LIVES INSTITUTE has released a request for interdisciplinary research projects related to food and health. The Institute will award up to one research grant of \$50,000-100,000 in each of the following areas: food policy, prevention of obesity and chronic disease, and food safety. Criteria for funding are interdisciplinarity, innovation, potential impact, utilization of new collaborations, quality of the research proposal, and potential for future external funding. Deadline is Nov. 23. For more information, see [request for proposals](#) or e-mail healthy_foods.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR RETIREES: The Office of the Vice President for Research and the University of Minnesota Retirees Association announced a second cycle of awards to help U retirees pursue projects related to their research, instructional, or other work history. Proposal deadline is Dec. 15. For more information, see [development grants for retirees PDF](#).

Crookston:

UMC HAS BEEN SELECTED AS A MEMBER SITE OF MINNESOTA GREENCORPS. A grant will allow the campus to host a member of GreenCorps, Minnesota's statewide initiative to help preserve and protect the environment. Alumnus Chris Waltz, '09, has been appointed as the local government energy conservation specialist. For more information, see [GreenCorps](#).

A GLBTA COMMUNITY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION EVENT will take place Oct. 23, 1-3 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Staff from the U's Twin Cities GLBTA office will present the Breaking the Silence Award to Yvonne Valgren, a senior majoring in communication. Afterwards, the office will present awards and recognitions for UMC community members. An open meeting about GLBTA programs follows. For more information, e-mail [Kim Jorgensen](mailto:Kim.Jorgensen).

THE UMC AVIATION PROGRAM, in cooperation with the Minneapolis Flight Standards District Office of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), will host an FAA Safety Team Aviation Safety Seminar Oct. 27, 7 p.m., Youngquist Auditorium, Agriculture Research Center. For more information, see [aviation safety](#).

Duluth:

FALL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONS will focus on the challenges, questions, approaches, and progress on sustainability, including specific operations in communities, health care, tourism, universities, and production. Inquiry on Sustainable Operations is a U-wide interdisciplinary group. Oct. 27, noon-4 p.m., Kirby Student Center Rafters. For more information, call professor R. T. Lievano at 218-726-8383 or see [sustainable](#).

SUGAR, A MUSICAL FARCE, will take the audience from Chicago to Miami with gangster chases, train rides, boat rides, cross-dressing, confused proposals, millionaires, and starving musicians. Oct. 22-31, Mainstage Theatre, Marshall Performing Arts Center. This musical version of the screen classic *Some Like It Hot* is directed by Kate Ufema. For more information, see [UMD Theatre](#) or call the box office at 218-726-8561.

EXPERIENCE THE EERIE CLASSIC, "The Monkey's Paw," in a 39-room mansion on the shores of Lake Superior as part of Glensheen's Living Literature event series. Includes a guided discussion, flashlight tour, and refreshments. \$32 for the general public; \$27 for friends of Glensheen. Oct. 22-24, 7 p.m. For more information, call 218-726-8910, 1-888-454-GLEN, or e-mail Glensheen.

MULTICULTURAL CENTER. The UMD Queer and Allied Students Union presents Rick Landman, author of the forthcoming book *Ich bin Ein New Yorker*. His lecture is entitled "Gay, Jewish, German, and Proud: Insights from a Gay Activist Son of Holocaust Survivors." Oct. 22, 6 p.m., Kirby Ballroom. For more information, call 218-726-7300 or see [multicultural center](#).

Morris:

TRACY PETERSON JOINED UMM as the associate director in the Multi-Ethnic Student Program in the Equity, Diversity, and Intercultural Programs Office. Peterson was most recently with the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where he worked in American Indian Academic Services. Peterson's work will focus on cultural programs and outreach, which will include enhancing relationships with tribal communities, student leadership development, and cultural programming.

PROJECT ART FOR NATURE EXHIBITION opening reception will be held Oct. 22, 7-9 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Gallery. Several artists will attend the reception and meet with senior studio art majors to discuss career paths. The exhibit runs through Nov. 27. For more information, see [art for nature](#).

Rochester:

A GUEST LECTURE BY BERNARD HARRIS will take place Nov. 5, noon-1 p.m., Mann Hall in the Mayo Clinic Medical Sciences building. Harris became an astronaut in July 1991, and later the first African-American to walk in space. He is president and founder of the Harris Foundation, which supports math/science education and crime prevention programs for America's youth. A free box lunch is included for all students who attend. RSVP to JJCasper.

Twin Cities:

DEMYSTIFYING THE PROMOTION AND TENURE PROCESS, a workshop for Twin Cities probationary faculty is being offered by the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs on Oct. 29, 1-3 p.m., 110 Shevlin Hall, east bank. The workshop will feature a discussion with Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Arlene Carney. For registration and more information, e-mail [Cheryl Johnson](mailto:Cheryl.Johnson).

THE CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE'S SECOND LECTURE of its fall series will feature Macalester College art professor Gary Erickson. He will present a narrated video about his residency at the Sanbao Ceramic Art Institute in China and demonstrate thousand-year-old porcelain techniques being used in Jingdezhen. Oct. 22, 6-7:30 p.m., 101 University International Center. For more information, see [Confucius Institute](#).

A SOCIAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL will feature 12 documentaries (each about an hour). Oct. 24: start times are 10 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m., Tate Lab of Physics. Films are followed by discussion led by the sponsoring office. For more information, including a list and descriptions of films, see [film festival](#).

SCHEDULING U 2009 will cover electronic course scheduling, a fall 2010 scheduling update, and how to get the room you need. Hosted by the Office of Classroom Management. Held in both Minneapolis and St. Paul, Oct. 26 through Nov. 13, for approximately one hour each day. Open to any U staff member. For more information, see [scheduling](#) or e-mail classroom.

JOSEF A. MESTENHAUSER LECTURE: "Reflections on the past, present, and future of internationalizing higher education: Discovering opportunities to meet challenges." Mestenhauer is professor emeritus in the College of Education and Human Development. Oct. 28, 2-4 p.m., lecture and discussion; 4-5 p.m., reception, Cowles Auditorium and Atrium, Humphrey Center. RSVP by Oct. 26 to 612-626-8832 or by e-mailing lecture. For more information, see [Mestenhauer lecture](#).

REMINDER: U WOMEN OF COLOR FALL WELCOME will feature an hour of storytelling during the program, "Sharing Our Women's Stories: An Oral Tradition." Oct. 29, 9-11 a.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. In addition, the annual UWOC Tapestry Award will be presented at the event. For more information, [e-mail UWOC](mailto:email_UWOC).

TEACHING ABOUT THE UNIVERSE THROUGH GAMES AND 3-D GRAPHICS will be presented by Jeffrey Weeks as part of the Institute for Mathematics and Its Applications public lecture series. The speaker uses computer games to introduce the concept of a multi-connected universe, then takes the audience on a tour of interactive 3D graphics to show several possible shapes for space. He'll also show recent satellite data providing clues to the true shape of the universe. Nov. 12, 7 p.m., 125 Willey Hall. For more information, see [games and graphics](#).

GIS DAY AND GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK ACTIVITIES include the third annual Borchert Lecture. Mark Monmonier, distinguished professor of geography at Syracuse University and recent recipient of the German Cartographic Society's Mercator Medal, will present "Coastlines, Boundary Lines, and the Cartographies of Protection and Control." The lecture honors the late John Borchert, U of M Regents Professor in Geography and member of the U.S. National Academy of Science. Nov. 20, 1:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center. For more information, see [Borchert Lecture](#).

THE FRIENDS OF EASTCLIFF BOOK CLUB GATHERINGS are an opportunity to discuss books with their authors and the club's founders, President Bruininks and his wife, Susan Hagstrum. Celebrate the inaugural season of the TCF Bank Stadium with authors Rick Moore, *The University of Minnesota Football Vault*, and Dave Mona, *Beyond the Sports Huddle: Mona on Minnesota*. Oct. 27, 7 p.m., Eastcliff, 176 N Mississippi River Blvd, St Paul. For more information, see [book club](#).

A NEW WEISMAN EXHIBIT, "TO HAVE IT ABOUT YOU: THE HERBERT AND DOROTHY VOGEL COLLECTION," showcases a major new gift to the Weisman. The art is part of a program led by the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., called "50 Works for 50 States," in which one museum in each state was chosen to receive 50 works from a collection considered to be one of the most important in the United States. Opening reception, Oct. 23, 5-8 p.m. Runs through Jan. 10.

MAKING INSURERS ACCOUNTABLE: THE CASE FOR A PUBLIC OPTION IN HEALTH REFORM will be presented by Lois Quam, founder and CEO of Tysvar, LLC, and an internationally recognized leader on the emerging green economy and health care. Quam has appeared in Tom Friedman's recent book, *Hot, Flat and Crowded*, and was named by *Fortune* magazine as one of the 50 most powerful women in American business. Oct. 28, 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center. For more information, see [Humphrey](#).

THE SECOND ANNUAL BENEFIT FOR HUNGER READING will be hosted by Edelstein-Keller Professor Charles Baxter (author of novels *Feast of Love and Saul & Patsy*). Featuring Creative Writing faculty Ray Gonzalez, Madelon Sprengnether, Patricia Hampl, Michael Dennis Browne, and M. J. Fitzgerald. Free, with a suggested donation benefiting Second Harvest Heartland foodshelf. Oct. 27, 8-9:30 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. For more information, see [reading](#).

STUDENT UNIONS AND ACTIVITIES events and conferences Web site has been updated and now features updated floor plans and pictures, information on available spaces, and search customization. For more information, see [events and conferences](#).

TRAFFIC MAY BE HEAVY ALONG PLEASANT AVENUE OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS as construction crews working on the Science Teaching and Student Services Building take delivery of key building components. The street may be closed for a few minutes at a time by a flagman. Plan travel accordingly and use alternative routes whenever possible.

MORE EVENTS include New Media Research Breakfast ([Oct. 22](#)); Colloquium on Modern Rhetoric ([Oct. 23](#)); Barbara Weiden Boyd: "The (Snake) Doctor is In: Ovid and the Arrival of Aesculapius in Rome" ([Oct. 23](#)); Workshop--Gender and Gender-based Violence: Darfur, the Holocaust, and American Indians ([Oct. 24](#)); High Impact, Low Prep Active Learning ([Oct. 27](#)); "The End of Behavioral Genetics? How Minnesota Has Helped to Shape Contemporary Psychology" ([Oct. 27](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (10-28-2009)

 Vol. XXXIX No. 34; October 28, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu
Inside This Issue

--Features: The business of the University is the welfare of the state; Mapping the bottom of the world.

--People: Librarian and McKnight Presidential Professor Wendy Pradt Lougee has been elected to the board of directors of the Association of Research Libraries; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

FEATURE: THE OFFICE OF BUSINESS RELATIONS. The inscription chiseled above the stone pillars of Northrop reads, in part, that the University of Minnesota is devoted to the welfare of the state. The Office of Business Relations (OBR) exists to further that commitment by building connections between the global business community and the University's vast network of talent, training, and technology. OBR develops and implements a wide variety of strategies to engage, collaborate, partner, and support business in Minnesota and beyond. For more information, read "[The business of the University.](#)"

FEATURE: MAPPING THE BOTTOM OF THE WORLD. Researchers who want to identify and keep track of remote, inaccessible colonies need somebody to turn satellite images into maps. That's when they call the U's Paul Morin, director of the National Science Foundation-funded Antarctic Geospatial Information Center. Morin will use images from any satellite belonging to any country, and many of his team's maps are "firsts." For more information, read "[The ultimate terra incognita: Antarctica.](#)"

PEOPLE: Librarian and McKnight Presidential Professor Wendy Pradt Lougee has been elected to the board of directors of the Association of Research Libraries; educational psychology professors Asha Jitendra and Jennifer McComas were recently awarded a \$995,929 NIH stimulus grant to study improving problem-solving for students who struggle with math; Pat Redig, professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine and cofounder of the Raptor Center, was the recipient of the Eagle Conservation Alliance's Lifetime Achievement Award; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS
University-wide:

U OF M MOMENT: HEALTH CARE REFORM 101. There's likely no other issue in America right now that's as contentious as health care reform. Jean Abraham, assistant professor in the School of Public Health and a health economist, explains. For more information, listen to "[Health care reform 101.](#)"

QUALITY FAIR POSTER/WORKING SMARTER APPLICATIONS DUE. Applications to present a poster or to submit a Working Smarter idea for the 2010 Quality Fair are due Nov. 5. The fair will be held Feb. 4. For an application and more information, see the [Office of Service and Continuous Improvement](#) or e-mail [Quality Fair](#).

ITASCA FIELD STATION'S YEARLONG CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WILL CULMINATE with a birthday party on the St. Paul campus. The program will feature a presentation about the Minnesota Mississippi Metagenome Project (M3P), a new research effort to characterize the microbial diversity at the headwaters of the Mississippi and to evaluate human impact along the river. Nov. 9, 3:30-5 p.m., lower level of the Cargill Building, 1500 Gortner Ave., St. Paul. Free, but reservations are required. For reservations, e-mail [Katie Hoffman](#) or call 612-625-2247. For more information, see [Itasca Biological Station and Laboratories](#).

FOUR U-WIDE GRANT PROGRAMS WILL BE OFFERED BY THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS as part of its Global Spotlight Initiative: two grants for faculty and two for graduate students. The faculty grants and one of the student grants focus on the themes of Africa or water in the world. Applications are due Feb. 15, noon. For more information, see [Global Spotlight grants](#).

P & A AUDIO SPOTLIGHT. Even when it's not hockey or tennis season, Jim Strick still finds himself keeping busy managing the media and public relations needs for three sports teams. For more information, [listen to spotlight](#).

Crookston:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS GRANTED APPROVAL TO UMC TO OFFER two new bachelor's degree programs: a bachelor of science in marketing and a bachelor of manufacturing management in quality management. Coursework for the two programs is set to begin in January. A minor in marketing was also approved. For more information, see [new degree programs](#).

Duluth:

"POST-RACE AMERICA: RACISM IN THE AGE OF OBAMA" will be presented by visual and performing artist damali ayo as part of the second annual Student Leadership Conference, Oct. 28, 4-5 p.m., Kirby Ballroom. Ayo's book, *How to Rent a Negro*, was acclaimed as "one of the most trenchant and amusing commentaries on contemporary race relations." For more information, e-mail [leadership conference](#) or call 218-726-8170.

"HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION IN DARFUR AND GAZA" will be presented by Ramon Das, senior lecturer of philosophy at Victoria University of Wellington. The lecture is sponsored by the Alworth International Institute as part of its continuing lecture series. Oct. 28, 7 p.m., fourth floor Library Rotunda.

THE MARSHALL ALWORTH PLANETARIUM WILL PRESENT A PROGRAM entitled "The Big Bang Theory." Howard Mooers will explain the phenomena of the creation of the Universe. Oct. 28, 7 p.m. Free. For more information, see [Alworth Planetarium](#) or call 218 726-7129.

"THE WRECK OF THE EDMUND FITZGERALD" will be presented by Thom Holden, director of the Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center. Holden will talk about what is believed to have happened in November 1975 when the Edmund Fitzgerald sank in Lake Superior. Nov. 2, 11:30 a.m., Kirby Student Center Ballroom C. Free and open to the public. For more information, e-mail [Clara Weitz](#).

Morris:

UMM THEATER SEASON PERFORMANCES BEGIN NOV. 5 with an adaptation of Sophocles' Greek tragedy *Antigone*. Written in response to the Nazi regime's occupation of Paris, the adapted version by Jean Anouilh runs Nov. 5-7, Humanities Fine Arts Proscenium Theatre. For more information, see [Morris theater](#).

ANNUAL CAMPUS TRICK-OR-CAN FOOD SHELF CAMPAIGN will be collecting money, nonperishable food items, and toiletries for the Stevens County Food Shelf on Oct. 29, 6-8 p.m. The event is cosponsored by the Office of Community Engagement and the Office of Residential Life. For more information, see [Trick-or-Can](#).

Rochester:

REMIX 2009: AN EXPO FOR ROCHESTER'S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS is an inaugural event to gather young professional and nonprofit activity groups and area young professionals. The goal is to learn more about each other and the activities and opportunities that Rochester offers young professionals in the community. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will be available. Free. Nov. 5, 5-8 p.m., fourth floor, University Square.

Twin Cities:

THE 2009 COMMUNITY FUND DRIVE WILL COME TO A CLOSE OCT. 31. Employees can choose to donate to a wide variety of charity organizations. This year's goal is 100 percent participation at any amount. For more information, see [Community Fund Drive](#).

EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND BENEFITS FAIR. Benefits-eligible employees can learn more about health benefits and retirement investments on Nov. 3, Coffman Union, Minneapolis campus; and Nov. 4, North Star Ballroom, St. Paul Student Center. The event runs 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. each day. For more information, e-mail [employee benefits](#) or call 612-624-9090.

CHINA'S NATIONAL ACADEMY OF CHINESE THEATER ARTS will perform Highlights of Classical Chinese Theater, Nov. 1, Ted Mann Concert Hall. The performance includes excerpts from some of the most famous Peking and Kunqu Operas. Kunqu Opera, often called the "mother" of Chinese Opera, has been performed for more than 600 years and was declared a "Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity" by UNESCO in 2001. Sponsored by the Confucius Institute. For more information, see [Chinese theater arts](#).

THE U COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO A RECEPTION HONORING THOMAS SCOTT for his 47 years of distinguished service. Scott, who retires Dec. 31, joined the political science faculty in 1962, served as director of the U's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) for more than 30 years, and is past chair of the Faculty Consultative Committee and Senate Judicial Committee. Nov. 4, 4-6 p.m. (program at 4:45), Campus Club, West Wing. [RSVP to CURA](#). For more information, read about [Tom Scott](#).

THE SUPERCOMPUTING INSTITUTE IS HOLDING AN OPEN HOUSE to showcase its resources to the University research community. Free. Refreshments will be provided. Nov. 4, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., fourth and fifth floors of Walter Library. For registration and more information, see [supercomputing open house](#).

THE THIRD ANNUAL NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT WEEK CELEBRATION will take place Nov. 2-6. The weeklong series of campus-wide events recognizes the important contributions older-than-average students, student parents, first-generation college students, and veterans make to the richness and diversity of campus. November is Non-Traditional Student Month on campuses across the nation. For more information and a schedule of events, see [non-traditional](#).

FALL 2009 ADA COMSTOCK DISTINGUISHED WOMEN SCHOLARS LECTURE. Rose Brewer, the most recent Ada Comstock Distinguished Woman Scholar, will present "Colorblind, Postracial or Not? Exploring Race in the Obama Era." Brewer, a professor in the Department of African American and African Studies, has received the Gustavus Myers National Book Award and the Josie H. Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice Award. Nov. 5, 4 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center. For more information, see [Ada Comstock Lecture](#).

CARE STAFF FROM EIGHT COUNTRIES--Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ghana, Honduras, India, Malawi, Mali, and Tanzania--will be hosted by the College of Education and Human Development for a poster session on measuring and understanding the impact of educational initiatives on girls and boys in marginalized communities. Nov. 9, 3:30-5 p.m., 101 University International Center. Open to faculty, staff, and students. RSVP by Nov. 4 to [Cheryl Morgan](#). For more information, see [CARE International Gallery Walk](#).

"JUST IN TIME" FALL TEACHING SEMINARS offered by the Center for Teaching and Learning include managing classroom conflicts, encouraging student collaboration through course management systems, and designing time for spring-term. Space is limited. For registration and more information, see [just in time](#).

UNIVERSITY LEADERS ARE ENCOURAGING FACULTY AND STAFF to take the "It all adds up" energy pledge. U Services Vice President Kathleen O'Brien e-mailed her leadership group stating that higher participation will lead to lower energy consumption and costs for colleges and departments. The campaign has so far gathered more than 6,500 pledges toward a goal of 10,000. [Take the pledge today](#).

MORE EVENTS Moving Frontiers in the Environment Lecture Series ([Oct. 28](#)); Leading Through Change ([Oct. 29](#)); Locality and Social Media: a research forum sponsored by the Social Networks Research Collaborative ([Oct. 30](#)); lecture by Lothar von Falkenhausen ([Nov. 2](#)); "Bodily Natures: Science, Environment, and the Material Self": presentation by Stacy Alaimo ([Nov. 3](#)); U professor and author Daniel Philpott will discuss his book, *Our Neck of the Woods* ([Nov. 10](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
- [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (11-4-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 35; November 4, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- Open Enrollment is online through Nov. 30.
- Feature: U part of \$185 million funded global pandemic team.
- People: Henning Schroeder has been named vice provost and dean for graduate education; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

OPEN ENROLLMENT IS ONLINE THROUGH NOV. 30. Those satisfied with medical and dental plan choices do not need to re-enroll. By doing nothing, current plans will continue into 2010; however, to have a flexible spending account in 2010 one must enroll. For more information, see the [Guide for UPlan Benefits Enrollment PDF](#). Options for changes include selecting different medical/dental plans; adding or canceling coverage; adding or canceling dependents from coverage; participating in health care or dependent daycare flexible spending accounts; and adding or increasing the amount of long-term disability insurance. For more information, see [Employee Self-Service](#) or watch a [narrated presentation](#).

FEATURE: THE U IS PART OF A \$185 MILLION funded team tasked to improve global response to emerging pandemics. The multidisciplinary team will implement a United States Agency for International Development cooperative agreement. The project, called RESPOND, is one of five that will work together to preempt or combat the first stages of emerging zoonotic pandemics. The College of Veterinary Medicine's new Ecosystem Health Program, National Center for Food Protection and Defense, and Center for Animal Health and Food Safety were instrumental in obtaining funds to join RESPOND. John Deen will be the director of the project at the U. For more information, see "[U part of global pandemic team](#)."

PEOPLE: School of Pharmacy professor and associate dean for research and graduate studies Henning Schroeder has been named vice provost and dean for graduate education; Jean Quam has been appointed dean of the College of Education and Human Development; Bradley Carlin has been named head of the Division of Biostatistics at the School of Public Health; Karen Seashore has been named the inaugural holder of the Robert Holmes Beck Chair of Ideas in Education; UMM Professor Emeritus of Theatre Raymond Lammers has died; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

IMPLEMENTATION OF GOOGLE APPS FOR THE U REMAINS ON SCHEDULE. The Office of Information Technology will implement a phased roll out, beginning with students, and will continue until all eligible members of the U community have been invited to sign up. For more information, see [Google initiative](#).

Crookston:

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL VISIT UMC. All faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend a forum featuring regents Clyde Allen (chair), Richard Beeson, and Venora Hung. Nov. 5, 12:15-2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center.

STUDENTS IN FIELD STUDIES IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMALL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT presented at the Fifth Annual Bemidji Chamber of Commerce Business Expo in late October. The hour-long presentation "21st Century Marketing: Facebook and Twitter" was given to more than 40 Bemidji area business professionals. For more information, see [field studies](#).

Duluth:

UMD JAZZ SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT will include performances by Jazz Ensemble I, directed by Ryan Frane; Jazz Ensemble II, directed by Tom Pfothenhauer; and the Big Time Jazz Orchestra, conducted by Randy Lee. Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m., Marshal Performing Arts Center. Tickets: adults \$12, seniors \$10, students \$7, UMD students \$5. For more information, see [jazz](#) or call 218-726-8561.

THE ALWORTH INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE presents Christopher Boucek, associate, Middle East Program, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, speaking on "Extremist Rehabilitation in Saudi Arabia." Nov. 4, 7 p.m., UMD Library rotunda. For more information, see [extremist rehab](#).

THE ALWORTH INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE is also holding a brown-bag event presented by David Beard, UMD Writing Studies Department, on the topic of "The Spaces of the University: Minnesota and Cambridge, UK." Nov. 5, noon, UMD Library rotunda. For more information, see [brown-bag](#).

THE OVATION ARTIST SERIES presents Ismir Sate Conservatory Soprano, Jeanette Thompson. Thompson won the Gold Medal at the Queen Elizabeth Competition in Brussels. She has performed as a soloist in Verdi's *Requiem*, Brahms's *German Requiem*, Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, and Poulenc's *Gloria*. Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. For tickets and more information, see [music](#) or call 218-726-8877.

Morris:

A RESEARCH GRANT OF \$130,000 was awarded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to associate professor of physics Matthew "Len" Keeler, with funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Keeler is developing a new way to measure and interpret the behavior of highly excited atoms. The grant will be used to conduct an experimental investigation of the influence of background gas collisions on the classical orbits of Rydberg electrons. For more information, see [NSF Grant](#).

THREE STUDIO ART PROFESSORS ARE EXHIBITING THEIR WORK in the Winds of Inspiration, Winds of Change invitational exhibition. Michael Eble, Jess Larson, and Jenny Nelson were invited to contribute artwork that relates to wind, wind turbines, or to their predecessors, windmills. Through Nov. 8, Hillstrom Museum of Art, Gustavus Adolphus campus, St. Peter. For more information, see [wind exhibit](#).

CAMPUS CAMP WELLSTONE will be held Nov. 6-7 at UMM. The event is open to anyone interested in learning leadership and organizational skills. Camp Wellstone will be brought to Morris through a collaboration of student organizations. For more information, see [learning leadership](#).

Rochester:

THE U MARCHING BAND WILL PERFORM AT UMR ON NOV. 18. The event is free and open to the public, thanks to the generosity of community sponsors, including UMR. Area high school band members are invited.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION FEATURES an in-depth story on Rochester's health-sciences program, which admitted its first students in September. UMR is trying three distinct strategies to improve learning. For more information, see [UMR in The Chronicle](#).

Twin Cities:

UPCOMING SCHOOL OF MUSIC EVENTS: Bergen Woodwind Quintet, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall (the event is part of the Bergen Woodwind Quintet's residency); "Shape Note Singing Workshop" with acclaimed instructor Tim Eriksen, Nov. 6, 11:10 a.m.-noon, Ferguson Hall, Room 280. Both events are free and open to the public. For more information, see [Bergen Woodwind Quintet](#) and [Shape Note Singing](#).

THE COALITION FOR A RESPECTFUL U will meet next on the topic of white privilege. The group is designed for social justice allies and advocates across colleges and departments committed to a safe and inclusive campus climate for students and employees. Nov. 6, noon-1:30 p.m., 323 Coffman Union. For more information, see [coalition](#).

A CELEBRATION OF THE U OF M EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (UMEMS) will take place as part of the National Collegiate EMS Foundation's 2009 Collegiate EMS Week, Nov. 9-15. The U is one of the first in the United States to provide campus-based emergency medical services. UMEMS was created in 1978 to provide assistance during times of disaster, as well as first aid for the public, employees, and students at U events. Nov. 8, 7-9 p.m. (dinner at 7, program at 8), [Eastcliff. RSVP to celebration](#).

THE WEST BANK ENERGY SHOWCASE will offer a chance to learn about upcoming recommissioning projects and how every individual can help save energy and money. Free coffee and donuts for those who take the energy pledge, as well as games and prizes including an iPod Nano drawing. Take the pledge today at "[It all adds up](#)." Nov. 10, 8 a.m.-noon, Carlson School of Management atrium.

"LOCAL FOODS AND CONSUMER DEMAND," the Food Industry Center fall 2009 networking conference will take place Nov. 10, 1-5 p.m., Coffman Union. Using the theme of "Local Foods and Consumer Demand," the conference will address topics through a number of lectures, including "Supply and Marketing Issues in Local Food Supply Chains"; "Microbial Safety and Risks of Natural and Organic Foods"; "The Cooperative Business Model: Hip Not Hippie"; and more. For registration, see [networking](#).

ELECTRIC CARS will be the topic at the Center for Transportation Studies annual fall luncheon. Dan Davids, president of Plug In America, will give a brief history of electric cars in America and discuss the vehicles that are coming soon to the marketplace. Nov. 10, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [electric cars](#).

STUDENT VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY will honor veterans Nov. 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Great Hall, Coffman Union. This program will include the ROTC Joint Services Color Guard, Northrop Brass Quintet, and veteran speakers. Prerecorded messages from service members stationed in Iraq to veterans or families attending the U will be shown, and a memorabilia display, courtesy of the Minnesota History Center, will share artifacts from conflicts. A multimedia exhibit, "Warrior to Citizen: Stories of Minnesota's Most Recent Veterans," will share personal stories from those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Free coffee, juice, and donuts in the morning, as well as a free lunch beginning at 11 a.m.

UNIVERSITY AWARDS AND HONORS WORKSHOP will provide information on putting together nominations for the honorary degree, Outstanding Achievement Award, Award of Distinction, Alumni Service Award, and naming of buildings, with a session on naming in connection with financial transaction. Free, but registration is required. Nov. 12, 9-10:30 a.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. For registration and more information, e-mail [Vickie Courtney](mailto:Vickie.Courtney).

WORLD USABILITY DAY will feature speakers on usability topics, a participatory recycling activity, and an open house at the Usability Services Laboratory. Sponsored by the Office of Information Technology and the Digital Technology Center. Nov. 12. For more information, see [usability day](#).

THE GRAND OPENING of the new learning environment in [50 Coffey Hall](#) will take place Nov. 13, 10 a.m.-noon. It will be an opportunity for the University community to explore the new learning environment, meet with Tech Stop staff, and demo a SMART board and other new teaching tools. At 10:30 a.m. there will be a short welcome by associate dean of CFANS Jay Bell and associate vice president and associate CIO of OIT Ann Hill Duin. For more information, see [learning environment](#).

"BECOMING A FULL PROFESSOR" PROMOTION AND TENURE WORKSHOP is for Twin Cities associate professors tenured in the last three years. The workshop will feature a discussion with Arlene Carney, vice provost for faculty and academic affairs. Nov. 16, 1-3 p.m., 110 Shevlin Hall. For registration and more information, e-mail [Cheryl Johnson](mailto:Cheryl.Johnson).

A HEALTHY FOODS, HEALTHY LIVES INSTITUTE (HFHL) LUNCHEON offers graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to learn more about the work of the Institute, meet with other students working on food and health issues, and discuss opportunities for expanded student involvement in HFHL's initiatives. Nov. 17, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Paul Student Center. For more information or to attend the luncheon, e-mail [Kristine Igo](mailto:Kristine.Igo).

LIBERAL EDUCATION (LE) COURSE REVIEW UNDER WAY. Since the U Senate approved new LE requirements and course guidelines for fall 2010, the Council on Liberal Education has recertified more than 245 courses, with many more under review. Departments should propose LE courses ASAP in order to be reviewed before the fall 2010 class schedule is posted. For approved courses, see [list of courses](#). For course proposal guidelines, see [liberal education](#).

NORTHROP AUDITORIUM WILL HOST THE ZACH BROWN BAND with Sonia Leigh, Levi Lowrey and Nic Cowan as part of the group's "Breaking Southern Ground Tour." Dec. 5, 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the [Northrop ticket office](#) or at 612-624-2345.

MORE EVENTS include Extreme Googling: Collaboration Tools ([Nov. 5](#)); I Write, Therefore I Learn? ([Nov. 6](#)); 2010 Census: Stand Up and Be Counted! ([Nov. 8](#)); The Publicly Engaged Grad Student: How Public Engagement Can (Should?) Change ([Nov. 9](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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 - [Campus Conversations](#)
 - [Features](#)
 - [People](#)
 - [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
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- [Office of the President](#)
 - [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (11-11-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 36; November 11, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- The Board of Regents will meet Nov. 12-13.
- Features: Lives entwined; 'Pay per byte' in Internet's future?; Eyes of a child.
- People: Meredith McQuaid will join the board of directors of NAFSA: Association of International Educators; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL MEET NOV. 12-13. The board will hear a report on private giving to the U in FY 2009 and review the six-year capital improvement plan. The board will also act upon the first phase of financing for the new Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities, discuss changes to the U's conflict of interest policies, and act on the appointments of the dean of the College of Education and Human Development, Jean Quam, and the vice provost and dean of graduate education, Henning Schroeder. For more information, see the [news release](#).

FEATURE: Professors Mária and Daniel Brewer are one of those academic couples people marvel at. Married in graduate school, they teach in the same department, French and Italian. Partners both professionally and personally, Mária and Daniel Brewer have received France's highest honor for academics. For more information, see "[Lives entwined](#)."

FEATURE: With Internet traffic growing steadily, rumors arise that overuse will crash this pillar of modern society. But Andrew Odlyzko doesn't buy them. As principal investigator for the Minnesota Internet Traffic Studies project, the mathematics professor monitors Internet usage, taking advantage of data from a variety of sources. He sees traffic growing at somewhere around 50 percent per year, but it's nothing to worry about—at least not yet. For more information, read "[Pay per byte](#)."

FEATURE: Sitting on her mother's lap, five-and-one-half-month-old Fiona looks at a wire figure hanging in front of her. She reaches out and grabs it, unaware that a camera records her every move. Fiona is one of many babies helping researcher Al Yonas tackle what he calls "the toughest problem in the Universe"--how we construct a meaningful world from a 2-D pattern of light and color on the back of our eyeballs. For more information, read "[Eyes of a child](#)."

PEOPLE: Meredith McQuaid will join the board of directors of NAFSA: Association of International Educators in January; Bonnie Westra was inducted as a fellow into the American Academy of Nursing; Susan Carlson Weinberg received the 2009 Weinberg Award; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) has awarded 15 U research projects a total of more than \$10.3 million in funding from the prestigious "Challenge" and "Grand Opportunities" grant programs. The Challenge Grants in Health and Science Research is a new NIH initiative that supports research on specific knowledge gaps, scientific opportunities, new technologies, data generation, or research methods that would benefit from an influx of funds to quickly advance the area in significant ways. The NIH received more than 20,000 proposals and awarded only 840 grants nationally. For a list of the 10 awards, see [U research grants](#).

U OF M MOMENT: CITIZENSHIP DURING THE H1N1 PANDEMIC. As flu season hits its stride, the current H1N1 pandemic is putting the world on alert. Countries are worried about the strain spreading across their borders, and parents everywhere warily send their children to school--where the flu is most likely to spread. Jeffrey Kahn, director of the U's Center for Bioethics, says it's a difficult balance between individual rights and protecting the public's health. For more information, listen to the audio feature at [U of M Moment](#).

THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM PRESENTS A ONE-OF-A-KIND HOLIDAY SEASON EXPERIENCE. "Making Spirits Bright" will feature gingerbread houses, stately trees, stunning natural decorations, holiday musical entertainment, and more, both indoors and outdoors. Nov. 27 through Jan. 3. For more information, see [arboretum](#).

GREEN COMPUTING TIP: Close unused applications. Running unnecessary applications causes your CPU to work harder and use unnecessary energy. The added strain on the CPU generates heat, prompting the computer's fan to turn on, which in turn uses more energy. In the Twin Cities, take the energy pledge at "[It all adds up](#)."

Crookston:

A CEREMONY HONORING VETERANS BEGINS NOV. 11, 8 a.m., Campus Mall. At 4 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium, the U Crookston Veteran's Club will host Stewart Bass, a naval aviator in World War II. Bass fought in the Pacific and was awarded the Navy Cross, the second highest combat decoration, for valor in action while flying a TBM Avenger torpedo bomber. For more information, see [veterans ceremony](#).

FALL COMMUNITY DIALOGUE ON SERVICE LEARNING is an opportunity for community members to express needs and wants and for faculty members to describe the courses in which they would like to incorporate service learning. Ideas that cannot be addressed through an academic service learning project may be considered through club community service or special service days such as National Youth Service Day. Nov. 12, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Bede Ballroom.

Duluth:

"OBAMA'S FOREIGN POLICY" will be presented by Thomas Hanson, former career U.S. foreign service officer. Sponsored by the Alworth International Institute. Nov. 11, 7 p.m., fourth floor Library Rotunda. For more information, see [Alworth](#).

A LOOK IN THE MIRROR: THE MEMOIR OF A DEAF PERFORMER, written and performed by Nic Zapko, is sponsored by UMD Access for All, a student organization dedicated to promoting disability awareness on campus and around the community. Told with humor and compassion, it is a personal and true story of loss, despair, and redemption, and is performed in American Sign Language. Free and open to the public. Nov. 13, 7 p.m., 90 Bohannon Hall. For more information, see [November events](#).

"DIA DE LOS MUERTOS, DAY OF THE DEAD" will be on display through Nov. 14 in the Multicultural Center. For more information, [e-mail the center](#).

LABOVITZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS WILL HOST ITS PROFESSOR FOR A DAY event, featuring speaker Bruce Carlson, a four-star United States Air Force general. General Carlson is a native of Hibbing, Minnesota and a 1971 graduate of the school. He will be speaking on "Leadership Ethics in Today's Global Economy." Free and open to the public. Nov. 16, 10-11 a.m., Weber Music Hall. Refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. For more information, see [Professor For A Day](#).

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK has many events scheduled celebrating and promoting international educational exchange. The International Taste of UMD on Nov. 14 will jumpstart the official Nov. 16-20 week of events. Sponsored by the UMD International Club. For more information and a full listing of events, see [international education](#).

Morris:

LAKE REGION ARTS COUNCIL WILL HOLD AN INFORMATION MEETING regarding opportunities to apply for new arts and cultural heritage funding through the council. Stevens County artists and organizations are invited to attend. Nov. 12, 3 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Gallery. For more information, call Chris Wing, Grants Development Office, 320-589-6458, or Maxine Adams, Lake Region Arts Council, 218-739-5780.

POET HEID ERDRICH WILL HOLD A POETRY READING AND BOOK SIGNING. A respected and decorated author of three poetry collections, Erdrich won the Minnesota Book Award in 2009 for *National Monuments. The Mother's Tongue* and *Fishing for Myth* likewise garnered award nominations. Sponsored by the Briggs Library Associates. Nov. 16, 7 p.m., Oyate Hall. For more information, see [poetry reading](#).

TWO MORRIS TEAMS PLACED IN THE TOP 10 PERCENT in the region at the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) competition--all four Morris teams placed in the top half. For more information, see [computing competition](#).

Rochester:

AN EXPO FOR ROCHESTER'S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS gathered a variety of young professional groups from the Rochester area to engage nonprofits, showcase things to do in Rochester, and help retain this talented pool of young people in the area. More than 160 people attended the "Remix 2009" event.

Twin Cities:

SENATOR AMY KLOBUCHAR AND PROFESSOR MICHAEL OSTERHOLM WILL HOST A DISCUSSION ABOUT United States flu vaccine availability and federal vaccine policy in light of widespread shortages of seasonal flu and H1N1 vaccines. Nov. 13, 10-11 a.m., D327 Mayo Memorial Building. For more information, see [vaccine availability](#).

FINDINGS OF A HUMPHREY INSTITUTE STUDY ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF IMMIGRANTS in Minnesota will be discussed at a free, public forum Nov. 12, 4-6 p.m., Humphrey Institute. It will include several presentations and a question-answer session. For more information, see [immigrant impact](#).

LONG-TERM CARE FINANCING SOLUTIONS forum will gather state and national leaders for an interactive discussion on potential approaches to long-term health care (based largely on Medicaid) financing reform and what Minnesota can do to be a national leader in creating a solution. Sponsored in part by the U's Center for the Study of Politics and Governance. Nov. 17, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center. For more information, see [financing solutions](#).

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY: "FACULTY AND STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS: ACADEMICS FOR THE REAL WORLD" will be presented by Glenn Prestwich, inventor on more than 39 patents and patent applications for human therapeutic products. The visiting lectureship/strategy clinic is the first in a series as part of the U's investment in human therapeutics that will help advance pharmaceutical discoveries with commercial potential. Sponsored by the Office for Technology Commercialization in collaboration with OVPR and the Academic Health Center. Nov. 17, 5-7:30 p.m., Ski-U-Mah Room, McNamara Alumni Center. RSVP by Nov. 12 to [Lily Loney](#). For more information, see [College of Pharmacy](#).

GRADUATE STUDENTS IN TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE are invited to attend a four-part seminar series with practical lessons on how to bring technologies to market. The event will begin with "Market Opportunities in 'Designing for the Environment.'" Sponsored by 3M. Nov. 20, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 2-224 Carlson School of Management. For registration, [e-mail technology](#). For more information, see [3M Seminars on Technology Commercialization](#).

HEALTHY FOODS, HEALTHY LIVES INSTITUTE will host a breakout session from its 2009 Symposium: Critical Issues in Research and Public Policy. "Exploring the impacts of organic production practices on nutritional content: How can the University of Minnesota engage in this emerging field of research?" Nov. 23, 4-6 p.m., 23 Food Science and Nutrition Building, St. Paul campus. To attend, RVSP to [healthy foods](#) by Nov 19.

INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR THOSE CONSIDERING A DOCTORATE IN HIGHER EDUCATION have been scheduled for Nov. 19 and Dec. 12. The U is accepting applications for the 2010 Ed.D. cohort until Jan. 15. Instruction will begin in June. The program is geared for working professionals. For more information, see [doctorate of education](#).

"FATHERHOOD IN THE 21ST CENTURY: FROM PREGNANCY PLANNING TO SPEAKING," presented by the U's Environmental Health Sciences "National Children's Study Speakers' Series," will address the cultural shifts that are challenging stereotypes of fatherhood and redefining parental roles and the role men have in optimizing preconception health and family planning. Dec. 2, 3-4:30 p.m., Wilder Center, St. Paul. Free, but seating is limited. RSVP to [Laurie Ukestad](#). For more information, see [fatherhood](#).

"GROWING THE BIOECONOMY: SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY" will feature researchers in biofuels, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack, and U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu. On day one, a virtual conference will be broadcast live Dec. 1, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Continuing Education Conference Center, St. Paul. Day two will bring together producers, landowners, and community and business leaders from Minnesota's bioeconomy, Dec. 2, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Hosted by extension and the U's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment. Registration cost is \$50 each day, \$85 for both days. The Dec. 1 broadcast may also be viewed from a personal computer for \$50. For registration and more information, see [Growing the Bioeconomy](#).

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (TLP) recently graduated its second cohort from the Twin Cities campus. The 12 participants were involved in a variety of strategically aligned projects over the past several months. All participants were recognized for their work at the graduation ceremony, and each had the opportunity to display the results of their project to date. For more information, see [Twin Cities TLP](#).

MORE EVENTS include Meet Ray Gonzalez, award-winning poet and U of M professor ([Nov. 11](#)); Cyclopath: A Geographic Wiki for Cyclists ([Nov 12](#)); Google IS a Research Tool ([Nov 13](#)); Promotion to Full Professor Workshop ([Nov 16](#)); Adam Hochschild Reading ([Nov 17](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (11-18-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 37; November 18, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue
 --Board of Regents Nov. 12-13 meeting highlights
 --Features: Redefining citizenship; Google Apps about to arrive at the U.
 --People: Linda Bearinger began a four-year term as president of the International Association for Adolescent Health; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

NOVEMBER BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS. The November Board of Regents meeting took place Nov. 12 and 13 at McNamara Alumni Center. Steven Goldstein, president of the University of Minnesota Foundation, and Becky Malkerson, president of the Minnesota Medical Foundation, presented to the regents the Annual Report of Private Giving. Additionally, the board heard a report on the six-year capital improvement plan and a report on transfer students and reviewed a nonaction change to the U's conflict of interest programs. For more information, read the [November board summary](#).

FEATURE: When it comes to ethical dilemmas in a pandemic, there are as many questions as answers. In a story with accompanying video, U expert Jeffrey Kahn weighs in on concerns ranging from vaccine distribution to childcare options for parents with sick children. For more information, read [Redefining citizenship](#).

FEATURE: The Office of Information Technology has been working on plans to integrate Google applications for use at the University of Minnesota. After months of planning, collaboration, development, and testing, Google Apps is almost here. For more information, read "[Google Apps about to arrive at the U of M](#)." For the latest status updates on implementation progress, see [updates](#).

PEOPLE: Linda Bearinger began a four-year term as president of the International Association for Adolescent Health; Deborah Powell began a one-year term as chair of the Association of American Medical Colleges; Deborah Swackhamer is the 2009 recipient of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry's Founders Award; Jim Mickelson and Stephanie Valberg's report on the horse genome sequence was published in the Nov. 6 issue of the journal *Science*; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

RETIREMENT FUNDS ADD NEW INVESTMENT OPTION: Effective Dec. 1, the PAX World Balanced Fund will be added as an investment option to the U's Faculty Retirement Plan, Optional Retirement Plan, and Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plan. With a mix of stocks and bonds, the PAX World Balanced Fund invests in socially responsible companies. For more information, see [socially responsible investment](#).

THE SIEHL PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE IS REQUESTING NOMINATIONS for the 2010 awards. The prize recognizes outstanding contributions to agriculture and the alleviation of world hunger. Recipients are chosen in three categories: knowledge (teaching, research, and outreach), production agriculture, and agribusiness. Each laureate receives a \$50,000 award as well as a sculpture and lapel pin designed by Minnesota artist Thomas Rose. Nominee(s) must reside in Minnesota or have previously resided there for at least five years or hold a degree from the U. Individuals and teams are eligible. Nomination deadline is Jan. 15. For more information, see [Siehl Prize](#).

A UMORE PARK REPORT produced by the UMore Park Academic Mission Advisory Board highlights faculty research and student learning opportunities in the planning and development of a sustainable community on the University's 5,000-acre property. The publication provides guidelines for infusing the U's academic mission into the project and describes ways that faculty and students can participate via research, learning opportunities, and outreach. For more information, [view the report](#).

NORTHEAST MINNESOTA SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP and UMD have partnered to offer the Sustainable Development Research Opportunity Program. It will provide College of Liberal Arts students an opportunity to work closely with Northeast Minnesota communities on their sustainable development projects. The program began in the fall and will run throughout the year. Michael Mageau, Okey Ukaga, and Michelle Hargrave will direct and administer the program. For more information, see [partnership](#).

Crookston:

THE SECOND ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MARKET is part of activities scheduled for International Education Week. Nov 18, 2-7 p.m., Bede Ballroom. A global experiences panel discussion will feature faculty and students who have gone abroad for study or research. Nov. 19, 12:25 p.m., Bede Ballroom. For more information, see [international market](#).

THE RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP), sponsored by UMC, recently received \$1,000 from Roseau's LifeCare Medical Center to begin a "Bone Builders Exercise Program" in Greenbush, MN. In addition to four Bone Builders classes in Polk County, RSVP helped sponsor 14 classes throughout northwest Minnesota through an Otto Bremer Foundation grant. For more information, see [exercise classes](#).

Duluth:

UMD WOMEN'S HOCKEY will hold its "Decade of Dominance" 10-year anniversary celebration Nov. 21. The four-time national championship women's hockey team will face off against Minnesota State Mankato Nov. 21, 6:07 p.m., Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center. Twenty-five former Bulldogs and staff will be on hand along with alumni, family, and friends. Pregame ceremony and postgame reception. For more information, see [women's hockey](#).

UMD MEN'S HOCKEY, BULLDOGS VS. GOPHERS. UMD Alumni Association will hold the Bulldog "Break the Ice Party" at TCF Bank Stadium, Nov. 21, sixth floor, Indoor Club Room. Cost is \$18. A stadium tour will begin at 5 p.m., with a pregame party 5:30-7 p.m. The event precedes the Bulldogs vs. Gophers men's hockey game at Mariucci Arena. There will be game viewing on multiple screens in the Indoor Club Room. For registration and more information, call 218-726-7110.

"AN EXTRAORDINARY EVENING OF OPERA SCENES" will feature the singers of UMD Opera Studio presenting scenes from some of the repertoire's most beautiful operas. Nov. 20 and 21, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Tickets: \$8 adult, \$7 seniors, \$5 students, \$3 UMD students. For tickets and a full listing of musical events, see [music](#) or call 218-726-8877.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION THROUGH STUDY ABROAD brown bag event is sponsored by the Alworth International Institute and is part of the International Education Week. UMD students and faculty will discuss study abroad experiences. Nov. 19, noon, Library Rotunda. For more information, see [study abroad](#).

Morris:

"A CAROL CONCERT WITH CHARLIE BROWN" is the 32nd annual Carol Concert to be held Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m., and Dec. 6, 2 p.m., Morris Area Schools Concert Hall. Advanced tickets are available. For more information, see [Charlie Brown](#).

UMM HAS PARTNERED WITH THE MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY (MPCA) and ServeMinnesota to launch Minnesota GreenCorps. The new program is an environmentally focused AmeriCorps program administered by MPCA that aims to protect and preserve Minnesota's environment while developing the next generation of environmental professionals. For more information, see [GreenCorps](#).

STUDENTS IN MICHAEL EBLE'S PAINTING COURSES are creating Morris townscapes, capturing scenes from throughout the community. Students will donate the artwork as a service-learning project and gift to the community. For the past four years, students have combined their knowledge and love of art with a service-learning project. Their work will be hung in the Common Cup coffeehouse, downtown Morris. For more information, see [artwork](#).

ART GALLERY EXHIBIT: "Environmental Aesthetics:" Works by Michael Eble and Carey Netherton. Eble, an associate professor of studio art, creates paintings of natural elements and whimsical shapes to evoke environmental appreciation. Netherton plays with the tension between hybridity and incongruity to question the relationship between the natural and industrial aspects of society through sculptural works. Nov. 19 to Dec. 17, St. Paul Student Center.

Rochester:

UMR is sponsoring a one-day "Crash Course for the Motorcyclist." The course is geared toward the lay-rescuer and as a refresher for emergency medical services. Participants will be taught what to do in the first 5-30 minutes after a crash until professional help arrives. CEUs issued upon request. January 30, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., 417 University Square. For preregistration, see [crash course](#).

Twin Cities:

A NEW UNIVERSITY RIDESHARE COMMUNITY FOR FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS, the Zimride Rideshare Community, is an easy-to-use private network that reduces campus traffic and provides substantial cost savings. Since Zimride's launch in September, more than 850 U community members have signed up. Create a profile, post ride offers or requests, and find friends, classmates, and colleagues with similar commute patterns at [Zimride](#).

THE 2009 COMMUNITY FUND DRIVE RAISED NEARLY \$1.2 MILLION FOR LOCAL CHARITIES. Approximately 5,000 of the U's eligible employees participated, or about 33 percent--a three percent increase in participation over last year and the third highest participation level in the past decade and a half. Five units raised their individual participation rates by more than 25 percent. For more information, including college and unit participation rates, see [2009 CFD totals](#).

COPYRIGHT PERMISSION REQUESTS FOR SPRING 2010 course materials should be submitted to the Copyright Permissions Center ASAP. Source information may be dropped off at any Printing Services location, faxed to 612-626-9810, mailed to 102 Printing Services Building, or [submitted online](#). For more information, e-mail Dale.Mossestad or call 612-626-9416.

THE U IS NEAR THE TOP IN STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPATION and international student enrollment, according to the annual "Open Doors" report on international study abroad, released by the Institute of International Education. UMTC ranks third nationwide among research institutions, highest ranking ever for the U. Other U campuses also ranked high in the report. For more information, see the [news release](#).

UNIVERSITY OPERA THEATRE PRESENTS "Stravinsky in Paris," three short operas from Igor Stravinsky, Nov. 19-22, Ted Mann Concert Hall. Directed by David Walsh; conducted by School of Music students Foster Beyers, Christina Chen-Beyers, and Jeffrey Specht. Tickets: \$20 general admission; \$10 U students (two-for-one tickets for U students, faculty, and staff). For more information, call 612-624-2345 or see [Stravinsky](#).

THE 48TH ANNUAL U OF M MARCHING BAND INDOOR CONCERT will take place Nov. 21, 7 p.m., and Nov. 22, 3 p.m., Northrop Memorial Auditorium. Program selections include traditional favorites and crowd pleasers from halftime shows. For tickets and more information, see [Northrop ticket office](#) or call 612-624-2345.

IN HONOR OF WORLD AIDS DAY 2009, a number of awareness presentations and information sessions will take place Nov. 30, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., University International Center. RSVP by Nov. 27 to [Global Spotlight](#) or by calling 612-626-8832. For more information, see [World AIDS Day](#).

THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE will be holding their first Pecha Kucha-style event (a quick presentation format) featuring 10 short, entertaining presentations given by faculty, staff, and students on the topic "Google@UMN," followed by breakout discussion sessions. Dec. 2, 2-4 p.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. For more information, see [Google@UMN](#).

IRB REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS OF RESEARCHERS AND RESEARCH STAFF IN THE CONTEXT OF ACCREDITATION will be the topic for the next Clinical Research Coordinators' Group meeting. Moira Keane, executive director of the Human Research Protection Program, will describe expectations with respect to researchers and research staff. The session will prepare participants for site visit interviews. Open to anyone in the research community. Dec. 3, 1-2:30 p.m., 5-125 Moos Tower.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE FORMER EDITOR AND AUTHOR LEWIS H. LAPHAM will speak at the U during a lecture and book signing. *The New York Times* has likened Lewis H. L. Mencken, *Vanity Fair* has suggested a strong resemblance to Mark Twain, and best-selling author Tom Wolfe compared him to Montaigne. Lapham will speak about the tribulations of the printed word in the wilderness of cyberspace. "Mixed Media" will take place Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., Elmer L. Andersen Library. Reservations are requested by Nov. 25 by calling 612-624-9339 or e-mailing [author event](#). For more information, see [Harper's Magazine](#).

A FOUR-DAY INTERACTIVE VIDEO COURSE, "Secure Coding in Java/JEE," will be offered by the SANS Institute, an organization known as the best and most trusted source for computer security training. Hosted by the Office of Information Technology. Jan. 5-8. For registration (limited to 50) and more information, see [interactive video](#).

MORE EVENTS include Harald Rohrachner, Social Science Research for Green Technology Development ([Nov. 19](#)); The Redesign of Design: Computer, Architect, Corporation ([Nov. 20](#)); John Borchert Lecture ([Nov. 20](#)); The Stories - Talking Suitcases: Gathering Life Stories in a Diverse World ([Nov. 21](#)); *Feminist Studies* Colloquium Series 2009-2010 ([Nov. 22](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE [TWIN CITIES CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
 - [Campus Conversations](#)
 - [Features](#)
 - [People](#)
 - [Resources for Internal Communications](#)
-
- Related Links**
- [Office of the President](#)
 - [Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (11-25-2009)

 Vol. XXXIX No. 38; November 25, 2009
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: Brief will not be published on Dec. 30 and Jan. 6. Publication will resume on Jan. 13. All submissions for the Jan. 13 issue are due no later than noon, Jan. 8.

Inside This Issue

--November Federal Relations Report.
 --Features: Photography exhibit: Focusing on IT women faculty.
 --People: Dean and School of Nursing professor Connie Delaney is the 2009 recipient of the American Medical Informatics Association Virginia K. Saba Informatics Award; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events
[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

NOVEMBER FEDERAL RELATIONS REPORT. FY 2010 appropriations bills include modest boosts for science and higher education priorities. It appears unlikely that any further economic stimulus legislation would include either research funding or help for students, but the struggling economy is pressuring elected officials to act in unexpected ways. The Obama administration has asked all domestic agencies to model flat funding or even a 5 percent cut, signaling a very tight fiscal environment. For the U research community, the central focus will be ensuring that the administration and Congressional leadership live up to their commitments to basic research and increased higher education attainment. For more information, read the November 2009 [Federal Relations Report](#).

FEATURE: A PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT OF WOMEN FACULTY IN THE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (IT) was created by IT communications specialist Nancy Johnson, who received an IDEA (Innovation, Diversity, Equity, and Achievement) grant from the Office of Equity and Diversity. In a college dedicated to the advancement of technology, the exhibit captures in black-and-white photographs the people behind the change. Nov. 27 through July 4, Minnesota History Center, St. Paul. Public opening reception Dec. 1, 5-8 p.m., Minnesota History Center. For more information, read "[Focusing on IT women faculty](#)."

PEOPLE: Dean and School of Nursing professor Connie Delaney was selected as the 2009 recipient of the American Medical Informatics Association Virginia K. Saba Informatics Award; School of Nursing associate professor Christine Mueller was selected as the 2009-10 chair of the Expert Panel on Aging for the American Academy of Nursing; School of Nursing associate professor Margaret Moss was selected as one of two cochairs of the panel; ZERO TO THREE selected UMD associate professor Mary Ann Marchel to participate in the Leaders for the 21st Century Fellowship program; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**University-wide:**

U OF M MOMENT: Gobble up Minnesota turkeys. It's an \$800 million industry right under our beaks and most Minnesotans don't even know about it. Turkey production in the state is tops in the nation and, in a time of diet and nutrition consciousness, that's a good thing, says Sally Noll, Extension professor in turkey production. For more information, listen to [turkey talk](#).

Crookston:

THE THIRD ANNUAL WOMEN'S HOLIDAY SOCIAL raises money for student scholarships. Proceeds from the silent auction, raffle, and live auction go to the Women's Project Fund to support and recognize scholarly work and service at UMC. Dec. 1, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Holiday gift baskets can be viewed beginning at 3 p.m. Bidding and drawings 4-7 p.m. For more information, see [holiday social](#).

DURING WORLD AIDS DAY, UMC Student Health will provide an information booth related to HIV/STD awareness. Dec. 1, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Sargeant Student Center. For more information, call Stacey Grunewald at 218-281-8512.

Duluth:

ASTRONOMY LESSONS FROM *STAR WARS*, sponsored by the Alworth Planetarium, will show what the movie series has to teach about astronomy. Find out how Han Solo could do the Kessel Run in 12 Parsecs. Nov. 25, 7 p.m., Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Star Wars](#).

UMD WEBER MUSIC HALL will present a performance by Guitar Ensemble I and II, directed by Billy Baranard (I) and Jacob Jonker (II). Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Tickets: adults \$8, seniors \$7, students \$5, UMD students \$3. For more information, see [musical events](#) or call 218-726-8877.

Morris:

PHYSICS STUDENTS LAUNCHED A SCIENTIFIC BALLOON as part of Professor Gordon McIntosh's experimental physics class, the first such project at UMM, on Nov. 14. Carefully attached in Styrofoam boxes or "pods," data collection equipment captured information for student experiments as the balloon ascended to nearly 90,000 feet and traveled more than 70 miles. Increasing in size as it rose, the 10-foot balloon grew to 30 feet in diameter before it exploded and floated gently to the ground by parachute, landing in a tree. For more information, see [balloon experiment](#).

UMM ART CLUB WILL HOST ITS ANNUAL HOLIDAY SALE featuring work of student and area artists. The campus tradition offers a wide variety of items for purchase, including paintings, prints, photographs, ceramic pieces, handmade jewelry, and knit items. Dec. 3-5, Humanities Fine Arts Gallery. For more information, see [holiday sale](#).

Rochester:

KTTC TELEVISION RECENTLY RAN A FEATURE about UMR's planned expansion. For more information, [watch the video](#).

Twin Cities:

THE U POLICE DEPARTMENT IS A DROP SITE FOR TOYS FOR TOTS. Bring unwrapped toys to the lobby of the Transportation and Safety Building, 511 Washington Ave. S.E. The last day to drop off toys is Dec. 18, 3 p.m. For gift suggestions, see the FAQ section at [Toys for Tots](#).

A \$6.5 MILLION GRANT HAS BEEN AWARDED TO THE INSTITUTE ON COMMUNITY INTEGRATION'S North Central Regional Resource Center (NCRRC). The NCRRC assists state education agencies and lead agencies in the systemic improvement of education programs, practices, and policies that affect infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. For more information, see [NCRRC grant](#), e-mail [Michael Sharpe](mailto:Michael.Sharpe) or call 612-626-8155.

A \$2.7 MILLION GRANT FOR FOREST BIOMASS RESEARCH awarded by the federal agriculture and energy departments will fund a U-led multistate study of whether forest-based biofuels are viable and sustainable. The study, led by assistant professor Anthony D'Amato, will involve analyzing the potential ecological and economic costs and benefits of harvesting woody biomass from forestland in the lake states of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. For more information, see [forest research grant](#).

VIDEO: PHYSICS OF FOOTBALL. Have you ever wondered how much force is involved in a football tackle? University of Minnesota physics professor Dan Dahlberg breaks down a tackle from the Minnesota Cal game using a stunning example featuring Gopher wide receiver Eric Decker. For more information, [watch the video](#).

"IT ALL ADDS UP" IS NEARING 10,000 ENERGY PLEDGES. The west bank made a huge contribution to the energy conservation campaign on Nov. 10 by making 1,000 pledges at the West Bank Energy Showcase. The campaign's total now exceeds 8,000. A last drawing to win an iPod this semester will come on the last day of fall classes, Dec. 16. Enter to win by taking the energy pledge at "[It All Adds Up](#)."

"FACULTY MEMBER AS MENTOR: Best Practices for Mentoring Graduate Students Successfully" will identify effective mentoring practices, barriers, tools, and resources. The interactive workshop will explore best mentoring practices in the context of communications, climate, conflict, and networking. Sponsored by the Graduate School and the Student Conflict Resolution Center. Dec. 3, 3-5 p.m., rooms A-C, Campus Club, Coffman Union. Space is limited and [early registration is encouraged](#). For more information, e-mail [Vicki Field](mailto:Vicki.Field) or call 612-625-6532.

CARING FOR A PARENT WITH MEMORY LOSS conference with School of Nursing professor Joseph Gaugler and other speakers will include exercise as a way to manage and prevent memory loss; driving and memory loss, from the initial conversation to the transition from driving; financial and estate planning in dementia; holistic care and alternative approaches to managing memory loss; and onsite care support. Continental breakfast and lunch provided. Free and open to the public, but preregistration is required. Dec. 5, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., 2-650 Moos Tower. For registration and more information, e-mail [memory loss](mailto:memory_loss) or call 612-626-2485.

SEASONAL DISCOUNT TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE at the Student Unions & Activities Information Desks. Spirit Mountain lift tickets and The Depot Ice Rink tickets can be found at the Coffman Memorial Union and the St. Paul Student Center information desks. For more information, see [discounts and deals](#).

SUBMIT A THEME IDEA FOR HOMECOMING 2010 and be entered into a prize drawing for a \$50 Mesa pizza gift card. Ideas must be submitted by Dec. 11. For more information, see [homecoming ideas](#).

MORE EVENTS include World AIDS Awareness Presentations ([Nov. 30](#)); What Barbarism Is? ([Nov. 30](#)); Art Dubai: A presentation by Laura Trelford and Haig Aivazian ([Dec. 1](#)); Benefit Jewelry Sale ([Dec. 2](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

 UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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What's Inside

[Brief](#)[Campus Conversations](#)[Features](#)[People](#)[Resources for Internal Communications](#)

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Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (12-2-2009)Vol. XXXIX No. 39; December 2, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Brief publication calendar:** Brief will not be published on Dec. 30 and Jan. 6. Publication will resume on Jan. 13. All submissions for the Jan. 13 issue are due no later than noon, Jan. 8.For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#). Follow us on Twitter at [UFacultyStaff](#).**Inside This Issue**--Save the date: 2010 legislative briefing.
--The U FY 2009 annual report is now available online.
--People: Jasjit Ahluwalia has been awarded the 2010 Cullen Award; and more.**Campus Announcements and Events**[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)SAVE THE DATE: 2010 LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING. The legislative briefing and reception will take place Jan. 27, 5:30-7:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. President Bruininks will preview the U's 2010 legislative request and talk about the challenges higher education faces in a difficult economy. Guest speaker Mary Lahammer will share insights as a U alumna and political journalist. A live videocast of the event will be available to all campuses. The briefing is an opportunity for faculty, staff, and students to speak on behalf of the U. Details will be posted Dec. 16 on the [event registration page](#).THE U FISCAL YEAR 2009 ANNUAL REPORT IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE. In an effort to reduce the costs associated with this publication, hard copies are not being distributed. The annual report includes the independent auditors' report, financial statements, footnotes, and management's discussion and analysis. To view the report, see the [2009 Annual Report PDF](#). For questions regarding the report, e-mail [Terri Carlson](mailto:Terri.Carlson).PEOPLE: Jasjit Ahluwalia, executive director of the Center for Health, has been awarded the 2010 Cullen Award; a retirement recognition for UMC associate professor Charles "Chuck" Habstritt will be held Dec. 9; UMD playwright Tom Isbell's family musical production *Teddy Roosevelt and the Ghostly Mistletoe* will appear at the Kennedy Center from Dec. 5-30; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:THREE NEW ONLINE SERVICES HAVE BEEN LAUNCHED for U faculty, staff, and students. A new [events calendar](#) allows sorting of campus events by sponsor, location, audience, or categories, including arts and culture, conferences, workshops, seminars, lectures, sports and recreation, and more. New interactive [campus maps](#) work much like Google Maps, with navigational tools such as zoom, aerial view, detailed building information, and "print to PDF." [Social networking guidelines](#) have been developed for U-wide use. "For more information about the development and implementation of these online services, and to stay current on these and future projects, see the [eCommunications blog](#)."THE SUCCESSFUL MANAGER'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM WILL HOLD A FREE INFORMATION SESSION (SMLP). Mid- to top-level managers are invited to learn how the SMLP can help them effectively apply sound leadership principles. Dec. 10, 10-11 a.m., 210 Donhowe. For more information, see [SMLP information session](#).NEW EDUCATION ABROAD TOOL: Education abroad offices systemwide have launched a new online profile and application system that will help students connect with the University about their education abroad interests, apply for a program, and track the steps needed to manage their departure. The system also includes PeopleSoft pages and UM reports for staff and administrators. Students interested in programs for fall 2010 and later will find the profile and application on their campus's education abroad Web site. For more information, see [education abroad](#).THE TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM'S sixth cohort began its training in October on the Twin Cities campus. Eighteen talented University employees are tackling process improvement projects that will benefit departments and colleges well into the future. Projects include efforts to streamline department processes and reduce unnecessary steps and costs, as well as student improvement and more. Cohort six participants will resume their training in January and complete the program in spring 2010. For more information, see [TLP sixth cohort](#).**Crookston:**A PERFORMANCE OF *POETIC CAPTIVITY*, a drama written and directed by UMC senior Deborah Halstad that focuses on the sacrifices of the country's service men and women, will take place Dec. 12, 4:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. A free will offering will be taken at the door, and all proceeds will support the Disabled American Veterans charity. For more information, see [Poetic Captivity](#).AG AND NATURAL RESOURCES ACTIVITIES DAY will bring some 1,300 high school students to the Crookston campus. The competition, held at UMC for more than 30 years, is overseen by faculty in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department. Last year nearly 50 high schools participated in the event. Dec. 4. For more information, see [natural resources activities day](#).**Duluth:**UMD HOLIDAY MUSICAL PERFORMANCES INCLUDE Vocal Jazz (Lake Effect and Chill Factor), Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.; Sounds of the Season: Chamber and Symphony Orchestras (UMD Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra), Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.; Sounds of the Season: Choral Ensembles (Concert Chorale), Dec. 6, 1:30 p.m.; Sounds of the Season: Concert Band and Symphonic Wind Ensemble (Concert Band), Dec. 6, 4 p.m. Tickets: adults \$8, seniors \$7, students \$5, UMD students \$3. For more information, see [UMD music](#).CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH will be awarded to Joseph Gallian, professor of mathematics and statistics. The award is given each year to recognize the research and scholarly contributions of a UMD faculty member and to provide opportunities to present developing research to a broad audience. Following the ceremony, professor Gallian will present the seminar entitled "A Mathematics Sampler." Dec. 7, 3:30 p.m., 70 Montague Hall. A reception will follow in the Griggs Center (Kirby Student Center). Open to the public. For more information, call 218-726-7576 or see [awards ceremony](#).A ST. ANDREW'S NIGHT CELEBRATION evening includes local Scottish entertainment and a presentation by William Henderson, director, Alworth International Institute, entitled, "Burns' Country: A Photographic Portrait." Dec. 3, 6 p.m., Griggs Center. For more information, e-mail Alworth or see [Alworth online](#).PERFORMANCE OF "SAUSAGE!" Dec. 3-5, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 6, 2 p.m.; Dec. 8-12, 7:30 p.m. Marshall Performing Arts Center. The Dec. 6, 2 p.m. performance will be American Sign Language interpreted, sponsored by the UMD Access for All program. For more information, see [performing arts](#).**Morris:**FORESTS IN WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA may be more resilient in the face of climate change than previous modeling studies would indicate. That is according to an article coauthored by associate professor of biology Pete Wyckoff and Rachel Bowers, '03, titled "Response of the prairie/forest border to climate change: impacts of increasing drought may be mitigated by increasing CO₂," recently published by the *Journal of Ecology*--an official journal of the British Ecological Society.FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS, UMM STUDENTS have combined their knowledge and love of art with a service-learning project for the community. This year, students in associate professor of studio art Michael Eble's painting courses are creating Morris townscapes, capturing scenes from throughout the community. Their work will be hung in the Common Cup coffeehouse, downtown Morris. For more information, see [service-learning project](#) or view the [photographs online](#).**Rochester:**A SNEAK PEEK OF UMR will introduce potential students to the bachelor of science in health sciences degree. The brief campus visit will give attendees the information needed in determining whether UMR is right for the student. Dec. 4, 2-4:30 p.m. For registration and more information, see [UMR sneak peek](#).**Twin Cities:**FRONTIERS IN THE ENVIRONMENT LECTURE SERIES has two more lectures this year, including "What Happens When 4,000+ Classrooms in 30 Countries Explore the Arc Together?: Environmental Stewardship with assistant professor Aaron Doering, Dec. 2; and "Sustainable Cities: Urban Design for Human Health and the Environment" with assistant professor Julian Marshall, Dec. 9. Lectures are noon-1 p.m, IonE Seminar Room 380, VoTech Bldg., St. Paul campus. Free and open to the public; no registration required. For more information, including a link to a live online broadcast, see the [Frontiers page](#). The spring 2010 series kicks off Feb. 3.THE WEISMAN ART MUSEUM STORE'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOPPING CELEBRATION begins Dec. 3. WAM members and U of M students, faculty, and staff save all week during the WAM Store's Discount Days with a 20 percent discount on everything in the store. Dec. 3 to 7. For more information, see [Be Dazzled](#)."SUCCESSFUL FACULTY MENTORING RELATIONSHIPS IN AN INTERDISCIPLINARY WORLD" is a workshop for faculty with interdisciplinary interests who wish to develop their mentoring skills or improve their mentoring relationships, or faculty who are seeking mentors. The workshop is also intended for administrators responsible for mentoring interdisciplinary faculty. Topics will include specific issues that arise for interdisciplinary faculty during the promotion-and-tenure review process and how effective mentoring relationships can ensure faculty academic and career success. Dec. 16, 3-5 p.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. For registration, see [OneStop](#). E-mail mentoring with questions or call 612-626-6104.FINAL "IT ALL ADDS UP" IPOD GIVEAWAY. The last chance to win an iPod this semester from It all adds up will come on the last day of fall classes, Dec. 16. Enter to win an iPod by taking the energy pledge today at [it all adds up](#).WINTER BOWLING DEALS at the Student Unions and Activities Gamerooms are available to any staff, faculty, or department. Reservations made between Dec. 1 and Jan. 31 will receive 15 percent off the total reservation and 10 percent off all advance food orders. For more information, see [gamerooms](#).MORE EVENTS include Design @ Noon ([Dec. 2](#)); Will newspapers survive? U of M media expert Nora Paul to speak about future for news organizations ([Dec. 3](#)); "The Wheat Flour Tortilla: Historical Origins of a Northern Mexican Icon" ([Dec. 3](#)); The Erosion of Writing Skills ([Dec. 4](#)); A Month in the Country ([Dec. 5](#)); Discipline v. Discrimination ([Dec. 8](#)); "Sex, Politics, and Transnational (Jewish) Comedy: The Films of Ernst Lubitsch" ([Dec. 9](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication. All Twin Cities event submissions are handled through the events calendar at <http://events.tc.umn.edu>.*Brief* is published by e-mail and on the Web at <http://www.umn.edu/umnnews/Publications/Brief.html>.**Notice:** *Brief* is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information. 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What's Inside

- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

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Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (12-9-2009)

Vol. XXXIX No. 40; December 9, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: Brief will not be published on Dec. 30 and Jan. 6. Publication will resume on Jan. 13. All submissions for the Jan. 13 issue are due no later than noon, Jan. 8.

For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#). Follow us on Twitter at [UFacultyStaff](#).

Inside This Issue

- Board of Regents meets Dec. 10-11.
- Features: Thrifty celebrations, Unexpected outcome, Through the chrysalis, Making the buck stop here.
- People: Jeffrey Gunderson named director of the Sea Grant program at UMD; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events

[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)

THE BOARD OF REGENTS DECEMBER MEETING will include discussion and action on a number of key initiatives, including the state of University research funding, initiatives to improve graduation rates for undergraduate students, and the new Bioscience Discovery District. There will also be updates on the U's strategic positioning effort as well as UMore Park. Dec. 10-11, McNamara Alumni Center. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

FEATURE: There's something about a bad economy that brings us back to the basics. Having less disposable income forces us to simplify, and sometimes, simplicity is best. When times are tough, we tend to rediscover our roots, bring back old traditions, and spend more quality time together. We remember that the simple things don't cost much. And the simple things are good. A new staff and faculty blog solicits cost-saving ideas for holiday, cultural, and family celebrations. For more information, read [Thrifty celebrations](#).

FEATURE: Rising levels of carbon dioxide will overheat the planet and threaten marine life by acidifying the ocean, but they may help counteract losses of biodiversity from another climate villain. Work by researcher and regents professor Peter Reich shows that rising CO2 could, in fact, mitigate the loss of biodiversity brought about by nitrogen pollution. For more information, read "[Unexpected outcome](#)."

FEATURE: In solving a 20-year puzzle about insect metamorphosis, a University research team has taken a big step toward the design of better insecticides and understanding the onset of human puberty, which has a similar mechanism. Led by professor of genetics, cell biology, and development, Michael O'Connor, the researchers studied PTTH, a brain-produced hormone that triggers the mechanism of metamorphosis by acting like a key fitting into a lock. For more information, read "[Through the chrysalis](#)."

FEATURE: The current recession is taking a toll on the tourism industry nationwide. The U's Tourism Center is helping tourism-dependent communities and businesses in the state to compete effectively for the travel dollar. The center is a network of individuals—including Extension educators reaching the entire state—who support tourism-dependent communities and businesses, according to Ingrid Schneider, director of the center. For more information, read "[Making the buck stop here](#)."

PEOPLE: Jeffrey Gunderson has been named director of the University of Minnesota Sea Grant program at UMD; Brad Hokanson has been named director of the U's Design Institute; Minnesota senators Sandra Pappas and Claire Robling were named University of Minnesota Alumni Association 2009 Legislators of the Year; U of M and Virginia Tech have been awarded a grant to complete the sequencing of the turkey genome; the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly was named Organization of the Year at the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students conference; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:

THE UNIVERSITY'S ANNUAL REPORT ON GIVING IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE. The 2009 report focuses on donors and individuals joining together to address the world's critical challenges. The report summarizes the impact of private giving to the U through both the University of Minnesota Foundation and the Minnesota Medical Foundation. 2009 marks the second biggest year of giving to the U in its history. For more information, [read the report](#).

NOMINATIONS FOR DISTINGUISHED MCKNIGHT UNIVERSITY PROFESSORSHIPS are invited by the Office of the Vice President for Research. The awards support the U's most outstanding mid-career faculty members who have recently achieved full-professor status. Deadline is Feb. 1. For more information and nomination instructions, see [McKnight nominations PDF](#).

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: 2010-2011 ENGAGED DEPARTMENTS. The Office for Public Engagement announces the availability of funding to support departments in developing or strengthening research- or teaching-focused University/community engagement initiatives for faculty and/or students. Deadline for proposals is Dec. 23. For more information, see [engaged departments RFP](#).

A DRAFT OF THE REVISED INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST POLICY is available online for comment. Over the past year, a University committee has considered the many complicated issues involving conflicts of interest. The time period for review and comment has been extended through Dec. 31. For more information or to comment on the policy, see [conflict of interest](#).

U OF M MOMENT: Many know that Lake Itasca is the headwaters of the country's greatest river, the Mississippi, but few are aware of its leading scientific research and teaching facility, the Itasca Biological Station. The station is a scientific hub to monitor and improve the state's environment and water quality. At 100 years old, it needs repairs and is part of the U's current bonding request to the legislature. Michael Sadowsky, director of the Biotechnology Institute, is coordinating the Minnesota Mississippi Metagenome Project at the station and says it's a valuable learning opportunity for students. For more information, listen to the [U of M Moment](#).

P & A AUDIO SPOTLIGHT: A 28-year veteran of the University, Vickie Courtney, coordinator of the University Senate Office, says she's always fascinated by the traditions of higher education governance. For more information, listen to [Audio Spotlight](#).

Crookston:

UMC's SPORT AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION announced that it will be hosting the first annual "White Out" women's and men's basketball games and clothing drive, Dec. 11, 6 p.m. Fans are encouraged to wear a white t-shirt to the games at Lysaker Gymnasium and bring donations of gently used clothing or shoes. Fans who bring items for the drive will receive half-priced admission and a free popcorn or candy from the concession stand. Donations to the clothing and shoe drive will be given to the local Care and Share. For more information, see [basketball games](#).

STUDENTS IN MARKETING RESEARCH AND INTEGRATED MARKETING COMMUNICATION had the opportunity to apply what they've learned in the classroom to address the needs of a real-world client. Business instructor Rachel Lundbohm's classes had the opportunity to synthesize current research and develop plans to address the specific needs of several area businesses and organizations. For more information, see [real-world application](#).

LARRY SMITH, head of the Northwest Research and Outreach Center, has been named a recipient of the Sugarbeet Distinguished Service Award for 2009. The Sugarbeet Research & Education Board presented the award to Smith at the American Crystal Sugar Company meeting Dec. 3. For more information, see [sugarbeet service](#).

Duluth:

TRUMAN CAPOTE'S *A CHRISTMAS MEMORY* will be presented by UMD English Professor Joseph Maiolo. Maiolo is a performer, teacher, and award-winning writer whose annual reading of this classic story is a popular holiday tradition in the Duluth community. Free and open to the public. Dec. 11, 4 p.m., Weber Music Hall. For more information, call the UMD English Department at 218-726-8228.

UMD JAZZ ENSEMBLES I and II will perform under director Ryan Frane (Ensemble I) head, UMD Jazz Studies Program, and Tom Pfothenhauer (Ensemble II). Tickets: adults \$8, seniors \$7, students \$5, UMD students \$3. Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. For tickets and more information, or a listing of events, call 218-726-8877 or see [UMD music](#).

GLENSHEEN HOLIDAY BRUNCHES at the Glensheen Mansion begin with a festive tour of Glensheen followed by a sumptuous holiday brunch, complete with a whimsical wassail toast. Dec. 12, 13, 19, and 20. The tour begins at 10 a.m., with brunch at 10:45. Price: adults \$26.95, children 6-12 \$15.95, free for those under 5. For more information, call 218-726-8921 or see [holiday brunches](#).

"HOLIDAY TEA FOR DOLLY AND ME" at the Glensheen Mansion is designed especially for kids. The pint-sized production includes a holiday program and sophisticated tea. Kids and a special doll are invited. Dec. 12, 2 p.m. Price: \$37 for one adult, one child (and one dolly). Additional adult or child is \$18.50. For more information, call 218-726-8921 or see [tea for me](#).

Morris:

THE CLASS OF 2010 WILL INSTATE THE UMM BIKESHARE PROGRAM AS A LEGACY to the campus. For the past three years, Morris seniors have come together to give back to the community that welcomed them during their time as students. Their gifts have included the walkway at the Community Services building, the disc golf course at Pomme de Terre Park, and the evergreen trees planted at Big Cat Stadium. For more information, see [BikeShare](#).

COMPUTER SCIENCE WAS CHOSEN AS A PARTNER in the Upper Midwest Information Assurance Faculty Development Project. Funded by a \$349,759 National Science Foundation grant, the project's goal is to advance knowledge in the fields of information assurance and computer security, support current faculty, enlarge the pool of qualified faculty, and increase the number of graduates in this high-demand area. For more information, see [NSF grant](#).

Rochester:

AT A "SNEAK PEAK" OF UMR Dec. 4, about 50 high school juniors and seniors and their families visited the campus. The students were greeted by the chancellor and received a campus tour, and a presentation on the bachelor of science in health sciences program, financial aid, and student services.

Twin Cities:

NEW FEATURE: UNIVERSITY EVENTS AND LECTURES PREVIEW/REVIEW is a new, periodic column (about every two weeks) highlighting events and lectures recently past and soon-to-come on the University's Twin Cities campus. University staff and faculty are invited to contribute. Submissions should be no longer than 250 words and are subject to review by the Brief editor. For the first issue, see [preview/review](#).

WALK-IN PREVENTIVE HEALTH SCREENINGS ARE BEING OFFERED DEC. 9, 8-11 a.m., Boynton Health Service. The routine tests are available at no additional cost to UPlan members and UPlan-covered spouse or same-sex domestic partner. Tests include: fasting cholesterol and blood glucose testing, body mass index and body composition, and a blood pressure check. For more information, see the schedule of walk-in preventive screenings at [Boynton Health Service](#). Students, staff, and faculty (and their dependents) who are eligible to receive H1N1 vaccine can receive the vaccine at no out-of-pocket cost Dec. 9, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Coffman Memorial Union, Great Hall.

GOOD DESIGN: STORIES FROM HERMAN MILLER, explores the collaborative problem-solving design process employed at the world-renowned furniture company, Herman Miller, Inc. Organized by the Muskegon Museum of Art in collaboration with The Henry Ford, Dearborn, Michigan, the exhibition draws upon The Henry Ford's Herman Miller Design Collection—a comprehensive archive of the company's innovative processes and products. Now through Jan. 17, [Goldstein Museum of Design](#).

THE U OF M BOOKSTORE WILL HOLD A FACULTY AND STAFF HOLIDAY EVENT. Faculty and staff receive a 20 percent discount on most merchandise and free gift-wrapping. Savings excludes textbooks, medical reference books, medical instruments, electronics, computers, software, caps and gowns, college rings, and special orders. Dec. 10, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM IS OFFERING A SPECIAL HOLIDAY MEMBERSHIP promotion. Memberships start at \$45 and can be purchased as a gift. Memberships purchased now through Dec. 31 receive a \$10 gift card to Santorini's Taverna and Grill in Eden Prairie. Benefits include free admission and reciprocal privileges at over 200 arboreta and gardens around the country, discounts at the gift store and on arboretum classes, and more. Gift cards redeemable for an Arboretum art or gardening class or merchandise are also available. To order a tax-deductible membership online, see [arboretum](#) or call 952-443-1440.

CARE PACKAGES by Gopher Express convenience store in Coffman Memorial Union are available to surprise coworkers, students, or family members. December's package (\$19.99) is "Let It Snow," filled with traditional winter favorites like cocoa, popcorn, and sweet treats. For more information or to order online, see [care packages](#).

MORE EVENTS include Interactive Panels: The Art of Community Partnership ([Dec. 9](#)); Labor Relations at the University ([Dec. 10](#)); David Queller, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Rice University ([Dec. 11](#)); Amplified! Featuring Mates of State ([Dec. 12](#)); Dance Revolutions ([Dec. 13](#)); Robot Show ([Dec. 14](#)); Verbal and Nonverbal Communication Skills ([Dec. 15](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. You can send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication. All Twin Cities event submissions are handled through the events calendar at <http://events.tc.umn.edu>.

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What's Inside

[Brief](#)[Campus Conversations](#)[Features](#)[People](#)[Resources for Internal Communications](#)

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Brief

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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (12-16-2009)Vol. XXXIX No. 41; December 16, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Brief publication calendar:** Brief will not be published on Dec. 30 and Jan. 6. Publication will resume on Jan. 13. All submissions for the Jan. 13 issue are due no later than noon, Jan. 8.For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#). Follow us on Twitter at [UFacultyStaff](#).**Inside This Issue**

--Board of Regents December meeting highlights.

--Features: Power ranger; Calendar politics.

--People: The Alumni Association will honor CEO Margaret Sughrue Carlson for 25 years of service; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)BOARD OF REGENTS DECEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS. The Board of Regents heard updates on a number of key issues at the December meeting, including the state of University research funding, UMore Park, and initiatives to improve graduation rates for undergraduate students. State economist Tom Stinson and state demographer Tom Gillaspay gave an update on Minnesota's recently released economic forecast, which projected a deficit of \$1.2 billion for the current biennium and \$5.4 billion in 2012-13. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).FEATURE: U of M electrical and computer engineering professor Massoud Amin wants to transform our country's energy system. A "smart" electric grid supplied by renewable sources would power everything from household appliances to cars. For more information, read "[Power ranger](#)."FEATURE: For most of us, the holidays we celebrate derive from our religious traditions, national history, or a specific connection to our culture or ethnicity. Rarely do we think of holidays as being a response to mainstream culture. Kwanzaa, the seven-day celebration of "First Fruits," is just such a holiday. Professor Keith Mayes of the Department of African American and African Studies has published the first scholarly book connecting Kwanzaa and the Black Power movement. For more information, read "[Calendar politics](#)."PEOPLE: The University of Minnesota Alumni Association will honor CEO Margaret Sughrue Carlson for her 25 years of service; the Republic of Austria awarded Professor Gary Cohen its Medal of Honor for Science and Art, First Class; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:CELL PHONE AND PDA BUSINESS EXPENSES: ANNUAL REVIEW REQUIRED for supplemental compensation. Employees receiving supplemental compensation must confirm their eligibility annually. All billings and documentation used to determine qualification should be retained for audit and compliance purposes. For those who qualify, this policy authorizes \$65 monthly (or \$30 per pay period) in supplemental taxable compensation for cell phones or \$130 per month (or \$60 per pay period) in supplemental compensation for cellular PDAs. Departments are responsible for ensuring that compensation amounts are correct. For more information, see the [policy statement](#).THE IRS ANNOUNCED CHANGES IN STANDARD BUSINESS MILEAGE RATES FOR 2010. Beginning Jan. 1, the standard business mileage reimbursement rate for personal vehicle use (on approved University business) decreases from 55 to 50 cents per mile. The standard mileage rate for moving expenses decreases from 24 to 16.5 cents per mile. Business mileage incurred in 2009 but reimbursed in 2010 should be reimbursed using the 2009 mileage rate. The Employee Expense Worksheet (UM 1612) accommodates these changes. For more information, see the rates section of [Traveling on University Business](#).TWO POLICY DRAFTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR COMMENT: The new "Wireless Technology Infrastructure" policy draft states that individuals and units who wish to connect to the University's campus network must use wireless network devices that are owned and centrally managed by the U to ensure integrity and security. In addition, the "Withholding Degrees from Students with Financial Obligations" policy has been amended to reference withholding "official transcripts and diplomas" instead of "degrees." Its scope has also expanded to include students with other types of obligations (e.g., student conduct code) to satisfy. For more information, see [policy changes](#).GOPHERMAIL 2.0 IS NOW AVAILABLE, and replaces Gophermail 1, which will be decommissioned Jan. 6. After Jan. 6, e-mail can be accessed only through Gophermail 2.0 or a U of M Gmail account. To find out if you are eligible for Gmail, see [Google Apps](#). Gophermail 2.0 includes faster response time, the ability to view and forward HTML and attachments, and the ability to save message drafts. Clients may begin using Gophermail 2.0 immediately. For more information, see [Gophermail 2.0](#). Questions and comments should be directed to 1-HELP at 612-301-4357 or via [Live Online Help](#).FORMER DALE CARNEGIE CEO WILL HEADLINE THE FOURTH ANNUAL QUALITY FAIR. This year's Quality Fair theme is "Leadership at Every Level." This event is designed to benefit all U employees and will offer professional development techniques to save time and improve leadership capacity. Dozens of exhibits featuring outstanding improvement ideas from around the U, from the State of Minnesota, and from other institutions will be on hand. Stuart Levine, former CEO of Dale Carnegie & Associates, Inc., and author of *Cut to the Chase* and *The Six Fundamentals of Success*, will give the keynote address. Feb. 4, 2010, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., TCF Bank Stadium. For registration and more information, see [Quality Fair 2010](#).NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE. The award was established in 1997 to recognize faculty and staff who have provided exceptional service to the U. It is presented each year in the spring and honors active or retired faculty or staff members who have gone beyond their regular duties and have demonstrated an unusual commitment to the U. Nominations are due by March 5. Nominators must be current faculty or staff or alumni of the University. For more information, see [outstanding service](#).U OF M MOMENT: Protecting Woodward and Bernstein. Health care reform isn't the only bone of contention in Washington, D.C., this year. Another is known as the federal shield law and it would more strongly protect journalists from the obligation to reveal their anonymous sources. Media ethics and law professor Jane Kirtley says it opens up a debate about freedom of the press, when you consider high profile or national security issues. For more information, [listen to the feature](#).**Crookston:**THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY FACULTY AND STAFF GET-TOGETHER will be held Dec. 17, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Bede Ballroom. The theme is "Dashing through the Decades." All faculty and staff are invited, including those from UMC, the Crookston Regional Extension Office, the Northwest Research and Outreach Center, and the Area Health Education Center. For more information, see [holiday get-together](#).FEATURE: In August, hundreds of rooted poinsettia cuttings arrived in anticipation of the holiday season. Under the skill and coaxing of six students involved in UMC's commercial floriculture class, the cuttings have developed into a beautiful poinsettia crop. For more information, read [horticulture](#).**Duluth:**UMD HEAD FOOTBALL COACH BOB NIELSON IS A FINALIST in the Liberty Mutual NCAA Division II Coach of the Year contest. The winning coach receives \$50,000 for the charities of his choice, and the Alumni Association will receive \$20,000. Voting takes place Dec. 15-29. For more information, see [coach contest](#).THE UMD TWEED MUSEUM OF ART presents the UMD Faculty Exposition through Jan. 10. The show features work by Alison Aune, Steve Bardolph, David Bowen, Gloria DeFilipps Brush, Marian Colman, Jen Dietrich, Jennifer Gordon, Elizabeth James, Holly Anderson Jorde, James Klueg, Janice Kmetz, Vicky Lehman, Ryuta Nakajima, Robert Repenski, Eun-Kyung Suh, and Rob Wittig. Free and open to the public. For more information, call 218-726-8222 or see [Tweed Museum](#).HOLIDAY LIVING LITERATURE OF GLENSHEEN: O. HENRY'S "THE GIFT OF THE MAGI" will be performed Dec. 18 and 19, 7 p.m., Glensheen Historic Estate. Glensheen's spectacular Christmas decorations will adorn the festive mansion. The event includes a tour and refreshments. Tickets: \$32; \$27 for Friends of Glensheen. For more information, call 218-726-8921 or see [Glensheen](#).**Morris:**UMM PROFESSORS Chris Cole and Jon Anderson have coauthored research on the effects of increased levels of carbon dioxide on tree growth. The paper--also coauthored with University of Wisconsin, Madison, researchers--was published in the journal [Global Change Biology](#) on Dec. 4.*THE NATION*'s ANNUAL STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST has named Jeanette Blalock-Davis '11 a finalist. For more information, read the essay, "[The New Okies: Brain Drain in Class of '09](#)."**Rochester:**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE UPCOMING BICB RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM. The Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology Program will bring together teams of scientists, administrators, and students from the UMTC, UMR, the Hormel Institute, the Mayo Clinic, and IBM, as well as other researchers working in the field of biomedical informatics and computational biology. The goal of this event is to facilitate further collaborations in the area of biomedical informatics and computational biology. Jan. 15, UMR. For more information, see [BICB symposium](#).**Twin Cities:**THE OFFICE OF CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT (OCM) IS REQUESTING FEEDBACK from those who teach in general purpose classrooms. OCM e-mailed survey invitations Dec. 8 to faculty and staff who taught in a general-purpose classroom during fall semester. OCM encourages those who received the invitation to complete it by Dec. 28. The survey provides OCM with valuable input on the needs, expectations, and experiences of those who teach in these classrooms. For more information, contact the [Office of Classroom Management](#).WIRELESS NETWORK ENHANCEMENT. The Office of Information Technology (OIT) is in the process of enhancing the wireless network on the Twin Cities campus, with a goal of providing broader, more reliable wireless coverage. Since OIT created a single wireless network, wireless traffic has doubled at the U in one year. Continued exponential wireless network traffic growth is expected. For more information, see [wireless network](#).MORE EVENTS include Mentoring Interdisciplinary Scholars and Researchers ([Dec. 16](#)); Pride @ Work: Out After Work ([Dec. 17](#)); CURA Housing Forum ([Dec. 18](#)); TEMS Reading Group: Walter Benjamin's "The Origin of German Tragic Drama" ([Dec. 18](#)); NOTHING UNATTEMPTED: The Voyages of Captain James Cook ([through Dec. 31](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication. All Twin Cities event submissions are handled through the events calendar at <http://events.tc.umn.edu>.*Brief* is published by e-mail and on the Web at <http://www.umn.edu/umnnews/Publications/Brief.html>.**Notice:** *Brief* is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information. You may choose to unsubscribe from *Brief*, but please be aware that if you do, you will not receive this up-to-date information, compiled and delivered directly to you, in any other University communications. To unsubscribe, visit <http://www.umn.edu/umnnews/Publications/Brief/Subscribe.html>



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[Brief](#)[Campus Conversations](#)[Features](#)[People](#)[Resources for Internal Communications](#)

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Brief

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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (12-23-2009)Vol. XXXIX No. 42; December 23, 2009
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Brief publication calendar:** Brief will not be published Dec. 30 and Jan. 6. Publication will resume Jan. 13. All submissions for the Jan. 13 issue are due no later than noon, Jan. 8.For additional news, information, and resources about U faculty and staff, visit the [Faculty and Staff Web site](#). Follow us on Twitter at [UFacultyStaff](#).**Inside This Issue**

--Features: A new form of matter?; Smarter snowplows; Vitamin D and weight loss.

--People: Pam Cosby has been named executive director of the newly established Minnesota Urban Area Health Education Center; and more.

Campus Announcements and Events[University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)FEATURE: An invisible, mysterious "dark matter" accounts for the bulk of the mass of the Universe. But what is it? After eluding researchers for decades, it may finally have signaled its presence in northern Minnesota. For more information, read "[A new form of matter?](#)"FEATURE: New research at the U may shed light on the inner workings of shedding pounds. In a clinical study led by researcher Shalamar Sibley, higher levels of vitamin D were found to predict fat loss, especially in the abdominal area. For more information, read "[Vitamin D and weight loss.](#)"FEATURE: U researchers are developing technology that may make life easier for snowplow drivers. An enhanced friction-measurement system helps to determine exactly where slippery patches are on roads so that salt and sand can be targeted to those areas. For more information, read "[Smarter snowplows.](#)"PEOPLE: Marc Hillmyer, David Norris, and Carol Windels have been named Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; Pam Cosby has been named executive director of the newly established Minnesota Urban Area Health Education Center; Connie Delaney has been appointed as adviser to the Bonnie Wesorick Center for Healthcare Transformation; Department of English professor Ellen Messer-Davidow has received a Dr. Matthew Stark Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Award; U in the News features U faculty cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

University-wide:MULTIMEDIA: Sherlock Holmes, one of the best known fictional characters ever created, did most of his detective work in his home country of England. But the world's largest collection of Holmes documents and artifacts resides at the University of Minnesota Libraries. With more than 60,000 items, it's a unique resource for the public, says Tim Johnson, curator of the collection. For more information, see "[U of M is home to Holmes.](#)"THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM will celebrate winter and outdoor recreation Dec. 31, during "Ar-BRRR-etum Day." With its 8.5 miles of cross-country ski trails and 3.3 miles of snowshoe trails, the arboretum is a great place to burn off holiday calories and bid 2009 goodbye. Ar-BRRR-etum Day visitors receive complimentary hot chocolate from noon to 2 p.m., plus discounts in the gift store. For more information, see [Ar-BRRR-etum](#).**Crookston:**

SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS, Thomas Baldwin, returned from an international conference in Taiwan where he presented a paper entitled "Relevance for Life 'Our Curriculum.'" Part of the goal of the trip was to develop collaborative opportunities and discuss possible exchange programs for students and faculty. A "2+2" agreement--where students complete two years at their university before attending UMC for two years was renewed with Nan Kai University of Technology, and new 2+2 agreements were signed with National Taipei College of Business and China University of Science and Technology.

A UMC COOKBOOK featuring recipes from faculty and staff recently went to print. The price is \$15 per copy, with proceeds going to support student scholarships. To order a cookbook, contact [Patti Tiedemann](#), 218-281-8402 or [Linda Wilkens](#), 218-281-8403.**Duluth:**UMD STUDENT SEMESTER BREAK takes place from Dec. 22 to Jan. 18. Spring semester classes begin Jan. 19. "ARTS FOR HIRE: PRINTS FROM THE MINNESOTA WPA," featuring lithographs by Minnesota artists employed by the Works Progress Administration, 1933-43, will be shown through Jan. 3, Tweed Museum. For more information, call 218-726-8222 or see [Tweed Museum](#).UMD ASTRONOMY CLUB will hold a meeting Dec. 23, 7 p.m., Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium. The focus will be astronomical events surrounding Pluto, the dwarf planet. In addition, a "Future of Space Exploration" program discussing coming changes in astronomy will be held on Dec. 30, 7 p.m., Alworth Planetarium. Private shows are available by appointment for groups of 10 or more. For more information, call 218-726-7192 or see [astronomy](#).**Morris:**ALUMNUS SAL MONTEAGUDO, '99, was introduced as the fourth annual winner of the Morris Human Rights Award. The award is sponsored by the Morris Human Rights Commission and is presented to residents who further human rights in Morris. For more information, see [human rights](#).SHANNON LAMBERT, '01, WAS NAMED ONE OF THE 2009 L'Oréal Women of Worth. Lambert is the founder of Pandora's Project, a community where women who have survived rape can connect and support one another. For more information, see [women of worth](#).

THE COUGAR WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM has earned the National Soccer Coaches Association of America's "College Team Academic Award." The award was based on the year from fall 2008 through spring 2009, during which the women's soccer team posted a 3.21 grade point average. It's the 11th time the Cougar women's soccer team has earned the award.

Rochester:REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE UPCOMING BICB RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM. The Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology Program will bring together teams of scientists, administrators, and students from UMTC, UMR, the Hormel Institute, the Mayo Clinic, and IBM, as well as other researchers working in the field of biomedical informatics and computational biology. The goal of this event is to facilitate further collaborations in the area of biomedical informatics and computational biology. Jan. 15, UMR. For more information, see [BICB symposium](#).**Twin Cities:**"IT ALL ADDS UP" ENERGY CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN HAS COLLECTED 10,000 PLEDGES. In 2008, the U set the goal of reducing annual campus energy usage five percent by the end of 2010, which would save an estimated \$2.25 million each year and reduce CO2 emissions by 25,000 tons. To date, Energy Management has implemented more than \$1.9 million in energy savings measures and identified another \$4.3 million in savings that they expect to implement next year. These changes should reduce CO2 emissions by more than twice the 25,000-ton goal for 2010, saving the U approximately \$6 million annually. For more information, see the [news release](#).STAFF PROFILE: MEET PETE. Three years ago, the campus Meat Lab was tucked deep in a little-used basement hallway, with only a few customers and even fewer products. Retirements plus a lack of resources and enthusiasm had left the once-busy lab a mostly forgotten corner of CFANS' animal and food research. Then Pete Nelson arrived. For more information, read "[Meet Pete.](#)"IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 12 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, THE U HAS RECEIVED A \$2.9 MILLION GRANT to help close the digital divide in the Twin Cities. The federal stimulus funds will be used to develop and improve 11 computer labs throughout underserved neighborhoods. Vice President Joe Biden announced that the proposal from the U and its community partners was selected from among 2,200 received by the Department of Commerce. The grant was the only one given to a University and the largest in its category. The project will be implemented by the Office for Business and Community Economic Development and the Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center. Extension will also be involved. It's estimated that the project will create 36 new jobs and save 12 existing jobs. For more information, see the [news release](#).TEACHING WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS, SPRING 2010, will be offered by the Center for Teaching and Learning. Designed for U faculty and instructional staff, the semester-long seminars and hour-long workshops energize teaching and support course design innovations. The Just in Time Teaching series begins Jan. 12 with the workshop "Almost There! Taking Your Class from Ready to Remarkable." New seminars for Spring 2010 include: "Legacy Lectures: Creating Your Digital Teaching Story," and "Making a Difference: Designing Courses to Improve Student Learning and Teacher Satisfaction." For more information and a complete listing of seminars and workshops, see [Center for Teaching and Learning](#).THE PHYSICS CIRCUS annual show by the Physics Force is a unique mix of large-scale physics demonstrations and slapstick humor. Demonstrations include dropping one of the team members from a 20-foot gantry while shooting a ball at him to demonstrate the effect of gravity, a human rocket to show the mechanics of collisions, collapsing a 55-gallon drum to show the force of air pressure, and much more. Jan. 7, 7-8:30 p.m., and Jan. 10, 2-3:30 p.m., Northrop Auditorium. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Physics Force](#).A DEMONSTRATION BY STEVE HAYMAN, APPLE CONSULTING ENGINEER, will take place Jan. 13, 1-3:30 p.m., theater, Coffman Memorial Union. The presentation will feature Apple's software development tools for the iPhone and iPod Touch, and demonstrate how individuals and institutions are building innovative mobile applications. Registration is required. Sponsored by the Office of Information Technology. For more information, see [Apple](#).REC SPORTS' WINTER BREAK GROUP FITNESS CLASSES WILL BE FREE FOR MEMBERS Jan. 4-17, Minneapolis; and Jan. 11-17, Saint Paul. Day passes are available for purchase for non-members. For a full schedule of class and instructor schedules, see the [Minneapolis Class and Instructor Schedule PDF](#) or the [St. Paul Class and Instructor Schedule PDF](#). For more information about group fitness classes, call 612-626-9241, e-mail group_fitness, or see [recreational sports](#).MORE EVENTS include Men's Basketball vs. South Dakota State ([Dec. 23](#)); American Genocide and Justice, a program airing on TPT ([Dec. 26](#)); Head to Nature: Art Sale and Exhibition ([through Jan. 3](#)); From Hybrid Corn to Honeycrisps ([Jan. 3](#)); Drawliners: A Way Forward in Afghanistan ([Jan. 7](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication. 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