

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

NEWS

University News Service
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2007

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PROFESSOR LEONID HURWICZ WINS NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Regents Professor Emeritus Leonid Hurwicz, along with two other Americans, has been awarded the Nobel Prize in economics today for theories that help set rules for transactions ranging from auctions to elections.

Hurwicz, 90, is the oldest Nobel winner in history, the academy said. The Moscow-born researcher won the award along with Eric Maskin and Roger Myerson. The three men developed a theory that helps explain situations in which markets work and others in which they don't.

"Professor Hurwicz has been one of the most outstanding economists in the entire world," University President Robert Bruininks said. "He has influenced in a very significant and transformative way the study of economics and the application of economics to important issues on an international scale."

The group of researchers have "laid the foundations of mechanism design theory," which plays a central role in contemporary economics and political science, according to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

The academy said the researchers' work helped explain decision-making procedures involved in economic transactions including, for example, what insurance policies will provide the best coverage without inviting misuse.

The three men, starting in 1960 with Hurwicz, studied how game theory can help determine the best, most efficient method for allocating resources given the available information, including the incentives of those involved.

"Mechanism design theory, initiated by Leonid Hurwicz and further developed by Eric Maskin and Roger Myerson, has greatly enhanced our understanding of optimal allocation mechanisms," the academy said.

Their theory lets economists, governments and businesses "distinguish situations in which markets work well

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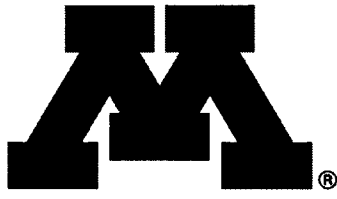
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Their theory lets economists, governments and businesses “distinguish situations in which markets work well from those in which they do not,” the academy said.

Hurwicz woke up to the news of the Nobel honor this morning.

"I really didn't expect it. There were times when other people said I was on the short list but as time passed and nothing happened I didn't expect the recognition would come because people who were familiar with my work were slowly dying off," Hurwicz told reporters.

Hurwicz received his LL.M. (master of laws degree) from Warsaw University, Poland in 1938. He has taught in the areas of theory, welfare economics, public economics, mechanisms and institutions, and mathematical economics. Hurwicz's current research includes comparison and analysis of systems and techniques of economic organization, welfare economics, game-theoretic implementation of social choice goals, and modeling economic institutions.



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Contacts: *Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214*
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VIDEO AND AUDIO: U OF M PROFESSOR LEONID HURWICZ WINS NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Regents Professor Emeritus Leonid Hurwicz, along with two other Americans, has been awarded the Nobel Prize in economics today for theories that help set rules for transactions ranging from auctions to elections.

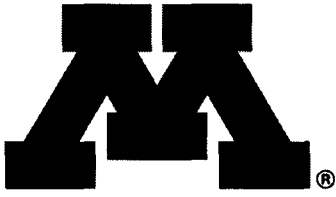
For an audio comment from University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks, visit:

http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/BruininksHurwicz_1.mp3

For video commentary from Hurwicz, visit: <https://mediamill.cl.umn.edu/mediamill/embed/4919>

For video commentary from Bruininks, visit: <https://mediamill.cl.umn.edu/mediamill/embed/4920>

For a copy of any of these files, please contact Justin Ware or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-5551.



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Contacts: *Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service*

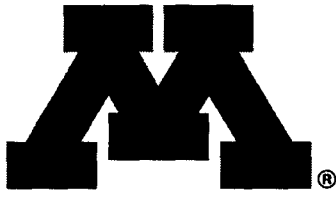
ECONOMICS EXPERT DISCUSSES NOBEL PRIZE WINNER LEONID HURWICZ

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL University of Minnesota Regents Professor Emeritus Leonid Hurwicz, along with two other Americans, has been awarded the Nobel Prize in economics today for theories that help set rules for transactions ranging from auctions to elections. The university professor that can discuss Hurwicz and his work is:

V.V. Chari, professor in the department of economics

Chari is available to comment on the theory, which won Hurwicz the award. He can also comment on the work that they have done together at the U of M.

To interview Chari, contact Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-5551 or egiorgi@umn.edu



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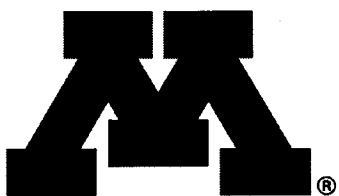
Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA STATEMENT REGARDING AFSCME APPROVAL OF U OF M CONTRACT PROPOSAL

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The following is a statement from University of Minnesota Vice President for Human Resources Carol Carrier in response to the approval of a labor agreement by the members of AFSCME:

“Last night, AFSCME announced that University of Minnesota clerical, technical, and health care employees have voted to accept the latest contract offer from the university. We are pleased with this outcome and grateful for the numerous contributions that AFSCME workers make to the success of the university.

“Now that the contract offer has been approved by AFSCME members, it will follow the University’s normal procedures for approving and implementing labor agreements. The Board of Regents will review and ratify the agreement, and then it will be signed by representatives of the university and AFSCME.”



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October 16, 2007

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Registration Contact: (612) 626-9334, firsttuesday@umn.edu*

LEUTHOLD AT U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL EVENT TO DISCUSS THE DANGER IN ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Steven Leuthold, founder and CIO of the Leuthold Group, LLC., and Leuthold Weeden Capital Management, will speak at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management's First Tuesday luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 6, at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

In his speech, "The Perils of Alternative Investing," Leuthold will offer advice taken from his 40 years of experience as an investment strategist, manager and researcher. He will discuss the potential economic pitfalls of an alternative investment market, where smaller companies enjoy less regulation than can be afforded in a large main market.

Leuthold is considered an industry expert and is frequently cited in leading trade journals. He has also served as a contributing editor and authored articles for major industry publications. Leuthold's published works include two books, "The Myths of Inflation and Investing and Index Funds, the Risks and Pitfalls," and sections in "The Stock Market and Inflation and The Handbook of Fixed Income Securities."

Advance registration by Thursday, Nov. 1, is \$28 and \$35 for walk-ins. The fee includes lunch and parking in the Washington Avenue Ramp. Refund cancellations are required by Friday, Nov. 2. Register by calling (612) 626-9634, visiting www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/events or by e-mailing firsttuesday@umn.edu.

WHO: Steven Leuthold, founder and CIO, The Leuthold Group, LLC.
WHEN: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 6
WHERE: McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis



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

U OF M HOUSING FORUM TO EXAMINE LESSONS LEARNED IN REVITALIZATION OF EAST FRANKLIN AVENUE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- What lessons have Minneapolis and the Consortium of Community Developers learned in the revitalization of East Franklin Avenue? That is the topic of the University of Minnesota Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) monthly forum from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, in Room 2-215, Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

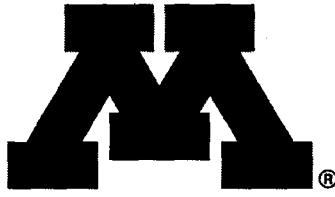
Five community development agencies have invested \$75 million to develop East Franklin Avenue between 35W and Hiawatha Avenue since 1982. Will Delaney, a research assistant of the Neighborhood Planning for Community Revitalization, will make a presentation on the impact the investment has on East Franklin and lessons the investors and the community have learned.

A panel discussion will follow featuring panelists Alan Arthur of Aeon, a nonprofit provider of apartments and town homes for people with low or moderate incomes; Theresa Carr, American Indian Neighborhood Development Corporation; Steve Cramer, Project for Pride in Living; Mike Haag, American Indian Community Development Corporation; and Mary Keefe, Hope Communities.

The housing forum is a monthly brown bag discussion of Twin Cities housing issues and research sponsored by (CURA). This forum is jointly sponsored by CURA and the Minneapolis Consortium of Community Developers.

WHEN: Noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19

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



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October 16, 2007

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

CORPORATE LEADERS GATHER AT U OF M TO DISCUSS INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF LGBT INCLUSIVENESS IN THE CORPORATE ENVIRONMENT

The University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management will host a panel discussion on the increasing importance of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) inclusiveness in the corporate sector at 4:45 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17, at the Carlson School's 3M Auditorium, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The event is co-sponsored by Ernst & Young.

Panelists will discuss how inclusiveness affects corporate financials and growth potential. Panel participants include Kelly Baker, vice president of corporate diversity at General Mills; Steve Euler, general counsel at Cargill; Cecilia Stanton, vice president of diversity at Allianz Life; and John Wilgers from Ernst & Young L.L.P.'s Minneapolis office.

Following the panel discussion will be a corporate networking reception. Companies invited to participate have scored well on the Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index. (See <http://www.hrc.org/issues/workplace/ceihome.asp>.) Please RSVP to mbasa@umn.edu. The event is free and open to the public, but reservations are requested.

WHAT: "Future Success, Inclusiveness Now!" panel discussion on LGBT inclusiveness
WHEN: 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17; reception follows
WHERE: Carlson School of Management's 3M Auditorium, 321 19th Avenue South in Minneapolis



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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690 luisab@umn.edu*

GOLDSTEIN MUSEUM TO SIMULTANEOUSLY DISPLAY DIGITAL FABRICATION INNOVATIONS AT TWO CAMPUS LOCATIONS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/16/2007) -- The Goldstein Museum of Design, part of the University of Minnesota's College of Design and the only design museum in the upper Midwest, will simultaneously debut "Here by Design III: Process and Prototype" in two locations from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19 at the Goldstein Museum of Design, 240 McNeal Hall, St. Paul, and the HGA Gallery, first floor of Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public.

Friday's event is the third installment of the "Here by Design" series, which first opened in 2001 to showcase products developed by Minnesota designers. This year's event will focus on the new possibilities available in design due to digital fabrication and rapid prototyping.

"There's been a huge shift in design technology in terms of digital fabrication and rapid prototyping," explained curator James Boyd-Bret, associate professor of graphic design in the university's College of Design. "It really wasn't on the radar six years ago and now it's unavoidable."

Digital fabrication refers to the creation of objects by computer. Rapid prototyping -- developed to test equipment for large-scale manufacturing -- encompasses such digital fabrication methods as 3-D printing and stereolithography. The two come together when digital fabrication methods are used to manufacture objects in small numbers, resulting in a new rapid manufacturing capability.

Free trolleys will run every half hour between McNeal and Rapson Halls. A variety of refreshments, music, interactive activities and tours will be offered throughout the exhibit. It runs through January 20. For more information, go to goldstein.cdes.umn.edu or call 612-624-7434.

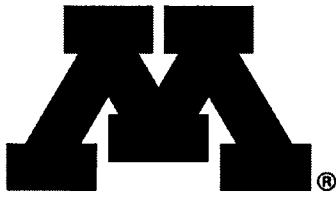
WHEN: 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20

WHERE: Goldstein Museum of Design, 240 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue, St. Paul; HGA Gallery, first floor of Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

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Gallery, first floor of Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.



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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA BEGINS NCAA RECERTIFICATION PROCESS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks announced that the university has begun a yearlong, campus-wide study of its athletics programs as part of the NCAA Division I athletics certification program. Specific areas of the study will include academic integrity, governance, commitment to rules compliance and commitment to equity and student-athlete well being.

“This is an important opportunity for us to assess the quality and integrity of our programs,” said Bruininks. “We want to involve the university community in this yearlong effort.”

Gail Klatt, associate vice president for internal audits, will head the committee responsible for the study, which also includes administrators, faculty, staff, alumni, student-athletes and community members.

Certification programs are common in colleges and universities, but this is the only one that focuses solely on athletics. This will be the university’s second certification and the first was completed in February 2001. Its purpose is to ensure the integrity in the institution’s athletics programs by opening athletics to the entire university community and the public.

“These kinds of processes benefit the entire university community by increasing campus-wide awareness of our athletics programs,” said Bruininks. “It will allow us to highlight our strengths, take a candid look at our weaknesses and develop a plan for improvement.”

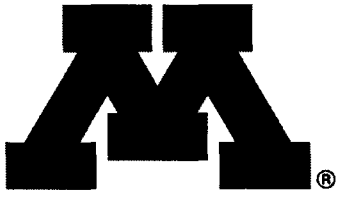
Once the university has concluded its study, an external team of reviewers will conduct an evaluation visit on campus. Those reviewers will be peers from other colleges, universities or conference offices. That team will report to the NCAA Division I Committee on Athletics Certification, another independent group, which will determine the university’s certification status.

The NCAA is a membership organization of colleges and universities that participate in intercollegiate athletics. The primary purpose of the association is to maintain intercollegiate athletics as an integral part of the education program and the athlete as an integral part of the student body. Activities of the NCAA include formulating

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rules for play for NCAA sports, conducting national championships, adopting and enforcing standards of eligibility and studying all phases of intercollegiate athletics.



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October 17, 2007

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Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962, dswain@umn.edu

TURKISH-AMERICAN TIES THREATENED AS HOUSE PREPARES FOR POSSIBLE HISTORIC VOTE

~ U of M professor available to speak about controversial vote ~

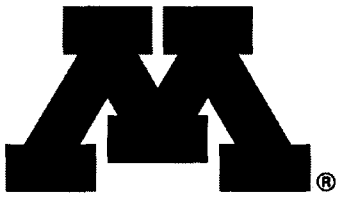
Following the House Foreign Affairs Committee's approval last week of a nonbinding resolution, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi says she will push a full vote in the House later this month. Turkish officials and American diplomats are warning that adopting the resolution, which would declare the World War I era killings of Armenians by Ottoman Turks a genocide, would severely impair America's ties with Turkey, a key ally in the war on Iraq. This week, Turkey is threatening to cut off access to a strategically important military base in the country. A University of Minnesota expert who can speak about this is:

Taner Akcam, visiting associate professor at the University of Minnesota

Akcam, a Turkish historian and sociologist, has written several books including last year's award-winning "A Shameful Act: The Armenian Genocide and the Question of Turkish Responsibility." He is one of the first Turkish academics to acknowledge the Armenian genocide.

To interview Akcam, contact Luisa Badaracco at (612) 624-1690 or luisab@umn.edu; or Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

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

U OF M HOSTS 150 MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TO LEARN ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Launching water-powered rockets, making biodiesel from soy oil and building electric motors-these are just three of the many activities that will teach 150 Minnesota middle schoolers about renewable energy during a visit to the University of Minnesota Thursday, Oct. 18. The students, ages 9 to 14, are visiting campus to begin preparing for "Power Puzzle," the 2007 FIRST LEGO League competition.

Sponsored by the local, nonprofit group Innovations in Science and Technology Education (INSciTE), this year's competition will challenge students to build small robots using LEGO technology, including elements such as sensors, motors and gears, to demonstrate energy management and conservation.

To help students begin their research, students will participate in fun, hands-on activities with university faculty who are recognized as international experts in renewable energy. Students will learn about solar power, wind energy, biofuels, fluid power and much more in the sessions offered by faculty. For a full schedule of events go to:

<http://it.umn.edu/news/pdf/LEGOLeaguePowerPuzzleSchedule.pdf>

During the next few weeks, students will build their robots and begin competing in regional competitions in November. Currently in its 10th year, the LEGO League anticipates its biggest season ever with more than 10,000 teams in 38 countries competing in hundreds of qualifying tournaments. The University of Minnesota will host an international LEGO League competition in early May, in which students from around the world will compete. Several Minnesota teams have been paired with student teams from Mexico and will work together throughout the season. The teams' collaborative efforts will culminate in May at the international event.

"The University of Minnesota is recognized as a leader in renewable energy, and we are excited to share this knowledge with these young students," said Steven Crouch, dean of the Institute of Technology, the university's college of engineering, physical sciences and mathematics. "We hope these events will inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers to help us develop new forms of environment-friendly, renewable energy that will meet our planet's growing energy needs."

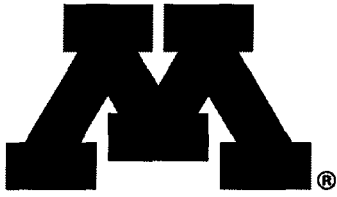
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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

meet our planet's growing energy needs.”

LEGO League teams participating in this week's event at the university are from Eden Prairie, Edina, Elk River, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Inver Grove Heights, Lakeville, Minneapolis, Mounds View, New Hope, Plymouth, Prior Lake, Robbinsdale, St. Paul, St. Peter, Wayzata, White Bear Lake and Woodbury.

WHEN: 9 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18



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Contacts: Justin Ware, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

U OF M'S NEW EQUINE CENTER IS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S BEST

~ Center attracting world-renowned horse experts ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Leatherdale Equine Center, 1801 Dudley Ave., St. Paul, is open for business and attracting some of the world's best horse experts, in addition to providing Minnesota horse experts with the best veterinary care available.

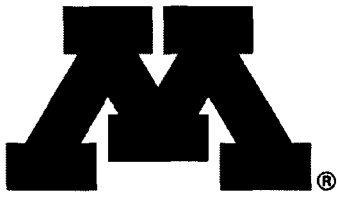
To watch a video story about the center:

www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/Multimedia_Videos/EquineCenter.htm

To view U of President Robert Bruininks' remarks about the center:

www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/Multimedia_Videos/bruinequinecenter.htm

For a copy of the story to be used in newscasts or on the Web, please contact Justin Ware at (612) 626-1720 or ware@umn.edu.



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October 18, 2007

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

U OF M STUDENT RECEIVES AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND MELLON FELLOWSHIP

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Matthew Martinez, a doctoral student in the University of Minnesota American studies department, is one of four students in the country selected by the American Indian College Fund to its prestigious Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Faculty Career Enhancement Fellowship Program for 2007-08.

Martinez, a member of the Ohkay Owingeh tribe (formerly known as San Juan Pueblo) in northern New Mexico, will receive a \$32,000 fellowship geared to assist tribal college faculty members who are in the final stages of completing a doctoral degree. Launched in 2004, it is designed to provide each fellow with financial assistance to complete the dissertation writing process free of financial and professional demands. The fellowship program's major goal is to increase the number of faculty at the nation's more than 30 tribal colleges and universities. Martinez currently teaches in the Indigenous Liberal Studies Department at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M.

"Being awarded an Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Fellowship is a great honor and opportunity," Martinez said. "I've been blessed in working with strong faculty mentors in American studies and American Indian studies departments at the University of Minnesota. Funding from the Mellon Foundation allows me valuable time to focus on my writing by not having to carry a full teaching load. I love working with students and I'm anxious to get back in the classroom full time."

Martinez's dissertation examines the fields of photography, tourism and Pueblo historiography. His research details how tourism helps construct indigenous identities and representations.

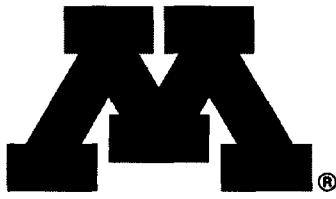
"Growing up in Ohkay Owingeh, the home of the largest of the Tewa speaking Pueblos, the logical research project to study for me was the impact of tourism and travel on indigenous identities and representations," Martinez said. "This research draws upon a content analysis of postcards, travel brochures, guidebooks and interviews with laborers who work within the tourism industry, to present a picture of how Pueblo people are departing from conventionalized forms of tourism. I explore how tourism has changed since the 1980s as Pueblo

- more -

tribes exerted greater participation and control in the industry, producing and circulating photographic images that better represent themselves and their communities."

About the American Indian College Fund

With its credo "Educating the Mind and Spirit," the Denver-based American Indian College Fund is the nation's largest provider of private scholarships for American Indian students, providing more than 6,000 scholarships annually for students seeking to better their lives and communities through education at the nation's more than 30 accredited tribal colleges and universities. For more information about the American Indian College Fund or to make a donation, visit www.collegefund.org.



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October 18, 2007

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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214*

CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION STUDIES CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

~ University of Minnesota research has contributed to safer transportation systems, smarter investments and a better quality of life for Minnesota and the nation ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Center for Transportation Studies - created to address the need for more cooperation between university faculty and state and federal transportation departments - will commemorate its 20th anniversary Tuesday, Oct. 23 from 1:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., at McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. University transportation researchers will discuss transportation innovations from the last two decades and look ahead the next 20 years.

The celebration will include a keynote address about the role of research in the future of transportation by Genevieve Giuliano, a professor in the School of Policy, Planning & Development and the senior associate dean of research and technology at the University of Southern California. In addition, two panel discussions will feature presentations by several of the University of Minnesota's premiere transportation researchers.

CTS was created in 1987 to help strengthen the University of Minnesota's research and education roles in transportation, which is a diverse and complex field involving all sectors of society. Originally part of the Institute of Technology, CTS is now an independent university center reporting to the Office for System Academic Administration. The work at CTS fulfills the university's land-grant mission through research, teaching, and outreach while creating safer transportation systems, smarter investments and a better quality of life for Minnesota and the nation.

During its 20 years, CTS has expanded by adding new programs, such as the federally funded Intelligent Transportation Systems Institute and the Minnesota Local Technical Assistance Program.

Today, CTS is a nationally prominent center that attracts more than \$22 million annually for research, education and outreach programs. CTS works with more than 75 faculty from 25 university departments in seven colleges, with a spectrum of disciplines including engineering, planning, economics, public policy, computer science, human factors and environmental studies. Research is funded by numerous federal, state, local and private-sector

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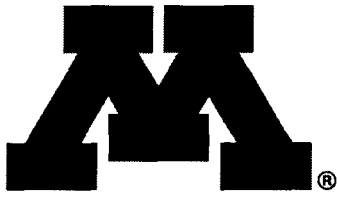
sponsors.

The event is free and open to the public.

Event details can be found at <http://www.cts.umn.edu/Events/20thAnniversary>.

WHEN: 1:30 p.m. - 6 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 23

WHERE: McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2007

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PROFESSOR WILLIAM TURNER NAMED ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON HEALTH POLICY FELLOW

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/18/2007) -- William Turner, a professor in the department of family social science in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota, has been named a Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Health Policy Fellow for 2007-2008. As part of the fellowship, Turner and seven other health professionals from around the country will spend the next year in the nation's capital helping to shape American health care policy. The fellows were presented to the National Academies of Science in Washington, D.C. at the annual meeting of the Institute of Medicine earlier this month.

Turner, a marriage and family therapist, has extensive experience working in the health policy area on state and national levels. In addition, he has served on several federal grant study panels for the National Institutes of Health, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Institute on Mental Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He has also served as an associate editor of the Journal of Marital and Family Therapy, the leading scholarly journal of the field. Since arriving at the university, he has served in several leadership positions promoting mental health and well-being at university, community and state levels.

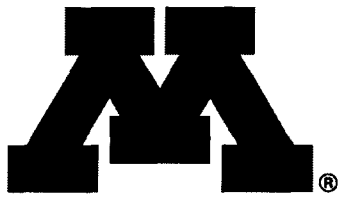
As a RWJ Health Policy Fellow, Turner will spend a year in Washington, D.C. as a congressional staff member concentrating on health policy issues. In the second and third years of the fellowship he will return to the university and apply his health policy experience to projects at the community and state levels. Upon his return to Minnesota, Turner will work with the University Northside Partnership. Over the past few years, he has worked closely with the NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center and several other Northside health and community organizations.

"I am both honored and excited to be selected for the Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowships Program," says Turner. "This will be an invaluable learning experience for me. At the same time, I hope my experience as a clinician as well as a researcher can help our nation's leaders as they work to improve the state of health care, specifically in better serving the uninsured, eliminating health disparities and bringing parity in the coverage of mental health."

- more -

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Established in 1973, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows program is designed to develop the capacities of outstanding mid-career health professionals in academic and community-based settings by providing them with an understanding of the health policy process. The program is administered by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the Fellows' home base while in Washington, D.C.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2007

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EDWARD GORDON TO SPEAK ON "PREVENTING A 2010 WORKFORCE MELTDOWN"

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL (10/18/2007) -- The inaugural event of Strategic Leadership Insights, a new University of Minnesota series, will feature Edward Gordon, an internationally recognized expert on training, careers and education in business and economic development. Gordon will speak at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 31 at the Continuing Education & Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

Gordon will explore how American communities can prepare the workforce of tomorrow. Drastic changes in the country's workforce are currently underway due to technology, globalization and major demographic shifts. Experienced workers are retiring and new skilled people are in short supply.

"The workforce will stop growing by next year for the next 30 years," he reports. "By 2025, as many as 95 million people will leave the workforce but only 40 million people will enter it."

Gordon, whose consulting clients have included Microsoft, PriceWaterhouseCoopers and the U.S. departments of Education and Labor, will explore how communities can form non-government organization (NGO) alliances between community organizations, businesses and educators. He says that forming NGOs will equip the current workforce and the next generation of workers with the skills required for the workplace.

"Twenty-five percent of people have the skills that match the jobs we have created; by 2020 we need to raise this to 50 percent," Gordon says. "NGOs will help to create awareness of these careers with future generations, and train current talent within the business."

Strategic Leadership Insights is a new series presented by the University of Minnesota's College of Continuing Education. The 2007-2008 series, "Transforming the Workforce," will also include talks by talent management expert Ed Gubman, and past president and CEO of the Society for Human Resource Management Mike Losey.

Tickets are \$50. Visit www.cce.umn.edu/leadershipinsights or call (612)624-4000. Continental breakfast is

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

included. Breakfast starts at 7 a.m.; Gordon's talk begins at 8 a.m.

WHAT: Strategic Leadership Insights Inaugural Event

WHEN: 8 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31

WHERE: Continuing Education & Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St Paul



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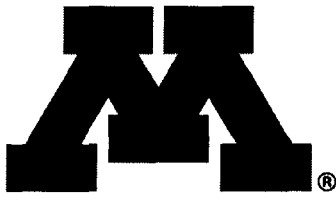
October 18, 2007

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

U OF M TO MAKE MAJOR GIFT ANNOUNCEMENT ON FRIDAY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota will make an announcement about a major gift, part of which will go towards TCF Bank Stadium.

The announcement will be held at 11 a.m., Williams Arena Club Room, 1925 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Please enter through the Daily Entrance on University Ave.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 19, 2007

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

Gail Whipple, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, (952) 496-6147

U OF M RECEIVES \$12.5 MILLION GIFT FROM SHAKOPEE MDEWAKANTON SIOUX COMMUNITY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Leaders of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) joined University of Minnesota officials today to announce a \$12.5 million gift from the SMSC to the university. Ten million dollars will go to support the construction of TCF Bank Stadium and \$2.5 million will go to a matching endowment fund, creating a \$5 million endowment to provide scholarships, with a preference given to American Indian students. The \$10 million stadium gift is the largest single private gift ever to Golden Gopher Athletics.

"The Dakota people, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community and all tribes in Minnesota have traditions that extend back thousands of years," said university President Robert Bruininks. "This gift will tangibly link those traditions with new, shared traditions that we will celebrate and enjoy together, further enriching the legacy of TCF Bank Stadium."

"We thought it important to support this cause as a way to encourage a better understanding of the history and role of Indians in Minnesota," said Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Chairman Stanley R. Crooks. "The U of M is a fine institution of higher learning and what better place to promote the role of Indians in this state. The endowment will provide opportunity for more Indian students to seek out a college education at the university so that they can better serve their tribal communities. We need Indian doctors, lawyers, teachers, accountants and leaders to help Indian people be self-sufficient."

In recognition of the significance of the gift, both the west hospitality plaza - the largest and most central plaza for the stadium - and the scholarship will be named in honor of the SMSC. The proposed name of the plaza, along with more details about the design, will be announced at a later time.

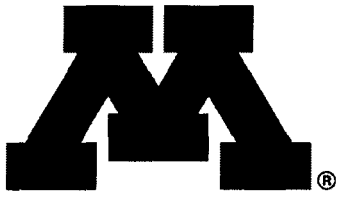
Bruininks said the university will work with the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community to design and build a plaza that will exhibit and celebrate the history, presence and cultural contributions of American Indian tribes in Minnesota.

- more -

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TCF Bank Stadium, which is scheduled to open in Fall 2009, is being funded in part by \$86 million in private gifts and sponsorships. With the SMSC gift, the total amount raised is \$73 million, with \$13 million yet to be raised.

More about TCF Bank Stadium can be found at www.umn.edu/stadium.



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October 22, 2007

Contacts: Rhonda Zurn, Institute of Technology, (612) 626-7959

U OF M HOSTS UNIQUE HIGH SCHOOL MATH COMPETITION

Top Minnesota high school student mathematicians will show off their skills and compete for \$2,000 in a unique competition hosted by the University of Minnesota's Institute for Mathematics and its Applications. The competition, entitled "Who Wants to be a Mathematician," begins at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 23 at the Hubert H. Humphrey Center's Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The winner will be named during the event.

"Who Wants to be a Mathematician" is a game of skill and excitement patterned after the popular TV show "Who Wants to be a Millionaire." Contestants answer difficult, multiple-choice mathematics questions.

This is the first competition of its kind in Minnesota. The American Mathematical Society has run similar competitions for more than six years in locations from Boston to Honolulu. The goal of the competition is to demonstrate that math can be fun and to encourage young people to pursue careers in mathematics.

The eight contestants for the Minnesota competition were selected based on their scores on a qualifying test sent to area high schools.

Contestants for the game are:

Rohit Agrawal (Wayzata)

Nathan Bertram (Becker)

Alex Fish (Bloomington Jefferson)

Kyle Husebye (Stillwater)

Paul Kravik (Minnehaha Academy)

Perihan MacDonald (St. Paul Central)

Calli Thompson (Stillwater)

Justin Wheeler (Hill-Murray)

Game sponsors are Texas Instruments, Maplesoft, John Wiley & Sons and the American Mathematical Society.

- more -

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For more information about the competition or to watch videos of previous competitions, visit the American Mathematical Society's game Web site at www.ams.org/wwtbam



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 22, 2007

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U OF M RAPTOR SPECIALIST IN ST. MICHAEL TOMORROW TO DISCUSS BIRDS OF PREY

~ Birds will be on-hand for a live demonstration ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Every year over 800 injured birds of prey receive top medical care at the University of Minnesota's internationally recognized Raptor Center. On Tuesday, Oct. 23, U of M veterinarian and executive director of the center, Julia Ponder, will be in St. Michael to share her work with the birds and provide a live demonstration.

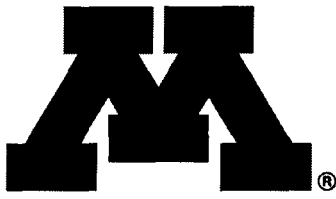
The event starts at noon at Russell's Restaurant, 25 Central Ave. E., St. Michael. Ponder's visit is part of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association's (UMAA) year-long, state-wide speakers tour. University Regents John Frobenius and David Larson will also be on hand.

To hear a brief audio clip featuring Dr. Ponder, visit: <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/082594.html>

The purpose of the speakers tour is to help the citizens of Minnesota understand that the university touches and belongs to each and every one of the five million people in the state. The tour presentations will help show the people of Minnesota that the U of M trains the leaders of the state and nation who solve problems and can change the world.

"The University of Minnesota is an economic engine for our state and has a huge impact on the quality of life in Minnesota," said Margaret Carlson, UMAA CEO. "The university's leading educators, researchers and administrators will be traveling all over the state, talking to community leaders about the great teaching, research and outreach that happens at the university every single day. We're eager to hit the road again this year."

Carlson has served as the UMAA's CEO and a university associate vice president since 1985. The UMAA is an independent, organization of 63,000 members dedicated to connecting alumni, students and friends in lifelong support of the University of Minnesota and each other.



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For Immediate Release

October 22, 2007

Contacts: Justin Ware, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: UMR INVITES THE PUBLIC TO CAMPUS FOR THEIR GRAND OPENING

Nearly 400 students are attending the University of Minnesota, Rochester (UMR) this fall. On Thursday, members of the public are invited to an on-campus open house to learn more about the courses available to those students and the direction UMR leaders are taking the campus.

The UMR open house will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 25, at the UMR campus on the second floor of University Square, 111 South Broadway, Rochester.

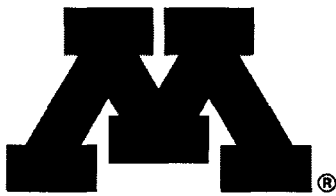
For a video about UMR and the campus' direction, visit:

www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/Multimedia_Videos/umr.htm

For an interview with Chancellor Stephen Lehmkuhle:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3073394_1-t_TWlafh97

For any other file requests for use in a newscast or on a Web site, please contact Justin Ware at (612) 626-1720 or ware@umn.edu.



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October 22, 2007

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Amy McBeth, Consulate General of Canada, (612) 492-2903
Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA HOSTING U.S., CANADA GREEN BUILDING EVENT OCTOBER 25

~ New green building assessment tool to be introduced ~

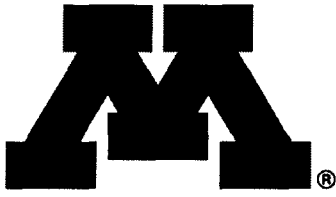
The University of Minnesota's Center for Sustainable Building Research and the Consulate General of Canada are hosting "Green Building North" to engage architects, engineers, local builders, students and policy makers in different approaches and standards for green building. Industry experts will introduce a new tool for building called the EcoCalculator, which can help determine environmental impacts of building materials and processes. The forum is from 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 25 at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Dr., Chaska.

A broader range of green building standards is used in Canada than in Minnesota. This event will feature a discussion of the evolution of all standards as well as highlight the use of wood in sustainable building.

There is no cost for the event, which is open to the public. However, space is limited and registration is required. To register or for more information, visit www.minneapolis.gc.ca.

WHEN: 8:45 a.m to 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 25

WHERE: Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Dr., Chaska



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October 22, 2007

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

BEING SOCIAL STABILIZES ECOSYSTEMS, STUDY OF LIONS AND WILDEBEEST FINDS

~ But it may have made prehistoric human hunters too successful ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Breaking with 80 years of ecological theory, University of Minnesota researchers along with researchers at the universities of Guelph and British Columbia have found that the best way to spot a sustainable relationship between social predators and prey is to count not the animals, but the groups they form. The study may help explain the rise of humans -- the most social predator -- and suggests the need to curb activities that break up animals' social structure. The work appears in the Oct. 25 issue of *Nature*.

"Ecologists have been puzzled for decades over the stability of predator-prey relations," said University of Minnesota ecology professor Craig Packer, co-author on the paper. "Traditional ecological models have erroneously predicted that predators would inevitably over-exploit their prey, leading to frequent population crashes. But most highly vulnerable prey species form herds, swarms, schools or flocks, and group living reduces predators' efficiency to the point where co-existence is likely to be the rule rather than the exception."

But, he noted, "while sociality in early humans and in their prey might have permitted long periods of co-existence, we eventually became such extraordinarily efficient hunters that herd formation could no longer protect our prey from mass extinction during the great die-offs in North America and Europe around 12,000 years ago."

Ecologists have long modeled interactions between predators and prey by taking head counts of each species and assuming that individuals are evenly dispersed over a featureless landscape, ignoring the fact that many predators and their prey both form social groups. But the number and distribution of groups, rather than individuals, is most important in determining how often -- and for how much longer -- the two species will interact, the researchers found.

"The greater the tendency to form groups, the higher the stability of numbers of both species over time," said John Fryxell, professor of integrative biology at the University of Guelph and first author on the paper. "People

- more -

hadn't appreciated the degree to which group formation has implications. This work shows that perhaps we should take a closer accounting of grouping patterns.”

The researchers used data on lions and wildebeest in Africa's Serengeti Plain, drawing on four decades of observations on lion behavior and censuses by Packer; data on lion hunting behavior and success by former Minnesota graduate student David Scheel, now an assistant professor at Alaska Pacific University; and their own censuses of wildebeest and other herbivore herds in the same area.

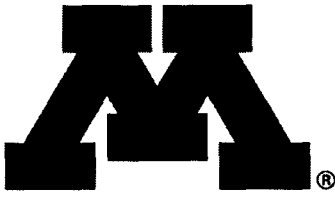
Social grouping by both wildebeest and lions was more strongly correlated with the long-term stability, or sustainability, of the ecosystem than no grouping or grouping of either species alone. The finding implies that even if an ecosystem has lots of carnivores and their herbivores, the two populations may be in trouble if the animals are social but cannot readily form groups.

The results have implications for managing large ecosystems like the Serengeti or North American national parks. Fryxell said that, for example, managers of African national parks sometimes bore holes to create lots of watering spots for animals, an activity that spreads wildlife out and may keep them from grouping. Road-building or disruptions by tourists may do the same.

“Anything that tends to fragment aggregates of animals could work against the protections that group formation provides and against the stability of the whole food web,” he said.

Fryxell, Packer, and co-authors Anna Mosser (University of Minnesota) and Anthony R.E. Sinclair (University of British Columbia) are charting a plan to extend their observations to describe the entire food web of the Serengeti.

The study was supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the National Science Foundation.



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EXPERT ALERT

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Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962 dswain@umn.edu

U.S. NEEDS TO BALANCE RESEARCH WITH TERRORISM THREAT, PANEL FINDS

~ U of M dean available to speak about recent report ~

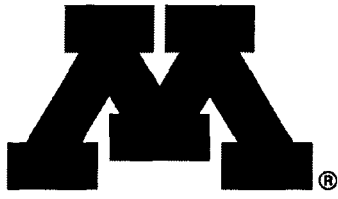
The National Research Council, part of the National Academy of Sciences, is urging that a commission be formed to balance the need for free flow of international scientific research with the threat of terrorism. The Science and Security Commission, which would be co-chaired by the president's national security officer and the director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, would gauge when restriction of information for security reasons hampers the free exchange of scientific knowledge. An expert panel for the council recommended the commission last week, adding that the United States should continue to welcome students from around the world. A University of Minnesota expert who can speak about this is:

Gail Dubrow, dean of the Graduate School at the University of Minnesota

Dubrow is vice provost and dean of the Graduate School at the University of Minnesota, which oversees the majority of the university's graduate programs and research. She has led multiple initiatives in Minnesota aimed at fostering interdisciplinary activity and reforming graduate education. From 1989 to 2005 she served on the University of Washington faculty, holding several administrative appointments including associate dean for academic programs in the Graduate School. She is a former fellow of the American Council on Education, an organization nearing its ninetieth year of conducting research and public policy advocacy in issues related to higher education.

To interview Dubrow, contact Luisa Badaracco at (612) 624-1690 or luisab@umn.edu; or Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 23, 2007

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 624-5551

**U OF M CANCELS CLASSES IN BLEGEN HALL, SOCIAL SCIENCES TOWER
AND ANDERSON HALL FOR TUESDAY**

~ All other classes remain in session ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Police Department has received a bomb threat for the following buildings: Blegen Hall, the Social Sciences Tower and Anderson Hall on the West Bank. These buildings are being evacuated and closed for the day. Evening classes are canceled in these three buildings.

Those individuals in Blegen Hall, Social Sciences Tower and Anderson Hall should secure your work spaces, take personal possessions and leave for the day.

Please monitor the university Web Site, www.umn.edu for updates.



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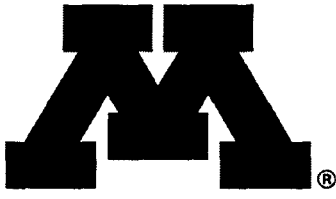
October 23, 2007

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 624-5551

U OF M WEST BANK BUILDING SEARCH COMPLETED

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University Police Department has completed their search of Blegen Hall, the Social Sciences Tower and Anderson Hall. No suspicious items were found and the buildings will reopen for regular university activity on Wednesday morning.

Thank you for your cooperation during the evacuation and search. Your patience and understanding are appreciated.



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October 23, 2007

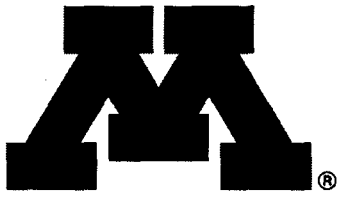
Contacts: Justin Ware, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: HURWICZ HONORED AT SPECIAL U OF M CEREMONY

University of Minnesota Regents Professor Emeritus and Nobel Prize winner Leonid Hurwicz, was honored at a special ceremony today at the University of Minnesota's Ted Mann Concert Hall.

To view the raw video from today's event, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-2964359_1-t_CXcc2v35



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October 24, 2007

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Ed Kim, Advisor to Student Committee, (612) 625-5534
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U OF M HOMECOMING WEEK BEGINS MONDAY, OCT. 29

~ Candlelight vigil to remember I-35W Bridge victims ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota will celebrate Homecoming 2007 from Monday, Oct. 29 through Saturday, Nov. 3.

Since 1914, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities has celebrated Homecoming, a week dedicated to honoring the spirit and energy of the maroon and gold. This year's theme is "Golden Oldies," a celebration of reviving past styles, fashion, music and entertainment.

"The Golden Oldies theme incorporates the sentiment of the past with the spirit of the maroon and gold," said Collette Litzinger of Student Unions & Activities. "This celebration rounds up the campus community with events such as live concerts, sports competitions, royalty coronation, philanthropic events, pep rallies, parade, football game and more."

A special event this year is a Candlelight Vigil for those involved in the I-35W bridge collapse at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, at the Coffman Union Front Plaza, 300 Washington Ave. S.E. Minneapolis.

"Because it occurred so close to the U, the recent I-35W bridge collapse affected many of the U's students, faculty and staff," Litzinger said. "In memory of this devastating event, the U is hosting a candlelight vigil from Coffman Union to the Washington Avenue Bridge where there will be a commemoration ceremony to honor the victims and all those affected by this tragedy and pay tribute to those involved in the rescue and the care of the bridge survivors."

This year's homecoming events are as follows:

Monday, Oct. 29

Flag Football Preliminaries

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Bierman Fields, 516 15th Ave. S.E. Minneapolis. 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 30

Homecoming Red Cross Blood Drive

Coffman Union Great Hall. 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Homecoming Lip Sync Competition

Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S. Minneapolis. 7 p.m.

Students compete in an annual lip sync competition to songs from the theme: Golden Oldies.

Wednesday, Oct. 31

Pumpkin Painting

Northrop Plaza, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis. 11 a.m.

Students paint pumpkins and decorate cookies while sipping hot cider.

Flag Football Finals

Bierman Fields, 6 p.m.

Halloween Bowling

St. Paul Student Center Gopher Spot, 2017 Buford Ave. St. Paul. 8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free galactic bowling, costume contest and ice cream sundaes with the Homecoming Royalty.

Thursday, Nov. 1

Greek and Residence Life Day

Superblock, 417 Walnut St. S.E. Minneapolis. 3 p.m.

Students play carnival games such as bocce ball, ladder golf, inflatable games for prizes.

Cheer Competition

Superblock, 7 p.m.

Candlelight Vigil for I35W Bridge Victims

Coffman Union Front Plaza, 8 p.m.

Participants will gather at Coffman's front plaza where there will be a short commemoration. The party will light candles and walk to the center of the Washington Avenue Bridge for a moment of silence. There will be coffee, refreshments and cookies on the Washington Avenue Bridge for those attending.

Friday, Nov. 2

Sock Hop Dance/Swing Dance competition -

Coffman Union Great Hall, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The Black Student Union and Gophers After Dark co-sponsor this competition that features traditional sock-hop dance and swing dance.

Saturday, Nov. 3

Homecoming Parade

University Avenue, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

KARE 11's sports anchor Eric Perkins will be the Parade Marshall.

Due to the I35W bridge collapse, the parade route had to be slightly revised. This year, the parade will begin at Pleasant Street and travel east the length of University Avenue to Williams Arena. Visitors to campus should use the Interstate 94 exits to Huron Boulevard to reach the east bank campus.

House Fronts and Parade Floats

House fronts and parade floats will be judged at 7 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 3. Groups will begin working on them late Friday night, Nov. 2.

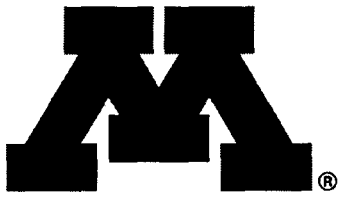
Homecoming Football Game: Gophers vs. Illinois

Metrodome, 900 S. 5th St. Minneapolis. 7 p.m.

Homecoming Royalty Coronation

Metrodome, 7 p.m.

The Homecoming King and Queen will be crowned during the first half of the football game during a time out. This is the first time the homecoming coronation has taken place during the football game.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 2007

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

U OF M WOMEN OF COLOR PLANS ANNUAL WELCOME GATHERING

~ This year's theme is "Weaving the Tapestry: Building a Vibrant Community Across Cultures" ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University Women of Color (UWOC) invites University of Minnesota community members to its annual fall welcome gathering from 9 to 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 31 in the Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

This year's theme is: "Weaving the Tapestry: Building a Vibrant Community Across Cultures" and features a panel of four distinguished women of color. The panelists are:

Ananya Chatterjea

Chatterjea is a dancer, choreographer, dance scholar and dance educator who envisions her work in the field of dance as a "call to action" with a particular focus on women artists of color. She is an associate professor and director of graduate studies in the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, department of theater arts and dance. She is also the artistic director of her company, Ananya Dance Theatre, a dance company of women artists of color who believe in dancing to energize a future that is full of hope (www.ananyadancetheatre.org.) She has recently performed in Osaka, Japan (Dance Box Festival), Jakarta (Indonesian Dance Festival), Kuala Lumpur (Sutra Dance Theater), and Minneapolis (Southern Theater). She has recently been recognized as one of the "21 Leaders for the 21st Century," among the "7 Who Will Not Be Stopped," by Women's E-News, a national women-oriented news organization, <http://www.womensenews.org/21leaders2007.cfm>. Chatterjea's book, "Butting out! Reading cultural politics in the work of Chandralekha and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar," was published by Wesleyan University Press in 2004.

Percilla Garrigan

Garrigan was born, enrolled and raised on the Red Lake Reservation in Northern Minnesota. She has been at the University of Minnesota for 12 years working with American Indian students, first at the Center of American Indian and Minority Health and for the past five years at the Circle of Indigenous Nations, formerly known as the American Indian Learning Resource Center. The Circle's mission is to recruit, retain and graduate American Indian students by promoting cultural values that help American Indian students become self directed, excel academically and succeed in all area of academic pursuits, graduation and career aspirations. Garrigan's studies in the past 20 years have been in the area of Indigenous healing, which she will teach and practice as her work in the future.

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Natalie Johnson Lee

Johnson Lee is the founder of Sisters in Power (SIP), an organization developed to empower women to lead and pursue their destinies. Known for her "down to earth" communication style, she coaches individuals to discover their inherent gifts and realize their full potential. She is a leader with a keen understanding of the critical issues that challenge our communities and cities today. Johnson Lee's passion to provide access to economic power, political influence, educational opportunities, community strength and social justice led her to a seat on the Minneapolis City Council. There she served on various committees, boards and as the chair of the Health & Human Services, which allowed her to directly impact decisions that affected Minneapolis citizens. Johnson Lee is recognized in corporate and social service circles for her rich experience in workforce development and she has received national recognition as a work force educator and facilitator. Her career spans corporate, non-profit, faith-based and public sectors. Johnson Lee is a life-long learner, dedicated wife, committed mother of five, faithful servant and a compassionate mentor to many.

Sandra Vargas

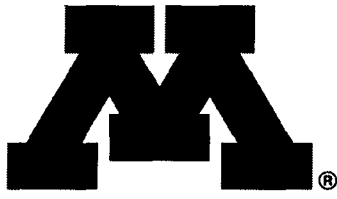
Vargas is President and CEO of The Minneapolis Foundation. She began her career as a small-business consultant in the Minnesota Department of Economic Development, and held management positions at the City of Minneapolis and the Minnesota Department of Transportation before becoming deputy county administrator at Hennepin in 1997. She was named county administrator in 1999.

Vargas graduated from the College of St. Catherine and holds a master's degree in public administration from Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She is active in several Twin Cities organizations and serves on the boards of the Guthrie Theater, Greater Twin Cities United Way, the Metropolitan State University Foundation, the Northwest Area Foundation and Twin Cities RISE.

UWOC is an organization that seeks to create a space for all women of color within the university. It sponsors events and gatherings to build an active community, provide information and resources about the university and broader Twin Cities community and create networks with others to help eliminate isolation and increase cross-cultural understanding and connections.

WHEN: 9 to 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 31

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



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October 25, 2007

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U OF M HOSTS DAY OF LEARNING TO FOSTER PERSONAL, PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

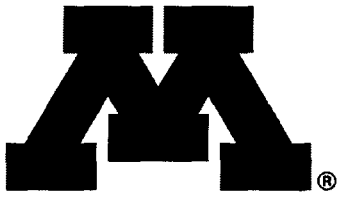
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (10/25/07) -- Lifelong learners are invited to boost their brainpower by participating in Saturday Scholars, an informal day of learning sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development Alumni Society. The event, which is in its sixth year, will be held from 8 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 10 in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Alumni and the general public are invited to stretch the limits of their intellect by hearing lectures from distinguished college faculty on such topics as media representations of women's sports, constructing a 21st century education model and self-control and the developing brain. In addition, K-12 educators can learn about research involving first-year teachers and how to determine if their students are really learning. Attendees will bulk up with knowledge they can use right away in their personal or professional lives.

Saturday Scholars includes a continental breakfast and lunch and an optional post-luncheon docent-led tour of the Weisman Art Museum's new exhibit, "Documenting China." Continuing Education Units are available for teachers and administrators.

The first deadline for registration is Monday, Nov. 5. Cost is \$25 per person for University of Minnesota Alumni Association members and \$30 for non-members. For more information including the schedule of events and a registration form, go to www.cehd.umn.edu/alum or call (612) 625-1310.

WHEN: 8 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 10

WHERE: Coffman Union, 300 Washington Avenue S.E., Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 2007

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SEVEN U OF M PROFESSORS NAMED AAAS FELLOWS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Seven University of Minnesota professors have been named Fellows to the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). These professors have been elevated to this rank because of their efforts toward advancing science applications that are deemed scientifically or socially distinguished.

The university professors to receive this recognition include:

Judith Berman, genetics and cell development: For significant advances in the field of genomics, including bioinformatics and chromosome structure and function, in both *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Candida albicans*.

Robert Herman, genetics and cell development: For distinguished contributions to developmental genetics, in particular for elucidating mechanisms of sex determination and gene interactions and developing resources and methods in *C. elegans*.

David Lilja, electrical and computer engineering: For distinguished contributions to statistical methodologies for the performance assessment, design, and verification of high-performance and parallel computing systems.

John Lipscomb, Biology: For distinguished contributions to the field of metalloenzymology, in particular the delineation of reactive intermediates and the molecular mechanisms of non-heme and heme iron oxygenases.

Stephen Polasky, applied economics: For distinguished contributions to the field of environmental economics, particularly for his work in biodiversity conservation and endangered species policy.

Jeffrey Roberts, Chemistry: For distinguished contributions to surface chemistry, particularly as they relate to complex chemical transformations on atmospheric cloud particles and on nanoparticle aerosols.

Lanny Schmidt, chemical engineering: For applying basic concepts of surface science toward the development and improvement of catalysts for the partial oxidation of fuels, particularly biofuels.

The new Fellows will be presented with an official certificate and a rosette pin on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2008, at the Fellows Forum during the 2008 AAAS Annual Meeting in Boston.

- more -

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is the world's largest general scientific society and the publisher of the journal, *Science*. AAAS was founded in 1848 and includes 262 affiliated societies and academies of science, serving 10 million individuals. The tradition of AAAS Fellows began in 1874.

This year's AAAS Fellows will be announced in the AAAS News & Notes section of the journal *Science* on Friday, Oct. 26.

The rank of Fellow is achieved when a member is nominated by the Steering Groups of the Association's 24 sections, or by any three Fellows who are current AAAS members or by the AAAS Chief Executive Officer. Each Steering Group then reviews the nominations of individuals within its respective section and the AAAS Council votes on the finalists.

The council is the policymaking body of the Association, chaired by the AAAS President, and consisting of the members of the Board of Directors, the Retiring Section Chairs, delegates from each electorate and each regional division, and two delegates from the National Association of Academies of Science.



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October 26, 2007

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WILDFIRES LEAVE CALIFORNIA'S LANDSCAPE SCORCHED

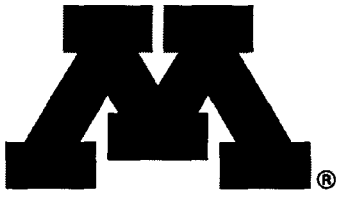
As the wildfires in California still smolder, more than \$1 billion in damages have been estimated so far and hundreds of thousands of residents are returning home to see what remains. A University of Minnesota expert who can discuss the fires is:

Kurt Kipfmüller, University of Minnesota geography professor

Kipfmüller says that the combination of a terrible drought and the strong Santa Ana winds have fueled the fires, catastrophically blazing through California's brushlands. What also has contributed to the problem is that "people are moving into fire-prone areas but not taking the needed precautions to live there." Part of Kipfmüller's research at the U of M is in western forest environments and the effects of fires.

To interview Kipfmüller, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or gior0011@umn.edu.

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October 26, 2007

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NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: ARBORETUM THE PLACE TO BE FOR FAMILY ACTIVITIES THIS WEEKEND

The University of Minnesota Arboretum is the place to go for fall colors, giant pumpkins and trick-or-treating -- not to mention the best apples you'll find anywhere.

The following b-roll and full-length interview about the arboretum's activities through Halloween are available for use by news organizations for broadcasts or Web sites leading up to Halloween.

For b-roll in multiple formats, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3174164_1-t_Xj0ngZTU

For a full-length interview with the arboretum's operations director, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3174170_1-t_cKawblcP

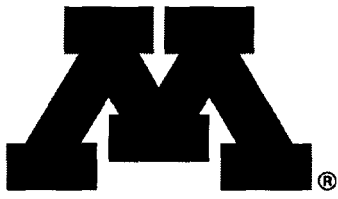
The Following is a list of events, Oct. 27-28 at the Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Dr., Chaska:

- Pumpkin Carvers -- Watch master pumpkin carvers demonstrate their skills and offer inspiration just in time for Halloween. This also includes an informal talk on pumpkin cultivation. The event runs from 1 to 3 p.m. both days at the Oswald Visitor Center.
- "Bill's Big Pumpkins" -- Catch the documentary "Bill's Big Pumpkins," screening at 2 and 4 p.m. Sunday, in the MacMillan Auditorium of the Oswald Visitor Center.
- German Wreath-Making Demonstration -- Members of the Minnesota Herb Society will demonstrate how to make a traditional German wreath using natural materials from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday in the Oswald Visitor Center. Free with admission.

- more -

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- Fabulous Fall Foray -- On this guided hike, you'll soak in the beauty of autumn at the Arboretum. Departs from the Oswald Visitor Center at 10 a.m. on Saturday. Free.
- Free Family Program -- "Harvest Creations" -- In this free family activity, parents and children can create a mini-jack 'o lantern with veggie eyes and ears. Andrus Learning Center at the Arboretum. Noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday
- Passion for Pumpkins Displays - Catch the eye-popping displays of pumpkins of all sizes and hues inside the Oswald Visitor Center and throughout the gardens and walkways of the Arboretum. All weekend.
- Scarecrows on Parade -- Handmade scarecrows and other garden folk that capture the wonderful flavor of Minnesota's harvest season. Outdoor walkways between the Oswald Visitor Center and Snyder Building. All weekend.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 2007

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**PANEL DISCUSSION ON “DIPLOMACY AND PEACEKEEPING” IN AFRICA AT
U OF M, NOV. 7**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A panel of international experts will discuss “Diplomacy and Peacekeeping” in Africa from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The program is co-sponsored by the American Academy of Diplomacy (AAD) as part of the Joseph J. Sisco Memorial Forum.

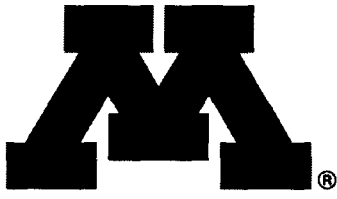
William Lacy Swing, chief of the United Nations mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, will join William Durch, co-director of the Future of Peace Operations Project at the Henry L. Stimson Center, and Humphrey Institute Dean Brian Atwood in a conversation about United Nations peacekeeping efforts in Africa. Bruce Laingen, former ambassador and AAD president, will offer introductory remarks.

The program is free and open to the public, but registration is requested at www.micglobe.org. This program is presented in partnership with the United Nations Association of Minnesota, the Minnesota International Center and the Humphrey Institute.

Joseph Sisco was AAD president from 1999 to 2004. Using the many memorial gifts received in Sisco’s name when he passed away, AAD created the Joseph J. Sisco Memorial Forum. This program series is designed to stimulate public discussion on the foreign policy themes to which Sisco dedicated his career. As assistant secretary of state for international organization affairs and as undersecretary of state for political affairs, he often played a leading role in American involvement in the work of the United Nations and U.S. foreign policy.

WHEN: 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7

WHERE: Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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SAWYER SEMINAR LECTURE SERIES AT U OF M CONTINUES WITH A LOOK AT MEDICAL HUMANITARIANISM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Sawyer Seminar series at the University of Minnesota continues with a lecture on medical humanitarianism through the years. Bertrand Taithe, a cultural history professor at the University of Manchester, will lecture on “Comparing and Connecting the Contemporary Humanitarian Enterprise With its Roots in 19th Century Colonialism: The French Example” at 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

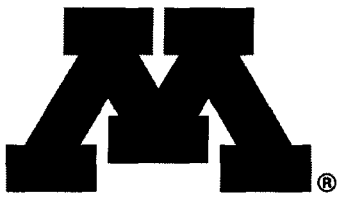
While researching the cultural history of medicine and war, Taithe discovered a strong connection to humanitarianism. His current research looks at the history of humanitarianism through wartime medical service over a 130-year span. A French native, much of his research looks at Catholic missionary work in France.

The Sawyer Seminar is funded through a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation. It is organized by the University of Minnesota in partnership with various units, including the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, the department of political science and the College of Liberal Arts. The Sawyer Seminar will provide a critical exploration of the historical development and practices of international humanitarianism. In addition to public programming, the Sawyer Seminar supports a postdoctoral fellowship, two doctoral fellowships and a conference at the end of the academic year. For more information, visit www.hhh.umn.edu/humanitarianisms/Sawyer.html.

WHO: Bertrand Taithe, cultural history professor, University of Manchester

WHEN: 4–5:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1

WHERE: Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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October 29, 2007

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U OF M GROUPS TO PRESENT DIA DE LOS MUERTOS PROCESSION

~ Dia de los Muertos procession at U of M, recognizing Latino artists and writers ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Students, faculty and staff will celebrate Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) on Thursday, Nov. 1, beginning at noon on the University of Minnesota's East Bank. A procession will travel across campus, stopping at hand-made altars that both remember lost loved ones and address the theme of Latino artists and writers. This event is sponsored by the department of Chicano studies, the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence and La Raza Student Cultural Center.

Each of the colorful altars in the procession honors a particular Latino artist. This year's honorees are Nuyorican poet Miguel Piñero; Chicana writer and activist Gloria Anzaldua; and Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. Along with tributes to these people are commemorations of loved ones who have departed. Items placed on the altars include candles, flowers and ofrendas (offerings) that commemorate the dead, such as tobacco, beans or other natural items. The procession will include costumed participants and the public is invited to join in and bring a memento and/or light a candle to a loved one and place it on the altar as a way of honoring their memory and evoking their presence.

Gloria Anzaldua was a Chicana lesbian feminist writer, poet, scholar and activist. Her book "Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza" was recognized as one of the 38 best books of 1987 by Library Journal and 100 Best Books of the Century by both Hungry Mind Review and Utne Reader. She died in 2004. Miguel Piñero was a Puerto Rican playwright, actor and co-founder of the Nuyorican Poets Cafe. He died in 1988. Frida Kahlo is the most famous female painter in Mexico's history.

The schedule for the Día de los Muertos procession:

Noon - Opening remarks, presentation of altar's topic, Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence, Klaeber Court, 320 16th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

- more -

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12:10 p.m. - Procession to department of Chicano studies, Scott Hall, 72 Pleasant Street S.E.

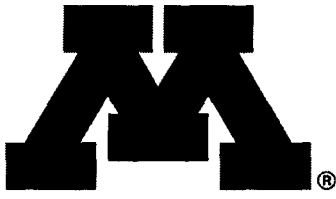
12:35 p.m. - Procession to La Raza Student Cultural Center, 211 Coffman Union, 300 Washington Avenue S.E.

1 to 1:30 p.m. - Poetry of the Dead, with traditional hot chocolate and pan de muerto (La Raza)

What is Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)?

The Day of the Dead is a tradition that dates back to the ancient civilization of the Aztecs. This tradition was originally held during the Aztec month of Miccailhuitontli, which falls during the months of July and August. After the arrival of the Spanish, the Christian church converted the tradition to fit their tradition of All Saints Day, or El Día de Todos los Santos. On November 1, we celebrate El Día de los Angelitos, “the day of the little angels,” referring to children under the age of 12 who have passed away. November 2 is El Día de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead), or Día de Todos los Santos (All Saints Day).

During these two days, it is customary to honor the people who have passed away with flowers called zempaxochitl, or marigold flowers. The dead are celebrated not only with flowers, but also with the cleaning of graves and altars that have ofrendas (offerings) for the dead.



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October 29, 2007

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U OF M EXPLORES SUSTAINABILITY AT INTERNATIONAL DESIGN CONFERENCE

~ Polar explorer Will Steger joins academic leaders to confront climate challenges ~

The University of Minnesota tackles global climate change this week in a conference that joins administrators and heads of schools of architecture and landscape architecture from around the world. "Preparing for the Inconvenient Truth" is the theme of the annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) and Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) Administrative Conference that will address how academic leaders can prepare future design professionals to meet the challenge of global climate change and create a more sustainable future. College of Design Dean Thomas Fisher and landscape architecture department head John Koepke are co-chairing the conference, which will be held Thursday, Nov. 1 through Saturday, Nov. 3 at Graves 601 Hotel, 601 1st Ave. N., Minneapolis. The event will feature polar explorer and environmental activist Will Steger in a keynote address.

This year's ACSA/CELA Administrators Conference will provide information on how academic leaders can help students, faculty, colleagues and constituencies embrace more environmentally responsible ways of learning, teaching, operating and practicing. With construction and building operations in North America releasing over 700 million metric tons of carbon, and transportation another 500 million metric tons, into the atmosphere each year, and with buildings and transportation consuming 75 percent of the energy we use annually, programs in architecture and landscape architecture have an especially important role to play by:

- Educating the next generation of practitioners on how to change the ways we shape, operate and maintain our physical surroundings;
- Providing knowledge about what it means to live within the environmental footprint of the planet and to minimize greenhouse gas emissions; and
- Helping our regions and institutions transform themselves to reduce energy consumption, conserve water, minimize waste and cultivate local ecologies.

- more -

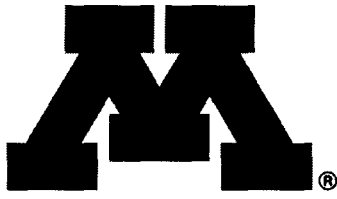
Conference attendance is limited to design school administrators and other paid attendees.

For more information including a schedule of events, visit

<https://www.acsa-arch.org/conferences/2007admin.aspx>

WHEN: Thursday, Nov. 1 through Saturday, Nov. 3

WHERE: Graves 601 Hotel, 601 1st Ave. N., Minneapolis



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October 30, 2007

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U OF M EXPERTS AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS KEEPING KIDS SAFE THIS HALLOWEEN AND THE CRITTERS THAT REALLY DO SPOOK

The University of Minnesota has expertise available to discuss Halloween safety and real spooky critters:

Kia Harries, University of Minnesota Extension Educator

While Halloween is always a night of fall fun, a few precautions should be taken when children start to trick or treat. Harries has a variety of tips including making costumes visible in the dark and alternatives to sugary, unhealthy candy. "Keep an eye on your children at all times," says Harries. "Keep track of what homes they visit and what treats they receive at each home."

(Note: Harries is available only for phone interviews.)

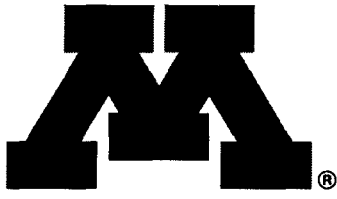
Jennifer Menken, University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History

While they might not be as terrifying as knife wielding psychos, nature's blood lapping bats, neurotoxic spiders and slimy toads can be just as haunting. Menken, a naturalist at the U of M, can discuss these Halloween creatures and their deadly features.

To interview **Menken**, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or gior0011@umn.edu.

To interview **Harries**, contact Julie Christensen at (612) 626-4077 or reuve007@umn.edu; or Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

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For Immediate Release

October 30, 2007

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U OF M HOMECOMING CANDLELIGHT VIGIL TO HONOR THOSE IN I-35W BRIDGE COLLAPSE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Because it occurred so close to the University of Minnesota, the recent I-35W bridge collapse affected many of the university's students, faculty and staff. In memory of this devastating event, the Homecoming Committee is hosting a candlelight vigil in honor of the victims and all those affected by this tragedy at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1 at Coffman Union Plaza, 300 Washington Ave. S.E. Minneapolis.

Participants will gather at Coffman's front plaza, where there will be a short commemoration. The party will light candles and walk to the center of the Washington Avenue Bridge for a moment of silence. There will be coffee, refreshments and cookies on the Washington Avenue Bridge for those attending.

"We hope to pay tribute to those involved in the rescue efforts as well as remember those that were lost," said homecoming advisor Ed Kim. "Please join fellow campus and community members as we walk from Coffman Union to the center of the Washington Avenue Bridge for a moment of silence."

Homecoming is planned by the Minnesota Programs & Activities Council (MPAC), the main campus-wide programming board of the Student Activities Office. Its programming committees are responsible for initiating, developing and implementing a comprehensive and diverse activities program that anticipates and responds to the needs of U of M students and the campus community. For more information, visit www.homecoming.umn.edu.

WHEN: 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1

WHERE: Coffman Union Plaza, 300 Washington Ave. S.E. Minneapolis.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 30, 2007

Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School, (612) 624-8770 or Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute, (612) 625-9436
RSVP: Sara Radjenovic, radje002@umn.edu, (612) 624-8913

BARBARA KELLERMAN OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR PUBLIC LEADERSHIP, WILL TALK ABOUT TRADITIONAL AND MODERN LEADERSHIP STYLES AT U OF M, NOV. 8

~ Kellerman's speech is part of the 2007 Leadership Scholarship Conference hosted by the Center for Integrative Leadership ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Barbara Kellerman, a professor from Harvard University's Center for Public Leadership, will give a public lecture on "Changing Times: Leadership Studies and the Leadership Industry" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, at the University of Minnesota Carlson School's 3M Auditorium, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

In her speech, Kellerman will discuss how leadership has developed over time. She also will offer advice about what skills she thinks a modern leader needs today to be effective. Kellerman's speech serves as the keynote address at the 2007 Leadership Scholarship Conference hosted by the Center for Integrative Leadership at the University of Minnesota. Though the general conference is not open to the public, Kellerman's speech is free and all are invited. A reception will immediately follow.

Kellerman has served as executive director and research director in the Center for Public Leadership at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, and has held professorships at Fordham, Tufts, Fairleigh Dickinson, George Washington and Uppsala universities. She also has served as dean of graduate studies and research at Fairleigh Dickinson, and as director of the Center for the Advanced Study of Leadership at the Academy of Leadership at the University of Maryland. Kellerman has authored and co-authored several books including her most recent, co-edited volume, "Women & Leadership: The State of Play and Strategies for Change." Her forthcoming book, "Followership: How Followers Create Change and Change in Leaders," is due to be released in February 2008.

The Center for Integrative Leadership brings together policy minds from all sectors to solve some of the world's most pressing problems, such as international terrorism, disease prevention, world hunger and poverty. The center is the first of its kind in the country to be jointly managed by a business school -- the Carlson School of

- more -

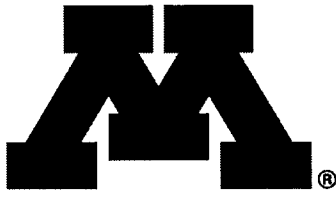
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Management -- and a school of public affairs -- the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs.

The event is free and open to the public, but registration is requested. To register, contact Sara Radjenovic, radje002@umn.edu, (612) 624-8913

WHEN: 7:30 p.m., Thursday Nov. 8

WHERE: 3M Auditorium, Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 30, 2007

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EVENT HELD TO RECOGNIZE STUDENT PARENTS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Student Parent HELP Center (SPHC), in collaboration with the Student Parent Association (SPA), is holding a Student Parent Visibility Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, in the North Star Ballroom of the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

At the event, SPHC and SPA will recognize the vital contributions that student parents make to the University and will also inform about 200 teen parents from five metro area secondary education programs about the importance of higher education. The event includes a college resource field fair for the visiting teens that will include program representatives from various U of M programs as well as representatives from metro area colleges such as North Hennepin, Saint Katherine's and Anoka Ramsey Community College.

“Currently, it is estimated that the University of Minnesota has several thousand student parents in undergraduate and graduate programs, however, relatively few people are aware of it,” said student parent Lisa Coleman. “The Student Parent Visibility Day is a campus-wide event that highlights the important contributions that students who are also parents make to our campus and to campuses across the nation.”

“This is a wonderful opportunity for U of M student parents to inform this generation of teen parents of the endless opportunities that advanced education holds for them and their young children,” said Susan Warfield, director of SPHC.

This will be the third year that the event has been held, and it has grown from including one community-based teen parent program, (AGAPE High School) with 18 teen parents to including five teen parent programs and more than 200 teen parent visitors for 2007. This event will feature several speakers including: Warfield, Jerry Rinehart, Vice Provost for Student Affairs and long time supporter of SPHC, and former and current U of M student parents.

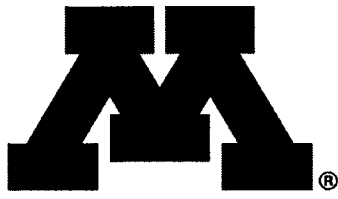
- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

This free event is open to the campus community and lunch will be provided.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6

WHERE: St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2007

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS HEADS IN NEW DIRECTION WITH GRANT FROM THE MELLON FOUNDATION

~ New model focuses on collaborative research and publication ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Press in partnership with the Institute for Advanced Study at the University of Minnesota has been awarded a \$672,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to launch "Quadrant," a program to promote interdisciplinary research and publication. Quadrant marks the beginning of a new model for University-Press partnerships designed to bring scholars in the humanities and social sciences into dialogue with those in the sciences and professional schools. In doing so, Quadrant also addresses rising concerns about the distance of university presses from the goals and priorities of their parent institutions.

Quadrant seeks to address the University of Minnesota's ambitious goal of being one of the top three public research institutions in the world by providing research residencies or other opportunities for collaborative interaction to scholars at the Institute for Advanced Study and supporting publication of their resulting work by the University of Minnesota Press.

"This program offers exciting new possibilities for the production and dissemination of research which crosses ordinary disciplinary and institutional boundaries. We are pleased to be partners in what promises to be an innovative and dynamic interaction," said Ann Waltner, director of the Institute for Advanced Study.

Focusing on emerging areas of groundbreaking interdisciplinary scholarship, Quadrant will create four collaborative groups: design and architecture, environmental sustainability, global cultures and health and society.

In a radical departure from the traditional university press series model, the editorial direction of Quadrant publications will be guided by dynamic, evolving and diverse groups of academic participants.

"We believe the 'Minnesota Model' of interdisciplinary research and publication will make a strong case for what can be achieved when a research institution draws its press into the center of its academic priorities and

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

ambitions and makes dissemination a vital part of its strategy for excellence,” said University President Robert Bruininks.

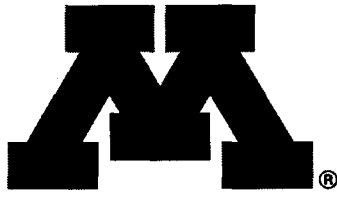
As part of the Quadrant program, the University of Minnesota Press and the Institute for Advanced Study will also partner with key academic units at the university such as the College of Design, Institute on the Environment, Institute for Global Studies and the Center for Bioethics.

“The Mellon Foundation approached us to discuss how we could most appropriately align our press's strengths and its outstanding tradition of innovation with our areas of academic excellence at the university, building on our vital Institute for Advanced Study as an integral partner in this initiative. We were able to work together with Mellon to build new bridges and inspire novel intellectual connections across our great university,” said U of M Provost Thomas Sullivan.

This initiative continues the University of Minnesota Press's long history of innovation in scholarly communications. Known as a pioneer in the fields of critical and social theory and publisher of the highly influential Theory and History of Literature Series, the “Minnesota” imprint denotes works that reach across disciplinary boundaries and investigate new areas of scholarship.

“Discussion of university presses in the scholarly community are too often framed solely as financial or technological debates. The real contribution of university presses lies in our expertise in encouraging, assessing, sponsoring and disseminating the work of scholars from a wide array of research institutions. This partnership with the Institute for Advanced Study aligns us more closely with our own university's ambitions and gives us the opportunity to utilize our talent and experience to more fully benefit the intellectual life of the University of Minnesota and the community,” said University of Minnesota Press Director Douglas Armato.

For more information on Quadrant and this Mellon Foundation grant, please contact Heather Skinner, Publicist, at presspr@umn.edu or 612-627-1932.



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October 31, 2007

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

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA RECEIVES \$45.6 MILLION FROM DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY TO BUILD NEW LAB IN NORTHERN MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota announced today that the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science has awarded a \$45.6 million, four-year cooperative agreement to the university's School of Physics and Astronomy to build a new international physics laboratory near the Ash River, about 40 miles southeast of International Falls, Minn.

Building the lab is the first step in an estimated \$250 million project to be funded by the Department of Energy to further study neutrinos, fundamental building blocks of matter that can help researchers discover how the Universe was formed and how it will develop in the future.

The proposed laboratory, named the NuMI Off-Axis Electron Neutrino Appearance (NOvA) Detector Facility at Ash River Site, will be constructed on a 90-acre site about one mile south of Voyageurs National Park and will be operated by an international group of scientists known as the NOvA Collaboration.

This new laboratory expands the university's international reputation as a leader in cutting-edge research on neutrinos. The University of Minnesota currently runs the Soudan Underground Science Laboratory near Tower, Minn., the only laboratory of its kind in the United States. The Department of Energy Office of Science also provides funding for this laboratory.

"The planning for the NOvA Facility has been years in the making, and we're very pleased that it will soon become a reality," said University of Minnesota physics professor Marvin Marshak, a lead faculty member on the project. "This project will provide tremendous opportunities for University of Minnesota faculty and students to work with experts around the world on important research that could unlock clues to the formation of our Universe."

For a full-length, video interview with Marshak, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3262949_1-t_irVGOYXj

- more -

For images and b-roll relating to this release, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3261909_1-t_vJpsJLyC

When the new neutrino laboratory is completed, the University of Minnesota will collaborate with approximately 200 scientists and engineers from 33 institutions in seven countries to build a 15,000-ton neutrino detector and install this device in the laboratory. This neutrino detector will cost about \$150 million. The Department of Energy is expected to provide most of these funds.

The Department of Energy also plans to invest approximately \$50 million into improvements of the existing neutrino beam that now sends neutrinos from Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab) near Chicago to the university's Soudan Underground Science Laboratory. The Neutrino Detector near Ash River will utilize this same beam at a distance about 50 miles further from Fermilab than Soudan.

"This level of funding commitment from the Department of Energy demonstrates that the University of Minnesota is among the top public research universities in the country," said Steven Crouch, dean of the Institute of Technology, the university's college of engineering, physical sciences and mathematics. "We are a leader on the world stage in this type of physics research."

A high level of international interest in studying neutrinos has continued to develop in recent years. Neutrinos comprise three of the 12 fundamental building blocks of matter. They exist in large numbers in the Universe due to production during the Big Bang and ongoing production in stars and by the cosmic rays that are naturally incident on the Earth from outer space.

During the past two decades, studies in several parts of the world indicated that neutrinos have mass, contrary to previous expectations. Neutrino mass can be measured by observing a process known as neutrino oscillations, in which neutrinos spontaneously change from one type to another. The MINOS Far Detector that is currently operating in the university's Soudan Laboratory studies the spontaneous transition of muon-type neutrinos to tau-type neutrinos.

The university's new NOvA Detector will search for a transition of muon-type neutrinos to electron-type neutrinos. This process is expected to occur but has not yet been observed. Studies of this process are expected to yield information about the nature of one of the fundamental forces in the Universe, known as the weak interaction. Another goal is to probe the possibility that the unusual properties of neutrinos are related to the absence of large quantities of anti-matter in the Universe. A complementary experiment is under construction in Japan.

"This is a great example of how universities are an integral part of the Department of Energy's scientific research program," said Robin Staffin, senior advisor to the director of the Department of Energy's Office of Science. "NOvA will be at the forefront of neutrino science in the next decade, but we would not be able to do it

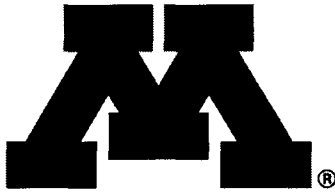
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without outstanding research groups like the University of Minnesota.”

In addition to Marshak, other University of Minnesota professors involved in the NOvA project include Kenneth Heller, Dan Cronin-Hennessy, Earl Peterson, Ronald Poling, Keith Ruddick and Roger Rusack. William Miller is the supervisor for the university’s laboratories at Soudan and Ash River.

The University of Minnesota’s School of Physics and Astronomy is part of the Institute of Technology, the university’s college of engineering, physical sciences and mathematics.

The Department of Energy's Office of Science is the single largest supporter of basic research in the physical sciences in the nation and helps ensure U.S. world leadership across a broad range of scientific disciplines.



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October 31, 2007

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U OF M HOMECOMING PARADE HIGHLIGHTS WEEK-LONG CELEBRATION OF SCHOOL SPIRIT

~ Parade route slightly altered because of I-35W Bridge collapse ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL The University of Minnesota Homecoming parade kicks off at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3. The parade will be led by KARE 11 sports anchor Eric Perkins, and feature numerous floats from student organizations, university departments and many area businesses.

The homecoming parade route had to be slightly altered due to the recent I-35W bridge collapse. The parade route will begin at Pleasant Street and travel east along University Avenue to Williams Arena at Oak Street. Visitors to campus should use the Interstate 94 exits to Huron Boulevard. After the parade, the Gophers football team takes on Illinois at 7 p.m. at the Metrodome, 900 S. 5th St. Minneapolis.

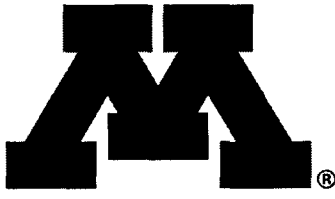
Homecoming is planned by the Minnesota Programs & Activities Council (MPAC), the main campus-wide programming board of the Student Activities Office. Its programming committees are responsible for initiating, developing and implementing a comprehensive and diverse activities program that anticipates and responds to the needs of U of M students and the campus community.

For a map of the homecome parade route, visit

www.sua.umn.edu/events/homecoming/images/parademap-print.jpg

WHEN: 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3

WHERE: University Avenue between Pleasant and Oak Streets



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October 31, 2007

Contacts: Justin Ware, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: U OF M APPLEHOUSE OPEN ONE MORE WEEKEND

The Applehouse, one mile west of the University of Minnesota's Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Dr., Chaska, is still open for business. Now through Sunday, Nov. 4, customers can purchase apples from a changing inventory of 50 varieties – including long-time favorites and recent University of Minnesota introductions, including Minnesota's new State Fruit, the Honeycrisp.

The apple has changed a lot in the past century, thanks in large part to research at the U of M:

- **For a fully-produced video on the U of M's apples and their importance to the state, visit:**

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3275701_1-t_7u9XZM9r

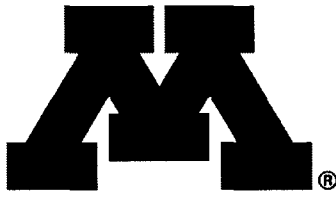
- **For b-roll of the U of M orchards, visit:**

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3275704_1-t_KTdjEpAH

- **For a full-length interview with Bedford, visit:**

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3275758_1-t_HNSBx3sX

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For Immediate Release

October 31, 2007

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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, luisab@umn.edu, (612) 624-1690

ACCLAIMED ARCHITECT-ALUMNUS RETURNS TO CAMPUS FOR "RENDEZVOUS WITH THE U"

Renowned architect Bill Pedersen returns to the University of Minnesota's College of Design next week to talk with current design students in "Rendezvous with the U." The discussion starts at 5:45 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5 in the Bell Museum's auditorium, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. It will be followed by a reception in Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

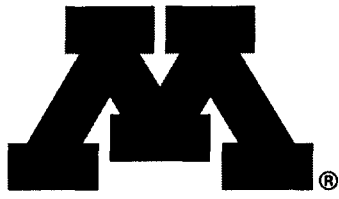
Pedersen (B.Arch '61) is among the most prominent graduates of the School of Architecture and one of only three architects featured on the university's Wall of Discovery. As the principal design partner of Kohn, Pedersen, Fox (New York), he has completed many award-winning designs such as 333 Wacker Drive in Chicago (1984); Westendstrasse 1/DG Bank Headquarters in Frankfurt, Germany (1994); and the Gannett/USA Today Headquarters in McLean, Va. (2005). Here in the Twin Cities, Pedersen designed The St. Paul Companies Headquarters (1991) and the U.S. Federal Courthouse (1997). Currently he is designing a building at the end of the Washington Avenue bridge at 222 Pleasant St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Rendezvous with the U is hosted by the College of Design and the American Institute of Architects, Minneapolis. Both the discussion and reception are free and open to the public.

To interview Pedersen, contact Luisa Badaracco at (612) 624-1690 or luisab@umn.edu.

WHEN: 5:45 to 7:00 p.m., Monday, Nov. 5

WHERE: Discussion in the Bell Museum's auditorium, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis; Reception in Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.



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EXPERT ALERT

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November 1, 2007

Contacts: Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962, dswain@umn.edu
Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, gior0011@umn.edu

AN ASTRONOMICAL PERSPECTIVE ON DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME

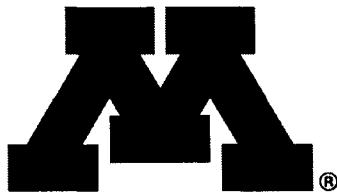
For most people, daylight-saving time simply means setting clocks ahead or back an hour as the seasons change. A University of Minnesota astronomer who can explain humankind's attempt to harness the sun is:

Lawrence Rudnick, astronomy professor at the University of Minnesota

Rudnick can discuss how the change in length of the days throughout the year corresponds with the effects of daylight-saving time and answer the question why the middle of the day (halfway between sunrise and sunset) is not always at noon. He can also explain how astronomers use a different, broader time scale, "star time," instead of the conventional "sun time" that is based off the Earth's rotation around the sun.

To interview Rudnick, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or gior0011@umn.edu.

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For Immediate Release

November 1, 2007

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

U OF M AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN A HIGH-ALTITUDE BALLOON LAUNCH INTO "NEAR-SPACE"

University of Minnesota students together with students from two elementary schools will participate in a high-altitude balloon launch into "near-space" (above 80,000 feet) at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 3. Based on the most recent weather predictions, the launch site is likely to be near Stacy, Minn., north of the metro, along I-35W. Call (651) 399-2423 after noon on Friday for a final decision regarding the actual launch site.

This activity is part of a simultaneous launch by approximately 10 colleges and universities around the Midwest, coordinated by Stratostar Systems and Taylor University, both in Indiana, attempting to use a constellation of balloons to establish a temporary telecommunications network over the region. The Minnesota Space Grant Consortium (MnSGC) U of M ballooning team, advised by James Flaten, will be responsible for launching, tracking and recovering the payload.

"University students are gaining experience building and operating space hardware," said Flaten. "This will be our first attempt to communicate with distant payloads while in flight."

Students from two St. Paul elementary schools -- Farnsworth Aerospace and Crossroads -- will also participate in the event by building research payloads and sending students to the launch. These elementary, student-built payloads will collect weather-related data, such as temperature and relative humidity, as well as light intensity, all of which vary with altitude. In their payloads students will also include a camera to take photos at predetermined times. This will allow the students to visually map the trajectory of the flight.

"It is really neat for these students' payloads to fly so high that the sky appears black even in the daytime and one can see the curvature of the Earth and the finite thickness of the atmosphere," Flaten said. "The photos are essentially indistinguishable from those taken from satellites in low-Earth orbit."

Jill Wall, a coordinator for Farnsworth Aerospace, said the launch helps students complete an academically rigorous project while working as a team.

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

“This exciting opportunity allows our team of sixth grade students to work together with students and staff at the university to design, build, launch and recover data using the scientific process,” she said.

The launch location depends on weather predictions, so it cannot be finalized until a couple of days in advance of the launch. It is expected to be no more than about an hour drive from the Twin Cities, perhaps north or west.

Most of the activity on the ground will take place between 8 and 9 a.m., with the launch scheduled for 9 a.m. sharp on Saturday, Nov. 3.

Flights take between two and three hours. The ballooning team will track the payload using GPS and ham radios and expect to recover it by mid-afternoon, possibly 100 miles or more from the launch site. Coverage of the launch, as opposed of the recovery effort, is recommended since chases are unpredictable.



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STORY TIPS

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November 2, 2007

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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, egiorgi@umn.edu

U OF M'S NEW AUTOMATED CLOCKS: SAVING TIME AND MONEY

Although there won't be many witnesses at 2 a.m. this Sunday, all of the 1,200 wall clocks in classrooms on the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, campus will eerily turn back an hour for the end of daylight-saving time.

No, it is not a lingering Halloween ghost but a new automated system that large institutions across the country are starting to implement to save time (no pun intended) and money. It's called the Primex Wireless Clock System and it will save the university an estimated \$18,000 this year.

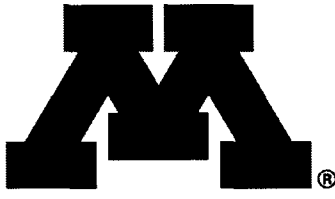
"Once we did the analysis, it was an easy decision to fund the infrastructure," said Sean Schuller from Facilities Management.

Now, instead of having to manually adjust clocks, a timely and cumbersome process, the system synchronizes them on a standard time through global positioning satellites.

"This also provides the university community a consistent time and relieves one small stress of questioning which classroom clock is correct," said Jeremy Todd, classroom planning and projects manager. "This is especially evident during mid-term and final exam time and during the 15-minute time change period between classes. Students appreciate as much time as possible when traversing the campus."

To interview Schuller about the new system, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or egiorgi@umn.edu.

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November 2, 2007

Contacts: Justin Ware, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: FEDERAL GRANT WILL HELP U OF M BUILD NEW LAB IN NORTHERN MINNESOTA

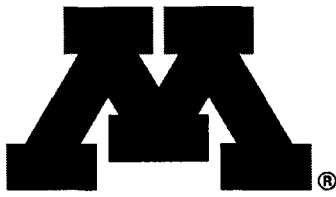
~ \$45.6 million will go to a new neutrino detector in Ash River ~

The University of Minnesota will be furthering its study of neutrinos -- sub-atomic particles that are invisible to the naked eye and are thought to be one of the building blocks of the universe -- with the help of a \$45.6 million grant from the U.S Department of Energy.

For a fully-produced video about the grant and the already-operational neutrino detector in Soudan, Minn., visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3300187_1-t_YmvDE9kA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 5, 2007

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Justin Ware, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

NEW U OF M QUARANTINE FACILITY WILL BE LOCKING DOWN PATHOGENS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Researchers will be able to get one step ahead of dangerous pathogens that could damage Minnesota crops and forests by using the tools provided by a new state-of-the-art building on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus. The Plant Pathology Research Facility will allow scientists to research pests that cause diseases such as Asian soybean rust, sudden oak death and new strains of stem rust on small grains.

The \$6 million building will be dedicated at 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 1907 Dudley Ave., St. Paul. The facility will be jointly operated by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

"Crop diseases are a constant threat to our agricultural community and the state has a role to play in helping protect our farmers," said Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Gene Hugoson. "This facility is a valuable resource that will help us cope with these threats for years to come."

Speakers will include University of Minnesota Regent Dallas Bohnsack, Minnesota Department of Agriculture Assistant Commissioner Robin Kinney and Rob Hanks, president of the Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council Growers.

"The University of Minnesota is the only university in the Midwest with this type of research capability. These facilities will serve as a magnet to attract scientists who are driven to discover the best way to help protect plants from deadly disease," said Beverly Durgan, director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station and dean of the University of Minnesota Extension.

When licensed by the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the facility will be approved as a bio-safety three (BL3) facility and eligible to study a variety of plant diseases. Currently, only three BL3 facilities in the United States are allowed to work with and conduct research on exotic plant pathogens. Special security and air filtration systems in the new facility will ensure the pathogens aren't released into the

- more -

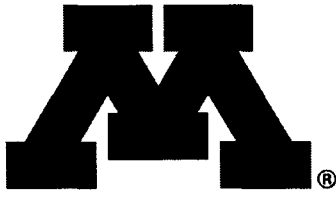
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environment.

Research in the building will focus on plant pathogens that could damage crops or forests if they were introduced to Minnesota. Plant pathogens can be inadvertently spread by wind, travelers, food products or shipping, or deliberately spread to cause economic, political or human health problems.

The Plant Pathology Research Facility will be a final piece of a \$24 million plant growth facilities project that includes classrooms, 15,000 square feet of growing space in state-of-the-art greenhouses and an Insect Quarantine Facility. The Insect Quarantine Facility opened in 2003 and allows researchers to analyze the potential usefulness of beneficial insects in the control of soybean aphids, buckthorn, garlic mustard and other pests.

The University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the USDA Forest Service will all use the facility.



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November 5, 2007

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U OF M RESEARCHERS REVEAL NEW FINDINGS ABOUT WIKIPEDIA AUTHORSHIP AND VANDALISM

~ One-tenth of 1 percent of editors account for nearly half of Wikipedia's content value ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- An ongoing study by University of Minnesota researchers has revealed that only one-tenth of 1 percent of Wikipedia editors account for nearly half the content value of the free online encyclopedia, as measured by readership. In addition, the computer science and engineering faculty and students have discovered that few edits inflict damage on the content and damage is typically fixed quickly.

The results of their study are reported in the academic research paper titled "Creating, Destroying and Restoring Value in Wikipedia." The paper was published in the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Group 2007 Conference proceedings on Nov. 4.

To view the research paper visit:

<http://www-users.cs.umn.edu/~reid/papers/group282-priedhorsky.pdf>

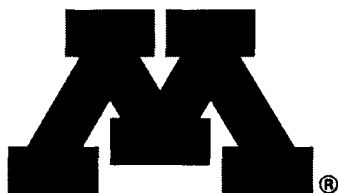
The U of M study estimated a probability of less than one-half percent (0.0037) that the typical viewing of a Wikipedia article would find it in a damaged state. However, the researchers found that the chances of encountering vandalism on a typical page view increased over time, although the authors identified a break in the trend around June 2006, late in the study period. They attributed this to the increased use of anti-vandalism bots.

U of M researchers involved in the study of Wikipedia include computer science and engineering professors John Riedl and Loren Terveen and doctoral students Reid Priedhorsky (project lead), Jilin Chen, Tony Lamm and Katie Panciera.

"Our research suggests vandalism on Wikipedia is a relatively small problem today," said Terveen. "But continued research is needed to contain that damage in the future."

- more -

Wikipedia features more than seven million articles in 200 languages. It is a unique Web site, because it does not rely on professional editors to contribute information, instead it allows any user to manipulate the information. The Wikipedia Web site boasts 75,000 contributors.



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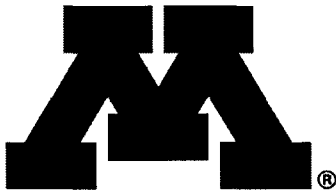
Contacts: *Peg Lonquist, Office of University Women, (612) 625-9837*
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U OF M TO HOST PANEL DISCUSSION ON GENDER AND PAY EQUITY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Why is it that in 2007 women still earn less money than men in the same position? What can be done about this inequity? Those questions will be discussed when the University of Minnesota hosts a Gender and Equity panel discussion from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7 in Room 31 Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

According to a recent report by the American Association for University Women, just one year out of college, women working full-time earn 80 percent of what their male colleagues make, even in the same field. Bonnie Watkins, executive director of Minnesota Women's Consortium, and Patty Tanji, president of Pay Equity Coalition, are the panelists.

The panel is co-sponsored by the U of M Civil Service and Bargaining Unit Women's Program Planning Committee and Office of University Women,. It is free and open to the public.



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November 5, 2007

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STATEMENT ON ACCIDENT AT CONSTRUCTION SITE

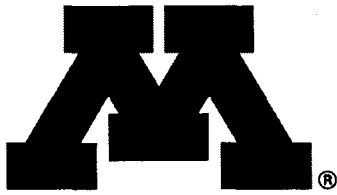
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Just before 10:00 a.m. today (Monday) Nov. 5, a construction worker was injured while working at a site at Ontario Street Southeast. and Beacon Street Southeast. The accident occurred in a trench when a worker became trapped between two large sections of concrete culvert. One section was in place in the trench and the other was being lowered into place.

The University of Minnesota Police Department and Minneapolis Fire and Rescue responded to the accident.

After the accident, work at the job site was suspended for the rest of the day. Work is expected to resume tomorrow.

The accident occurred on a job site that is part of the infrastructure work related to the University of Minnesota's Medical Biosciences Building. The injured worker is not a university employee. Kraus Anderson is the contractor for the project, and EMJ Pipe Services is the subcontractor. No other information about the accident is available at this time.

The safety of employees and contractors is a top priority on all university jobsites. The university community extends its support to the worker who was injured today and to concerned family, friends and coworkers.



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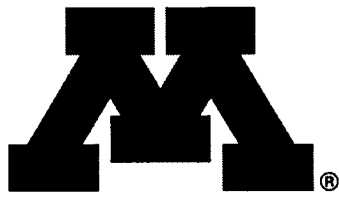
NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: U OF M RESEARCHERS REVEAL NEW FINDINGS ABOUT WIKIPEDIA AUTHORSHIP AND VANDALISM

An ongoing study by University of Minnesota researchers has revealed that only one-tenth of 1 percent of Wikipedia editors account for nearly half the content value of the free online encyclopedia, as measured by readership. In addition, the computer science and engineering faculty and students have discovered that few edits inflict damage on the content and damage is typically fixed quickly.

For a full-length interview with one of the researchers, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3319407_1-t_TtZKPKhg

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November 7, 2007

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U OF M'S ACADEMIC AND CORPORATE RELATIONS CENTER RECEIVES TEKNE AWARD FOR INNOVATIVE COLLABORATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Academic and Corporate Relations Center (ACRC) received the Innovative Collaboration of the Year Award at the 2007 Tekne Awards held at the Minneapolis Convention Center on Nov. 1. The Tekne Awards recognize Minnesota's outstanding technology achievements and leaders.

New this year, the Innovative Collaboration of the Year Award honors a business/community/higher-ed/K-12 collaboration or partnership that has demonstrated leadership, dedication and excellence in delivering innovation to Minnesota's technology economy and/or the Minnesota community in general. The University of Minnesota's Academic and Corporation Relations Center received this award for creating a front door for industries to access the University's abundant and varied resources. ACRC is actively committed to establishing diverse partnerships and collaborations with the business community.

"It is a great honor to receive this Tekne award for Innovative Collaboration of the Year on behalf of the Academic and Corporate Relations Center and its staff," said Dick Sommerstad, director of ACRC. "The University of Minnesota is very committed to establishing a better collaborative climate with business in Minnesota and through out the world."

"The ACRC is tangible evidence of the university's commitment to partnership and collaboration. We are very pleased with the Tekne award because it is represents validation of our efforts by our community partners," said Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy.

Presented by the Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA) in partnership with LifeScience Alley and Minnesota Technology, Inc. (MTI), the Tekne Awards annually recognize Minnesota's best and brightest technology users and developers in innovation, development, education, commercialization and management of technology in Minnesota. A list of recipients and finalists is available at www.tekneawards.org.

- more -

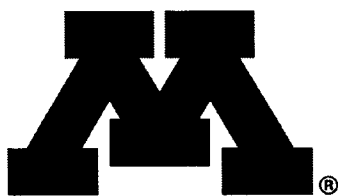
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“The Tekne Awards honor companies that have realized the advantages of applying innovation to technological development here in Minnesota,” said Kate Rubin, president, MHTA. “We’re pleased to have the ability to recognize ACRC for its proven leadership and dedication to technological development, not only here at home, but across the globe.”

Award judges selected one recipient from a pool of three finalists in 16 categories, representing many facets of technological innovation in Minnesota. Award categories recognize leaders and technology businesses that are emerging (with annual revenues under \$50 million) and established (with annual revenues of \$50 million or more).

The Academic and Corporate Relations Center’s mission is to enhance the ability of the world-wide business community to connect and collaborate with the University of Minnesota’s rich lodes of expertise, technology and talent. For more information, visit www.business.umn.edu.

The Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA) accelerates the growth, sustainability and global competitiveness of Minnesota’s technology-based economy through public policy advocacy, member collaboration and education and community outreach. MHTA is the only membership organization that represents Minnesota’s entire technology-based economy. MHTA members include organizations of every size involved in virtually every aspect of technology creation, production, application and education in Minnesota. Find out more at www.mhta.org.



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November 7, 2007

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

**DESIGN PROFESSOR FEATURED AT U OF M ADA COMSTOCK
DISTINGUISHED WOMEN SCHOLARS LECTURE SERIES**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota professor emerita Joanne Eicher will deliver the Ada Comstock Distinguished Women Scholars Fall Lecture, "Beyond the F Word: Fashion, Dress, and Cultural Meaning," at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, at the Humphrey Institute's Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

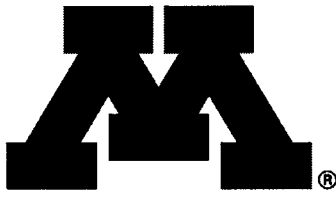
Eicher is a professor in the design, housing and apparel department and a renowned researcher of cultural aspects of dress, with special interest and expertise in Africa and Asia. Eicher is the editor of a forthcoming 10-volume encyclopedia of dress and fashion.

The free lecture series, held twice during the school year, honors the exceptional research, scholarship and leadership contributions of female University of Minnesota faculty who are recipients of prestigious honors such as the Distinguished Women's Scholar Award, the Regents Professorship and the McKnight Distinguished Professorship. It is named after Comstock, a university alumnae, former assistant professor and dean at the university. Comstock left Minnesota in 1912 when she was named the dean of Smith College, thus becoming the first female university president in the United States. Later she served as president of Radcliffe College. She is one of the few people in the world to have residence halls named after her at three universities -- Minnesota, Smith and Radcliffe. Comstock Hall, which used to be the second of Minnesota's two residence halls for women, salutes her as a distinguished member of the Minnesota faculty.

The lecture series is sponsored by the university's Graduate School, the Office for University Women, the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs and the University of Minnesota Libraries.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13

WHERE: Humphrey Institute, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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EXPERT ALERT

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November 7, 2007

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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, egiorgi@umn.edu

U OF M PIONEERING VET SERVICES EFFORTS THIS VETERANS DAY

The University of Minnesota and the state of Minnesota are recognized leaders in support programs for returning veterans. But there is much citizens at the community level can do to help veterans make the transition from "warrior" to "citizen." U of M experts who are available to discuss vet support programs at the U are:

Dennis Donovan, University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute

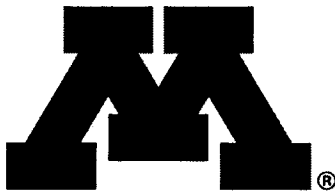
Donovan is an organizer with the U of M's Center for Democracy and Citizenship and can discuss the center's Warrior to Citizen campaign. This new statewide grassroots effort provides enduring community support to returning soldiers and their families and challenges Minnesotans to think creatively about how returning veterans can contribute their new skills and experiences, as citizens.

Mary Koskan, director of University of Minnesota Student Services

Koskan can explain how campuses across the country are seeing an increase in student veterans as men and women are returning home from service. At the U of M she has made the school a leader in higher education initiatives to help them make the transition to college life.

To interview Donovan or Koskan, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or egiorgi@umn.edu.

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November 8, 2007

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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690*

NEWEST U BUILDING TO INCORPORATE IRON RANGE MATERIALS IN PUBLIC ART DISPLAY

~ Exhibit to be installed Sunday, will close part of East River Road ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development will install a public art display at its new Education Sciences Building from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 11. The building, located at 56 E. River Rd., Minneapolis, has recently been renovated. During installation, River Road will be closed.

For video clips of the new Education Sciences Building, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3335262_1-t_YPyuzuRW

The art display, entitled "Garden of Mirrors," will be placed in the building's back courtyard that overlooks the Mississippi River. In addition to mirror-polished stainless steel plates, the display incorporates boulders of various sizes from the Iron Range region of northern Minnesota. The project is the work of local artist Andrea Stanislav, assistant professor of sculpture in the university's department of art.

"The work gives a sense of discovery and interactivity, referencing the educational process," said Stanislav. "The viewers see these ancient rocks, opened like geodes, and see themselves included in the sculpture, the building and the landscape."

The building originally housed the Mines Experiment Station. It was designed in 1923 by State Architect Clarence Johnson Sr. in the Renaissance Revival style. The renovation project, which began in spring 2005, remodeled the building's interior and restored its exterior to its original appearance. The building has been identified as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing structure to the Old Campus Historic District. The renovation was a finalist for "Redevelopment/Extensive Renovation" in The Business Journal's Best in Real Estate awards this year.

Three College of Education and Human Development units are currently housed in the building: the department

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of educational psychology, the Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement (CAREI) and the Center for Early Educational Development (CEED). All three entities pursue research in reading and literacy, special education, accountability and assessment and early childhood education. Specific projects include:

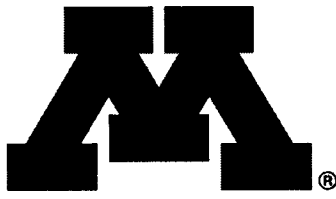
- Ongoing research on cooperative learning, conducted by educational psychology professors Robert and David Johnson
- A CAREI-led longitudinal evaluation of a local all-day kindergarten
- CEED's Minnesota Early Learning Foundation Evaluation project, which focuses on the effective evaluation of early childhood programs supported by the Minnesota Early Learning Foundation

The University of Minnesota has one of the country's largest and most dynamic public art programs, including a range of artworks from gardens to multimedia installations. Staff members from the Weisman Art Museum administer the program under the direction of the Public Art on Campus Committee, which is comprised of faculty and staff from the College of Design and the art history and facilities management departments.

Project Background of Education Sciences Building:

Architect: Collaborative Design Group

Total square footage: 69,808



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November 9, 2007

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U OF M TO HONOR STUDENT VETERANS' SACRIFICE AND SERVICE

~ Plans for veterans tribute in new stadium to be unveiled ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Colleges and universities across the country are having to revamp their student veterans programs as more and more service members are returning home to work towards their degrees. The University of Minnesota has been a pioneer in vet services efforts and is recognizing its student veterans with its first "U of M Student Veterans Appreciation Day" that will include the unveiling of plans for a veterans tribute as part of the university's new football stadium, a visit by Gov. Tim Pawlenty and an F-16 flyover.

"Helping our returning veterans reintegrate into the U and pursue their educational goals has been an important priority for us," said university President Robert Bruininks, who will speak at the event. "We want those who have served our country in the Armed Forces to know we appreciate their service. That is why we plan to include a fitting and lasting veterans tribute in our new football stadium."

The stadium veteran's tribute plan, which will be unveiled at the event, was developed by a group of veterans and university officials who were charged by Bruininks in 2006 with developing a way to continue the tradition of the old Memorial Stadium by honoring veterans in the new TCF Bank Stadium.

The celebration will take place at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14 at the Northrop Auditorium Plaza, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. The program will begin at 12:15 p.m. All veterans and family members, faculty, staff, students and the public are invited. A free chili lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the Northrop Auditorium atrium while supplies last.

The ROTC Joint-Service Color Guard and the Minnesota Marching Band will kick-off the event with featured speakers -- including Pawlenty, Bruininks, Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs Clark Dyrud, university Regent Dean Johnson and university student veteran Aaron Ledebuhr.

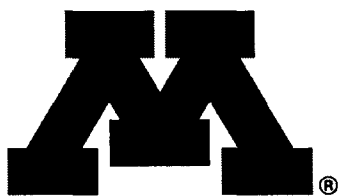
"We're seeing an increase in the number of veterans returning and schools must be prepared to accommodate them," said Mary Koskan, director of OneStop Student Services. "The U of M has been a leader in higher education initiatives to help them make the transition to college life, and this day will be a opportunity to

- more -

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recognize our student veterans and those efforts.”

The event is sponsored by Comfort for Courage, Coca-Cola Beverage Partnership, Office for Student Affairs, One Stop Student Services, TCF Bank and University Dining Services.



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November 9, 2007

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

U OF M TO HOST EXPERIENCE MINNESOTA, AN OPEN HOUSE FOR MULTICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

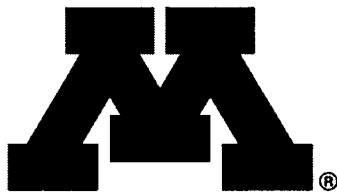
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Over 400 multicultural high school students, along with their families, will attend the first ever Experience Minnesota on Saturday, Nov. 10 on the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities campus. The event will begin at Northrop Auditorium with a welcome session that includes the Minnesota Marching Band, Goldy Gopher, a Step Show by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., and the university's Spirit Squad. Check-in and continental breakfast will begin at 8 a.m.

The purpose of Experience Minnesota is to showcase to students and their families the unique academic and cultural resources and opportunities the University of Minnesota offers. Students will learn about the university's over 143 academic majors, financial aid opportunities, residence hall options, student organizations and multicultural opportunities from faculty, staff and students from across all university colleges and departments.

“The University of Minnesota community is very excited about this opportunity to meet with students and their families from across the state and share the great opportunities students will find at the Twin Cities campus,” said Wayne Sigler, Director of Admissions. “Our faculty and staff will provide students with key information about the variety of resources, services, support, and opportunities available to help them achieve their academic and career goals.”

WHEN: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 10

WHERE: Northrop Memorial Auditorium



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November 9, 2007

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

~ "Open Doors" report shows U of M near top in study abroad participation ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A film festival, international trivia and a photo contest are just a few of nearly 50 events planned for International Education Week at the University of Minnesota, Nov. 12 - 16. Colleges, campuses, departments and student groups planned the events to highlight the university's support for international education.

In honor of International Education Week, the Institute of International Education (IIE) will release its annual Open Doors report of statistics on international student mobility -- U.S. students going abroad to study and international students coming to the U.S. -- on Nov. 12. The report shows that the university's Twin Cities campus ranks sixth in the nation in the number of students who studied abroad in 2005-06, with 1,981 students. This number has increased from last year's total of 1,836. The university ranks 22nd with 3,701 international students in 2006-07, which is up from last year's 3,384 students. Study abroad statistics are reported one year behind international student statistics.

International Education Week was first declared by the U.S. Departments of State and Education in 2000 as part of their effort to encourage policies and programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study in the United States. Selected events are highlighted below; a complete list of events is available at: <http://www.international.umn.edu/news/iweek/events.php>

2nd Annual International Quiz Bowl

Noon-1 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 13, Carlson School Atrium, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Watch teams of Carlson School faculty, staff and students as they test their knowledge of the world! Team members will work together to answer a series of questions.

A Woman for all Seasons: Astrid Lindgren at 100

10 a.m.-7 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 14, 120 Andersen Library, 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

A special celebration of the 100th birthday of beloved Swedish children's author Astrid Lindgren, creator of the Pippi Longstocking series and many other books. The day includes an afternoon conference followed by a reception and special presentations by Peter Brosius, artistic director, Children's Theatre Company, Tina Nunnally, American author and translator and Susan Marie Swanson, Minnesota children's author.

Minnesota English Language Program (MELP) Open House

1:30-3:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 15, 101 Wesbrook Hall, 77 Pleasant St. S.E., Minneapolis

The Minnesota English Language Program serves the English as a Second Language (ESL) needs of students across the University. MELP will host an open house in its new home in Wesbrook Hall. Come visit with the program's students who will present on a variety of international topics. The event will also be a casual opportunity to visit with program staff and students, learn about ESL programs on the Twin Cities campus and enjoy some international sweets.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Across Cultures

3 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 15, 110 Heller Hall, 271 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

This panel will explore the shared and different experiences of GLBT students, faculty and staff across cultures. The session is geared toward those interested in study or travel abroad as well as anyone interested in a GLBT cross-cultural perspective.

Fulbright Reception

4-6 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 15, Ted Mann Concert Hall Lobby, 2128 4th St. S., Minneapolis

A reception for all past and present Fulbright scholarship recipients at the University. A short program featuring President Bruininks, member of the Fulbright Board, will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Small World Coffee Hour

4-6 p.m., Friday, Nov. 16, 110 Heller Hall, 271 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Small World Coffee Hour (SWCH) gives all international and U.S. students, staff and faculty the opportunity to meet with each other in a relaxing environment and to learn about other cultures and traditions around the world.

All events are free and open to the public. Various departments and student groups at the University sponsor events. The Office of International Programs provides publicity and partial funding.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9, 2007

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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690*

U OF M TO HOST PREMIER ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE

~ Proceeds will fund first university scholarship for renewable energy and the environment ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- More than 400 researchers, government officials, students and nonprofit and business leaders from the Midwest and beyond will descend on the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities campus for "E3 2007." During the day-long conference, attendees will share knowledge and ideas on renewable energy and its environmental and economic significance. It will be held from 8 a.m to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27 at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The University of Minnesota's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE), a key component of the university's Institute on the Environment, is presenting the conference in partnership with Piper Jaffray Companies and Faegre & Benson LLP. All proceeds will go toward the creation of the University of Minnesota's first endowed scholarship for students interested in renewable energy and environmental careers.

Building on a five-year history of successful seminars and conferences, E3 2007 is IREE's largest event to date, having already reached full capacity in mid-October. "Judging by the high turnout, renewable energy issues are at the forefront of the public discourse," said IREE Director Dick Hemmingsen. "Ultimately, our goal is to help increase collaboration between scientists, policy makers and stakeholders."

The conference includes keynote addresses, breakout sessions, research posters and exhibitor displays focused on new technologies, environmental benefits, public policies and emerging market opportunities related to renewable energy. IREE is also sponsoring a poster competition for graduate and undergraduate students who are working on research projects funded by IREE and the Institute on the Environment.

E3 2007 features an impressive lineup of keynote speakers, including Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn.; Eileen Claussen, president of the Pew Center on Global Climate Change; Richard Kelly, president and CEO of Xcel Energy; and Mark Stowers, vice president of research and development for the country's largest builder of ethanol facilities, South Dakota-based POET energy company.

- more -

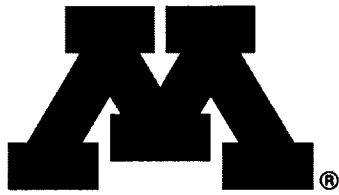
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Home to one of the most comprehensive renewable energy programs in the country, the University of Minnesota is an ideal forum for the conference. University faculty and external experts will lead the conversation along four research tracks: renewable and sustainable fuels; renewable and sustainable electricity; the nexus of energy, the environment and the economy; and conservation and energy efficiency.

For complete details on E3 2007. visit www.iree.umn.edu/e3.

WHEN: 8 a.m - 6 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 27

WHERE: Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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November 12, 2007

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RSVP: hce@umn.edu or (612) 624-0226

**“DESIGN AND BUSINESS: WHY CAN’T WE BE FRIENDS” IS THE TOPIC OF
LECTURE SERIES SPEECH AT THE U OF M, NOV. 26**

**~ Roger Martin, dean of the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management at the University of
Toronto to speak ~**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Roger Martin, dean of the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto, will speak at the ninth annual Allan D. Shocker Lecture Series at 3:15 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26, at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management’s 3M Auditorium, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Martin will discuss the challenges of forging good working relationships between business and design in an era where design has become increasingly important to a business’ bottom line.

At the University of Toronto, Martin holds the Premier’s Research Chair in Productivity and Competitiveness. He is also director of the AIC Institute for Corporate Citizenship. He is a trustee of the Hospital for Sick Children and serves on the boards of Research in Motion, Thomson Corporation, Tennis Canada, the Canadian Credit Management Foundation and the Skoll Foundation.

During his talk, Martin will define the design/business schism as a conflict between validity, which is favored by designers, and reliability, which is favored by business interests. He explores key attributes of validity and reliability to form recommendations for each side that will engender better working relationships.

About the Lecture Series

The Allan D. Shocker Lecture Series is presented by the Carlson School of Management, the College of Design and the University of Minnesota New Product Design and Business Development program.

A reception will follow the lecture. Please RSVP for both by contacting the Gary S. Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship at hce@umn.edu or (612) 624-0226.

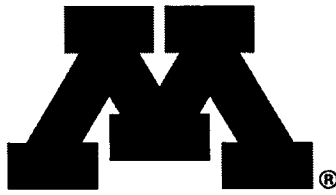
WHEN: 3:15 - 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26; reception following from 5 to 7:15 p.m.

- more -

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WHEN: 3:15 - 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26; reception following from 5 to 7:15 p.m.

WHERE: Carlson School of Management, 3M Auditorium
321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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For Immediate Release

November 12, 2007

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

U OF M HOUSING FORUM TO EXAMINE WHERE AND WHY PEOPLE BUILD THEIR HOMES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Why do we build, where we build and does it make a difference? That is the topic of the University of Minnesota Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) monthly forum from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, in Room 2-213, Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

A panel discussion will feature Paul Fate, executive director, CommonBond Communities; Elizabeth Flannery, associate vice president for Housing Development, CommonBond Communities; Ellen Higgins, vice president for business development, CommonBond Communities; and Dick Brustad, Community Housing Development Corporation.

The housing forum is a monthly brown bag discussion of Twin Cities housing issues and research sponsored by CURA. This forum is jointly sponsored by CURA and the Minneapolis Consortium of Community Developers.

WHEN: Noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16

WHERE: Room 2-213, Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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November 12, 2007

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 624-5551
Garry Bowman, Golden Gopher Athletics, (612) 624-7345

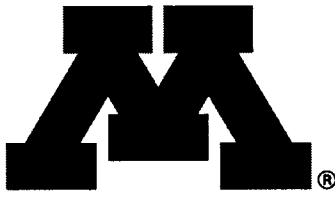
**U OF M TO ANNOUNCE SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT FOR TCF BANK
STADIUM ON TUESDAY**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota will announce a significant sponsorship agreement for TCF Bank Stadium on Tuesday, Nov. 13 at 12:30 p.m. in the Gibson-Nagurski Football Complex Hall of Champions. The announcement will be held in conjunction with the weekly Gopher Football media luncheon.

WHEN: 12:30 p.m. - Tuesday, Nov. 13

WHERE: Gibson-Nagurski Football Complex Hall of Champions, 600 15th Ave. S.E, Minneapolis

A lunch will be served at 12 p.m. in the Hall of Champions and precede the announcement.



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November 12, 2007

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038
Registration: (612) 626-9334, firsttuesday@umn.edu

CEO AND HIGH-STAKES POKER PLAYER TO DISCUSS HIS "LIFE AND TIMES IN THE WORLD OF BUSINESS" AT U OF M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Lyle Berman, chairman of the board and CEO of Lakes Entertainment Inc., chairman of the board of World Poker Tour Enterprises and co-founder of Grand Casinos Inc., will speak at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management's First Tuesday luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

In his speech, "My Life and Times in the Business World," Berman will compare high-stakes gambling -- where a million dollars can be won or lost in a single game -- and high stakes business where hundreds of millions of dollars can be made or lost in a single deal. He will also speak about his experiences as a businessman in the leather, restaurant and entertainment industries.

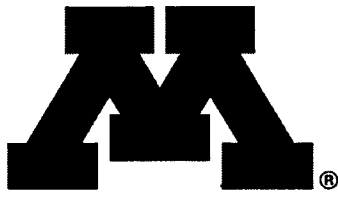
Berman is a respected business leader and poker player. He is credited as one of the early visionaries in the development of casinos outside of the traditional gaming markets of Las Vegas and Atlantic City, which ultimately transformed the game of poker in American culture. Berman's poker skills earned him an induction to the Poker Hall of Fame in 2004.

Advance registration by Thursday, Nov. 29, is \$28 and \$35 for walk-ins. The fee includes lunch and parking in the Washington Avenue Ramp. Refund cancellations are required by Friday, Nov. 30. Register by calling (612) 626-9634, visiting www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/events or e-mailing at firsttuesday@umn.edu.

WHO: Lyle Berman, CEO, Lakes Entertainment Inc., chairman of the board, World Poker Tour Enterprises, co-founder, Grand Casinos Inc.

WHEN: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4

WHERE: McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 13, 2007

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Dean Peters, American Dairy Queen Corporation, (952) 830-0204*

DAIRY QUEEN AND U OF M ANNOUNCE \$2.5 MILLION STADIUM SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Edina-based Dairy Queen has become the latest sponsor of the University of Minnesota's new TCF Bank Stadium, with a \$2.5 million sponsorship announced today. The stadium's new clubroom will be named the "DQ Stadium Club" as part of the sponsorship.

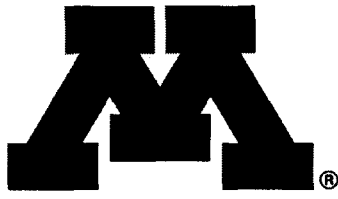
"Everyone loves Dairy Queen," said Athletics Director Joel Maturi. "We're grateful that another outstanding Minnesota company has chosen to make an investment in the University of Minnesota and Golden Gopher Athletics."

In addition to naming rights for the stadium clubroom, the sponsorship also includes scoreboard signage, ribbon board signage, a suite and other sponsorship benefits.

"On behalf of all of our corporate employees and more than 250 franchised Dairy Queen locations throughout the state of Minnesota, we are excited to be a part of this new chapter for Gopher sports at the university," said Chuck Mooty, president and CEO of International Dairy Queen, Inc. "We believe the stadium will be a wonderful gathering place for our community similar to Dairy Queen being a special gathering place throughout the state."

To date, the university has raised \$73.5 million toward its goal of \$86 million in private gifts and sponsorships, with \$12.5 left to be raised. University officials plan to kick off a grassroots fund-raising effort in the spring to raise the remaining balance.

About Dairy Queen: International Dairy Queen (IDQ), which is headquartered in Edina, develops licenses and services a system of more than 5,600 Dairy Queen stores in the United States, Canada and other foreign countries, offering dairy desserts, hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages. IDQ is part of the Berkshire Hathaway family, a company owned by Warren Buffett, the legendary investor and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway. For more information, visit www.dairyqueen.com.



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November 13, 2007

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(612) 626-5904, kdebrine@umn.edu
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

**U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL PROFESSOR ANDY VAN DE VEN GENERATES
GLOBAL BUZZ WITH NEW BOOK "ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP"**

~ Book signing slated for Dec. 4 at Coffman ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Andy Van de Ven, a professor at the University of Minnesota, has received global praise from scholars and practitioners for his new book, "Engaged Scholarship: A Guide for Organization and Social Research." At this year's European Academy of Management conference in Paris, Van de Ven was honored for contributing "the most promising management book" to the volumes of literature on management research.

"Engaged scholarship is about challenging the ivory tower mentality and bringing everyone to the table to discuss a difficult issue," said Van de Ven, the Vernon H. Heath Chair of Organizational Innovation and Change and professor of strategic management and organization at the Carlson School of Management. "Sometimes we professors barricade our doors and sit behind a computer screen gathering data -- it's just not enough to do statistical analyses -- we must make a habit of bringing our business partners to the table and seeing the problem from their eyes as well."

Van de Ven will sign copies of his book at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the University of Minnesota Bookstore, located in Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Van de Ven hopes his book will provoke scholars to reexamine their research methods and practices. He presents a mental image of scholars who can't practice and practitioners who can't theorize, but the book outlines methods for bringing the two together to create more meaningful and applicable research, especially in a professional school setting.

Most people agree that conducting "engaged scholarship" is an idea with good currency, but it is often dismissed as impractical, explains Van de Ven. "Our tenure track drive sometimes pushes us to produce, produce, produce, in order to fill up our CVs (curriculum vitas) with enough research to gain tenure," he said.

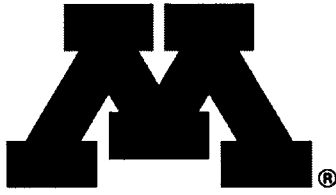
- more -

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A good scholar can step back and connect the dots where his or her theory may have relevant impact. The Carlson School demonstrates Van de Ven's philosophy in many ways by the very strong engagement it has with the Twin Cities business community. As Van de Ven developed his theoretical framework for how to conduct engaged scholarship, there was no better incubator than the Twin Cities community, he said.

Van de Ven's reach into local business is demonstrated by his involvement with the Minnesota Innovators Network, an ongoing discussion group of practitioners and innovation managers from 3M, Cargill, Carlson Companies, Mayo Clinic, General Mills, Wells Fargo, West Publishing and a number of other companies. The participants' goal is to identify opportunities for learning and sharing insights that they can apply to their unique situations.

Organizations and business schools that have invited Van de Ven to present his new methodology include the European Academy of Management, the Academy of Management (U.S.), the Strategic Management Society, Hong Kong University, Shenzheng University, Copenhagen Business School, Utrecht University-Netherlands, the London Business School, the Graduate Management Admissions Council, Case Western Reserve, Harvard Business School, Wharton School of Business and the University of Southern California. At least a dozen other schools have adopted Van de Ven's engaged methodologies.



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November 13, 2007

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U OF M TO HONOR STUDENT VETERANS' SACRIFICE AND SERVICE TOMORROW

~ Plans for veterans tribute in new stadium to be unveiled ~

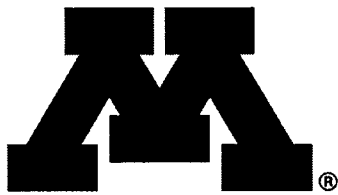
The University of Minnesota will celebrate its student veterans and unveil plans for a tribute to all veterans in the new TCF Bank Stadium at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14 at the Northrop Auditorium Plaza, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. The program will begin at 12:15 p.m. All veterans and family members, faculty, staff, students and the public are invited. A free chili lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the Northrop Auditorium atrium while supplies last.

Colleges and universities across the country are having to revamp their student veterans programs as more and more service members are returning home to work towards their degrees. The University of Minnesota has been a pioneer in vet services efforts and is recognizing its student veterans with its first "U of M Student Veterans Appreciation Day" that will include the unveiling of plans for a veterans tribute as part of the university's new football stadium and an F-16 flyover.

"Helping our returning veterans reintegrate into the U and pursue their educational goals has been an important priority for us," said university President Robert Bruininks, who will speak at the event. "We want those who have served our country in the Armed Forces to know we appreciate their service. That is why we plan to include a fitting and lasting veterans tribute in our new football stadium."

The stadium veteran's tribute plan, which will be unveiled at the event, was developed by a group of veterans and university officials who were charged by Bruininks in 2006 with developing a way to continue the tradition of the old Memorial Stadium by honoring veterans in the new TCF Bank Stadium.

The ROTC Joint-Service Color Guard and the Minnesota Marching Band will kick-off the event with featured speakers -- Bruininks, Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs Clark Dyrod, university Regent Dean Johnson and university student veteran Aaron Ledebuhr.



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QUICK QUOTES

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November 14, 2007

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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, egiorgi@umn.edu

QUICK QUOTES AUDIO: U OF M HONORS STUDENT VETERANS AND UNVEILS TRIBUTE FOR NEW STADIUM

University of Minnesota officials and community members celebrated the contributions of student veterans today and unveiled design plans for a veterans tribute at TCF Bank Stadium. Also announced was the first opponent to face the Gophers in the new stadium in 2009, Air Force Academy.

The following audio clips are available for all media use:

President Robert Bruininks honors student veterans:

http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/bruininks_vets_honoring.mp3

Bruininks describes vets stadium tribute:

http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/bruininks_stadium_tribute.mp3

Retired Brigadier General and former Alumni Association president Dennis Schulstad describes tribute:

http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/schulstad_tribute.mp3

Athletics Director Joel Maturi announces first football opponent for 2009 opening:

http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/maturi_2009opponent.mp3

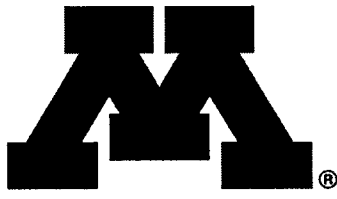
Regent Dean Johnson's message to veterans:

http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/johnson_message.mp3

Board of Regents Chair Patricia Simmons and the U of M's work for student veterans:

http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/radio/simmons_Uappreciation.mp3

Quick Quotes are audio clips featuring research, events, announcements and breaking news at the University of Minnesota. They are available for all types of media. For an archive and other useful media services, visit www.unews.umn.edu.



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November 14, 2007

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VETERANS TO BE HONORED AT TCF BANK STADIUM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- When the University of Minnesota's new TCF Bank Stadium opens in September 2009, it will include a tribute to Minnesota veterans, past, present and future. The tribute was announced during today's "Student Veteran Appreciation Day" event.

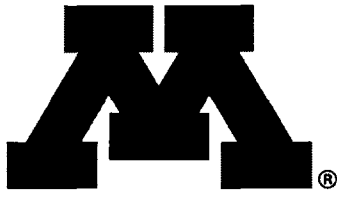
"In the tradition of Memorial Stadium, we wanted our new stadium to include a fitting, permanent tribute to the men and women who have served, are serving and will serve, in our country's armed forces," said University President Robert Bruininks. "Working with veterans and our architects, we came up with a design that will appropriately honor that sacrifice and service."

The new Veteran's Tribute will be a strong feature of the open plaza that is the entrance to TCF Bank Stadium. At the exterior pedestrian level, it incorporates a bench and a lighted inscription similar to the message that was on Memorial Stadium. From the inside of the stadium, the tribute is conceived as a stage where, as part of the game day tradition, a color guard can raise the flag of the stadium.

"This is going to be a beautiful part of our new stadium and veterans can take pride in this recognition," said Denny Schulstad, retired Air Force brigadier general and co-chair of the advisory committee that developed the tribute design. "In addition to honoring our state's tradition of military service, this will serve a very valuable purpose in educating generations of young people about the sacrifice and service that has kept them free."

The tribute will be funded by private donations.

Images of the Minnesota Veterans Tribute can be viewed at
<http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/photos-stadiumvets.html>



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November 14, 2007

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NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: VETERANS TO BE HONORED AT TCF BANK STADIUM

-- When the University of Minnesota's new TCF Bank Stadium opens in September 2009, it will include a tribute to Minnesota veterans, past, present and future. The tribute is being announced as part of "Student Veteran Appreciation Day."

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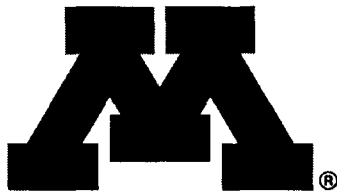
For video from today's event, including sound bites from Bruininks and athletics director Joel Maturi, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3421019_1-t_Gs8Aumlg

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November 14, 2007

*Contacts: David Golden, Boynton Health Service, (612) 626-6738 or (651) 303-9852
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

U OF M BOYNTON HEALTH SERVICE TO RELEASE REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF COLLEGE STUDENTS THURSDAY

~ Report examines everything from mental health to obesity ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL The University of Minnesota Boynton Health Service will release a report Thursday, Nov. 15 that will give the most comprehensive look at the health status of colleges and universities in Minnesota -- the first ever such comprehensive report in the state's history. A press conference detailing the report will be held at 9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 15 in the Humphrey Institute's Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. It examines everything from mental health and obesity to financial health and sexual health.

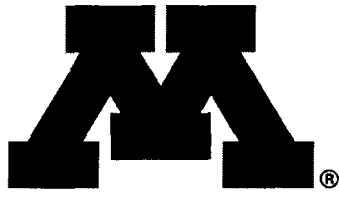
About 24,000 students from 14 Minnesota colleges and universities were randomly selected to participate in this study and 9,931 completed and returned the 2007 College Student Health Survey Report which tracks a wide range of student health issues from mental health and financial health to tobacco, nutrition/obesity and alcohol use. Survey results will help schools determine what programs they need in place in order to improve the health of students. All five University of Minnesota campuses were included in the survey along with the following schools: Alexandria Technical College; Anoka-Ramsey Community College; Lake Superior College; Minnesota State Community and Technical College; North Hennepin Community College; Northwest Technical College; Bemidji State University; Concordia College; Minnesota State University Moorhead. Dr. Ed Ehlinger, the director and chief health officer of Boynton Health Service, will outline the report's overall findings during the press conference and health summit on Thursday.

"The reason we're studying students from 14 schools is because these health issues are community and state issues. We really need to address college student health issues on a statewide basis and not just on an individual school basis," he said.

During the press conference, Ehlinger will talk about why members of the public, higher education leaders and state leaders should make the health of college students a priority. Ehlinger said there is a shortage of health information about these students particularly in areas that go beyond alcohol, tobacco and other drug use. This latest survey is beginning the shift to a more comprehensive examination of college student health. Along with

- more -

latest survey is beginning the shift to a more comprehensive examination of college student health. Along with Boynton, the study was funded Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Minnesota.



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EXPERT ALERT

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November 15, 2007

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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, egiorgi@umn.edu

VIEWING THIS WEEKEND'S LEONIDS METEOR SHOWER

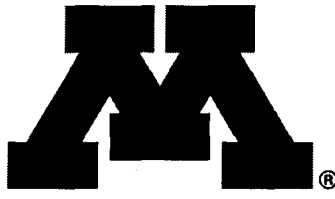
With the absence of the moon, the Leonids meteor shower should vividly appear in the night sky this Saturday, Nov. 17 if weather conditions remain clear. The yearly occurrence has grown in popularity as gazers are traditionally treated to a dazzling display of cosmic fireworks. A U of M expert who can explain what to look for is:

Evan Skillman, astronomy professor at the University of Minnesota

Skillman says that if the skies stay clear, visibility conditions should be great on Saturday night. The Leonids meteor shower has been viewed for centuries, and Skillman calls it a "spectacular phenomena."

To interview Skillman, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or egiorgi@umn.edu.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2007

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**FIRST EVER COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE STUDENTS LOOKS AT MENTAL HEALTH, OBESITY, FINANCIAL
HEALTH, SEXUAL HEALTH AND MORE**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A report released by the University of Minnesota Boynton Health Service today is the state's first ever study to take a comprehensive look at the health of college and university students. It examines everything from mental health and obesity to financial health and sexual health.

Dr. Ed Ehlinger, the director and chief health officer of the Boynton Health Service, said members of the public, higher education leaders and state leaders should pay attention to the findings and make the health of college students a priority. **To view a video interview with Ehlinger, visit:**
<https://mediamill.cla.umn.edu/mediamill/embedqt/5842>

"The health of college students is important not only to the institutions they attend but also to the health of the state of Minnesota. Good health helps students remain in school, and a college degree or certificate is an excellent predictor of better health and economic status throughout one's lifetime," Ehlinger said.

Education is one of the strongest influences on economic and health status, Ehlinger said. "College students are a large and growing population and are establishing lifestyles and behavior patterns, they are the trendsetters and the role models for younger people and they are the future leaders of our society. That is why we need to make them a priority," Ehlinger said.

"There is a shortage of information about these students particularly in areas that go beyond alcohol, tobacco and other drug use," Ehlinger said. A survey like this one is beginning the shift to a more comprehensive examination of college student health. Along with Boynton, the study was funded Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Minnesota.

About 24,000 students from 14 Minnesota colleges and universities were randomly selected to participate in this study and 9,931 completed and returned the 2007 College Student Health Survey Report which tracks a wide range of student health issues from mental health and financial health to tobacco, nutrition/obesity and alcohol use.

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Survey results will help schools determine what programs they need in place in order to improve the health of students. All five University of Minnesota campuses were included in the survey along with the following schools: Alexandria Technical College; Anoka-Ramsey Community College; Lake Superior College; Minnesota State Community and Technical College; North Hennepin Community College; Northwest Technical College; Bemidji State University; Concordia College; Minnesota State University Moorhead. Ehlinger will outline the report's overall findings during the press conference and health summit on Thursday.

"The reason we're studying students from 14 schools is because these health issues are community and state issues. We really need to address college student health issues on a statewide basis and not just on an individual school basis," Ehlinger said. The survey was designed to look at students in a more holistic way, he said.

"College students face multiple risks to their health and their behavior affects all parts of their existence. We need to look at a student as a complex and complete person," Ehlinger said.

In addition to the comprehensive 14 school report each participating institution will receive its own school-specific report. Some details on the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities report are available at this point -- 2,920 U of M, Twin Cities students completed the survey out of 6,000 who were randomly selected to participate.

Report findings

Mental health

Results show that 27.1 percent of students surveyed have been diagnosed with a mental health illness within their lifetime and 15.7 percent were diagnosed with a mental health illness in the last 12 months. At the U of M, Twin Cities, 25.1 percent report being diagnosed with at least one mental health condition in their lifetime. Throughout the schools surveyed and on the U of M, Twin Cities campus, depression and anxiety are the two most frequently reported mental health diagnoses of students for both their lifetime and the last 12 months. Of all the surveyed students, 18.5 percent reported being diagnosed during their lifetime with depression and 13.3 percent were diagnosed with anxiety.

Physical activity/nutrition/obesity

Nearly two-fifths or 38.5 percent of all students surveyed fall within the overweight or obese/extremely obese categories. At the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, 29.1 percent of those surveyed fall within the overweight or obese/extremely obese categories. A new issue is surfacing when it comes to student physical health, 28.7 percent of students surveyed report excessive computer/Internet use and 41.8 percent indicate the activity affected their academic performance. On the U of M, Twin Cities campus, 32.2 percent of students surveyed reported excessive computer/Internet use and among this group, 41.9 percent indicate this activity impacted their academic performance.

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Health insurance/uninsured

One key finding of the report is that 9.4 percent of all undergraduate students surveyed don't have health insurance. For students in the University of Minnesota system, that rate is only 5.6 without health insurance compared with the 13.7 percent uninsured in non-U of M schools. At the U of M, Twin Cities, the uninsured rate for undergraduate students is 6.5 percent. Students in the 18- to-24-year-old range tend to have insurance, but students who are 25 to 29-years-old are less likely to have insurance.

"We have a fairly low uninsured rate here in the University of Minnesota system where students are required to carry insurance. The higher uninsured rate throughout the rest of the schools makes the argument that a requirement for insurance coverage is a good thing for schools and for students," Ehlinger said.

The students who have insurance are more likely to go in for preventive health services and have fewer sick days.

"College students use health services on campus and in communities and when it comes to mental health services, students seek out assistance on campus. "That tells us that colleges really do need to invest in on campus support services."

Financial health

Of students surveyed, 33.4 percent of them report carrying some level of credit card debt over the past month and 57.8 percent report the debt as \$1,000 or more. On the U of M, Twin Cities campus, 29 percent of students report carrying some level of credit card debt and 59.9 percent report the debt as \$1,000 per month or more.

"Students with greater than \$1,000 of credit card debt tend to have higher rates of depression and have lower grade point averages," Ehlinger said.

Alcohol

Alcohol use continues to be a concern for universities and colleges. Among students surveyed, 70.5 percent report using alcohol in the last 30 days and 37.1 percent report engaging in high-risk drinking within the past two weeks. At the U of M, Twin Cities, 74.3 percent report using alcohol in the last 30 days and 36.5 percent report engaging in high-risk drinking. Illicit drug use among those surveyed is low with 6.8 percent reporting they had used illicit drugs. On the Twin Cities campus, 7.1 percent report using illicit drugs.

Sexual violence

More than one in five or 22.4 percent of female students report experiencing a sexual assault in their lifetime with 6.8 percent reporting having been assaulted in the last 12 months. For male students, only 4.9 percent report being sexually assaulted in their lifetime with 1.9 percent reporting an assault within the past 12 months. Such assaults have lingering impact on students and their academic performance, Ehlinger said. Students who have been victims of sexual assault report higher rates of depression.

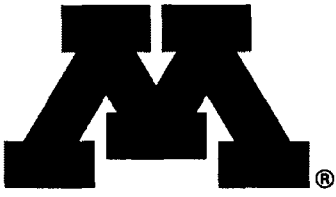
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Sexual health

Of students surveyed, 77.6 percent report having been sexually active in their lifetime and 72.1 percent having been sexually active within the past 12 months. On the U of M, Twin Cities campus, 77.1 percent report having been sexually active in their lifetime and 71.7 percent report having been sexually active within the past 12 months. Nearly four out of five or 78.5 percent of students report having had zero or one sexual partner within the last 12 months. On the U of M, Twin Cities campus, 77.8 students reported having zero or one partner within the last 12 months. "Students are pretty monogamous according to the results, which contradicts the commonly held stereotype of students being promiscuous," Ehlinger said.

Tobacco use

The current tobacco use rate in the last 30 days for all students at the 14 schools is 25 percent. On the U of M, Twin Cities campus, the current tobacco use rate is 20.9 percent for students ages 18 to 24 and their daily use rate is 3.7 percent, which are the lowest reported use rates among U of M, Twin Cities students since the tobacco data was first collected in 1992. Tobacco use is defined as both smoke and smokeless tobacco.



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November 15, 2007

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U.S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY RACHEL PAULOSE WILL TALK ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING NOV. 20 AT U OF M HUMPHREY INSTITUTE

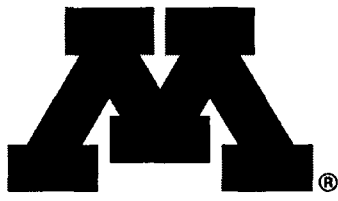
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Tens of thousands of people throughout the world-- including many women and children --are tricked or forced into prostitution and unpaid labor. Can this be stopped? What role can public policy play to end these practices? In "End Slavery Today: Policy Responses to Human Trafficking," U.S. District Attorney Rachel Paulose will examine the scope of human slavery today and outline actions to end slavery in the 21st century. The program will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 20, at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The U.S. Senate approved Paulose's appointment in December 2006. She is the first Indian-American and woman to hold this post in Minnesota. A Minnesota native, Paulose earned her law degree from Yale Law School and graduated summa cum laude from the University of Minnesota.

This free program is sponsored by the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance, a research center at the Humphrey Institute that supports studies and outreach to increase the public understanding of politics. For more information, visit www.hhh.umn.edu/centers/cspg/index.html.

WHEN: Noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 20

WHERE: Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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November 15, 2007

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NOBEL LAUREATE JAMES HECKMAN TO SPEAK ABOUT "SCHOOLS, SKILLS AND SYNAPSES," AT U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL THURSDAY, DEC. 6

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- James Heckman, Nobel Laureate in Economics and the Henry Schultz Distinguished Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago, will speak at the George Seltzer Distinguished Memorial Lecture at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management's 3M Auditorium, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Heckman's lecture is titled "Schools, Skills, and Synapses."

Heckman's current research supports a growing chorus of voices promoting early childhood investment as part of our national public policy. He will discuss the economic evidence that proves a greater return on investment for dollars spent on younger children than dollars invested in remediation later in life.

Heckman connects the developmental stages of early childhood, such as sensitive periods for language acquisition prior to age 8, with his economic models to demonstrate that educational support in early childhood years boosts later success and reduces the need for intense remediation in secondary school or beyond. He considers both cognitive and non-cognitive skills in determining success, whereas public policy tends to consider only cognitive skills acquisition. For example, "No Child Left Behind" legislation requires measurement of students' study skills and test-taking ability, but not the non-cognitive skills that ensure success into adulthood -- skills like motivation, sociability, ability to work with others, etc.

Heckman is director of the Economics Research Center at the department of economics at the University of Chicago, director of the Center for Social Program Evaluation at the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago and a Senior Research Fellow at the American Bar Foundation.

Reservations for this event are required. Please RSVP by Monday, Nov. 30 at carlsonevents@umn.edu, or by calling (612) 626-9633.

About the George Seltzer Lecture Series

The final George Seltzer Lecture is presented by the Carlson School of Management's Industrial Relations

- more -

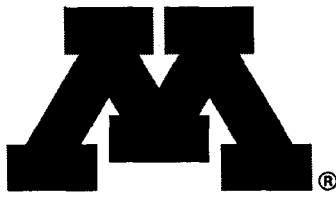
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The final George Seltzer Lecture is presented by the Carlson School of Management's Industrial Relations Center in cooperation with the Early Childhood Research Collaborative of the University of Minnesota Center of Early Education and Development and by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. The lecture series has been supported by the Seltzer Family and friends since professor George Seltzer became emeritus faculty at the Carlson School in 1989. The Seltzer Family is generously providing their support through fellowship funds for students in the Carlson School of Management's Human Resources and Industrial Relations program. Professor and Nobel Laureate James Heckman will be the ninth and final speaker for this lecture series.

WHO: James Heckman, Nobel Laureate in Economics and the Henry Schultz Distinguished Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago

WHEN: 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6

WHERE: Carlson School of Management's 3M Auditorium, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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For Immediate Release

November 15, 2007

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

U OF M'S ADAPTED SPORTS CLUB SPONSORS WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL EXHIBITION AT GOPHER GAME

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL The University of Minnesota Disabled Student Cultural Center and Office of Disability Services will host a wheelchair basketball exhibition game at halftime of the Gopher women's basketball game against Western Carolina at around 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, at Williams Arena, 200 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

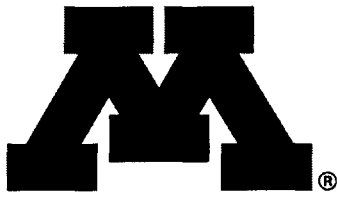
The game, which features U of M students who play wheelchair basketball weekly, is aimed at raising awareness and recruiting members for the newly formed Adapted Sports Club.

The Adapted Sports Club was formed last spring, becoming the first recreation club at the university designed for students, faculty and staff with disabilities.

“One of the club's objectives is to raise awareness of opportunities on campus for people with disabilities to become more physically active and to participate in recreation and sports,” said club president Tien Dang.

WHEN: 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16

WHERE: Williams Arena, 200 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2007

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA HOCKEY GREAT, LOU NANNE, TO RECEIVE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- From a defenseman on the University of Minnesota's hockey rinks to innovative entrepreneur and dedicated volunteer, Lou Nanne's career is a shining example of a U of M alum. In recognition of his efforts he will be presented with the university's highest award for alumni, the Outstanding Achievement Award, before the men's hockey game against the University of Alaska, Anchorage at 7:05 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16 at Mariucci Arena, 1901 4th St. S.E., Minneapolis. The award recognizes graduates who have attained unusual distinction in their chosen fields or professions or in public service, and who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and leadership on a community, state, national or international level.

Following a successful hockey career with the Golden Gophers, Nanne received his bachelor's degree in marketing in 1963. He later played for the Minnesota North Stars and, after retiring, climbed the ranks of the organization's management. In 1995 he helped build the institutional sales business of Voyageurs Asset Management and presently remains there.

"Though many of Lou's achievements have been recognized with plaques or trophies bearing his name, he has always conducted himself as part of a team and shared the talent he has with and for the team," said Alison Davis-Blake, dean of the Carlson School of Management which is presenting Nanne with the award in conjunction with Intercollegiate Athletics.

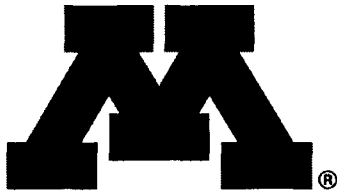
Today, Nanne continues his life as a highly active community volunteer, serving as a mentor at the university's Carlson School, assisting in the development of youth hockey and giving his time to the United Way and the Children's Cancer Society to name a few. He has also been a generous philanthropist, establishing the Louis V. Nanne Endowed Scholarship to support the men's hockey team.

"Lou has led a life rich with variety and success, and what he has accomplished he has given back in the form of pride and strength for our northern culture of hockey, our business vitality and our charitable community," said Athletics Director Joel Maturi.

- more -

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Nanne will also be available to sign copies of his new book, "Minnesota North Stars: History and Memories with Lou Nanne," at Mariucci Arena before the game and during intermissions in the concourse behind section 11.



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CHECK YOUR MESSAGES: TXT-U ADDS ANOTHER DIMENSION TO U OF M EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

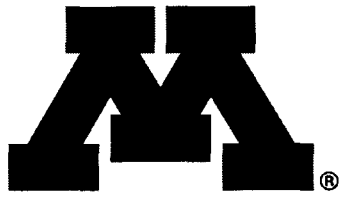
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota will start using text messages to notify students, staff and faculty of emergencies and campus closings. The new service, TXT-U, will go live on Friday, Nov. 16. The university's campuses in Crookston, Morris and Rochester will also implement TXT-U in the near future as part of the initiative. The Duluth campus has its own system in place.

Individuals who sign up for TXT-U will receive text messages on their cell phones and PDAs indicating an emergency and what steps should be taken to ensure the safest possible outcome. TXT-U is one of many ways the university will provide notifications about emergencies to the campus community. Other ways include tone alert radios, on-the-ground public safety personnel, e-mail and the University home page.

"The safety and security of the university community is our top priority," said Vice President of university services Kathleen O'Brien. "Text messaging is a quick way to reach people, particularly when time is of the essence. It's also one of the most common ways our students communicate with each other, making it another important way for us to notify the campus community about emergencies.

TXT-U service is fueled by WENS (Wireless Emergency Notification System) technology, a product provided by Inspiron Logistics. It is fast and reliable because it uses true text messaging or SMS (short message service) technology to ensure message delivery in times of crisis. The system sends messages with a "Tier 1 priority" for all major American mobile carriers and is capable of sending 30,000 text messages per minute. WENS is spam-free and advertiser free, ensuring that it is only used in real emergencies.

Students, faculty and staff can sign up parents and other family members for TXT-U. To register, visit <http://txt-u.umn.edu>.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2007

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U OF M PUBLIC HEALTH DEAN VISITS ROSEVILLE TO DISCUSS MINNESOTA'S HEALTH STATUS

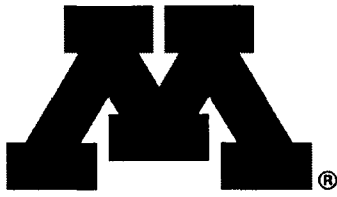
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Minnesota has consistently been ranked one of the healthiest states in the country, due to its comprehensive health care coverage, above average exercise and dietary habits and other wellness factors. University of Minnesota School of Public Health Dean John Finnegan will attend the Roseville Golden K Kiwanis Club meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 20, to discuss how his school has worked to help maintain that ranking and what it is doing to further the well being of all Minnesotans.

The event starts at 2 p.m. in the Banquet room at John Rose Oval, 2661 Civic Center Dr., Roseville. University Alumni Association (UMAA) National Board vice president and former university Regent Maureen Reed will also be attending.

The purpose of the speakers tour is to help the citizens of Minnesota understand that the university touches and belongs to each and every one of the five million people in the state. The tour presentations help show the people of Minnesota that the U of M trains the leaders of the state and nation who solve problems and can change the world.

"The University of Minnesota is an economic engine for our state and has a huge impact on the quality of life in Minnesota," said Margaret Carlson, UMAA CEO. "The university's leading educators, researchers and administrators are traveling all over the state, talking to community leaders about the great teaching, research and outreach that happens at the university every single day."

Carlson has served as the UMAA's CEO and a university associate vice president since 1985. The UMAA is an independent, 63,000 member organization dedicated to connecting alumni, students and friends in lifelong support of the University of Minnesota and each other.



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November 16, 2007

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THE U OF M GRADUATE SCHOOL RECRUITS STANDOUT NUMBERS FROM ASIAN COUNTRIES

~ Increases are result of campaign to reach out to certain regions ~

The University of Minnesota saw gains in the number of graduate students from Asian countries this year, a study by the Institute of International Education (IIE) revealed this week. In its annual "Open Doors" report, IIE found that enrollment totals from three countries -- China, India and Turkey -- increased 17 percent. India, which had across-the-board gains at schools across the country, saw a total enrollment increase at the university of 34 percent.

The increases in enrollment come after a sustained effort to reach out to certain countries. Recruiters from the The Graduate School have made several trips to China, Turkey and India in recent years to attend education recruiting fairs and meet with administrative heads of schools. Recruiters focused on these countries because the quality of students there is so high and many share a great interest in an American education.

"We are extremely pleased that our efforts to reach out to prospective graduate students in targeted countries are showing such positive results," said Andrea Scott, director of admissions and recruiting for The Graduate School. "By increasing the diversity of our graduate student enrollment, we are enhancing the education of all of our students."

Trips abroad are just a part of the U's effort to boost international numbers, which nationally took a hit following 9/11. Other ventures to increase numbers, determined by a university-wide task force formed in 2004, include streamlined procedures for applying from abroad and improved websites for all international applicants. The Graduate School will continue reaching out to these countries in various ways.

Specific increases are as follows:

India:

Total Applicants 2006: 1397

- more -

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Total Applicants 2006: 1397

Total Applicants 2007: 1475

Total Admitted 2006: 324

Total Admitted 2007: 322

Total Enrolled 2006: 97

Total Enrolled 2007: 130

Total Enrollment Increase: 34%

Turkey:

Total Applicants 2006: 92

Total Applicants 2007: 117

Total Admitted 2006: 25

Total Admitted 2007: 29

Total Enrolled 2006: 7

Total Enrolled 2007: 13

Total Enrollment Increase: 86%

China:

Total Applicants 2006: 1951

Total Applicants 2007: 2409

Total Admitted 2006: 502

Total Admitted 2007: 530

Total Enrolled 2006: 151

Total Enrolled 2007: 155

Total Enrollment Increase: 3%



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November 19, 2007

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U OF M RESEARCHER CO-AUTHORS MAJOR REPORT EXAMINING AMERICA'S EXPLODING PRISON SYSTEM POPULATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A major report examining America's exploding prison system population will be released today at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

The report, co-authored by nine leading criminology and penal experts, including Joshua Page, University of Minnesota assistant professor of sociology, recommends significant reforms to the criminal justice system in order to reduce the prison population. Recommendations include reducing length of stay in prison and eliminating prison time for technical parole and probation violations.

The National Press Club event will include a panel discussion with experts from the corrections, sentencing and academic and public policy fields, moderated by nationally syndicated columnist Clarence Page.

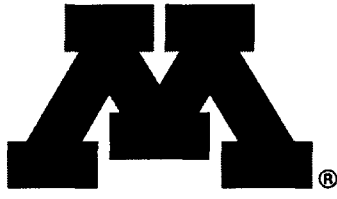
The number of people serving sentences in state and federal prisons in the United States has grown from 196,000 in 1972 to more than 1.4 million today, with 2.2 million Americans in prison or jail on any given day. The number continues to rise and shows no signs of leveling off, costing the country billions in prison operations and construction costs.

The report's recommendations, if implemented nationally, would gradually and safely reduce the nation's prison and jail populations by half and generate annual savings of \$20 billion, money that could be reinvested in more promising crime-prevention strategies.

The report is being released by the JFA Institute, a Washington nonprofit organization focused on research-based solutions to criminal justice issues. The report authors include:

James Austin, president, the JFA Institute; Todd Clear, professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Troy Duster, professor, New York University; David Greenberg, professor, New York University; John Irwin, professor emeritus, San Francisco State University; Candace McCoy, professor, City University of New York; Alan Mobley, assistant professor, San Diego State University; and Barbara Owen, professor, California State

- more -



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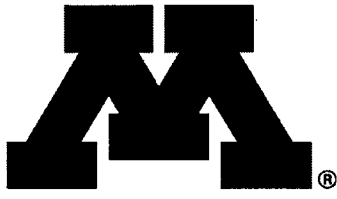
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November 20, 2007

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

TODAY'S RACHEL PAULOSE LECTURE AT U OF M HAS BEEN POSTPONED

Today's program at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute featuring Rachel Paulose has been postponed. Please watch the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance website at www.hhh.umn.edu/centers/cspg/index.html for information as we seek to reschedule this event.



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November 20, 2007

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DURING BIGGEST TRAVEL WEEKEND, BEWARE OF STATES THAT DON'T ENFORCE SEAT BELT LAWS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Thanksgiving marks the heaviest travel weekend of the year and that means large increases in the number of fatal car crashes, particularly in rural areas. And nowhere is that more true than in states that don't adequately enforce seat belt laws.

The University of Minnesota Center for Excellence in Rural Safety (CERS) today released an analysis showing a strong connection between states lacking strong seat belt laws and states with a high proportion of fatalities on rural roads.

"For some reason, the states struggling most with rural fatalities are not using one of the most powerful tools at their disposal," said CERS Director Lee Munnich Jr., of the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs.

For a complete, video interview with Munnich for use in a news cast, publication or on a Web site, visit:
https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3464292_1-t_jcBhs2V1

Of the 10 states with the highest percentage of fatalities in rural areas in 2005, none had primary seat belt laws, or laws that allow law enforcement officers to pull people over for not using their seat belts. In contrast, 13 of the 20 states with the lowest percentage of fatalities in rural areas had enacted primary seat belt laws.

States that enact primary seat belt laws have increased their seat belt usage rates dramatically, by an average of 14 percent, which in turn reduces the number of injuries and deaths. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHSTA), 250 more lives per year are saved and 6,400 serious injuries per year are prevented for every one percentage-point increase in safety belt use nationally.

"It makes no sense that, in more than half of the states, law enforcement officials can stop drivers for having a burned out tail light or outdated license tags, but they are banned from enforcing the safety law that may prevent more highway fatalities than any other," Munnich said.

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more highway fatalities than any other," Munnich said.

This is particularly relevant in rural areas. While U.S. Census figures show that about two out of 10 (21 percent) Americans live in rural areas, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has found that about six out of ten (57 percent) percent of highway deaths happen on roads that it considers rural.

And the people dying on rural roads are not just rural residents. In fact, more than half (53 percent) of rural fatalities in the United States in 2005 involved at least one driver from an urban area.

There are many reasons for America's high rate of rural crash deaths. Rural roads, with lighter traffic and pleasant scenery, can easily lull drivers into a false sense of security. An over-relaxed comfort level can lead to motorists driving at unsafe speeds, distracted, fatigued, unbelted or impaired, all of which increase the likelihood of a crash. Additionally, emergency response time to a rural crash and hospital transport can be lengthy and thus jeopardize survival rate. Crash victims are five to seven times more likely to die from their injuries unless they arrive at a trauma center in the first half-hour following the crash.

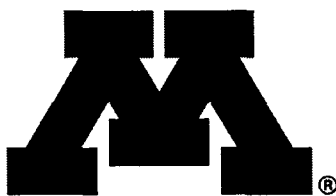
According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, the most traveled day of the year is the Sunday after Thanksgiving, when 13.7 million long-distance trips are made. The day after Christmas is second most traveled day during the holidays (12 million trips).

"Over 90 percent of Thanksgiving trips will be by car, and many will pass through rural areas," said Munnich. "Those scenic rural drives 'over the river and through the woods' may seem safer than urban trips, but that's not true, particularly if you can get away with not buckling up."

State-by-state rural fatality data from 2005 was compiled by CERS researchers using information from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Rural roads are identified as those located outside of areas with a population of 5,000 or more. A color-code map capturing the information in this table is available at www.ruralsafety.umn.edu.

The Center for Excellence in Rural Safety provides citizen-centered research, training, and outreach to enhance rural safety and to meet the needs of rural transportation practitioners and policymakers. The U.S. Congress created the Center for Excellence in Rural Safety in July 2005 as part of a broader, multiyear, multimillion-dollar directive establishing four national centers for surface transportation excellence in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) transportation funding legislation.

To view a chart and a graphic map of 2005 Rural Fatalities and Primary Seat Belt Laws, by State, visit <http://www.ruralsafety.umn.edu/state/2005/SeatBeltLaws.html>



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November 20, 2007

Contacts: Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962, dswain@umn.edu

LET THE SHOPPING BEGIN -- BUT WHAT'S IN STORE FOR RETAILERS THIS SEASON?

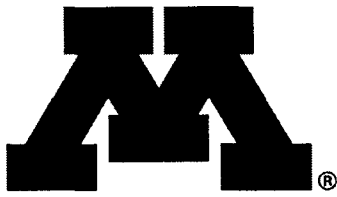
It's the week of the infamous "Black Friday," the day after Thanksgiving that signifies the start of the holiday shopping season, and retailers are revving up their promotions and deals for the onslaught of shoppers. But this year, in the midst of a slumping housing market and rising energy prices, businesses are worried about how wide consumers will open their wallets. A University of Minnesota expert who can give some perspective on the concerns of retailers is:

Mark Bergen, professor of marketing and chair of the department of marketing at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management

Bergen can discuss the challenges that retailers are facing and strategies they can employ during this time of spending uncertainty. An expert in pricing and marketing strategy, Bergen can also speak to the economic impact of the holidays and the ever-increasing size of the buying season.

To interview Bergen, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events. For an archive and other useful media services, visit www.unews.umn.edu.



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November 20, 2007

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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LAUNCHES LEARNINGLIFE, A DYNAMIC NEW LEARNING COMMUNITY FOR BOOMERS AND ALL CITIZEN-LEARNERS

~ Dec. 1 fest promises to be the start of something big ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- More than one million of the state's most informed, socially conscious citizens are reaching retirement age and about to reinvent themselves and contribute to a better world -- again. The University of Minnesota realized that a joint venture with one of the state's other powerhouses -- these dynamic baby boomers - could have a serious impact. The result is LearningLife, a learning community to help boomers and all citizen-learners who want to connect, have fun and learn in good company. A launch of the program, the LearningLife Fest, will occur from 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1 at the College of Continuing Education conference center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

The thought-provoking event will feature hands-on demonstrations of the LearningLife program and opportunities to meet program participants. It will also feature keynote addresses from life coach Richard Leider, author of "Why Purpose is Good Medicine," and architect and educator Jerry Allan, who will make the call for "Five Great Ideas the World Needs."

LearningLife will focus on three principal themes, born out of community feedback, to guide members' experiences:

- Living and Working: Arriving at a clear sense of purpose, identifying the steps to get there and taking charge of health and well-being.
- Learning for Pleasure and Purpose: Expanding timeless knowledge, engaging timely issues and exercising creativity.
- Legacies: Deriving true meaning from life, passing on knowledge and wisdom and contributing to a better world.

"This is a very unique and exciting time for American society," said Mary Nichols, dean of the College of Continuing Education. "Sometimes the most intriguing turning points in our lives come from forming questions and starting on the search for answers. The university's goal is to encourage boomers to ask those questions and then facilitate connections."

- more -

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To help draw those connections, both to the university's resources and also to other members' lifetimes of experiences, LearningLife will feature courses, workshops and events such as the program launch. It also will feature an online learning community that creatively leverages Web 2.0 technologies, such as social networking, community-generated content and online collaboration.

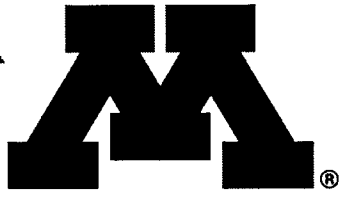
There is no cost to join the LearningLife community, although there is a fee for some of the courses. The cost for LearningLife Fest is \$80, which covers continental breakfast, lunch, refreshments, parking, and all materials. To register for LearningLife or the LearningLife Fest, visit <http://learninglife.umn.edu/>

About the College of Continuing Education

Through the University of Minnesota's College of Continuing Education, motivated adults enrich their personal and professional lives through learning opportunities ranging from courses to credit certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees. For more information about the college, please call 612-624-4000 or visit www.cce.umn.edu.

WHEN: 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1

WHERE: College of Continuing Education conference center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul



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November 26, 2007

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NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: U OF M BIO-FUEL RESEARCH LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

~ Work will be featured at upcoming E3 conference ~

With gas prices hovering near all-time highs, bio-fuel research is going to be a hot topic at the University of Minnesota's "E3 2007." During the day-long E3 conference, attendees will share knowledge and ideas on renewable energy and its environmental and economic significance. It will be held from 8 a.m to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27 at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

To watch a video story on how the U of M is conducting bio-fuel research from the field to your gas tank, visit:

http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/Multimedia_Videos/biofuels.htm

For a fully-produced package on the new Plant Pathology Facility, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3506917_1-t_oLqL2tEE

E3 2007 features an impressive lineup of keynote speakers, including U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn.; Eileen Claussen, president of the Pew Center on Global Climate Change; Richard Kelly, president and CEO of Xcel Energy; and Mark Stowers, vice president of research and development for the country's largest builder of ethanol facilities, South Dakota-based POET energy company.

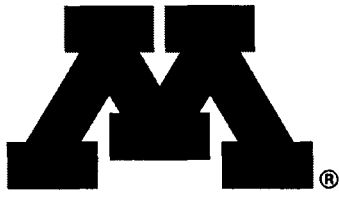
The Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE), part of the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment, is presenting the conference in partnership with Piper Jaffray Companies and Faegre & Benson LLP. All proceeds will go toward the creation of the University of Minnesota's first scholarship for students interested in renewable energy and environmental careers.

News Service Video and Audio is free and available to news organizations for broadcast and Web use. Multiple formats are available. For more format options or HTML scripts, contact Justin Ware, University News Service,

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November 28, 2007

Contacts: *Lisa Seaman, Office of Disability Services, (612) 624-7338*
Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-624-1690

U OF M TO HOST DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING DAY

~ 100 high school students with hearing disability will visit the U ~

About 100 hearing-impaired high school students from Minnesota and Wisconsin will attend Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day at the University of Minnesota from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3 at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

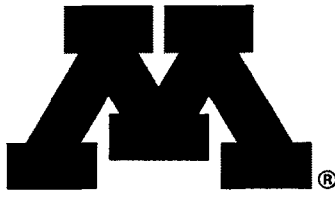
The students will learn about the University of Minnesota's Disability Services and the Office of Admissions and attend sessions on identity and leadership. They will also network with other deaf and hard of hearing students and learn about college life from current U of M students.

The day will begin at 8 a.m. with a reception that features Goldy Gopher, followed by a speech from AnnMarie Mickelson, a former Miss Deaf Minnesota who is now a financial analyst. The visitors will participate in various information sessions, a student panel and take a campus tour.

American Sign Language interpreting and captioning services will be provided.

WHEN: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3

WHERE: Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.



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November 30, 2007

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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, egiorgi@umn.edu

U OF M PROFESSOR DISCUSSES THE CURRENT FIGHT AGAINST AIDS

~ Dec. 1 is World AIDS Day ~

Thousands of events will be taking place on Dec. 1 across the globe to mark World AIDS Day. The day, created by the World Health Organization, is an opportunity to encourage world leaders to act now to address the AIDS pandemic. A University of Minnesota expert who can discuss the latest on the disease is:

Susan Craddock, Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies professor at the University of Minnesota

“Epidemics aren’t just the spread of pathogens, but social and political phenomena as well,” said Craddock. An important part of World AIDS Day now is to address all aspects of the devastating disease. Craddock has written extensively on AIDS and is co-editor of “HIV and AIDS in Africa: Beyond Epidemiology.”

To interview Craddock, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or egiorgi@umn.edu.

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For Immediate Release

November 30, 2007

Contacts: Justin Ware, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

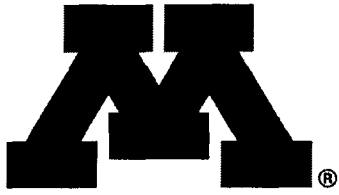
NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: U OF M SNOW EXPERT TALKS ABOUT APPROACHING WINTER STORM

Mark Seeley, a University of Minnesota Extension climatologist and meteorologist, talks about the science behind snow. Seeley covers everything from how the different types of snow affect various winter sports, to the health risks associated with heavy snow totals, to the affects of climate change on yearly snowfall totals in Minnesota.

To watch a full-length interview followed by cut-away shots of Seeley, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3572979_1-t_nYhdC1sW

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December 3, 2007

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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690, luisab@umn.edu

U OF M PROFESSORS, NATIONWIDE RESEARCHERS PRESENT LATEST FINDINGS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AT UPCOMING CONFERENCE

The Early Childhood Research Collaborative, a partnership of the University of Minnesota's Center for Early Education and Development (CEED) and the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, will present "Critical Issues in Cost Effectiveness in Children's First Decade" on Friday, Dec. 7 and Saturday, Dec. 8. The conference will be held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, 90 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis. A free broadcast of the event will occur in the Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The national invitational conference will present research on the effects of early childhood programs and services. U of M professors Arthur Reynolds and Judy Temple and U of M researchers Suh-Ruu Ou and Michelle Englund will present findings on Child-Parent Centers and other interventions. They will be joined by leading researchers in child development, economics, education, public policy and psychology from the Universities of Chicago, North Carolina and California-Irvine, Yale and Georgetown Universities and prominent research institutes. U of M President Robert Bruininks will provide the welcome address.

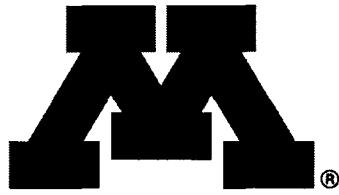
Program areas include prenatal and infant programs, preschool education programs, kindergarten and early school age services and economic syntheses of early childhood investments. Research findings are highlighted for large-scale established programs such as Head Start; Early Head Start; Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and state pre-kindergarten programs. For a full agenda and more information, visit <http://www.earlychildhoodrc.org>. To attend the free broadcast, which is open to the public, register at <http://cehd.umn.edu/ceed/projects/ecrc/default.html#dec78>

CEED is a part of the university's College of Education and Human Development. It develops and directs research, disseminates information and provides training for professionals who work with children and families.

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WHEN: Friday, Dec. 7 to Saturday, Dec. 8

WHERE: Conference: Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank, 90 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis
Broadcast: Humphrey Center, Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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December 4, 2007

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-9038, cell (612) 396-5332

LEO HURWICZ TO RECEIVE NOBEL PRIZE FROM SWEDISH AMBASSADOR DURING LIVE WEBCAST OF CEREMONY FROM STOCKHOLM, DEC. 10

University of Minnesota Regents Professor Emeritus Leonid Hurwicz will be presented the Nobel Prize in Economics during a simulcast of the award ceremony from Stockholm beginning at 9:20 a.m. Monday, Dec. 10 in the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2106 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. (The live ceremony from Sweden will be projected on a large screen set up on the concert hall stage.)

University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks, Provost Thomas Sullivan, colleagues, family and well wishers will be on hand as Swedish Ambassador Jonas Hafstrom presents the Nobel Prize to Hurwicz in person during the economics award portion of the simulcast.

Hurwicz, along with two other Americans, was awarded the Nobel Prize in economics for theories that help set rules for transactions ranging from auctions to elections.

Hurwicz, 90, is the oldest Nobel winner in history. The Moscow-born researcher won the award along with Eric Maskin and Roger Myerson.

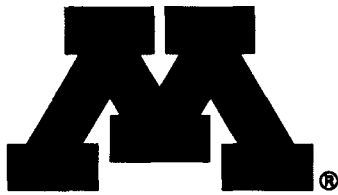
A reception will take place in the lobby immediately following the ceremony.

Tickets for this event are no longer available.

WHO: Regents Professor Emeritus Leonid Hurwicz; Swedish Ambassador Jonas Hafstrom;
University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks

WHEN: 9:20 a.m. Monday, Dec. 10

WHERE: Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2106 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2007

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

U OF M STUDY FINDS GAP IN HEALTH AND MORTALITY RATES BETWEEN SOCIOECONOMIC CLASSES UNCHANGED OVER THE PAST 100 YEARS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Over the past century, the United States has witnessed historic advances in public health and medicine that have contributed to improved health and a significant increase in life expectancy for all socioeconomic groups. But despite 100 years of historic advances, University of Minnesota sociologists have found that the health gap between classes has not changed.

Associate professor of sociology John Robert Warren and graduate student Elaine Hernandez found that the relative advantage in child mortality rates and health associated with social and economic advantage was about the same at the end of the 20th century as it was at the beginning of the 20th century. People with more money, more education and higher status jobs experience consistently better health and lower child mortality rates.

Using data from a range of sources including the National Opinion Research Center's General Social Survey, the U.S. Census and the Current Population Survey, Warren and Hernandez analyzed socio-economic gradients-ratios or degree of differences between socio-economic classes in self-reported health and child mortality rates during the 20th century.

They measured social and economic advantage using three variables: Socioeconomic position with reference to educational achievement; self-reported relative socioeconomic standing both in adolescence and in adulthood; and head of household's occupation. Their health measures included child mortality rates and self-reports of overall health.

The researchers found that despite advances in nutrition, immunization and environmental factors, and even with a change in the types of diseases that have claimed lives over the past century, the relationship between socioeconomic position and health remained stable over the past century.

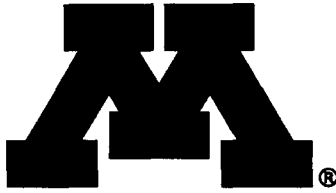
"Public health has improved dramatically in the United States since 1900 -- people from all socioeconomic groups are living longer and healthier," said Warren. "However, the relative advantage associated with wealth and education has persisted." Warren believes there's evidence to support the notion that reducing broader social,

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education has persisted." Warren believes there's evidence to support the notion that reducing broader social, economic and political inequalities -- like reversing the historic trend toward greater income inequality in the United States -- might reduce disparities in health outcomes between social and economic groups.

The study will be published in the December 2007 issue of the American Sociological Association's Journal of Health and Social Behavior.



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December 5, 2007

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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690, luisab@umn.edu

U OF M ECONOMICS PROFESSOR TALKS ABOUT LEONID HURWICZ'S NOBEL-WINNING MECHANISM DESIGN THEORY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR TODAY'S ECONOMY

Next Monday, University of Minnesota Regents Professor Emeritus of Economics Leonid Hurwicz will receive the Nobel Prize in Economics for his development of mechanism design theory. But what is this theory really about?

Hurwicz's colleague and fellow U of M economics professor V.V. Chari will discuss the groundbreaking theory in this month's Headliners at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 6 in the Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul. While the workings of mechanism design theory are highly abstract and mathematical, Hurwicz's theory has concrete applications in the real world, affecting transactions ranging from auctions to elections. Chari will discuss Hurwicz's theory as well as its relevance to the current volatile state of the economy. Of Hurwicz's work, Chari said, "[The theory] was a fundamental breakthrough in thinking about economics policy and economic reform."

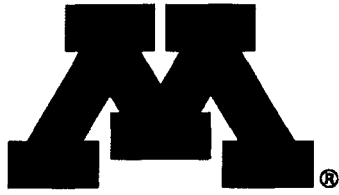
Tickets for Headliners are \$10. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit www.cce.umn.edu/headliners or call (612) 624-4000.

About Headliners

Headliners, offered by the University of Minnesota, is a chance to meet once a month with university and community experts and listen as they share first knowledge of the day's most intriguing stories- the medical breakthroughs, culture clashes, social trends and foreign affairs that are at the forefront of current events- and then participate in an open forum discussion on the issue.

WHEN: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6

WHERE: Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul



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December 6, 2007

Contacts: Justin Ware, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: HOLIDAY FOOD SAFETY TIPS FROM A U OF M EXTENSION FOOD SCIENTIST

Food-borne illnesses like salmonella and e. coli are a threat year round. With all the finger foods and potlucks that come with the holiday season, they're an even bigger problem this time of year. A University of Minnesota expert with tips on how to protect your friends and family is:

Joellen Feirtag, University of Minnesota Extension food Scientist

Feirtag is available to talk about everything from proper hand washing, to how to thaw a turkey to the do's and don'ts of sending food as a gift.

For a video interview with Feirtag for use in a newscast, publication or on a Web site, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3598787_1-t_HtH2WBeB

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 6, 2007

*Contacts: Kelly DeBrine, Carlson School of Management, (612) 626-5904
Registration Contact: (612) 626-9334, firsttuesday@umn.edu*

"THE WEALTH MANAGEMENT INDEX" AUTHOR AND CARLSON SCHOOL ALUM WILL DISCUSS HOW TO MAKE WISE FINANCIAL DECISIONS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Ross Levin, founding principal of Accredited Investors, Inc., author of "The Wealth Management Index," certified financial planner and Carlson School alum, will speak at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management's First Tuesday luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8 at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

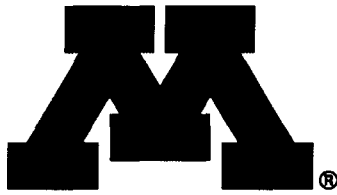
In his speech, "Spend Your Life Wisely," Levin will offer insight into making financial decisions for a satisfying life. He will discuss a variety of topics including making sacrifices to reach long-term goals and giving financial gifts.

Levin is a nationally recognized expert in the financial planning industry. Financial Planning Magazine named Levin as one of the five most influential people in financial planning. Levin is also a featured columnist in the Journal of Financial Planning and the Star Tribune. He has appeared in nationally known media outlets including the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, Oprah, NBC Nightly News and CBS This Morning.

Advance registration by Thursday, Jan. 3, is \$28 and \$35 for walk-ins. The fee includes lunch and parking in the Washington Avenue Ramp. Refund cancellations are required by Friday, Jan. 4. Register by calling (612) 626-9634, visiting www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/events or by e-mailing firsttuesday@umn.edu.

WHEN: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8

WHERE: McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota
200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis



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December 6, 2007

Contacts: *Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690, luisab@umn.edu*

TCF BANK STADIUM FINISHES FOUNDATION SUPPORTS, WILL GO VERTICAL IN JANUARY

~ Construction project is on time, on budget for completion in August 2009 ~

Construction of TCF Bank Stadium reaches a milestone Friday, Dec. 7 when the final piling required for support is driven into the ground. After connecting beams are installed, construction will go vertical in January. Friday's installation is set to take place between 9 and 10 a.m. Reporters should check in by 9 a.m. at the east gate of the 23rd Avenue construction site between 6th Street and University Avenue. A representative from Mortenson Construction, the general contractor for the stadium's construction, will greet crews.

For video of the construction site as it looks today, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3633054_1-t_K7AtAsrC

For TCF Bank Stadium images and renderings, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3433511_1-t_riXWfxoP

Pilings serve as the underpinning of the stadium foundation. Each piling is a steel pipe that is drilled into bedrock, filled with concrete and then capped in concrete. Since September, a total of 2200 piles have been installed.

With 645 days to go before the first kickoff, the future home of Gopher football is on schedule and on budget. This fall, construction crews have been working to reconfigure roadways around the stadium, which are now complete. After the last piling is installed on Friday, the next step will be to connect all the pilings with concrete beams. Finally, a concrete slab will be poured on top of the beams, completing the foundation.

Due to this week's snowfall, attendance at Friday's piling installation should be treated with care. For safety reasons, news crews should dress for cold and icy conditions and are advised to wear winter boots.

WHEN: Check in: 9 a.m.

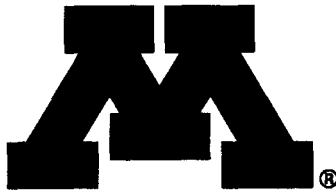
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Piling installation: Between 9 and 10 a.m.

WHERE:

East gate off of 23rd Avenue between 6th Street and University Avenue, Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 6, 2007

Contacts: Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute, (612) 625-943, jamie@umn.edu

U OF M HUMPHREY INSTITUTE SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2008 HUBERT H. HUMPHREY PUBLIC LEADERSHIP AWARDS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs seeks nominations for the 2008 Hubert H. Humphrey Public Leadership Awards. This awards program honors individuals and organizations that have contributed to the common good through public leadership and service. The awards were inaugurated in 2003 to mark the 25th anniversary of the institute taking the name of Minnesota's most famous public servant. To support future leaders, the gala dinner also is a scholarship fundraiser. Proceeds benefit a student scholarship initiative of the Humphrey Institute Dean's Advisory Council. Since 2003, the awards dinner has raised more than \$300,000 for student scholarships.

Five awards are given annually: two awards to outstanding leaders (either emerging or established), one award to celebrate the work of the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs (to a faculty member, student, center, research project, etc.), and the Young Women's Leadership Award to recognize an organization that cultivates leadership among women under 35 through board service and other leadership development opportunities. A Dean's Award is given to a candidate selected by the Humphrey Institute dean. Past recipients include former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, members of the 9-11 Commission and peace envoy Senator George Mitchell.

Nominations for all four publicly nominated categories should indicate how the nominee has contributed significantly to the common good through public leadership or service in elected office, the nonprofit/non-governmental sector, community service and/or the private sector. Such contributions could include altering the political landscape through a lifetime of public leadership, sustaining a major positive influence through a career of public service, fostering a sense of community, demonstrating social entrepreneurship, furthering active citizenship and/or demonstrating a significant act of courage in the face of opposition, pressure or challenging circumstances. Organizations nominated for the Young Women's Leadership Award also must demonstrate a commitment to advancing the leadership of young women under 35 in Minnesota.

Special consideration will be given to nominees who have blurred political boundaries -- whether working across party lines, crossing geo-political borders, or bridging other traditional divides. Nominees need not be from

- more -

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party lines, crossing geo-political borders, or bridging other traditional divides. Nominees need not be from Minnesota.

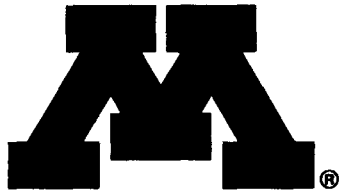
To nominate an individual, organization or project, please submit the following information:

- Name and contact information of nominee, including address, telephone, fax and e-mail.
- Name and contact information of nominator(s), including address, telephone, fax and e-mail.
- Resume OR summary of accomplishments of nominee, not to exceed two pages.
- Letter of nomination describing how the nominee satisfies the above listed criteria (not to exceed one page). The Young Women's Leadership category also requires a letter of support from a young woman (ages 25-35) associated with the nominated organization.

Letters of nomination must be postmarked no later than Feb. 15, 2008. Only letters with all contact information will be considered. Nominations may be submitted online or via regular mail, special delivery, e-mail or fax. The names of the nominees and nominators will be held in confidence.

For more information, visit www.hhh.umn.edu/news/leadership_awards/. Nominations must be submitted on 8 1/2 x 11 white paper for ease and quality of reproduction (except for online nominations). Please do not submit clippings, brochures, or other attachments; they will be discarded.

Send nomination materials to Camille Gage/Hubert H. Humphrey Public Leadership Award, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Suite 130, Minneapolis, MN, 55455 or via e-mail at gagex012@umn.edu or fax at (612) 625-6351. For more information on the nominations process and to submit materials online, visit www.hhh.umn.edu/news/leadership_awards/. Questions may be directed to Gage at (612) 625-5309.



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December 7, 2007

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ROBOTS 'DO SOMETHING INTERESTING' AT U OF M STUDENT SHOW

A shirt folder, tooth brusher, golf ball putter and banana slicer will be among the machines on display at the University of Minnesota Robot Show from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10 in the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. The walkthrough show is free and open to the public and is suitable for all ages.

The show is the culmination of six weeks of work for 210 engineering students who created computer-controlled machines that "do something interesting." Students received a kit of parts, including a computer, and could add no more than \$30 worth of their own materials.

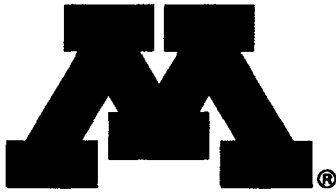
"That means the students had to be creative, prowling the back aisles of Target or looking in dumpsters," said William Durfee, mechanical engineering professor and director of design education. "There are serious objectives to these limits because, in the real world, these future engineers will have to deal with cost constraints when they design things."

The robots must act for no more than 60 seconds and have at least one moving part, but it is up to the students whether the unique machines do something useful -- such as crushing pop cans or cleaning gutters -- or exist solely to amuse and delight like the dancing Altoids box.

For more information on this event, see www.me.umn.edu/robotshow

WHEN: 2:30-4:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10

WHERE: McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis



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EXPERT ALERT

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December 7, 2007

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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, egiorgi@umn.edu

LOOKING OUT FOR FARMERS AND AMERICA'S HEALTH: \$288 BILLION FARM BILL ON ITS WAY

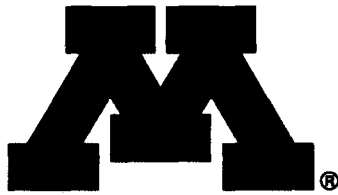
Last night in Washington D.C., the U.S. Senate reached a long-awaited agreement on a \$288 billion farm bill that seeks to cover everything from boosting food stamp benefits to guaranteeing crop revenue. A University of Minnesota expert who can give an agricultural economics perspective is:

Kent Olson, University of Minnesota applied economics professor

Olson specializes in agribusiness and farm management and can discuss how the bill will affect Minnesota. He also says, "the bill isn't only about farmers... 70 percent of the budget or cost estimate is allocated to nutrition and school lunch programs."

To interview Olson, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or egiorgi@umn.edu.

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December 10, 2007

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U OF M STUDENTS SHOWCASE DESIGN IDEAS FOR FORD'S ASSEMBLY PLANT

~ Mayor Coleman, members of the site's task force will be in attendance ~

Graduate students at the University of Minnesota's School of Architecture will showcase design ideas for the future of Ford Motor Companies' Twin Cities Assembly Plant this week. Mayor Chris Coleman and members of a task force investigating the St. Paul plant will be in attendance to examine the proposals. The designs will be on display from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 12 for academic review and from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. for public review. Both will occur in the courtyard of Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. Coleman and the task force will attend the latter review; reporters are welcome at either review.

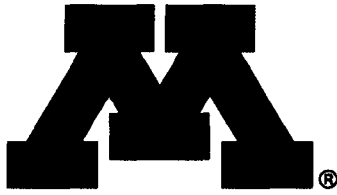
The final-year students, from professor Lance Neckar's Landscape Architecture studio and professor John Comazzi's architecture studio, have spent the semester creating research and design proposals for the plant. With a focus on remediation of the site, the students have considered in-situ processes such as phyto-remediation, bio-remediation, engineered solutions and ground and surface water cleaning. The resulting designs for the future of the site propose alternative programs such as alternative energy and fuels research and development, environmental education facilities, transit infrastructure, urban farming and cultural and leisure landscapes.

Parking is available at the Church Street ramp across the street from Rapson Hall.

WHEN: Academic review: 1:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12

Public review: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12

WHERE: Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis



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December 10, 2007

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MINDFULNESS MEDITATION LOWERS IMPACT OF NEGATIVE EMOTIONS, SAYS U OF M STUDY

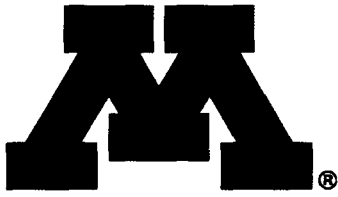
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/10/2007) -- Rude cashiers, snowy commutes, crowded stores -- the holiday season can often bring tidings of stress and frustration. But a University of Minnesota faculty member has found that mindfulness meditation (MM) helps people brush off unpleasant feelings and focus on the task at hand.

Professor Philip Zelazo in the Institute of Child Development, along with Dr. Catherine Ortner from the University of Toronto and MM instructor Sachne Kilner, found that people with more MM experience had shorter and less intense reactions to emotional images than those with less experience in the practice. MM practitioners proved particularly unflappable when viewing unpleasant emotional images, reporting higher levels of well-being and less interference with cognitive tasks than both relaxed meditation practitioners and those who didn't meditate at all.

Mindfulness meditation, which typically involves exercises such as sitting meditation and walking meditation, is designed to encourage intentional awareness of one's thoughts and actions. Mindfulness, one of the central tenets of Buddhism, is believed to encourage self-control and enlightenment.

Zelazo and his colleagues use a real-world example to explain the value of their work. "An accident witnessed while driving may capture one's attention, and continuing to observe the scene may put one (and others) at risk," he said. "A mindful response -- maintaining attention to the task at hand and disengaging from a negative stimulus -- may permit more effective cognitive function."

The study will be published in the December 2007 issue of *Motivation and Emotion*.



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December 10, 2007

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U OF M BOARD OF REGENTS TO HEAR UPDATE ON GRADUATION RATES, RESEARCH

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- At its meeting later this week, the University of Minnesota Board of Regents will be updated on two items essential to the university's mission: graduation rates and the state of university research.

In his last presentation to the board's educational planning and policy committee on Thursday, outgoing Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education Craig Swan will provide his annual report on how long it is taking undergraduate students to graduate from the university's Twin Cities, Duluth, Morris and Crookston campuses. During his time as vice provost, Swan has been actively engaged in the Twin Cities campus efforts, which have been steadily increasing.

"Helping students graduate from the U in a more timely manner is good for the student, the university and our entire state," President Robert Bruininks said. "From restructuring tuition to providing an innovative online graduation planner, we've been working hard over the past several years to increase our graduation rates. In the long run, this saves students, the university and taxpayers a lot of money."

In addition, Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy will provide his annual report on the state of university research to the full board at its Friday meeting. Other highlights of the meeting include a presentation by Boynton Health Service Director Dr. Ed Ehlinger on his recent survey on the health of college students at the university's five campuses. State Economist Tom Stinson will also present to the board on the state's economic forecast. Additionally, the board will receive the university's annual financial report.

The schedule for the meeting is as follows:

Thursday, Dec. 13

8:15 - 9:15 a.m. Litigation Review Committee, W.R. Peterson Conference Room. The committee will consider a resolution to conduct a closed meeting to discuss attorney-client privileged matters.

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Educational Policy and Planning Committee, West Committee Room. Swan will provide and update on graduation rates and the university's undergraduate education initiatives. In addition, the committee will take action on policies regarding intellectual property and copyrights.

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, East Committee Room. In addition to Ehlinger's presentation on the health of university students, a panel discussion of employer health care trends will be conducted, featuring representatives of HealthPartners, Medica and the Buyers Health Care Action Group. The committee will also take action on the appointment of Robert McMaster as vice provost and dean of undergraduate education.

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. Board worksession, East Committee Room. University CFO Richard Pfitzenreuter and State Economist Tom Stinson provide an update on the state economic forecast.

2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Facilities Committee, West Committee Room. The committee will review and take action on a schematic plan for the civil engineering building on the Duluth campus. An update on the Twin Cities campus master plan will also be provided.

2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Finance and Operations Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will discuss a range of issues, including the annual financial report, an overview of invested assets and an update on the six-year capital plan and university debt capacity.

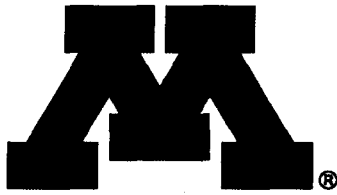
Friday, Dec. 14

9 - 11:30 a.m. Board of Regents, Boardroom. Mulcahy will provide the annual state of university research report. Bruininks will ask the board to amend the 2008 state capital request. The board will adopt a revised mission statement. And, the board will take action on appointments to the Fairview Health Services Board of Trustees.

More information on the Board of Regents meeting can be found at www.umn.edu/regents. The Friday meeting will be webcast on that site beginning at 9 a.m.

WHEN: Thursday, Dec. 13 - Friday, Dec. 14

WHERE: 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis



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December 10, 2007

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

U OF M HOUSING FORUM TO EXAMINE WHETHER COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENTS PROMOTE EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Community benefits agreements (CBAs) raise hopes of enabling low- and moderate-income neighborhoods to share more equitably in the fruits of economic development projects. Can CBAs deliver on their promises?

That is the topic of the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) monthly forum from 7:45 a.m. to noon Friday, Dec. 14 at the University of Minnesota Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave. St. Paul.

A CBA is a legally enforceable contract, signed by community groups and by a developer, setting forth a range of community benefits that the developer agrees to provide as part of a development project. A CBA is the result of a negotiation process between the developer and organized representatives of affected communities, in which the developer agrees to shape the development in a certain way or to provide specified community benefits. In exchange, the community groups promise to support the proposed project before government bodies that provide the necessary permits and subsidies.

The keynote speaker at the forum is Kathleen Mulligan-Hansel, Director of Research and Communications for the Partnership for Working Families in Milwaukee. Art Rolnick, Senior Vice President and Director of Research for the The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, will provide an economist's perspective on CBAs.

There will also be comments from community development groups and individuals who have participated in local CBA negotiations.

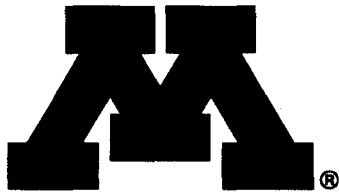
The housing forum is a monthly brown bag discussion of Twin Cities housing issues and research sponsored by CURA. This forum is jointly sponsored by CURA and the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis' Community Development Forum.

- more -

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WHEN: 7:45 a.m. to noon Friday, Dec. 14

WHERE: Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul



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December 10, 2007

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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690, luisab@umn.edu

U OF M TO HOST ANNUAL INSECT FAIR

~ Work from more than 300 Minnesota children to be showcased ~

How high can a cricket jump? Do monarch butterflies prefer Gatorade or sugar water?

These are the kinds of questions participants in the annual "Monarchs in the Classroom Insect Fair" try to answer. The annual fair, which involves more than 300 elementary- and middle-school students from across the state, will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 15 at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

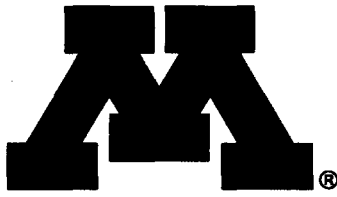
During the fair, students will present their own research on a sample of the millions of insect species in the world. Participants will be interviewed by University of Minnesota scientists, and can take part in two hands-on breakout sessions about insects. Awards will be given for the best question, best display and best overall project.

For more information, visit www.monarchlab.umn.edu/insectfair/info.aspx

Monarchs in the Classroom, a University of Minnesota program, has sponsored the fair since 1997, with support from the Medtronic Foundation and the Minnesota Higher Education Services Office.

WHEN: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15

WHERE: Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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December 10, 2007

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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690, luisab@umn.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA RESEARCHERS AWARDED MORE THAN \$4.5 MILLION FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCH

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/10/2007) -- Five renewable energy projects led by University of Minnesota researchers have been selected to receive more than \$4.5 million from the Xcel Energy Renewable Development Fund.

An advisory board with representation from Xcel Energy and its customers, environmental groups and the Prairie Island Indian Community recommended to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission that a total of \$8,223,922 be awarded to projects for energy production and \$14,397,817 for research and development.

Nearly 100 renewable energy proposals were reviewed during the current funding cycle. The projects chosen from the University of Minnesota are:

- Evaluating and addressing of economic and technical issues related to biomass integrated gasification combined cycle technology in electricity generation at ethanol-producing plants. Led by professor Vance Morey, department of biosystems and bioproducts engineering, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. Amount awarded: \$819,159.
- Providing of biomass fuel stock suppliers with accurate guidelines for management of biomass harvesting and maintenance of soil quality. Led by Renewable Energy Coordinator Michael Reese, West Central Research and Outreach Center, Morris. Amount awarded: \$979,082.
- Development of an efficient system for the production, pre-processing and delivery of biomass feedstock for energy production that minimizes feedstock cost for energy facilities, while maximizing landowner income and the environmental benefits of biomass production. Led by research associate Dean Current, Center for Integrated Natural Resource and Agricultural Management, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. Amount awarded: \$992,989.

- more -

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- Development of a new paradigm for controlling the microstructure of thin-film silicon, which will improve stability and efficiency and lower the cost of nanocrystal silicon photovoltaic cells. Led by professor Uwe Kortshagen, department of mechanical engineering, Institute of Technology. Amount awarded: \$732,032.
- Development and testing of a high resolution virtual wind simulator for accurate prediction of local wind and turbulence with the purpose of optimizing the turbine siting design of wind energy projects. Led by associate professor Fernando Porte-Agel, department of civil engineering, Institute of Technology, and sponsored in part by the Prairie Island Indian Community. Amount awarded: \$999,999.

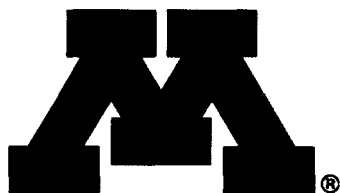
In addition, University of Minnesota researchers are partnering with Xcel Energy on the following project:

Testing of the hypothesis that battery storage technology will enable effective storage of wind energy, and therefore enable firming of wind energy to reduce impact from the variability and limited predictability of wind generation resources. Led by Xcel Energy. Amount awarded: \$1 million.

Detailed information on the projects selected is available on Xcel Energy's Web site at www.xcelenergy.com/rdf.

Money for the Renewable Development Fund, which was created in 1999, comes from Xcel Energy customers. Each year the company transfers \$16 million to the fund in accordance with state statute. All selected projects are subject to final approval by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

Several of the awarded projects were initially established and supported by the University of Minnesota's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE). A public/private partnership designed to promote sustainable energy in Minnesota, IREE has provided financial and administrative support for 135 renewable energy projects since its inception in 2003.



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December 10, 2007

Contacts: *Justin Ware, University News Service, (612) 626-1720*

NEWS SERVICE VIDEO: U OF M ECONOMICS PROFESSOR RECEIVES NOBEL PRIZE VIA SATELLITE FROM SWEDEN

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Regents Professor Emeritus Leonid Hurwicz was presented the Nobel Prize in Economics during a simulcast of the award ceremony from Stockholm Monday morning. U of M President Robert Bruininks, Swedish Ambassador Jonas Hafstrom and Leonid's son Maxim Hurwicz all spoke at the event held inside Ted Mann Concert Hall on the West Bank of the university's Twin Cities campus.

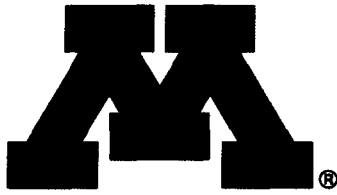
To watch a short video highlighting today's events, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3663533_1-t_7VCG38YL

For b-roll for use in a newscast or on a Web site, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3663657_1-t_iaLeZNSb

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December 11, 2007

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GUATEMALAN STUDENT RECEIVES U OF M TAPESTRY AWARD FOR PROMOTING DIVERSITY ON CAMPUS

~ Silvia Álvarez helped establish Latino radio show to promote Latin culture and Spanish language ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Silvia Álvarez, a graduate student from Guatemala, is the 2007 recipient of the University of Minnesota Women of Color Tapestry Award. The annual award is granted to individuals who help create a thriving campus community where diversity is welcomed and supported.

Álvarez, who moved to Minnesota with her husband and three children three years ago to pursue a master's degree in education policy administration at the university, is credited with promoting the Latino culture and Spanish language by creating a bilingual radio show on RadioK, the student-run radio station at the university.

When moving to Minnesota, Álvarez faced many challenges, not only because of the language barriers but also because the culture and environment were new. However, she and her family turned the challenge into what she described as an incredible experience.

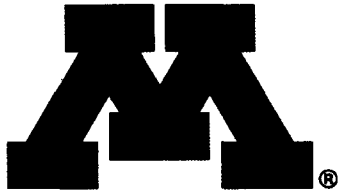
While teaching Spanish at the Spanish and Portuguese studies department, Álvarez started the idea to develop a bilingual radio show. She worked hard to make it a reality.

"I think that there are many stereotypes about the Latino population and I wanted to eliminate these stereotypes by providing a taste of the Latino culture in a very pleasant way," she said. "It was hard, but now we are able to spread the Latino culture and there are many sympathizers that look at our show with very good eyes. The next step is to make it available through the Internet and gain more followers."

Álvarez has an anthropology degree in Guatemala and worked in the field of education in multicultural contexts, particularly, in education for the Mayan population and literacy for women and young adults. She is finishing up her doctoral degree in the department of work and human resources education, focusing on community and family education. She is interested in the development of educational opportunities for immigrants, particularly Latinos.

- more -

“I am concerned about the inequalities that many Latinos face as the result of the lack of opportunities,” she said. “The Latino population, as one of the largest minority populations, is under represented in some arenas, for example in higher education. As a graduate student I think I have the opportunity to contribute in to the field of education in a very concrete manner by suggesting inclusive programs and creative ways to provide access to education regardless of ethnicity or social status.”



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December 11, 2007

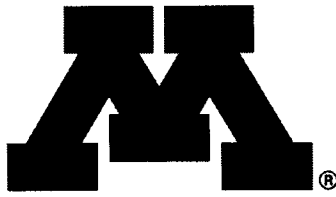
Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 624-5551

U OF M STATEMENT REGARDING NORTHROP AUDITORIUM SITUATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The following is a statement from University of Minnesota spokesman Daniel Wolter regarding today's incident at Northrop Auditorium:

“Northrop Auditorium was briefly evacuated today after our central security department, through a surveillance camera, saw what appeared to be an individual with a gun case entering the building. After a thorough search by university police, the item was located and determined to be construction equipment being brought in by an electrician.

“This incident shows the importance of our efforts to increase video surveillance throughout campus and that every precaution is taken to ensure the safety of our university community.”



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December 12, 2007

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TED DAVIS TO HEAD THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S BIOTECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Regents Professor Ted Davis has been named director of the BioTechnology Institute (BTI) -- a joint effort of the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences and the Institute of Technology. Davis will begin his duties as director of the BioTechnology Institute effective Jan. 7, 2008.

"With research in biofuels and renewable energy moving to the international forefront, the work done at BTI -- especially in the area of biocatalysis -- is more critical than ever," said Robert Elde, dean of the College of Biological Sciences. "Ted Davis brings the leadership and expertise needed to create momentum behind the university's initiatives in these crucial areas of research."

Davis has been a faculty member in the university's department of chemical engineering and materials science since 1963 where he served as department head for 15 years. In 1995, he was named dean of the Institute of Technology, the college of engineering, physical sciences and mathematics, and served nine years as dean before leaving the post in 2004 to return to the faculty. In his new role as director of the BTI, Davis will lead efforts to boost interdisciplinary research for new and innovative sources of renewable energy.

The BioTechnology Institute draws from the expertise of researchers working across diverse disciplines, from chemical engineering to microbiology. In addition to providing training and research grants to BTI-affiliated faculty and graduate students, the BTI offers state-of-the-art equipment and facilities to support the research efforts of faculty and companies, both small and large, to help catalyze the development of a biotechnology industry in Minnesota.

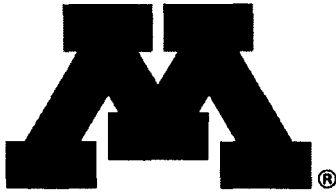
"As a former dean and longtime faculty member, Davis has deep connections to faculty and administrators across the University that will help bring the BioTechnology Institute to the next level as a world-class research institute," said Steven Crouch, dean of the Institute of Technology.

"When I served as dean, one of my priorities was to work with people from across the university in promoting

- more -

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“When I served as dean, one of my priorities was to work with people from across the university in promoting high-quality interdisciplinary research through the BioTechnology Institute,” Davis said. “Today the BTI is composed of an outstanding team of research professors who I believe will be able to leverage the resources of the university president’s Initiative on Biocatalysis to assert Minnesota as a leader in this important area of biochemical technology.”



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CHILDREN SUFFER WHEN PARENTS IN COMPLEX FAMILIES ARGUE OVER THE HOLIDAYS

Children with parents who are divorced, separated or were never married, also known as “complex families,” can suffer when their parents don’t agree on sharing time during the holidays. A University of Minnesota expert who can offer advice to complex families is:

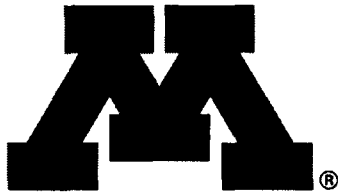
Rose Allen, U of M Extension

Allen is available for interviews and can talk about what complex families need to keep in mind, so their children don’t suffer from unnecessary stress during the holidays.

To view and download a full-length interview with Allen, visit:

<http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/expertalert/ea-live.html>

Expert Alert Live is designed to connect university experts to today’s breaking news and current events. Live interviews are free and available to news organizations for broadcast and Web use. Multiple formats are available. For more format options or HTML scripts, contact Justin Ware, University News Service, at (612) 626-1720 or ware@umn.edu



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December 12, 2007

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CHRISTMAS TREE CARE: U OF M EXPERT HAS TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR TREE LOOKING GREAT

From selecting the best tree off the lot and to keeping it looking green and smelling fresh until Christmas, to disposing of the tree in an environmentally friendly manner after the holidays, a University of Minnesota expert who can talk about Christmas trees is:

Nancy Rose, U of M Extension horticulturist

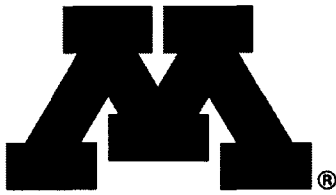
Rose is available for interviews and can give tips on to keep Christmas trees looking good during the holidays and has many, unique ideas for getting rid of tree after the holidays.

To watch a full-length interview: <http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/expertalert/ea-live.html>

For b-roll from the U of M Forestry club's tree lot, visit:

https://netfiles.umn.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-3682936_1-t_XujlSfND

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

LITTERING MAY BE HAZARDOUS TO GLOBAL HEALTH

~ Study co-written by U of M researcher shows that more plant litter resulting from higher temps could boost the amount of carbon released into the atmosphere ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A new study looks at a poorly understood process with potentially critical consequences for climate change. Emma Sayer, postdoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Jennifer Powers, an assistant professor in the University of Minnesota's department of ecology, Evolution and Behavior, and Edmund Tanner, researcher at Cambridge University, published the findings of their long-term study on the effects of increased plant litter on soil carbon and nutrient cycling in the Dec. 12 edition of PLoS ONE.

As CO₂ concentrations in the atmosphere continue to rise, increases in plant productivity - and litterfall - are likely. The study considers the impact of an increase in organic matter on the ground on processes below ground. Results suggest that the balance of carbon stored in the soils (thought to be a long-term sink for carbon) can be changed with the addition of fresh leaf litter. The capacity of soils to store carbon might then diminish if global environmental changes such as CO₂ increases and nitrogen deposition boost plant productivity.

Over the course of the 5-year experiment, the fluxes of carbon dioxide from the soil surface to the atmosphere in a tropical forest in Panama were measured. These CO₂ fluxes (also called soil respiration) come from two main sources: the respiration of roots and the decomposition of litter and soil organic matter by fungi, bacteria, and other microorganisms.

“To our surprise, the litter addition plots showed substantially higher amounts of soil respiration than would be predicted by the increase in leaf litter,” said Powers. “We suspect that this extra CO₂ in the litter addition plots was coming from the decomposition of 'old soil organic matter', which was stimulated by adding large quantities of fresh leaf litter.” This effect, the stimulation of the decomposition of old, 'stored' organic carbon by the addition of fresh organic matter is known as the 'priming effect.' “There are important links between above-and below ground processes and we need to understand these links in order to assess the impact of global change and

- more -

human disturbance on natural ecosystems,” said Sayer.

The study has implications for policy makers considering new approaches to capping carbon emissions such as carbon sequestration. “Our results suggest unanticipated feedbacks to the carbon cycle that must be taken into account when estimating the potential for carbon sequestration in the soil,” Powers said.

Emma Sayer of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and Cambridge University is the lead author of the study. Edmund Tanner, also of Cambridge University, and Powers, are co-authors.



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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, egiorgi@umn.edu

FIGHTING THE SCALE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

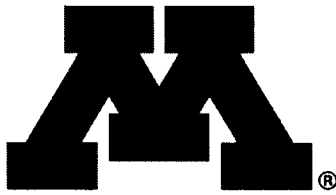
While we are all aware of the waistline consequences, the display of holiday fare at parties and potlucks can be too mouthwatering to ignore. A University of Minnesota expert who can discuss holiday weight gain pitfalls and healthy tips is:

Melissa Nelson, University of Minnesota School of Public Health professor

Nelson can speak on strategies to keep off the pounds during the holiday season and how to stick to New Year's diet resolutions. Her research concentrates on excess weight gain and obesity.

To interview Nelson, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or egiorgi@umn.edu.

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December 13, 2007

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Luisa Badaracco, University News Service, (612) 624-1690*

EXPERTS SAY PRICE OF OIL WILL HAVE GREATEST IMPACT ON MIDWEST RENEWABLE FUELS DEVELOPMENT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (12/13/2007) -- The University of Minnesota has discovered a silver lining in the increasing cost of oil.

Leading Midwest experts in research, government, business and nonprofit sectors who attended the university's E3 conference last month were surveyed on what they think will promote sustainable energy research within their geographic domain. Forty percent of the respondents said the cost of oil is the primary driver.

In other words, the majority believe rising oil costs will jump start renewable fuels and electricity research more than any other potential factor. Respondents were almost evenly split on two additional drivers: Government mandates (36 percent) and profitability of alternative/renewable energy production (35 percent). Rounding out the data, 29 percent think government incentives and public demand for renewable energy sources will be the main driver.

Of the 400-plus people who attended E3, approximately 43 percent completed the survey. Those surveyed were asked to select up to three factors from a list of several possibilities. The percentages above reflect which factors they selected the most.

"Once again, we're finding that economics will be a major driver of future developments in the renewable energy sector," said Richard Hemmingsen, director of the University of Minnesota's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE), the host of the conference. "With all the bad news recently about rising oil prices, maybe we finally have something to look forward to."

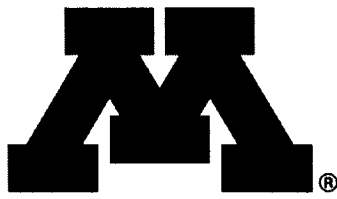
The survey results also showed that nearly one-quarter of respondents think cellulosic biofuels will be the next big development in sustainable energy, while an additional 16 percent believe that solar technology has the most potential. One in ten think sustainable energy will become more efficient to produce, and 8 percent believe that algae-to-energy has the most potential for reducing fossil fuel consumption.

- more -

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E3 2007, the Midwest's premier energy, economic and environmental conference, was held Nov. 27 at the U's Coffman Union. IREE is a public/private partnership designed to promote sustainable energy in Minnesota. Since its inception in 2003, IREE has supported 135 renewable energy projects.

The on-site survey was conducted by Millennium Research, Inc., a marketing research and consulting company that specializes in agriculture and other outdoor industries.



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GRADUATION RATES ON THE RISE AT U OF M TWIN CITIES CAMPUS; NEW GRADUATION PLANNER TOOL UNVEILED

~ Multimedia available ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Students are graduating from the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities campus at a faster rate, according to data announced on Thursday. The percentage of students graduating in four years increased to 44.9 percent in 2007 from 41.1 percent in 2006. Similarly, the five-year graduation rate increased to 60.5 percent from 58.2 percent and the six-year to 63.6 percent from 61.1 percent.

"The number one way students can reduce their tuition costs is to graduate in four years," said Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education Craig Swan. "In recent years, we've changed policies, attitudes and resources to put an institutional priority on enabling our students to graduate quicker. That means they're in the workforce sooner, have less student debt and have a more intensive educational experience."

For a fully produced feature and a b-roll interview with Swan, visit:

http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/Multimedia_Videos/gradrates.htm

For Quick Quotes audio with Swan, visit: <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/>

During a presentation to a Board of Regents committee, Swan noted a number of university initiatives aimed at aiding students in graduating faster, including a 13-credit tuition band that makes all credits over 13 free of charge, a four-year "graduation guarantee" that ensures students will be able to get into the classes they need and a variety of other tools.

The newest tool in the U's effort to boost graduation rates is a first-in-the-nation, state-of-the-art online graduation planner that students began using this semester. The U of M Graduation Planner accesses all available course information and degree requirements so that students can make a plan that includes the classes they need to take, when they need to take the courses and how to fulfill requirements in order to graduate on time.

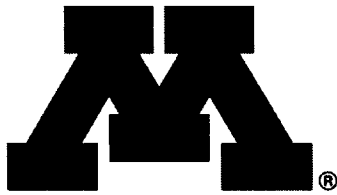
"The process of identifying classes and meeting requirements is complicated and we want students to be able to see how their choices impact their ability to graduate on time," said university Registrar Susan Van Voorhis. "This online planner will help students focus on graduation from their freshman year, make smarter choices and graduate sooner."

The U's Twin Cities campus goal for graduation rates is a 4-year rate of 60 percent, a 5-year

- more -

rate of 75 percent and a 6-year rate of 80 percent.

"We've made some good progress towards those goals. There is a lot of work still to be done, but we are on track to meet these goals," said Swan.



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December 13, 2007

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICE SEEK PUBLIC'S HELP IN IDENTIFYING SUSPECT WHO CALLED IN BOMB THREAT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD) is seeking the public's help in identifying the person who they believe made a bomb threat involving Willey Hall on Dec. 5.

An unknown person called 9-1-1 at 10:26 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5 and indicated to Minneapolis Emergency Communications Center that there was a bomb in Willey Hall.

The UMPD today is releasing surveillance images of the suspect. Surveillance video captured images of the male riding his bicycle to a location and placing the phone call. The person is observed to be an 18- to 25-year-old white* male. He was wearing a winter jacket that has red, white and dark blue or black colors in equal parts respectively starting from the shoulders on down in horizontal layers. He also wore light colored blue jeans, a dark colored stocking hat and carried a dark colored backpack.

Surveillance photographs of the suspect and the bicycle he was riding can be viewed at the UMPD website at: <http://www1.umn.edu/police/alerts/2007-12-13/20071213.html>

If you have information regarding this incident and/or can identify the male in the photographs, please contact the UMPD at 612-624-COPS (2677). Although it is preferred that those with relevant information contact the UMPD using the number listed above, individuals who wish to remain anonymous may call the UMPD Tip Line at 612-626-TIPS (8477). Reference case number UM-07-396925.

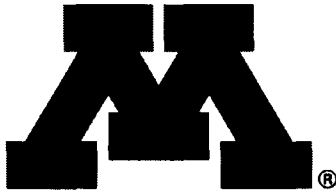
Making such a threat is considered a Terroristic Threat (M.S.S. 609.713), which is a felony level crime punishable by up to five years in prison and/or up to a \$10,000 fine.

The UMPD assisted by the Minneapolis Police Department and additional law enforcement and EMS personnel, responded to Willey Hall and took the necessary steps to ensure the safety of the occupants of the building and surrounding areas. Willey Hall was checked and reopened without any incident.

- more -

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*Be mindful, racial descriptors alone are not a valid reason to profile or cast suspicion on an individual. In cases of serious crime such as this we may include them only as part of the totality of circumstances, if it may reasonably assist in the identification of the perpetrators.



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December 13, 2007

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NEW STUDY SAYS THAT, UNLIKE HUMANS, CHIMPANZEES DON'T EXPERIENCE MENOPAUSE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Researchers have found no evidence that chimpanzees in the wild undergo menopause in the way that women do, according to a new report in the Dec. 19 *Current Biology*, a Cell Press publication. That's despite the fact that reproduction tends to diminish at a similar age in both species.

The study draws on data from chimpanzees at several sites in Africa, including Gombe National Park, where Jane Goodall began her pioneering work in 1960. The Gombe data is now stored at the University of Minnesota's Jane Goodall Institute's Center for Primate Studies. Its director, ecology professor Anne Pusey, is a co-author of the study. The first author is Melissa Emery Thompson of Harvard University.

"It is important to distinguish reproductive senescence (aging), which is something animals are expected to experience if they live long enough, from menopause, which is a very unique trait that occurs because reproductive function declines much more rapidly than declines in other bodily systems," said Thompson. "This study of reproductive senescence indicates that chimpanzees do not routinely experience menopause. "

According to Thompson, scientists will have to "look to other unique features of human biology and socioecology to help explain why humans have menopause."

Human menopause is remarkable in that reproductive deterioration is markedly accelerated relative to the aging of the rest of the body, leaving an extended post-reproductive period for many women, the researchers said. The explanation for that pattern has remained unclear, in part because comparative data from closely related species had been inadequate. Earlier studies of chimpanzees are based on very small samples and have not provided clear conclusions about the fertility of aging females, she said. Also, those studies have not examined whether reproductive declines in chimpanzees exceed the pace of general aging, as in humans, or occur in parallel with declines in overall health, as in many other animals.

To remedy those problems, Thompson teamed up with researchers from six long-term chimpanzee research sites across Africa. "By combining our data, we were able to examine the effects of age on fertility rates in

chimpanzees,” she said.

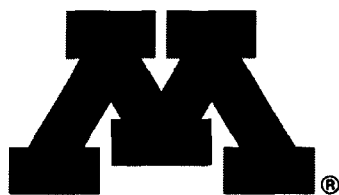
They found that chimpanzee and human birth rates show similar patterns of decline after the age of 40, suggesting that the “biological clock” has been relatively conserved over the course of human evolution.

However, in contrast to humans, chimpanzee fertility tends to drop along with their chances of surviving, with healthy females maintaining high birth rates late into life.

“When we look at only the healthiest individuals, it looks like chimpanzees may actually be reproducing better than humans in their 40s,” Thompson said. “The oldest chimpanzee known to give birth in the wild is estimated to have been 55. She began reproductive cycling again shortly before her death at the age of 63.”

They thus find no evidence that menopause is a typical characteristic of chimpanzee life histories.

“The adaptive significance of human menopause, or post-reproductive lifespan, is still debated,” the researchers concluded. “This study provides greater evolutionary context to this debate.” Along with recent data from wild gorillas and orangutans, the findings in chimpanzees indicate that “menopause is not a part of the life cycle of living apes and is thus uniquely derived in the human lineage.”



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December 13, 2007

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U OF M BELL MUSEUM RECEIVES \$3 MILLION FROM JAMES FORD BELL FOUNDATION FOR NEW FACILITY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History has received a \$3 million gift from the Minneapolis-based James Ford Bell Foundation toward the museum's new building project. The gift will be used to construct a new museum and to develop the 13-acre site at the southwest corner of Cleveland and Larpenteur avenues in St. Paul.

The university is seeking \$24 million toward the \$36 museum facility in its bonding request to the 2008 Minnesota State Legislature. The remaining \$12 million -- of which \$9 million has been raised to date -- will be funded by private gifts and federal appropriations. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will partner with the museum on the development of outdoor exhibits and programs on the site. The project is scheduled to break ground in 2008, with a grand opening in fall of 2010.

James Ford Bell, for whom the Bell Museum was named in 1966, founded the James Ford Bell Foundation in 1955, which focuses its support on the environment, the arts, social services and education. Founder of General Mills and life-long friend of the university, Bell served as a member of its Board of Regents from 1939 until his death in 1961.

"The new Bell Museum is the first major natural history museum of the 21st century, and I am confident that it will be celebrated throughout the museum community, and that it will bring acclaim to our great university and to our state," said Ford W. Bell, chair of the James Ford Bell Foundation, grandson of James Ford Bell and president of the Washington D.C.-based American Association of Museums. "Most importantly, I know that the new museum will benefit students of all ages as they explore the wonders of our planet, and come to understand, to a degree that earlier generations have not always been able to, that the very future of life on Earth, diverse and miraculous, will be in their hands."

"This remarkable gift from the James Ford Bell Foundation affirms the importance of the Bell Museum as the state's natural history museum," said university President Robert Bruininks. "We are working together to build an important new cultural, academic and research center for the university and for the entire state."

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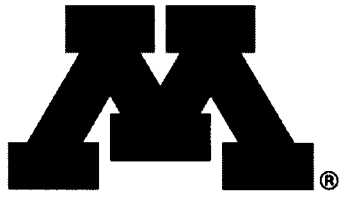
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an important new cultural, academic and research center for the university and for the entire state.”

“The Bell Museum intends to honor James Ford Bell’s legacy as we work together to build a new museum -- a place where teaching, research and public outreach inform and broaden our understanding of the natural world,” said Museum Director Scott Lanyon.

The museum has also received two federal appropriations in support of the building project. The Bell Foundation gift is the largest received to date for the building program; terms of its grant agreement require that the gift be matched in a like amount by Dec. 31, 2010. The James Ford Bell Foundation’s total support of the Bell Museum’s building planning and implementation, from 1999 to 2007, is \$3.42 million.

For more information on the museum’s building project, visit. www.bellmuseum.org.



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December 14, 2007

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

U OF M NARROWS RESEARCH FUNDING GAP, REGENTS HEAR

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota won \$595 million in research expenditures and awards in 2006, the Board of Regents learned on Friday. Up from \$548 million in 2005, the 8.4 percent increase represents the second highest growth rate among top public universities.

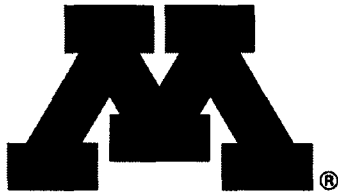
“More research dollars for the university mean more jobs and a stronger economy for Minnesota,” said Patricia Simmons, chair of the Board of Regents. “Securing research grants and funding is becoming more and more competitive -- and it’s good news that the university is competing more effectively for these funds.”

The increase in research expenditures and awards moves the university from tenth to ninth among public universities, ending a stretch of several years where its growth rate lagged behind its competitors.

“Obviously, one win doesn’t create a winning streak, but it definitely can break a losing streak,” said Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy. “This certainly gives us reason for optimism that our strategic positioning efforts are paying off. There’s a lot more work to be done to close the gap, but we’re standing on better footing.”

Mulcahy also noted that the gap between the university’s research funding level and its goal of being in the top three fell from \$237 million in 2005 to \$205 million in 2006.

In other business, the Regents were presented with the university’s annual financial statement, which showed positive operating results for the past fiscal year and recognized “noticeably better” financial management. The board also approved the schematic design for the new civil engineering building on the Duluth campus and the appointment of Robert McMaster as vice provost and dean of undergraduate education. Reports on the increased graduation rates on the Twin Cities campus, the health of students and the state’s economic forecast were also received.



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December 17, 2007

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

DAVID WIPPMAN NAMED DEAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LAW SCHOOL

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Following an extensive national search, University of Minnesota Provost Thomas Sullivan today named professor David Wippman as dean of the University of Minnesota Law School, subject to approval by the university's Board of Regents. If approved, Wippman will start the new position July 1.

Wippman will be the 10th dean of the Law School, which is consistently ranked in the top 20 law schools in the nation.

"David Wippman is an eminent scholar, a trusted and collegial leader, a highly admired teacher and an experienced practitioner, with the very highest aspirations for our great law school," Sullivan said. "I am confident that we have chosen one of the very finest deans in the country to lead our law school forward, locally, nationally and internationally."

Search committee member and former U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale added, "David Wippman has a unique blend of leadership that will inspire and engage our alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends. I'm very excited about the new dean. He's simply remarkable on so many levels. Once you get to know him you will see why he's already generated so much enthusiasm from our community. And let's not forget he's a son of Minnesota."

Wippman is one of the world's leading scholars in international law and human rights. Currently, he is Vice Provost for International Relations and professor of Law at Cornell University. He is a native of Minnesota and attended high school here. After graduation from Yale Law School, he clerked for Chief Judge Wilfred Feinberg of the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Second Circuit. He practiced law in Washington, D.C. from 1983 until joining Cornell Law School's faculty in 1992. Wippman served in the Clinton administration as a director in the National Security Council's Office of Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs from 1998-99.

"I'm honored to have been asked to lead the University of Minnesota Law School. As dean, I look forward to meeting and working closely with all faculty, alumni, students and staff to move the Law School to ever higher

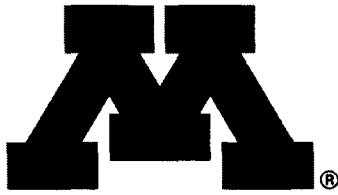
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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

meeting and working closely with all faculty, alumni, students and staff to move the Law School to ever higher levels of achievement and impact,” Wippman said. “I’m excited to begin our work together.”

Wippman holds a bachelor of arts degree summa cum laude from Princeton University, a master’s degree from Yale University and earned his juris doctorate from Yale Law School, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Yale Law Journal*.

For an image of Wippman, visit: <http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/photos/wippman.html>



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December 18, 2007

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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, egiorgi@umn.edu

HOW TO "HALVE" YOUR CAKE AND EAT IT TOO

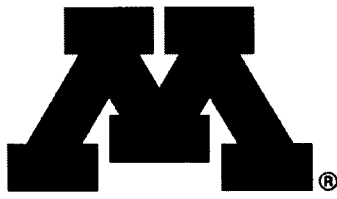
Belts are sure to be loosened and New Year's weight resolutions are on the horizon as the holiday parties and potlucks continue to offer endless opportunities to stuff our faces. A University of Minnesota dietician has a few easy portion conscious ideas to avoid the pounds and still enjoy the fare:

Melanie Jaeb, registered dietician at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health

Golf balls, decks of cards and shot glasses -- Jaeb has a unique set of easy to use food measurements to keep in mind when you line up to fill your plate. A registered dietician, Jaeb is currently working on three obesity prevention studies. She is available for media interviews to discuss all of her recommendations.

To interview Jaeb, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or egiorgi@umn.edu.

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December 18, 2007

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U OF M STUDY SAYS SAFETY ATTITUDES BEHIND THE WHEEL ARE VASTLY DIFFERENT BETWEEN RURAL AND URBAN DRIVERS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Rural drivers may need to reconsider how safely they are driving - especially rural pickup drivers, according to a new University of Minnesota study. University researchers have proven that rural drivers have a lower respect for common safety practices on the road than their urban counterparts.

Research fellow in the HumanFIRST Program in the ITS Institute Mick Rakauskas surveyed drivers in six Minnesota counties, three urban and three rural, and discovered that drivers in rural areas practiced riskier driving behaviors and were less aware of the danger in doing so. Rural drivers more frequently admitted to driving while under the influence and not using their seatbelt every time they drive. The worst offenders were rural pick-up drivers who were the least likely to wear their seatbelts.

For a fully produced feature and an interview with the researcher, visit:

http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/Multimedia_Videos/roadresearch.htm

“The most interesting thing about the research is that people were willing to tell us the truth about their behaviors- that rural drivers aren’t wearing their seatbelt and think that drunk driving isn’t that dangerous, so education may help prevent crashes for these risk factors,” Rakauskas said.

Minnesota crash data in rural areas back these findings. The researchers believe that rural drivers are more likely to have fatal crashes due to their decreased perception of the importance of safe driving. The data show that there are more crashes caused by drunk driving in rural areas and drivers wore their seatbelts less frequently in fatal and injury-causing crashes.

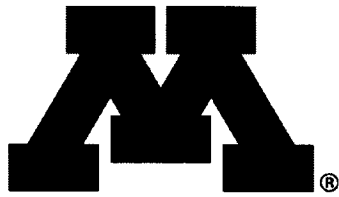
To further understand the findings, Rakauskas used the HumanFIRST Program’s driving simulator. The simulator’s car has a motion base that can be driven through a virtual environment -- one rural and one urban -- and allows the researchers to gauge how safely people drive. The researchers found that when projecting a rural virtual environment, all drivers had a more difficult time keeping the vehicle near the center of their lane, often edging close to the road boundaries. But when driving in an urban virtual environment, drivers seemed more

- more -

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cautious, especially older drivers who often had a more difficult time maintaining safe driving behavior.

While rural drivers may be riskier drivers, the results of this survey lend to some promising solutions to prevent crashes. Promoting safety with the teen drivers, educating drivers on potentially dangerous behaviors and developing new ways to implement safety into rural infrastructures -- many rural fatalities can be prevented.



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U OF M RESEARCHERS DEVELOP NEW ONLINE TOOL IN FIGHT AGAINST SPREAD OF HIV

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A new Web-based software program is the latest tool University of Minnesota researchers are using to help fight the spread of HIV. A multidisciplinary team of researchers led by Joseph Konstan, a professor in computer science and engineering, and B. R. Simon Rosser, a professor in the School of Public Health, are embarking on a clinical trial this month to test a software program that aims to reduce risk-taking behavior associated with the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections.

Konstan and Rosser's research team have been working for more than five years to create computer programs that assess risks undertaken by men seeking sex with other men through online venues. The team is now testing an online intervention program designed to reduce sexual risk-taking and the spread of sexually transmitted infections.

The software program asks users questions about issues such as body image, self esteem, sexual health and risk-taking behaviors. The program then offers information about HIV/AIDS related stories. "The goal of this research is to create a genuine online experience that promotes healthier sexual behavior and encourages people to take fewer risks in sexual encounters outside of cyberspace," Konstan said.

The research team's work has become a multi-phased, interdisciplinary project, called the Men's Internet Study (MINTS). The group is also partnering with a technology company -- Allen Interactions -- to develop the intervention techniques. Konstan and Rosser hope these trials will show that the Web-based program is effective in the prevention of risk-related behavior leading to sexually transmitted infections.

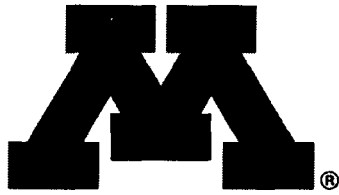
Rosser, director of the HIV/STI Intervention and Prevention Studies Program and the study's principal investigator, said his work with Konstan formed out of a discussion on ways to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS using computer technology. In addition to research, their partnership has evolved into a teaching collaboration. The professors began teaching a new e-public health course at the university this fall, drawing students from the School of Public Health, the Medical School, the Institute of Technology and the College of Liberal Arts.

- more -

Rosser said it is crucial to use the Internet for disease prevention, because their research shows that seeking sex is the most popular use for the Internet among high risk populations, such as men who have sex with men. “If we don’t do [HIV prevention outreach] right or in a way that’s most responsive, we’re going to have a new HIV epidemic. There’s enormous urgency in addressing gaps in HIV prevention,” he added.

In addition to hopes for HIV prevention, MINTS researchers also hope their online prevention model can be used for other public health purposes. “The importance of the MINTS Internet study is not just addressing HIV,” Rosser said, noting that the online prevention model could be adapted for things like cancer prevention, substance abuse interventions, and obesity prevention.

For more information about the MINTS study, visit <http://new.epi.umn.edu/research/hips/mints.shtm>.



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December 19, 2007

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

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA FELLOWSHIP WILL HONOR TWIN CITIES HOUSING ADVOCATE CHARLES KRUSELL

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) at the University of Minnesota are pleased to announce a new fellowship honoring Charles R. Krusell, a Twin Cities pioneer in urban renewal and city development. The Charles R. Krusell Fellowship in Community Development will provide scholarship funds for University of Minnesota graduate students enrolled in urban and regional planning and public policy programs.

Krusell was a pillar in the Twin Cities housing community. When he passed away in 2006, his family, friends and colleagues partnered with the Humphrey Institute and CURA to honor his lasting contributions to the community. The fellowship will allow his legacy to live on in Minnesota's future leaders in community development.

Throughout Krusell's career, he led organizations to lift up and redefine neighborhoods. As the executive director of the Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority, he pioneered the employment of African-American residents in Minneapolis city government and developed the city's first affirmative action program. His efforts to engage the Minneapolis business community in the restoration of local neighborhoods led to the creation of the Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation (GMHC), where he served as president from 1970 to 1991.

"Few people in Minneapolis could point in nearly every direction and say they had a hand in the growth and redevelopment of a community as much as Chuck Krusell did," said Carolyn Olson, president of GMHC, one of the fellowship's leading donors.

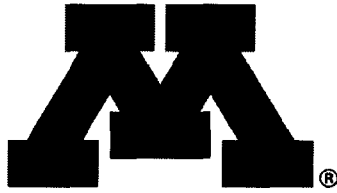
Designed as a collaborative effort between the Humphrey Institute and CURA, Krusell Fellows will receive academic training through the institute while CURA works with community development agencies to develop fieldwork placements for each student. Nearly half of the \$1.3 million endowment goal has been raised, which will support three Krusell Fellows each year.

The fellowship is made possible through leading gifts from the Family Housing Fund, the McKnight Foundation,

- more -

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The fellowship is made possible through leading gifts from the Family Housing Fund, the McKnight Foundation, the GMHC, the Dick and Mary Jo Kovacevich Family Foundation and a number of individual gifts from Krusell's family, friends and colleagues.



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December 20, 2007

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U OF M KWANZAA EXPERT DISCUSSES THE HOLIDAY'S ROOTS, MEANING AND TRADITIONS

Kwanzaa, a seven-day cultural holiday starting December 26 and ending January 1, is an African-American tradition that has now been celebrated for more than 40 years. A University of Minnesota expert who can talk about the facts, myths and cultural significance of this holiday is:

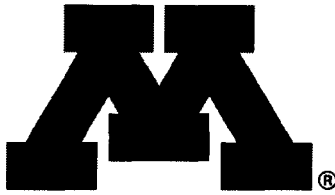
Keith Mayes, U of M African-american studies professor:

Mayes is available for interviews and can talk in depth about why Kwanzaa is often misunderstood as both a black-only and a religious holiday.

To watch or download a full-length interview with Mayes, visit:

<http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/expertalert/>

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December 21, 2007

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Elizabeth Giorgi, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, egiorgi@umn.edu

GAMBLING ADDICTION PROBLEMS EMERGE AS BOWL GAMES AND NFL PLAYOFFS KICKOFF

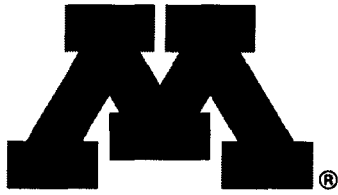
College football bowl games began last night, kicking off three weeks of amateur gridiron action. But another tradition, sports betting, also cranks up during football's postseason, accentuating the gambling problems of many Americans. A University of Minnesota expert who can discuss the temptations and troubles with gambling addictions is:

Ken Winters, University of Minnesota professor of psychiatry

Winters has been studying addictive behaviors for the past three decades. His research focuses on problem gambling, and he can discuss its root causes.

To interview Winters, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Elizabeth Giorgi at (612) 624-0214 or egiorgi@umn.edu.

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December 21, 2007

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MAKE A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION FOR REAL CHANGE

~ University of Minnesota workshops are geared for baby boomers looking for an "encore" career ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Traditionally, New Year's is a time of reflection and planning for the future. Often, though, ordinary life gets in the way of achieving a change in habits and New Year's resolutions go unfulfilled.

For those who want to plan their next career or reevaluate their life path, the University of Minnesota is offering the "Your Next Phase" workshops as a way to get inspired, think about the future and strategically plan out a blueprint for true life change. Hosted by LearningLife, a new endeavor from the U's College of Continuing Education, the workshops are held 9:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9 and Saturday, Feb. 23 and 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Saturday, March 8 at the Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

A series of daylong workshops, Your Next Phase is formatted to help people think about their future and make meaningful decisions about their next steps in life. While designed for older adults who are considering an encore career, the series is open to anyone who is looking to make a change in their lives.

Donna Bennett, career coach and teacher of the series, said that the major roadblock people confront in making change in their lives is worry about whether or not they will be able to achieve their goal. "Usually what stops people is fear: fear and anxiety about 'How could this possibly work?,'" she said.

However, through careful planning like that offered by the Your Next Phase workshop, people can overcome that obstacle.

"I've found that people who have the kind of planful steps we'll work on in the workshops, who develop a roadmap to achieve their dreams, it really lessens the fear and anxiety because they're taking proactive, realistic steps to achieve what their goals are," said Bennett.

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The series is structured around the following topics:

- What do I want to do now that I've grown up?
- How will I grow what I know?
- How do I want to be remembered?

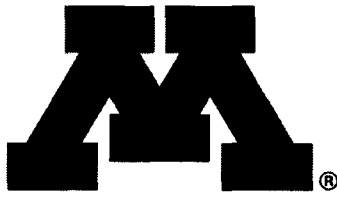
The cost for the series is \$300. Participants can opt to register for an individual workshop for \$140 (or \$70 for the half-day workshop). For more information about LearningLife, membership or to register for the workshops, please visit www.learninglife.umn.edu or call (612) 624-4000.

LearningLife is a comprehensive new learning community at the University of Minnesota. Centered in the online community at learninglife.umn.edu, LearningLife offers workshops, seminars, online discussions and other learning opportunities for lifelong learners, particularly baby boomers. LearningLife kicked off Dec. 1, 2007 and is part of the University of Minnesota's College of Continuing Education.

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

WHEN: 9:15 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 9, 2008
 9:15 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 23, 2008
 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., March 8, 2008

WHERE: Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul.



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December 21, 2007

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U OF M HOLIDAY EXPERTS ONE CLICK AWAY DURING THE HOLIDAYS

University of Minnesota holiday experts are available to talk about topics ranging from party-food safety, to Christmas tree care to Kwanzaa. And, for the first time this year, full interviews with those experts can be found online at the U of M News Services' *Expert Alert Live* Web page.

To watch the interviews for use in an article or download for use in a news or Web cast, visit:

www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/expertalert/ea-live.html

Holiday experts currently on *Expert Alert Live* include:

Keith Mayes, U of M African-American studies professor:

Mayes can talk in depth about Kwanzaa and how it is often misunderstood as being a black-only, religious holiday.

Nancy Rose, U of M Extension horticulturist

Rose can give tips on how to keep Christmas trees looking good during the holidays and has many unique ideas for disposing of trees after the holidays.

Rose Allen, U of M Extension

Allen can talk about what complex families -- e.g. divorced, separated or never-married parents -- need to keep in mind so their children don't suffer from unnecessary stress during the holidays.

Joellen Feirtag, University of Minnesota Extension food scientist

Feirtag talks about everything from proper hand washing and how to thaw a turkey to the do's and don't's of sending food as a gift.

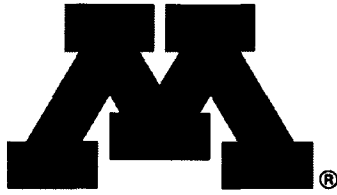
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Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962

U OF M ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERT DISCUSSES GLOBAL WARMING'S IMPACT ON MINNESOTA WATERS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- At a recent conference on the health of Lake Superior, researchers agreed that global warming could wreak havoc on the Great Lakes. What is the probable impact of global warming on Minnesota's fresh water ecology? And how are these changes likely to affect our health and well-being?

University of Minnesota professor Deborah Swackhamer will address these questions in "Global Warming...Regional Impact: Minnesota's role in an environmental crisis." This latest edition of Headliners will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10 in the Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul. It will be followed by a Q&A with audience members.

As director of the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment, Swackhamer studies the behavior of contaminants in water systems, particularly the Great Lakes. She also studies the methods for detecting contaminant levels and what these levels mean for overall ecosystem health.

Also a professor of environmental chemistry in the School of Public Health, she was selected as the 2006 winner of the Harvey G. Rodgers Environmental Health Leadership Award for her "years of dedication, distinguished service and technical contribution promoting the public's health through the preservation of the environment."

Visit www.cce.umn.edu/headliners or call (612) 624-4000 to sign up, learn more about the program, or register for e-mail updates on speakers for scheduled events. Tickets are \$10.

Headliners, offered by the University of Minnesota, is a chance to meet once a month with university and community experts as they share firsthand knowledge of the day's most intriguing stories -- the medical breakthroughs, culture clashes, social trends and foreign affairs that are making headlines.

Through the University of Minnesota's College of Continuing Education, motivated adults enrich their personal and professional lives through learning opportunities ranging from courses, workshops and conferences to credit certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees. For more information about the college, please call (612)

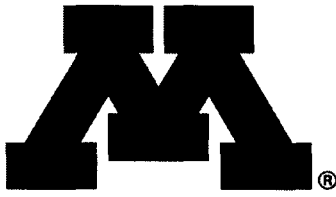
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certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees. For more information about the college, please call (612) 624-4000 or visit www.cce.umn.edu.

WHEN: 7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 10

WHERE: Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul



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December 27, 2007

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Drew Swain, News Service, (612) 625-8962

**“PARADISE LOST” HEADLINES U OF M BELL MUSEUM’S NEWEST EXHIBITS,
PROGRAMS EXPLORING CLIMATE CHANGE ON NORTHERN ECOSYSTEMS**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Paintings, photography, pub gatherings and poetry mark a four-month exploration of the effects of global warming on northern ecosystems in “Seeing Climate Change” beginning January through April 2008 at the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History.

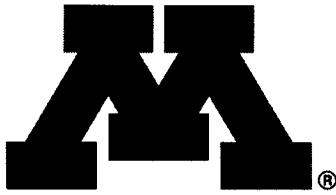
Anchoring the suite of events is “Paradise Lost: Climate Change in the North Woods,” a multimedia exhibit opening Saturday, Feb. 16 of paintings, drawings, sculpture, journals and music by 20 regional artists, seven scientists and six teachers from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. From the stark beauty of a snowy, moonlit forest, to dramatic ice melts on Lake Superior, the exhibit's more than 36 original works of art poignantly capture the fragility and beauty of northern climates. Lively, expert narrative offers a framework for the artwork, as well as encouraging advice on actions that can be taken individually and collectively to preserve the northern environment.

Other “Seeing Climate Change” offerings include a four-day film festival of original and award-winning films; a live web cast to kick-off Focus the Nation's nation-wide “teach-in” on climate change solutions; an evening of poetry featuring Twin Cities-based Laurel Poetry Collective; a series of Café Scientifiques on the subject of alternative fuels, climate policy and changing landscapes; gallery talks with artists and ecology experts; and upbeat and educational kids' programming ranging from creating mini-habitats to growing gardens.

The opening reception for “Paradise Lost” is scheduled for 7 p.m. February 16 with speakers from the University of Wisconsin Madison's Center for Biology Education and Forest Landscape Ecology Lab and contributing artists and musicians. Admission is \$10; free for museum members. For tickets call 612-624-9050.

The Bell Museum is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and is located at 10 Church St. S.E. in Minneapolis on the university's Minneapolis campus. For a complete list of “Seeing Climate Change” events and programs visit, www.bellmuseum.org.

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December 28, 2007

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REPERCUSSIONS FOR U.S. AND WORLD AFTER BHUTTO'S ASSASSINATION

As Pakistan buries its former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, U.S. leaders and diplomats are assessing the fallout of the assassination and what it means for relations with the chaotic country. A University of Minnesota expert who can analyze the current situation is:

William Beeman, professor and chair of the department of anthropology at the University of Minnesota Beeman, who studies Middle East politics and Arab relations, can discuss what this means for the war on terrorism and the foreign policy repercussions. Beeman also regularly consults for the State Department, Department of Defense, the United Nations and has testified on Middle Eastern and Islamic Affairs before Congress.

To interview Beeman contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

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Beeman is only available via phone.