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Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

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Vol. XLI No. 7; February 23, 2011
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

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- 2011 State of the University Address.
- State relations update.
- Bruininks testifies before legislature.
- Four Regents selected by the state legislature.
- Features: Data Center Modernization; U of M Moment.
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TOP NEWS:

2011 STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS: President Bruininks will deliver the State of the U address March 3, 3 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. A brief question-and-answer period will follow the address. For online participation, see [State of the U online](#). The address will also be broadcast via ITV to all campuses: UMC, 220 Dowell Hall; UMD, 173 Kirby Plaza; UMM, Science Auditorium; UMR, 419 University Square. Disability accommodations will be provided upon request by calling 612-624-6868. For more information, see [2011 State of the U](#).

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: On Feb. 15 Governor Dayton released his biennial budget. The Governor recommends a six percent reduction from the U's base in FY 2012 and FY 2013, for a total biennial reduction of \$77 million. On Feb. 22, chief financial officer Richard Pfitzenreuter provided the legislature with an overview of the U's finances and operations, followed by President Bruininks's testimony responding to how the U might accommodate a larger cut of 15 or 20 percent, which is proposed by the state legislature. For more information, see [state relations](#).

PRESIDENT BRUININKS, in a [letter to the U community](#) on Feb. 21, outlined some of the actions that the U is currently planning to take to ensure a balanced budget for 2011–12. Bruininks also testified before the House Higher Education Policy and Finance committee on Feb. 22. As the legislature debates the University's budget in the coming weeks, please consider adding your voice to the president's in making the case for strong state support by taking action through the U's [Legislative Network](#).

NEW REGENTS: The full Minnesota Legislature met Feb. 21 and elected four new members of the U of M Board of Regents: incumbent Regent David Larson was re-elected (3rd Congressional District), former state representatives Steve Sviggum (2nd Congressional District) and Laura Brod (at-large) were newly elected, as was David McMillan (8th Congressional District). All four will serve six-year terms and begin service immediately.

FEATURE: The Office of Information Technology launched a Data Center Modernization Program in mid-2010. Besides creating efficiencies for the University system, the program has created opportunities for colleges and individual departments to be more strategic about resource use. If widely adopted, the program will give IT staff more time to do work that directly supports the U's mission. For more information, read "[Data Center Modernization](#)."

U OF M MOMENT: It's an old sailor's axiom that staring at the horizon from the deck of a ship helps ward off seasickness. But why does focusing on a faraway point when on land sometimes cause dizziness? Kinesiology professor Tom Stoffregen's latest research attempts to explain the phenomenon. His findings are the first to scientifically prove thousands of years of sailing advice. For more information, listen to the [U of M Moment](#).

Awards and appointments

PEOPLE: President Bruininks was honored by the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association with the "Champion for Children" 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:

Administrative information

THE BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS REQUESTING COMMENTS about experiences with UPlan medical, pharmacy, and wellness plans from January 2010 through the present. Comment deadline is March 11. Anonymous summaries of comments are used in performance reviews of UPlan health benefits. For more information, see [benefits](#) or enter your comments at [BAC 2010-11 UPlan](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FAIR 2011 will feature a keynote address, "How Did I Get Here?" by [UMD chancellor Lendley Black](#). Additional agenda items include informative breakout sessions covering career-enhancement topics such as emotional intelligence in the workplace, managing stress at work, goal alignment, and more. An information expo will feature training and development organizations from across the U. March 8, 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information, see [development fair](#).

CROOKSTON:

CAMPUS LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING: State representative Debra Kiel and state senator LeRoy Stumpf plan to take part in a campus legislative briefing Feb. 25, 1–2 p.m., Youngquist Auditorium, Agricultural Research Center. Campus and community members are welcome to attend the session to discuss issues related to the current legislative session and the state budget.

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION: Center for Rural Entrepreneurial Studies. March 1, 9–11 a.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center. A short presentation about the center will begin at 9:30 a.m. The center's mission is to encourage entrepreneurship through educational leadership, applied research, and insightful consulting by engaging the students, faculty, and research facilities with regional entrepreneurs. For more information, see [rural entrepreneurship](#).

DULUTH:

WEEK OF INAUGURATION EVENTS FOR CHANCELLOR BLACK: "TEDxUMD," March 1, 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Kirby Student Center; Equity and Diversity Panels, March 2, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., and 3–4:30 p.m., Library Rotunda; keynote speaker Cathi Tactaquin: "Women, Global Migration and Human Rights," March 2, 7 p.m., Kirby Student Center Ballroom; Sustainability Panels, March 3, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., and 3–4:30 p.m., Library Rotunda; and more. For a complete schedule, see [inauguration events](#).

"**GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS: PERSPECTIVES FROM ASIA**," Feb. 23, 7 p.m., UMD Library 4th Floor Rotunda. Presented by 2010–11 Hubert H. Humphrey Fellows Vipin Bhatt, Zhella Manrique, and Pepita Jane Petralba. For more information, see [Alworth lectures](#).

UMD MUSIC PRESENTS THE ENGLISH BAND MUSIC FESTIVAL with the Twin Ports Wind Orchestra, directed by Mark Whitlock with guest Keith Allen, conductor of the Birmingham Symphonic Winds in Birmingham, England, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Concert Band, directed by Mark Whitlock and Daniel Eaton with Keith Allen, performs Feb. 27, 3 p.m. For ticket information, see [UMD music](#).

MORRIS:

PLAYWRIGHT FORREST MUSSELMAN will present a workshop Feb. 25. Musselman is the author of *Sophie and the Adventures of Ice Island*, the upcoming 2011 spring children's theatre production directed by Siobhan Bremer, associate professor of theatre. For more information, see [theatre](#).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE INAUGURAL PRAIRIE GATE LITERARY FESTIVAL. The festival will bring together literary enthusiasts, aspiring writers, published authors, editors, and other professionals. Guest writers are poet Tom Hennen, novelist Eric Gansworth, memoirist and poet Mary Rose O'Reilly, novelist Kiese Laymon, and poet Phil Bryant. March 24–26. For more information, see [literary festival](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE ROCHESTER AREA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE U WINTER LECTURE "Sources of Bacteria that Contaminate our Waterways and Beaches—Can we clean up our Environment?" has been rescheduled for April 7, 7 p.m., 414 University Square. For more information, see [alumni](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

CENTRAL CORRIDOR LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT (CCLRT) UPDATE: On Feb. 26, the Metropolitan Council is scheduled to begin work on the CCLRT line that will travel through campus on Washington Avenue. Work on the Washington Avenue Bridge will restrict traffic on the bridge to one lane in each direction and significant traffic delays should be expected. Drivers are encouraged to consider University Avenue or Huron Boulevard as alternatives and should leave extra time to arrive at campus destinations. For more information and to sign up for weekly email updates from the Metropolitan Council, see [Met Council](#). For more specific information on the Central Corridor and the U, see [CCLRT online](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

PREVIEW/REVIEW: UNIVERSITY EVENTS AND LECTURES is a periodic column highlighting events and lectures recently past and soon to come on the TC campus. This issue features three reviews. Previews include The Immortal Life and Troubling Ethical Issues of Henrietta Lacks, The Rise and Fall of the Baseball Organist, a sustainability film series, and more. For more information, see [Preview/Review](#).

ALLAN D. SHOCKER LECTURE: Professor James Patell, Herbert Hoover Professor of Public and Private Management and co-director of the Product Realization Network at Stanford University, will discuss lessons learned in the development of "Entrepreneurial Design for Extreme Affordability," an interdisciplinary course at Stanford. In the course, graduate students apply design, engineering, and business skills to create comprehensive solutions for challenges faced by the world's poor. March 11, 2–4 p.m., 3M Auditorium, Carlson School. [RSVP is required](#). For more information, see [Shocker lecture](#).

"**BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS THE PROFESSIONS: PROMOTING SUCCESSFUL INTRAPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATIONS**," March 30, 9–11:30 a.m., Coffman Union Theater. Jaime Lester, author of *Organizing Higher Education for Collaboration: A Guide for Campus Leaders*, will discuss ways to promote successful collaborations using a comprehensive approach that addresses the role of culture and leadership as well as interpersonal dynamics. For registration and more information, see [building bridges](#).

THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF HEALTH DISPARITIES in minority, immigrant, and low-income populations will be the focus of "Accelerating the Future: The Changing Face of Health in America." The morning session will focus on policy-level strategies (i.e., the intersection of immigration and health care reform), while afternoon presentations will focus on institutional-based strategies to reduce health disparities. Apr. 19, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Coffman Union. For registration and more information, see [health disparities](#).

MORE EVENTS include Through the Trees: Tree Rings Help Us Understand MN Climate Change ([Feb. 23](#)); "The Humanities through Islamic Eyes: The Beginnings," by Wadad Kadi ([Feb. 24](#)); CURA Showcase ([Feb. 25](#)); *Queen of the Sun* Film Screening ([Mar. 1](#)). SEE THESE AND OTHER TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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Vol. XLI No. 10; March 16, 2011
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

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Inside This Issue

- State Relations Update.
- Board of Regents March meeting summary.
- Features: Weaponizing salmonella; Oliver Williams on prison reentry and domestic violence; Room to Ruminare; U of M Moment; This week @Minnesota.
- People: Renee Sieving and Linda Bearinger have been inducted as fellows of the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine; and more.

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TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: The Minnesota House and Senate leadership have announced budget targets. Unlike previous years, the targets for the higher education finance divisions are the same—\$2.5 billion. This number is 14.1 percent lower than the Minnesota Management and Budget Agency's forecasted base for higher education of \$2.9 billion. The two higher education committees will next produce their own omnibus bills that divide this reduction between the U, MnSCU, and state financial aid. In addition, on Mar. 8, the House Higher Education Committee heard legislation that would mandate a two-year tuition freeze and a tuition cap on future years. A call to contact legislators was issued to the [U's Legislative Network](#), a volunteer coalition of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

AT THE BOARD OF REGENTS MARCH MEETING, the Regents heard the results of the recent economic impact study conducted by Tripp Umbach. In late February, the top-level findings of the study were presented, showing that for every \$1 of state investment the U generates more than \$13 in economic activity for Minnesota. State economist Tom Stinson provided an update on Minnesota's economic forecast. Regents also heard from Tom Sullivan and Robert Jones on the reports and recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Committees. The Board recognized five new McKnight Land-Grant Professors for 2011–13. For more information, read "[Board of Regents March meeting summary](#)."

Features

FEATURE: University of Minnesota researchers are using salmonella—the bacteria commonly transmitted through food that sickens thousands of U.S. residents each year—to do what was once unthinkable: help people. U of M Masonic Cancer Center researchers, including lead researcher Edward Greeno, believe salmonella may be a valuable tool in the fight against cancer in organs surrounding the gut. Researchers want to "weaponize" salmonella, allowing the bacteria to then attack cancer cells in its natural environment. For more information, including a video animation explaining the research, see [weaponize salmonella](#).

FEATURE: When School of Social Work professor Oliver Williams was approached by the Office of Violence Against Women at the U.S. Department of Justice nine years ago to study the relationship between domestic violence and prison reentry, he was struck by a lack of knowledge in field. As Williams listened to women who were involved with men coming out of prison, he realized they had different life stories than the women who domestic violence agencies were used to serving. Since 1993, Williams' Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community has sought out communities that are hardest hit by domestic violence. For more information, read [Oliver Williams on prison reentry and domestic violence](#).

FEATURE: 100 YEARS OF THE CAMPUS CLUB: The University of Minnesota Campus Club has come a long way—but hasn't strayed from its purpose—since its founding 100 years ago. Through world wars, a ban on women members and alcohol, several relocations, and more, the club has been witness to the highs and lows of history at UMTC, as well as many a lunch special. For more information, read "[Room to Ruminare](#)."

U OF M MOMENT: Much has been made of the plight of the honeybee, a species that has suffered severe population declines in recent years. U of M Bee Lab entomologist Gary Reuter and the U's Bell Museum will host a short course each spring to educate the public about the basics of bees and beekeeping. Reuter says beekeeping helps take the sting of out of Minnesota's long winters. For more information, listen to the [U of M Moment](#).

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: MAR. 7–11. In this installment of the new weekly video roundup from the U's News Service, viewers look at U research that says salmonella could help fight cancer, and go inside a "smart house" at the Goldstein Museum. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards and appointments

PEOPLE: Renee Sieving and Linda Bearinger have been inducted as fellows of the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine; Connie Delaney, dean of the School of Nursing, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing; 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:

Funding opportunities

APPLICATIONS FOR EQUITY AND DIVERSITY TRANSFORMATION AWARDS (formerly known as IDEA Grants) are invited by the Office for Equity and Diversity (OED). For spring 2011, OED will fund projects, programming, events, and research that support the enhancement of safe and welcoming spaces for underrepresented and marginalized members of the U community. All academic and administrative units across the U's campuses are eligible to apply; proposal applications are due Mar. 31. For an application and more information, see [equity and diversity awards](#).

Administrative information

ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER (AHC) REVIEW: A website with information about the review of the Academic Health Center is now available. Information on the website includes an outline of the overall purpose and goals of the review, composition of the Executive Steering Committee and subcommittees, reference materials and background documents being used by the subcommittees, and other resources. Visitors may post comments. For more information, see [AHC Review](#).

CROOKSTON:

ALBERT SIMS, associate professor and director of operations at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center, was awarded the Meritorious Service Award from the American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists at the organization's 36th annual awards banquet in March. For more information, see [award](#).

UMC RECEIVED NEARLY \$80,000 in rebates and reimbursements for results achieved through Otter Tail Power Company's Campus Energy Challenge. The campus earned rebates for savings generated by lighting upgrades (\$33,109) and for variable-frequency drives with an automated control system (\$26,518). These technologies enable the campus to reduce its electricity use by 655,300 kilowatt-hours per year. The third payment of \$20,000 reimbursed UMC for expenses related to the ReDirect program, another component of the challenge. For more information, see [campus energy challenge](#).

DULUTH:

DIANA PURCEL, CFO OF FAMOUS DAVE'S OF AMERICA, WILL SPEAK ON BUSINESS AND CORPORATE OPERATIONS Mar. 22, 11 a.m., Weber Music Hall. Sponsored by the UMD's Labovitz School of Business and Economics. For more information, see [CFO of Famous Dave's](#).

UMD RESEARCHERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED AN ARTICLE TO THE JOURNAL, NATURE. The piece discusses climate changes, phases, and the future of the southwestern United States. Professor Erik Brown (geological sciences), associate professor Joseph Werne (chemistry and biochemistry), and graduate student/research assistant Melissa Burke, with a team of experts and affiliates, researched, compiled, and reviewed the article "Extended megadroughts in the southwestern United States during Pleistocene interglacials." For more information, see the [synopsis](#) or the [full article](#).

MORRIS:

CHANCELLOR JACQUELINE JOHNSON WILL DELIVER A KEYNOTE ADDRESS at the Faculty Leadership in Sustainability Midwest Regional Workshop Mar. 23–24, University of Wisconsin, River Falls. Johnson is a member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Board of Directors. For more information, see [sustainability keynote](#).

SENIOR POLICY ANALYST FOR THE UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS and Twin Cities alumna Barbara Freese will speak on campus April 4. Freese is author of *Coal: A Human History*, a *New York Times* Notable Book. From 1986–99, she served as Minnesota's assistant attorney general. Her public address, "Power Struggle: Slowing Global Warming and Building Clean Energy in a Shifting Political Landscape," is sponsored by the Environmental Studies Program. For more information, see [clean energy address](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR IS SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR THE CHANCELLOR'S AWARDS FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT. Chancellor's Award recipients will be announced in April and honored at a special awards ceremony during the Minnesota Campus Compact Annual Summit on June 14 in St. Paul. For more information, see [Chancellor's Awards](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

"BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS THE PROFESSIONS: PROMOTING SUCCESSFUL INTRAPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATIONS," Mar. 30, 9–11:30 a.m., Coffman Union Theater. Jaime Lester, author of *Organizing Higher Education for Collaboration: A Guide for Campus Leaders*, will discuss ways to promote successful collaborations using a comprehensive approach that addresses the role of culture and leadership as well as interpersonal dynamics. For registration and more information, see [building bridges](#).

PEACE CORPS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: A special exhibit to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps and former vice president Hubert Humphrey's role in its development will run through the end of April. "50 Years of Service: Minnesota's Peace Corps Volunteers" opens with a reception, Mar. 21, 5–7 p.m., Humphrey Center Atrium, with keynote speaker Robert Klein (Ghana, 1961–63), who is working on a project to archive the stories of Peace Corps volunteers for the United States Library of Congress. Free and open to the public, the exhibit consists of training materials, personal objects, and cultural artifacts. For more information, see [Peace Corps anniversary exhibit](#).

DEALS AND DISCOUNTS: Faculty and staff receive 10 percent off reservations for events occurring Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–5 p.m., at the Gopher Spot Gameroom. For more information, see [discount](#).

TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR COMEDIAN SARAH SILVERMAN. Silverman will perform Mar. 23, 8 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. For more information, see [Silverman](#).

MORE EVENTS include Francene Christianson's Passing View Exhibit (through [June 3](#)); *Ghost Bird* Screening ([Mar. 17](#)); Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies Reading Discussion Group ([Mar. 22](#)); First Books ([Mar. 24](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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Vol. XLI No. 11; March 23, 2011
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- State Relations update.
- Legislative Network call to action.
- Features: He connects with kids; Marc Hillmyer: Distinguished McKnight University Professor; U of M Moment; This week @Minnesota.
- People: Alumni Association CEO Phil Esten named one of *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's* "40 Under 40"; and more.

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TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: On Mar. 17, the House released its omnibus higher education bill. The bill would reduce the U's state funding by 17.8 percent, which represents a \$229.2 million reduction over the 2012–13 biennium. The U's annual general fund appropriation for fiscal year 2012 totals \$527.5 million, which is now less than 1998 appropriations. The reductions for the U vary between the operations and maintenance budget and the state specials. The legislature did not mandate a tuition cap, but did include an "expectation" that tuition revenue should not increase by more than \$76 million. Late on the afternoon of Mar. 22, the Senate bill entered committee. State Relations will have an update as the information becomes available. For more information, see [state relations](#).

LEGISLATION TITLED THE "HUMAN CLONING PROHIBITION ACT OF 2011" was considered and has been passed by several legislative committees. The legislation purports to ban human reproductive cloning, but in fact bans all methods of cellular cloning (somatic cell nuclear transfer). Many of these practices are believed by the scientific community to hold the promise of treatments and cures for many fatal and debilitating diseases. The U opposes this legislation and has issued a call to contact legislators through the U's Legislative Network, a grassroots coalition of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members. For more information, [join the network](#) and [take action](#).

BRIEF ON FACEBOOK: *Brief* is now on the social networking site, Facebook. Faculty and staff are invited to join in the conversation. Content will very often highlight faculty and staff at the U, as well as timely events and information. The page will not be a substitute for the official University of Minnesota faculty and staff weekly news digest. For more information, see [Brief on Facebook](#).

Features

FEATURE: Tex Ostvig has brought more than 10,000 schoolchildren to the U as part of the Kids on Campus program, putting a college education on their horizon. Ostvig coordinates the U program, which is designed to bring Minnesota youth to campus and expose them to the possibilities of a college education. For more information, read "[He connects with kids](#)."

FEATURE: Marc Hillmyer's office is a spare, bright green island on the second floor of Smith Hall. This is where the future of plastics is taking shape in the transition from petroleum to renewable sources. With more than 300 pounds of synthetic polymers produced per person per year in the United States —almost all from oil and only a fraction recycled—a lot is at stake. Because of his creative leadership in bridging organic chemistry and engineering for such a critical area, Hillmyer was named a Distinguished McKnight University Professor in 2010. For more information, read a [profile of Hillmyer](#).

U OF M MOMENT: Communities in the Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota are preparing for spring floods once again after record-setting winter snow totals. Geography professor Scott St. George says that while weather plays a role, the region's unique geology is the underlying cause of such severe flooding. He says it makes flooding in the area like pouring water on a table. For more information, listen to the [U of M Moment](#).

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Mar. 14–18. This installment of the new weekly video roundup from the U's News Service features the Medical School's Match Day and newly licensed technology that collects sediment from storm water runoff to prevent pollution. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards and appointments

PEOPLE: Alumni Association CEO Phil Esten has been named one of *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's* "40 Under 40"; legendary Gopher football head coach Murray Warmath passed away at age 98; U Libraries' "AgEcon Search" won an Innovation in Science and Technology Librarianship 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 AD HOC COMMITTEE appointed by regents chair Clyde Allen will meet to discuss and determine whether a conflict of interest exists for newly appointed regent Steve Sviggum. The committee met Mar. 22 to receive preliminary materials. A previously scheduled Mar. 24 meeting has been cancelled. Instead, the committee will meet Mar. 30, 3 p.m., West Committee Room, McNamara Alumni Center, to receive any additional materials and to discuss and determine whether a conflict exists. The full board will then meet to consider the recommendation of the ad hoc group on Mar. 31, noon, Boardroom, McNamara Alumni Center. For more information, see the [news release](#).

A SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE NEXT SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PROVOST has been appointed by president-designate Eric W. Kaler. The search committee will be led by vice president for research Tim Mulcahy, with broad representation from the University community. For more information including the full committee, see the [news release](#).

FOUR FINALISTS HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR DEAN OF THE HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS. The new dean will lead the country's third-oldest public affairs program, which currently ranks 14th among more than 280 schools of public affairs and administration across the United States, and sixth among all public universities. All candidates' public presentations will take place at the Humphrey School's Cowles Auditorium. The new dean is expected to start by fall semester 2011. For more information, see [Humphrey finalists](#).

PUBLIC HEALTH MOMENT: Caring for an aging parent. A few years ago, Robert Kane, a professor and expert on aging, was suddenly thrust into the role of caregiver for his mother. The problems he encountered with our nation's long-term care system prompted him to write a book, *It Shouldn't Be This Way: The Failure of Long-Term Care*. Now, Kane has written a second book, *The Good Caregiver*. Kane describes it as a survival guide for caregivers—to help them and to make their lives a little easier. For more information, see [Public Health Moment](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

CROOKSTON:

A MINI-GRANT FROM THE INSTITUTE ON THE ENVIRONMENT will help fund a series of bi-weekly, "sustainability supper seminars" designed to educate the campus and local community on sustainability applications. In the first seminar, Dan Svedarsky, professor and director of the Center for Sustainability, will address "The broad brush of sustainability, global and local." Systems design consultant Scott Johnson will also outline the application of the systems approach to complex campus-community sustainability initiatives. Mar. 24, 5 p.m., Bede Ballroom. For more information, including upcoming sessions, see [sustainability supper](#).

PRESIDENT BRUININKS WILL ADDRESS UMC GRADUATES during commencement on May 7, 2 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium. The ceremony will recognize the 103rd graduating class on the campus. For more information, see [commencement](#).

DORIS COOPER has been hired as a grants and contracts coordinator. Cooper will research, identify, and communicate potential sources of funding to support research projects and program development opportunities, coordinate sources of funding for future grants and contracts, and assist faculty members with grant writing and coordination of resources. She begins April 4.

DULUTH:

A NEW MASTER'S DEGREE IN TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE will begin fall 2011. Tadd Johnson, UMD American Indian Studies department head, will direct the graduate program. The deadline for applications is April 1. For more information, see [new degree](#).

THE MODERN DRAMA COLDER THAN HERE, written by Laura Wade and directed by Kelly Grussendorf, will be presented Mar. 24–26, 29, and Apr. 2, 7 p.m.; and Mar. 27, 2 p.m., Dudley Experimental Theatre, Marshall Performing Arts Center. The play portrays a woman battling cancer and her family's struggle through the process of accepting the death of a loved one. For tickets, see [Colder Than Here](#).

MORRIS:

THE ANNUAL JURIED STUDENT ART EXHIBITION will feature works by both art and non-art majors. Juror Ben Heywood, executive director of The Soap Factory, selected 52 pieces by 35 students. An opening reception will be held Mar. 24, 7–9 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Gallery. For more information, see [student art exhibit opening](#).

WORLD TOUCH CULTURAL HERITAGE WEEK will be held March 26–31. "Unweaving the Journey of Our Ancestors" will be a series of events celebrating diversity on campus and throughout the country. Nearly all events are free and open to the public. For more information, see [cultural heritage week](#).

MORRIS WILL HOST THE FIRST INTERCOLLEGIATE GROUND QUIDDITCH TOURNAMENT IN MINNESOTA Apr. 16–17, Big Cat Stadium. The game is a combination of rugby, basketball, soccer, and dodgeball popularized in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter novels. Teams expected to vie for the "Prairie Cup" include UMM, UMTC, UMD, and St. Olaf College. For more information, see [Quidditch](#).

ROCHESTER:

CHANCELLOR STEPHEN LEHMKUHLE toured construction of the University of Minnesota-Rochester building, a 25,000-square-foot facility, which will open this fall, offering courses specializing in medical technology and health care. For more information, see [MPR](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

THE PROVOST OFFICE'S "ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE REPORT" chronicles the academic progress of the Twin Cities campus since the start of strategic positioning in 2004. Some highlights of the report: undergraduate applications have more than doubled from 18,500 to 39,000; total financial aid to Twin Cities undergraduate students increased from \$208 million in 2004–05 to \$311 million in 2009–10; the U had 13 doctoral programs rank within the top 5, 19 programs within the top 10, and 45 programs within the top 25 in the country, according to a 2010 National Research Council assessment; total R & D expenditures grew 41 percent, the third largest growth rate among the top 20 universities in the country. For more information, [download the full report](#).

OUTSTANDING STUDENT EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS honor the top 10 percent of undergraduate student employees on the UMTC campus. Faculty and staff who supervise undergraduate student employees may nominate a student and learn more about the award at [student employee recognition](#). Award nominations are due Mar. 31. For more information, email [Robin Stubblefield](mailto:Robin.Stubblefield) or call 612-624-3088.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

DURING NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK (NPHW) APRIL 4–8, the School of Public Health (SPH) will host two free events: SPH Research Day, Apr. 4, 10 a.m.–1 p.m., Great Hall, Coffman Union; and the NPHW Film Festival, Apr. 4–8, 5:30 p.m. Free food and beverages will be provided each evening. For more information, see [research day](#) and [film festival](#).

LECTURE: "SUNgas: A Vision for Renewable Fuels." Mechanical engineering professor and world-renowned solar researcher Jane Davidson will present her research team's efforts to solve one of the world's most pressing challenges—the need to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions while simultaneously meeting an exploding global demand for energy. Free and open to the public, but registration is required. Apr. 5, 7 p.m., Tate Laboratory of Physics, Van Vleck Auditorium. For registration and more information, see [renewable fuels lecture](#).

THE U'S WOMEN'S FACULTY CABINET will present Women, Work, and Reproduction: Conversations with Martha West. West will discuss sex-based employment discrimination and the accommodation of discrimination through delaying childbearing. The workshop consists of an Apr. 5 lecture, noon–1:15 p.m., Auerbach Commons, Law School; and an armchair discussion and cocktail reception, 5:30–7 p.m., William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul. RSVP to [Raya Hegeman-Davis](#). For more information, see [Women, Work, and Reproduction](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers in the Environment lecture: "Managing Complex Dilemmas: Global Food Safety and Security" ([Mar. 23](#)); The Origin of Image Making: Behavioral Ecology of Cephalopods and Art ([Mar. 24](#)); "Unlucky Lucky Bodies" ([Mar. 25](#)); Eastern Mediterranean Influences on Opera and Music Theater in Europe ([Mar. 28](#)); 2011 Minnesota Cup Launch ([Mar. 28](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

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Vol. XLI No. 15; April 20, 2011
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--Federal Relations update.
--Features: Keeping monarchs on the move; U of M Moment; This week @Minnesota.
--People: Reuben Harris has received a five-year, \$10 million grant to direct an innovative HIV research program; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

FEDERAL RELATIONS UPDATE: On April 14, Congress passed a long-term continuing resolution that funds the government through Sept. 30, the end of fiscal year 2011. In general, and especially in light of the drastic cuts proposed in a preliminary bill passed by the House, U priorities fared well in the final bill: Pell Grants maintained their current maximum grant level and large research agencies received nicks rather than large cuts. Congress is already turning its attention to next year's budget, with the House passing a budget resolution premised on cutting education and research programs back to 2008 levels, and the need to raise the national debt ceiling, which budget spending hawks have vowed to use to extract more cuts. For more information, see [Federal Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: Like many human retirees, some monarch butterflies have taken up residence in Florida, where they need not migrate to find winter warmth. Cushy as that life may seem, however, the Florida populations would probably enjoy better health if, like their northern cousins, they flew 1,500 miles south into central Mexico for the winter. In a new study, U monarch researcher Karen Oberhauser and three colleagues showed that long migrations tend to rid butterfly populations of parasites. For more information, read "[Keeping monarchs on the move](#)."

U OF M MOMENT: U researchers have found that being a parent is directly associated with making unhealthy choices, especially for mothers. U physician Jerica Berge says the study demonstrates the need to support and encourage mothers and fathers on their quest to remain healthy. For more information, listen to the [U of M Moment](#).

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: April 11–15. This installment of the weekly video feature from the U's News Service includes the revelation of the 2011 Spring Jam headline band, a look at new research on the health habits of young parents, and congratulations to a U dance professor for winning a prestigious Guggenheim award. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards and appointments

PEOPLE: Reuben Harris has received a five-year, \$10 million grant to direct an innovative HIV research program; professor Peter Reich named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; associate professor Ananya Chatterjea is one of 180 artists, scientists, and scholars to receive a 2011 Guggenheim Fellowship; professor David Anderson, former head of neurology, received the A. B. Baker Award for Lifetime Achievement in Neurologic Education; 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:

Administrative information

UPDATE ON AHC REVIEW. The executive steering committee for the review of the Academic Health Center (AHC) has [posted an online update of its work](#). The committee and its three subcommittees are exploring a full range of options regarding the mission, value, and role of the AHC at the University; its organizational structure; its administrative services; and its interdisciplinary academic centers. The Mission and Value Subcommittee has developed a survey, open until Apr. 30, to gather input from the U community. For more information and a link to the survey, see [AHC Review](#).

Funding opportunities

INSTITUTE ON THE ENVIRONMENT (IonE) RESIDENT FELLOWS PROGRAM is now accepting applications. IonE resident fellows pursue interdisciplinary research and problem solving, create new educational models, participate in professional and leadership development, and engage with IonE-wide initiatives. Fellows are appointed for three years and receive \$25,000 to support their new research, teaching, outreach, or leadership activities. IonE also provides space, staff, and technical support, as well as in-depth leadership and communications training. Applications are due June 15. For more information, see [IonE fellows](#).

CROOKSTON:

BEAUTIFUL U DAY: At noon, Apr. 20, Youngquist Auditorium, UMTC professor Larry Baker will present "Urban Heat Islands and Global Climate Change." Baker also will be the featured speaker in the evening as part of a "sustainability supper seminar" beginning with a meal at 5 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. His evening presentation, "Urban Ecosystems and Implications for Global Survivability," will follow, beginning at 6 p.m., Youngquist Auditorium. For more information, see [Beautiful U Day](#).

MARK BELANGER AND DANA TRICKEY have joined the staff of the Center for Adult Learning as online student personnel coordinators. Belanger is a 2008 alumnus with degrees in information technology management and business management. Trickey also graduated in 2008, with a degree in communication.

A CEREMONY IN SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA, RECOGNIZED A \$100,000 GIFT from the Korea Preparation Center (KPC) and Joong Ang G & S, an affiliated company of the Samsung family, in support of international programs. KPC and Joong Ang G & S have pledged an additional \$100,000 gift to UMC in support of international programs for 2012. Peter Phaiiah, associate vice chancellor of student affairs, and Sean Shin, director of international and ESL student recruitment, attended the Mar. 28 event, held at Seoul National University of Education.

DULUTH:

"WEALTH AND INEQUALITY IN THE UNITED STATES: Contextualizing the Effects of Race, Class, and Gender" will be presented by UMTC professor Rose Brewer, from the Department of African American and African Studies. UMD will inaugurate its new African and African American studies minor with the presentation. Apr. 27, 2 p.m., Library Rotunda. For more information, see [Inauguration of new minor](#).

"ODYSSEY SKIES" at the Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium teams up with the Theatre Department musical, *The Odyssey*, adapted by UMD's Tom Isbell. In conjunction with the musical, the Planetarium's "Odyssey Skies" will feature the mythology of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* as it relates to the stars. Apr. 20, 22, 25–26, 7 p.m.; and Apr. 24, 12:30 p.m. The musical runs Apr. 21–23 and Apr. 27–30, 7:30 p.m.; and Apr. 24, 2 p.m. For more information, see [Odyssey Skies](#).

MORRIS:

NEIL LEROUX, professor of communication, media, and rhetoric, has been honored with the 2011 UMM Faculty Distinguished Research Award. The award recognizes sustained research over the course of a faculty member's career. Since graduate school, Leroux has researched the rhetoric of Martin Luther (1483–1546). For more information, see [Leroux research award](#).

CYRUS BINA'S NEW BOOK, *Oil: A Time Machine—Journey Beyond Fanciful Economics and Frightful Politics*, a systematic study of oil in its historical stages, has been released. A reception and book signing will be held Apr. 21, 4:30–6 p.m., LaFave House. Bina will speak about his book at 5 p.m. For more information, see [Cyrus Bina](#).

OPENING RECEPTION: "EESOME," the 2011 Senior Art Exhibition, will be celebrated in the Humanities Fine Arts Gallery Apr. 21, 7–9 p.m. The artists will be introduced at 7:30 p.m. The show features sculpture, digital imaging, printmaking, drawing, painting, and mixed media. Pieces exhibited represent the culmination of studies in the Studio Art department. For more information, see [art opening](#).

THE RODNEY A. BRIGGS LIBRARY ASSOCIATES ANNUAL MEETING will feature special guest Richard Terrill, an award-winning author of nonfiction and poetry. Apr. 21, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public. His presentation will follow a brief business meeting and grant awards announcement. For more information, see [annual meeting](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S UNIQUE ROLE IN MINNESOTA'S ECONOMY will be addressed at the next UMR Connects event, featuring guest speaker Greg Cuomo, associate dean for Extension and Outreach in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. Learn about the U's role in building and sustaining a strong economy, and its impact throughout Minnesota, particularly through its research and outreach centers. For more information, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

COPYRIGHT PERMISSION REQUESTS FOR SUMMER 2011 course materials should be submitted to the Copyright Permissions Center as soon as possible. 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, email [Dale Mossestad](mailto:Dale.Mossestad) or call 612-626-9416.

STADIUM VILLAGE LRT STATION AREA PLAN OPEN HOUSES will introduce the staff and consulting team, review the scope of the project, and give the community a chance to share input. Attendees will have the opportunity to view maps and exhibits and speak with the team members about the plan. Representatives from the city of Minneapolis, U of M, and Hennepin County will present ideas on addressing parking concerns along the line and around the U campus, explore options for future development, and provide an overview of the conditions and trends shaping the area. Apr. 27, 3–5 p.m., Rapson Hall; and May 3, 7–9 p.m., Profile Event Center, 2630 University Ave SE. For more information, see [LRT Stadium Village station open houses](#).

Funding opportunities

THE AMERICAN NURSING FOUNDATION has released its list of 2011 Nursing Research grants. Thirty grants are available for both beginning and experienced nursing researchers. Criteria restrictions vary depending on the grant. Funds range from \$3,500 to \$25,000. Applications are due May 2. For more information, see [nursing grants](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

PREVIEW/REVIEW: UNIVERSITY EVENTS AND LECTURES is a periodic column highlighting events and lectures recently past and soon to come on the TC campus. This issue features a whopping three reviews, including a CURA housing forum, a Humphrey School discussion on Minnesota's budget, and a wine class at the Campus Club. Previews include the Guy Stanton Ford Lecture, urban farming at the arboretum, and more. For more information, see [Preview/Review](#).

BEAUTIFUL U DAY IS APRIL 20. Free coffee and hot chocolate for those who take in the Sustainable Transportation Expo under the Big Top Tent on Northrop Plaza from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Show up for President Bruininks's address at 2:30 p.m. for a chance to win one of the bikes assembled from used parts by bike shops participating in the "Franken-bike" competition at 2 p.m. For more information, see [Beautiful U Day 2011](#).

A FREE INTERNATIONAL TASTER LUNCHEON sponsored by the Institute of Linguistics will consist of small portions of authentic foods from several countries around the world. Seating is limited, [must make reservations](#), and must be a group of three. Apr. 20, 23, 24, and 27; from 10:45–11:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., and 12:15–1:15 p.m.

A RECEPTION WILL BE HELD for the Barajas Research and Outreach/Engagement Center's newly appointed executive director, Heidi Barajas. Senior VP Robert Jones will host the informal event. All members of the University community are invited to attend; appetizers and beverages will be served. Apr. 22, 3:30–5:30 p.m., with a short program at 4:15 p.m.

THE CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE WILL HOST A SCIENCE CAFÉ with adjunct professor John Schousboe. Schousboe's collaborative cross-state research is changing the way practitioners treat osteoporosis patients to prevent fractures. Schousboe is the medical director of research at the Park Nicollet Institute. Apr. 29, 7:30 a.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. For more information, see [Science Café](#).

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH AT THE CAMPUS CLUB (May 8) is open to nonmembers this year, especially University faculty, staff, and alumni. Reservations are required at 612-262-7788. For the event, executive chef Beth Jones has created a menu for this traditional family occasion with a focus on organic and local food. Cost: adults, \$23.95; children, \$13.95. Seating starts at 11 a.m. and continues as late as 1:30 p.m. For more information, see [Mother's Day](#).

MORE EVENTS include Bike Sharing in the Twin Cities ([Apr. 20](#)); 'Saving Babies for Two Dimes a Day': The Politics of Hunger and Race in Memphis ([Apr. 21](#)); Dog Day at the Arboretum ([Apr. 23](#)); Distinguished Teaching Awards Ceremony ([Apr. 25](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

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Vol. XLI No. 22; July 13, 2011
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: Brief summer publication dates will be July 13 and 27; Aug. 10 and 24; and Sept. 7. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 14. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Friday before publication.

Inside This Issue

- Office of the President website launched.
- Federal Relations report.
- State Relations report.
- Features: A working hypothesis; Focus on flexibility; University of Minnesota Farmers Market 2011; A legendary figure; U of M Moment.
- People: Terrence Adam and Lucy Fortson are the 2011–13 recipients of the Minnesota Futures Research Grant; and more.

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TOP NEWS:

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT WEBSITE LAUNCHED: University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler officially began as the U's 16th president on July 1. The president's website features news, social media, feature stories, and more information about the president's activities and his leadership of the U of M. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to sign the guestbook welcoming President Kaler. For more information, see umn.edu/president.

FEDERAL RELATIONS REPORT: While many Minnesotans have been preoccupied by the state shutdown, the federal government is facing an even more dire decision point regarding raising the debt ceiling. Some leaders in Congress are using the debt ceiling as leverage to cut federal spending. Programs important to the U such as student aid and research would likely see cuts under any federal austerity plan. Also this month: the appropriations process moves forward, patent reform supported by the U clears the U.S. House, and possible new reporting requirements for federal grants. For more information, see [federal relations](#).

STATE RELATIONS REPORT: The Board of Regents approved the 2012 Preliminary State Capital Request to the Minnesota Legislature at its July meeting. The request is composed of seven projects totaling \$459,965,000, four previously approved by the board and three new projects. The request asks the State of Minnesota to contribute \$293,310,000. It comes before the board again in the fall for final approval. Although a budget agreement at the Capitol remains out of sight, state relations continues to monitor the negotiations and meet with legislators in their districts to discuss University priorities. For more information, see [state relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: Eric W. Kaler is eager to take on the challenges facing the University of Minnesota. Although this is an enormously difficult time for public higher education leaders across the country, the president is ready. Much of Kaler's time during his first 100 days and beyond will be spent conversing with students, faculty, and staff, and the U's external partners. For more information, read "[A working hypothesis](#)."

FEATURE: Stress is a work issue that responds to changes in the structure and philosophy of work and time, a new study led by professor of sociology Phyllis Moen and associate professor Erin Kelly shows. Specifically, when employees can work where and when they want, with the only requirement being that the job is done (and done well), they report less conflict between their jobs and their personal lives. For more information, read "[Focus on flexibility](#)." For more information about the U's flexible work options, see [flexible work](#).

FEATURE: A sure sign that summer is here is the opening of the UMTC Farmers Market. The market comes to the Church Street pedestrian mall on the East Bank beginning July 13, 11–2 p.m., and continues every Wednesday thereafter through Oct. 5. In this, its seventh season, here are seven reasons to love the Farmers Market. For more information, read "[Nutritious is delicious](#)."

FEATURE: After coaching the Gopher cross-country and track and field teams for 33 years, Roy Griak continues his work at his "second home," coming to the U almost every day as an administrative assistant. And he still works out most of those days. The 87-year-old also freely shares stories about growing up during the Depression and fighting in World War II. For more information, read "[A legendary figure](#)."

U OF M MOMENT: One of the U's oldest buildings, Wesbrook Hall on the east bank of the U's Twin Cities campus, is set to be torn down later this summer. U of M historian Ann Pflaum recounts the past usage of Wesbrook, which will make way for green space outside Northrop Auditorium. Pflaum says there are many legends surrounding the 19th-century structure—some more true than others. For more information, listen to the [U of M Moment](#).

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Terrence Adam and Lucy Fortson are the 2011–13 recipients of the Minnesota Futures Research Grant; eight U students have been awarded Fulbright and Fulbright-affiliated grants for 2011–12; Jean Larson of the U of M Landscape Arboretum has been selected for a Fulbright Specialists project at Norwegian University of Life Sciences; Anne Hornickel Yuska, Christine Baeumler, Pakou Hang, Lue Her, and Michelle Vigen have each been named as one of the 18 Bush Foundation fellows chosen statewide; Jasjit Ahluwalia has been selected as the recipient of the American Public Health Association's Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Section's 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award; Ingrid Schneider has been reappointed to the Explore Minnesota Tourism Council by Gov. Dayton; Therese Zink was recognized for outstanding contributions to rural health care; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY UPDATE. Nine new or revised administrative policies are now available for review and comment. Changes to the policy, Traveling on University Business, include an extended time frame for submitting travel expenses, a new formula for reimbursement of partial day travel, and an alignment of the international allowable lodging rate with the current domestic lodging rate. Five graduate education policies cover such topics as leave of absence for graduate students, credit requirements for master's and doctoral degrees, and application of graduate credits to degree requirements. For more information, view all nine policies at [policies under review](#).

2011 BUSINESS MILEAGE RATE CHANGE. The IRS announced changes in the standard business mileage rates for the remaining 2011 calendar year. As of July, the standard business mileage reimbursement rate for personal vehicle use on approved University business increased from 51 to 55.5 cents per mile. The standard mileage rate for moving expenses increased from 19 to 23.5 cents per mile. Business mileage incurred from Jan. 1 to June 30, but reimbursed after July 1, should be reimbursed using the rates for the time period during which it was incurred. The Employee Expense Worksheet (UM 1612) accommodates the rate changes. For more information, see [mileage rate change](#).

Funding opportunities

JUNIOR INVESTIGATORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY for the U of M Clinical and Translational Science Institute Scholars Program, a three-year mentored training program for junior investigators. The program offers 75 percent salary support, a mentoring team, formal training, and networking opportunities. Three awards were granted from the original request for applications issued in the spring; two additional awards are now available, with an application deadline of Aug. 26. For more information, see [Scholars Program](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC'S ONLINE DEGREE IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT has been ranked among The Best Colleges list of "Top 10 Online Bachelor of Business Administration Degree Programs of 2011." The degree was ranked number five. For more information, see [online degree](#).

A MINNESOTA CAMPUS COMPACT AWARDS SUMMIT held in June recognized Rae French, UMC, and Nana Boatman, of North Country Food Bank, a community partner of the Crookston campus. For more information, see [campus compact awards](#).

THE NORTHWEST RESEARCH AND OUTREACH CENTER will hold its annual Crops and Soils Day July 21. Producers and agricultural professionals will gather for research updates on various crops. For more information, see [crops and soil](#).

DULUTH:

THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF) is producing four stories about UMD's science research. Marsha Walton, one of the producers of NSF's [Science Nation](#), was in Duluth July 5–8. NSF has produced almost 100 Science Nation media stories. One of UMD's four stories will be the program's 100th production. For more information, see [UMD research](#).

UMD NIGHT AT THE ST. PAUL SAINTS: The UMD Alumni Association is sponsoring a pre-game picnic before the July 22 St. Paul Saints vs. Sioux City Explorers baseball game. The evening starts at 5:30 p.m., Area C/Main Gate picnic area at Midway Stadium, followed by the 7:05 p.m. game. For more information, see [pre-game picnic](#).

MORRIS:

U WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE ALUMNI will gather to recall and celebrate their Morris experiences at a July 16 reunion. The annual event takes place on the Morris campus, the high school boarding school's home from 1910 until 1963. For more information, see [reunion](#).

BART FINZEL, professor of economics and management, has begun his two-year appointment as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean. A faculty member since 1989, Finzel has taught courses on labor economics, gender economics, environmental economics, as well as management, and has served in numerous leadership roles. He holds the all-University Horace T. Morse—University of Minnesota Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education and the UMM Alumni Association Teaching Award. For more information, see [Finzel](#).

SIOBHAN BREMER, associate professor of theatre, presented at the Athens Institute for Education and Research Conference for Visual and Performing Arts in Athens, Greece. Her presentation, "Going Green Globally," focused on her current environmental theatre research. For more information, see [Going Green theatre](#).

THE MORRIS HEALTHY EATING INITIATIVE and the Office of Community Engagement, in partnership with the West Central Research and Outreach Center, have created a new Native American garden at the Morris Crocus Valley Gardens, adjacent to campus. Part of a multi-garden plot, the traditional "three sisters garden"—corn, beans, and squash—shares space with community gardens maintained by the Morris Student Organic Gardening Club and the Regional Fitness Center. For more information, see [new garden](#).

ROCHESTER:

DISCOVER BSHS DAY will provide high school juniors and seniors with information to assist with the college search process. Students will interact with the Center for Learning Innovation faculty, learn about the financial aid and scholarship search process, explore UMR's B.S. in health sciences, tour the UMR campus, and more. July 14, 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m., 417 University Square. For more information see [BSHS Day](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

UMTC HAS REDUCED ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY FIVE PERCENT for the second consecutive year, helping the U avoid \$2 million in annual energy costs. Facilities Management's Energy Management group initiated the It All Adds Up conservation program in 2009. It includes reconditioning buildings, engaging the campus community, and reducing operational energy use. Since the program began, UMTC has avoided \$4.6 million in annual energy costs and the release of 50,000 fewer tons of CO2 into the atmosphere annually. For more information, see [It All Adds Up](#).

REFWORKS LAUNCHES NEW INTERFACE. Users of RefWorks, the web-based citation manager that allows creation of citation databases, will notice a new option in the toolbar of RefWorks 2.0. For more information about the updated and user-friendly interface, see [University Libraries](#).

TECHNOLOGY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES: The Office of Information Technology is offering a number of free technology training courses this summer. Moodle 1.9: Creating Basic Course Websites; Gmail and Google Calendar Overview; Visio 2010: Creating Process Maps; Excel 2007: Managing and Analyzing Data; Web Development: Essentials—Cascading Style Sheets; Web Development: Dreamweaver CS5 Basics; Google Docs Overview; and more. For more information, see [technology training](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

DRUM CORPS INTERNATIONAL will return to Minnesota for a competition at TCF Bank Stadium on July 16. For more information, including performers and tickets, see [Drum Corps International](#).

THE CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY AND HEALING will hold "An Evening with Swami Veda Bharati: Yoga: Integration & Ecstasy!" July 20, 4:40–6:30 p.m., Mayr Memorial Auditorium. The event includes meditation with the world-renowned Swami Veda Bharati and teachings related to the relationship between yoga and meditation. For more information, see [Swami Veda](#).

MORE EVENTS include [America's Wildest Refuge \(July 14\)](#); Friday Night Live: Sims with Bight Club [\(July 15\)](#); University of Minnesota Farmers Market [\(July 20\)](#); 2011 Minneapolis Aquatennial [CAMPUS OF THE LAKES](#) Coronation [\(July 22\)](#); Food Pyramid [\(July 26\)](#). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

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Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--Features: The art of collaboration; Northside partnership; This Week @Minnesota.
--People: President Kaler has announced a national search to fill the position of Vice President and Chief Information Officer; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

Features

FEATURE: The University of Minnesota and Minnesota arts organizations work together to allow the talents of students and faculty to mingle with those of full-time professional artists—to the benefit of all. In fact, the chance to interact with working artists at major institutions and to share their skills with the very young is a selling point for the U's music, theatre, dance, and art students. President Kaler recently told a gathering of Twin Cities arts luminaries that the U is "a creative magnet," because of those close relationships. For more information, read "[The art of collaboration](#)."FEATURE: Six years after the idea of a more concerted University "urban vision," the Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC) has found a home on the Northside, both figuratively and literally. The second annual Community Day was the opportunity to showcase the efforts. In a large, bright room facing Plymouth Avenue in North Minneapolis, President Eric Kaler and Senior Vice President Robert Jones spoke to community members about the U's partnership with Minneapolis's Northside community. For more information, read "[In the spirit of collaboration](#)."THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Sept. 26–30. This installment of the weekly video feature from the U's News Service looks at the Weisman Art Museum's remodel, a new campus bike center, and a smartphone app created by a U professor. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: President Kaler has announced a national search to fill the position of Vice President and Chief Information Officer; U professor Judith Martin has passed away; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY: Two policy revisions are ready for review and comment. In the Traveling on University Business policy, international travelers will be required to pre-register their trip so that the University is able to deploy resources should a crisis in-country occur (e.g., natural disaster), and to assist travelers with pre-travel preparation. The High School Preparation Requirements for Undergraduates policy changes the math requirement from three to four years, for students seeking admission as of Fall 2015. For more information, see [revised draft policies](#).THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND FACULTY SENATE will meet Oct. 6, 2:30 p.m., 25 Mondale Hall. Topics will include the first report from President Kaler, Vice Presidential Unit Reports, and the Gender Equity in Salaries Study. For more information, see the agenda at [University Senate](#).THE P&A SENATE will meet Oct. 7, 9:30 a.m., 1-451 Moos Tower. Topics will include discussion with professor Christopher Cramer and a Community Fund Drive Update. For more information, see the agenda at [P&A Senate](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

A "COLLAGE OF SUSTAINABILITY" conference sponsored by the U's Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships will consider economically smart and environmentally sound land use, energy, economic development, and transportation options. The conference kicks off a yearlong series of public conferences and community-based meetings sponsored by the HUD-funded Central Minnesota Sustainable Development Plan and designed to help residents tackle pressing issues related to development. U speakers include Brad Hokanson and Frank Douma. Oct. 13, Pine River, MN. For more information, see [sustainable development](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC was recently awarded a grant appropriation of \$615,000 from the U.S. Department of Commerce to continue to serve as the Economic Development Administration (EDA) University Center for the state of Minnesota. For more information, see [EDA grant award](#).THE BLACK-JEW DIALOGUES, an energetic and captivating two-actor play, examines prejudice and racism with the goal of reuniting cultures while entertaining. It will be performed Oct. 5, 8 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. For more information, see [dialogues](#).THE MINNESOTA CLOTHESLINE PROJECT, sponsored by the Office of Service Learning and Student Health Services, will be on display as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Oct. 10–14, International Lounge, Sargeant Student Center. For more information, see [domestic violence awareness](#).

DULUTH:

ETHICS AND POLICY will be explored in the "Torture and the U.S.: Why Accountability Matters" lecture, presented by Allen Keller. The event is part of the lecture series by the Center for Genocide, Holocaust and Human Rights Studies. Oct. 12, 3 p.m., 80 Montague. For more information, see [lecture](#).THE WEISMAN ART MUSEUM is displaying an exhibit created by Eun-Kyung Suh, UMD associate professor in the Department of Art and Design. Titled "Sympathies-Anchae," the exhibit will be on display through May 20. An artist talk is scheduled for Feb. 29. For more information, see [Weisman exhibit](#).A NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF) COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH GRANT has been awarded to Peter Willemsen, UMD associate professor in the Department of Computer Science. The total award is approximately \$1 million over three years, with NSF awarding \$241,482 to Willemsen for a "Simulation and Environment Representation for Virtual Environments" project. For more information, see [NSF grant](#).

MORRIS:

THE SIERRA CLUB conducted a survey and completed the process of ranking "Cool Schools," which included UMM. Published in *Sierra*, the rankings act as a "guide for prospective students who seek a way to compare colleges based on commitment to environmentalism," and as a recognition of "institutions that work hard to protect the planet." For more information, see [cool schools](#).THE 27TH ANNUAL O. TRUMAN DRIGGS DISTINGUISHED LECTURE will be delivered by University of Iowa associate professor of history H. Glenn Penny. Reflecting his scholarship and forthcoming book, Penny's talk is titled "On Passing: A 'Redskin' with Black Skin in Twentieth Century Germany." Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m. For more information, see [Driggs lecture](#).KELLY ASCHE, a Humphrey School of Public Affairs graduate student, completed an internship with the Center for Small Towns (CST). Asche worked with CST and the statistics department to set up a first-of-its-kind computer portal that provides rural data for small cities and townships in Minnesota. For more information, see [CST rural data](#).UMM'S NEW WIND TURBINE was dedicated Sept. 24. The event included a 2K walk, an art contest for area school children, a picnic, and a day of recognizing Morris's sustainability accomplishments and progress. A photo album of the event is [available online](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR WAS FEATURED on American Public Media's American RadioWorks series, "Tomorrows College: Rethinking the Way College Students Learn." The entire series can be found online. For more information, see the UMR segment, "[Inventing a New Kind of College](#)."

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

THE 2011 COMMUNITY FUND DRIVE IS UNDER WAY. The annual fundraising effort of UMTC faculty and staff generates more than \$1 million annually for more than 400 organizations in Minnesota and the Twin Cities area. There are also opportunities to volunteer time. Faculty and staff who pledge are entered into weekly and grand prize drawings to win prizes, including the iPad2. The Community Fund Drive continues through Oct. 31. For more information, [pledge online](#).MOODLE 2.0 TRAINING through the Office of Information Technology is available on a variety of topics. Learn to build Moodle course websites, add assignments and quizzes, use the grade book effectively, and more. For registration and more information, see [technology training](#).STUDENTS WHO NEED HELP WITH RESEARCH can receive assistance from the Peer Research Consultants (PRCs) program. PRCs provide one-on-one help to students on the library and academic research strategies needed to write a research paper. Drop-in hours are held at Wilson, Walter, or Appleby, and by appointment. The program is a partnership of U Libraries, the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence, and SMART Learning Commons. For more information, see [PRC](#).EASY ACCESS TO STUDENT DATA*: The Office of Institutional Research has launched a new website that provides current and interactive information related to student data and survey results. The information is available to all faculty, staff, and students in an effort to create a more data-driven culture. For more information, see [data driven](#). *The emailed version of the Sept. 28 issue of Brief included an incorrect link.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE MINI MEDICAL SCHOOL fall session begins Oct. 10. Battling Cancer: Breakthroughs at the U, will cover topics ranging from the basics of cancer to exploring treatments and therapies considered improbable a short time ago, and featuring renowned U researchers. Held Mondays, Oct. 10–Nov. 7, 6–8:30 p.m., 2-650 Moos Tower. For registration and more information, see [Mini Medical School](#).THE 19TH ANNUAL KUEHNAST ENDOWMENT LECTURE, co-sponsored by Sigma Xi, promotes public engagement in atmospheric and climate science issues and research. This year's speaker is Gavin Schmidt from the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies. Schmidt is a climate modeler and co-founder of RealClimate.org. He will speak on the topic of "What Climate Models Tell Us and How to Communicate It." Oct. 13, 3–5 p.m., 335 Borlaug Hall. For more information, see [Kuehnast Lecture](#).A WORKING ON PURPOSE workshop has been redesigned for both a younger audience approaching changes in their profession as well as those experiencing unique mid-life transitions. It is geared toward individuals looking for renewal, approaching changes in a profession, and/or experiencing unique life transitions. Oct. 14, 9–4 p.m., U of M Landscape Arboretum. For more information, see [purpose project](#).THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT will hold a Saturday Scholars event featuring faculty who are top educators in their respective fields. The event will include discussions in casual small-group settings on a variety of engaging education and human development topics such as the economics of early childhood development, how the mind understands mathematics, family dynamics in inheritance decisions, and more. Nov. 5, 8 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Coffman Union. [Register online](#) or see [CEHD Saturday Scholars](#) for more information.MORE EVENTS include University of Minnesota Farmers Lecture ([Oct. 5](#)); John Beardsley Lecture ([Oct. 6](#)); GerryMander-thon ([Oct. 8](#)); My Letter to the World: Narrating Human Rights ([Oct. 10](#)); Copyright in the Classroom (and Online) ([Oct. 11](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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Faculty and Staff



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[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (11-30-2011)Vol. XLI No. 38; Nov. 30, 2011
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Inside This Issue**

--Features: Fast times in physics.
--People: Dante Cicchetti has been honored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for his ground-breaking research; and more.

University News and Events[Top News](#) | [University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)**TOP NEWS:****Features**

FEATURE: Back in 2007, U physicist Marvin Marshak was part of an experiment, called MINOS, that clocked neutrinos going faster than light. That wasn't supposed to happen. If the speed of light isn't the universal speed limit, it would mean that Einstein's famous equation, $E=mc^2$, is wrong. While the U finding was published, it never made the news. Then, in September, came a shocker from a similar experiment in Europe—and media around the world trumpeted the possible demise of the world's most famous equation. Now, Marshak and MINOS are gearing up to settle the matter. For more information, read "[Fast times in physics](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Dante Cicchetti has been named a Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for his ground-breaking research in developmental neuroscience and child psychology; professor Charles Baxter's collection *Gryphon: New & Selected Stories* was named one of the 100 Notable Books of 2011 by *The New York Times*; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**UNIVERSITY-WIDE:**

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND FACULTY SENATE will meet Dec. 1, 2:30 p.m., 25 Mondale Hall. Topics will include a white paper on academic freedom, procedures for reviewing candidates for tenure and/or promotion, and Graduate School metrics. For more information, see the agenda at [University Senate](#).

THE P&A SENATE will meet Dec. 2, 9:30 a.m., Mayo Auditorium. Topics will include a discussion with President Kaler and Donna Peterson, associate vice president for government relations. For more information, see the agenda at [P&A Senate](#).

Funding awards and opportunities

NOMINATIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE are due by March 9. The award honors active or retired faculty or staff who have gone well beyond their regular duties and have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the U community. For more information about the award and the nominating process, see [President's Award](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE U WILL HOST GOOGLE CHAIRMAN ERIC SCHMIDT ON NOV. 30, 10–11 a.m. Schmidt will speak on "The Future of the High-tech Economy: How Technology is Changing Business, Education and Government." The event is by invitation only, but will be webcast live at livestream.com/umntv, and recorded for future viewing. For more information, see the [news release](#).

CROOKSTON:

THE CAMPUS ASSEMBLY FALL MEETING will take place Dec. 1, 12:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The agenda for the meeting and the minutes from the last meeting [are online](#).

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES ACTIVITIES DAY will bring high school students from some 40 high schools to UMC on Dec. 2. The annual event, which involves more than 20 student contests, has been held on the campus since 1969. For more information, see [natural resources](#).

UMC'S COLLEGIATE CROPS JUDGING TEAM recently finished second in both the Kansas City and Chicago national crops contests. Members of the 2011 team include seniors Chase Boen, double majoring in agronomy and agricultural business; Matthew Green, triple majoring in agricultural systems management, agronomy, and agricultural business; and Ethan Hulst, majoring in agronomy. The team is coached by Rob Proulx, agronomy lecturer in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department. For more information, see [collegiate crops](#).

DULUTH:

AN ALUMNI RECEPTION IN CHICAGO will feature a performance of *It's a Wonderful Life: Live at the Biograph*, Dec. 9, 6 p.m., American Blues Theater (ABT). Bill Payne, professor of theatre and interim dean in the School of Fine Arts, is cofounder of the ABT and has been an ensemble member since 1985. For more information, see [alumni reception](#).

THE CIVIL ENGINEERING MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM began this fall with the first cohort of students. The master of science in civil engineering is intended for those pursuing a research emphasis and seeking in-depth knowledge in an area within civil engineering. For more information, see [civil engineering program](#).

BOOK READING AND SIGNING: AUTHOR MILAN KOVACOVIC will read from his recently published memoir, *Ma's Dictionary: An Odyssey Through the Social Classes: France, Slovakia, U.S.A.*. Dec. 8, 4:30 p.m. Griggs Center. For more information, see [author event](#).

MORRIS:

MINNESOTA GREENCORPS has announced that the Morris campus GreenCorps program will continue to be funded. An environmentally focused AmeriCorps program administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, GreenCorps is funded by a Corporation for National and Community Service grant with additional support from ServeMinnesota. UMM is the only GreenCorps site in Minnesota at which undergraduates serve in the program. Goals of the program are to preserve and protect the environment while developing the next generation of environmental professionals. For more information, see [Greencorps](#).

THE MORRIS ART CLUB will hold its annual art sale featuring work by students, faculty, and local artists Dec. 1–3, Humanities Fine Arts Gallery. For more information see [art sale](#).

THE MORRIS DANCE ENSEMBLE will present *Move Your Feet!* Dec. 2–3, Edson Auditorium, Student Center. The event will feature 146 student dancers in dances from ballet to Beyonce, plus a piece choreographed around the theme of the show. For more information, see [dance](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR STUDENTS AND FACULTY WILL PUBLISH an article titled "A Paradoxical Framework for Drug Rationing" in a forthcoming issue of the *American Journal of Bioethics*. Students Bayly Bucknell, Heather DeGrote, Loren Fabry, Madeleine Hammerlund, and Bryan Weisbrod; and UMR philosophy professors Rebecca Bamford and Cameron Brewer wrote the article as part of a collaborative project in an upper level philosophy class. The project helped the students understand the importance of philosophy in contemporary bioethics and provided them with a research experience.

TWIN CITIES:**Administrative information**

FACILITY MANAGEMENT'S ENERGY MANAGEMENT GROUP HAS NOT HAD A LOST-TIME INJURY in more than 1,000 days. In a unit where employees regularly work with electricity, hazardous materials, wet floors, and saws, the safety milestone is remarkable. The group emphasizes teamwork within crews and safety as a shared responsibility to achieve its goal of staying safe. For more information, see [no lost time](#).

THE OFFICE FOR EQUITY AND DIVERSITY has invited three candidates to campus for public interviews for the position of director of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Ally Programs Office. Forums are scheduled Dec. 1, 2-3 p.m., 335 Appleby Hall; Dec. 6, 2-3 p.m., 117 Appleby Hall; and Dec. 7, 10-11 a.m., 117 Appleby Hall. For more information, see [public forums](#).

STUDENT UNIONS & ACTIVITIES IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS to serve on a judging committee for either the Excellence Awards or the President's Student Leadership and Service Awards selection process. Committee members show support for the U community while helping to recognize students for their outstanding work in leadership, service, and student group contributions. Responsibilities consist of reviewing applications and attending selection meetings with other U of M faculty, staff, and student judges. For more information or to volunteer, email awards or call 612-626-6919.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

EMMY-NOMINATED SCREENWRITER, playwright, and Tectonic Theater Project member Leigh Fondakowski will discuss the long-term environmental and cultural effects of the 2010 BP oil drilling disaster, based on her upcoming work with the people of coastal Louisiana following the Deepwater Horizon drilling explosion. Sponsored by the U's Institute for Advanced Study, Fondakowski's presentation will highlight her production's exploration of the environmental and human cost of the pursuit of oil. Dec. 1, 4 p.m., 125 Nolte Center. For more information, see "[The Big Spill](#)."

(BI)SEXUALITY 101 will offer attendees an opportunity to explore an often-overlooked segment of the GLBTQ community. Participants will think critically about gender and desire and share strategies to make the U campus and area communities more welcoming. Free food (including vegan and gluten-free options) will be provided. Free and open to the public. Dec. 5, 1-4 p.m., 335 Peik Hall. For registration, email glbtapo@umn.edu with your name, email, and U or community affiliation. For more information, see [GLBTA programs](#).

THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY will host a symposium on "The Psychology of Political Misinformation," featuring Dan Kahan, Brendan Nyhan, and Dhavan Shah as panelists, with Paul Goren as moderator. Dec. 9, 2-4 p.m., 1-149 Carlson School. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [political psychology](#).

"FLAT CITY: THE STREETCAR CITY AND THE REVIVAL OF THE AMERICAN DREAM" will be the topic of the Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) annual fall luncheon. Patrick Condon, professor and international expert on sustainable urban design, will argue why the "Streetcar City," a uniquely American urban landscape, is again desirable for the future quality of American life. Dec. 8, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For more information, see [streetcar city](#).

"DISPARITIES IN MENTAL HEALTH STATUS AND CARE IN THE U.S." is the next topic of the talk in the Distinguished Visiting Scholar Series on Health Disparities. Sergio Aguilar-Gaxiola, director of the Center for Reducing Health Disparities at UC Davis, presents. Sponsored by the Program in Health Disparities Research, the Center for Health Equity, and the Minnesota Center for Cancer Collaborations. RSVP to [health disparities](#). Dec. 9, noon–1 p.m., 2-530 Moos Tower and broadcasted online. For more information, see [Distinguished Visiting Scholar Series](#).

MORE EVENTS include Site and Incitement—Planning Discussion ([Dec. 1](#)); Why it Takes the Heart and the Fist: A conversation with Eric Greitman, humanitarian and Navy SEAL ([Dec. 2](#)); Freight and Logistics Symposium ([Dec. 2](#)); *Uncle Vanya* by Anton Chekhov ([Dec. 3](#)); Faculty Recital: Immanuel Davis (flute), Alexander Fiterstein (clarinet), and Timothy Lovelace (piano) ([Dec. 4](#)); Grant Funding—Search Tools and Resources ([Dec. 6](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

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Vol. XLI No. 40; Dec. 14, 2011
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: Brief will not be published Dec. 28 and Jan. 4. Publication will resume Jan. 11. All submissions for the Jan. 11 issue are due no later than noon, Jan. 6.

Inside This Issue

--Board of Regents December meeting summary.
--Features: Warm winter wishes; Wind. Energy. Research.; This Week @Minnesota.
--People: Michael Schmitt will be the new associate dean for Extension in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; and more.

University News and Events

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TOP NEWS:

BOARD OF REGENTS DECEMBER MEETING SUMMARY: The Board of Regents received an update on the status of the Minnesota economy from state economist and U professor Tom Stinson during its December meeting. Regents also heard a report on undergraduate retention and graduation rates; details of a proposed tuition surcharge within the Carlson School of Management; and the announcement of an innovative new approach to technology transfer, as well as an update on the state of University research. In addition, the facilities committee heard a presentation on U sustainability efforts. For more information, read the [Regents meeting summary](#).

Features

FEATURE: In this, their first winter as the U of M presidential couple, Karen and Eric Kaler sent a colorful, animated [seasonal e-card](#) to the extended U community. The card was the work of students Mari Mihai, a third-year graphic design undergrad; and Adam Zahller Brown, a first-year grad student in music composition. Complete with falling snow, a crackling fire, and a crescendo of music, it went out to faculty, staff, students, and friends—more than 100,000 people in all. For more information, read "[Warm winter wishes](#)."

FEATURE: The U was one of three university-based consortia to receive a large U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) wind energy research grant in 2009. As part of that, the U recently dedicated a \$5.5 million, 2.5MW wind turbine at UMore Park in Rosemount. It's the focal point of the budding Eolos Wind Energy Research Consortium, a unique, collaborative research effort. But what makes the turbine really stand out is its role in the next generation of wind energy research—universities working with industry to test ideas for wind energy improvements. For more information, read "[Wind. Energy. Research](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: For the week of Dec. 5–9, we learn about the induction of Gopher football great Sandy Stephens into the College Football Hall of Fame, see the Gopher Women's Volleyball team progress to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament, and learn about a new partnership that more tightly connects the U's research innovation to business. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Michael Schmitt will be the new associate dean for Extension in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:**Funding awards and opportunities**

NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 DISTINGUISHED MCKNIGHT UNIVERSITY PROFESSORSHIPS will be accepted by the Office of the Vice President for Research through Feb. 1. The McKnight program supports outstanding mid-career faculty who have recently achieved full professor status. For more information, see [nominating instructions](#).

CROOKSTON:

JASON BRANTNER, Northwest Research and Outreach Center (NWROC) research fellow, has been recognized with the Sugarbeet Distinguished Service Award. The award is based on significant contributions to the success of the sugarbeet industry in Minnesota and North Dakota. Brantner was presented with the award Dec. 1 by the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association during their annual meeting. For more information, see [sugarbeet award](#).

RUSS SEVERSON, U of M Extension educator in crops, will be retiring Dec. 29 after 38 years with the U. A retirement reception celebrating Severson's career will take place Dec. 20, 3–5 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The reception will take place at the conclusion of the Soybean College Workshop held the same day. For more information, see [retirement](#).

THE THIRD "SUSTAINABILITY SUPPER" of the fall semester will be held Dec. 14. The meeting will take place at the University of North Dakota, where campuses participating in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education [Climate Action Plan](#) will share an overview of their sustainability initiatives, with special emphasis on implementation of campus sustainability plans. For more information, see the [UMC climate action plan](#).

DULUTH:

THE 2011 EQUITY AND DIVERSITY OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD was presented to UMD by the U's Office for Equity and Diversity. The award recognizes UMD's visionary and insightful leadership in diversity, inclusion, and social justice. For more information, see [Equity and Diversity](#).

COMMISSIONER MARK PHILLIPS ('73) is the recipient of the UMD Center for Economic Development Joel Labovitz Award for Entrepreneurial Vision. Governor Mark Dayton appointed Phillips as the commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) in January 2011 to support the economic success of individuals, businesses, and communities by improving opportunities for growth. In partnership with business, industry, education, and governmental organizations, DEED implements the state branding program "Positively Minnesota." For more information, see [entrepreneurial vision award](#).

UMD PROFESSOR JOSEPH MAIOLO will read his work, *Saint Matthew in Appalachia*, Dec. 16, 3 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [author event](#).

MORRIS:

JENNIFER ROTHCHILD, associate professor of sociology and gender, women, and sexuality studies, received a fellowship with the Institute for Advanced Studies (IAS). Rothchild's goal is to draft her book, *Boys in the Kitchen and Girls in the Yard: Social Constructions of Gender and Family in Nepali Orphanages*. For more information, see [IAS fellowship](#).

ROCHESTER:

A DWI AWARENESS EVENT for students was held at UMR Dec. 7. UMR students, faculty, staff, and Rochester community members had the opportunity to use interactive tools to understand the impact drinking has on driving. Olmsted County Safe Communities Partners sponsored the event.

TWIN CITIES:**Administrative information**

THE CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING WILL OFFER A COURSE DESIGN WORKSHOP to help instructors create and refine student outcomes, identify assessment strategies to measure higher level learning, and discuss classroom activities to help students achieve course goals. "Making It Even Better: Designing Courses to Support Student Learning and Teacher Satisfaction," will assist new teachers adjusting to the U's Student Learning Outcomes, experienced teachers already practicing active-learning strategies but needing to update courses for liberal education requirements, and teachers ready to retool a course based on student and peer feedback. Dec. 20, noon–1:30 p.m., 530B STSS. For registration and more information, see [course design](#).

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2012 PRESIDENT'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARD are open until Jan. 27. The awards honor the accomplishments of outstanding students at UMTC. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to nominate current University students. For more information and nomination forms, see [Student Unions and Activities](#), or call 612-626-6919.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

CURA HOUSING FORUM: Commissioner Mary Tingertal from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency will present an overview of the findings from the agency's Affordable Housing Plan at the next Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) housing forum. The plan includes everything from demographics to the sources and uses of housing funds. Dec. 16, noon–1:30 p.m., L-110 Carlson School of Management. For more information, see [housing forum](#).

DEINARD MEMORIAL LECTURE ON LAW AND MEDICINE: The Joint Degree Program in Law, Health & the Life Sciences and the Center for Bioethics are bringing professor Ezekiel Emanuel to campus for the lecture, "Health Care Reform and the Future of American Medicine." Emanuel was President Obama's special health care adviser when he worked for the Office of Management and Budget in 2009 and 2010. He played a major role in the Affordable Care Act. Jan. 25, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. Registration is recommended for those requesting continuing education credit. [Register online](#), email joint_degree, or call 612-625-0055.

THE U OF M ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HAS INTRODUCED a unique line of professional and athletic apparel called "The Minnesota Collection." All proceeds from The Minnesota Collection will benefit scholarships and other student initiatives. The apparel features a range of men's and women's dress shirts, sweaters and sweatshirts, as well as one-of-a-kind Goldy glassware and travel items. For more information, see [The Minnesota Collection](#).

DISCOUNTED TICKETS to Spirit Mountain (save \$20) are now available at the Coffman Union and St. Paul Student Center Information Desks. Discounted Minnesota Wild hockey tickets (save \$60) are also available. For more information, see [Student Unions & Activities](#).

MORE EVENTS include Sip of Science: Future Earth—Thriving on a Human-dominated Planet ([Dec. 14](#)); Innovations in Parking Pricing as Transportation Demand ([Dec. 15](#)); CSE Winter Light Show ([Dec. 16](#)); Life on Earth: The Origin of Elements ([Dec. 20](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS: [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

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