



What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (1-11-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 1; Jan. 11, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- Federal Relations update.
- Features: Dictators in the dock; This Week @Minnesota; U of M Moment.
- People: R. Scott Studham has been named vice president and chief information officer; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

FEDERAL RELATIONS UPDATE: Congress recently finalized appropriations levels for FY 2012 and the numbers were, by and large, beneficial for research and education institutions. In the context of the many fights and impasses over spending that have defined this Congress, higher education advocates welcomed funding for priorities such as the Pell Grant program, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Science Foundation. Less rosy is the outlook for FY 2013, when automatic across-the-board budget cuts are set to kick in as a result of the failure of the so-called supercommittee to reach a deficit-reducing deal. For more information, see [Federal Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: If dictators who torture, kill, or otherwise abuse their citizens' human rights are overthrown, should they be brought to trial? On one hand, convicting and punishing an ex-dictator would strike a welcome blow for justice in countries where it has been denied. On the other hand, trials may open old wounds and even encourage dictators to hang onto power just to avoid prosecution. In a recent book, professor Kathryn Sikkink comes down strongly on the side of bringing deposed malefactors to trial. For more information, read "[Dictators in the dock](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Jan. 2–6. This installment of the weekly video feature takes a look at a new Bell Museum exhibit called "90 Days in the Boundary Waters" by Minnesota photographer Jim Brandenburg, a new clinical trial opportunity from researcher John Wagner, and a reminder to vote for your favorite videos in the student scholarship video contest. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

U OF M MOMENT: It's the time of year when people make resolutions to eat less, exercise more, or be a better person in general. Psychology professor Mark Snyder says there's nothing wrong with making such plans. But to be successful, Snyder says it's more about simple goals than making grand resolutions. For more information, listen to the [U of M Moment](#).

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: R. Scott Studham has been named vice president and chief information officer; the U has appointed a search committee for a new vice president for equity and diversity; the U has been awarded a \$15 million grant to implement one of the nation's most comprehensive childhood education programs; 13 faculty from around the U system have been chosen to participate in the 2012 Internationalizing Teaching and Learning Cohort Program; the Provost's Committee on Student Mental Health presented its 2012 Award for Outstanding Student Mental Health Leadership to Betty Benson; Jasjit Ahluwalia has been selected to receive the Prevent Cancer Foundation's Prevention Laurel Award for National Leadership; the Confucius Institute was named a 2011 Confucius Institute of the Year; former College of Pharmacy dean Lawrence Weaver has passed away; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

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

TXT-U IS THE U's EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION TEXT MESSAGING SYSTEM. Faculty, staff, and students can stay informed about critical campus safety information by registering to receive TXT-U messages at any U of M campus location. For registration and more information, see [TXT-U](#).

CHANGE TO LIBERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: Students on the UMR campus who started in fall 2010 or later can now satisfy their [liberal education theme requirements](#) by completing four out of five themes. Students who started before fall 2010 will continue to follow the [requirements that were in place prior to fall 2010](#). This change does not affect students enrolled in programs offered exclusively on the UMR campus.

WEB HOSTING SERVICE—TOWN HALL FORUM: The Office of Information Technology has scheduled a forum to inform the U community about its current web hosting services redesign project. Jan. 13, 10–11 a.m., 131A Science Teaching and Student Services. The session will also be available online [via UMCConnect](#) and a recording will be available after the event. For more information, see [town hall](#).

Funding awards and opportunities

APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE SPRING GRANT-IN-AID of Research, Artistry, and Scholarship Program in the Office of the Vice President for Research. The grants promote the scholarly and artistic activities of faculty and their graduate students. Proposals must be submitted electronically by Feb. 6. Compliance approvals will be processed electronically as well. For more information, see [Grant-in-Aid](#), email the [Research Advancement Office](#), or call 612-625-2356.

CROOKSTON:

UMC HAS BEEN NAMED AMONG THE TOP 25 in a SuperScholar's "Smart Choice" ranking of schools offering online bachelor's degrees. For more information, see [top 25](#).

A LOCAL FOODS COLLEGE TV SERIES beginning on Jan. 24 will offer an overview of the basics of growing more of your own food, from planning to soils, fruit and vegetable production, and business development. The series, available via interactive television (ITV) at several locations across northwestern Minnesota, continues on Tuesday evenings through mid-March. For more information, see [local foods](#).

JAN AAMOTH will be the new director of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of the Red River Valley beginning Jan. 12. After 20 years, Deanna Patenaude is stepping down as the organization's director. RSVP of the Red River Valley is housed at UMC's Sergeant Student Center. For more information, see [RSVP director](#).

DULUTH:

UMD'S GERMAN STUDIES DEPARTMENT assistant professor Dan Nolan and instructor Michael Mullins are creating an iPad application to replace a German grammar guide that has been discontinued. Associate professor Mariana Waisman of the Department of Graphic Design and assistant professor Pete Willemsen from the Department of Computer Science are also involved with the project, as well as students from all three departments through the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program. For more information, see [iPad app](#).

GRAPHIC DESIGN ALUMNUS Jesse Bodell, who executes the branding for the Minnesota Twins, designed 12 versions of a collectable game ticket. For more information, see [Twins ticket designs](#).

THE UMD AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENT PROGRAMS OFFICE collaborated with the UMD marching band and local musical group Zone8 in a music video based on the song, "New Day," which was written and produced by several artists working with the JeRecords label. To view the video, see [YouTube](#).

MORRIS:

UMM WAS NAMED ONE OF THE 100 BEST VALUES IN PUBLIC COLLEGES in a national ranking by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*. The Morris and Twin Cities campuses were the only Minnesota institutions chosen for best value honors. For more information, see [best value](#).

THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE will be held Jan. 19. Students and community members are invited to celebrate King's life and legacy by joining in training related to diversity and social justice, learning about local volunteer opportunities, making a volunteer pledge for 2012, participating in a group service project, and enjoying a free meal and program. For more information, see [MLK day of service](#).

UMM STUDENTS Luciana Ranelli '13, biology, secondary education; and Ashleigh Thompson '13, anthropology, American Indian studies; were honored with 2011 Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity (SEED) Awards. The U-wide award recognizes 13 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students who are doing outstanding equity, social justice, and diversity work through academics and/or service to the community. For more information, see [UMM SEED](#).

"WILL DEMOCRACY SURVIVE THE ASSAULT ON SCIENCE?," a talk by science advocate and humanitarian Shawn Lawrence Otto, will take place Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall. Free and open to the public, the talk will also be [streamed live](#) for those who cannot attend in person. Otto is an author and a well-known speaker on the world's major unsolved challenges that revolve around science and on the need to encourage elected leaders to engage in finding solutions. For more information, see [science lecture](#).

THE WEST CENTRAL RESEARCH AND OUTREACH CENTER (WCROC) was named Outstanding Conservationist for 2011 by the Stevens County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). This recognition was based on WCROC's research and educational programs in horticulture, water quality, renewable energy, dairy, swine, and crop production. For more information, see [SWCD Conservation News](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR CONNECTS January community engagement events will focus on the theme of responsible health care. Connect events are held each Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. on the fourth floor of University Square, and are free and open to the public. For more information, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:**Administrative information**

VOTING HAS BEGUN FOR THE DRIVEN TO DISCOVER VIDEO CONTEST and faculty and staff are invited to weigh in. Visit the U's official [Facebook page](#) to "Like" your favorite videos. Twin Cities undergraduate students are sharing what they are driven to discover and competing for \$30,000 in scholarships. Voting ends at noon, Jan. 17, and winners will be officially announced on Jan. 23.

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

SPECIAL OLYMPICS VOLUNTEERS are sought by the U Retirees Volunteer Center (URVC) for Minnesota's Winter Special Olympics Jan. 28–29, Breck School, Minneapolis. Volunteers will assist in a variety of service roles during the State Poly Hockey Tournament, including officiating jobs for those with hockey experience, or other volunteer positions. Shifts range from four to six hours, depending on the activity. The deadline for volunteering is Jan. 24. [Email URVC](#) or call 612-625-8016 to request registration information and a schedule of volunteer activities.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE 31ST ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CONCERT at the U will feature Committed, winners of NBC's "Sing-Off," plus Larry Long and musical guests Tonia Hughes, Billy Peterson, and Billy Steele. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Office for Equity and the School of Music. Jan. 15, 4–6 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. For more information, see [MLK concert](#).

SENATOR AL FRANKEN will kick off a series of public talks sponsored by the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance and designed to engage prominent government leaders. Franken will present "STEM Education: The Key to Minnesota's Economic Success" Jan. 17, noon–1:15 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [connecting with government](#).

ALUMNA, AUTHOR, AND CHEMIST JEANNETTE BROWN will present a brief lecture and sign her book *African American Women Chemists* Jan. 18, 3:45–5:30 p.m., Coffman Union Bookstore. The book profiles the lives of 25 African American women chemists. Two meet-and-greet events are also scheduled: Jan. 17, 2:30–3:30 p.m., 568A Kolthoff Hall; and Jan. 18, 1:30–3 p.m., second floor, Coffman Union. Brown was the first African American to receive a degree from the Department of Chemistry's graduate program, earning her master's degree in 1958. For more information, see [Jeannette Brown](#).

THE CARL J. MARTINSON LECTURESHIP IN PREVENTIVE MEDICINE will feature C. Anderson (Andy) Johnson in "Personalized Public Health Through Integration of Neurocognitive and Public Health Science: A Global Perspective on Prevention and Control of Cigarette Smoking." Anderson Johnson is dean and professor at the School of Community and Global Health of the Claremont Graduate University. Jan. 20, 10 a.m. reception; 10:30–11:30 a.m. lecture; Coffman Theater. For more information, see [lecture](#).

THE WOMEN'S STAFF will hold a reception to honor and remember Janet Spector, professor emerita, former assistant provost, and groundbreaking scholar of gender studies and American archaeology. Spector, who passed away Sept. 13, was a founder of Women's Studies and the Center for Advanced Feminist Studies, and the leader of the U's Commission on Women and the Minnesota Plan II. Feb. 3, 3 p.m., Law School. For more information, see [reception](#) or learn more about [Spector](#).

WINTER DISCOUNTS are available through Student Union and Activities (SUA) Information Desks for the MINNESOTA Timberwolves, Minnesota Wild, Spirit Mountain, and The Depot Ice Rink. For more information, see [SUA discounts](#).

MORE EVENTS include The Future of Renewable Energy in the U.S. and Europe in the next Decade ([Jan. 12](#)); Renewable Energy: Wind, Solar, and Biofuels in U.S. and Central Europe ([Jan. 13](#)); Ethnoastronomy: A Cultural History of the Stars ([Jan. 17](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (1-18-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 2; Jan. 18, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--UMC's Chancellor Casey to retire.
 --Register for the 2012 Legislative Briefing.
 --Features: The Times they are acclaimin'; Mother of all mergers; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: Humphrey School assistant dean Margaret Chutich has been named to the Minnesota Court of Appeals; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

UMC CHANCELLOR CHARLES CASEY WILL RETIRE at the end of the 2011–12 academic year. Casey made the announcement on Jan. 17. He has been UMC's chancellor since Sept. 2005, and has held other University leadership roles over nearly 25 years, including serving as a member of the Board of Regents and as dean and director of U Extension. A national search for Casey's replacement will be announced soon, with the goal of having a new chancellor in place at Casey's departure, June 30. For more information, see [Chancellor Casey to retire](#).

REGISTER FOR THE U'S 2012 LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING. Held annually, the event serves as the U's kickoff to the legislative session, attracting hundreds of University advocates including faculty, staff, students, and alumni. This year, attendees will learn about the U's 2012 legislative agenda and President Kaler's vision for the U. Attendees will also hear about new and interactive ways to advocate effectively on behalf of the U, and will have the opportunity to engage in some advocacy during the event. While in-person attendance has reached capacity, the event will be broadcast online. Feb. 1, 5:30 p.m. registration; 6 p.m. program; McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [Legislative Briefing](#).

Features

FEATURE: English professor Charles Baxter has published five novels, five collections of short stories, three of poems, and two of essays. His novel, *The Feast of Love*, was made into a 2007 movie with Morgan Freeman. His latest book, *Gryphon: New and Selected Stories*, was named by the *New York Times* to its "100 Notable Books of 2011" list in November. Unspoiled by success, Baxter, a Minneapolis native, is a soft-spoken teacher whose greatest joy now is seeing his students do well. For more information, read "[The Times they are acclaimin](#)."

FEATURE: Around 800 million years ago, some of the one-celled organisms that constituted the whole of earthly life took an evolutionary leap that changed everything. They started to band together, eventually evolving into complex organisms like animals and plants. How that leap happened is a mystery that has eluded scientists. But now U researchers have coaxed normally solitary baker's yeast cells into reenacting the leap, giving science a way to study not only this watershed event, but also its implications. For more information, read "[Mother of all mergers](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Jan. 9–13. This installment of the weekly video feature takes a look at the women's hockey home series against Wisconsin; new Carlson School of Management research on men and risk when women are scarce; and President Kaler's visit at Energy & U, an event for local K-12 students. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Humphrey School assistant dean Margaret Chutich has been named to the Minnesota Court of Appeals; the Institute for Advanced Study has announced its faculty fellows for 2012–13; Lewis Gilbert has joined the Institute on the Environment as managing director and chief operating officer; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT. The Fixed Price Contracts, including Clinical Trials policy proposes a new formula for distributing remaining balances and a requirement to close out all fixed price awards within one year of the award date. The Outside Consulting and Other Professional Commitments policy has been reorganized and enhanced by adding language to cover civil service and union-represented employees; promoting the reporting exclusions from the procedures into the policy; incorporating the conflict of interest requirement to have a formal consulting agreement in place when an individual is engaged in one or more of the higher risk activities; and addressing policy violations consistent with the conflict of interest policy. Several other policies were revised last quarter as well, and are now under 30-day review/comment. For more information, see [Policies Under Review](#) or [policy news](#).

UPLAN MEMBERS CAN REDUCE MEDICAL PROGRAM RATES in 2013 by participating in a variety of wellness programs by Aug. 31, 2012. The new Wellness Points Bank program allows participants to earn points for participating in health and fitness activities. Those earning the required number of points can reduce their 2013 premiums by \$300 or \$400, depending on their level of health care coverage. During 2012, plan members can also earn two \$65 wellness rewards by completing the wellness assessment (by Mar. 31) and a health improvement program (by Aug. 31). For more information, see [Wellness Points Bank](#).

THE GRADUATE EDUCATION COUNCIL (GEC), created in response to the recommendations for restructuring graduate education, has held its first election. The GEC serves as an advisory body to the vice provost and dean of graduate education. Newly elected members begin serving this month, and will replace provisional members who have served since fall 2010. For election results, see [grad.umn.edu](#).

THE U OF M WEB BROWSING SIGN-IN PAGE and its authentication platform will be upgraded Feb. 15, with changes taking effect immediately thereafter. The newly designed sign-in page offers significant improvements. It has been updated to meet U branding standards, to accommodate screen readers, and to display on mobile devices. For a visual demonstration of the changes, compare the [current sign-in page](#) with the [new sign-in page](#). For more information, see the [Office of Information Technology](#).

Awards and opportunities

P&A SENATE 2012 OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD: The P&A Senate is accepting nominations for its annual Outstanding Unit Award, which recognizes University units that are judged to be exemplary in their support of P&A staff and the critical role P&A employees fulfill in supporting the U's mission. The nomination deadline is March 2. For more information, see [P&A Senate Award](#).

BOREAS ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM: Graduate and professional students and postdocs from across the U are invited to participate in the Institute on the Environment's Boreas Leadership Program spring workshops. Topics include building better presentations, contributing to policy-making, integrative leadership, systems thinking, and more. Applications are due Feb. 2. For more information, see [Boreas](#).

CROOKSTON:

THURSDAY COMMONS: The Black Student Association will host "Music and Food with Soul" at the next Thursday Commons event Jan. 19, 12:30–1:45 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The event will feature a variety of influential music from African American culture, as well as a sampling of African and African American foods. For more information, see [Thursday Commons](#).

IN THE FIRST EDITION OF TOP ONLINE EDUCATION PROGRAM RANKINGS by *U.S. News & World Report*, UMC ranked among the nation's top 40 colleges and universities in two separate categories for its online bachelor's degree programs. UMC ranked 32 of 173 in the Teaching Practices and Student Engagement category, and 40 of 179 in Student Services and Technology. For more information, see [ranking](#).

DULUTH:

THE TOBIN PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE SCHOLARSHIP, founded by associate professor Maureen Tobin Stanley, is available for students with a major in the UMD College of Liberal Arts. The scholarship application requires students to write an essay describing how their major supports the promotion of peace and nonviolence. For more information, see [scholarship](#).

UMD WILL LAUNCH ITS CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE with a celebration beginning Jan. 21, 3 p.m., Weber Music Hall. World-renowned Chinese pipa soloist, Gao Hong, and Carleton College's Chinese Music Ensemble will perform. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [UMD launches Confucius Institute](#).

MORRIS:

ART EXHIBIT OPENING: The work of artists Betsy Ruth Byers and John J. Richardson will be featured in the [Humanities Fine Arts \(HFA\) Gallery](#) from Jan. 19 through Mar. 8. Byer's work, *Peripheral Accumulations*, will be displayed on the main floor of the gallery, while paintings by Richardson will be exhibited in *Case Study* on the mezzanine level. An opening reception will be held Jan. 19, 7–9 p.m. HFA Gallery hours are 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Friday; 1–4 p.m., Saturday.

ROCHESTER:

CLAUDIA NEUHAUSER, UMR vice chancellor for academic affairs, has been named one of six fellows of the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. For more information, see [fellows](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

THE SECOND TWIN CITIES CAMPUS CLIMATE ACTION PLAN identifies 10 energy related strategies to reduce campus greenhouse gas emissions by almost 50 percent compared with 2008 levels. The plan was developed by the UMTC Sustainability Committee in consultation with the campus community and was submitted to the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC). It is available for review at [ACUPCC](#).

THE STUDENT RECREATIONAL SPORTS DOME opened its doors to the U community on Jan. 17. The facility, which will be functional during winter and spring, spans 240 feet wide, 330 feet long, and has a maximum height of 75 feet. During warmer weather, the dome will come down and the space will be used for outdoor sports. Activities in the dome include intramural sports, sport club practices, instructional camps, open recreation, and more. The facility is located at 1720 8th Street SE, on the East Bank. For more information and facility hours, see [Recreational Sports](#).

FREE WORKSHOPS AT THE BIO-MEDICAL LIBRARY are open to all U faculty, staff, and students. Workshops cover a variety of library resources and research techniques. Sessions are designed to help attendees enhance their skills searching databases and other library resources, organizing and managing research, and publishing in the health sciences. For registration and to view spring workshops, see [library workshops](#).

Funding awards and opportunities

A DISSERTATION RESEARCH GRANT is available through the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA). The grant provides one year of financial support to doctoral students engaged in dissertation research on urban issues. Recipients must be registered Ph.D. students at the U who have passed the preliminary exam stage, and who have approved dissertation proposals by Mar. 1. Application deadline is Feb. 10. For proposal guidelines and more information, see [CURA grant](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

HOUSING FORUM: In "Risk and Resilience in Homeless and Highly Mobile (HHM) Children," Distinguished McKnight University Professor and Center for Labor and Regional Affairs Fesler-Lampert Chair Ann Masten will present findings from her ongoing collaborative and community-based research on risk and protective factors for school success in HHM children. Jan. 20, noon–1:30 p.m., 1-106 Hanson Hall. For more information, see [housing forum](#).

DEINARD MEMORIAL LECTURE ON LAW AND MEDICINE: "Health Care Reform and the Future of American Medicine," with Ezekiel Emanuel, professor and former health care adviser for the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Emanuel will describe the pressing need for health care reform, the key innovations in the Affordable Care Act, and how they are likely to impact the actual delivery of care. After Emanuel's talk, commentator and U professor Stephen Parente will provide an alternate perspective followed by a moderated Q&A. Jan. 25, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center. For more information, see [Deinard lecture](#).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR MINI MEDICAL SCHOOL'S winter session, "It's All in Your Head: The Latest in Brain Disease and Treatment." Never before has more attention been paid to the devastating effects of brain diseases, neurological disorders, and traumatic brain injuries. Participants will discover how world-renowned experts at the U are making major advances in the field of brain science. Mondays, Feb. 6–Mar. 5, 6–8:30 p.m., 2-650 Moos Tower. For registration and more information, see [Mini-Medical School](#) or call 612-624-4604.

MORE EVENTS include Smarter Living—The 2,000 Watt Society ([through Mar. 1](#)); A Preview of the 2012 Minnesota State Legislative Session ([Jan. 19](#)); Professor Cathy Cohen Presents: "Politics, New Media and Inequality: From the Occupy Movement to the 2012 Elections" ([Jan. 19](#)); "'The Spider Will Follow You': Evangelical Salvadoran Perspectives on U.S. Immigration" ([Jan. 24](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (1-25-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 3; Jan. 25, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue
 --Participate online in the U's 2012 Legislative Briefing.
 --Features: Profile of Mark Distefano, Distinguished McKnight University Professor; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: The U has named more than 150 recipients of its 2012 Imagine Fund Annual Awards and Special Events Grants; and more.

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

TOP NEWS:

REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE U'S 2012 LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING. While in-person attendance has reached capacity, registration is still open for online participation. Participants will learn about the U's 2012 legislative agenda and President Kaler's vision for the U. Attendees will also hear about new and interactive ways to advocate on behalf of the U. Feb. 1, 6 p.m. For registration and more information, see [Legislative Briefing](#).

Features

FEATURE: Science seldom fits neatly into organized disciplines. The same applies to scientists. Transcending the boundaries of disciplinary research, Distinguished McKnight University Professor Mark Distefano combines chemistry and biology to defeat cancer cells, creates methods for "green" chemical synthesis, and more. The grandchild of a hunter/trapper and a strawberry farmer, and the son of an engineer and a nurse, Distefano has inherited a love of science and nature. For more information, read a [profile of Mark Distefano](#).

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Jan. 16–20. This installment of the weekly video feature takes a look at the new, recently revealed Gopher Football jerseys, plus the story of a cat whose life has been saved by researchers at the Academic Health Center, and big grants for the College of Education and Human Development. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: The U has named more than 150 recipients of its 2012 Imagine Fund Annual Awards and Special Events Grants; the Office for Equity and Diversity has named Frederic MacDonald-Dennis as director of the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence and Matthew Antonio Bosch as director of the GLBTA Programs Office; kinesiology professor Mary Jo Kane, director of the Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sport, has been chosen by the Minnesota Coalition of Women in Athletic Leadership to receive their Special Merit Award; associate professor Dona Schwartz received an Honorable Mention at the Santa Fe Prize for Photography competition; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

FINALISTS FOR THE POSITION OF DEAN OF THE CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT have been invited to campus for public interviews beginning Jan. 30. The identity of each finalist will be made public approximately 48 hours prior to the start of the individual candidate's public interview, along with her/his interview schedule, vita, application letter, and link to a live webcast or video file of her/his public presentation. Each candidate will make a public presentation, followed by an open Q&A. The U launched an international search for the position in August 2011. For a complete schedule of interviews and more information, see [Carlson School Dean](#).

A WORKSHOP ON FINANCING START-UPS BASED ON UNIVERSITY RESEARCH will be offered by the Office for Technology Commercialization for U researchers, including faculty, graduate students, and post-docs. A panel of investors will answer questions about the financing process. Feb. 15, 5–7 p.m., Campus Club, Coffman Union. Free. RSVP online by Feb. 13. For more information, see [technology commercialization](#).

AN EQUITY AND DIVERSITY CERTIFICATE is now available through the Office for Equity and Diversity. The certificate is designed to help participants develop tools for advancing equity and diversity in all aspects of their personal and professional lives. The certification has two levels—basic and advanced—and is free of charge and open to faculty, staff, and students on all campuses. [Workshops](#) begin Jan. 31. For more information, see [Equity and Diversity Certificate](#) or email Anne.Phibbs.

A NEW ONLINE TRANSCRIPT-ORDERING SYSTEM for official transcripts is scheduled to go live Feb. 1. The new system will expedite both ordering and processing and will offer an option for delivery of an electronic transcript minutes after it is ordered. A new pricing structure for official transcripts will also take effect with the launch. For more information, see [transcripts](#).

Funding awards and opportunities

THE MINNESOTA FUTURES GRANT PROGRAM encourages U faculty to reach across academic disciplines. The program helps to advance ideas into viable research questions, enabling researchers to respond collaboratively to emerging opportunities. The Office of the Vice President for Research is seeking research proposals that originate from new interdisciplinary groups. Proposals may be for up to two years and a maximum of \$250,000 each. Two grants may be awarded. A letter of intent is due by Mar. 9, with the application due Apr. 16. For eligibility criteria and application instructions, see [Futures Grant](#), email grant_program, or call 612-625-2356.

THE CENTER FOR WRITING'S Interdisciplinary Studies of Writing (ISW) program offers research grants to support the inquiry of U of M scholars and teachers into writing and literacy. [Letters of Intent](#) are due Feb. 6. For more information, see [ISW grant application](#).

CROOKSTON:

THE UMC FACULTY ASSEMBLY WILL MEET Jan. 27, 3 p.m., 207 Dowell Hall. For more information, see [faculty assembly](#).

UMC WILL HOST THE 37TH ANNUAL AG ARAMA weekend, featuring contests in agronomy, animal science, horticulture, and natural resources. Most activities take place Jan. 28, University Teaching and Outreach Center. For more information, see [Ag Arama](#).

SUSTAINABILITY SUPPER: D. Scott Johnson will present an overview of Systems Dynamics as it applies to topics of resource use and availability, analysis of local food systems, campus greenhouse gas inventories, and more at the next UMC Sustainability Supper. Johnson is an experienced system dynamicist residing in Grand Forks. Jan. 30, 5 p.m., Brown Dining Room. RSVP by email to Dan.Svedarsky or call 218-281-8129 by Jan. 27 to attend. For more information, see [sustainability](#).

DULUTH:

THREE UMD MEN'S HOCKEY PLAYERS ARE CANDIDATES FOR THE HOBEBY BAKER AWARD, which honors all-time great contributors to the game of college hockey. Candidates from the Bulldogs are sophomore J.T. Brown, senior Jack Connolly, and senior Travis Oleksuk. The UMD men's hockey team continues to rank number one in the latest USCHO.com and *USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine* polls, as well as the InsideCollegeHockey.com Power Rankings. Fans can vote for candidates through Mar. 25 at [vote Hobey](#). For more information, see [Hobey Baker Award](#).

A WINNING MUSICAL SCORE by assistant professor Gene Koshinski of the UMD Department of Music was honored with the 2012 Rudolf Nissim Award from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers foundation. The award recognizes Koshinski's composition, *Concerto for Marimba and Choir*. For more information, see [musical score](#).

MORRIS:

HUMORIST, AUTHOR, AND *DAILY SHOW* RESIDENT EXPERT JOHN HODGMAN will present a night of silliness and laughs at "That is All, An Evening with John Hodgman." Feb. 11, 8 p.m., Edson Auditorium. Tickets are available at the Information Desk/Higbys, Morris Student Center. For more information, see [John Hodgman](#).

RESEARCH STEMMING FROM THE TRUCKERS AND TURNOVER PROJECT was presented at the American Economic Association's annual meeting in Chicago. Jon Anderson, professor of statistics, and Stephen Burks, associate professor of economics and management, co-authored with Colin DeYoung and Aldo Rustichini of UMT, "Toward the Integration of Personality Theory and Decision Theory in the Explanation of Economic and Health Behavior." The Truckers and Turnover Project is a multi-year study in the field of "behavioral personnel economics" which has involved faculty participants from several universities in the United States and Europe, along with more than twenty Morris students. For more information, see [research](#).

ROCHESTER:

"4 SEASONS OF ROCHESTER" will bring together local photographers and artists to showcase seasonal imagery. Mar. 16, 6–10 p.m., Rochester Art Center. Tickets, \$35, go on sale Feb. 1. To submit a photo for a chance to be part of the event, and for more information, see "[4 seasons of Rochester](#)."

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

DRIVEN TO DISCOVER VIDEO CONTEST WINNERS have been announced after eighty-three video submissions and 16,659 votes on Facebook. The sixteen winners received a combined \$30,000 in scholarships for the current semester, with individual awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Some of the videos may be used in University promotions. For the full list of winners and to watch the videos, see [video contest](#).

ST. PAUL CAMPUS BURSAR OFFICE TO CLOSE: In an effort to more efficiently utilize University resources and reduce costs, the [Bursar Office](#) on the St. Paul campus will permanently close as of June 30. New procedures for depositing revenue and other business processes currently performed by the Bursar Office will be communicated to users as the date for closure approaches.

THE SECOND ANNUAL CONSERVATION MADNESS COMPETITION challenges residence halls to reduce electricity use, water consumption, and waste by the largest percentage, and to recycle the most during the month of February. The winning hall will receive a college basketball national championship party in their residence hall on Apr. 2. The competition is cosponsored by the Office of Housing and Residential Life (HRL) and Facilities Management. HRL will also be introducing a [Green Resident Certification program](#) in conjunction with the competition, which begins with a pledge that asks students to incorporate sustainable actions into their campus life. For more information, see [Conservation Madness](#).

APPLICATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL "TONY DIGGS EXCELLENCE AWARDS: Celebrating University Student Group Contributions" will be accepted by Student Unions & Activities through Feb. 22 (by 5 p.m.). Groups must be registered with Student Unions & Activities to be eligible. For more information on the nomination process, see [Tony Diggs](#), email Marissa.Suiter, or call 612-626-6919.

BROWN BAG FINANCIAL WEBINARS offer U employees proven guidelines for success in the marketplace. This series of three interactive webinars will be broadcast live from the corporate offices of U of M investment plan providers Fidelity Investments, Securian Retirement, and Vanguard. Registration is required for the Fidelity and Vanguard webinars. Sessions include Fidelity's "Quarterly Market Perspective," Feb. 1, 11 a.m.–noon; Securian's "A Perspective on Today's Economy and Portfolio Diversification," Feb. 8, noon–1 p.m.; and Vanguard's "Investment Perspectives," Feb. 15, noon–1 p.m. For registration and more information, see [Employee Benefits](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

PREVIEW/REVIEW: UNIVERSITY EVENTS AND LECTURES is a periodic column highlighting events and lectures recently past and soon to come on the TC campus. This issue features a review of the latest in the Humphrey School lecture series "Connecting with Government: Public Talks by Prominent Government Leaders." Previews include a U women staff and faculty art exhibit opening, the 2012 Tucker Center Film Festival, BIG Thursday Night at the Bell, and more. For more information, see [Preview/Review](#).

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS (AAUP) Annual Members' Business Meeting will take place Jan. 26, 4:30–6:30 p.m., Dale Shepard Room, Campus Club, Coffman Union. All faculty, graduate students, and P&A employees, regardless of AAUP membership, are welcome to attend and participate in planning AAUP activities for the coming year. Refreshments will be served. For more information, email William.Beeman or call 612-624-8990.

GREEN WEEK AT THE ST. PAUL STUDENT CENTER makes it easy for faculty, staff, and students to recycle and repurpose. Drop off unwanted eyeglasses, batteries, cell phones, and small electronics at the Information Desk; eat local food samples; compost; and more. Jan. 30–Feb. 3. For a full events listing, see [Green Week](#).

THE MINNESOTA EVALUATION STUDIES INSTITUTE (MESI) 17TH ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE, "Evaluation in a Complex World: Changing Expectations, Changing Realities," is designed for professional evaluators, program directors, and students interested in conducting or using various evaluation methodologies. MESI provides a unique opportunity to learn about contemporary issues in evaluation with national experts and practitioners in a small setting. Mar. 28–30, Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul. The event also includes pre- and post-conference workshops. For registration and more information, see [MESI conference](#).

MORE EVENTS include "Climate Change, Crisis, and Resilience: Perspectives from History" featuring Sam White, Oberlin College ([Jan. 26](#)); Lecture: "A Perspective on Today's Economy and Portfolio Diversification" ([Jan. 27](#)); Cyndy Brucato on "Communicating public value" ([Jan. 30](#)); Drawing Natural History ([Jan. 31](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (2-1-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 4; Feb. 1, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- Video: Why a public research university matters.
- Academic Health Center external review committee appointed.
- Tune in to the U's Legislative Briefing on Feb. 1.
- Features: They know the drool; Three-pronged push for children; Profile of Saif Benjaafar, Distinguished McKnight University Professor; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: 2012 recipients of the McKnight Land-Grant Professorships are Yingling Fan, Joshua Feinberg, Melissa Gardner, Jason Hill, Daniel Keefe, and Dominique Tobbell; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

UMN VIDEO: WHY A PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITY IS IMPORTANT. The U of M is a place where people search for new knowledge, which creates businesses, lifts communities, and changes lives. Two-thirds of U students will stay in Minnesota when they graduate. They will become Minnesota's workforce for new and growing industries, its teachers, healers, artists, and engineers. And they will make Minnesota a vibrant place to live. Share this message widely and help to create awareness about the U's importance to the state. For more information, [watch the video](#).

AN EXTERNAL REVIEW OF THE ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER (AHC) will consider whether the AHC is structured to ensure excellence in all of the U's health science schools. President Kaler charged a small committee to conduct the external review in a letter to U faculty and staff on Jan. 30. This committee will be chaired by Ken Kaushansky, a member of the Institute on Medicine, dean of the School of Medicine, and senior vice president for the Health Sciences at Stony Brook University. For more information, see [AHC external review](#).

THE U'S 2012 LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING TAKES PLACE FEB. 1. For online participation, visit U Legislative Briefing. The event begins at 6 p.m. Participants will learn about the U's 2012 legislative agenda and President Kaler's vision for the U. Attendees will also hear about new and interactive ways to advocate on behalf of the U. For more information, see [Legislative Briefing](#).

Features

FEATURE: It's a researcher's dream: a simple, noninvasive test to detect life-threatening cancer, heart disease, or other maladies while they're still treatable. A team of U researchers is in hot pursuit of that goal, using one of the simplest means imaginable: testing spit. They've discovered that conditions such as breast and oral cancer leak certain proteins into saliva, and if detected, such proteins can be "biomarkers" for the disease. For more information, read "[They know the drool](#)."

FEATURE: A new day is dawning for children who live in poverty or other circumstances that stymie their ability to excel in school. In December, the U of M and the state received three grants, totaling \$88 million, from the U.S. Department of Education to give children at risk the kind of start in life they deserve. The support will put child development experts at the U on the ground with numerous partners. For more information, read "[Three-pronged push for children](#)."

FEATURE: The shortest distance between two points is a straight line. But what's the shortest distance between hundreds of points? Distinguished McKnight University Professor Saif Benjaafar draws on knowledge of engineering, economics, computing, and business to determine the most efficient way to manage complex supply chains. A mechanical engineering professor until recently, Benjaafar has spent the past decade getting the Industrial and Systems Engineering program off the ground. For more information, read a [profile of Saif Benjaafar](#).

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Jan. 23–27. This installment of the weekly video feature takes a look at a collaboration between the U of M and Mayo clinic, visits with a Carlson School graduate, and takes a peek at the winners of the U's "Driven to Discover" video contest. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: 2012 recipients of the McKnight Land-Grant Professorships are Yingling Fan, Joshua Feinberg, Melissa Gardner, Jason Hill, Daniel Keefe, and Dominique Tobbell; the University of Minnesota Press book, *Out of the Vinyl Deeps: Ellen Willis on Rock Music*, has been selected as a finalist in the criticism category for a National Book Critics Circle Award; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE U'S CAPITAL REQUEST to the Minnesota State Legislature and how faculty and staff can advocate for the University during the 2012 legislative session was the topic at the most recent installment of "[Campus Conversations](#)." Jason Rohloff, new special assistant to the president for government relations, spoke at the event. A video recording of the presentation is [available online](#).

THE U OF M WEB BROWSING SIGN-IN PAGE and its authentication platform will be upgraded Feb. 15, with changes taking effect immediately thereafter. The newly designed sign-in page offers significant improvements. It has been updated to meet U branding standards, to accommodate screen readers, and to display on mobile devices. For a visual demonstration of the changes, compare the [current sign-in page](#) with the [new sign-in page](#). For more information, see the [Office of Information Technology](#).

AN ONLINE REGENTS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN CLINICAL RESEARCH has been created to meet the growing demand for health professionals skilled in clinical research. The 15-credit program is designed specifically for clinicians and other health professionals, and all courses are provided online through the School of Public Health. The program consists of six courses that can be completed in two years (taking one course per semester). Applications will be accepted until the program reaches capacity. For more information, see [clinical research certificate](#), email [Regents Certificate](#), or call 612-626-5665.

Funding awards and opportunities

PROPOSALS FOR THE SPRING 2012 MINI GRANTS COMPETITION sponsored by the Institute on the Environment are due by Mar. 9. IonE Mini Grants are intended to help spur new collaborative efforts by providing small amounts of funding (from \$500 to \$3,000, with average grants being \$1,500), administrative support (including organizing and staffing meetings), and space (for meetings, small conferences, new courses, reading groups, etc.) to interdisciplinary groups of faculty, staff, and students from across the U system. The grants are meant to encourage collaboration across disciplines, units, and campuses. For more information, see [Mini Grants](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE, "Addressing Global Challenges through International Research," will feature presentations by more than 90 U faculty, researchers, and graduate students, as well as panel discussions on global policies, ethics, and partnerships. David Stonner, deputy director at the National Science Foundation Office of International Science and Engineering, will give the keynote address at the conference. Free and open to the U community, with lunch provided. Feb. 17, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information, see [international research](#).

CROOKSTON:

"FAMOUS DAVE" Anderson, founder of Famous Dave's Barbecue, will speak at a Thursday Commons event, Feb. 2, noon, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Sponsored by the Center for Rural Entrepreneurial Studies, Anderson will tell his story about overcoming tremendous odds, adversity, and failure in order to create the successful restaurant company. For more information, see [Famous Dave's](#).

THE SECOND ANNUAL JUSTIN KNEBEL MEMORIAL ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT will be held Feb. 4, Zippel Bay Resort, Williams, Minn. The entry fee is \$25 in advance, \$30 at the gate, and includes a road access fee. All proceeds go to UMC athletic scholarships and the Justin Knebel Endowed Scholarship. For more information, see [Justin Knebel scholarship fundraiser](#).

THE 2012 U OF M LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING will be [shown live](#) in 116 Kiehle Building and online Feb. 1. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. with light hors d'oeuvres; the program begins at 6 p.m.

DULUTH:

THE ROYAL D. ALWORTH JR. INSTITUTE AND BAEUMLER-KAPLAN HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION will begin the UMD spring semester film series, "The Holocaust: Resistance and Survival," featuring the first Hollywood film to portray Nazi oppression, *The Mortal Storm*. The spring film series is scheduled at 3:30 p.m., 70 Montague, on five Thursdays: Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, and Mar. 1. For the complete list of films and showings, see [Holocaust commemoration](#).

THE ANNUAL "SPRING FEAST" hosted by the American Indian Learning Resource Center will take place Feb. 7, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., UMD Kirby Ballroom. The feast will include a discussion with artist Carl Gawboy and UMD professor and author Ronald Lee Morton about their new book, *Ancient Earth and the First Ancestors: A Cultural and Geological Journey*. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Spring Feast](#).

THE NATURAL RESOURCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE recently released a study that illustrates the potential for storing wind energy in abandoned mines. The pumped-hydro storage process would match consumer demand at peak usage, while storing excess power when the need for energy is lower. For more information, see [storing wind energy](#).

MORRIS:

IMAGINE FUND RECIPIENTS: Twelve UMM professors are among the recipients of the all-University 2012 Imagine Fund Awards. Supported by a grant from the McKnight Foundation, the Imagine Fund is a unique systemwide program that supports projects in the arts, humanities, and design at the U. For more information, see [UMM Imagine Fund recipients](#).

THE SIXTH ANNUAL COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS event will host approximately 200 students from across the country in competition for the Prairie Scholars Award and the Morris Scholars Award—the Morris campus's most prestigious competitive scholarships. For more information, see [scholarship competition](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR CONNECTS WILL FOCUS ON PATENTS AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH during the month of February. The next event, Feb. 7, will discuss why nanotechnology is projected to be a \$1 trillion industry by the end of this year. UMR Connects is a weekly series, held Tuesdays, connecting the community and visitors to speakers, authors, panels, and more on a variety of engaging topics. For more information, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

GOOGLE+ AND GOOGLE SITES TRAINING is now being offered by the Office of Information Technology. Learn how to use Google+ to easily share information and conduct impromptu web meetings, or how to easily create websites using Google Sites. Training is also available for using Gmail, Google Calendar, and Google Docs. For more information, see [technology training](#).

LIBRARY COURSE PAGES are available in Moodle and on the Libraries homepage ("Course Resources" tab). Faculty and staff are asked to encourage students to explore the pages, which bring together databases for finding articles, 24/7 "Chat with a Librarian," course reserve readings, and more. Resources may be added to a course page by contacting the librarian listed on the page. For more information, see an example of a [Library Course Page](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE GRAMMY AWARD WINNING PARKER QUARTET will perform works by Mendelssohn, Kirchner, and Dvořák at a concert Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. This event is part of the School of Music's Creative Instructional Residency Initiative program. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Parker Quartet](#).

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR MINI MEDICAL SCHOOL'S winter session, "It's All in Your Head: The Latest in Brain Science and Treatment." Participants will discover how world-renowned experts at the U are making major advances in the field of brain science. Mondays, Feb. 6–Mar. 5, 6–8:30 p.m., 2-650 Moos Tower. For registration and more information, see [Mini-Medical School](#) or call 612-624-4604.

THE PHYSICS FORCE PUBLIC SHOW is a unique mix of large-scale physics demonstrations and humor for adults and children of all ages. The event is an outreach program —performing for more than 20,000 school-age kids annually—of the College of Science and Engineering, and includes high school teachers and U physics professors. The group's goal is to show that difficult subjects like physics and math can be fun and interesting. Feb. 9, 7–8:30 p.m., Minneapolis Convention Center. Free. For more information, see [Physics Force](#).

PHYSICS AND COOKING: Discover intriguing facts about the science of innovative approaches to the preparation and presentation of foods. Harvard professor David Weitz will present lessons based on an introductory science course, Science and Cooking: From Haute Cuisine to the Science of Soft Matter, offered at Harvard by Weitz and a team of top international chefs. Feb. 9, 7–8:30 p.m., 150 Tate Laboratory of Physics. For more information, see [cooking physics](#).

WHY UNIVERSITIES SHOULD OFFER MORE INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES will be the topic of an Institute for Advanced Study panel discussion. "Questions Without Borders: Why Future Research and Teaching Will Be Interdisciplinary," will feature remarks by Myron Gutmann, assistant director at the National Science Foundation. It will be moderated by U provost Karen Hanson, with U faculty panel participation. Feb. 13, 3:30–5 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information, see [interdisciplinary discussion](#).

NORTHROP DANCE will present the Jin Xing Dance Theatre Shanghai Minnesota Debut, Feb. 18, 8 p.m., Orpheum Theatre. China's most celebrated dancer, Jin Xing, and her company showcase a retrospective of 10 of her best works over the last 25 years, featuring lavish onstage environments and a feast for the senses. U of M discounts apply. A public interview with Jin Xing will take place Feb. 16, 4 p.m., 125 Nolte, as part of the Institute for Advanced Study's Thursdays at Four Series (free). For tickets and more information, see [Northrop Dance](#).

THE SPRING 2012 GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION ASSEMBLY, "From First Course to First Job," Mississipi Room, Coffman Union. The quality of advising is a key factor in graduate students' successful completion of their degree programs, and also can be a primary reason students leave. Join others in facilitated discussions on how to achieve excellence in advising. Open to U faculty, staff, postdocs, and students interested in the future of graduate and professional education at the U. For registration and more information, see [assembly](#).

MORE EVENTS include 2012 Legislative Briefing ([Feb. 1](#)); Grant Funding—Search Tools and Resources ([Feb. 2](#)); BIG Thursday Night at the Bell ([Feb. 2](#)); Call It Character: A Selection of Stars from Archives and Special Collections ([Feb. 3](#)); Copyright in the Classroom (and Online) ([Feb. 6](#)); Mendeley: Get Organized ([Feb. 7](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (2-8-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 5; Feb. 8, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--The Board of Regents meet Feb. 9–10.
 --Features: U advocacy on display; The pitfalls of too many men; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: Gopher athletics director Joel Maturi will retire in June; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL MEET FEB. 9–10. The agenda includes a review of the U's six-year capital plan, a presentation on the recalibration of risk in the research enterprise, and the report of the president. In addition, President Kaler will present results of the 2011 public perception and attitude survey and introduce the new senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, Karen Hanson, who began in the role on Feb. 1. For more information, see the [docket materials](#).

Features

FEATURE: A record crowd packed the McNamara Alumni Center last week for the annual Legislative Briefing. Attendees heard President Kaler talk about the U's Capital Request and the importance of sharing stories about the U, whether by postcard, phone call, or tweet. For more information, read "[U advocacy on display](#)."

FEATURE: First, mating insecurity; then, financial insecurity. Some guys can't catch a break. If you're a male living in an area with fewer females than you would like, beware: You may be facing a double whammy. According to new research from Vlad Griskevicius in the U's Carlson School of Management, the perception that women are scarce leads men to be impulsive, borrow more, and save less. For more information, read "[The pitfalls of too many men](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Jan. 30–Feb. 3. This installment of the weekly video feature takes a look at highlights from the U's 2012 Legislative Briefing; a residence hall "Conservation Madness" competition that challenges U students to reduce electricity use, water consumption, waste, and to recycle the most during the month of February; and a distracted driving video game created by the Center for Transportation Studies to help teens and young adults understand the importance of concentrating on driving. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Gopher athletics director Joel Maturi will retire in June; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:**Administrative information**

AN ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE themed "Innovation in Teaching, Learning, and Research" invites presentations demonstrating how members of the U community are using technology to drive innovative teaching, learning, and research. The showcase will be similar to an open house poster session, and presenters may use posters, computer displays, or other technology. Applications are due by midnight, Feb. 24. The event takes place Apr. 4, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information and to apply, see [technology showcase](#).

BROWN BAG FINANCIAL WEBINARS continue Feb. 8 at noon with the second in this series of live broadcasts. The interactive webinars offer guidelines for success in the marketplace. Session 2, "A Perspective on Today's Economy and Portfolio Diversification," takes place Feb. 8, noon–1 p.m. Session 3, Vanguard's "Investment Perspectives," will be broadcast Feb. 15, noon–1 p.m. Registration is required for the Vanguard webinar. Sessions are open to U employees and their families. For registration and more information, see [Employee Benefits](#).

A NEW LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS) WILL LAUNCH IN MAY and will allow for administration, tracking, and reporting of training content—both online and instructor-led. The new LMS will impact all University employees, as this is where training records will be located once the system is launched. It is replacing the current PeopleSoft training module known as Enterprise Learning Management (ELM). More information will be available as the launch date approaches. For more information, see [LMS frequently asked questions](#).

THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (OIT) YEAR IN REVIEW: During the past year, OIT'S focus and direction have been on the development of "[One IT](#)," a concept incorporating a shared vision, shared innovation, shared leadership, and shared purpose in support of the U's vision, as well as OIT'S mission in advancing excellence, efficiency, access, and innovation in information technology systemwide. For more information, see [OIT Year in Review](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE 11TH ANNUAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE will offer fast-paced and interactive courses in nine public health areas with an emphasis on theory-to-practice, with opportunities for field trips, case studies, hands-on labs, and simulations. Courses include Culturally Responsive Public Health Practice; Environmental Health Sciences; Food Protection, Global Health, Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Public Health Leadership and Management; Public Health Preparedness, Response and Recovery; Research Methods; and Women and Child Health and Nutrition. Graduate credit or noncredit continuing education hours are available. May 21–June 8. For course descriptions and more information, see [Public Health Institute](#) or [email health](#).

Funding awards and opportunities

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY TRANSFORMATION AWARDS of up to \$5,000 are available to groups to assist with documenting the history and sharing the stories of equity and diversity work across the University of Minnesota. All academic and administrative units across the U's campuses are encouraged to apply. For more information, see [Equity and Diversity Transformation Award](#).

CROOKSTON:

THE 63RD WESTERN MINNESOTA REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR will take place Feb. 11, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Registration and project set-up begin at 8 a.m., with judging at 10 a.m. The public is invited to view the projects from 10 a.m. to noon. An awards ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. For more information, see [science fair](#).

THE COLLEGE READINESS CONSORTIUM RAMP-UP TO READINESS WORKSHOP will take place Feb. 14, 10 a.m.–noon, Bede Ballroom. Ramp-Up to Readiness is a school-wide guidance program for students in grades 6–12 that helps them master the knowledge, skills, and habits necessary for success in higher education. For more information, see [Ramp-up to Readiness](#).

DULUTH:

UMD'S DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN'S STUDIES 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION will take place Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Events include a multimedia presentation; musical performances by Oshkii Gizhik Singers, Sara Thomsen and Paula Pedersen, Rachael Kilgour, Eleni Johnson, and Wild by Nature; and a reception. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Women's Studies anniversary](#).

UMD HAS JOINED WITH 14 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UNFAIR CAMPAIGN, an anti-racism effort focusing on the role white people can play in addressing racial disparities. The UnFair Campaign seeks to raise awareness about white privilege in the community, provide resources for understanding and action, and facilitate dialogue and partnership that result in fundamental, systemic change towards racial justice. For more information, see [UnFair Campaign](#).

THE NEW YORK TIMES "SLAP SHOT BLOG" invited UMD communication junior Thomas Olsen to contribute part-time to the online "depository of all things hockey." For more information, see the "[Slap Shot Blog](#)."

MORRIS:

TWO MORRIS STUDENTS ARE WORKING TO CHRONICLE THE LATINO EXPERIENCE in Morris. Jordan Wente '15, Dodge Center, and Cristina Montanez '12, El Paso, Tex., are working with Spanish faculty Windy Roberts and Stacey Aronson through a Center for Small Towns project. For more information, see [Latino experience](#).

ROCHESTER:

KEVIN CAREY, POLICY DIRECTOR FOR THE EDUCATION SECTOR, a nonprofit, nonpartisan think tank, testified about "Innovations in College Affordability" before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP). During his testimony, Carey used the UMR model as an example of how to make college more affordable and provide students with a great education. For more information, see [HELP testimony](#).

UMR WILL OFFER A "VIRTUAL VALENTINE" on Feb. 14 at its weekly evening series, UMR CONNECTS. In addition to special Valentine's Day treats, UMR nursing students will be doing free blood pressure checks and offering heart-healthy counseling with the supervision of nursing faculty. For more information, see [UMR CONNECTS](#).

TWIN CITIES:**Administrative information**

VOTE FOR THE 2012 HOMECOMING THEME. Faculty and staff are encouraged to cast their votes to help determine the theme of UMC's largest campus-wide tradition, which features pep rallies, community service opportunities, the parade, and the big football game. This year's Homecoming festivities take place Oct. 7–13. For more information, see [Homecoming 2012](#).

REFER STUDENTS WHO NEED HELP WITH RESEARCH to the Peer Research Consultants (PRCs) program. PRCs provide one-on-one help to students on library and academic research strategies needed to write a research paper. Drop-in hours are held at Wilson, Walter, or Appleby; and by appointment. The program is a partnership of U Libraries, the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence, and SMART Learning Commons. For more information, see [PRC](#).

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION LOT 37, the daily lot north of Mariucci Arena, became automated Feb. 2. Pay machines at lot exits allow customers to pay by cash or credit card. Event parking remains cash only and those attendees will pay upon entering. For more information, see [Parking Technology Upgrade](#).

Funding awards and opportunities

THE MN LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities) program is seeking applicants for fellowships in the 2012–13 academic year. MN LEND accepts pre- and post-doctoral students, and community fellows for a year-long interdisciplinary and leadership training program focusing on neurodevelopmental disabilities (NDD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), and other related conditions. Applications can be completed online and will be accepted until Apr. 16. For more information, see [MN LEND Fellowships](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

PREVIEW/REVIEW: UNIVERSITY EVENTS AND LECTURES is a periodic column highlighting events and lectures recently past and soon to come on the TC campus. This issue features a review of the U's 2012 Legislative Briefing, which had record-setting participation. Previews include "Physics and Cooking," with Harvard professor David Weitz; From Hurricanes to Fresh Water Futures: Severe Storms and Their Consequences; and Words at WAM, a literary open mic; and more. For more information, see [Preview/Review](#).

THE U OF M WIND ENSEMBLE will perform the regional premiere of Judith Lang Zaimont's Concerto for Piano and Wind Orchestra "Solar Traveller," under the baton of School of Music professor Craig Kirchoff, with associate professor Timothy Lovelace as the piano soloist. Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann. Free. For more information, see [wind ensemble](#).

THE U TRANSGENDER COMMISSION will hold its first full meeting of 2012 on Feb. 9, 3:30–5:30 p.m., 219 Appleby Hall. The agenda includes work on documents such as Grounding Assumptions, Mission and Vision, and a deeper look into the theme of health and wellness work across four focus areas: health care, restroom access, policies and forms, and education and training. The meeting will also include an interactive gender dialogue. For more information, [email TransCom](#).

HOW DO NEW TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS SHAPE CITIES? Michel Parent, research adviser to an advanced intelligent transportation systems project team of the French scientific organization INRIA and "father" of the cybercar concept, is the featured speaker at the Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) winter luncheon. Using Paris as an example, he will explore how automation in transportation can help improve mobility in cities. Feb. 14, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. University Hotel Minneapolis (formerly the Radisson). For more information, see [CTS winter luncheon](#).

TONGUES UNTIED: The LGBTQ People of Color biweekly discussion series will feature educational presentations and social events designed to give LGBTQ people of color a space to talk about their experiences, issues, and needs at the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality on predominantly white and hetero-normative campuses. The group will meet Feb. 13, Feb. 27, Mar. 26, Apr. 9, and Apr. 23, 5:30–7 p.m., 11 Appleby Hall. For more information, email [Tongues Untied](#).

THE HISTORY OF NORTH MINNEAPOLIS will kick off a new "Critical Conversations" series, featuring public discussions on urban issues and ideas with scholars, historians, artists, and community leaders. The first event will focus on the recent U-produced documentary, *Cornerstones: A History of North Minneapolis*. *Cornerstones*' director and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Daniel Pierce Bergin will moderate. Feb. 23, 5 p.m. reception; 6 p.m. film screening; 7 p.m. main event. Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center, 2001 Plymouth Avenue North, Minneapolis. For more information, see [Critical Conversations](#).

A BONE MARROW DONOR REGISTRY DRIVE held by College of Pharmacy students will take place Mar. 8, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., DONOR CITY, second floor of Moos Tower. Faculty and staff, and students are invited to come and "get swabbed." For more information, see [bone marrow donor](#).

MORE EVENTS include A SIP OF SCIENCE: Rivers, Plate Tectonics, and People: Life on the Ganges-Brahmaputra Delta ([Feb. 8](#)); Examples of How to Use REDCap for Research and Administration ([Feb. 9](#)); Paul and Sheila Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Twin Cities Presents: Lab Day ([Feb. 11](#)); Valentine's Day Blood Drive ([Feb. 14](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE EVENTS [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (2-15-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 6; Feb. 15, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- State of the U Address.
- Board of Regents February meeting summary.
- Features: Figuring out flavor; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Kathleen O'Brien, vice president for University Services, has announced plans to retire June 30; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

2012 STATE OF THE U ADDRESS: President Eric W. Kaler will deliver the annual State of the U Address Mar. 1, 3:30–4:30 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. The address will be broadcast live via ITV and will be available for viewing at the following outstate locations: UMC-101 Dowell Hall; UMD-173 Kirby Plaza; UMM-Studio A, Humanities and Fine Arts Building; UMR-Room 419; and at the Southwest Research and Outreach Center. For more information and live web-streaming the day of the event, see [State of the U](#).

BOARD OF REGENTS FEBRUARY MEETING SUMMARY: At the February Board of Regents meeting, the board reviewed the U's six-year capital plan, heard a presentation on the recalibration of risk in the research enterprise, and received the report of the president. President Kaler also presented results of the 2011 U of M public perception and attitude survey. In addition, the board learned about the continued progress and success of the U's Wellness Program for faculty and staff. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

Features

FEATURE: Foods have more than 7,100 volatile compounds that may affect smell and hundreds or thousands more that trigger taste, creating the mysterious characteristic we call flavor. To solve the riddle of flavor with new analytical tools and research, U food scientists recently established a one-of-its-kind Flavor Research Education Center, collaborating with food companies to solve flavor challenges. For more information, read "[Figuring out flavor](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Feb. 6–10. This installment of the weekly video feature takes a look at highlights from the Men's Gopher Basketball game, SHADE's Safer Sex Week, and the U's Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, which made national headlines in identifying the cause of death of a pigeon. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Kathleen O'Brien, vice president for University Services, has announced plans to retire on June 30; the Clinical and Translational Science Institute has announced the recipients of 13 career development awards; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE U HAS LAUNCHED A NATIONAL SEARCH FOR THE NEXT CHANCELLOR of the University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC) campus. Bill Peterson, UMC professor of math, science and technology, and Carol Carrier, special assistant to the senior vice president for system academic administration and professor of organizational learning, policy, and development, will co-chair the search. For more information about the search committee, process, nomination, and application procedures, see [UMC chancellor search](#).

CAMPUS SMOKING POLICY: Smoking is prohibited in all facilities owned or leased by the University of Minnesota. Smoking is also prohibited within 25 feet of the exterior entrances to University-owned facilities or facilities fully leased to the U. A Tobacco Cessation Program offered through Medica is available to U Plan Medical Program participants. New in 2012: Earn 150 points for your Wellness Points Bank when you enroll in the program. For more information, see [smoking policy](#) and [tobacco cessation](#).

NOMINATE MINNESOTA'S TOP 10 PLANTS: A public awareness campaign at the U of M Landscape Arboretum asks, "Which plants changed Minnesota and transformed how we live today?" The Arboretum is encouraging the public to nominate specific plant(s) for a state Top 10 list, open through April 15. For more information, see [Top 10](#).

Funding awards and opportunities

THE CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE is funding three pilot programs: Community Collaborative Grants; the Shared University of Minnesota and Mayo Clinic (SUMMA) Awards; and Translational Research Grants. Funding programs support the continuum of translational research—from investigation through discovery and into community practice—linking the most basic research to practical improvements in human health. For more information, see [funding opportunities](#).

A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS from the U's Bob Allison Ataxia Research Center (BAARC) grant program seeks new investigators into the research field of ataxia. The BAARC grant continuously raises and awards funds for this purpose. The application deadline is Mar. 1, noon. For more information see [BAARC grant](#) or email [Norrie Brumm](mailto:Norrie.Brumm).

THE PAT TILLMAN FOUNDATION has selected the U of M as a Tillman Military Scholar University Partner in support of the Tillman Military Scholars program. With its selection, the U is recognized by the Pat Tillman Foundation as being among the nation's leaders in support services for student veterans, active service members, and their spouses. For more information, see the [news release](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

HOW CAN EDUCATION ADVANCE SUSTAINABILITY? That's the central question being investigated by "Earthducation," a project led by Aaron Doering, Charlie Miller, and Cassie Scharber, professors of the Learning Technologies program in CEHD and co-principal investigators. The project involves global research focused on education, the environment, and sustainability. Doering and Miller are traveling to climate hotspots on all seven continents, documenting local answers to this question and sharing them online. They head to Australia Feb. 27. For more information and to follow along, see [Earthducation](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC HAS BEEN NAMED TO THE PRINCETON REVIEW'S 2012 BEST VALUE COLLEGES list. The list, announced Feb. 7 on the *Princeton Review* website and in *USA TODAY*, features 75 public and 75 private colleges and universities. For more information, see [UMC best value](#).

A CLEAN WATER FOR EVERYONE BENEFIT DINNER will be held Feb. 20, 6 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Tickets are \$20 per person, and may be purchased by calling UMC student Anthony Taylor at 218-275-3287. For more information, see [benefit dinner](#).

AN IN-SERVICE DAY FOR UMC FACULTY AND STAFF will be held Feb. 20. Classes for students are excused and faculty and staff will have sessions for professional development and general interest. For more information, see [in-service day](#).

DULUTH:

UMD HAS LAUNCHED A DOCTORAL PROGRAM FOCUSING ON INDIGENOUS CULTURE, language, and leadership—one of the few of its kind in the world. The Ed.D. in Teaching and Learning prepares students to become scholarly practitioners acknowledging cultural issues known to the world of indigenous peoples. For more information, see [Indigenous Culture program](#).

OPEN HOUSES FOR THE MASTER OF TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE (MTAG) will take place Feb. 24, Mar. 30, and Apr. 27, from 3–6 p.m., 268 Kirby Student Center. Prospective students interested in the program will have the opportunity to meet with students in Cohort I at the March and April events. For more information, see [MTAG open houses](#).

MORRIS:

ATHENA KILDEGAARD, UMM POET AND LECTURER, published a new book, *Cloves & Honey* (Nodin Press), which came about as the result of the author's year-long discipline of writing a single love poem every day. A previous collection of her poetry, *Bodies of Light*, was recently selected as a finalist for a Minnesota Book Award. For more information, see [Cloves & Honey](#).

FOUR MONTHS AFTER PARTNERING WITH THE RIDESHARING NETWORK ZIMRIDE, UMM is ranked number one in users as a percentage of institutional enrollment, and tied at number one for number of ride posts, reports Jim Hall, director of information technology. For more information, see [UMM Zimride](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR CAPSTONE COORDINATOR JENNY HEGLAND received the United Way's 2011 Community Impact Emerging Leader Award at the 2012 Celebration of Caring and Giving, held on Feb. 8. For more information, see [community impact award \(PDF\)](#).

UMR CENTER FOR LEARNING INNOVATION FACULTY MEMBER RYAN FURNESS was recently featured for his unique use of Twitter in the classroom in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin*. Furness incorporates Twitter into his Spanish for Health Sciences classes. While not a requirement of the class, tweeting in Spanish offers students extra credit as well as extra practice. For more information, see the [Post-Bulletin](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

TRANSFORMING THE U'S TECH SUPPORT EXPERIENCE: "Tech Stop: learning.support.research" is a new state-of-the-art computer lab, technology support, and collaboration center created by the Office of Information Technology in partnership with University Libraries. For more information, see [Learning.support.research](#).

TECHNOLOGY LEARNING BYTES, sponsored by the Office of Information Technology and University Libraries, are short, concise, 30-minute learning sessions in a small group environment. Participants can learn how to find free images, format bibliographies, edit videos, and more. Sessions are held in the new Tech Stop, 90 Blegen Hall. Free, no registration necessary. For more information, see the [learning bytes calendar](#).

A LIBRARY IN YOUR POCKET: University Libraries has launched an updated version of its mobile website. In-the-go users can do their research anywhere, anytime. For more information, see [mobile library](#) or visit the [mobile site](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

CHOREOGRAPHER JIN XING will participate in a public conversation with U dance professor Anya Chatterjea. China's most celebrated dancer, Jin Xing, and her company, Jin Xing Dance Theatre Shanghai, will perform at the Orpheum Theatre as part of Northrop Dance on Feb. 18. Two days before the performance, Xing will speak with Anya Chatterjea and Ben Johnson, Northrop's director of concerts and lectures, in a conversation about the courage, spirit, and artistry that have contributed to her success as a dancer and owner of China's only independent dance company. Feb. 16, 4–5:30 p.m., 125 Nolte. For more information, see [dance](#).

A 3M SEMINAR ON TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION, "Commercializing Clean Technology," will be lead by industry practitioners and Carlson School entrepreneurship instructors. The event is sponsored by 3M and organized by the Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship. Feb 18, 8 a.m.–noon, 1-109 Hanson Hall. An [RSVP is required](#). For more information, see [3M Seminars](#).

JAPANESE TEA CEREMONY PERFORMANCE: Experience the ceremonial communion between tea maker and guests in the centuries-old ritual during one or more of six tea ceremonies performed by professor Fumio Watanabe, Yamagata University, Japan, and U tea ceremony students. Feb. 21, 4:30–7 p.m., 140 Nolte. Free tea and sweets. Sponsors: Imagine Fund Special Events Award, Institute of Linguistics, Institute for Advanced Studies Department of Anthropology. For more information, see [Japanese tea ceremony](#).

MORE EVENTS include [Frontiers In the Environment \(Feb. 15\)](#); [Bamboo Carving Workshop \(Feb. 17\)](#); [44th Annual Fashion Show: twelve \(Feb. 18\)](#); [Staged Reading of A Stone Thrown at the Guilty \(Feb. 18\)](#); [State Climate Action Plans \(Feb. 21\)](#). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (2-22-2012)Vol. XLII No. 7; Feb. 22, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--State Relations Update.
 --Features: To be a scientist; A better classroom; Punch for a poison; Doing clean energy right; U of M Moment; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: Former U provost Tom Sullivan has been named the next president of the University of Vermont; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: President Kaler recently presented the U's capital request to a Senate Capital Investment Committee. He also presented his strategic vision for the U to both the House and Senate higher education committees. Slideshows of the presentations are available online. In other legislative news, the Decade of Discovery initiative, a partnership between the U and Mayo Clinic to cure diabetes, was given an informational hearing; and the Senate reviewed the Renewable Development Fund, a portion of which supports the Institute on Renewable Energy and the Environment. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: Where does it begin, the act of becoming a scientist? Perhaps with a bowling ball, its finger holes packed with explosives, which when detonated, launch the ball into the air, cracking the otherwise pristine concrete walkway of your childhood home in four places, much to the consternation of your father. Bob Vince can't be sure where it began. But where it led changed the world. Vince's invention of a leading AIDS drug has saved or prolonged millions of lives, and enabled the U to keep funding drug research for years to come. For more information, read "[To be a scientist](#)."

FEATURE: When the U opened its Science Teaching and Student Services building in fall 2010, it established itself as the national leader in advanced learning classrooms. The building has 10 such spaces, besides traditional classrooms. The latest study by U researchers J. D. Walker, Christopher Brooks, and Paul Baepler confirms the strength of advanced learning classrooms: students perform better, and teachers end up using more active, student-centered techniques. For more information, read "[A better classroom](#)."

FEATURE: It lurks in apple seeds, fruit pits, and the cassava root consumed widely in Africa. It's released by house fires when materials like some acrylics, polyurethane, and nylons burn. And it could be used in terrorist attacks. It's cyanide, one of the deadliest poisons around. Researchers at the U's Center for Drug Design have synthesized Sulfanegen, a fast-acting antidote, and California-based startup Vytacera Pharma will develop and market it. For more information, read "[Punch for a poison](#)."

FEATURE: The role of academic research in commercial development is like teaching a kid to ride a bike: Give a boost and stand back. Right? Wrong, says John Sheehan, science director for the U's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE). Collaboration between academia and industry is vital every step of the way along the road to new technologies. For more information, read "[Doing clean energy right](#)."

U OF M MOMENT: If you made New Year's resolutions to eat healthy and exercise more, are you still on track? Mark Pereira, an associate professor in the U's School of Public Health, says the benefits of a healthy diet and exercise are plentiful. Pereira says healthy habits aren't too difficult to achieve. For more information, listen to the [U of M Moment](#).

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Feb. 13-17. This installment of the weekly video feature takes a look at the grand opening of the Mni Sota Native American art exhibit, a February Physical Activity Challenge, and clips from the U of M senior Apparel Design Fashion Show. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Former U provost Tom Sullivan has been named the next president of the University of Vermont; President Kaler has named a search committee for a new Gopher athletics director; the U of M Alumni Association's Bruce Rader has been named a 2012 Robert G. Forman Fellow by the Council of Alumni Association Executives; Caryn Schultz Korman has been named vice president for outreach with the U of M Alumni Association; Maria McSherry, a principal office and administrative specialist in the Office of Human Resources, was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE CIVIL SERVICE SENATE will meet Feb. 28, 2:30-4 p.m., 1-450 Moos Tower. Topics will include an update on the new wellness/work life program and discussion of the Student Health Advisory Committee tobacco-free campus initiative. The meeting is open to the public. For more information and coordinate campus ITV locations, [see the agenda](#).

THE BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS REQUESTING COMMENTS about experiences with UPlan pharmacy and dental plans since January 2011. Comment deadline is Feb. 29. Anonymous summaries of comments are used in performance reviews of UPlan health plans. Enter your comments online at [Benefits Advisory](#).

CROOKSTON:

A FACULTY ASSEMBLY MEETING will take place Feb. 24, 3 p.m., 207 Dowell Hall. For more information, see [faculty meeting](#).

ADAM KLEINSCHMIDT, a senior from Glenwood, Minn., majoring in natural resources received the Student Conservationist award from the Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society at its annual meeting in Fargo. The award marks the 10th time in the last 15 years that a UMC student has been recognized with the award. For more information, see [conservationist award](#).

A \$10,000 GRANT awarded by the Northwest Minnesota Regional Arts Council will support the fourth annual "Fiesta in the Spirit of Cinco de Mayo" at UMC. The grant, offered through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, helps support access and exposure to the arts in all corners of the region. For more information, see [grant](#).

"A CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY AND CULTURE" will take place Feb. 28, 6 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. Hosted by the Black Student Association, the evening includes a variety of performances followed by a dessert reception. Planned performances include African drum and dance, a gospel choir, step team, spoken word artist, and fashion show. For more information, see [black history and culture](#).

DULUTH:

THE WILLIAM PLATER AWARD was presented to UMD's Vince Magnuson, the highly regarded former vice chancellor for academic administration who retired in July 2011. For more information, see [William Plater Award](#).

ANNUAL BODY IMAGE AND EATING DISORDER AWARENESS WEEK will take place the week of Feb. 27 with "Family and Friends" as the theme. U alumna Kitty Westin will kick off the week speaking on "Understanding Eating Disorders and How to Support Someone Who is Suffering," Feb. 27, 7 p.m., 90 Bohannon Hall. For more information, see [eating disorder awareness](#).

MORRIS:

A LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (LEED) GOLD RATING was awarded to the UMM Welcome Center by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). LEED is a third-party certification program and the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. Built in 1915 during the West Central School of Agriculture era, the Welcome Center is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and its renovation was completed in February 2010. In addition to the LEED Gold rating, the building was previously awarded the 2011 Preservation Alliance of Minnesota's Sustainable Design Award and the 2011 Minnesota Construction Association Award. For more information, see [Welcome Center](#).

STUDENT JODIE ROY will lead UMM's water conservation efforts in her new role with the Morris GreenCorps program. Roy will take on the challenge of "managing water out of the tap and out of the sky" in conducting outreach and education activities on storm water management and water conservation. Currently in an assessment phase, she is studying existing campus and community storm water plans and practices, as well as investigating management and conservation work at other campuses and communities. Roy is taking steps to form a water working group similar to the campus composting group. For more information, see [campus water conservation](#).

ROCHESTER:

MINNESOTA BOOK AWARD FINALIST: UMR writing faculty member Bronson Lemer's memoir *The Last Deployment: How a Gay, Hammer-Swinging Twentysomething Survived a Year in Iraq* is a finalist for a 2012 Minnesota Book Award. *The Last Deployment* was named one of the "Best Books of 2011" in the gay and lesbian category by Amazon.com and has been featured in *Instinct magazine*.

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

LEARNING SESSIONS FOR PLAGIARISM PREVENTION AND GRADING SOFTWARE SUITE TURNITIN, will be held by the Office of Information Technology. Upcoming brown bags and webinars for interested faculty and staff will take place Feb. 27, Feb. 28, and Mar. 8. For registration and more information, see [Turnitin](#).

THE FUTURE OF STADIUM VILLAGE will be discussed at a forum sponsored by the U District Alliance in the context of a planning study for the area. The study is a collaboration of the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, the U of M, Stadium Village representatives, and the District Alliance. Attendees will hear about the current demand for commercial and retail space, development opportunities, parking strategies, opportunities to improve open space, bike and pedestrian safety, and more. Feb. 28, 3-5 p.m., Grace University Lutheran Church, 324 Harvard Street S.E. For more information, see [Stadium Village forum](#).

U OF M BICYCLE PAIR-UP: University Bike Center and bike commuters are proactively pairing up to commute to and from the UMTC campus. U students, faculty, and staff interested riding with someone while enjoying the fresh air, being active, and saving gas can meet potential riding partners Mar. 1, 11-noon, University Bike Center. For more information, see the [bike center](#).

SUSTAINABILITY-RELATED UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE COURSES across Twin Cities campus departments, colleges, and programs have been organized in a searchable online database with the help of a new [Sustainability Course Search tool](#) created by the Institute on the Environment. For more information or to nominate courses for inclusion, see [susteducation.umn.edu](#).

THE OFFICE FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT is accepting applications for the C. Peter Magrath Community Engagement Award and the Outreach Scholarship W. K. Kellogg Foundation Engagement Award. Sponsored by the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU), the regional and national awards recognize public colleges and universities for their engaged and discovery. Applications are due Mar. 9, 4 p.m. For guidelines and criteria, see [APLU awards](#). Notify acameron@umn.edu of intent to apply as soon as possible.

Funding awards and opportunities

PROPOSALS FROM RESEARCHERS IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL FIELD are sought by the new [Committee for Pharmaceutical Development](#). The committee provides guidance and ultimately funding, with potential matching funds from philanthropic and industry partners. Funded technologies will have demonstrated persuasive indicators of commercial success and will show potential for improving human health and generating revenue for the University. For more information, and to submit a proposal, see [pharmaceutical proposals](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

PREVIEW/REVIEW: UNIVERSITY EVENTS AND LECTURES is a periodic column highlighting events and lectures recently past and soon to come on the TC campus. This issue features a review of the forum, "Questions Without Borders: Why Future Research and Teaching Will Be Interdisciplinary." Previews include a *Chased by the Light* exhibit walkabout at the Bell; a Frontiers in the environment lecture; the U of M Landscape Arboretum Spring Gardening Expo; and more. For more information, see [Preview/Review](#).

CORPORATE STEWARDSHIP will be the focus of the lecture, "Investing in Sustainability: Building Water Stewardship Into the Bottom Line," sponsored by the Freshwater Society and the U's College of Biological Sciences. Mindy Lubber, an international leader in efforts by investors to lead and pressure multinational companies to adopt environmentally sustainable business practices, will deliver the free, public lecture Mar. 1, 7 p.m., St. Paul Student Center. For registration and more information, see [sustainability](#).

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH ROUNDTABLE: "The Economy and Health: What is the Role of Public Health?" will focus on the effects of recent changes in the economy on health and the policies and programs needed to improve the health of those most affected by the recession and job loss. Free and open to the public, but registration is requested. A complimentary light breakfast will be provided. Apr. 27, 9 a.m.-noon, Coffman Union Theater. For more information, see [economy and health roundtable](#).

MORE EVENTS include Dickens's Pageant with Anatoly Liberman ([Feb. 23](#)); Emerging Markets Symposium ([Feb. 24](#)); Beyond bin Laden: The Future of al-Qaeda and American Counterterrorism ([Feb. 25](#)); Questions and Uncertainties on the Full Implementation of FSMA ([Feb. 28](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (2-29-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 8; Feb. 29, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- State of the U address is Mar. 1.
- Features: Toward predicting heart disease; 'For these who die'; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Former U provost Tom Sullivan has been named the next president of the University of Vermont; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

2012 STATE OF THE U ADDRESS: President Kaler will deliver the annual (and his first) State of the U Address Mar. 1, 3:30–4:30 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. The address will be broadcast live via ITV and will be available for viewing at the following outstate locations: UMC—101 Dowell Hall; UMD—173 Kirby Plaza; UMM—Studio A, Humanities and Fine Arts Building; UMR—419 University Square; and at the Southwest Research and Outreach Center. The speech, "Balances," will outline Kaler's vision and priorities for the U, including efforts to push for the state's reinvestment in higher education, stem the rise in tuition and student debt, improve operational excellence, as well as expand on themes of teaching, research, and community engagement. For more information and live web-streaming the day of the event, see [State of the U](#).

Features

FEATURE: Currently, most screening for heart disease involves blood pressure and cholesterol tests, among others. Trouble is, those tests don't necessarily reflect the presence of cardiovascular disease. Cardiologist Jay Cohn, a professor of medicine, set out to find a simple, noninvasive way to screen people for heart disease in an early enough stage to treat and prevent or delay events like heart attack or heart failure. For more information, read "[Toward predicting heart disease](#)."

FEATURE: The U's School of Music will present Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem* Mar. 1, Ted Mann Concert Hall. The piece inspired Mark Russell Smith, artistic director of orchestral studies at the U, to mark the symphony's 50th anniversary in a big way. His idea became the Britten Peace Project, to include performances in four cities across the globe. For more information, read "[For these who die](#)".

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Feb. 20–24. This installment of the weekly video feature takes a look at the U's Mini Med School, a traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony, and the Real Pirates Exhibit at the Science Museum of Minnesota. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Former U provost Tom Sullivan has been named the next president of the University of Vermont; the Office for Equity and Diversity and the Institute for Diversity, Equity, and Advocacy have announced the 2012 faculty recipients of the Multicultural Research Award; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THERE WILL BE A WIDESPREAD INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICE OUTAGE beginning Saturday, Mar. 3, 6 p.m., and lasting until Sunday, Mar. 4, 6 p.m. During this time, users will be unable to access the U's PeopleSoft systems and their associated web applications, such as OneStop self-service applications (pay statement, direct deposit, benefits summary, etc.). The outage is part of an Office of Information Technology software and hardware upgrade for the Oracle databases that support PeopleSoft. For more information, see [IT service outage](#).

THE U IS IMPLEMENTING A BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE (BI) PRACTICE to enhance its current measurement and reporting practices. BI is a broad term for data management, analysis practices, and software tools enabling evidence-based decision-making. Over the next few weeks, the Office of Planning and Analysis will launch a BI website containing information about who to contact for help, training materials, and general information about Business Intelligence at the U. On Apr. 2, the BI platform will be made available to the University, albeit with limited content. For more information, see [BI implementation](#).

THE NAME OF THE OFFICE OVERSEEN by senior vice president Robert Jones has changed, from System Academic Administration, to Academic Administration, University of Minnesota System. President Kaler announced the reconfigured name to more clearly delineate the scope of Jones's responsibility for academic, administrative, and operational leadership across the system and state, and to more closely align the U's two senior vice presidential roles—that held by Jones and the role held by Karen Hanson, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost.

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND FACULTY SENATE will meet Mar. 1, 2:30 p.m., Coffman Union. Topics will include graduate education policies and viewing of the president's State of the University Address at 3:30 p.m. For more information, see the full agenda at [University Senate](#).

THE P&A SENATE will meet Mar. 2, 9:30 a.m., 1-451 Moos Tower. Topics include a discussion with Susan Rafferty regarding the PULSE survey and discussion with P&A members of the Senate committee. For more information, see the full agenda at [P&A Senate](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

NOMINATIONS FOR THE JOSIE R. JOHNSON HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD are due to the Office for Equity and Diversity by Mar. 26, 4:30 p.m. The award honors individuals who exemplify Johnson's standard of excellence in creating respectful and inclusive living, learning, and working environments at the U. Both nominees and nominators must be current faculty, staff, or students. For more information, see [Josie R. Johnson](#).

THE WOMEN'S CENTER invites nominations for its awards and scholarships, which honor the engagement, contributions, and leadership of University women students, faculty, and staff. For full award and scholarship information, see [Women's Center awards](#).

THE INSTITUTE ON THE ENVIRONMENT is recruiting a new cohort of resident fellows, seeking faculty from across the U system who are interested in pursuing interdisciplinary work on environmental issues. Fellows receive \$10,000 in flexible funds plus an opportunity to apply for additional funding for innovative initiatives. Applications are due Mar. 27. For more information, see [resident fellows application](#).

CROOKSTON:

SPRING SEMESTER CONVOCATION will take place Mar. 1, 12:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. Alisha Aasness, Crookston Student Association president, will serve as master of ceremonies, and UMC's first lady Barbara Muesing will be the featured speaker. Chancellor Charles Casey will recognize student academic achievement at the event and varsity coaches will recognize their respective teams and provide season updates.

THERESA HELGESON, lab services coordinator in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department at UMC, recently fulfilled the necessary qualifications to be awarded the designation of Certified Professional with a Garden Center Specialty by the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association (MNLA). Helgeson is now certified in all three specialties of the MNLA certification program. For more information, see [Helgeson](#).

THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DINNER SERIES will feature the culture and taste of three countries on Mondays through March, as well as at the final international dinner on Apr. 11. The dinners will be held in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, and highlight the countries of Cameroon, Taiwan, and Germany. The final dinner includes a talent showcase, along with demonstrations, table displays, and entertainment from countries all over the world, and is hosted by the Multicultural International Club. For more information, see [dinner series](#).

DULUTH:

A UNIVERSITY SINGERS CHORAL EVENT will also serve as the launch of the UMD Dr. Vernon Opheim Choral Scholarship on Mar. 4, 3 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Former singers and students of Professor Emeritus Vernon Opheim, who was also choral director and conductor of the University Singers and Elizabethan Singers, will join current University Singers under the direction of Professor Stanley Wold to sing "Let Us Break Bread Together," a song that Opheim arranged. For more information, see [Choral scholarship](#).

MORRIS:

JENNIFER DEANE, associate professor of history, has received two grants within the past year—the U Grant-in-Aid-of-Research and a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend, which funds her research on lay religious women of medieval Germany. Deane's research will be published in her forthcoming book, *Sisters Among: Beguines and Lay Religious Women's Communities in Medieval Germany*. For more information, see [Jennifer Deane](#).

RAY SCHULTZ, associate professor of theatre arts, will perform *Blanche and Beyond: Letters of Tennessee Williams* Mar. 1 and 2, 7:30 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Black Box Theatre. For more information, see [Tennessee Williams play](#).

WOVEN FROM THE LAND, a film by Teresa Konechne connecting landscape and culture, will be screened Mar. 6, 7 p.m., 109 Imholte Hall. For more information, see [Woven from the Land](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR ASSISTANT PROFESSOR REBECCA BAMFORD'S BOOK *Nietzsche's Method: Experimentalism in Science and Mind* has been accepted for publication by Walter de Gruyter. The book provides a critical account of Nietzsche's concept of experimentalism, and explains how the concept can enable humanity to solve contemporary problems in the philosophy of science and of mind. It will appear in de Gruyter's [Monographien und Texte zur Nietzsche-Forschung](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

FACULTY OR STAFF WHO ARE GOING ON SABBATICAL AND WOULD LIKE TO RENT THEIR RESIDENCES to new faculty and staff are advised to contact the U's [Relocation Assistance Program](#) (RAP). The program provides housing assistance to new faculty and staff who are moving to the Twin Cities. Most new faculty and staff arrive in the summer. For more information, email rapland@umn.edu or call 612-626-0775.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE 2012 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FORUM, cohosted by the U of M and Augsburg College, will take place Mar. 1–3 at various U of M and Augsburg College campus locations. The annual event is designed to inspire citizens to become active participants in peacemaking efforts around the world. The 2012 theme, "The Price of Peace," will feature a variety of sessions on business, the arts, and global issues, as well as a keynote address by former South African president and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate F.W. de Klerk. The forum will also feature a panel discussion with human rights activist Naomi Tutu, daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, moderated by Robert Jones, senior vice president for Academic Administration, University of Minnesota System. Mar. 3, 10:45 a.m. For registration and more information, see [Nobel Peace Prize](#).

2012 MELENDY LECTURE: Scott Giberson, chief pharmacy officer of the U.S. Public Health Service, will present "A Ship Built for Sea," and discuss improving patient and health system outcomes. Mar. 6, 12:20–1:10 p.m., Mayo Memorial Auditorium. For more information, see [Melendy Lecture](#).

THE PROJECT AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT COLLABORATORS group will offer the workshop, Project Management 201: All's Well That Ends Well, Mar. 12, 9 a.m.–noon, 120 Elmer Anderson Library. The workshop features instructor John Skovbroten. Free and open to all U faculty and staff. RSVP for the program by using the enrollment key "pcmc" at [Moodle](#). For more information, see [project management](#).

THE 2012 MITER LECTURE: "Does Winning a Prestigious Fellowship Improve an Academic Career?" will be presented by [Larry Hedges](#), Board of Trustees Professor of Statistics, and professor of educational and social policy at Northwestern University. A reception will follow the lecture. Seating is limited, and registration is suggested [via email](#). Mar. 23, 2 p.m., William G. Shepherd Room, Weisman Art Museum. For more information, see [Miter Lecture](#).

NATIONAL SECURITY AND OUR ENERGY FUTURE: A public forum featuring Rear Admiral Neil Morisetti will focus on improving national and economic security through investments and policies that will lead towards energy independence. Morisetti will highlight opportunities for Minnesota to benefit from addressing energy challenges through investment in clean energy and efficiency. Sponsored by the U's Institute on the Environment. Mar. 2, 3–4:30 p.m. (forum); 4:30–5:30 p.m. (reception); Cargill Building, St. Paul. For more information, see [IonE events](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers In the Environment Lecture ([Feb. 29](#)); BIG Thursday Night at the Bell ([Mar. 1](#)); Engaging Controversies: Everybody's Second Language? Cross-Cultural and Multilingual Perspectives on Academic Writing ([Mar. 2](#)); Back on the Agenda? The Imperative of the Middle East Refugee Question ([Mar. 5](#)); Addressing Bullying Behavior in the Workplace ([Mar. 6](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (3-7-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 9; March 7, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- State Relations update.
- Federal Relations update.
- Board of Regents meet Mar. 8–9.
- Features: State of the U: 'Balances'; Bringing medical devices to life; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: President Kaler has been appointed to the Homeland Security Academic Advisory Council; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: On Feb. 22, President Kaler presented the U's capital request to the House Capital Investment Committee. At the hearing, which was the last of four University capital request presentations to the legislature, the president provided background on the U's process for determining its legislative request and explained how each of the five projects contributes to the University's mission. In addition, separate committees considered a bill that would provide a tax credit to businesses in greater Minnesota that hire students for internships, and another that would eliminate the funding that the U's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment receives from a Renewable Development Fund. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

FEDERAL RELATIONS UPDATE: In his fourth budget proposal, President Obama continued his support of research and education proposals important to research universities like the University of Minnesota, despite a severely crimped overall budget environment. Only in the area of biomedical research, where the administration proposed to flat fund the National Institutes of Health, is the budget proposal a disappointment. Although it kicks off the appropriations process in Congress by giving lawmakers something to react to, the President's Budget Proposal is by no means the last word on how federal agencies and programs will fare in their eventual funding for FY 2013. For more information, see [Federal Relations](#).

THE BOARD OF REGENTS will meet March 8–9. The agenda includes the report of the president, a resolution related to the Ambulatory Care Center, action on the U's 2012 Six-Year Capital Plan, and a presentation on the University's Land Grant Mission. The board will also consider the conflict of interest matter regarding Regent Steve Sviggum. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

Features

FEATURE: From the first wearable pacemaker to the latest advances in surgical robotics, Minnesota has always been a leader in medical device development, and the U has played a key role in the growth of the industry. As director of the Medical Devices Center, mechanical engineer Art Erdman oversees the designing, prototyping, and testing of leading-edge medical devices at the U. In a Q&A, Erdman shares his thoughts on the past, present, and future of the field. For more information, read "[Bringing medical devices to life](#)."

FEATURE: President Kaler outlined his vision for the U and introduced some exciting new initiatives during his State of the University Address. Kaler outlined the budget battles that the U faces, his plans for a new model of operational excellence, and a half dozen new initiatives that touch on each aspect of the University's mission—teaching and learning, research, and outreach and engagement. For more information, read a [summary of the address](#) or the [complete text of the speech](#).

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Feb. 27–Mar. 2. This installment of the weekly video feature takes a look at the new Salsa Rueda Passion student group, highlights President Kaler's State of the University Address, and a watches as 75 people become citizens of the United States during a naturalization ceremony at the U. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: President Kaler has been appointed to the Homeland Security Academic Advisory Council; the Bush Foundation board of directors has named U President Emeritus Robert Bruininks to act as the Foundation's interim president; the U has named recipients of the Morse-Alumni Award for outstanding contributions to undergraduate education, and recipients of the Award for Outstanding Contributions to Postbaccalaureate, Graduate, and Professional Education; the U has also named recipients of the John Tate Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT (FSA) CLAIMS DEADLINE IS MARCH 31. Employees with a remaining balance in their health care and/or dependent daycare FSA for plan year 2011 must send claims for expenses incurred through March 15, 2012 to Employee Benefits (via campus or U.S. mail) by March 31 for payment. Pursuant to IRS regulations, any funds remaining in accounts after March 31, 2012 will be forfeited. To view your account balance, see [FSA balance](#). For more information, call Employee Benefits at 612-624-9090 or 1-800-756-2363, option 3.

A STATEWIDE ALUMNI SUPPORT CAMPAIGN was recently launched featuring recognizable alumni in regions across the state. In St. Cloud, Moorhead, and Crookston local alumni shared the stories of their U-driven success in print and radio ads. Ads in four more markets will launch later this month. For more information, see [alumni support campaign](#).

SUSTAINABILITY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM, a hands-on workshop for college and university faculty from all disciplines throughout the region, will take place June 7–8, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve. Individual faculty members and departmental and interdisciplinary faculty teams are encouraged to use the workshop as a chance to start the work of integrating sustainability themes into their teaching. For more information, see [sustainability workshop](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2012 OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS are due by March 21. Awards recognize faculty, staff, students, and University-affiliated community members who—by devoting their time, talents, and expertise to serve the public good through research, teaching, and/or public service—have made significant, demonstrable contributions to society's well-being. For more information and a nomination packet, see [outstanding service awards](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

A CANCER DISPARITIES GRAND ROUNDS with K. "Vish" Viswanath of the Harvard School of Public Health will take place March 27, noon–1 p.m., Mayo Auditorium. Viswanath will present on "The Communication Revolution and Health Inequalities in the 21st Century: Promises and Pitfalls." The presentation also will be broadcast to the UMD campus. Food will be provided for the first 60 attendees. Cosponsored by the Minnesota Center for Cancer Collaborations and the U's Masonic Cancer Center.

CROOKSTON:

THE UMC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS will meet March 14, 6:30 p.m., 116 Kiehle. The agenda will include outstanding alumni nominations and graduation dance planning. For more information, see the [board meeting](#).

A STATEWIDE UNIVERSITY ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN highlighting prominent U of M alumni features UMC graduate David Geneux '80. Geneux, Crookston's current mayor, will be featured in print and radio ads scheduled to run in the *Grand Forks Herald* and the *Crookston Times*, and on radio stations KJKJ 107.5 FM, KQHT 96.1 FM, and KROX 1260 AM. For more information, see [alumni stories](#).

THE UMC CAMPUS is on spring break Mar. 12–16. Classes are not in session, but the campus will be open during regular hours.

DULUTH:

WELLS FARGO HAS ANNOUNCED A \$75,000 GIFT to support the Wells Fargo Financial Markets Lab in the UMD Labovitz School of Business and Economics (LSBE). The gift maintains the strong relationship between Wells Fargo Duluth, UMD and LSBE, and the lab. For more information, see [Wells Fargo gift](#).

THE BOULDER LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER engaged 224 UMD participants in 2011 through internships, May-term classes, field trips, undergraduate research projects, workshops, presentations, and organized recreational events. For more information, see [Environmental Learning Center](#).

MORRIS:

CYRUS BINA, distinguished research professor of economics, was a featured presenter at a recent conference in Santa Barbara, Calif., entitled "Constitutional Politics in Modern Iran: A Re-Examination and Implications for the Future." Within the context of Iran's history, speakers examined the challenges of a transition from Iran's current theocratic constitution to a more democratic mode of governance, and proposed recommendations that could meet the needs of the Iranian people in the 21st century. Bina, a well-known expert on the political economy of Iran and on the economics of oil, energy, and globalization, also addressed the role of oil and its alleged connection with dictatorship. For more information, see [conference on Iran](#).

TIMOTHY CLEARY '92 has been commissioned by the Northland Veteran Services Committee in Duluth to construct a statue of Joe Gomer to commemorate the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen, the first African-American military aviators in the United States armed forces. Gomer, a 92-year-old Duluth resident, is perhaps the last member in Minnesota and one of fewer than 100 of the pilots alive today. Cleary is an active artist and an assistant professor of art at the University of Wisconsin-Superior. The statue will be placed in the Duluth International Airport upon completion, slated for Gomer's birthday in June. For more information, see [Tuskegee Airmen](#).

CHRISTINE HOFFMAN '13, a mathematics and Spanish major from Alexandria, was awarded a scholarship from the Council on International Education Exchange and the Korea Foundation to travel to South Korea over spring break to learn more about the country's language, culture, and history. While there, she will attend academic lectures at Yonsei University in Seoul, go on excursions to ancient places, and visit the National Museum of Korea and the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea. For more information, see [Hoffman](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE COMMUNITY EVENT "SEASONS OF ROCHESTER" will bring together local photographers and artists to showcase "4 Seasons of Rochester," Mar. 16, 6–10 p.m., Rochester Art Center. For tickets and more information, see [Seasons](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

A STRENGTHS AT LUNCH series will offer an opportunity for faculty and staff to discuss their work with StrengthsFinder, the online assessment that identifies an individual's top five talents and provides resources for setting goals that put those talents into meaningful action. Attendees are invited to talk with fellow colleagues from across campus about their use of Strengths in their work, to share stories and ideas, and to network with other colleagues interested in Strengths approaches. For more information, see [Strengths at Lunch](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE BUCKMAN FELLOWSHIP for faculty and staff presentations will present John Sweeney of the Brave New Workshop in the event "Take a Risk! Be a Leader!" Free and open to the public, but [registration via email](#) is requested. March 21, 4:30 p.m., North Star Ballroom, St. Paul Student Center. For more information, see [Buckman Fellowship](#).

INTERNATIONALIZING THE CURRICULUM AND CAMPUS CONFERENCE registration is free and open to all interested U faculty and staff. The conference will be held March 23, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Carlson School. For registration and more information, see [internationalization conference](#).

NORTHROP DANCE will present the Houston Ballet in two evenings of repertoire, featuring the best of both classic and contemporary ballet. The ballet company is the fourth largest in the U.S. For each regular-priced ticket purchased, receive one free kid's ticket (up to age 17) for either performance by using promo code KIDSFREE. Mar 23 and 24, 8 p.m., Orpheum Theatre. For tickets and more information, see [Houston Ballet](#).

DESIGN INTERSECTIONS 2012: The College of Design and Larsen invite professionals working with business, government, education, health care, nonprofits, and other organizations to attend Design Intersection on Mar. 29. Speakers for the day include global creatives Knowmads (Amsterdam), KasPilots (Aarhus, Denmark), and 4FRONT (Minneapolis/St. Paul). Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on design thinking workshop to create an inspired future with a local context. For more information, see [Design Intersections](#).

AUTHOR AND ACTIVIST WINONA LaDUKE will deliver the lecture "Honoring the Earth, Transforming Our Communities: Winona LaDuke on Environmental Justice," March 29, 6:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. Free and open to the public. The lecture is sponsored by the U Women's Center as part of its Women's History Month events. For more information and to RSVP for the event, see [LaDuke lecture](#).

CLASSES WITHOUT QUIZZES will feature nine mini-seminars this year with nationally recognized experts from the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. The classes feature everyday science and are designed for the general public, including students of all ages. Topics include climate change, winemaking, healthy eating, invasive species, and more. March 31, 8 a.m.–12:30 p.m., McNeal Hall, St. Paul campus. For more information, see "[Classes Without Quizzes](#)."

SAVE THE DATE: The Heller-Hurwicz Zedillo will present "Globalization: The Promise and The Challenge." The event will feature Ernesto Zedillo, director of the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization and former president of Mexico, and Timothy Kehoe, Distinguished McKnight University Professor and adviser to the Federal Bank of Minneapolis. Apr. 10, 5:30–7:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. Free and open to the public. For registration and more information, see [Heller-Hurwicz Institute](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers In the Environment ([Mar 7](#)); OED Certificate Workshop 4: Communicating on Issues of Equity and Diversity ([Mar 9](#)); 18th Annual Horticulture Day ([Mar 10](#)); Sip of Science: Seeing Through the Mud: Exploring the Long-Term History of Wild Rice Lakes (and Some Other Lakes Too) ([Mar 14](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Related Links

[Office of the President](#)

[Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (3-14-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 10; March 14, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- Support the U Rally Day.
- Board of Regents March meeting summary.
- Features: A new life for Eddy Hall; Distinguished McKnight Professor Deniz Ones; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Sri Zaheer has been named dean of the Carlson School of Management; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

THE ANNUAL, STUDENT-ORGANIZED SUPPORT THE U RALLY DAY will be held March 30. The systemwide event provides students with the opportunity to voice their support for the University through a rally and meetings with their elected officials. Faculty and staff are asked to inform and encourage students to attend the event. For registration and more information, see [Support the U Rally Day](#).

BOARD OF REGENTS MARCH MEETING SUMMARY: At the March Board of Regents meeting, the board heard the report of the president, discussed a resolution related to the Ambulatory Care Center, approved the U's Six-Year Capital Plan, heard a presentation on the University's land grant mission, and more. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

Features

FEATURE: Topped by a tower and ornamental weathervane, red, castle-like Eddy Hall dominates the bustling intersection of Pillsbury Drive and Pleasant Street. The oldest building on campus, it began life in 1886 as Mechanic Arts and has more recently housed units such as University Counseling and Consulting Services and the departments of Spanish and Portuguese and Curriculum and Instruction. Now Eddy is showing its age, and the University has asked the 2012 Legislature for funds to rehabilitate it. For more information, read ["A new life for Eddy."](#)

FEATURE: Hiring talent can be a tricky and time-consuming process. Yet, according to recently named (2011) Distinguished McKnight Professor Deniz Ones, it's possible to hire the best person for the job, each and every time. Ones, a human resources professional by training and a psychologist by trade, examines how people differ from one another in cognitive abilities and personality. For more information, read ["The right personality for the job."](#)

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Mar. 5–9. This installment of the weekly video feature highlights the announcement of the Carlson School of Management's new dean, a U partnership with the Mayo Clinic, and the Gopher basketball game versus Northwestern. For more information, watch ["This Week @Minnesota."](#)

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Sri Zaheer has been named dean of the Carlson School of Management; mathematics assistant professor Anar Akhmedov has been selected to receive a Sloan Research Fellowship; professor of applied economics Philip Pardey has been awarded a 2012 Siehl Prize in Agriculture; Joan Brzezinski has been named executive director of the China Center and Confucius Institute; Jasjit Ahluwalia has been named to the board of directors of the Association for Clinical and Translational Science; the U's School of Nursing received a gift of \$6.65 million from the Bentson Foundation; Gary DeCramer of the Humphrey School has passed away; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES: The Fixed Price Contracts, Including Clinical Trials policy had proposed a new formula for distributing remaining balances and a requirement to close out all fixed price awards within one year of the award date. Based on the comments received during the 30-day review period, the policy and process were significantly revised and reverts to the previous practice of returning unexpended balances to departments. For more information, see the [final policy](#).

THREE NEW GRADUATE EDUCATION POLICIES (Admission for Master's and Doctoral Programs, Re-Admission and Changes to Master's or Doctoral Degree Objectives, and Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Plans Approved by the Board of Regents) are available for review and comment at [policies under review](#).

MOODLE WILL BE THE SOLE ENTERPRISE COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AT THE U beginning Aug. 31. Moodle, an open source solution, allows U of M Moodle users to provide feedback ranging from participation in discussion boards to developing plug-ins to share. U of M users have made major contributions to planning, testing, implementing, and suggesting enhancements, benefiting not only the U but the global Moodle community. For more information, see [Engaging in the Global Community](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: The Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) invites proposals from faculty on all campuses for its Faculty Interactive Research Program. The program encourages faculty to carry out research projects that involve a significant urban-related public policy issue for the state or its communities, and that include active engagement with groups, agencies, or organizations in Minnesota involved with the issue. This year, additional support is available for projects that contribute to the planning and development of the U's vision to create a sustainable community at UMore Park. For application procedures and more information, see [CURA proposals](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE MOBILE APP CHALLENGE, a contest which invited undergraduates to develop their own mobile apps, will host a final judging event on March 23. Attendees can learn more about the apps that students have been working on and hear about their experiences. For more information, including a short video introducing the finalists and their apps, see [Mobile App Challenge](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC HAS BEEN GRANTED FULL-CONTINUING APPROVAL from the Minnesota Board of Teaching to prepare individuals for Minnesota teacher licensure through June 30, 2019. UMC currently offers a licensure program in early childhood education and is seeking to add a licensure program for elementary education, beginning in the fall 2012 semester. Full-continuing approval has a seven-year interval and is determined by the Board of Teaching. For more information, see [Board of Teaching approval](#).

THE THIRD ANNUAL HORSE JUDGING OPEN INVITATIONAL will take place March 30, University Teaching and Outreach Center. Both youth and collegiate teams are eligible to participate. Individuals and four-member teams will compete in four halter classes and four performance classes. For more information, see [horse judging](#).

THE 74TH ANNUAL HONOR BANQUET sponsored by the Red River Valley Development Association will take place March 17, noon, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Individuals from northwest Minnesota will be honored as Valley Farmers and Homemakers for the example they have set with their family life, community service, and farming or agribusiness operations, and their efforts to conserve natural resources. For more information, see [honor banquet](#).

DULUTH:

UMD HAS LAUNCHED A NEW ONLINE CERTIFICATION FOR COUNSELING THE PATHOLOGICAL GAMBLER, in collaboration with the North American Training Institute. Studies in Gambling Addiction: Counseling the Pathological Gambler is a 60-hour noncredit development certificate through Continuing Education. For more information, see [online counseling certificate](#).

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS that focus on natural play and design principles for formal and informal educators will be held March 20, 12:30–3:30 p.m., Library Rotunda; and 4:30–6 p.m., Weber Music Hall. David Sobel, an internationally recognized researcher, practitioner, and promoter of developmentally appropriate environmental education for children, will conduct the seminars. For more information, see [educational seminars](#).

UMD NATURAL RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE (NRRI) SCIENTIST GERALD NIEMI attended a White House Community Leaders Briefing on the Great Lakes Region. The Obama Administration's FY 2013 budget includes \$300 million to continue critical interagency collaboration on the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The briefing was an opportunity for dialogue between Great Lakes leaders and senior administration officials. For more information, see [Great Lakes briefing](#).

MORRIS:

CIRCLE OF NATIONS INDIGENOUS ASSOCIATION (CNIA) students will hold their 28th Annual CNIA Powwow March 24, 11 a.m., Physical Education Center. Free and open to the public. The powwow officially begins with the Grand Entry (at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.), a ceremonial procession of Native dancers dressed in the full traditional regalia of their tribal nations and accompanied by drum groups entering the dance arena. Authentic Native arts and crafts may be purchased directly from noted jewelers and artisans. The powwow heralds the beginning of the 39th Annual World Touch Cultural Heritage Week, a celebration of American Indian and other cultural heritages. For more information, see [CNIA Powwow](#).

THE WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM was honored for their work in the classroom, earning the Team Scholar Academic All-American award from the College Swimming Coaches Association of America. Teams that held a grade-point-average of 3.0 or better following the fall semester are recognized with the award for academic achievements. The Cougars are one of just two Liberal Arts Championship teams to win the award. For more information, see [swimming and diving team award](#).

ROCHESTER:

U OF M PRESIDENT ERIC KALER wrote a March 12 editorial in the Rochester Post-Bulletin highlighting UMR and its transformative effect on Rochester and the face of higher education in southeastern Minnesota. Kaler emphasized the value of the U to the state of Minnesota and urged citizens to contact legislators to support the U and its capital and budget requests currently being considered by the legislature and governor. For more information, see [Kaler editorial](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

THE 2012 "CONSERVATION MADNESS" residence hall sustainability champion for the second consecutive year is Territorial Hall. The competition, held throughout February, is a partnership between the Office of Housing & Residential Life and Facilities Management aimed at encouraging students to conserve campus resources year-round. Territorial residents will enjoy a national college basketball championship viewing party on April 2 for earning the highest overall ranking in electricity savings, water conservation, waste per capita, and recycling. For more information, see [Conservation Madness results](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE ST. ANTHONY FALLS LABORATORY will present its internationally renowned Lorenz G. Straub Award for most meritorious Ph.D. thesis in hydraulic engineering, ecohydraulics, and related fields, March 21, 3:30 p.m., St. Anthony Falls Laboratory Auditorium. The ceremony will include brief remarks by the award recipient, Mariano Ignacio Cantero, followed by a keynote presentation titled "The Looming Crisis in Air Traffic Capacity: Can Vortex Dynamics Help?" For more information, see [Straub Award](#).

A "FIRST BOOKS" READING AND DISCUSSION sponsored by the Creative Writing Program, the Edelstein-Keller Visiting Writers Series, and the Weisman Art Museum features debut authors and includes a panel discussion concerning the path to publication. [First 2 Books](#), Weisman Art Museum. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [First 2 Books](#).

A "PERSPECTIVES IN BOTANY" symposium cosponsored by the Minnesota Native Plant Society and the Bell Museum to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the plant society will take place March 24, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m., Bell Museum. Key topics include: "Species Concepts in Plants (Why Can't Plants Follow the Rules)" by Anita Cholewa (U of M); "Minnesota's Plant Hunters Past and Present" by Tim Whitfield (U of M); and "Plant Adaptations on the Prairie" by Rhett Johnson (The Nature Conservancy). Cost: \$30 for full-time students, \$52 for general public. See [Perspectives in Botany](#), and handouts. For registration and more information, see [Perspectives in Botany](#).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE PREMIERE OF MINI BIOETHICS SCHOOL, a Mini Medical School-styled program sponsored by the Center for Bioethics. The three-part series will feature ethicists Susan Wolf, Mary Faith Marshall, and Steven Miles in a lecture/Q+A/discussion format. Mondays, March 26, April 2, and April 9, 6:30–8:30 p.m., St. Paul Student Center. For registration and more information, see [Mini Bioethics School](#).

THE AMPLATZ CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WILL HOST A "SUPERHERO DAY" for patients March 29, featuring games, costumes, and more. In advance of the event, the Minnesota Medical Foundation is asking supporters of children's health at the U to submit stories about their real-life superheroes online. For more information, view the [inspiring stories shared so far](#), share your own story, or [make a gift](#) to support the event.

ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE: Innovation in Teaching, Learning, and Research open house will feature more than 60 exhibits on topics including accessibility, data visualization, digital stories, eBooks, learning spaces, online learning, and more. The College of Education and Human Development will hold a drawing for an iPad at the event. April 4, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information, see [Academic Technology Showcase](#).

THE WORKSHOP, INTRODUCTION TO SERVICE DESIGN: A Tool for Creating User-friendly University Services, will feature U Libraries instructional designer Paul Zenke, who will discuss service design thinking and explore how the method can create or improve services. April 12, 3–4:30 p.m., 101 Walter Library. Sponsored by the Consultation Collaborative. For more information, see [Service Design](#) or [RSVP online](#).

MORE EVENTS include Neurology Grand Rounds ([Mar 15](#)); The Future of English ([Mar 17](#)); Medical Industry Leadership Institute Seminar—Michael Chernen, PhD, Harvard Medical School ([Mar 19](#)); Identity and the American Landscape: The Photography of Wing Huie ([Mar 19](#)); Coffee and Donuts with the Cops ([Mar 20](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, and the path to publication at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside
Brief
Campus Conversations
Features
People
Resources for Internal Communications
Related Links
Office of the President
Government & Community Relations

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (3-21-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 11; March 21, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--Support the U Rally Day.
 --State Relations update.
 --Features: (Re-)Writing history; Title IX turning 40; Milkweed loss hurts monarchs; Digging vegetables; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy will retire in December 2012; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

THE ANNUAL, STUDENT-ORGANIZED SUPPORT THE U RALLY DAY will be held Mar. 30. The systemwide event provides students with the opportunity to voice their support for the University at a Capitol rally and meetings with their elected officials. Faculty and staff are asked to inform students about and encourage them to attend the event. For registration and more information, see [Support the U Rally Day](#).

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: On Mar. 9, the Senate Capital Investment Committee visited the University's Twin Cities campus to tour the proposed future site of a combined heat and power plant. On Mar. 8, U leaders participated in a press conference to promote a bill that would establish a U of M center for research on aquatic invasive species. And on Mar. 6, President Kaler testified before the House Higher Education Committee regarding paid leave and severance payagreements. The Minnesota Management & Budget commissioner released the February budget forecast on Feb. 29. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: U law professor Dale Carpenter's book *Flagrant Conduct* effectively rewrites the history of a court case that became one of most important constitutional decisions in the past half-century—and certainly one of the most important cases in the history of American civil rights. With the legal battle of gay marriage looming, Carpenter's book about the case that intensified the underlying cultural shift of gay rights could not be more timely. For more information, read "[\(Re-\)Writing history](#)."

FEATURE: On June 30, 1972, an amendment to the Civil Rights Act declared that institutions receiving federal funding cannot discriminate on the basis of gender in providing any educational program or activity. The legislation, known simply as "Title IX," drastically changed girls' and women's sports. Mary Jo Kane, director of the U's Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport, says the legislation fundamentally and forever changed the landscape of women's sports. For more information, read "[Title IX turning 40](#)."

FEATURE: If you're a gardener, milkweed may not be at the top of your list. But if you love Minnesota's state insect—the monarch butterfly—maybe it should be. Monarchs lay their eggs on milkweed, but the plant is disappearing from what used to be a prime reservoir: Midwestern farm fields. A new study by U monarch expert Karen Oberhauser and an Iowa State colleague ties a decade-long decline in monarch populations to the loss of milkweed from the corn and soybean fields that blanket the region. For more information, read "[Milkweed loss hurts monarchs](#)."

FEATURE: Young children aren't famous for filling up on vegetables. But last year U of M researchers found that by taping pictures of carrots and green beans in the compartments of elementary kids' lunch trays, they could get kids to take more. But that still didn't guarantee the kids would eat them. Food science professor Zata Vickers and researchers are now looking for similar strategies to prompt children to eat vegetables using what's called behavioral economics. For more information, read "[Digging vegetables](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy will retire in December 2012; the Golden Gopher women's hockey team won its third NCAA Championship, defeating Wisconsin in the title game at AMSOIL Arena in Duluth; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS REQUESTING COMMENTS about experiences with UPlan medical and wellness plans since January 2011. Comment deadline is March 31. Anonymous summaries of comments are used in performance reviews of UPlan health plans. Enter comments online at [Benefits Advisory](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: The Office of Information Technology (OIT) invites U faculty and professional and administrative (P&A) instructors to submit applications for the 2012–13 OIT Faculty Fellowship Program. The 18-month program fosters a multidisciplinary learning community that will focus on technology-rich innovation in teaching and learning through course (re)design and scholarly investigation. Application deadline is Apr. 23. For more information, see [Faculty Fellowship Program](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE MEDICAL INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE at the Carlson School of Management will be hosting the fourth Biennial Conference of the American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) June 10–13. This conference has become the premier health economics conference in the U.S. For registration and more information, see [ASHEcon](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC IS ONE OF FIVE campuses in Minnesota named, "with Distinction," to President Obama's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for 2012. The campus has been named to the Honor Roll every year since 2006 with the exception of one, but this is the first time UMC has been recognized with distinction. Other Minnesota campuses honored with distinction include Augsburg College, the College of St. Benedict, Metropolitan State University, and Winona State University. For more information, see [Honor Roll](#).

MINI-GRANTS FOR GARDENS: The Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership is offering mini-grants for community and school gardens. The grants can be used for gardening supplies, equipment and tools, and communication and outreach activities, up to a maximum award of \$500. The application deadline is Mar. 26, 5 p.m. Grant awards will be determined by Mar. 30. For an application, see [garden mini-grants](#).

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH will include several events at UMC that spotlight the 2012 theme: Women's Education—Women's Empowerment. A Celebrating U Women's Expo will focus on empowering women in business, and takes place Mar. 23. Other events include Pilates and yoga during Women's Night in the Sports Center, Mar. 27; and a lecture, "Women taking the Lead," featuring Prairie Rose Seminole as the keynote speaker, Mar. 29. All area women are invited to attend the events, which are free. For more information, see [Women's History](#).

DULUTH:

PROFESSOR JOHN GOODGE IS FEATURED IN *PYXIS MAGAZINE* for his research about climate change and the effect that the diminishing ice in Antarctica is having on the planet. A professor of geological sciences, Goodge is also a contributing scientist for the *New York Times*' "Scientists at Work" feature. For more information, see [climate change](#).

UMD NATURAL RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE (NRRRI) is hosting two workshops Mar. 28: "How to Find and Pursue Federal Funding Opportunities," 8:30–11:30 a.m.; and "Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR), 1–4 p.m. The [first workshop](#) will guide participants through the steps required to locate, qualify, and apply for federal R&D and grant funding opportunities. The [second event](#) will cover the SBIR and STTR program basics. The \$30 registration fee includes lunch.

MORRIS:

THE SECOND ANNUAL PRAIRIE GATE LITERARY FESTIVAL will be held on the evenings of Mar. 29–30, and all day Mar. 31. The festival offers participants the opportunity to learn from writers, editors, and other literary arts professionals through author readings, workshops, and panel discussions. Presenters include award-winning poets Ilya Kaminsky and Simone Muench; award-winning author Susan Power; author, humorist, and indie-country musician Michael Perry; and graphic novelist Brittany Sabo and Anna Bratton. All events are free except for the Saturday workshops, which cost \$20 each or \$30 for two. Scholarships are available. For more information, see [literary festival](#).

THE MORRIS FREETHINKERS STUDENT ORGANIZATION will hold the Midwest Science of Origins Conference (MSOC) Mar. 30–Apr. 1. The conference, featuring a diverse panel of experts, seeks "to inspire the rural communities of the Midwest—its students, its parents, and community leaders—to contemplate the scientific origins of the universe, of life, of humans and what it means to be human." The conference kicks off Friday evening with a presentation by UMM professor PZ Myers, and concludes with a community service project led by Chris Stedman, the Interfaith and Community Service Fellow for the Humanist Chaplaincy at Harvard University. Free and open to the public, but [registration is required](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR CONNECTS is celebrating its one-year anniversary during March. More than 50 lecture events have been held in the past year, with over 1,700 participants. Special cakes are being served each week during the month of March to celebrate the success of the series, which is focused on public engagement and outreach. For more information, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

A FACILITIES MANAGEMENT (FM) RIDING EQUIPMENT PROGRAM has enabled FM's reduced workforce to clean more space in less time, and to do it safely and with less environmental impact. The program was implemented in light of last year's state budget cuts. For more information, see [FM riding equipment](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE 2012 NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH (SAAM) CAMPAIGN encourages communities and individuals to join the conversation about how to connect and respect one another in order to prevent sexual violence. The U's Aurora Center for Advocacy and Education (TAC) will host a "Girls Like Us" panel discussion on issues of privilege and race related to domestic trafficking. Mar. 26, 7–8:30 p.m., Great Hall, Coffman Union. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [sexual assault awareness](#).

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY EXPERT Thomas Burke will speak on "Science under Siege: Balancing Science and Politics in Managing Chemical Risks." Burke is associate dean for public health practice and training at Johns Hopkins University and author of the landmark 2008 National Academy of Sciences' "Silver Book" report, which recommended changes to the EPA's risk assessment practices. The event is hosted by the School of Public Health and Humphrey School's Center for Science, Technology and Public Policy. Mar. 27, 3 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. For registration and more information, see [balancing science and politics](#).

THE FUTURE OF GREEN JOBS, a free presentation encompassing regional and international perspectives, features industry leaders Dave Kolsrud, president of DAK Renewable Energy, and Jeff Howe, Dovetail Partners Inc. The two will discuss the current and future outlook, realities, myths, and opportunities in renewable energy and other environmentally and technologically-advanced "green" industries, technologies, and jobs. Mar. 29, 5–7 p.m., 230 STSS. For more information, see [Green Jobs](#).

DESIGN INTERSECTIONS 2012: The College of Design and Larsen invite professionals working with business, government, education, health care, nonprofits, and other organizations to attend [Design Intersections](#) Mar. 29. A free follow-up cocreation event focused on the University community will be held on Mar. 30 at the Weisman Art Museum to discuss the future of education, creativity, and innovation. For registration and more information, see [follow-up workshop](#).

WOMEN'S FACULTY CABINET SPRING SYMPOSIUM: Professor Mary Blair-Loy, UC San Diego, will present "The Subtleties of Cumulative Disadvantage among Women and Men Faculty in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics." A reception will follow the lecture. Apr. 3, 3–4:15 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. [RSVP](#) or see [symposium](#) for more information.

A "CAREERS IN AGING WEEK" will include two events. The first, an informal discussion on the opportunities in nursing focused on the care of older adults, will include practicing nurses, faculty, and graduate student panelists. Apr. 4, 3–5 p.m., 4-180 Weaver-Densford Hall and via videolink to the School of Nursing's Rochester campus, 419 University Square. The second event is an interdisciplinary informational and networking event featuring a panel of professionals working in a diverse range of aging-related fields including policy, advocacy, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, housing and design, social work, and more. Apr. 5, 5–6:45 p.m., 1-425 Moos Tower. Register by [Mar. 30](#) and [Apr. 2](#), respectively. For more information, see the [Center on Aging](#).

THE U REUSE PROGRAM WILL CO-HOST THE GREAT REUSE RACE along with members of the Minnesota chapter of Reuse Alliance. The race is the first ever two-week-long scavenger hunt through the local Twin Cities reuse community. Participants will physically and virtually visit these organizations to become eligible for prizes such as a refurbished Apple iPad, Lenovo laptop with Windows 7, and a custom-built bike. April 9–22. For registration and more information, see [Reuse Race](#).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE 2012 GOPHER ADVENTURE RACE, to be held on the UMTC campuses Oct. 5. Participants race in teams of two, traveling by foot and campus transportation to take on physical and mental challenges while deciphering clues. All faculty, staff, alumni, and students are invited to participate. The event will include top prizes provided by North Face, Nice Ride, and Midwest Mountaineering. Cost: \$25. Sponsored by the Recreation, Park and Leisure Studies program. For more information, see [Gopher Adventure Race](#).

MORE EVENTS include Coffee and Donuts with the Cops ([Mar. 21–22](#)); Mapping Water—Pat Nunnally and Mary deLaitre ([Mar. 22](#)); "The Gates Foundation's Agricultural Policy Portfolio" by Prabhu Pingali ([Mar. 23](#)); Minnesota Cup Kickoff ([Mar. 26](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™

One Stop > myU >

Search Websites and People

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (3-28-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 12; March 28, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- State Relations update.
- Features: Consolidating assets; Populist Science; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Marla Spivak will receive an Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award from the University of Kansas; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: On Mar. 19, the House Capital Investment Committee released its 2012 bonding bill recommendations. The bill totals \$280 million, \$495 million less than the governor's proposal. The committee recommends \$39.1 million for the University: \$35 million for Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement (HEAPR) and \$4.1 million for Itasca Facilities Improvements. The bill does not include funding for the Combined Heat and Power Plant, as included in the governor's proposal. A comparison of the proposals is available online. The Senate is expected to release its bonding bill recommendations Mar. 28. For the most up-to-date information, see [State Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: The University of Minnesota Duluth is a leader in education for and about American Indians. It was one of the first universities in the United States to recognize American Indian studies as a discipline, and it boasts one of the largest Native student populations (about 125) in the country. To unite the campus's more than 20 different American Indian programs and services and to provide better support for UMD's students, both Native and non-Native, the University is proposing a new four-story American Indian Learning Resource Center located at the southwest corner of campus. It's part of the U's 2012 Capital Request. For more information, read "[Consolidating assets](#)."

FEATURE: Bob Zink drives a late model Chevy Silverado to work from his home in Grant Township. His best friend is a garbage collector. In his free time, he bow-hunts, raises two teen-aged boys, and spends time fishing and bird hunting with the family's dogs. The professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior is also a world-renowned expert on the study of speciation in birds, and the Breckenridge Chair in Ornithology at the Bell Museum. But his contribution extends well beyond the classroom and the lab. For more information, read "[Populist science](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Mar. 19–23. This installment of the weekly video features highlights from the Women's Hockey NCAA Championship game against the Badgers and safety lessons from the University of Minnesota Police Department and President Kaler. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: President Kaler has appointed a search committee to fill the position of VP for University Services upon Kathleen O'Brien's June 30 retirement; Marla Spivak will receive an Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas; student Grant Remmen has received the Hertz Fellowship Award; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

U OF M GRADUATE ASSISTANTS CHOSE TO MAINTAIN NON-UNION STATUS, voting down union representation by United Auto Workers of America. The election, which took place Mar. 19–23, affects more than 4,000 graduate assistants on the Twin Cities and Duluth campuses. For more information, see [Graduate Assistants](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

THE MINNESOTA CUP COMPETITION, a program of the Carlson School's Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship, is seeking the best breakthrough ideas from across the state. The largest statewide new venture competition in the country, the Minnesota Cup will award \$200,000 in cash prizes, and other prizes, in six divisions this year: Clean Tech and Renewable Energy; BioScience and Health Information Technology; and Student, General, High Tech, and Social Entrepreneur. Anything from an idea to a new venture generating less than \$1 million in revenue is eligible to enter. Registration deadline is May 18. For more information, see [Minnesota Cup](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC MUSIC AND THEATER STUDENTS will perform the musical *Oklahoma!* under the direction of associate professor George French. Mar. 29–31, 7:30 p.m., with a special matinee performance Apr. 1, 3:30 p.m. For more information, see [Oklahoma!](#)

THE CAMPUS ASSEMBLY spring semester 2012 meeting will be held Mar. 29, 12:30–2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The agenda and minutes from previous meetings are [available online](#). For more information, see [Campus Assembly](#).

ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS recently completed by UMC's Business Department will help provide a smooth transition for students interested in pursuing baccalaureate degrees. The Crookston campus has implemented several new articulation agreements with Alexandria Technical and Community College, Alexandria, MN; and Northland Community and Technical College, Thief River Falls and East Grand Forks, MN. For more information, see [articulation agreements](#).

DULUTH:

JOHN DAY has been appointed by Governor Mark Dayton to the State Guardian Ad Litem Board. Day is program director for American Indian Projects and also serves as an adjunct faculty in the Department of Social Work. The Guardian Ad Litem Board is charged with the creating and administering a statewide, independent guardian ad litem program to advocate for the best interests of children, minor parents, and adults in juvenile and family court cases.

UMD WILL HOST THE LAKE SUPERIOR SERVICE-LEARNING REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2012 Mar. 29–30. The conference provides the opportunity to learn about and acquire hands-on skills to apply and integrate service-learning as a teaching strategy. For more information, see [service-learning](#).

MORRIS:

THE THEATRE DISCIPLINE'S 2011–12 "Public Enemy #1" season will feature the children's fable *The Emperor's New Clothes* Mar. 30, 7 p.m.; and Mar. 31, 1 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts. School matinees will begin Mar. 28 and run through Apr. 5. This version of the classic fairy tale telling the story of King Eric, the vain emperor of Sylvania, who thinks of little more than his personal appearance and attire, was written by Blanche Marvin and directed by guest artist Shaune Wunder, working with a skilled young crew and talented cast of student actors. Tickets are \$3. For more information, see [theatre](#).

THE ANNUAL JURIED STUDENT ART EXHIBITION, featuring work by both art and non-art majors, will be on view in the Humanities Fine Arts Gallery, Mar. 22–Apr. 14. An opening reception will be held Mar. 22, 7–9 p.m. This year's student show features a comprehensive assortment of media, with a particular emphasis on ceramic works. Clay sculptor Anne Meyer '04, guest juror, reviewed this year's exhibition, selecting 48 works of art by 29 students. For more information, see [student art exhibition](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE UMR BALLROOM DANCE TEAM will be performing at "Dancing for the Arts," an evening of dining, dessert, and dancing, Apr. 14. Rochester celebrities will go toe-to-toe to raise money for youth arts education while paired with professional dancers from Dahl Dance Center and Blue Moon Ballroom. For tickets and more information, see [Dancing for the Arts](#).

SAVE THE DATE: Respiratory Care Commencement 2012 will be held May 11, 4 p.m., Geffen Auditorium, Mayo Clinic Gonda Building.

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

AN EARLY TRANSITION FROM HEATING TO COOLING systems brought about by an unusually warm March has begun in UMTC campus buildings. Despite Facilities Management's best efforts to minimize exposure, some spaces may experience uncomfortable temperatures between now and mid-April when the transition should be complete. Each campus district has created a transition schedule that is [available online](#).

BEAUTIFUL U DAY 2012 will take place Apr. 17, featuring a campus-wide building cleanup event (complete with cookies for cleaners) and the first-ever ReUse-A-Palooza, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Northrop Plaza. More than 100 gently used bikes will be available for \$50 or less, along with a selection of quality surplus items collected by the ReUse Program. Departments can [register online](#) for the building cleanup by Apr. 6 to have up to two hampers and a supply of cookies delivered to their location. [Individuals can volunteer](#) online by Apr. 6 to help out with hamper delivery/retrieval and the ReUse-A-Palooza event. For more information, see [Beautiful U Day](#).

THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE IN THE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY (SERU) SURVEY is open now through mid-June. UMTC faculty and staff are asked to encourage their undergraduates to take the survey. Developed at the Center for Studies in Higher Education at the University of California, Berkeley, the survey provides staff, faculty, and administrators with insights that influence student learning and educational outcomes. The Office of Institutional Research administers the survey. For more information and promotional materials, see [SERU survey](#).

CALL FOR HOMECOMING ROYALTY NOMINATIONS: Faculty and staff are encouraged to nominate undergraduate (with at least 60 credits) and graduate/professional students to be the 2012 Homecoming king and queen. Student nominees should work closely with faculty or staff, possess strong leadership skills, and maintain high academic standards. The application deadline is Apr. 16. To nominate a student, email homecoming@umn.edu.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH FILM FEST, in conjunction with National Public Health Week, will take place Apr. 2–6. The films will cover timely health issues, including the farm-to-school food movement, health as a human right, the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s, end-of-life decisions, and sexual education. Showings begin each evening at 5:30 p.m. with an introduction by a public health expert, and conclude with a Q&A session. Free and open to the public. For film schedule and locations, event sponsors, and a list of food and other complimentary items for guests, see [film fest](#).

THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN RESHAPING POLITICS AND GLOBAL GEOPOLITICS will be the subject of the next U of M Headliners event, featuring U associate professor and social media expert Heather LaMarre. Apr. 5, 7 p.m., Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul. For tickets (\$15) and more information, see [Headliners](#).

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHER PAUL NICKLEN will kick off the Institute on the Environment's Momentum 2012 event series with his presentation, "From Pole to Pole: Diary of a *National Geographic* Photojournalist." Emcee for the evening will be Paul Douglas, with featured entertainment by Mu Daiko Drumming. Apr. 5, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann. Special ticket prices are available for faculty, staff, alumni, and students. For more information, see [Momentum 2012](#).

INNOVATIVE IDEAS TO IMPROVE HEALTH CARE IN MINNESOTA will be the topic at a Clinical and Translational Science Institute discussion about "The State of Triple Aim Innovation in Minnesota." The conversation will center around the nearly 40 Minnesota submissions to the \$1 billion Health Care Innovation Challenge sponsored by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation. Apr. 10, 9 a.m.–noon. Free, but registration is required. For registration and more information, see [health care in Minnesota](#).

NORTHROP DANCE will present Ballet Preljocaj in a contemporary retelling of *Snow White*, based on the Grimm brothers' original fairy tale. This lush, full-length story ballet features massive sets, 26 dancers, and an all-star roster of French artists and designers. Apr. 13–14, 8 p.m., Orpheum Theatre. Rush tickets for U students (\$10), and U faculty, staff, and general students (\$20) are available starting at 5 p.m. at the Orpheum Theatre box office on the day of the show. For tickets and more information, see [Snow White](#).

THE FIFTH ANNUAL DOCTORAL RESEARCH SHOWCASE will feature more than 60 of this year's top doctoral students and candidates talking about their work in more than 40 fields. The showcase is designed for students to develop their ability to talk about their work to non-specialists, to raise the visibility of doctoral research, to provide an opportunity for entrepreneurs and leaders to talk to the next generation of researchers and thinkers, and to encourage undergraduates to consider graduate education. Free and open to the public. Apr. 17, noon–2 p.m., Under Hall, Coffman Union. For more information, including a list of participants, see [doctoral research showcase](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers In the Environment ([Mar 28](#)); The Future of Green Jobs ([Mar 29](#)); Biocultural Diversity, Language, and Environmental Endangerment—Panel discussion with Winona LaDuke, Luisa Maffei, and K. David Harrison ([Mar 29](#)); CURA Housing Forum—Hennepin County Housing First Partnership ([Mar 30](#)); In Cod We Trust: Norwegian Culture and Cuisine ([Apr 2](#)); Leadership in the Context of Equity and Diversity ([Apr 3](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, events, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (4-4-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 13; April 4, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- State Relations update.
- Features: Taking on the Wicked Problems; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Rosemary White Shield has been appointed a national expert in evaluation by the Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: On Mar. 28, the Minnesota Senate Capital Investment Committee released its 2012 bonding bill recommendations. The Senate's bill (\$496 million) is larger than the House's proposal, but well below the Governor's level of \$760 million. The House and Senate have identical levels of support for the University. In a [press release](#), President Kaler responded to the legislature's low level of support and stressed the critical need to fully fund the University's request. For more information and a comparison of the proposals, see [State Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: Water pollution, the obesity epidemic, tobacco use, and HIV transmission are members of an exclusive and infamous club—the "wicked" problems of the world, a term coined in 1973 to describe the messy and multilayered challenges that defy traditional problem-solving approaches. The School of Public Health's latest issue of *advances* magazine profiles four U faculty members who manage to find the enthusiasm and determination to make a difference in spite of the odds. For more information, read "[Taking on the Wicked Problems](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Mar. 26–30. This installment of the weekly video feature is all about the student centered "Support the U Rally Day," which took place Mar. 30 at the Minnesota State Capitol. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Rosemary White Shield has been appointed a national expert in evaluation by the Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies; UDS catering executive chef Greg Colline and chef manager Stacy Wiroll have earned ProChef II certification from The Culinary Institute of America; three UMTC undergraduates have been named 2012 Barry M. Goldwater Scholars; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

PRESIDENT KALER HAS ESTABLISHED AN OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE, a long-term commitment to working smarter, reducing costs, enhancing services, and increasing revenues throughout the University. It includes a variety of integrated activities with the collective goal of mitigating the impact of state budget reductions and keeping tuition increases low; improving operations and processes, promoting entrepreneurship, intelligent risk-taking, cooperation, and engagement; and freeing up dollars to be reinvested in the core academic enterprise. For more information, see [Operational Excellence](#).

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND FACULTY SENATE will meet Apr. 5, 2:30 p.m., 25 Mondale. Topics include undergraduate and graduate education policies and the introduction of Provost Hanson. For more information, see the full agenda at [University Senate](#).

THE P&A SENATE will meet Apr. 6, 9:30 a.m., 5-125 Moos Tower. Topics include the announcement of the Outstanding Unit Award winner, discussion with Provost Hanson, coordinated advocacy communications, and elections. For more information, see the full agenda at [P&A Senate](#).

CROOKSTON:

GRAD FEST 2012 will be held Apr. 4, International Lounge, 8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Graduating seniors can receive information regarding the process of graduation. For more information, see [Grad Fest](#).

THE ANCIENT TIBETAN BUDDHIST TRADITION of creating and destroying a sand mandala will come to UMC with an opening ceremony Apr. 4, 11 a.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center. Wongdue Sangbo Gurung, a Buddhist monk from Nepal, will spend several days creating the mandala leading up to the final dinner in the International Dinner Series on Apr. 11. For more information, see [Buddhist Tradition](#).

THE UMC STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE (SIFE) TEAM traveled to the 2012 Regional Competition Mar. 22, where they were named Regional Champions for a 13th consecutive time. The team is advised by Sam Walton Fellows, Kenneth Johnson, and Rachel Lundbohm, instructors in the Business Department, and assisted by lecturer Courtney Bergman. For more information, see [SIFE Team](#).

CLIMB Theatre of Inver Grove Heights, Minn., will present *A Deeper Look*, " an original play about accepting differences. Apr. 9, 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [theatre](#).

DULUTH:

THE LABOVITZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS will welcome a student chapter of the Financial Planning Association on Apr. 4, 2:30 p.m., TD Ameritrade Learning Lab, JNBA offices, Duluth Tech Village. The new group will be the first student chapter in the state. For more information, see [Labovitz](#).

THE 2012 BAEUMLER-KAPLAN HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION events are scheduled Apr. 12–19, and will begin with "European Religious Institutions and the Jewish Question," noon, Kirby Student Center Rafter. For more information and a schedule of events, see [Baeumler-Kaplan](#).

MORRIS:

JOE EINERTSON '14, of Brooklyn Park, recently competed in the seventh annual IBM Master the Mainframe Contest. Einertson, a computer science major, was among the first 60 entrants to complete part two of the three-part contest, in which contestants used skills developed in part one to perform more extensive systems programming and application development tasks, with 100 percent accuracy. Einertson earned \$100, a certificate from IBM, and an invitation to upload his resume to the IBM Student Opportunity System. For more information, see [IBM contest](#).

THE 2012 JOOINN LEE LECTURE will be delivered by Caroline Hartzell, professor of political science at Gettysburg College and internationally recognized expert on political peace agreements. Hartzell's research has focused primarily on the impact that power-sharing agreements have had on the duration of peace after civil wars and other conflicts. Apr. 16, 7:30 p.m., 109 Imholte Hall. For more information, see [Jooinn Lee Lecture](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR WRITING INSTRUCTOR YUKO TANIGUCHI was recognized as this week's KAAL TV Excellent Educator. Professor Taniguchi came to the United States from Japan when she was just 15 years old. She didn't know a word of English and now, more than 15 years later, she teaches writing at UMR. For more information, see [KAAL TV](#).

UMR STUDENTS ORGANIZED A FLASH MOB at University Square on Mar. 26. More than 30 participants danced to "I Wanna Dance With Somebody" in honor of Whitney Houston. For more information, [watch the video](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

DEPARTMENTS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE APRIL 17 BEAUTIFUL U DAY BUILDING CLEANOUT have until Apr. 6 to register. Departments will receive up to two hampers and a supply of cookies delivered to their location. Individuals can also volunteer by Apr. 6 to help out with hamper delivery/retrieval and the ReUse-A-Palooza event. For more information, see [Beautiful U Day](#).

THE OFFICE FOR TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION will offer a free workshop focused on managing intellectual property and conflict of interest for a successful startup company. The Office of the Vice President for Research has designated the event as one that satisfies the awareness/discussion component of the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) continuing education requirement. All U researchers are invited to attend, including faculty, graduate students, and post-docs. Apr. 19, 5–7:30 p.m., Campus Club, Coffman Union. RSVP by Apr. 17. For more information, see [technology commercialization](#).

LIBRARY MATERIALS ARE BEING MOVED IN PREPARATION FOR THE FALL OPENING OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES LIBRARY on the St. Paul campus. Created by merging the Forestry and the Entomology, Fisheries, and Wildlife (EFW) Libraries, the new library will be located in the current EFW Library space in Hodson Hall. The current Forestry Library space in Skok Hall will be reconfigured as a student study and group collaboration space. For more information, see [Natural Resources Library](#).

MOBILE TECHNOLOGY is everywhere and brings with it both challenges and opportunities. The Office of Information Technology (OIT) is offering two seminars this spring that explore different approaches: "Mobile: Designing Websites for Small Screens" and "Mobile: Designing Apps for Mobile Devices." For registration and more information, see [Technology Training](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2012–13 POLICY FELLOWS PROGRAM at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs are due June 1. The program brings together rising leaders from business, government, and nonprofit sectors to hone their leadership skills, build their professional networks, and learn how to tackle the "common good" challenges facing the state and nation. As part of a 35-person cohort, fellows meet monthly between September and June for full-day workshops and seminars; to design and implement group projects on topics of their choosing; and to participate in a three-day study trip to Washington, D.C. For more information, see [Humphrey Fellows](#).

APPLICATIONS FOR THE JURAN FELLOWSHIP AWARD will be accepted through Aug. 6. The Joseph M. Juran Center for Research in Supply Chain, Operations, and Quality at the Carlson School will award the \$10,000 fellowship to a doctoral student whose thesis research contributes to the study of process excellence and quality in their chosen field. Any doctoral candidate intending to apply must email the [Juran Center](#) by July 9. For more information, see [Juran Fellowship](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

"NAVIGATING THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT: Opportunities and Challenges" with Karen Ignagni will be the fourth forum in the series, Health Care Reform: How to Build on the Minnesota Model. Ignagni's talk will focus on what health insurers are doing to implement the new reform law, including structural changes in the health insurance system and innovations in the insurance markets. A panel discussion will follow. Apr. 5, 8:30–10:30 a.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. For registration and more information, see [health care](#).

"MAPPING AND GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COLLABORATION AND DECISION MAKING" will feature U of M alumnus Jack Dangermond, founder and president of Environmental Systems Research Institute. Dangermond is a founder of modern GIS technology, and is a global thought leader in geospatial analysis and design thinking. The event is sponsored IonE and the College of Design. Apr. 10, 4:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. For more information, see [Dangermond lecture](#).

FORMER PRESIDENT OF MEXICO Ernesto Zedillo will present "Globalization: The Promise and The Challenge" with Timothy Kehoe, Distinguished McKnight University Professor and adviser to the Federal Bank of Minneapolis. Zedillo is currently director of the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization. Apr. 10, 5:30–7:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. Free and open to the public. For registration and more information, see [Heller-Hurwicz Institute](#).

A SIP OF SCIENCE glacial hour forum will next feature "Geology and the Terroir of Wine growing in Minnesota," with glacial geologist and Morris professor James Cotter. Cotter will illustrate how the challenges of wine growing in the Minnesota climate are met with the development of new grape species and innovative growing practices. The event is free. Apr. 11, 5:30 p.m., Aster Cafe, 125 SE Main Street, St. Anthony Main, Minneapolis. For more information, see [A Sip of Science](#).

MINNPOST ASKS, A NEW DISCUSSION SERIES sponsored by the College of Continuing Education's LearningLife program, will launch with a discussion of "The Marriage Amendment: The Meaning Behind the Messages." Apr. 12, 7 p.m., Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul. Tickets are \$25. The bi-monthly series will focus on hot-button issues, addressed by one or two newsmakers, a *MinnPost* journalist, and a U of M faculty expert. A moderated public Q&A will follow each panel's discussion. For registration and more information, see [MinnPost Asks](#).

"HOW I KILLED PLUTO AND WHY IT HAD IT COMING," a public lecture hosted by the U's Institute for Astrophysics as part of the Kaufman Lecture Series, will feature world-famous astronomer Mike Brown and his discovery that led to the demotion of Pluto as a "real" planet and the controversy that followed. Apr. 12, 7:30–8:30 p.m., 150 Tate Lab of Physics. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [demoting Pluto](#).

THE NEXT BELL MUSEUM "BELL SOCIAL" will celebrate the opening of the artist-in-residence installation *Freeze Frame: Capturing Nature in Winter* with an evening of original art, contemporary science, and local food, with Minneapolis band Brute Heart performing live in the diorama hall. *Freeze Frame* invited the public to submit images—from the start of winter to its end—that capture their connection to nature during the winter season. More than 1,010 photos were submitted. Apr. 13, 6–9 p.m. For more information, see [Bell Social](#).

FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES ON THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SAME SEX MARRIAGE will feature Lisa Diamond, Beverly Green, and Glenda Russell discussing their research and clinical perspectives on marriage equality and the marriage amendment. All three speakers are nationally renowned researchers, authors, psychologists, and teachers. Apr. 19, 7–9 p.m., 3-100 Mayo Memorial. For more information, see [feminist perspectives](#).

MORE EVENTS (Apr. 4); The Magdalen Project: The Ecstasy in Music—Performance by Consortium Carissimi and discussion with Kelley Harness (Apr. 5); Engaging Controversies: Remixing Writing (Apr. 6); U.S. Global Engagement in Budgetary Constraint (Apr. 9); Author Eric Mix Dregin discusses his book *Vikings in the Attic* (Apr. 10). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (4-11-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 14; April 11, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--Features: Preserving a language; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: Professor Susan Wolf has received a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Investigator Award in Health Policy Research; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

Features

FEATURE: A groundbreaking new Ojibwe-English 'talking' dictionary is the result of extensive work by faculty and students of the U's Department of American Indian Studies in collaboration with American Indian tribal elders and other partners, including U Libraries. Called the *Ojibwe People's Dictionary*, it is an illustrated "talking" dictionary, with photographs old and new and some 60,000 audio clips of Ojibwe words and sentences, spoken by elders from different areas and in different dialects. For more information, read "[Preserving a language](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Apr. 2-6. In this episode of the weekly video feature, check out highlights from the National Public Health Film Festival, learn about the U of M Reproductive Medicine Center's BioClock Baby Plan, and see an art exhibit created by U student artists. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Professor Susan Wolf has received a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Investigator Award in Health Policy Research; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

60K DAY: APRIL 12. U of M students, faculty, and staff will attempt to raise \$60,000 in one day to sponsor a Habitat for Humanity home in south Minneapolis. U students and the U chapter of Habitat for Humanity are leading the effort. Beginning at midnight, Apr. 12, donations will be accepted for 24 hours through the online fundraising platform Razoo. Members of the U community will also be able to donate in person at various locations throughout the UMTC campus. For more information, see [60K Day](#).

THE UPPER MIDWEST HIGHER EDUCATION RECRUITMENT CONSORTIUM (UMWHERC) spring 2012 membership meeting will feature speakers on topics including faculty recruitment; the implications of unconscious or implicit bias on research and evaluation; and information about the Minnesota Network of Latinos in Higher Education. June 22, 8:30 a.m.–noon, Hall of Fame Room, Leonard Center, Macalester College. Free of charge. RSVP by June 15 to raprequests@umn.edu. For more information, see [UMWHERC](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

"CAN WE FEED THE WORLD, AND SUSTAIN THE PLANET?," featuring the U's Jon Foley of the Institute on the Environment, will be the next lecture in the Frontiers In the Environment series. Foley will discuss population growth, rising personal wealth, increasing meat and dairy consumption, and expanding biofuel use, all of which will place unprecedented demands on agriculture and natural resources in the coming years. Apr. 18, noon, R380 IonE seminar room, VoTech Bldg., St. Paul campus, or [live via UMConnect](#). For more information, see [Frontiers lecture](#).

CROOKSTON:

U HISTORIAN ANN PFLAUM will speak at a campus luncheon Apr. 17, 11 a.m., Bede Ballroom. Pflaum will share stories about women throughout the history of the University. For more information, see [U history](#).

THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE (NWSA) Alumni Association board of directors will meet Apr. 16, noon, 116 Kiehle. On the agenda are selection of Top Aggies, an award that recognizes outstanding alumni, and planning for the annual NWSA alumni reunion to be held the last weekend in June. For more information, see [NWSA board meeting](#).

TOURS FOR TOTS, a program open to children ages three and up, will showcase the world of agriculture and farm animals. Tours will take children to visit the cow and sheep barn, the horse stable and arena, and the greenhouse. Apr. 11-20. To set up a tour time, call Leah Stroot at 218-281-8101. For more information, see [Tours for Tots](#).

DULUTH:

TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD IN 90 MINUTES with award-winning author and Duluth native Marty Essen as he presents his multimedia show by the same name Apr. 18, 7 p.m., Weber Music Hall. Sponsored by the Ben and Jeanne Overman Distinguished Speaker Series, the event is free and open to the public, with free parking after 6:30 p.m. in campus maroon parking lots. For more information, see [Around the World](#).

WHAT IS AMERICA? Continuing UMD's year-long "How Did You Come to be Here?" initiative, this weeklong series of lectures, discussions, and other events will explore collective story through the many social, cultural, and intellectual lenses in the community. The UMD Big Spring Concert will conclude the week's events, most of which are free and open to the public. Apr. 14-21. For more information, see [What is America?](#)

THE SECOND ANNUAL CHAMP DAY OF SERVICE will take place Apr. 21 in a variety of locations with an expected 350-400 participants. The CHAMP (Connecting Hopes with Action to Mobilize People) Day of Service began with Chancellor Black's inaugural commitment to strengthen ties with Duluth and surrounding communities. For more information, see [CHAMP Day](#).

MORRIS:

THE ANNUAL MORRIS JAZZ FESTIVAL, organized by Dustin Retzlaff, UMM jazz ensembles director, will take place Apr. 12-14. Guest artists Dennis Mackrel and Gary Smulyan will perform with the jazz ensembles at nightly performances and conduct jazz clinics for high school and college students during the day. Vocal jazz group Northern Colorado Voices will add a new element this year. Shows are nightly, 7:30 p.m., Edson Auditorium. For tickets and more information, see [Morris Jazz Festival](#).

COLONEL DONALD OSTERBERG, U.S. Army (retired), will deliver a public talk on the strategically important role paratroopers played in the D-Day invasion of Normandy during World War II. Osterberg will visit the Morris campus to celebrate ten years of collaborative research between his company, Schneider National, Inc., and UMM professors Stephen Burks and Jon Anderson on the Truckers and Turnover Project, a multi-year study in the field of "behavioral personnel economics." Apr. 19, 7:30 p.m., Science Auditorium. For more information, see [D-Day Invasion](#).

ROCHESTER:

MISS REPRESENTATION, a provocative documentary seen by more than 1-million people throughout the world, will be screened Apr. 13, 6:30 p.m., 417 University Square. The film explores how the media's misrepresentations of women have led to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence. A moderated discussion will follow the film's showing. For more information, see [Miss Representation](#).

STEVE SMITH joined UMR's Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology Program in March as its new director of business development. Smith will lead efforts to further grow the program's outreach to industry and the community with the aim of facilitating the innovations that support both new breakthroughs and economic growth for the local community and the state. For more information, see the [Rochester PostBulletin](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

NORTHROP TUNNEL CLOSURE: The Northrop Auditorium renovation construction will require the closure of the Gopher Way tunnels that run through and under the building. Beginning Apr. 16, the tunnel beneath Northrop will close between the Church Street Garage and Nolte/Williamson Hall. The closure and detour will be clearly marked and tunnel users will need to go topside for the coming months. The tunnels will reopen with Northrop in winter 2014.

E-BOOK COLLECTIONS ARE GROWING at the U Libraries with more than 415,000 e-books. E-books can be read and searched on iPads, mobile devices, or laptop/desktop computers. For more information, see [e-book](#) or [contact a staff librarian](#).

AT BEAUTIFUL U DAY APRIL 17, University Services VP Kathleen O'Brien will kick off the first-ever ReUse-A-Palooza on Northrop Plaza with her final Beautiful U Day address at 10:30 a.m. Afterwards, attendees will have a chance to participate in a medallion hunt on Northrop Mall a free bike for the winner. Beautiful U Day [volunteers are still needed](#). For more information, see [Beautiful U Day](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

INTRODUCTION TO SERVICE DESIGN: A Tool for Creating User-friendly University Services, a workshop featuring U Libraries instructional designer Paul Zenke, will introduce service design thinking and explore how the method can create or improve services. April 12, 3-4:30 p.m., 101 Walter Library. Sponsored by the Consultation Collaborative. For more information, see [Service Design](#).

THE CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES will host a symposium examining the moral role of the university in today's society. "The Betrayal of the Humanities: The University During the Third Reich," co-organized by Bernard Levinson and Bruno Chaouat, will explore the mutation of academic ideals under National Socialism, when the German university system promoted Nazi ideology and helped the state eliminate its diverse community. Apr. 16, 9 a.m.–noon, 170 Mondale Hall. For more information, see [genocide studies](#).

THE ANNUAL PLANT SALE of the College of Biological Sciences (CBS) will include a large selection of blooming annuals, tropical plants, herbs, carnivorous plants, succulents, and orchids. An orchid and succulent expert, as well as staff from the CBS greenhouses, will be present to answer questions about the care and culture of the plants. Apr. 18-19, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., St. Paul Student Center, Minnesota Commons. For more information, call 612-625-4788.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) will conduct a week-long "Stop.Think.Connect." Minnesota Cyber Tour with a stop on the UMTC campus to host three sessions on cyber awareness, cyber careers, and digital critical infrastructure protection as part of its national cybersecurity awareness campaign. The U's Technological Leadership Institute has joined with DHS to help promote a broader discussion about how individuals and communities can protect against growing cyber threats. Apr. 19, Indoor Club Room, TCF Bank Stadium. For more information, see [cybersecurity](#).

THE COST OF GRIDLOCK: MINNESOTA'S CREEPING HEALTH CARE CRISIS will feature Jan Malcolm, CEO of Courage Center, in a discussion moderated by Professor Lawrence see Jacobs. Apr. 25, 9-10:30 a.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. For more information, see the [Humphrey School events calendar](#).

"GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY REGULATORY AND POLICY CHALLENGES" will feature Jørgen Schlundt, deputy director of the National Food Institute, Technical University of Denmark. Apr. 25, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., St. Paul Student Center. For more information, see [food safety and policy](#).

THE INSTITUTE FOR MATHEMATICS AND ITS APPLICATIONS lecture, "The Curious World of Probabilities," will explain how a "probability perspective" can shed new light on many familiar situations. The lecture features University of Toronto professor Jeffrey Rosenthal, author of *Struck by Lightning: The Curious World of Probabilities*. Apr. 25, 7 p.m., 175 Wiley Hall. For more information, see [probabilities lecture](#).

HOW NANOMATERIALS CAN HELP MEET GLOBAL ENERGY NEEDS is the focus of the upcoming Van Vleck lecture series, featuring MIT professor Mildred Dresselhaus, the first woman lecturer in the series. Dresselhaus is the recipient of the National Medal of Science and 28 honorary degrees from universities around the world, and has served as president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, treasurer of the National Academy of Sciences, president of the American Physical Society, and chair of the Governing Board of the American Institute of Physics. Apr. 26, 5 p.m., 150 Tate Lab of Physics and live online. For more information, see [Van Vleck](#).

THE JOHN S. NAJARIAN LECTURE IN TRANSPLANTATION, "Renal Transplantation with a Southern Accent," will be presented by Arnold Diethelm, professor emeritus, Department of Surgery, University of Alabama at Birmingham. May 1, 8 a.m., Mayo Auditorium.

THE CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN CHILD WELFARE will present "Beyond Burnout: Secondary Trauma in the Child Welfare Workforce." The conference includes prominent speakers and concludes with a panel presentation. Registration is available only through Apr. 23. Participants may earn 3.5 CEUs for attendance. May 1, 1-4:30 p.m., DQ Room, TCF Bank Stadium and via live webstream. For registration and more information, see [child welfare](#).

MORE EVENTS include "Your Best Talk Ever Coming to Be a Science Presentation Superstar" ([Apr. 11](#)); How I Killed Pluto and Why It Had It Coming ([Apr. 12](#)); Networking for Researchers ([Apr. 11](#)); Minnesota ([Apr. 13](#)); Sister Spoken Word ([Apr. 15](#)); UMN Sculpture Foundry Iron Pour ([Apr. 16](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (4-18-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 15; April 18, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--State Relations update.
--Features: The emperor's new close-up; Movement, pattern, shape: 2012–14 McKnight Land-Grant Professor Daniel Keefe; Robo boat; A-gardening-we-will-go; This Week @Minnesota.
--People: 2012 recipients of the Distinguished McKnight University Professorships; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: In the coming days and weeks, legislators will consider several bills that would impact the University, including the higher education omnibus bill, the capital investment bill, a bill that would allow alcohol in TCF Bank Stadium, a Vikings stadium bill, and a bill funding an invasive species research center at the U. Meanwhile, President Kaler recently took part in a roundtable with Senator Al Franken, Governor Mark Dayton, Minnesota Officer of Higher Education Director Larry Pogemiller, and students from private and public schools in Minnesota to discuss college affordability and student loan debt. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: Three researchers at the U's Polar Geospatial Center, along with several international colleagues, have published the first census of emperor penguins based on satellite images. Among 46 breeding colonies, they counted some 595,000 birds, far more than the 170,000 to 350,000 they had expected. The census gives researchers a baseline for measuring the health of the species as it relates to changes in the physical environment or human activity. For more information, read "[The emperor's new close-up](#)."

FEATURE: Newly named 2012–14 McKnight Land-Grant Professor Daniel Keefe paints a picture that sheds new light on massive data sets, using modeling and computer visualization to interact with information in three dimensions. His insight on technical and visual modeling is in high demand by researchers who want to get more from their data. Keefe is collaborating with faculty from across the U—designing medical devices, understanding biomechanics data, designing tools to train surgeons, and building virtual reconstructions of ancient Greece, to name just a few projects. For more information, read "[Movement, pattern, shape](#)."

FEATURE: Computer scientist and College of Science and Engineering professor Volkan Isler is on a quest to bring advanced robotics to bear on the challenge of building a healthier planet. His research goal is to develop robotic systems that can operate on their own in large, complex, and dynamic settings. In the land of 10,000 lakes, Isler found the perfect evader for advancing his pursuit-evasion work: carp. For more information, read "[Robo boat](#)."

FEATURE: It has been an early spring, but that doesn't mean it's time to start transplanting seedlings to the garden. But those who haven't begun growing seedlings inside can and should get going. There's a frost-free season in Minnesota of about 140 days—give or take a few as one moves north or south—and whatever challenges Minnesotans encounter—through the heat, the bugs, and the chilly days—U of M Extension has the answer. For more information, read "[A-gardening-we-will-go](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Apr. 9–13. In this episode of the weekly video feature, check out highlights from Mayor Rybak's visit to the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, the U's participation in 60K Day, and learn about the U Lion's Eye Bank and its new partnership with Donate Life America. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: The Office of the Vice President for Research has announced the 2012 recipients of the Distinguished McKnight University Professorships; Billie Wahlstrom, vice provost for distributed education and instructional technology, will retire May 1; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

PUBLIC MISSION, URBAN CHALLENGES: THE 21ST-CENTURY UNIVERSITY. President Kaler will host Syracuse University Chancellor Nancy Cantor for a discussion about the role of the 21st-century university in meeting urban challenges during a special Great Conversations Presidential Forum May 2, 4 p.m., Coffman Union Theater, and via live-streaming. The event is part of UMN Land Grant 150, a yearlong celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act of 1862. Free and open to the public, although registration is required. For more information, see [Great Conversations](#).

THE FIRST 200 CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES who register for the [StrengthsFinder assessment](#) and follow-up presentation will receive free registration. The personal and professional development opportunity is offered by the Civil Service Consultative Committee. Registration ends May 7. For more information, see [Civil Service](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

THE METROPOLITAN RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM, offered through the University Metropolitan Consortium, is accepting proposals from U researchers or teams of researchers for projects related to urban and metropolitan dynamics. Two or three proposals will be funded in the range of \$50,000 to \$100,000 each. Proposals are due by Apr. 24. For more information, see [research grant](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE U LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM'S BUD BREAK 5K RUN/WALK is open for registration. The certified 5K course winds through the scenic landscapes of the Arboretum just as the spring blooms are peaking. The run/walk is open to people of all ages and experience levels. May 6, 9 a.m. For registration and more information, see [Bud Break 5K](#).

CROOKSTON:

JIM FARRELL, a professor of history at St. Olaf College, will highlight Earth Week at UMC with "The Nature of Our Lives: How College Culture Degrades Nature and How it Might be Different." Apr. 19, 12:15 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Earth Week](#).

"**FIESTA IN THE SPIRIT OF CINCO DE MAYO**," a cultural celebration with something for everyone, is filled with activities for the whole family and celebrates the rich tradition of the Mexican people. This year's fiesta also recognizes the "Month of the Young Child" with many activities focusing on children and families. Apr. 21. For more information, see [Cinco de Mayo](#).

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER and UMC alumna Jean Fischer Whalen will talk about her life-changing experience working under a short-term contract for the United Nations as an official court reporter at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. May 5, 2 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium. Commencement will also mark the final graduation celebration for Charles H. Casey as UMC's chancellor. For more information, see [commencement](#).

DULUTH:

THE UMD SUSTAINABILITY FAIR runs through Apr. 20 with a variety of presentations, events, and campus-wide initiatives—from land management solutions to theatrics and sustainability education in western Africa. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [sustainability](#).

THE UMD EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM HAS BEEN AWARDED the American Heart Association's 2012 Platinum Award for Fit Friendly Company. For more information, see [wellness program award](#).

LACROSSE CAMP FOR AMERICAN INDIAN YOUTH: A memorandum of agreement providing support for a summer lacrosse camp for youth was signed Apr. 13 by Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Chairwoman Karen Diver, UMD Chancellor Lendley C. Black, and other representatives of the University of Minnesota. The signing event was held at the Fond du Lac Tribal Government Offices in Cloquet, MN. For more information, see [Lacrosse Camp](#).

MORRIS:

JOHN ABRAHAM, associate professor of engineering in thermal and fluid sciences at the University of St. Thomas, and Don Shelby, award-winning former television news anchor, will visit UMM with the Alexandria Citizens Climate Lobby for a conversation about climate change. Free and open to the public. Apr. 19, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Student Center. For more information, see [climate change conversation](#).

THE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM, coordinated by Gordon McIntosh, professor of physics, provides a venue for students to present a variety of independent research, creative work, and arts performances for an audience of peers, faculty, family, and community members. Apr. 21. For more information, see [symposium](#).

THE THEATRE DISCIPLINE'S CHILDREN'S SHOW, *Sophie and the Adventures of Ice Island*, will play on Pioneer Public Television in Appleton as well as KSMQ in Austin, Apr. 22, 4 p.m., in recognition of Earth Day. *Sophie* was recorded live on campus, directed by associate professor of theatre Siobhan Bremer, and edited by senior media resources producer, Mike Chihak, and director of media services, Roger Boleman. For more information, see [children's show](#).

NAOMI WENTE '13, Dodge Center, has received a 2012 Udall Scholarship. The Udall Foundation, an independent federal agency established by Congress in 1992, provides federally funded scholarships of up to \$5,000 to college students pursuing careers related to the environment, and to American Indian students pursuing careers in tribal public policy or health care. An environmental studies and political science major, Wente's interests center around food systems including food justice, local foods, and food production. For more information, see [scholarship](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE UMR IT WEB AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT GROUP recently presented a poster at an Academic Technology Showcase at Coffman Union on the UMTC campus. For more information and to view part of the presentation, see [UMR in the News](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

COPYRIGHT PERMISSION REQUESTS FOR SUMMER 2012 course materials should be submitted to the Copyright Permissions Center as soon as possible. Source information may be dropped off at any Printing Services location, faxed to 612-626-9810, mailed to 102 Printing Services Building, or [submitted online](#). For more information, email [Dale Mossestad](mailto:Dale.Mossestad) or call 612-626-9416.

A STRENGTHS AT LUNCH series will offer an opportunity for faculty and staff to discuss their work with StrengthsFinder, the online assessment that identifies an individual's top five talents and provides resources for setting goals that put those talents into meaningful action. Attendees are invited to talk with fellow colleagues from across campus about their use of Strengths in their work, to share stories and ideas, and to network with other colleagues interested in Strengths approaches. Apr. 27, noon–1 p.m., 140 Nolte. For more information, see [Strengths at Lunch](#).

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION'S FREE NIGHT AND SUNDAY PARKING programs (previously available at 21st Avenue, Gortner Avenue, and 4th Street Ramps) have been eliminated as each ramp goes automated. The last location in that group to be upgraded, the 4th Street Ramp, will convert the week of Apr. 23. For more information, see [Parking Technology Upgrade](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

TECH TRADE-IN: Recycle unwanted, outdated, and even slightly damaged tech products into U of M Bookstore gift cards. Trade in equipment during the Bookstore's Earth Day Trade-in Sale Event and receive an additional 10 percent of the trade-in value on a gift card. The Bookstore will also recycle no-value tech products for free. Apr. 18–23, U Bookstore, Coffman Union. For more information, including the value of equipment, see [Tech Trade-in](#).

UNIVERSITY OPERA THEATRE'S upcoming production of Robert Aldridge's *Parables* will run Apr. 19–22, Ted Mann Concert Hall. Two-for-one tickets are available for U faculty, staff, students, alumni, and retirees. For tickets and more information, see [Parables](#).

"**STRENGTHENING THE U OF M AS AN ENGAGED UNIVERSITY: COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES**" will feature panelists representing a broad range of community-based organizations on the factors that they believe contribute to building successful partnerships with the U. Sponsored by the Office for Public Engagement, the event will be moderated by Heidi Barajas, executive director of the Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center and associate dean for engagement and faculty development in the College of Education and Human Development. Apr. 24, 9 a.m.–noon, McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [engaged](#).

LIVING WITH A LOVED ONE WITH MEMORY LOSS, a workshop by Pauline Boss, professor emerita and author of the widely acclaimed book *Loving Someone who has Dementia*, will take place Apr. 24, 1:30–2:30 p.m., ABC room, Campus Club. Free. Sponsored by the U of M Retirees Association.

DIGITAL PRIVACY, a lecture by Latanya Sweeney, director and founder of the Digital Privacy Lab at Harvard University, will take place Apr. 26, 4–5 p.m., followed by a reception, University Hall, McNamara Alumni Center. Sweeney, a distinguished "computational policy" computer scientist, focuses on protecting patient privacy in the electronic world. For more information call 612-626-3348, email lhs@umn.edu, or see [digital privacy](#).

THE OBESITY PREVENTION CENTER will host a symposium to discuss research in the area of home-based parenting interventions for child health outcomes. Specific attention will be given to interventions that address parenting skills around healthy eating, physical activity, and screen time, and how these interventions affect changes in the home environment and child behavior outcomes. May 14, 9:30–11 a.m., Cowles Auditorium. Registration is [available online](#).

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S STUDY SPEAKERS SERIES: Ann Settgest, U of M assistant professor of Medicine and internist at HealthPartners Center for International Health, will present "Achieving Universal Health Care for Kids (& Adults): The Minnesota Health Plan," May 16, 3–4:30 p.m., Wilder Center, St. Paul. For registration and more information, see [Children's Study](#).

NEURO-ONCOLOGY SYMPOSIUM: "Basic Discovery Accelerating Groundbreaking Tumor Therapy" will highlight recent advances in understanding the pathogenesis and novel treatments of brain tumors. May 17–19. For registration and more information, see [symposium](#).

THEATER LATTE DA presents *Spring Awakening* in partnership with the U's Department of Theatre Arts and Dance. Banned when the play first premiered in 1891, *Spring Awakening* is a dynamic rock adaptation of Frank Wedekind's expressionist play about a group of teenagers coming of age in an uncomprehending world. Ongoing, through May 6, Stoll Thrust Rarig Center. For more information, see [Spring Awakening](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers In the Environment: "Can We Feed the World, and Sustain the Planet?" ([Apr. 18](#)); German Play: *DADA STRIKES BACK: A Cabaret* ([Apr. 19](#)); Cyber Security Awareness ([Apr. 19](#)); CURA Housing Forum—Redevlopment, Refinancing and Renovation of Riverside Plaza, Minnesota's Largest Housing Development ([Apr. 20](#)); The Economics of Sustainability ([Apr. 21](#)); The Vagina Monologues ([Apr. 22](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (4-25-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 16; April 25, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- Board of Regents public forum.
- Features: Earth in 20 years; City-slicker plants; Eager for the challenge; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Norwood Teague has been named the next director of Gopher Athletics; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC FORUM May 11, 12:30–1:30 p.m., Boardroom, McNamara Alumni Center. The forum is open to individuals who wish to address the Board regarding the U's fiscal year 2013 budget and related issues. Information about the president's proposed budget will be available in the May docket materials one week prior to the forum. To speak, call the Board Office at 612-625-6300 or email uregents@umn.edu (subject line: Public Forum) by May 7, 3 p.m. Include: name, email, phone number, group representing (if any), relationship to the University, and presentation topic. Speakers wishing to provide the Board with written information must submit the materials by May 7. For more information, see [public forum](#).

Features

FEATURE: The world will face many challenges over the coming decades, not least among them environmental challenges. On the heels of Earth Day, we asked three leading researchers at the U to answer three questions for us in their specialties of sustainable agriculture, environmental justice, and economics and ecology. For more information, read "[Earth in 20 years](#)."

FEATURE: It sounds like good news for city dwellers: Urban areas harbor more plant species than rural areas. But it's not. A new study, led in part by U ecologist Jeannine Cavender-Bares and published in the journal *Ecology*, documents how the makeup of plant communities changed as one moved north from Minneapolis to the U's Cedar Creek Natural History Area. It turns out that while there may be more plant species in urban areas, they have a narrower genetic base and so are less likely to thrive under environmental disturbances. For more information, read "[City-slicker plants](#)."

FEATURE: It has been a whirlwind couple of days for Norwood Teague. On Apr. 22, he was announced as the lone finalist to become the U's new director of athletics. A day later he was providing sound bites to a gaggle of local media wanting to know everything about him, from his thoughts on the ideal number of Gopher sports to his tastes in television shows and music. Pending approval by the Board of Regents, Teague will begin July 1, succeeding Joel Maturi, who has overseen the U athletics department for 10 years. For more information, read "[Eager for the challenge](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Apr. 16–20. In this episode of the weekly video feature, see highlights from Beautiful U Day, the "Scrubbed into Fashion" fashion show, Agriculture Awareness Day, and the MnTap Program. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Norwood Teague has been named the next director of Gopher Athletics; the Office for Equity and Diversity has announced the 2012 winners of the Josie R. Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice Awards; the Office for Public Engagement has named the 2012 Outstanding Community Service Award winners; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

FACULTY AND STAFF ARE ENCOURAGED TO COMPLETE THE 2012 PULSE SURVEY measuring satisfaction and engagement with the University of Minnesota as an employer. This week, faculty and staff members received an email invitation with instructions and a unique link to the Pulse Survey. The survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete, and feedback is critical to the University's ability to understand the work experiences of employees. Responses are confidential and participation is voluntary. The survey is open through May 11. To view unit-by-unit survey participation in real time, see [Pulse Survey](#). For more information, see [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

THE U HAS CREATED AN OPEN ACADEMICS TEXTBOOK CATALOG to help faculty find more affordable textbook options for students. The catalog, created in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD), is a searchable online catalog of "open textbooks" that will be reviewed by U faculty. CEHD will support faculty who choose to review and adopt open textbooks with \$500–\$1,000 stipends. The catalog is the first of its kind hosted at a major research institution. It is available to faculty worldwide. The catalog currently lists 84 open textbooks that are in use in classrooms across the country. For more information, see [Open Academics](#).

2013 COMPENSATION PLAN FOR UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES: The president is recommending a compensation plan to the Board of Regents as part of the overall University budget, to be reviewed at the board's May 10–11 meeting and considered for approval by the board at its June 7–8 meeting. If approved, salary increases for employee groups would be effective June 18, 2012, and will appear on paychecks beginning July 11. For more information, see FY'13 [Compensation Plan for Faculty, P&A, and Civil Service](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE PROVOST'S SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT. The event benefits U students by raising funds to endow student scholarships. The tournament is played in a 4-person scramble, shotgun start format. The entry fee of \$105 includes a golf shirt, greens fee, cart, practice range balls, putting contest entry, and food at the post-event barbeque. Prizes will be awarded for first-, second-, and third-place teams and various field events throughout the day. Registration ends May 25. Open to the entire U community, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends. June 1, 8:30 a.m., University of Minnesota Golf Course. For more information, see [Provost's Open](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC's "MAN AND WOMAN OF THE YEAR" were chosen during the [student awards program](#) held Apr. 19. Honors for 2012 go to Man of the Year Austin Czichotzki, a senior from Barnesville, MN, majoring in communication; and Woman of the Year Kristine Neu, a senior from Pelican Rapids, MN, double-majoring in horticulture and communication. Czichotzki is the son of Terry and Sandi Czichotzki and Neu is the daughter of Mark and Karen Neu.

SENIOR SEMINAR STUDENTS will hold a poster presentation session on their topics in Agriculture and Natural Resources Apr. 26, 4–6 p.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center. For more information, see [seminar students](#).

THE FACULTY ASSEMBLY will meet Apr. 27, 3 p.m., 207 Dowell Hall. For more information, see the [meeting schedule online](#).

STUDENTS WILL HOST A RETIREMENT RECEPTION for Chancellor Charles Casey and Barbara Muesing Apr. 30, 3–5 p.m., Prairie Room. This reception is an opportunity for students to take a break from finals studies to say farewell and extend best wishes. For more information, see [retirement reception](#).

DULUTH:

20TH ANNUAL JOEL LABOVITZ ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARDS will take place Apr. 25, 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Duluth Entertainment Convention Center. The awards recognize and celebrate the economical and entrepreneurial contributions of local and regional businesses to the Twin Ports and Arrowhead Region. For more information, see [Labovitz Awards](#).

TWIN CITIES GAY MEN'S CHORUS will perform May 3, 8 p.m., Weber Music Hall. The event is sponsored by the Office of the Chancellor in conjunction with the GLBT Services office. For more information, see [Gay Men's Chorus](#).

A UMD AWARDS CEREMONY will recognize 2011–12 faculty award winners during a special campus reception May 1, 2:30 p.m., Griggs Center. For more information, see [faculty awards](#).

MORRIS:

UMM WAS NAMED ONE OF JUST 31 INSTITUTIONS to achieve an Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's gold certification in its Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS). STARS is a comprehensive sustainability survey that looks at efforts across campuses, including education and research, operations, planning, administration, and engagement. For more information, see [sustainability](#).

THE MEININGENS STUDENT THEATRE GROUP will close out the 2011–12 "Public Enemy #1" season with Euripides' *Medea* Apr. 26–28, 7:30 p.m., Humanities Fine Arts Black Box Theatre. This classical Greek piece, in a haunting translation by Frederic Raphael and Kenneth McLeish, explores the nuances of love and hatred in the search for justice. For more information, see [theatre](#).

GEOLOGY PROFESSOR KEITH BRUGGER spent three weeks at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden as a visiting professor in a program established to bring in researchers and scholars from outside Sweden to collaborate on research with geology faculty. Paired with friend and colleague Mark Johnson, formerly of Gustavus Adolphus College, Brugger proposed a research project on the catastrophic drainage of Glacial Lake Grantsburg, which occurred in northeast Minnesota and northwestern Wisconsin during the last ice age. Brugger expects the research to increase understanding of climate, climate change, and the impact on landscape evolution in the region. For more information, see [Brugger](#).

A PAPER BY DAN SEIDENKRANZ '13, Woodbury, MN, has been published in the recent issue of the organic chemistry journal *Heterocycles*. His solar cell research with Ted Pappenfus, associate professor of chemistry, sought to find more efficient means of synthesizing molecules in benzodithiophenes, a family of promising compounds in the emerging field of organic solar cells. Among their achievements was experimenting with a compound previously unreported in the literature and more efficient synthesis of other organic compounds that can be integrated into inks and paints, eliminating the need for bulky panels made by energy intensive processes. The work was funded by the U's [Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment](#). For more information, see [solar research](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR CONNECTS: 2012 marks the 50th anniversary of *Silent Spring*, the landmark book in which Rachel Carson sounded the alarm to an unsuspecting public about the detrimental effects of pesticides on eagles, fish, and many other forms of wildlife. The weekly series "UMR Connects" will feature speakers Joe Marchesani and Renay Leone, who will facilitate a discussion on the continued importance of bringing environmental issues into the public forum—even 50 years later. May 1, 7 p.m., 4th floor, University Square. For more information, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

PUBLIC MISSION, URBAN CHALLENGES: THE 21ST-CENTURY UNIVERSITY. President Kaler will host Syracuse University Chancellor Nancy Cantor for a discussion about the role of the 21st-century university in meeting urban challenges during a special Great Conversations Presidential Forum May 2, 4 p.m., Coffman Union Theater, and via live-streaming. The event is part of UMN Land Grant 150, a yearlong celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act of 1862. Free and open to the public, although registration is required. For more information, see [Great Conversations](#).

SIGMA PI FRATERNITY RECENTLY HOSTED ITS FIFTH ANNUAL UNSUNG HEROES DINNER. Created to show appreciation for UMTC's custodial staff, the event is part of the fraternity's A.C.E. Project (Altruistic Campus Experience). The Sigma Pi brothers welcomed approximately 300 Facilities Management staff into their house, served them a great meal, played games, and thanked them for their service. For more information, including a photo gallery, read "[Unsung Heroes](#)."

UNIVERSITY STORES WILL HOST LABFEST 2012 to showcase the wide variety of laboratory products available through University Stores and U-Wide scientific contracts. The event is an opportunity for researchers, lab technicians, and procurement specialists to learn about products and interact with the vendor representatives. May 2, University Hotel, 615 Washington Ave SE; and May 3, North Star Ballroom, St. Paul Student Center. Both events run from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. For more information, see [LabFest 2012](#).

"LIKE" CONSERVATION? PROVE IT AND YOU COULD WIN AN IPAD. Monthly prize drawings will be held for anyone who "Likes" the It All Adds Up conservation campaign's [facebook page](#) through August, with weekly prizes awarded through Nov. 6. The iPad grand prize will be awarded after the presidential election. The contest is part of a new campaign utilizing posters and sidewalk clings that feature a fresh twist on past political slogans to promote conservation of campus resources. [View and order posters for twices/pastpolitics online](#). For contest details and more information, see [It All Adds Up](#).

PARTICIPATE IN THE 2012 HOMECOMING PARADE! Student groups and departments can sign up now for the 2012 Homecoming Parade, scheduled for Oct. 12, 7 p.m., on University Avenue. The parade promotes unity among students, staff, faculty, alumni, and the surrounding community during Homecoming Week, Oct. 7–13. For registration and more information, see [Homecoming Parade](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

THE U HAS BEEN AWARDED funding from the Fogarty International Center to help foster the next generation of global health scientists by providing significant mentored research experiences in developing countries. Ph.D. students and post-doctoral students in the health sciences are encouraged to apply for an 11-month fellowship at U research sites in Kenya and Uganda, or consortium partner sites in Thailand, China, Peru, and Ghana. For an application and more information, see [mentored research](#) or email MollyMcCoy.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

DRIVERS OF LARGE VEHICLES AND BICYCLISTS share the road every day but rarely get an opportunity to see the road through each other's eyes. At a "Behind the Big Wheel" event, bicyclists and pedestrians will be able experience what it's like to sit in the driver's seat of a 12–15 r.p.m. bus and check blind spots while bikes and pedestrians pass by in the street below. Apr. 26, 12:15–1 p.m., 6th St. SE, west of 25th Ave. For more information, see [Behind the Big Wheel](#).

WOMEN'S FACULTY CABINET DIVERSITY RETREAT: The women's Faculty Cabinet Diversity Committee is holding a retreat for women faculty of color to discuss issues of equity and diversity on the Twin Cities campus. This retreat will serve as a follow-up to the Culture and Climate Survey conducted by the committee earlier this semester. Apr. 26, 3–6 p.m., Women's Club of Minneapolis. See [diversity retreat \(PDF\)](#).

A DIVERSITY THROUGH THE DISCIPLINES SYMPOSIUM presented by the Office for Equity and Diversity's Institute for Diversity, Equity, and Advocacy (IDEA) will showcase research conducted by current recipients of IDEA Multicultural Research Awards. IDEA grants encourage and support transformative scholarship on issues related to communities of color in the United States. Apr. 27, 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m., 303 Coffman Union. For more information, see [diversity symposium](#).

THE MIDWEST CENTER FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER will host the 2012 NORA Symposium, "Bully-Free and Violence-Free at Work: Inspiring a Respectful Workplace," May 1, 2–5 p.m., University Hotel. Free, but [registration is requested](#). For more information, see [bully-free](#) or email Chris.Western.

CHALLENGES AND RESEARCH DIRECTIONS IN MEDICAL CYBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS, a Digital Technology Center Science and Technology Innovators lecture by Professor Insup Lee, Cecilia Titler Moore Professor of Computer and Information Science and director of PRECISE Center at the University of Pennsylvania, will take place May 1, 4:30 p.m. (reception at 4 p.m.), 401 Walter Library. For more information, see [Medical Cyber-Physical Systems](#).

NORTHROP DANCE will present the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in two evenings of different repertoire May 1–2. Ailey's return to Minnesota marks the first tour with new artistic director Robert Battle (succeeding Judith Jamison), honored as one of the "Masters of African American Choreography" by the Kennedy Center. U faculty, staff, and students are eligible for discounted tickets. For tickets and more information, see [Northrop](#).

FINNISH RAPPER SIGNMARK will perform May 2 and 3 at the University of Minnesota. Signmark is the first deaf person to sign with a major international record label (Warner Music). The Office for Equity and Diversity and its Disability Services unit invite staff and faculty members to learn more about the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community through the two performances: "Northrop Shout (similar to a flash mob, with American Sign Language, music, and lyrics) May 2, noon, Northrop Plaza; and a [free concert](#) May 3, 7:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Both events are part of Disability Services' May 3 [Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day](#), an event for high school students and their teachers and parents.

THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY will host a symposium on "The Political Psychology of Protest and Collective Action." May 4, 2:30–5 p.m., 230 Anderson Hall. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [political psychology](#).

ENVIRONMENTALIST PAUL HAWKEN will give the keynote address at Minnesota Solutions Summit 2012, a gathering of sustainability practitioners and researchers from around the world convened by the NorthStar Initiative for Sustainable Development. Hawken is an internationally renowned environmentalist, entrepreneur, and author. May 22, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (Hawken will speak at 1 p.m.), McNamara Alumni Center. For more information, see [Solutions Summit](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers In the Environment ([Apr. 25](#)); Peter Adolphsen discusses his book, *Machine* ([Apr. 26](#)); Spring Fling! ([Apr. 28](#)); Tail of the Ouroboros ([May 1](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES CAMPUS EVENTS.

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (5-2-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 17; May 2, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- State Relations update.
- Board of Regents public forum.
- Features: Who is Prescott Morrill?; Not your parents' chem labs; Tiny Desk Concerts at UMTC; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Professor Linda Bearinger is featured in *The Lancet*; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: The House and Senate passed the conference committee report on the omnibus higher education bill. The bill now goes to Governor Dayton. For more information about the provisions that pertain to the University in the final bill, see [bill provisions](#). In other news, Governor Dayton signed the omnibus liquor bill, which allows alcoholic beverages to be sold in select locations at TCF Bank Stadium. The Board of Regents will examine the law change and determine how sales will be managed. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC FORUM May 11, 12:30–1:30 p.m., Boardroom, McNamara Alumni Center. The forum is open to individuals who wish to address the Board regarding the U's fiscal year 2013 budget and related issues. Information about the president's proposed budget will be available in the May docket materials one week prior to the forum. To register to speak or present, and for more information, see [public forum](#).

Features

FEATURE: U of M student Nathaniel Prescott Morrill (known as Prescott) is the great grandnephew of Justin Morrill—the Vermont congressman who in 1862 drafted the Morrill Land Grant Act. It laid the foundation for the public colleges and universities across the country and shaped today's American educational system. For more information, read "[Who is Prescott Morrill?](#)"

FEATURE: Michelle Driessen, assistant professor and director of general chemistry, is making sure University of Minnesota students learn a lot more from their freshman labs than just how to follow directions. Since summer 2011, Driessen has led an overhaul of general chemistry lab experiments to let students figure out how to solve problems. For more information, read "[Not your parents' chem labs](#)."

FEATURE: Host a tiny concert at your desk: If you work on the U's Twin Cities campuses, a new feature from the School of Music can bring a live concert to your desk. Doctoral student Christa Saeger performed the first Tiny Desk Music Concert outside CLA assistant dean Nanette Hanks's office in Johnston Hall on Apr. 24. Faculty and staff can scoop up the remaining performances while they last by emailing School of Music professor [Jerry Luckhardt](#). For more information, read "[Tiny Desk Concerts](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: This episode of the weekly video feature highlights the recent Spring Jam 2012, including performances by the Head and the Heart, the Cataracs, and the New Boyz. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)".

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Professor Linda Bearinger is featured in *The Lancet*; President Kaler has named recipients of the 2012 President's Award for Outstanding Service; Global Programs and Strategy Alliance has named recipients of the 2012 Global Spotlight grants for international scholarly activities; CBS Student Services has received an Outstanding Program Certificate of Merit from the National Academic Advising Association for its Academic Probation Advising Curriculum; Jasjit Ahluwalia has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research; Department of Medicine professor Anne Joseph has been appointed president-elect for the Society of Research on Nicotine and Tobacco; David Fisher has been appointed executive director of the Law School's recently created Corporate Institute; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

FINAL CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITION OF CHANCELLOR of the University of Minnesota, Crookston have been invited to UMC for public interviews. During their public interviews, each candidate will deliver a presentation, "Opportunities and Challenges Facing the University of Minnesota, Crookston." Forums will be recorded and posted on the chancellor search website soon after the presentations are held. For candidate profiles and remaining public interview schedules, see [UMC Chancellor search](#).

FINAL CANDIDATES FOR THE VP FOR EQUITY AND DIVERSITY POSITION have been invited to the UMTC campus for public interviews. Each candidate will participate in a public forum during which they will deliver a presentation titled, "The Role of Equity and Diversity in Achieving Academic Excellence in a Land Grant Public University." The forums will be [streamed live](#) with video available afterward. Interviews begin May 3 with Louis Mendoza, followed by Wanda Mitchell on May 7, and Alysa Rollock on May 8. For more information, including candidate vitas and evaluation forms, see [VP for Equity and Diversity search](#).

APB ON TARs: Faculty or staff who have a Tone Alert Radio (TAR) in an office or work area need to contact the Department of Emergency Management (DEM). Emergency Management is working to track down the more than 500 TARs in use across the University of Minnesota system. Many have been "relocated" since they were originally deployed 10 years ago, and DEM needs help locating the radios so they can collect, update, and ultimately redeploy them. If you have a Tone Alert Radio in your office or work area, please email the [Department of Emergency Management](#) or call 612-625-8047.

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND FACULTY SENATE will meet May 3, 2:30 p.m., 25 Mondale Hall. Topics include the introduction of Vice President Scott Studham, resolutions on the MLK Community Service Pledge Drive and the proposed Minnesota Constitutional Amendment on Marriage, 2016–17 academic calendars, a faculty salary gender equity discussion, and entrepreneurial leaves. For more information, see the full agenda at [University Senate](#).

THE P&A SENATE will meet May 3, 9:30 a.m., 5-125 Moos Tower. Topics include presentation of the Outstanding Unit Award and discussion with Vice President Scott Studham. For more information, see the full agenda at [P&A Senate](#).

UNIT MERGER: The Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change has joined Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, effective May 1. The new structure builds on the existing relationship and takes advantage of the complementary missions, goals, and programming of the two units to foster an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural community and to address issues of global change. For more information, see [merger](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

THE MINNESOTA CUP COMPETITION, the largest statewide new venture competition in the country, will award \$200,000 in cash prizes, and other prizes, for six divisions this year: Clean Tech and Renewable Energy; BioScience and Health Information Technology; and Student, General, High Tech, and Social Entrepreneur. Anything from an idea to a new venture generating less than \$1 million in revenue is eligible to enter. Registration deadline is May 18. The Minnesota Cup is a program of the Carlson School's Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship. For more information, see [Minnesota Cup](#).

CROOKSTON:

PUBLIC INTERVIEWS WITH FINALISTS FOR THE UMC CHANCELLOR position will continue on May 3–4. The first candidate, Steven Hardin, interviewed May 1. Karla Hughes will interview on May 3, and Fred Wood will be on campus May 4. All faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to participate. For candidate profiles and interview schedules, see [UMC Chancellor search](#).

A GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY will be held for the construction of a new residence hall at UMC May 2, noon, on the construction site located west of Centennial Hall.

THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO JOIN CHANCELLOR CASEY and the offices of Human Resources, Admissions, and the Business Department in congratulating the following individuals who completed their doctorates this semester: Les Johnson, Amber Schultz, and Lacole Hook. A reception in their honor will be held May 7, 3–4:30 p.m., Prairie Lounge. For more information, see [reception](#).

FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS DAY will be held May 8, 11:30 a.m., Bede Ballroom. This year's theme is "We're from Everywhere!" and celebrates the diverse backgrounds of faculty and staff. Everyone is encouraged to wear clothing that represents their hometown, home country, or a place they've lived. For more information, see [awards day](#).

DULUTH:

THE IRON RANGE/UMD GRADUATE ENGINEERING EDUCATION PROGRAM honored its first graduating cohort Apr. 25 at a private reception in Chisholm, MN. For more information, see [engineering education](#).

GRASS-FED BEEF IS NOW ON THE MENU at the UMD Center Court Restaurant. The locally raised meat is part of a sustainability initiative that includes produce and products from local farms and ranches. For more information, see [grass-fed beef](#).

NEW EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ALLIANCE: The Chanhassen Dinner Theatres and the UMD Department of Theatre Educational and Professional Alliance has been created to provide a variety of educational opportunities. The curriculum includes portfolio reviews, workshops, fellowships, internships, and production feedback sessions. For more information, see [alliance](#).

MORRIS:

CHANCELLOR JACQUELINE JOHNSON was the guest speaker at the Ann Lydecker Lecture Series at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls on Apr. 26, presenting "Leading Ladies: Reflections on Women, Work, Identity, and Leadership." The talk considered what it means to be a woman who leads—a "leading lady." For more information, see [leading lady](#).

MICHAEL LACKEY, associate professor of English, has received a Summer Stipend award from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). One of only two Minnesotans to receive the award this year, Lackey's project is titled "A History of the Haverford Group and the Battle for Racial Justice." Since submitting the NEH application, the project has been accepted for publication by the University of Virginia Press, and is now titled *Black Separatists, Black Integrationists, and the Battle for Racial Justice*. For more information, see [Michael Lackey](#).

THE PRINCETON REVIEW selected UMM for inclusion in the just-released second annual edition of its free downloadable book, *The Princeton Review's Guide to 322 Green Colleges: 2012 Edition*, a resource created in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council. Creation of the guide reflects the increasing awareness of sustainability issues among college-bound students. For more information, see [UMM sustainability](#).

THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY has named UMM to its Top 20 On-site Generation list of the largest green power users. Inclusion is due in part to the campus's 1.6 megawatt wind turbine, which generates nearly 5 million kilowatt-hours of wind power annually, providing 57 percent of the electricity used on campus. For more information, see [green power](#).

ROCHESTER:

DEBORAH SWACKHAMER, co-director of the Water Resources Center; Charles M. Denny Chair of Science, Technology, and Public Policy; and sought-after international speaker, will be presenting at the next weekly UMR Connects lecture series. Swackhamer will discuss the current status of chemical management in the United States, the sources and potential impacts of "contaminants of emerging concern," along with future challenges and solutions. May 8, 7 p.m., 4th floor, University Square. For more information, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

BE DELIGHTED DISCOUNT DAYS AT THE WEISMAN will feature a 20 percent discount for U faculty, staff, students, and WAM members at the WAM Shop May 9, 4–6 p.m. The sale continues all day May 12, with a special showcase of local artists and vendors from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. For more information, see [Be Delighted and Shop Local at WAM](#).

A HENNEPIN-UNIVERSITY NETWORKING MIXER will provide opportunities for faculty and staff to make connections with Hennepin County staff, and the chance to apply for a \$20,000 grant. May 16, 3–5 p.m., Campus Club. Light refreshments will be provided. Registration deadline is May 8. For more information, see [Hennepin networking](#).

WASTE SERVICES COLLECTED 29,000 POUNDS (OR 14.5 TONS) OF RECYCLABLES during Building Cleanouts on Beautiful U Day festivities Apr. 17. Of that, 7,630 pounds of electronics were sent for reuse/recycling, 1,880 pounds of items will be sold by the U's ReUse Program Warehouse, and 19,490 pounds of paper and metals will be recycled. Additionally, more than 100 gently used bikes were sold at the first ever "ReUse-A-Palooza," along with a selection of items from the ReUse Program. For more information, see [It All Adds Up](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

"FREEDOM HERE AND NOW: Ending Modern Slavery" will feature an afternoon of programming designed to illustrate, inform, and engage key constituencies in the fight against human trafficking. The event will feature remarks by U.S. State Department Ambassador Luis CdeBaca and Marilyn Carlson Nelson, chairman and former CEO of Carlson. The afternoon will conclude with the Minnesota premiere of *Not My Life*, the first documentary film to depict the practices of human trafficking and modern slavery on a global scale. Director Robert Bilheimer will introduce the film and hold a Q&A. May 8, 12:30–5:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. Free and open to the public. For registration and more information, see [Ending Modern Slavery](#).

THE MN LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities) program's spring forum, Intersections of Faith Communities and Disabilities: Building Partnerships and Creating Dialogue, will focus on building collaborations in faith communities for inclusion of individuals with disabilities. Strategies and best practices for outreach across faith communities will be provided. May 10, 1–3 p.m., Minnesota Department of Education, Roseville. For registration and more information, see [MN LEND](#) or email Kelly Nye-Lengerman.

FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES will celebrate the 200th birthday of Charles Dickens with Pulitzer Prize-winning author and Dickens biographer Jane Smiley. May 10, McNamara Alumni Center. The evening begins at 5:30 with a reception, followed by dinner and Smiley's appearance. For more information, see [Libraries](#).

INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED CONSERVATION BIOLOGIST M. Sanjaya will headline the second event in the Momentum 2012 series with a talk on "Awakening the Environmental Movement." May 10, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall. Reduced ticket rates are available for faculty, staff, and students. For more information, see [Momentum 2012](#).

SOLUTIONS SUMMIT 2012, FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER PAUL HAWKEN, will provide sustainability leaders from academia, industry, government, and nonprofits with an opportunity to share insights and define future research directions. Reduced ticket rates are available for faculty, staff, and students. May 22, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For more information, see [Solutions Summit](#).

BEYOND "ADD AND STIR": ENGAGING DIVERSITY IN COLLEGE CLASSROOMS, an event in the Teaching and Learning Series, will take place May 31, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. Amy Lee, associate professor and chair of the Department of Postsecondary Teaching and Learning; and Rebecca Ropers-Huilman, professor and chair of the Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development, will present. For more information, see [engaging diversity](#).

MORE EVENTS include Public Mission, Urban Challenges: The 21st-Century University ([May 2](#)); Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day 2012: Finding Your Passion ([May 3](#)); Kerlan Award Luncheon and Ceremony ([May 5](#)); Pakistan on the Brink: A Conversation with Ahmed Rashid and Walter F. Mondale ([May 7](#)). **SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).**

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

- What's Inside**
- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (5-9-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 18; May 9, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: The last regular issue of *Brief* for the academic term will be May 16, after which *Brief* moves to an approximately every-other-week schedule. Summer publication dates will be June 6 and 20, July 11 and 25, Aug. 8 and 22, and Sept. 5. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 12.

Inside This Issue
 --Board of Regents meet May 10--11.
 --State Relations update.
 --Features: A clue to Parkinson's; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media; and more.

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

TOP NEWS:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS will meet May 10–11. Regents will review President Kaler's FY2013 operating budget, which emphasizes tuition affordability, investments in research, faculty, infrastructure, technology, student aid and scholarships, and the responsible use of state resources. A special public forum on the budget will take place May 11 at 12:30 p.m., following the regular meeting of the board. Regents will also review and take action on two letters of intent that would establish a new ambulatory care center at the University, and review the 2013 Annual Capital Improvement Budget, which would authorize projects totaling \$513.7 million to begin design or construction during the next fiscal year. For more information, see the [news release](#) or [Board of Regents](#).

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: The Minnesota Legislature passed the 2012 bonding bill May 8 after increasing funding for the University from previous versions of the bills in the House and Senate. Heeding the governor's veto threat if the proposed funding disparity between the U and MnSCU was not addressed, the House and Senate increased the U's funding in the final bill to provide an additional \$10 million in HEAPR funding, for a total of \$64.1 million in state funding. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: Neuroscientist Michael Lee is excited about finding what may be the key to how Parkinson's disease kills neurons. He and his colleagues have discovered that a protein normally present in brain tissue can form clumps inside neurons, which may poison the cells. They also found that at least one drug can relieve both the protein clumping and the symptoms in animal models of Parkinson's disease. For more information, read "[A clue to Parkinson's](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: May 1–4. In this episode of the weekly video feature, check out deaf rapper Signmark's performance at Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day; the last baseball game ever to be played at Siebert Field; and the College of Design's PLAYsentations, featuring student work from the Toy Product Design course. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE DEADLINE TO COMPLETE THE 2012 PULSE SURVEY IS MAY 11. The survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete, and feedback is critical to the University's ability to understand the work experiences of faculty and staff. Responses are confidential and participation is voluntary. To view unit-by-unit survey participation, see [Pulse Survey](#). For more information, see [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

TXT-U CHANGES: TXT-U is the University's emergency notification text messaging system to provide students, faculty, and staff with critical campus safety information. To increase its effectiveness and reach, the University will enroll all students, faculty, and staff systemwide in TXT-U in mid- to late-May. You will be able to opt out if you choose not to use this safety tool. For more information, see [TXT-U](#).

Sustainability at the U

SUSTAINABILITY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM, a hands-on workshop for college and university faculty from all disciplines throughout the region, will take place June 7–8 at Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve. Individual faculty members and departmental and interdisciplinary faculty teams are encouraged to use the workshop as a chance to start the work of integrating sustainability themes into their teaching. For more information, see [sustainability workshop](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE U'S LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM WILL HOLD ITS AUXILIARY SPRING PLANT SALE featuring thousands of unique plants, hard-to-find varieties, and U of M introductions. May 12–13, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Arboretum. For more information, including the plant list, see [Spring Plant Sale](#).

THE 23ND ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH CONFERENCE will feature Minnesota leaders and national experts discussing the role of transitways in the region's economic competitiveness. Veteran journalist Earl Swift will share highlights from his book *The Big Roads: The Untold Story of the Engineers, Visionaries, and Trailblazers Who Created the American Superhighways* during the conference luncheon. The conference is a forum for researchers and practitioners from Minnesota and the Upper Midwest to share research findings in a variety of transportation-related areas. May 23–24, St. Paul RiverCentre. For a full conference schedule, fees, and registration, see [transportation conference](#).

CROOKSTON:

THE UMC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Board of Directors will meet May 9, 6 p.m., 116 Kiehle. This will be a board development meeting followed by a brief agenda.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS interested in starting a business will be able to experience the excitement of sharing ideas and competing with other future entrepreneurs during an Entrepreneur Experience Camp, June 17–21. The program, hosted by the Center for Rural Entrepreneurial Studies, is designed to introduce young entrepreneurs to business concepts and to foster creativity, innovation, and teamwork. For more information or to reserve a spot, see [entrepreneur camp](#) or call Rachel Lundbohm at 218-281-8190.

DULUTH:

20TH ANNUAL JOEL LABOVITZ ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARDS were announced Apr. 25 at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center. The awards recognize and celebrate the economic and entrepreneurial contributions of local and regional businesses to the Twin Ports and Arrowhead Region. For a list of the recipients, see [awards](#).

THE SECOND ANNUAL CHAMP DAY OF SERVICE nearly doubled last year's participation and projects with UMD staff, faculty, students, and alumni volunteering for a variety of nonprofit organizations. For more information, see [Champ Day of Service](#).

SCHOLAR ATHLETES are a tradition at UMD tracing back nearly 80 years. For the 2011 academic year, 77 UMD student-athletes secured Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference All-Academic honors; 18 were named to the Western Collegiate Hockey Association team. For more information, see [Scholar Athletes](#).

MORRIS:

MARGARET KUCHENREUTHER, associate professor of biology, has received the 2012 University of Minnesota Outstanding Community Service Award, the only faculty member in the University of Minnesota system to do so. Also the first UMM faculty member to receive the award, Kuchenreuther was chosen as "a classic example of a fully engaged citizen-scientist, and a great champion of preservation and biodiversity in the prairie biome." For more information see [outstanding community service](#).

CYRUS BINA, professor of economics, was one of nine world-class economists invited to Buenos Aires earlier this year to present analyses and recommendations for resolving Argentina's lingering economic crisis. As a result, the Argentinian government has already begun to make major changes, starting with nationalizing the country's oil reserves based on Bina's recommendations. Bina's lecture, along with the other economists' presentations, will be available on Blu-ray DVD in the UMM library. For more information, see [Cyrus Bina](#).

JENNIFER KOLPACOFF DEANE, associate professor of history, has received the 2012 Alumni Association Teaching Award, which honors individual UMM faculty members for outstanding contributions to undergraduate education by calling attention to their educational philosophies, objectives, and methods. Deane is known for engaging her history and honors program students in the worldview and characters of the Middle Ages through creative opportunities for them to role-play and imagine. For more information, see [teaching award](#).

JESSICA ORTH '12, Sleepy Eye, MN, has received the Gertrude M. Cox Scholarship for Women in Graduate Statistics Programs. Established in 1989, the scholarship is awarded to encourage women to enter statistically oriented professions. It will be presented at the 2012 Joint Statistical Meeting of the American Statistical Association in San Diego, CA, in July. For more information, see [statistics award](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR E-News, a newsletter for friends of UMR, is available via email and online. The monthly newsletter highlights activities on campus and achievements of UMR students, staff, and faculty. The latest issue highlights Student Leadership Award recipient Rebeca Chery, and assistant vice chancellor Jay Hesler, recipient of the Community Partner Award. For more information, see the latest issue or [subscribe at the archive](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

REDUCED CAMPUS SHUTTLE SERVICE will begin on the UMTC campus for summer. Campus Connector buses will run from May 14 through June 8, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., every 15 minutes. There will be no service May 28, Memorial Day. For more details about the Connectors and Circulators, see [campus shuttle services](#).

OCCUPY THE LIBRARIES is under way with three locations open 24/7 for students during finals week, and with extended hours in the Magrath Library in St. Paul. A variety of study break activities in these locations are available to help students take a break from the library. For more information, see [Libraries](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

AN ITALIAN SCHOLARISTS AND SCHOLARS OF NORTH AMERICA FOUNDATION (ISSNAF) Minneapolis chapter will kick off with an event May 12, 3:45–8 p.m., 1-147 Carlson School of Management. The ISSNAF works to promote scientific, academic, and technologic cooperation among Italians active in North America and the research world in Italy. For more information see [ISSNAF kickoff](#).

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S STUDY and Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health will host a free workshop on reducing exposures to household toxins and creating healthier homes. Workshops will be held at the Maplewood Library, May 21 and 30; and at the Roseville Library, June 4 and 18; all workshops are 6:30–8 p.m. For more information and to reserve a seat, see [healthy homes](#).

MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO will be broadcasting *All Things Considered* live from the U's [Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center](#) (UROC) in North Minneapolis May 22, 3–6:30 p.m. The broadcast marks the one-year anniversary of the tornado that ripped through North Minneapolis and will feature live reports with UROC executive director Heidi Lasley Barajas; Minneapolis mayor R.T. Rybak; MPR meteorologist Paul Huttner; community leaders, activists, and residents; and MPR's Tom Crann. The event is open to the public. In the days leading up to the broadcast, listeners can hear stories on *All Things Considered* and *Morning Edition*, and find extensive coverage online at [MPRNews.org](#).

A COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY NETWORKING EVENT with academics, researchers, and community organizations will be an opportunity to discuss potential research projects and partnerships of mutual interest and to learn more about each group's work. Sponsored by the U's Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute, the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, and the Institute for Advanced Study. May 22, 4–6 p.m., University Hotel. For more information, see [networking](#) or [RSVP by May 15](#).

DISCOUNTED MINNESOTA TWINS TICKETS are available from Student Union Information Desks. Tickets for other summer attractions are also available. For more information, see [discounts](#).

SAVE THE DATE: The 2012 Plaza Celebration U! employee appreciation event will be held Aug. 22, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Northrop Mall and Plaza. This year's event will again feature an employee appreciation event, a live band, information tables displaying programs from around the University, and outdoor activities. For more information, see [Celebrate U!](#)

MORE EVENTS include Imprints: Graphic Design Senior Show ([May 11](#)); Be Delighted and Shop Local ([May 12](#)); World Languages Day 2012 ([May 13](#)); Meet best-selling author Augusten Burroughs ([May 13](#)). **SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES EVENTS.**

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



What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (5-16-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 19; May 16, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief publication calendar: This is the last regular issue of *Brief* for the academic term. Summer publication dates will be June 6 and 20, July 11 and 25, Aug. 8 and 22, and Sept. 5. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 12.

Inside This Issue

- State Relations update
- Board of Regents May meeting summary.
- Features: Voice(s) of comedy; U budget eases burden on students; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Charles Baxter has won the 2011 Rea Award for the Short Story; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: Governor Dayton signed the state bonding bill into law on May 11. The legislation includes \$64.1 million in state funding for University projects, including HEAPR (\$50 million), the Itasca Biological Station (\$4.1 million), and the UMTC Combined Heat and Power Plant (\$10 million). The U projects are expected to create nearly 1,300 jobs. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

BOARD OF REGENTS MAY MEETING SUMMARY: At the May Board of Regents meeting, the board reviewed President Kaler's proposed FY13 operating budget. For students, the budget holds tuition increases to 3.5 percent for Minnesota undergraduates, the lowest increase in more than a decade. The budget also includes modest pay increases for faculty and staff. The board also reviewed the 2013 Annual Capital Improvement Budget, approved Norwood Teague as the new director of Gopher Athletics, and passed a motion for President Kaler to sign a Letter of Intent to open TCF Bank Stadium for use by the Minnesota Vikings. In addition, the board recognized numerous faculty and staff award winners. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

Features

FEATURE: U alum Maria Bamford has gained fame as a comic, voice actress, and quirky commercial character. Best of all, Bamford is a delight to speak with—a Minnesotan-turned-Californian who's unpretentious and reflective, she spoke about her time at the U, her struggles with mental health, life in California, and an interesting career trajectory in a daunting profession. For more information, read "[Voice\(s\) of comedy](#)."

FEATURE: Next year's tuition increase will be the smallest in more than a decade at the U, and students with the greatest need will receive additional assistance. The budget will hold tuition increases to 3.5 percent for Minnesota undergraduates, following 11 years of increases ranging from 4.5 to 16 percent. For more information, read "[U budget eases burden on students](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Highlights of the 2011–12 academic year. This Week @Minnesota features the top 10 viewed videos of 2011–12, highlighting 30 campus events during the academic year. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Charles Baxter has won the 2011 Rea Award for the Short Story; Kathryn Sikkink will receive the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE CIVIL SERVICE SENATE will meet May 17, 2:30–4 p.m., 1-451 Moos Tower. Topics include a discussion with President Kaler, an update on the Job Family Classification Project, and a discussion about professional development opportunities for civil service employees. The meeting is open to the public. For more information and coordinate campus ITV locations, see the [agenda](#).

2012 UPLAN HEALTH PLAN ELIGIBILITY: The University is partnering with Mercer, a consulting firm, to conduct a full verification of dependent eligibility for 2012 UPlan health plan elections. Employees with covered dependents will receive a packet from Mercer with the instructions for completing the online self-verification process to confirm that their dependents are eligible for coverage. For more on the dependent eligibility verification program, see [dependent coverage](#).

Sustainability at the U

SUSTAINABILITY SOLUTIONS SUMMIT 2012, FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER PAUL HAWKEN, will provide sustainability leaders from academia, industry, government, and nonprofits with an opportunity to share insights and define future research directions. Reduced ticket rates are available for faculty, staff, and students. May 22, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For more information, see [Solutions Summit](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

THE HEALTHY FOODS, HEALTHY LIVES INSTITUTE (HFHL) has released its spring request for proposals for University Research and Graduate Student Research grants. Proposal applications are due July 9. HFHL is entering its fifth year of promoting and supporting interdisciplinary research, education, and outreach related to food, agriculture, and health at the University and in the community. For more information, see [grant programs](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

AUGUST TEACHING ENRICHMENT SERIES: Faculty, teaching staff, and teaching assistants are invited to attend the August Teaching Enrichment Series Aug. 28–29, with workshops each day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning, workshop topics include The Impact of Active Learning Classrooms; Writing Instruction in Five-Minute Increments; Teaching Critical Thinking; Incorporating Universal Design Principles in the Development, Delivery, and Assessment of Your Instruction; and more. Many sessions will available live via UM Connect. For more information, see [teaching enrichment](#).

THE MEDICAL INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE at the Carlson School of Management will host the fourth Biennial Conference of the American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) June 10–13. This conference has become the premier health economics conference in the U.S. For registration and more information, see [ASHEcon](#).

CROOKSTON:

NORTHWEST MINNESOTA FOUNDATION REGIONAL SUMMIT, an opportunity to hear from experts about the future of education and how to prepare for it, will take place May 17, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. For more information, see [Regional Summit](#).

THE UMC BUSINESS DEPARTMENT has implemented several new articulation agreements with Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Fergus Falls, North Hennepin Community College in Brooklyn Park, and Saint Paul College, a community and technical college in St. Paul. The agreements allow students with specific associate degrees in business an option to transfer to the Crookston campus to complete a baccalaureate degree. For more information, see [agreements](#).

THE ANNUAL FACULTY AND STAFF DAY PROGRAM was held May 8, in Bede Ballroom. Kenneth Johnson, an instructor in the Business Department, was presented with the Distinguished Teaching Award; Donna Larson, an accountant in the Business Affairs Office, received the Distinguished Civil Service/Bargaining Unit Award; and Melissa Dingmann, director of the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, and Kenneth Bulie, lecturer in the Business Department, received the Distinguished Professional and Administrative Award. For more information, see [awards program](#).

DULUTH:

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKS UMD's Master of Social Work program 79th nationally in its graduate school "Health" category. In addition, the UMD Speech-Language Pathology program ranked 131st. For more information, see [rankings](#).

2012 UMD COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES celebrated nearly 2,085 undergraduate degrees, 225 graduate degrees, and five doctoral degrees. The first cohort of the civil engineering undergraduate and master's program commenced with 39 undergraduates, as well as 12 graduate degrees. For more information, see [commencement](#).

UMD BIKE/WALK TO WORK DAY is May 18, with registration at the bike and pedestrian station of the UMD Kirby Bus Hub. Pedal or walk in for the morning commute, enjoy a smoothie made with a Bike Blender, and enter a drawing. Last year, faculty and staff participants prevented 80.2 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions during the day. For more information including a full list of events, see [bike/walk to work](#).

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR BRIAN FREEMAN will speak at the 24th annual Northeastern Minnesota Book Awards May 17, Kirby Ballroom. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [book awards](#).

MORRIS:

THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT celebrated outstanding service and commitment to enriching the Morris community throughout the 2011–12 school year with awards presented to those who demonstrated an effect on the broader community, commitment to social justice and/or service, and concern for the "big picture" of work beyond themselves. For more information, see [community engagement](#).

DEON HAIDER '14, Northfield, has been working with the Land Stewardship Project on the touring production of *Look Who's Knocking*, a play that articulates the organization's goal of changing policy to make it easier for older farmers to pass their farms to younger farmers. For more information, see [Land Stewardship Project](#).

THE ANNUAL FACULTY AND STAFF RECOGNITION DINNER hosted by Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson was an opportunity to congratulate award recipients and thank faculty and staff retirees for their service to the Morris campus. Among the honors were recognition of 15 retirees, several faculty awards, the Mary Martell award, Outstanding Staff awards, and the Academic Staff award. For more information, see [recognition dinner](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR IS OFFERING FOUR SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS THIS JULY: Web Deziign Gizmozz for Technokidzz (Grades 6–9); There's an App for That! (Grades 9–12); Young Writers' Studio I (Grades 7–9); and Young Writers' Studio II (Grades 10–12). For registration and more information, see [youth summer camps](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

THE SUMMER TECHNOLOGY TRAINING SCHEDULE is now available featuring tech training short courses from the Office of Information Technology (OIT), available at no charge to faculty, staff, and students. For more information, see the [list of courses](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

APPLICATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL TONY DIGGS EXCELLENCE AWARDS recognizing student group achievements during 2012 are now available. The awards are open to all Campus Life Programs and Registered Student Organizations, which include registered student groups who serve undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. For more information, see [Tony Diggins Awards](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE 2012 SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL AT NORTHROP (SMFN) schedule is now available. SMFN is a free, outdoor summer concert series featuring local and U of M bands. Curated for students by an energetic Student Advisory Committee and Northrop Concerts and Lectures, the series brings an eclectic sampling of some of the best Twin Cities musicians to campus. For a complete schedule and more information, see [music festival](#).

MORE EVENTS include Achieving Universal Health Care for Kids (& Adults): The Minnesota Health Plan ([May 16](#)); Youth Guitarathon ([May 20](#)); 2012 Mary McEvoy Lecture Series ([May 22](#)); Landscape of the Mind ([May 22](#)); Momentum 2012: Environmental Theologian Martin Palmer ([May 23](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE [TWIN CITIES CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (6-6-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 20; June 6, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief summer publication calendar: June 6 and 20, July 11 and 25, Aug. 8 and 22, and Sept. 5. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 12.

Inside This Issue
 --Board of Regents meet June 7–8.
 --Features: 10 plants that changed Minnesota; Clean energy from CO2?; Shaping health care policy: 2012–14 McKnight Land-Grant Professor Dominique Tobbell; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: Fred Wood has been named chancellor of the University of Minnesota's campus in Crookston; and more.

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

TOP NEWS:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS WILL MEET June 7–8. The board will act on President Kaler's proposed FY13 budget as well as the FY13 Annual Capital Improvement Budget. In addition, senior vice president and provost Karen Hanson will deliver a presentation on e-learning and e-texts to the Educational Planning and Policy Committee; the Board of Regents Special Committee on Executive Compensation and Administrative Transitional Leaves will report its findings and recommendations; and the Office of Human Resources will outline an analysis being done to better define University-wide workforce and administrative costs. For more information, see the [news release](#) and [docket materials](#).

Features
 FEATURE: Which plants changed Minnesota and transformed how we live today? That was the big question behind a public education campaign led by the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. U of M horticulture professor Mary Meyer spearheaded the initiative, partnering with the Arboretum, the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, and U of M Extension. For more information, read "[10 plants that changed Minnesota](#)."

FEATURE: Geothermal heat a mile or two deep in Earth's crust is a potential source of energy that could be tapped by an unlikely carrier: carbon dioxide (CO2), the central villain in global warming. That energy, unlike solar and wind, could be easily turned on and off without the intermediate step of being stored in a battery. And it would be constant and reliable. That is the prospect of the CO2-plume geothermal system, invented by three U researchers. For more information, read "[Clean energy from CO2?](#)"

FEATURE: Since the 1960s, the U.S. government has relied heavily on academic health centers to solve society's health care woes: from training the next generation of doctors and nurses, to leading the research that cures disease and providing equitable health care to the community. McKnight Land-Grant professor Dominique Tobbell studies the social, political, and economic history of the American health care industry. Her current project examines the relationship of academic health centers in the United States with the communities they serve, and their impact on health care policy. For more information, see "[Shaping health care policy: Dominique Tobbell](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: This episode of the weekly video features highlights from commencement speeches of the 2012 U of M graduation ceremonies. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements
 PEOPLE: Fred E. Wood has been named chancellor of the University of Minnesota's campus in Crookston; Leon A. Assael has been named dean of the University's School of Dentistry; University of Minnesota Board of Regents executive director and corporate secretary Ann Cieslak will retire June 17; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information
 GOOGLE DRIVE FOR THE U: Keep everything, share anything. The Office of Information Technology has announced the introduction of Google Drive to the expanding list of Google Apps available for the University of Minnesota. Drive provides a new way to access and share files and folders, at any time and on any device. It will replace and enhance what is known as Google Documents today. For more information, see [Google Drive](#).

TXT-U CHANGES: TXT-U is the University's emergency notification text messaging system for providing students, faculty, and staff with critical campus safety information. All students, faculty, and staff with an active Internet ID and University of Minnesota email address are now automatically added to TXT-U. To verify your information, add or change numbers, or opt out of TXT-U, go to [your TXT-U page](#). Or you can opt out by texting "STOP" to 67283. For more information, see a [TXT-U FAQ](#).

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT: Four new graduate education policies change the degree completion time limit for both master's and doctoral degrees, and establish a minimum GPA for doctoral students. The policies also include guidelines for remote participation in committee examinations, and establish a time limit for submission of the final thesis or dissertation. The Credit and Grade Point Requirements for an Undergraduate Degree Policy now reflects the current practice on the UMTC and UMR campuses of not allowing Ds in courses required for the minor. The Budget Development and Oversight for Current Non-Sponsored Funds combines three budget policies into one and includes a suspension of charging interest on deficits, and increased communications and monitoring. For more information, see [policies under review](#).

Awards and funding opportunities
 THE CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE (CTSI) has extended the application deadline for its Research Services Pilot Funding Program until June 8. The program allows investigators to gather preliminary data for clinical research projects. Awards of up to \$25,000 are available, and the program is open to faculty members at any campus. For more information, see the [RFP](#).

A NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITY that provides support for investigators to incorporate novel methods into their translational research programs is available through the CTSI. Funding is open to full-time faculty members. Applications must focus on human-relevant translational research with the potential to impact human health and/or disease. Applications are due June 19 by 5 p.m. For more information, see [supported novel methods and view the RFP](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events
 RETIRING UMC CHANCELLOR CHARLES CASEY will be honored at a community reception June 7, 4:30–6 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. Casey has served more than 33 years at the U and has held a number of distinguished posts, including chair of the Board of Regents and dean and director of University of Minnesota Extension. For reception details, email Jennifer.Reckner.

CROOKSTON:

RETIRING UMC CHANCELLOR CHARLES CASEY and Barbara Muesing will be honored at a public reception June 14, 2–4 p.m., Northern Lights Lounge, Sergeant Student Center. Gifts may be directed to the Dr. Charles H. Casey and Barbara J. Muesing Scholarship Fund. For more information, see [public reception](#).

FRED E. WOOD HAS BEEN NAMED CHANCELLOR of UMC. He will begin July 2, pending approval by the Board of Regents. Wood comes to the U from the University of California, Davis, where he has been vice chancellor of student affairs and has held other leadership roles for 26 years. For more information, see [Fred Wood](#).

UMC TEAMBACKERS' treasurer Adam Maruska recently presented a check for \$25,000 to Stephanie Helgeson, UMC director of athletics. The money will be used for scholarships to support student athletes. For more information, see [scholarship money](#).

DULUTH:

MICHAEL SEYMOUR has been appointed vice chancellor for finance and operations effective July 2. For more information, see [Seymour](#).

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (AIA) has honored UMD's Bagley Outdoor Classroom with the AIA Committee on the Environment Award. The building was selected as a national top-ten example of sustainable buildings in the United States. For more information, see [Bagley Outdoor Classroom](#).

THE 2012 OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS were recently presented to 27 UMD employees by Chancellor Lendley C. Black. For more information, see the [award recipients](#).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR SEASONAL WORKSHOPS from now through the fall, including tree management, pollinator conservation, and pest control offerings geared toward the novice and the expert. For more information, see [workshops for gardening enthusiasts](#).

MORRIS:

ED BRANDS, assistant professor of environmental studies, has received a Faculty Interactive Research Program grant for his project "Mapping Manure in West Central Minnesota Watersheds." Using manure records from nearly 450 large animal feeding operations (AFO) in nearby counties, he will create a database and maps of AFO manure generation, transfer, and application to land in the Chippewa River and Pomme de Terre River watersheds. For more information, see [research grant](#).

ANDREANA SAUNDERS '13, Bloomington, is UMM's first recipient of the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, a program that allows financially constrained undergraduates to participate in study abroad programs. She used the scholarship to participate in Pyramids and Politics on the Nile in Egypt during May session. For more information, see [international scholarship](#).

THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION has awarded continued funding to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Talent Expansion Program (STEP) through August 2013. Morris STEP supports Native American science students through mentoring and research opportunities and has increased the overall number of STEM majors by establishing a new environmental science major. For more information, see [STEP](#).

RECIPIENTS OF THE U OF M PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE included two UMM faculty members: Jenny Nellis, professor emeritus of studio art; and Paula O'Loughlin, professor of political science. For more information, see [outstanding service](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR FACULTY MEMBER AMY FINNEGAN has been granted a 2013 Global Seminar. Finnegan will lead a group of 12 to 15 U students on a three-week journey to Kenya in May 2013. For more information, see [Global Seminars](#).

UMR PROFESSOR AMINUL HUQ has been selected as an Office of Information Technology Faculty Fellow for 2012–13. The fellowship program offers the opportunity to integrate technology-enhanced learning into the curriculum. For more information, see [faculty fellow](#).

LINDA HERRICK, School of Nursing-Rochester clinical associate professor, has been named president-elect of the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS). Herrick has been an active member of MNRS since 1995, participating in conferences, research sections, task forces, and committees.

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information
 ENERGY MANAGEMENT is eradicating inefficient lighting on the UMTC campus—with your help. The first 10 people to report old style campus lights (incandescent and T12 lamps) will receive an It All Adds Up t-shirt. Lighting typically comprises 15 to 25 percent of a building's energy bill and savings there can significantly help the U's bottom line. Departments and individuals can make a difference by actively looking for inefficient T12 and incandescent fixtures and reporting them to Energy Management. [Report inefficient lighting](#) or see [It All Adds Up](#) for more information.

BIKING INCENTIVE PROGRAM: Faculty and staff can earn wellness rewards for completing 40 rides before Aug. 31 using the automated bike commuting recognition system offered through Parking and Transportation Services. In addition, riding at least eight times a month enters staff/faculty in drawings for great prizes. Students automatically receive prizes for eight monthly rides. Form a team to compete for additional prizes. Bikes can be tagged at the U of M Bike Center. For more information, see [biking incentive program](#).

Awards and funding opportunities
 APPLICATIONS FOR THE JURAN FELLOWSHIP AWARD will be accepted through Aug. 6. The Joseph M. Juran Center for Research in Supply Chain, Operations, and Quality at the Carlson School will award the \$10,000 fellowship to a doctoral student whose thesis research contributes to the study of process excellence and quality in their chosen field. Any doctoral candidate intending to apply must [email the Juran Center](#) by July 9. For more information, see [Juran Fellowship](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events
 SPECIAL FEATURE: THINGS TO DO AT THE U IN THE SUMMER: 2012 EDITION. In and around the Twin Cities, the University of Minnesota is abuzz with summer activities for adults and kids alike. These events are sure to keep visitors busy and brainy at the same time. So pack up and pack in the fun, Minnesot. Summer comes but once a year. For more information, read "[Things to do at the U in the summer](#)."

REPRESENTATIVES FROM BICYCLING COUNTS, a traveling, interactive bike exhibit that will be installed this summer along highly frequented Minneapolis bike paths, will be on the UMTC campus June 6 to educate through art how the individual action of cycling can contribute to individual and collective health and well-being. The project is taking place in various locations during Minneapolis's Bike Walk Week, June 2–10. For more information, see [Bicycling Counts](#).

THE CENTER ON AGING/MINNESOTA AREA GERIATRIC EDUCATION CENTER SUMMER INSTITUTE will address how changes in health and social care will affect the lives of elder people in Minnesota. The Institute features leaders in elder care and is designed to provide participants an opportunity to learn about and discuss the many proposed changes in health and social care and to determine appropriate next steps for their organizations. June 12, 8:45 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Earle Brown Heritage Center. For registration and more information, see [summer institute](#).

DISCOUNTED TWINS TICKETS for faculty and staff are available at Student Union Information Desks. Tickets are now available for the Twins vs. Brewers series June 15–17. For more information, see [discounts](#).

THE LOW LIFE OF RIVER DELTAS: Earth sciences professor Chris Paola reveals the vulnerability of river deltas as well as their remarkable natural resilience in the next College of Science and Engineering Public Lecture. June 20, 7 p.m., 150 Tate Lab of Physics. Free of charge to the public. Registration is required. For more information, see [river deltas](#).

THE U & BREW, A BEER TASTING hosted by the U's Office of Business Relations and the Campus Club, will explore the role the U has played in the development of barley and hops, and its impact on the beer industry. Along with a variety of beers, attendees will enjoy U of M cheeses, bratwurst, giant pretzels, giveaways, and live music. June 28, 4–7 p.m., Campus Club, Coffman Union. Reservations and a \$20 prepayment can be made by calling 612-625-1442. For more information, see [U & Brew \(PDF\)](#).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR SUMMER GRAD SCHOOL TEST PREP COURSES. On-campus courses include Preparing for the LSAT (starts July 30); Preparing for the GMAT (starts July 7); and Preparing for the PCAT (starts July 21). Online preparation courses for the GRE and GMAT are also available. University staff receive a 10 percent discount. For more information, see [Grad School Test Prep](#) or call 612-624-4000.

GREAT IDEAS OF EACH DECADE will be examined this summer in a special commemoration of the College of Continuing Education's (CCE) centennial year. CCE's LearningLife program will host a special 10-event summer series, examining these great ideas, with morning seminars featuring University faculty and prominent Twin Cities experts. U faculty and staff receive a 10 percent discount. Events start July 10; register early as space is limited. For more information, see [LearningLife](#) or call 612-624-4000.

THE 2012 SUMMER APPLEBY HALL ART GALLERY OPENING will take place July 11, noon–1 p.m. Refreshments will follow a brief program. This summer's show features the work of Harriet Graham, a U alumna who received her BFA in 1996. The AHA! Gallery is located on the ground level of Appleby Hall.

MORE EVENTS include Ladies Night Out at the Arboretum ([June 7](#)); Haley Bonar with Brute Heart and Reina del Cid and the Cidizens ([June 8](#)); "Landscape of the Mind": Public Reception for the Artists ([June 9](#)); Adam Meckler Orchestra ([June 13](#)); Crowdfunding for Startups ([June 14](#)); CURA Housing Forum—Planned Unit Development Policies in the Twin Cities Region: Insights on Flexible Zoning ([June 15](#)); Spoonriver Cookbook Launch with Brenda Langton ([June 19](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (6-20-2012)Vol. XLII No. 21; June 20, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu**Brief summer publication calendar:** July 11 and 25, Aug. 8 and 22, and Sept. 5. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 12.**Inside This Issue**

--Board of Regents June meeting summary.
 --Features: Nocturnal wanderings; Guiding the U; 2012–14 McKnight Land-Grant Professor Joshua Feinberg; For the Common Good: Land-Grant 150 (video).
 --People: Pamela Wheelock has been named as the new vice president for University Services; and more.

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

BOARD OF REGENTS JUNE MEETING SUMMARY: The U's Board of Regents worked through a robust agenda at its June meeting. Regents heard the Report of the President, which included his intent to reinstate the Regents Scholarship at 100 percent for employees seeking a first degree. Committees received an update about the costs of the U faculty/staff health insurance plan (UPlan) and the success of the associated Wellness Program. Additional information included an update on the space utilization initiative, plans for the Enterprise System Upgrade, and a detailed analysis of the cost of delivering the U's mission. The board also heard from the Special Committee on Executive Compensation about its recommended changes to executive compensation and transition policies. For more information, see the [June summary](#).

Features

FEATURE: Of all the behaviors associated with sleep, sleepwalking is likely the most mysterious. After all, everybody can relate to stories of bizarre dreams. But how do we account for people being half awake and half asleep at the same time? As it turns out, sleepwalking is far more prevalent—and "normal"—than we might have imagined, according to research by U neurology professor Mark Mahowald. For more information, read "[Nocturnal wanderings](#)."

FEATURE: University of Minnesota Board of Regents executive director and corporate secretary Ann Cieslak will retire—reluctantly, due to medical reasons—after 13 years with the board. Cieslak has, by all accounts, relished her behind-the-scenes role for a group of very visible individuals. Cieslak has served seven Board of Regents chairs and three University presidents, and staffed two presidential searches. She calls the latter task "the stripes on your uniform." For more information, read "[Guiding the U](#)."

FEATURE: It pulls the needle of a compass north, birds rely on it to migrate, honeybees orient themselves by it—and without it, life on earth would be impossible. The earth's magnetic field is a force that guides life all around us, and McKnight Land-Grant Professor Joshua Feinberg studies its effects to determine what was happening millions of years ago. For more information, read "[Magnetic properties](#)."

FEATURE: FOR THE COMMON GOOD: LAND GRANT 150. This July marks the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Morrill Act, which created the land-grant universities—and Minnesota's one and only land-grant research university. To celebrate on the Twin Cities campus, join President Kaler, Abe Lincoln, and Goldy for an ice cream social July 20, 1–2 p.m., Northrop Plaza. Learn more about what it means to be land-grant institution and watch the video at landgrant150.umn.edu.

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Pamela Wheelock has been named as the new vice president for University Services; 2012 Minnesota Futures Grants award recipients are Emad Ebbini and Lawrence Wackett; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

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

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY UPDATE: Nine administrative policies made their way through the policy development and review process this quarter. The policy drafts, with a range of topics including changes to the Regents Scholarship Program, the Cell Phone policy, a new provision in the Emeritus/Emerita Title for Retired Faculty policy, and more, are now available for 30-day review at the [UWide Policy Library](#). Sign up for the quarterly policy newsletter, [Policy Post](#), to receive up-to-date information regarding policy changes.

A CAMPUS CONVERSATION: The Office of Human Resources is fundamentally rethinking how it works. The office is increasing its HR expertise and adding teams to optimize delivery of its services. Kathy Brown ,VP of Human Resources, will discuss OHR's strategic transformation initiative, followed by an open discussion. June 26, noon–1 p.m., 114 STSS. [RSVP if you plan to attend](#), or [watch live online](#) the day of the event via UMConnect.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE U OF M LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM will host its annual Garden Tours July 15, 17, and 18, touring four spectacular West Metro private gardens. Tour participants will be transported in air-conditioned buses (complete with restrooms) to view the gardens, and the package includes lunch/brunch on an outdoor Arboretum terrace as well as live music. All proceeds benefit the Arboretum. Cost: \$55 for July 15 and \$50 for July 17 and 18. For reservations and more information, see [Garden Tour](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC FACULTY MEMBERS HAROUNA MAIGA AND LYLE WESTROM, both of whom teach in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department, have been promoted to the rank of professor. Their promotions were approved at the May 2012 meeting of the Board of Regents.

A NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE (NWSA) ALUMNI REUNION will be held June 30. The schedule includes the Top Aggie luncheon, bus tours of campus, a video tribute, and a social and dance. Top Aggies for 2012 include Helen (Rasmussen) Tangen '41, Mark Chisholm '52 and Richard Olson '62. For more information, see [NWSA reunion](#).

THE RETIREMENT RECEPTION FOR CHANCELLOR CHARLES H. CASEY and Barbara J. Muesing was attended by some 250 people on June 14. Guests included Regent Clyde Allen, U Services VP Kathleen O'Brien, Crookston Mayor David Genevoux, executive director of the Minnesota Rural Health Association Judy Neppel, U Extension regional director Deb Zak, Northwest Research and Outreach Center director Albert Sims, and others. During the evening, Corby Kemmer, director of Development and Alumni Relations, announced the endowment of the Dr. Charles H. Casey and Barbara J. Muesing Scholarship Fund, which had exceeded \$32,000 as of June 14.

MINNESOTA CAMPUS COMPACT held their annual awards ceremony in early June at Macalester College in Minneapolis. Recognition was given to UMC in three categories, including Presidents' Student Leadership Award, Presidents' Community Partner Award, and the Presidents' Civic Engagement Award. For more information, see [awards](#).

DULUTH:

A RARE PIECE OF POTTERY created by a group known as "The Saturday Evening Girls" has been discovered and is on display at the Glensheen Mansion. The artist, Sara Galner, worked with a group of young immigrant women who were employed to provide income for their families. The mansion is open daily through Oct. 21, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. For more information, see [pottery](#).

THE TWEED MUSEUM OF ART PRESENTS "Mni-Sota: Reflections of Time and Place," an exhibit featuring the work of 17 American Indian artists from the Minnesota region. Free community events celebrating the work of the artists are scheduled throughout the summer in a variety of locations. For more information, see "[Mni-Sota](#)."

MORRIS:

UMM HAS BEEN AWARDED A FOUR-YEAR, \$1.2 MILLION GRANT from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's new Science Education Initiative. One of 47 small undergraduate universities and colleges in the United States selected from a pool of 215, UMM's project was funded under the promoting "the persistence of all students in science" target area. For more information, see [science education grant](#).

ROCHESTER:

MOLLY OLSON, assistant director of admissions, has been appointed to the [Minnesota Association of College Admissions Counselors](#) Executive Board for a three-year term. She will be one of the chairs for the Minnesota Education Fairs (MEF) committee. Her duties will include organizing committee meetings, setting the fair schedules, training the site chairs, collecting and approving site reimbursements, and troubleshooting issues with each MEF site.

TWIN CITIES:**Administrative information**

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA BIKE CENTER and Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) were recognized last week with an Award of Excellence from the International Parking Institute (IPI) for the Bike Center and its new RFID (radio-frequency identification) commuter validation program. U of M faculty and staff can earn "[Wellness Points](#)" and win prizes for participation in the program. For more information, see [PTS Bike Center award](#).

REMINDER: CAMPUS SHUTTLE SERVICE has shifted to the summer session schedule on the UMTC campus. Campus Connector buses will run every 15 minutes from 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. through Aug. 3. There will be no service on July 4. For more information about the Connectors and Circulators, see [campus shuttle services](#).

A STRENGTHSQUEST EDUCATION SEMINAR will teach more about the strengths-based philosophy, a person's "Top 5," and how to use the StrengthsQuest program with students, staff, and faculty. Aug. 8, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., 312 STSS. For registration and more information, see [StrengthsQuest](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA FARMERS MARKET WILL RETURN TO CHURCH STREET for its eighth summer season, offering students, faculty, staff, and anyone else happening by campus the season's best in berries, vegetables, fresh flowers, and more. All produce is locally grown and freshly picked from fields and gardens located within 2.5 hours of the Twin Cities. The market begins Wednesday, July 11, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Church Street pedestrian mall. It continues every Wednesday, rain or shine, through Oct. 10. For more information, see [Farmers Market](#).

MORE EVENTS include Agronomy Field Tour ([June 21](#)); Salsa del Soul with Michael Hauser and A Touch of Spain and DJ Miguel Vargas ([June 22](#)); Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus presents "They Sang to Me" ([June 23](#)); It's Even Worse than It Looks: A Conversation with Tom Mann and Norm Ornsteing ([June 25](#)); Alison Scott ([June 27](#)); Pet-a-Palooza ([June 30](#)); A Star-Spangled Salute to America with the Minnesota Orchestra ([July 1](#)); OED Certificate Workshop 3: Working Effectively in Groups and Diversity Committees ([July 10](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please submit questions, faculty, staff, or submissions to brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (7-11-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 22; July 11, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief summer publication calendar: July 25, Aug. 8 and 22, and Sept. 5. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 12.

Inside This Issue

--Board of Regents meet July 11.
--Features: The medium is the message; Helping to write history; Gecko feet don't stick around; Something brewing; The future of urban planning: 2012–14 McKnight Land-Grant Professor Yingling Fan.
--People: U of M Associate VP Andrew Furco has received the 2012 Thomas Ehrlich Civic Engagement Faculty Award for contributions to the public good; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS will meet July 11. Regents will consider a resolution and plans to allow beer or beer and wine sales and service at TCF Bank Stadium and in the premium seating areas of Williams and Mariucci arenas during intercollegiate athletic events. Other agenda items include a review of a capital budget amendment proposal for replacing the roof of Eastcliff, action on the recommendations of the Special Committee on Executive Compensation, a resolution authorizing the U to move forward with the proposed Enterprise System Upgrade Project, and findings from the Itasca Project Higher Education Task Force. For more information, see the [news release](#).

Features

FEATURE: A new e-book developed by 130 U of M faculty, staff, and students showcases the shifting landscape of academic technology. The book, titled "Cultivating Change in the Academy: 50 Stories from the Digital Frontlines at the University of Minnesota in 2012," moved fast—much in line with the way technology is changing today. For more information, read "[The medium is the message](#)."

FEATURE: Kathleen O'Brien retired as vice president for University Services on June 30. On her second-to-last day in Morrill Hall, O'Brien sat down and allowed herself some time to reflect on what it's been like to oversee the U's entire non-academic enterprise for a decade. For more information, read "[Helping to write history](#)."

FEATURE: Who wouldn't envy the little gecko as it dashes up a smooth wall or hangs from a ceiling by a toe? Would-be designers of a technology that could duplicate gecko feet should note a new study of geckos' evolutionary history that could simplify their task immensely. In that study, researchers at the U of M and other universities compared DNA sequences from 244 gecko species to draw up the most comprehensive gecko family tree ever. The findings, reported in the journal *PLoS ONE*, have astonished scientists. For more information, read "[Gecko feet don't stick around](#)."

FEATURE: Could the University of Minnesota do for hop farming and the craft beer brewing industry what it has done for cold-hardy grapes and winemaking in Minnesota? If horticultural science professor Vince Fritz and research associate Charlie Rohwer have anything to say about it, 30 years from now the hop industry in Minnesota and the Midwest might just be, well...hopping. For more information, read "[Something brewing](#)."

FEATURE: In Minneapolis today, change is everywhere: the city is expanding its light rail system, widening highways, and building bridges. What will these infrastructure changes mean for the health and well-being of residents in the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota? That's the kind of question central to the research of Yingling Fan, a McKnight Land-Grant professor who studies the health and social impacts of urban land use, growth management, and transit improvement. She hopes creating better parks will lead to stronger families and unite struggling communities. For more information, read "[The future of urban planning](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: U of M Associate VP Andrew Furco has received the 2012 Thomas Ehrlich Civic Engagement Faculty Award for contributions to the public good; pending approval by the Board of Regents July 11, Brian Steeves will be appointed executive director and corporate secretary of the board; the OIT Faculty Fellowship Program has announced its 2012–13 cohort; the Institute for Advanced Study has selected 12 research and creative collaboratives to receive funding for projects in 2012-13; professor Massoud Amin has been elected president of the International Association for Management of Technology; professor Albert "Bud" Markhart III passed away on June 26; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE U'S RESEARCH INTEGRITY AND OVERSIGHT PROGRAM (RIOP) has been renamed Research Education and Oversight (REO)—and with this change comes an all-new website. The offices of Oversight, Analysis and Reporting (OAR) and Fostering Integrity in Research, Scholarship and Teaching (FIRST) are now integrated in the new site. For more information, see the [new REO website](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCH GRANTS: The Institute on the Environment's [Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment](#) invites researchers from across the University of Minnesota to apply for [renewable energy research grants](#) of up to \$750,000. Successful proposals will focus on new projects and initiatives with an integrated systems approach and potential for big impact at the intersection of energy and the environment. Submit letters of interest by Aug. 15.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

U OF M COMMUNICATORS FORUM CONFERENCE: "Go for the Maroon and Gold" will feature NPR's Michele Norris, host of "All Things Considered," who will deliver the keynote address "The Grace of Silence and the Power of Words." July 26, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., St. Paul Continuing Education and Conference Center. Registration is open through July 13. For more information, see [Communicators Forum](#).

THE U OF M LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM will host its yearly Toast and Taste in the Gardens event featuring fresh, local flavors from Minnesota eateries and wineries, July 26. The party starts at 6 p.m. for the early-admission patron event (\$125); general admission begins at 7 p.m. (\$75). All proceeds benefit the arboretum. For reservations and more information, call 612-625-9875 or see [Toast and Taste](#).

PRESIDENT KALER will participate in a live online chat with the *Star Tribune* July 25 at noon, to mark his one-year anniversary as the U's leader. Get your questions ready. The chat will take place at [startribune.com](#).

CROOKSTON:

CHANCELLOR FRED WOOD began his tenure at UMC July 2. The campus hosted "Coffee with the Chancellor" July 3 for faculty, staff, and students to have an opportunity to meet the new chancellor. To learn more about him, see [Chancellor Fred Wood](#).

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS will sponsor a booth at the Polk County Fair July 12–15, in Fertile, MN. Individuals from University Relations and Development and Alumni Relations will assist with the booth. Additional faculty, staff, and alumni volunteers are welcome to help staff this booth over the four days.

MICHAEL T. VIVION, a six-time Master and Society of Aviation and Flight Education member, recently renewed his Master CFI accreditation. Vivion is a check airman and teaching specialist in UMC's aviation program. The 1998 National Aviation Safety Counselor of the Year, he also serves as a FAA Team representative in the FAA's Minneapolis FSDO area. For more information, see [accreditation](#).

THE REGIONAL EXTENSION OFFICE of Crookston, which includes the Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership, has moved to the Valley Technology Park, just north of the UMC campus. All staff phone numbers and emails remain the same. The new address for the Regional Extension Office of Crookston is 510 Country Road 71, Crookston, MN 56716. The phone number is 888-241-0781. For more information, see [new location](#).

DULUTH:

TRAP INVASIVE SPECIES at the Great Lakes Aquarium in Duluth through a digital display called "Repel the Invaders." Designed by UMD students and Lisa Fitzpatrick, director of UMD's Visualization and Digital Imaging Lab, the exhibit teaches about invasive species in Lake Superior with an interactive twist. For more information, see [invasive species](#).

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION was the way to go in late June when UMD staff and faculty biked or walked a cumulative 170 miles. The UMD Bike/Walk to Work Day successfully ended with campus employees preventing 150 pounds of CO2-equivalent emissions from being released into the atmosphere. This statistic is based on a calculation from the Cool Air Clean Planet Calculator. For more information about UMD sustainability and transportation options, see [sustainability](#).

MORRIS:

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE ALUMNI will gather at a July 21 reunion to recall and celebrate their Morris experiences. The annual event takes place on the Morris campus, the high school boarding school's home from 1910 until 1963. For more information, see [reunion](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR is partnering with IBM, the Science Museum of Minnesota, and the Bell Museum of Natural History to offer "All SYSTEMs Go at UMR." More than 200 youth in grades K-6 will attend. This event is filled with hands-on experiments that will inspire and stimulate students, exposing them to fascinating technologies that they may not yet have encountered, as well as real-world problem-solving applications in the various STEM fields. July 11, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

UPGRADE YOUR DEPARTMENT REFRIGERATOR: Energy Management will replace the most inefficient refrigerator or freezer it finds on campus with a brand new Energy Star rated model. Register your department's "energy hog" on the [It All Adds Up](#) website by July 31 for a chance to upgrade.

DISCOUNTED PARKING has expanded to the East River Road Garage. Drivers entering the garage before 7 a.m. and exiting before midnight pay just \$6. For more information, see [Parking and Transportation Services](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA FARMERS MARKET WILL RETURN TO CHURCH STREET for its eighth summer season Wednesday, July 11, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Church Street pedestrian mall. It continues every Wednesday, rain or shine, through Oct. 10. For more information, see [Farmers Market](#).

LAND GRANT 150 ICE CREAM SOCIAL. This July marks the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Morrill Act, which created the land-grant universities—and Minnesota's one and only land-grant research university. To celebrate on the Twin Cities campus, join President Kaler, Abe Lincoln, and Goldy for an ice cream social July 20, 1–2 p.m., Northrop Plaza. Learn more about what it means to be land-grant institution and watch the video at [landgrant150.umn.edu](#).

A CENTURY OF IDEAS: To celebrate the College of Continuing Education's 100-year history—10 decades of innovation and education—LearningLife's summer programming will feature "A Century of Ideas," a series of seminars examining the defining moments and movements that made our society what it is today. For registration and more information, see [LearningLife](#).

DISCOUNT VALLEYFAIR TICKETS (up to \$10.99) are available at the Coffman Union and St. Paul Student Center information desks. For more information, see [discounts](#).

DRUM CORPS INTERNATIONAL 2012 will feature more than 3,000 young musicians and performers competing in a display of artistry and musicianship, July 14, 1:30 p.m.–10 p.m., TCF Bank Stadium. A \$15 admission is available using the coupon at [DCI Minnesota](#) and includes one adult ticket and two kids under 12 in premium and super level seating.

MORE EVENTS include The Vampire! ([July 12](#)); Tchaikovsky Spectacular! ([July 13](#)); Arboretum Auxiliary Private Garden Tours ([July 15](#)); OED Certificate Workshop 4: Communicating on Issues of Equity and Diversity ([July 17](#)); University of Minnesota Farmers Market ([July 18](#)); Medical Industry Leadership Institute, "Lunch and Learn" ([July 23](#)); International Social Entrepreneurship—Update on Efforts for Sustainability ([July 24](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES CAMPUS EVENTS.

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (7-25-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 23; July 25, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Brief summer publication calendar: Aug. 8 and 22, and Sept. 5. The weekly schedule returns Sept. 12.

Inside This Issue

--July Board of Regents meeting summary.
--Features: Ribbeting Research; Antarctic images; Gophers going for gold.
--People: The President's Emerging Leaders program has graduated its latest cohort of University leaders; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

BOARD OF REGENTS JULY MEETING SUMMARY: The Board of Regents strengthened the U's executive transition and compensation policies during its July meeting. In addition, the Board approved alcohol sales at intercollegiate athletic events. Itasca Project Higher Education Task Force chair Greg Page presented findings and a strategic vision for bringing together higher education institutions and Minnesota businesses to drive long-term prosperity for the state, and the Finance and Operations Committee recommended that the U move forward with an \$83.5 million multi-year update to student, financial, and human resources enterprise technology systems. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

Features

FEATURE: Mark Bee, associate professor of ecology, evolution, and behavior, is studying the communication of frogs to learn how they hear, particularly how they separate different calls among a cacophony of croaking—something akin to how humans separate background noise at a cocktail party. The research could have implications for the hearing-impaired. For more information, read "[Ribbeting Research](#)."

FEATURE: The U's Polar Geospatial Center has teamed with Google to offer new 360-degree images of Antarctica, allowing worldwide polar exploration wherever there is internet access. Visitors can view the inside of early polar explorer Ernest Shackleton's hut, a penguin colony, images of the Antarctic landscape, and historic sites that served as bases from which explorers launched expeditions a century ago. For more information, see [Antarctic images](#).

FEATURE: When the torch is lit in London, the onslaught of Olympic events will begin. Here's a guide for keeping up with athletes, coaches, and others in the 2012 Olympics with ties to the U. For more information, read [Gophers going for gold](#).

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: The President's Emerging Leaders program has graduated its latest cohort of University leaders; the Institute for Advanced Study has announced residential fellows for 2012–13, including 11 Faculty Fellows and 2 Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellows; Robert B. McMaster, professor of geography and vice provost and dean of undergraduate education, has been reappointed to a three-year term on the National Research Council's Board on Earth Sciences and Resources; Barbara Kappler has been named assistant dean for International Student and Scholar Services; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE U OF M COMMITTEE FOR PHARMACEUTICAL DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN DEVELOPED to help guide researchers in bringing life-altering drugs to market. Often, researchers invest years in technologies only to face an indefinite stall in development. While faculty in all disciplines have seen technologies wither on the vine, early stage pharmaceuticals are especially vulnerable. Researchers who would like get involved are invited to submit a proposal and attend an upcoming free CPD workshop. For more information, read "[Developing pharma success stories](#)."

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

PRESIDENT KALER will participate in a live online chat with the *Star Tribune* July 25 at noon, to mark his one-year anniversary as the U's leader. Faculty and staff are encouraged to participate and submit questions for the president. The chat will take place at [startribune.com](#).

CROOKSTON:

ENTREPRENEURS AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS can receive valuable help through an opportunity offered by the Center for Rural Entrepreneurial Studies (CRES) at UMC. CRES is seeking regional entrepreneurs and small business owners interested in forming a unique relationship that would include valuable consulting services by UMC students under the guidance of qualified faculty at no cost. For more information, see [Entrepreneurial Studies](#).

A PROFILE OF UMC CHANCELLOR FRED WOOD: The new chancellor of the University of Minnesota, Crookston, spent most of his life in California, but he has family ties to Crookston and the Red River Valley. For more information, see [Fred Wood](#).

ROBOTICS DAY CAMP will teach junior high school students about the math, science, and technology associated with robotics. Aug. 6–8, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. each day, Evergreen Hall Classroom. For more information, see [Robotics Day Camp](#).

LORNA HOLLOWELL has been hired as director of diversity and multicultural programs. Hollowell comes to UMC from Owensboro Community and Technical College in Owensboro, KY, where she served as director of cultural diversity. She had previously worked as an educational talent search adviser for Madisonville Community College, also in Kentucky. She began her new role on campus July 23. Her office is located in 242 Sargeant Student Center.

DULUTH:

LISA PRATT has been selected as UMD's director of alumni relations, replacing Patty DeLano who retired in April. Pratt is a Duluth native and a 1977 Business Administration graduate of UMD. She has worked in the UMD Alumni Office since 2004, most recently as interim director of alumni relations.

JOHN A. ARTHUR has been chosen as the new Chancellor's Faculty Fellow for Strategic Planning effective Aug. 1. For more information, see [Strategic Planning](#).

VOLUNTEERS AT THE BRIGHTON BEACH CLEANUP, a collaborative effort between UMD and the City of Duluth, cleared flood debris from a much-loved locale that tourists and citizens alike have enjoyed for decades. For more information, see [beach cleanup](#).

MORRIS:

RENEWABLE ENERGY TOURS of the Morris campus will be offered on July 27, leaving from the Welcome Center; and Aug. 11, leaving from the Stevens County Fairgrounds by the Lee Community Center. Buses will leave at 2 p.m. and return by 4 p.m. During the tour, participants can see and touch a biomass gasification reactor, wind turbines, a solar thermal system, solar photovoltaic modules, and more. Save a seat on the bus by pre-registering. For registration and more information, see [renewable energy](#).

MORRIS ALUMNI AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS will gather Aug. 1 for the annual Morris at the St. Paul Saints. Tailgating starts at 4 p.m., and the first pitch against the Fargo-Moorhead Redhawks is at 7:05 p.m. For more information, see [baseball](#).

FOUR UMM ALUMNI have been selected to receive the 2012 University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award. The recipients are Robert Hansen '73, Puncky Heppner '73, Maddy Maxeiner '76, and Ronald McRoberts '69. For more information, see [distinguished alumni](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR's Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology (BICB) program announced that [Cray, Inc. \(PDF\)](#) has joined the BICB partnership with UMR, the Mayo Clinic, IBM, The Hormel Institute, and the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. Cray brings life sciences industry expertise to the partnership, helping to support a one-of-a-kind opportunity for research and graduate education at the intersection of quantitative sciences, biology, and medicine.

UMR STUDENTS Margaret Mahan and Sue Van Riper have each recently received awards. Mahan's involvement in a novel research project to identify the qualities of a healthy brain led to a coveted Graduate Research Fellowship Award from the National Science Foundation. Van Riper received a Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship from the University's Graduate School in May for her research, which takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of oral cancer progression.

UMR IT DIRECTOR MICHAEL OLESEN presented on active and collaborative learning at the [Society for College and University Planning](#) annual conference. The conference was held July 7–11 in Chicago.

SENATOR AMY KLOBUCHAR on July 18 highlighted UMR's successful workforce training partnerships as a national model for communities across the country. Senator Klobuchar invited Chancellor Lehmkuhle to attend a meeting with her and other senators to discuss job creation and UMR's innovative educational programs that connect students with employers to develop the highly-skilled workforce demanded by local industries. For more information, see the [press release](#).

U OF M PRESIDENT ERIC KALER highlighted the U's role in strengthening Minnesota's economy in a recent visit to Rochester. Kaler spoke to The Rotary Club of Rochester about the statewide economic value of the U, his commitment to keeping tuition in check, and the challenges the University faces amid deep state funding reductions. Kaler also met with community and business leaders, alumni, and legislators from southern Minnesota on campus. He was joined by Chancellor Lehmkuhle and Regents Patricia Simmons and Richard Beeson. For more information, see the [news release](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES now has access to more than 18,000 digitized, streaming television and radio programs from 70-plus countries and spanning 100 years through the Paley Center for Media, iCollection. The collection has been curated to capture the most artistically and culturally significant examples in each program genre, including news, public affairs, documentaries, performing arts, children's programming, sports, comedy and variety shows, and commercial advertising. For more information, see [Paley's iCollection](#).

A RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM workshop, "Conducting a Job Search in the Twin Cities," will be held for the accompanying spouses/partners of new faculty and staff on Sept. 20, 215 Donhowe, 9–11:30 a.m. For registration, email raprequests@umn.edu by Sept. 14. Call Mary Everley at 612-626-0775 with questions.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE 2012 CELEBRATE U! employee appreciation event will be held Aug. 22, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Northrop Mall and Plaza. This year's event will again feature an employee appreciation gift, a live band, information tables displaying programs from around the University, and outdoor activities. For more information, see [Celebrate U!](#)

"WORKING TO IMPROVE THE FOOD ENVIRONMENT in urban and rural settings" will feature Joel Gittelsohn, who has spent more than a decade developing and testing intervention strategies to improve the food environment in low-income, ethnic-minority populations. Gittelsohn will share these experiences during the seminar, and will comment on ongoing efforts to sustain and expand these programs by working with local policymakers. July 26, 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m., Honeywell Auditorium, Carlson School. For more information, see [Obesity Consortium](#).

MORE EVENTS include WAM Chatter ([July 25](#)); "1964" The Tribute ([July 26](#)); Tibetan Yoga Workshop: Awakening the Sacred Body with M. Alejandro Chaoul ([July 28](#)); Community Day with the Weis Guides ([July 29](#)); University of Minnesota South Market ([Aug. 1](#)); Entering the Digital Era ([Aug. 2](#)); August 2012 First Tuesday ([Aug. 7](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (8-8-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 24; August 8, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- U of M on a stick.
- Features: Microbes in the Mississippi; Extreme heat is not so hot; Why speak of human rights?; U finds big savings in purchasing.
- People: Christine Tschida has been named director of Northrop; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ON A STICK: The U of M promises to be among the largest attractions at this year's "Great Minnesota Get-Together," Aug. 23–Sept. 3. The U will have exhibition space in the U of M Building, located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul. Come out for Maroon and Gold Day, Aug. 26, and be treated to a performance from the Alumni Band and the U of M Marching Band in the parade through the State Fair grounds. President Eric Kaler and his wife, Karen, will visit the fair on Sept. 2, participating in experiments, visiting students with Goldy Gopher and the Rochester Raptor mascots, and playing U of M trivia. For a complete schedule and map of U events, see [U at the State Fair](#).

Features

FEATURE: The mercury is pushing 100, but professor Michael Sadowsky and two assistants leave the indoor coolness for the bank of the Mississippi River as it flows by the UMTC campus. The three men send a bucket splashing into the current and haul back a water sample. Information locked away in bacteria from the sample may tell them a great deal about how the river's microbial communities change along its course through Minnesota and how they're affected by human activity. For more information, read "[Microbes in the Mississippi](#)."

FEATURE: The summer of 2012 is burning a mark in the record books. The heat hasn't been as extreme as the Dust Bowl year of 1936, but the prolonged heat (coupled with near tropical dew points) should keep everyone on guard about maintaining their health. Prolonged heat waves and/or intense heat naturally take a toll on our bodies, according to Daniel Duprez, a University cardiologist and professor of medicine. For more information, read "[Extreme heat is not so hot](#)."

FEATURE: International law is often framed in terms of human rights. Yet if one follows global news, one might ask: Does the project of human rights law actually make things worse? For the last two years graduate student Geoff Dancy has conducted research on human rights, and he's struggled to rigorously quantify the information. Dancy says international human rights treaties in states increase the information that we have on abusive practices. And that actually makes it seem as if things are getting worse. In fact, he says, such treaties destabilize repressive autocratic regimes, strengthen new democracies, and help temper the extremity of violence in civil wars. For more information, read "[Why speak of human rights?](#)"

FEATURE: By operating more efficiently, especially in common-good or shared-services areas, the U of M is putting more time and money back where it belongs—into academics. Over the last two years a strategic sourcing initiative examined where the U spends money and how it might be better spent. The result: \$13 million in savings so far on expenses ranging from office and lab supplies to travel and more—and annual savings of \$7.2 million. The sourcing initiative is one successful example of what President Kaler has called for more of: "operational excellence." For more information, read "[U finds big savings in purchasing](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Christine Tschida has been named director of Northrop; 2012 Award for Global Engagement Recipients are Kevin Dostal Dauer, Paul Glewwe, and Michael Houston; Katie Eichele has been selected as director for the Aurora Center for Advocacy and Education; Professor Emeritus Glenn B. Morey passed away Aug. 2; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

YOUTUBE IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE U OF M THROUGH GOOGLE APPS, making sharing content with individuals and/or distribution lists easy with contact list integration. The addition of YouTube also enables the Google Hangouts On Air broadcast feature. Accessed through Google+, Google Hangouts enable videoconferencing with up to nine other individuals. Hangouts On Air enable users to take that same conference and broadcast it to the world. For more information, see [YouTube and Hangouts On Air](#).

IRB ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING will be offered by PRIM&R (Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research) Sept. 10–11, St. Paul Student Center Theater. The one-and-a-half-day program covers the primary duties of an IRB administrator, from record-keeping and advising to coordinating off-site administrative agreements, and is intended for those new to the job as well as seasoned professionals. For more information, see the [PRIM&R website](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE FALL GRANT-IN-AID of Research, Artistry, and Scholarship Program in the Office of the Vice President for Research. The grants promote the scholarly and artistic activities of faculty and their graduate students. Proposals must be submitted electronically by Sept. 17. For more information, see [grant applications](#).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: MCKNIGHT LAND-GRANT PROFESSORSHIPS. The Office of the Vice President for Research has announced the competition for the 2013–15 McKnight Land-Grant Professorships, a program of career development awards for junior faculty. Faculty and staff are encouraged to nominate outstanding professors. Recipients of this endowed professorship will begin their appointments July 1, 2013, and will be awarded a research grant in each of the following two years. Nominations are due Oct. 1. For more information, see [McKnight nominations](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

DISCOUNTS ON TICKETS AND T-SHIRTS FOR THE MINNESOTA STATE FAIR are available from U of M Bookstores. Visit Bookstore locations at Coffman Union, the St. Paul Student Center, the UMC Bookstore in Crookston, the UMM Bookstore in Morris, or the M Gear Store in Rochester for special savings on admission. Special edition State Fair t-shirts are also available for \$6.99. Maroon and Gold Day at the Fair will be Aug. 26. For discounts and more information, see [State Fair](#).

CROOKSTON:

THE LIBERAL ARTS AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT has added new emphases to the communication major offering students three distinct areas of study: communication studies, organizational communication/public relations, and writing. The UMC campus also offers a minor in communication which serves as a complement to any major. For more information, see [communication](#).

THE ANNUAL UMC ICE CREAM SOCIAL will kick off the 2012 Ox Cart Days celebration, Aug. 15, 2–4:30 p.m., Campus Mall. The social will feature a reading and book signing by author Brenda Child at 3 p.m. Child is chair of American Indian Studies and associate professor of American Studies and American Indian Studies. For more information, see [ice cream social](#).

DULUTH:

PRESIDENT ERIC KALER visited the UMD campus Aug. 6, receiving an update on vital Lake Superior research. Kaler led a group of U scholars and legislators in a research demonstration aboard the Blue Heron, the research vessel of UMD's Large Lakes Observatory. While on board, Kaler and legislators heard from a U physicist, chemist, and three geologists who are researching ways to protect Minnesota's water resources, the planet's fresh water supply, and aquatic life. The group is also studying Lake Superior's response to the June 20 flooding. For more information, see the [news release](#).

THE RESEARCH FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER is holding a kickoff event, "Building Partnerships Between Tribal Communities and Researchers for Improving American Indian Health Symposium," Aug. 13, 8 a.m.–9 p.m., U of M Cloquet Forestry Center. The series of events is free, but RSVPs are required. For more information, see [building partnerships](#).

THE UMD BAGLEY NATURE AREA HAS BEEN RESTORED by a collaboration of volunteers, including the City of Duluth and MNDOT. In June, the heavy rains and floods that destroyed many homes, neighborhoods, roads, and bridges, also washed away hiking trails within the Bagley Nature Area. For more information, see [restoration](#).

MORRIS:

UMM has been included in the *Fiske Guide to Colleges 2013* based on a broad range of campus data, including student body, academics, social life, financial aid, campus setting, housing, food, and extracurricular activities. The *Fiske Guide* profiles more than 300 colleges and universities, seeking to characterize the personality of each institution. For more information, see [Fiske Guide](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE NEXT UMR CONNECTS will feature George Spangler, chairman of the National Trout Center, speaking on "Is Recreation an Amusement, or Something Else? And What Do Trout Have to Do With It?" Aug. 21. For more information, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

FACULTY AND STAFF VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to assist with Welcome Week 2012. Opportunities include helping with New Student Move-In (Aug. 27–29), Parent Receptions (Aug. 27–29), New Student Convocation (Aug. 30), the Class of 2016 Cookout (Aug. 31), and Respect-U (Aug. 31). Each year, more than 5,000 first-year students participate in Welcome Week, which is designed to prepare them for the start of their academic careers. For more information, see [specific volunteer opportunities](#) or see [Welcome Week](#).

COURSE RESERVES FOR Fall 2012: University Libraries can assist instructors in providing ebooks, online articles, streaming videos, images, primary sources, tutorials, and other course materials to students online and/or in the libraries. All materials are accessible from Moodle, via the Library Course Pages on the [Libraries homepage](#), and through the "My Courses" tab in myU. In addition to [course reserves](#), the Library Course Pages bring together academic research tools tailored to an instructor's course. For more information, see [instructor support](#).

COPYRIGHT PERMISSION REQUESTS FOR FALL 2012 course materials should be submitted to the Copyright Permissions Center as soon as possible. Source information may be dropped off at any Printing Services location, faxed to 612-626-9810, mailed to 102 Printing Services Building, or submitted online at Copyright.umn.edu. For more information, email [Jackie Pitts](mailto:Jackie.Pitts) or [Dale Mossestad](mailto:Dale.Mossestad), or call 612-624-8258.

HOW ENERGY EFFICIENT IS YOUR BUILDING? Facilities Management recently added a [Building Energy Report Card](#) (PDF) to the Energy Dashboards page on its website. The report card allows Twin Cities Campus building occupants to compare their annual energy consumption to a State of Minnesota target. Buildings consuming less than 95 percent of their target energy consumption rate as "excellent"; those between 95 percent and 110 percent are labeled "good"; and facilities consuming more than 110 percent receive a "poor" grade. For more information, see [Energy Dashboards](#).

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES has automated more parking locations on campus, including the East River Road Garage and University Avenue Ramp. The Washington Avenue Ramp and Church Street Garage are scheduled to be automated in late August. For more information, see [PTS online](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE DISTINGUISHED VISITING SCHOLARS SERIES on Health Disparities Research continues with Augustus White III, professor of Medical Education and Orthopaedic Surgery at Harvard Medical School. White will present on "Seeing Patients: Unconscious Bias in Health Care," Aug. 15, noon–1 p.m., 2-690 Moos Tower, and [live online](#) the day of the event. Lunch will be provided for the first 75 guests. To attend the event, RSVP to p_hdr@umn.edu. The visit also includes the special community event, "What is Health Care Bias?" Aug. 15, 3–4:30 p.m., University Research and Outreach-Engagement Center. To attend this event, RSVP to [Neely Snyder](mailto:Neely.Snyder).

MINNPOST ASKS LECTURE SERIES will present Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie, *MinnPost* journalist Beth Hawkins, and U of M law professor Dale Carpenter as they discuss the secretary of state's position and powers, and how those powers play out in the amendment battles, recounts, and the overall contentious state of state elections. Aug. 22, 7 p.m., Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul. Tickets are \$25 (\$15 for Headliners participants, and *MinnPost* and Learning Circle members). [Purchase tickets online](#) or by calling 612-624-4000.

THE CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE (CTSI) will host the first annual CTSI Research Conference: "Translating Discoveries into Better Health." Attendees will have the opportunity to learn how translational science is improving the health of communities, connect with investigators and research teams from across the University, meet CTSI expert consultants, and more. Sept. 12, 8 a.m.–5:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For more information and to RSVP, see [CTSI conference](#).

MORE EVENTS! A Process of Transformation ([Aug. 9](#)); MBSR ([Aug. 10](#)); session ([Aug. 10](#)); The Vampire! ([Aug. 14](#)); University of Minnesota Farmers Market ([Aug. 15](#)); Music (Theatre at Minnesota ([Aug. 18](#))); 2012 Celebrate U! ([Aug. 22](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (8-22-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 25; August 22, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

--State Fair highlights.
--Features: Key to graduate school; Great news for a Great Lake; Fish-tailing robots; Baby Animals.
--People: Vice provost for Student Affairs and dean of students Jerry Rinehart will retire in April; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE FAIR HIGHLIGHTS: The U of M will once again be one of the largest attractions at this year's State Fair. Visitors can watch robots climb stairs, tumble, and fly; play an interactive online game designed to help teens understand the critical importance of concentration while driving; and meet student-athletes. Visitors can also learn more about the U's impact in their community, pick up a free voter education guide, and pledge their support for the University at the "Support the U" booth. For more highlights, read "[See U at the fair.](#)"

Features

FEATURE: Across the nation, a startling number of students who begin Ph.D. programs don't finish. According to recent studies, close to half of doctoral students fail to complete their degrees. Students cite advising as key to success or failure. The U has begun to focus on developing and rewarding outstanding graduate student advising. Here, four students and their faculty advisers talk about their work together. For more information, read "[Key to graduate school.](#)"

FEATURE: Keeping better tabs on a lake that is undoubtedly one of Minnesota's (as well as the nation's) most precious resources is of increasing concern. And the University is now better equipped to do just that at Lake Superior, thanks to the arrival of two "autonomous moored profilers" (profilers, for short) that will be used by the Large Lakes Observatory (LLO) at UMD. For more information, read "[Great news for a Great Lake.](#)"

FEATURE: Common carp can comprise the majority of the weight of fish in many lakes. Currently, they are Minnesota's most damaging invasive fish. U researchers, including associate professor of computer science Volkan Isler, are developing a new technology to track invasive fish. For more information, read "[Fish-tailing robots.](#)"

FEATURE: The world would be a far less interesting place without animals. And Minnesota wouldn't be nearly as nice without the howl of its wolves, the "whooh ooh" of its owls, or the wet noses of its puppies. For 120 years, the University of Minnesota has been providing veterinary care to the region's animals. Read more and view a slideshow of just some of those patients at "[Baby Animals.](#)"

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Vice provost for Student Affairs and dean of students Jerry Rinehart will retire in April; the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs has announced the recipients of this year's Metropolitan Research Grant Program awards; Maria Hanratty is the joint recipient of a Hennepin-University Collaborative Grant; U in the News features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE U OF M CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE is partnering with [ResearchMatch](#), a national research registry that will connect U researchers with volunteers who have expressed interest in participating in research studies (not just clinical trials). Researchers can attend a training session to learn how to use ResearchMatch to recruit participants and to assess feasibility for research studies on Sept. 5 and 6, noon-1 p.m., room 105, 717 Delaware St. SE. A live webinar will also be available via UMCconnect. [Register online](#). For more information, see the [news release](#).

APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED for the Internationalizing Teaching and Learning Cohort Program to be held January 9-11, 2013. The program provides opportunities for faculty to internationalize the curriculum by identifying global learning outcomes for their courses; expanding their teaching strategies; and developing course materials, activities, and assessments. The program is sponsored by the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, Center for Teaching and Learning, Office of Information Technology, and Instructional Development Service (UMD). For an application and more information, see [teaching program](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

THE OFFICE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION (EOAA) invites nominees for the Lillian H. Williams Award. Nominees can be individuals or units that have shown commitment by educating the community on issues and topics related to equity, diversity, and the struggle against discrimination and harassment; or individuals and units that show deep involvement in an initiative that supports EOAA's goal of promoting a positive University culture. To nominate an individual or unit, email a one-paragraph nomination to [Felecia Franklin](#) by Sept. 14. The recipient will be announced Oct. 9 at the EOAA Fall Liaison Conference.

A FUNDING OPPORTUNITY available through the Office of Discovery and Translation will support and facilitate high-quality, early-stage translational research. The funding is restricted to junior investigators (assistant professor in rank) conducting early-stage translational research that is focused on transitioning a basic science discovery to the clinical setting. One-year awards are available for up to \$50,000. Applications are due Sept. 17. For more information, see [research funding](#) or download the [application details \(PDF\)](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

A BOARD OF REGENTS RECEPTION honoring Ann Cieslak, recently retired executive director and corporate secretary of the board, will take place Sept. 14, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., with a program at 12:15 p.m., Heritage Gallery, McNamara Alumni Center.

THE 2012 CLEAN WATER SUMMIT will be held at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, with an emphasis on the multiple benefits of soil. The summit will bring together water resource managers, planners, designers, engineers, soil scientists, and the public to learn how building and preserving healthy, "living" soil is critical for reducing stormwater runoff and removing pollutants that enter Minnesota lake and river systems. Sept. 13, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For registration (\$60) and more information, see [Clean Water Summit](#).

SAVE THE DATE: THE FOURTH ANNUAL FOOD AND HEALTH RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM, co-hosted by the U's Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives (HFHL) Institute and the U's Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, will be an opportunity to learn about award-winning research led by renowned University food and health experts. Oct. 1, 8:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m., TCF Bank Stadium; and Oct. 2, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Landscape Arboretum. For more information, see [symposium](#) or view the [full agenda \(PDF\)](#).

CROOKSTON:

The UMC Teambaker organization will celebrate 20 years of supporting UMC student-athletes with a program Aug. 23, 5-7 p.m., UMC Mall. Members and their guests will have an opportunity to meet Chancellor Fred Wood and Golden Eagle student-athletes during the event. For more information, see [Tebackers](#).

NEW STUDENTS MOVE IN to residence halls Aug. 24. Faculty and staff are invited to join Chancellor Wood as he leads Orientation Convocation at 3:15 p.m. that day. Classes on the Crookston campus begin Aug. 28. For more information, see [orientation](#).

DULUTH:

THE MINNESOTA INDIGENOUS YOUTH FREEDOM PROJECT (MIYFP) is one of many programs at UMD that support inclusivity, diversity, and community outreach. In addition to four, one-week camps throughout the summer, MIYFP offers a fall weekend retreat and a yearlong mentored community-based project. For more information, see [MIYFP at UMD](#).

SUMMER FIELD DAY 2012 will take place Aug. 22, 3-5 p.m., Sustainable Agriculture Project site, 3566 Riley Road. Transportation to and from the farm will be available on University Drive outside of Darland Administration Building, with a bus leaving at 2:30 p.m. Tours of the farm will begin at 3 p.m., with short introductions about the vegetable fields and a variety of gardens, including the community orchard and honeybee hives. Snacks and refreshments provided. Wear comfortable walking shoes. RSVP by email to [Summer Field Day](#).

UMD'S LARGE LAKES OBSERVATORY recently launched new autonomous moored platforms that will collect data from beneath the water, even during winter conditions on Lake Superior. For more information, see [Large Lakes Observatory](#).

MORRIS:

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY released the second video of its "[Clean Energy in Our Community](#)" series featuring the investments by UMM in clean energy that are benefiting local residents and workers. The series recognizes small communities nationwide that are investing in clean energy and playing a role in making sure the United States leads the world in the global race for the green jobs of the future. For more information, see [DOE highlights UMM](#).

UMM WAS RATED HIGHEST among all public institutions statewide for the fourth consecutive year in the *Forbes* 2012 listing of "America's Top Colleges." UMM was also the least expensive of all Minnesota colleges to make the list. For more information, see [top college](#).

SIOBHAN BREMER, associate professor of theatre, is appearing on the Guthrie Theater's Wurtele Thru stage this summer in *The Sunshine Boys* by Neil Simon. She portrays the executive of the television studio. The production runs through Sept. 2. For more information, see [Guthrie](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE RAPTOR CENTER (TRC) will be featured at the next UMR CONNECTS, a weekly lecture series focused on public engagement and outreach. TRC will explore the different raptors found in Minnesota and their role in the environment. At least three live raptors will be present. Aug. 28, 7-8:30 p.m., 4th floor University Square. For more information, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

REPLACE INEFFICIENT DEPARTMENT REFRIGERATORS with ENERGY STAR rated models. Energy Management will contribute up to five times the annual energy cost savings towards the replacement of an inefficient refrigerator or freezer with a brand new ENERGY STAR rated model. Register your department's "Energy Hog" at [It All Adds Up](#) for a chance to upgrade. Energy Management will contact those who registered an appliance as part of last month's contest in the coming weeks, providing details of how much they will contribute in replacement costs. For more information, see [Energy Hog](#).

THE 2012 AUGUST TEACHING ENRICHMENT SERIES, sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning, will take place Aug. 28-29, with workshop sessions daily from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Faculty, teaching staff, teaching assistants, and others are invited take part in a number of workshops, including The Impact of Active Learning Classrooms; Writing Instruction in Five Minute Increments; Teaching Critical Thinking; Digital Idea Stream: Technologies for Teaching, Learning, and Research; and more. For registration and more information, see [Teaching Enrichment](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE 2012 CELEBRATE U! employee appreciation event takes place Wednesday, Aug. 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Northrop Mall and Plaza. This year's event features an employee appreciation gift, live entertainment, information tables displaying programs from around the University, and outdoor activities. For more information, see [Celebrate U!](#)

NATIONAL COLLEGE COLORS DAY is Aug. 31. U faculty, staff, students, alumni, and other U supporters are encouraged to participate. Post a photo of your best maroon and gold look on the [U of M Bookstore Facebook photo contest page](#) for a chance to win a \$50 Bookstore gift card.

SAVE THE DATE: U WOMEN OF COLOR (UWOC) FALL WELCOME will be Oct. 18, 9-11 a.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. Nominations are invited for the annual UWOC Tapestry Award, which will be presented at the event. Nominations will be accepted until Sept. 21. For more information, email uwoc@umn.edu.

DISCOUNT TICKETS for the State Fair, Renaissance Festival, Science Museum Pirates exhibit, and more are available at Student Union Information Desks. For more information, see [discounts](#).

MORE EVENTS include University of Minnesota Farmers Market ([Aug. 22](#)); Google Scholar and Web of Science: Complementary Tools for Finding Academic Content ([Aug. 23](#)); MBSR info session ([Aug. 27](#)); Moodle: Integrating Library Resources ([Aug. 29](#)); In the Footsteps of Little Crow: Conversation with Curt Brown, Kate Parry, and Iyekiypawin Darlene St. Clair ([Aug. 30](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (9-5-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 26; September 5, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Welcome to the 2012-13 academic year!

Inside This Issue

- State Relations Update.
- Features: Biking the U; Storm-chasing spacecraft; 2012–14 McKnight Land-Grant Professor Jason Hill; Convocation video: The First Year, "a romance of discovery."
- People: UMAA president and CEO Phil Esten will leave his position in early October to become executive associate athletic director for advancement at the University of California; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: Members of the Senate Capital Investment Committee, along with 10 key senate staff, toured the UMTC campus Aug. 22. Members saw and heard about recent and upcoming projects that have received state support, including the old main power plant, a project for which the legislature awarded the U \$10 million in the 2012 session. Other projects highlighted in the tour included the new physics and nanotechnology building now under construction, the Minnesota Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Facility, the proposed Ambulatory Care Center, the Bio Medical Discovery District, and more. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: Between the west and the east banks of the Minneapolis campus, more than 6,500 bikers cross the iconic Washington Avenue Bridge every day. There are 9,000 places to (legally) park a bike on campus. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors bike for exercise, for transportation, for fun and recreation—for all of this and more—and the U is supporting their efforts. For more information, read "[Biking the U.](#)"

FEATURE: Alive with the energy pulsing through them, the Earth's Van Allen Belts change size and shape, meld into each other, and even disappear temporarily. The radiation belts' dynamic nature fascinates scientists, but their hazards are real to satellites like the International Space Station, which carries extra shielding for its regular passes through the inner belt. U physicists are part of a newly launched NASA mission sending twin spacecrafts to probe the heart of this gigantic natural laboratory. For more information, read "[Storm-chasing spacecraft.](#)"

FEATURE: The real cost for a gallon of fuel goes well beyond the price displayed at the pump. Jason Hill, 2012–14 McKnight Land-Grant Professor, evaluates the impacts of energy and agriculture over their full life cycle. For more information, read "[Weighing environmental costs.](#)"

FEATURE: U of M President Eric Kaler starred in a silent film to introduce himself to the UMTC Class of 2016 during an Aug. 30 convocation. First-year students were introduced to Kaler through the silent film, [The First Year, "a romance of discovery."](#)

Awards and funding opportunities

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: MCKNIGHT LAND-GRANT PROFESSORSHIPS. The Office of the Vice President for Research has announced the competition for the 2013–15 McKnight Land-Grant Professorships, a program of career development awards for junior faculty. Faculty and staff are encouraged to nominate outstanding professors. Recipients of this endowed professorship will begin their appointments July 1, 2013, and will be awarded a research grant in each of the following two years. Nominations are due Oct. 1. For more information, see [McKnight nominations](#).

APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE FALL GRANT-IN-AID of Research, Artistry, and Scholarship Program in the Office of the Vice President for Research. The grants promote the scholarly and artistic activities of faculty and their graduate students. Proposals must be submitted electronically by Sept. 17. For more information, see [grant applications](#).

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: University of Minnesota Alumni Association president and CEO Phil Esten will leave his position in early October to become executive associate athletic director for advancement at the University of California, Berkeley; Pam Stenhjem, ICI research fellow, was recently awarded the P&A Leadership Award from the University Women's Center; [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

SEARCH COMMITTEES for the vice president for research position and the vice president for equity and diversity position are scheduled to review and identify candidates to invite to confidential interviews, which are scheduled at the end of September. Public interviews on campus are tentatively scheduled to take place in early October. For the latest information on these searches, see [VP for research search](#) and [VP for equity and diversity search](#).

THE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (UROP) is an opportunity for students to work with a faculty mentor on a creative activity or research project with financial support from the University. Faculty and staff are asked to encourage undergraduate students to submit a proposal for the program. UROP students receive stipends of up to \$1,400 and expenses of up to \$300. The submission deadline is Oct. 8. For more information, see [UROP](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

CELEBRATED CERN RESEARCHER John Richard Ellis will speak at the seventh annual Misel Family Public Lecture Sept. 18, 7 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. One of the most ambitious and largest scientific experiments ever, the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN in Geneva tries to address the most fundamental questions of physics and the cosmos. The annual lecture series, hosted by the U's Fine Theoretical Physics Institute, is free and open to the public. It assumes no background in physics. Ellis is one of the world's leading experts in elementary particle physics. For more information, see [Misel Lecture](#).

CROOKSTON:

THE MARY TYRRELL HEALTH WALK FOR SCHOLARSHIPS raises awareness of heart and women's health while raising support for student athletes at UMC. The walk will take place Sept. 8, Ed Widseth Field. Registration is \$25 and all registrants giving \$25 or more will receive a t-shirt designed especially for the walk. For more information, see [health walk](#).

AN INVOLVEMENT EXPO sponsored by the Office of Student Activities and the Office of Community Engagement will take place Sept. 6, noon–2 p.m., south of the Sargeant Student Center. Students are invited to find out what campus clubs have to offer and to get involved off campus with community engagement partners.

A DELEGATION FROM GYEONGIN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION in Gyeonggi, Korea, led by Gyeongin President Chung Dong Gweon and Kim Hang In, the university's international affairs director, visited UMC Aug. 22. The dignitaries met with Chancellor Wood, Vice Chancellor Baldwin, Associate Vice Chancellor Phaiiah, and academic department heads, as well as staff members from UMC's Office of International Programs to discuss possible collaborations and exchanges.

DULUTH:

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR YVONNE PRETTNER SOLON attended the UMD Chancellor's convocation Aug. 31 as part of Bulldog Welcome Week events. For more information, see [convocation](#).

THE PRECAMBRIAN RESEARCH CENTER was formed in 2007 by the Natural Resource Research Institute (NRRI) and UMD's Department of Geology to train field geologists to become mineral mappers. Metals of all kinds—copper, nickel, gold, platinum, and others—are increasing in demand worldwide. And that means geoscientists who can map where to find these metals are also in high demand. As it turns out, northern Minnesota is a great place to become a geologist. For more information, see [NRRI geology](#).

THE 2012 UMD EDIBLE GARDEN INITIATIVE continues UMD's rich agricultural history, which traces back to the early 1900's. For more information, see [edible gardens](#).

MORRIS:

CHANCELLOR JACQUELINE JOHNSON traveled to Denver Aug. 22 to participate in a field hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) organized by Colorado Senator Michael F. Bennett. Chancellor Johnson was among a number of national, educational, and Native American leaders who spoke in support of U.S. Senate Bill 3504. For more information, read "[Chancellor travels to Colorado for Senate Committee hearing.](#)"

JULIA DABBS, associate professor of art history, has had her article, "[The Multivalence of May Alcott Nieriker's Studying Art Abroad & How to Do It Cheaply](#)," published in the September 2012 issue of *Studies in Travel Writing*.

ROCHESTER:

UMR has many fun activities planned on campus to celebrate new and returning students. For more information, see a [schedule of events](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

A NEW ONE STOP STUDENT SERVICES CENTER has opened in 160 Williamson Hall (East Bank). The new location offers all of One Stop's services and is also the primary location for Graduate Student Services and Progress (GSSP) and Third Party Billing. For more information, see [The Ledger](#).

TECHNOLOGY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES: The Office of Information Technology is offering a number of free technology training courses for faculty and staff this fall, with a schedule of courses now available online. Topics include video production, web development, Moodle 2, UMCContent, Google Apps, and many more. For more information, see "[List of Courses.](#)"

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR FALL GRAD SCHOOL TEST PREP courses. On-campus courses include Math Refresher for the GRE and GMAT (starts Sept. 10); Preparing for the GMAT (starts Sept. 24); Preparing for the LSAT (starts Oct. 13); and Preparing for the GRE (starts Oct. 27). U staff receive a 10 percent discount. For more information, see [Grad School Test Prep](#) or call 612-624-4000.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

REUSE-A-PALOOZA IS COMING to Northrop Plaza Sept. 12, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. More than 100 gently used bikes will be available for \$50 or less, with free safety checks for all purchased bikes. The ReUse Warehouse will also be selling a selection of quality surplus items collected from around campus, and displaying local artists' work created from reused materials. The ReUse Program's regularly scheduled [ReUse routes](#) will not run that day. For more information, see [ReUse-A-Palooza](#).

A SIP OF SCIENCE, held the second Wednesday of every month, will next feature "The Surprising Life of Native Mussels," with Mark Hove of the University of Minnesota and Macalester College. Mussels are one of the most endangered animal groups in North America. The Sip of Science series bridges the gap between science and culture in a setting that bridges the gap between brain and belly. Sept. 12, 5:30 p.m., Aster Cafe, 125 S.E. Main Street, Minneapolis. For more information, see [A Sip of Science](#).

"STRATEGIC EXPLORATION: LEARNING HOW TO SCOUT THE FUTURE" will teach participants about a wide set of tools that can be used to explore the future, in preparation for strategic planning. Hosted by CEHD's Office of Research, Innovation and Outreach (RIO), the event is a preview of a series of professional development workshops to be sponsored by RIO. Sept. 18, 9–11:30 a.m., Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul. For registration and more information, see [Strategic Exploration](#).

THE TEACHING AND LEARNING SERIES will present, "From Research to Practice: Connecting Principles of 'Smart Teaching' to Emergency Preparedness and Beyond," Sept. 18, 9:30 a.m.–noon, Coffman Union Theater. Keynote Susan Ambrose will discuss research-based principles on how learning works and strategies to maximize learning. A panel discussion will address optimal training methods for emergency preparedness workers. Register and attend [in-person](#) or watch [via live webinar](#).

THE LEARNING ABROAD FAIR, organized by the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, will take place Sept. 19, 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m., West Bank Plaza. Faculty and staff are asked to encourage students to attend. Learning Abroad staff and study abroad representatives from several programs will be there to answer questions. Faculty and staff are also encouraged to stop by if interested in learning about the opportunities available to students and other initiatives. For more information, email Kait.Dougherty or call 612-626-6073.

SAVE THE DATE FOR HOMECOMING 2012: LEGENDARY U. Honor the spirit of maroon and gold during Homecoming week, Oct. 7–14. This year's celebration includes the annual Homecoming Parade Oct. 12, followed by a concert at the TCF Bank Stadium featuring B.o.B with Timeflies. Ticketing for the concert are on sale now. Homecoming 2012 t-shirts are on sale at U of M Bookstores. For more information, including a full events schedule, see [Homecoming 2012](#).

THE U OF M VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTER has launched its second annual "Pet of the Game" contest, which features winning pictures of pets displaying Gopher spirit on the scoreboard during Gopher Football games. The [Facebook Pet of the Game](#) photo contest gives fans a chance to showcase their pets and capture their Gopher spirit. For details and more information, see [Pet of the Game](#).

THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT U STAFF BOWLING LEAGUE is looking for two or more teams as well as individual bowlers to join existing teams. Past and present University faculty/staff are welcome. The season starts in early September and runs through mid-April at Midway Pro Bowl, Snelling and University Avenues, St. Paul. For more information, email Scott.Murdoch or call 612-625-0745.

FOOD TRUCKS ARE NOW ON UMTC'S EAST BANK Mon.–Wed., 11 a.m. each day. Follow @UDS_UMN on Twitter for daily food truck updates posted by 10 a.m. A new Starbucks has also opened in Lind Hall, Mon.–Fri., 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. For more information, see [dining services](#).

CAMPUS CLUB products are now offered at Gopher Express in Coffman Union, including mini muffins, scones, and salads that are made fresh daily with local ingredients. For more information, see [Gopher Express](#).

MORE EVENTS include University of Minnesota Farmers Market ([Sept. 5](#)); Party on the Plaza ([Sept. 7](#)); IEM Innovation Showcaw ([Sept. 11](#)); and Convocation of Title IX: Brown Bag Discussion ([Sept. 12](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > [Brief \(9-12-2012\)](#)Vol. XLII No. 27; September 12, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.eduFor additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.**Inside This Issue**

- Board of Regents meet Sept. 13-14.
- Operational Excellence website launches.
- Features: Open-book test.
- People: Chemist Christy Haynes has been named one of *Popular Science* magazine's "Brilliant 10"; and more.

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

THE BOARD OF REGENTS will meet Sept. 13-14. On Sept. 14, the board will receive its first introduction to President Eric Kaler's proposed biennial budget request for fiscal year 2014-15. Pending board approval in October, the U will pursue its official request to the state during the 2013 legislative session, which begins in January. The board will also hear a presentation about the 2012 University Plan, Performance and Accountability Report, comprising 150 pages of facts, figures, and updates about the U system and its students, faculty, and staff. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE: The U has launched a new, systemwide website to support the president's vision of working smarter, reducing costs, enhancing services, and increasing revenues. Visit excellence.umn.edu to find out more about strategies to reallocate resources and effort to the U's core teaching, research, and public service mission. Faculty and staff are asked to share ideas for improving U operations in a variety of areas, as well as read about and vote on others' ideas.

Features

FEATURE: The College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) is exploring new ways to deliver high-quality course materials to students at lower costs. CEHD director for academic and information technology Dave Ernst led a project resulting in the Open Academics online catalog, which launched in April with a list of 84 open textbooks that are in use in classrooms across the country. It was the first and only tool of its kind at a major research institution. Within hours of the catalog's launch, Ernst began to get email and calls. Since then, the catalog has received more than 26,000 visits from 138 countries and territories. Educators around the globe have offered to help. For more information, read "[Open-book test](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Sept. 3-7. In this episode of the weekly video feature, U of M President Eric Kaler and his wife, Karen, help students move in; the Class of 2016 participates in Convocation; and 5,500 first-year students form a giant 'M' at TCF Bank Stadium for the class photo. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Chemist Christy Haynes has been named one of *Popular Science* magazine's "Brilliant 10"; professor Christopher Douglas has received a CAREER award from the National Science Foundation; the Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare (CASCW) has been selected by Senator Amy Klobuchar as one of this year's "Angels in Adoption"; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**UNIVERSITY-WIDE:****Awards and funding opportunities**

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY (IAS) FACULTY FELLOWSHIP applications for 2013-14 fellowships are due Oct. 19. Faculty from all campuses are eligible to apply for one-semester residential fellowships at the IAS. For application instructions and more information, see [IAS fellowships](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

FACULTY AND STAFF CAN ENJOY COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSION AT THE U OF M LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM Sept. 29. All U faculty and staff are invited. Present your U Card at the Arboretum gatehouse for individual admission. Children ages 12 and under are free; ages 13 and up are \$12. U employees are also eligible for 10 percent off Arboretum memberships. For more information, see [faculty and staff day at the Arb.](#)

CROOKSTON:

ENROLLMENT NUMBERS AT UMC appear to have surpassed record levels, continuing a six-year trend. Preliminary reports put enrollment at 1,773 degree-seeking undergraduates — the highest enrollment in the history of the campus. That number beats 2011's record of 1,600. Final numbers will not be available for some time. For more information, see [record enrollment](#).

STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE (SIFE) AT UMC are succeeding in a project to provide access to clean water at locations in Nigeria and Nepal. Two boreholes were recently completed near Amai College in Nigeria, with a second at the Amai Nursery and Primary School in Ajangbadi, Ojo, a local government in Nigeria. For more information, see [SIFE clean water](#).

A SWEET STORY: UMC first-year student Emily Campbell just arrived on campus after 12 days of representing the beekeeping industry as Minnesota's Honey Queen at the Minnesota State Fair. An animal science major from Aiken, MN, she will compete for the national title in January 2013 when she travels to Hershey, PA. For more information, see [Honey Queen](#).

DULUTH:

UMD ALUMNI WILL GATHER AT THE MINNESOTA TWINS VS. KANSAS CITY ROYALS baseball game Sept. 12, Target Field, Minneapolis. The ballpark opens at 5:30 p.m., gametime is 7:10 p.m. Tickets are \$26 per person, with seating in sections T and U on the Skyline Deck. For ticket information, see [UMD alumni baseball](#).

PLAYWRIGHT, HUMORIST, AND STORYTELLER KEVIN KLING will perform at Glensheen Historic Estate on Sept. 13, 5:30 p.m., and at UMD Weber Music Hall on Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m. For more information, see [Kevin Kling](#).

TWIN PORTS HEART WALK REGISTRATION is open. The annual event will take place at UMD on Sept. 29 with vendor booths, live music and entertainment, as well as food and beverages. For more information, see [Heart Walk](#).

MORRIS:

UMM MADE A SIGNIFICANT JUMP in *Sierra* magazine's "Cool Schools" listing, a ranking of the country's greenest four-year colleges. Morris reached 47th in the 2012 ranking while earning top scores in two categories, and was the only Minnesota school to make this year's list. For more information, see [Cool Schools](#).

THE 2012 BARBER LECTURE will feature Jay Parini, Axinn Professor of English and Creative Writing at Middlebury College. Parini's lecture, "The Imagination of Truth: How Fiction Shines a Light into the Dark Corners of History," will attempt to put forth a brief aesthetics of fiction, arguing that fiction enables people to look in places where conventional history and biography cannot possibly go. Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m., HFA Recital Hall. For more information, see [Barber Lecture](#).

UMM'S WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM achieved Scholar All-American status for the spring 2012 semester. The College Swimming Coaches Association of America presents the award to college and university swimming and diving teams that achieve a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher. With a cumulative average of 3.17, the team earned its second consecutive honor. For more information, see [swimming and diving award](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE NEXT UMR CONNECTS lecture, "Women and Politics in Today's World," will feature Cecilia Manrique, professor and chair of the Political Science/Public Administration Department at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Sept. 18, 4th floor, University Square. For more information on the weekly Thursday night series, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:**Administrative information**

THE EARLY CAREER TEACHING PROGRAM still has limited space available for early-career faculty and instructional staff who want to develop and enhance their teaching skills and establish a foundation for a lifetime of creative and engaging teaching. The program is designed to work within the scheduling constraints of busy academicians. The 2012-13 program kicks off Sept. 18. For registration and more information, see [Early Career Teaching](#).

COFFEE AND DONUTS WITH THE COPS returns again for three days this fall with U of M Police bearing donuts and personal safety messages at locations across campus. UMPD officers will serve donuts and coffee beginning at 7:30 a.m. at West Bank Skyway, Sept. 18; Pleasant Avenue Bus Stop, Sept. 19; and the St. Paul Student Center, Sept. 20. The event is designed to let students, police, and University leaders get to know each other and discuss how to be partners in keeping the campus safe. For more information, see [Creating a Safe U](#).

ENCORE TRANSITIONS: PREPARING FOR POST-CAREER LIFE, the University of Minnesota's pioneering retirement preparation course, will be offered again this fall. The four-day course is designed to help employees prepare for successful post-career lives by focusing on personal, professional, and social satisfaction, as well as timely financial questions. The course begins Oct. 19. For eligibility, cost, and more information, see [Encore Transitions](#).

A BRONZE GOLDY GOPHER STATUE to be placed outside of Coffman Union will serve as an icon for the University community, both as a common gathering area and as a collective image for promoting school spirit. A "Give a Coin, Give a Dollar, Leave a Legacy" campaign is currently under way to raise money for construction of the statue. The effort is a student-driven fundraising initiative. For more information, see [bronze Goldy](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: The Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute (HFHL) has announced a fall 2012 Community-University Partnership Request for Proposals. HFHL is requesting grant applications to fund innovative partnerships related to food, nutrition, and health. Projects should include participatory action research or other creative strategies for addressing community-identified problems. Applications are due Nov. 19. For more information, see [grant programs](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

TOP ISSUES OF THE 2012 ELECTION SEASON will be featured in a Humphrey School fall events series convening lively dialogues across the top political and policy issues of the day, from health and medical care to immigration. Keynote speakers include policymakers, D.C. insiders, and nationally prominent professors. Free and open to the public, but registration is encouraged. For more information, see [Fall Election Season](#).

THE HUMPHREY SCHOOL WILL HOST A CIVIL CONVERSATIONS PROJECT WITH Public Radio's Krista Tippett, host of American Public Media's "[On Being](#)" radio program. Tippett will moderate all four discussions: "The Next Christians," "Pro Life, Pro Choice, Pro Dialogue," "Political Bridge People," and "The Future of Marriage." The series begins Sept. 12. Pre-registration is recommended. For registration and free tickets, see [Civil Conversations](#).

THE MINNESOTA SUPERCOMPUTING INSTITUTE (MSI) will hold an informational presentation to introduce new services available to University researchers. Attendees will also be able to talk one-on-one with MSI staff about their specific research needs. Sept. 17, 1-3 p.m., Walter Library. For more information, see [computing](#).

SUPER FANTASTIC WEEK events will take place Sept. 17-21 at the St. Paul Student Center. Enjoy bowling specials, free food samples, a comedy performance by Maria Bamford, a Gopher celebration, and more. For a full event listing, see [Super Fantastic](#).

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CANCER RESEARCH FUND Distinguished Visiting Professor Lectureship will feature Janet Davison Rowley, Blum-Riese Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago. Rowley is a human geneticist and the first scientist to identify a chromosomal translocation as the cause of leukemia. Sept. 19, 12:15-1:15 p.m., Mayo Auditorium. For more information, see [cancer lecture](#).

THE 2012 FALL RAPTOR RELEASE will set free rehabilitated birds of prey and feature educational exhibits, children's activities, orchard hay wagon tours, and more. Bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy the day but leave all pets at home. Sept. 22, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center. For more information, call 612-624-4745 or see [The Raptor Center](#).

THE 28th ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON POLICY ANALYSIS, "From Anecdote to Evidence: Advancing the Role of Analysis in Policy Making," will address ways to move from anecdote to evidence in developing, implementing, and evaluating public policy. Oct. 10, Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul. Register by Sept. 26 for the early rate. For registration and more information, see [policy analysis](#).

INNOVATION SHOWCASE: SOFTWARE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES, sponsored by the Office for Technology Commercialization, will be an opportunity to connect with potential research and business partners, and to learn about emerging University technologies in the areas of cleantech, health IT, nanotech, software, sensors, and electronics. Sept. 27, 4-6 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [innovation](#).

THE 2012 HEALTHY FOODS, HEALTHY LIVES SUMMIT: MN LEADERS IN FOOD AND HEALTH, co-hosted by the U's Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute and the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, will allow attendees to explore how Minnesota is taking the lead on food, agriculture and health research, food systems change, and more. Oct. 1, 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m., TCF Bank Stadium; and Oct. 2, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Arboretum. For more information, view the [agenda](#) (PDF) and the [registration page](#).

A START-UP SEMINAR featuring a keynote by serial entrepreneur Phil Soran will offer faculty, graduate students, and post-docs the opportunity to find out more about the creation of new companies. The event will include networking with complimentary wine, beer, and appetizers, followed by the keynote presentation and a panel discussion and Q&A. Oct. 3, 5-7:30 p.m., Campus Club. For more information, see [start-up seminar](#).

LEARNINGLIFE'S FALL SHORT COURSES open the week of Oct. 8. U faculty and staff receive a 10 percent discount. Courses include The Politics of the Supreme Court; Fireside Sippers: Warming Beers for Fall and Winter; Exploring the Love, Abuse, and Ecology of Minnesota's Lakes; Poetry 101: Reading and Appreciation; and many more. For more information, see [LearningLife](#) or call 612-624-4000.

THE SECOND ANNUAL BLACK ENVIRONMENTAL THOUGHT AND PRACTICE CONFERENCE invites scholars, activists, farmers, artists, gardeners, environmentalists, and outdoor enthusiasts to engage in translocal and transnational dialogues about environmental justice. The conference aims to provide a space where participants can bridge theory and practice while creating ethically responsible collaborative partnerships. Sept. 21-23, Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center. For registration and more information, see [Black Environmental Thought](#).

"LIKE" CONSERVATION? PROVE IT AND YOU COULD WIN AN IPAD. Weekly prize drawings will be held through Nov. 6 for anyone who "Likes" the "It All Adds Up" conservation campaign's [Facebook page](#), including an iPad grand prize. The contest is part of a campaign to enlist the campus community's help in conserving resources. For more information, [view campaign posters](#) and see [contest details](#).

MORE EVENTS include University of Minnesota Farmers Market ([Sept. 12](#)); Research Series: Race, Affirmative Action, and the Courts ([Sept. 13](#)); Board of Regents Reception in Honor of Ann Cieslak ([Sept. 14](#)); We the People: Constitution Day ([Sept. 17](#)); Public reading with award-winning Norwegian author Karl Ove Knausgaard ([Sept. 18](#)); How Alaska's Salmon Became Wild ([Sept. 27](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, budgetary, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (9-19-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 28; September 19, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Inside This Issue

--Board of Regents meeting summary.
 --Features: The serious side of gaming; 2012–14 McKnight Land-Grant Professor Melissa Gardner.
 --People: Senior Vice President Robert Jones has been named the next president of the University at Albany; and more.

University News and Events

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



TOP NEWS:

AT THE SEPTEMBER BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING, U President Eric Kaler proposed his first biennial budget request, for fiscal years 2014–15. The request is accompanied by policy options for state legislators to consider, representing a new approach and partnership with the State of Minnesota. Pending board action in October, the request to the state legislature will be pursued during the 2013 legislative session, which begins in January. The board was also presented with an overview of the 2012 University Plan, Performance, and Accountability Report. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

PRESIDENT KALER WILL HOLD A CAMPUS CONVERSATION to share his priorities for the coming year, including new initiatives to hold down tuition costs and focus on key academic strengths. The talk will also cover progress made on operational excellence and ongoing "Op Ex" plans for the new academic year. Oct. 2, noon–1 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. [RSVP online](#) if you plan to attend, or join the event live online [via UMConnect](#). For more information, see [Campus Conversation](#).

Features

FEATURE: In the world of medical education, there's a time and place for rigorous and serious classroom education. Looking ahead, there will increasingly be a time for games...games that will also be serious. The School of Nursing, in collaboration with a medical technology company and the Minnesota Hospital Association, is developing and enhancing a suite of "serious games"—interactive, web-based games that will accelerate learning in real-life scenarios. For more information, read ["The serious side of gaming."](#)

FEATURE: Curiosity can pull scientists in any number of directions, and it's in their biological makeup to respond. Melissa Gardner, a 2012–14 McKnight Land-Grant professor who specializes in genetics and cell biology, surrendered to her curiosity as a graduate student and returned to academia after beginning her career in the medical device industry. Today, she uses mathematical and computational modeling to learn how cells divide and how that division is controlled. For more information, read ["Figuring out the force: Melissa Gardner."](#)

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Sept. 10–14. This episode of the weekly video series features low-cost options for students around the UMTC campus, such as discounted Gopher football tickets, money management tips, and an open textbook catalog. For more information, watch ["This Week @Minnesota."](#)

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Senior Vice President Robert Jones has been named the next president of the University at Albany; U scientists have received a grant from the National Science Foundation's Partnerships for Innovation Program (NSF-PFI) to develop biotechnology to clean up hydraulic fracturing (fracking) water; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE 2012 DRIVEN TO DISCOVER MARKETING CAMPAIGN "DISCOVERY IS ILLUMINATION" will launch the week of Sept. 24 with a focus on the value of an education at a research university and the benefit of giving to scholarships. The objectives of the campaign are to show the public and the legislature the value of an education at the U and increase support for student scholarships. The campaign showcases how education and discovery at the U not only illuminate students, but the state and the world beyond. The umn.edu home page will reflect these stories and encourage visitors to share their own stories, advocate for the University, or to make a gift.

APPLICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAVES: The Sept. 12 issue of *Brief* incorrectly listed a particular application process for leaves. Colleges and campuses determine their own deadlines and processes for professional development leaves. For more information, [download the application](#) (PDF) or see the [development and leave policy online](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE FRONTIERS IN THE ENVIRONMENT LECTURE SERIES, a program of the Institute on the Environment (IonE), kicks off its fall 2012 programming on Sept. 19, with a talk by IonE's John Sheehan titled "Sustainable Development: What Would Aristotle Do?" Join IonE each Wednesday at noon for a presentation and Q&A session, followed by a casual get-together. R380 IonE seminar room, Learning and Environmental Sciences Bldg., St. Paul. The lectures also air live online via UMConnect. For more information, see [frontier lectures](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC WAS RANKED SECOND in this year's *U.S. News & World Report* Best Colleges rankings, in the category "Midwest Top Public Regional Colleges." The rankings for 2013 mark the 15th consecutive year the Crookston campus has appeared in the top four and is a move up from last year's placement at number three. For more information, see [rankings](#).

A BIRD-FRIENDLY FOREST MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP will address managing land to enhance wildlife, specifically birds. The workshop will include an optional birding walk. The workshop is open to the public as well as natural resource professionals and is under the coordination of John Loegering. Sept. 20, 7 a.m.–1 p.m., Forest History Center near Grand Rapids, MN. For more information, see [bird-friendly](#).

THE NEW TEXTBOOK FOR STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SPEAKING at UMC is the result of years of teaching experience and research by associate professor Mark Huglen, who has been at the Crookston campus since 1996. Kevin Thompson, associate professor and a colleague in the Liberal Arts and Education Department, assisted Huglen with the book, *Public Speaking: Strategies for Effective Public Speaking*. For more information, see [textbook](#).

UMC's CENTER FOR ADULT LEARNING (CAL) received a \$25,000 grant from the Northwest Minnesota Foundation in support of the Achieve More Project. Achieve More emerged from the regional IMPACT 20/20 Education Task Force's priority initiative to increase high school graduation rates and encourage more students to consider attending college. Launched this fall, the project is a collaborative effort among CAL, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, and the Crookston Area Chamber of Commerce.

DULUTH:

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT BEST COLLEGES ranking has placed UMD first among Minnesota Regional Public Universities and seventh in the Top Midwest Regional Public Universities category. For more information, see [rankings](#).

UMD'S MULTICULTURAL LEARNING COMMUNITY is an on-campus residential feature offered as one of many options for students. This year, 27 freshmen have chosen to experience living, learning, and socializing through the program. For more information, see [learning community](#).

A LAND-GRANT HERITAGE presentation conducted by Michael Lalich, director of UMD's Natural Resources Research Institute, will be held Sept. 27, 7 p.m., Kirby Ballroom. "UMD & Mineral Resources: Challenges, Opportunities, and a Land-Grant Perspective" is an informative event connecting Minnesota mines with ongoing research at UMD. For more information, see [NRRRI event](#).

MORRIS:

UMM HAS BEEN LISTED AMONG THE NATION'S TOP TEN Public Liberal Arts Colleges in the latest *U.S. News & World Report* Best Colleges rankings. This is the 14th consecutive year in which Morris has been included on this list. Morris was also ranked 161st in the top tier of the National Liberal Arts Colleges list. For more information, see [rankings](#).

HOMEcoming FESTIVITIES will bring the Morris community together for a variety of exciting Homecoming events, which include sports competitions, reunions, concerts, performances, and networking opportunities for alumni and students. All are welcome at the celebration, Sept. 18–23. For more information, see [Homecoming](#).

STERLING EVANS, Louise Welsh Chair of Oklahoma, Southern Plains, and Borderlands History at the University of Oklahoma, will be the featured speaker in this year's O. Truman Driggs Distinguished Lecture in History, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m., HFA Recital Hall. Evans's lecture, "Nothing New About NAFTA: Connecting the Northern Plains (and Minnesota) to a Greater North American History," will address North American grain production during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. For more information, see [Driggs Distinguished Lecture](#).

ROCHESTER:

RENOWNED PHOTOGRAPHER AND LECTURER WING HUIE will be featured by the Student Affairs and the Diversity Committee during the first week in October in Chalk-talk Workshops for students, staff, and faculty. [Huie's photography](#) addresses socioeconomic and cultural realities of American society. The majority of the Chalk-Talk Workshops will be targeted towards first-year students, but Huie will also host a session for faculty and staff, Oct. 1, 3–4:30 p.m., 417 University Square.

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

AN INITIATIVE TO RE-ESTABLISH A BLACK FACULTY AND STAFF ASSOCIATION at the U will kick off with a "meet and greet" dessert reception for Black faculty and staff on the Twin Cities campus Sept. 19, 3:30–5:30 p.m., Coffman Union. Speakers will include President Kaler; Senior VP Robert Jones; chair of the African American and African Studies Department, Keith Mayes; and director of the Office of Diversity in Graduate Education, Patricia Jones Whyte. The purpose of the event is to create an opportunity for Black U of M employees to connect with one another and build a supportive community. For more information, email [Alysia Lajun](mailto:Alysia.Lajun).

A RESILIENT COMMUNITIES PROJECT (RCP) will bring the expertise of hundreds of graduate students and the University to sustainability-related projects in Minnesota cities. The program will begin this fall, with students and faculty from 11 University courses working with the city of Minnetonka. Each academic year, RCP will choose a city partner through a competitive process, help identify potential projects, and match the city's needs with U courses. For more information, see [Resilient Communities](#).

HOMEcoming 2012 COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES are available during Homecoming week, Oct. 7–14. Opportunities include the Norman Borlaug Food and Hunger 5K, Oct. 6, which supports hunger relief in the Twin Cities; the American Red Cross Blood Drive, Oct. 10; and the Food Drive, with food donations accepted throughout Homecoming week. For registration and more information about various service projects, see [community service](#).

"IT ALL ADDS UP" AND HOUSING & RESIDENTIAL LIFE are introducing the "Live Green Games" in residence halls this year. The new sustainability competition awards points for resident participation in monthly sustainability programming. The residence hall with the most points at the end of April will receive a catered "Sustainable Study Break" during finals. For more information, see [live green](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR MINI MEDICAL SCHOOL's fall programming, "The Human Body: A Living Partnership," held on Mondays throughout October. Register today and discover how world-renowned experts in the Academic Health Center are researching and making discoveries about the human body—and translating those into ways to improve health around the world. Cost: \$65 for U faculty, staff, and students. For more information, see [Mini Medical School](#).

THE TECHNOLOGICAL LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE has announced a new speaker series titled, "Technically Speaking: Leadership in Action." The series features presentations by leading experts in the public and private sectors on topics at the intersection of technology, business, science, and engineering. The first of these free events, "Entrepreneurship: Grow Your Idea," will take place Sept. 20, 6 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [Technically Speaking](#).

CAREERS: THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC'S FALL CONVOCATION will feature a conversation on Creativity for Music Careers: Leveraging Talent, Technic, and Tenacity with Grammy winning composer, arranger, big band leader, and School of Music alumna Maria Schneider; internationally renowned soprano Dawn Upshaw; producer David Frost; engineer Tim Martyn; with School of Music director David Myers as moderator. U Jazz Ensemble I will perform works by Schneider at the event, and Regents will confer upon her an honorary degree. Sept. 24, 10 a.m., Ted Mann. For more information, see [convocation](#).

KILLING WITH POWERPOINT! HOW TO AVOID DEATH BY POWERPOINT WITH POWERPOINT will provide a basic overview of designing slides and presentations that engage audiences, facilitate learning, and increase retention. Sept. 25, noon–1 p.m. For registration and more information, see the Center for Teaching and Learning's [Just in Time Teaching series](#).

A START-UP SEMINAR featuring Artiman Ventures from Silicon Valley will share insights about how to pursue venture capital for early stage startup companies. U researchers, including faculty, graduate students, and postdocs, are invited to the session, hosted by the Office for Technology Commercialization. Sept. 27, 4–6 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. [RSVP online](#) by Sept. 25.

A CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS ABOUT DIVERSITY AND JUSTICE series, sponsored by the Office for Equity and Diversity, starts Sept. 28 and runs through April 2013. All events in the series will take place on a Friday, from 1:30–3 p.m., 120 Elmer Andersen Library. Conversation topics range from the marriage amendment and invisible disabilities to race issues and immigration, and will feature knowledgeable panelists from both the University and the broader community. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [critical conversations](#).

NORTHERN PROMPT CONCERTS AND LECTURES will present "SOLO—McKnight Dance Fellows" featuring world premieres from six of Minnesota's finest dancers and recipients of the 2010 and 2011 McKnight Artist Fellowships for Dancers. As part of their fellowship, the fellows also receive a commission for a new solo work created expressly for them. Sept. 21 and 22, 8 p.m., Ted Mann. Cost: \$25. A companion screening of the acclaimed documentary film *Solo: 1x2*, will be shown Oct. 1, 7 p.m., Bell Museum.

CYBER SECURITY SUMMIT: Join national cyber security experts and technology business leaders for the second annual Cyber Security Summit, Oct. 9–10, Minneapolis Convention Center. Speakers include high-ranking officials from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, FBI, and State of Minnesota, as well as technology business leaders from companies such as Medtronic, Verizon, and Delta Air Lines. Registration discounts for faculty, staff, and students end Sept. 21. The U of M Technological Leadership Institute is one of the summit's presenting sponsors. For more information, see [security summit](#).

"TAX REFORM: Lessons from Economics Theory and Prospects for the Future" will be presented by The Heller-Hurwicz Economics Institute (HHEI), Oct. 15, 5:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. The events will feature Joel Slemrod, professor with the Ross School of Business, U of Michigan; and VV Chari, director of HHEI. For registration and more information, see [tax reform](#).

THE JAMES A. HAMILTON SYMPOSIUM will address big issues facing the U.S. healthcare system today, including health reform, cost, and system integration. At the event, a panel of experts will respond to opinions gathered from interviews with health system CEOs from around the country. The symposium will be moderated by Daniel Zisner, Master's in Healthcare Administration program director. Oct. 16, 5–8 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [Hamilton Symposium](#).

"VIEWS FROM THE U: The Political Science of Election 2012" will feature the expertise of five leading political science researchers and U professors, moderated by Kathryn Sikkink. The last hour of the program will be open for an audience Q&A. Oct. 16, 5:30 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. For registration and more information, see [political science](#).

MORE EVENTS include Film Screening: *Second Nature* ([Sept. 19](#)); Super Fantastic Week ([Sept. 17–21](#)); professor Therese Zink discusses her new books ([Sept. 20](#)); Mountain Biking Day Trip ([Sept. 21](#)); How Alaska's Salmon Became Wild ([Sept. 27](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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



Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (9-26-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 29; September 26, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

Inside This Issue

- Invitation to an open forum with President Kaler.
- State Relations Update.
- U launches record number of startup companies.
- Features: The social lives of plants; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: President Barack Obama will appoint civil engineering professor Efi Foufoula-Georgiou to the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

PRESIDENT KALER WILL HOLD AN OPEN FORUM to share his priorities for the coming year, including new initiatives to hold down tuition costs and focus on key academic strengths. The talk will also cover progress made on operational excellence and ongoing "Op Ex" plans for the new academic year. Bring your lunch; refreshments will be provided. Oct. 2, noon–1 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. [RSVP](#) online if you plan to attend, or join the event live via [UMConnect](#). For more information, see [Campus Conversation](#).

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: President Kaler recently presented his biennial budget request to the Board of Regents. A key component of the proposal is a base tuition freeze for Minnesota undergraduate students in 2014 and 2015. President Kaler also commits to reducing operating costs in 2014 and 2015 by \$28 million and ties part of the U's request to achieving certain goals. The president also introduced a new initiative called MNDRIIVE to invest in critical research areas to advance Minnesota's economy. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

THE U LAUNCHED A RECORD NUMBER OF STARTUP COMPANIES IN FY2012. From promoting better driving skills to treating deadly brain tumors, discoveries by U researchers were used to launch 12 companies. Since 2006, the U has launched a total of 38 startup companies. For more information, see [new companies](#).

Features

FEATURE: One of the biggest joys of science comes when nature hands you a complete surprise. It happened recently to two of the U's most prominent ecologists and their research colleagues, who uncovered the functional equivalent of social networks in ordinary grassland plants. Those networks, destroyed when land is cleared for agriculture, hold hope for treating some of the world's biggest ecological ills. The two studies were led by Regents Professors David Tilman and Peter Reich. For more information, read "[The social lives of plants](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Sept 17–21. In this episode of the weekly video feature, we see how President Kaler's legislative budget proposal benefits Minnesota students, families, and the state. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: The White House announced that President Barack Obama will appoint civil engineering professor Efi Foufoula-Georgiou to the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board; the North Star STEM Alliance has been awarded an additional five-year, \$2.5 million award from the National Science Foundation; Stephanie Valberg, professor and director of the U's Equine Center, has been inducted into the University of Kentucky Equine Research Hall of Fame, making her the first woman to receive the honor; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES OPERATIONS CENTER IS RELOCATING TO WBOB as part of VP Brown's OHR strategic plan to consolidate operations and meet President Kaler's expectations for the highest standards of operational excellence. The move will consolidate OHR operations—including the Job Center, Graduate Assistant Employment Services, Classification and Compensation, Payroll, and HRMS—into one physical space. Offices will move from the Donhowe Building to 545 WBOB on Sept. 28. For more information about the relocation and the services affected, see [OHR Relocation](#).

THE U OF M'S LATEST "DRIVEN TO DISCOVER" campaign launched Sept. 24. The campaign is created around the theme of illumination and it plays off of the power of light—the U's bright students, the shine of discovery, and the economic power the U provides to the state. It includes television spots supported by print ads, billboards, bus stop signage, and web content. The [umn.edu](#) home page reflects related stories and encourages visitors to share their own stories, advocate for the University, or to make a gift. For more information, see [Discover.umn.edu](#)

2012 MARKS THE CENTENNIAL OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND FACULTY SENATE. The Senate will next meet Oct. 4, Coffman Theater. Panel discussions from 2–3:30 p.m. to kick off centennial events will include Senate history, the Economic Future of Public Research Universities, and Digital Education. Senate meetings follow at 3:30 p.m. For more information, see the full agenda at [University Senate](#).

A **GLOBAL OPERATIONS INITIATIVE** has been launched by Global Programs and Strategy Alliance to increase access to information for faculty and staff undertaking research or other projects abroad. The initiative brings together experts in the areas of taxation, purchasing, law, human resources, and compliance to assess issues, provide advice, and reduce internal infrastructure barriers. The goal is for the Global Operations team to focus on cross-border compliance issues, so faculty and staff can focus on their academic activities. For more information, see [Global Operations](#).

2012 ELECTION INFORMATION: The University is committed to ensuring faculty, staff, and students have timely, accurate information about voting. Government Relations staff are coordinating voter education communications to the University community and have compiled election and voting related resources, including a Voter Guide as well as the U's "Vote for the U" campaign information. Both are available in print and alternative formats. For more information, see [Voter Guide](#).

POSTDOCS AND JUNIOR FACULTY WHO ANTICIPATE DEALING WITH THE MEDIA during their careers may appreciate the perspectives shared by Institute on the Environment forest ecologist Emily Peters after her research drew attention from Minnesota Public Radio, the Star Tribune, and more. For more information, see [Lessons Learned: My First Press Release](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

TEDxUMN 2012: "The end of the world as we know it" will host discussions around the many contexts in which our world might never be the same. The next event takes place Nov. 10 (registration to begin in mid-Oct.), Coffman Union. The series is currently looking for faculty, graduate, and undergraduate speakers. To volunteer or suggest a speaker for this or future events in the series, see [TEDxUMN](#) or email Dylan.Verden.

Awards and funding opportunities

DOCTORAL STUDENTS APPLYING FOR THE INTERDISCIPLINARY DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP (IDF) program offered by the Graduate School must include a letter of support from the interdisciplinary research center or institute where they propose to take the fellowship. The Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) has served as an IDF host institution since the program's inception. Doctoral students who are interested in applying for an IDF at the IAS in 2013–14 must submit a preliminary application to the IAS by Oct. 19. For more information, see [Doctoral Fellowship](#).

CROOKSTON:

TWO TRAINING SESSIONS ON INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION and internationalizing the classroom with emphasis on integrating international students will be offered by the UMC Office of International Programs, the International Student and Scholar Services Office (UMTC), the Center for Teaching and Learning, and the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance. Sept. 26, 8:30–10:30 a.m., and 3–4:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, C/D/E Sargeant Student Center. Free but registration is required. For more information, see [intercultural workshops](#).

A **LUNCHTIME PRESENTATION** that is part of Disability Employment Awareness Month will feature Terri Krake discussing how her life was abruptly changed. As an ambassador for Can Do Canines, Krake will speak about her work with an organization that has literally 'gone to the dogs' to give their human companions real opportunities for independence. Oct. 2, 12:15 p.m., Bede Ballroom. [RSVP to Laurie Wilson](#) in advance for the complementary lunch. For more information, see [Can Do Canines](#).

MEMBERS OF THE CROOKSTON CHAMBER AMBASSADORS visited campus Sept. 20 to welcome Chancellor Fred Wood and to acknowledge Erbert & Gerbert's and Caribou Coffee as new business endeavors at UMC's Eagle's Nest.

DULUTH:

THE ALWORTH INSTITUTE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY will be commemorated Sept. 26, 7–9 p.m., 90 Bohannon Hall. Author T.R. Reid will present *One Shoulder, Ten Countries: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper, and Fairer Health Care*. For more information, see [Alworth anniversary](#).

MORRIS:

AWARD-WINNING JOURNALIST MICHELE NORRIS will speak at UMM Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m., Edson Auditorium. Her lecture, "Race, Gender, Inclusion, and the Future of Leadership in America," is co-sponsored by the Commission on Women; the Equity, Diversity, and Intercultural Program; and CAC Convocations. Norris, a graduate of the U's School of Journalism and Mass Communication, has more than two decades of experience interviewing world leaders, Nobel laureates, military leaders, and influential newsmakers. For more information, see [Michele Norris](#).

G.I. JOBS HAS RECOGNIZED UMM AS A MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL for the second consecutive year. The 2013 Military Friendly Schools list honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools that are working to embrace America's service members, veterans, and spouses as students, and to ensure their success on campus. For more information, see [military friendly](#).

BRADLEY DEANE, associate professor of English, will be honored for his scholarship at the annual conference of the North American Victorian Studies Association. His article "Imperial Boyhood: Piracy and the Play Ethic" was awarded Honorable Mention for the Donald Gray Prize, which is given for the best essay published in the field of Victorian studies. For more information, see [Bradley Deane](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE UMR CONNECTS WEEKLY TUESDAY LECTURE SERIES will focus on public policy during the month of October. The next event, "How Policy Impacts My Life: Stories about the Marriage Amendment," will feature members of the greater Rochester community sharing stories reflecting different perspectives on marriage and the marriage amendment, followed by a moderated discussion open to the audience. Oct. 2, 7 p.m., 417 University Square. For more information, see [UMR Connects](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

UMTC STUDENTS CAN REGISTER TO VOTE in the upcoming election at any campus library. Registration forms are available at all major service points and completed forms will be delivered to the Secretary of State's office. Answers to common questions about how to register, where to vote, proof of residence needed at the polling place, and voting absentee, can be found at [U of M Libraries](#).

TOOLS AND SERVICES FOR RESEARCH PAPERS FROM U LIBRARIES: The updated Assignment Calculator helps students plan out assignments including papers, speeches, video projects, and more. Instructors can customize an assignment for specific due dates and students can receive email reminders. In addition, Peer Research Consultants offer one-on-one tutoring on academic research and are available by drop-in hours or appointment. For more information, see the Course Resources tab at [U Libraries](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE (CTSI) will host an Education, Training, and Research Career Development (edTRCD) open house where new requests for applications will be released. edTRCD focuses on research training and career development, both for investigators and research support staff. Pastries and refreshments will be served. Oct. 1, 8–9 a.m., room 105, 717 Delaware. RSVP by Sept. 27 to ctsieduc@umn.edu. For more information, see [CTSI open house](#).

PURDUE UNIVERSITY'S CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH CENTER director, Otto Moering, will present the lecture "Looking Back to the Coming Future: The More Things Change the More They Stay the Same," Oct. 4, 2 p.m., 380 Learning and Environmental Sciences Building, St. Paul Campus. Doering is co-author of multiple U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Bills and has advised the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service on the design of national conservation programs. Doering will also speak on "Excess Nitrogen..." at 7 p.m. that evening in the St. Paul Student Center Theater. For more information, see [Doering lectures](#).

THE THIRD ANNUAL GOPHER ADVENTURE RACE will take place Oct. 5. Participants race in teams of two, traveling by foot and campus transportation to take on physical and mental challenges while deciphering clues to experience the U in "Amazing Race style." Open to students, staff, faculty, and alumni. For registration and more information, see [Gopher Adventure Race](#).

A **DESIGN THINKING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION INNOVATION WORKSHOP** will teach participants about the design process and apply it to creating more equitable, affordable, and high quality higher education. The workshop is free, but registration is required. Sponsored by the Jandris Center for Innovative Higher Education, the College of Design, the Midwestern Higher Education Compact, and the Center for Integrative Leadership. Oct. 11, 8 a.m.–2:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [Design Thinking workshop](#).

THE HOMECOMING 2012 PARADE will feature former chief executive officer of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, Margaret Sughrue Carlson as Grand Marshal. Oct. 12, 7 p.m., University Avenue, beginning at 15th Avenue. For more information, see [Homecoming.umn.edu](#).

ST. ANTHONY FALLS LABORATORY SEMINAR: "Gravity and Turbidity Currents Interacting with Submarine Topography" will feature Lorenz G. Straub Award Ceremony Distinguished Speaker Eckart Meiburg, professor and director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Fluids, University of Santa Barbara; and Jorge Abad, professor, University of Pittsburgh, who received the Lorenz G. Straub Award for his 2008 dissertation, "Hydrodynamics and Morphodynamics in Kinoshita Meandering Channels." Oct. 19, 3:30 p.m., 210 Civil Engineering Building. For more information, see [Lorenz G. Straub Award](#).

A **WOMEN IMPACTING HEALTH CARE CONFERENCE** will feature some of the strong female voices in health care today. Participants will develop their own personal leadership approach through a series of collaborative discussions and group learning activities. Nov. 9, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [healthcare conference](#).


MORE EVENTS include "The Big Blank Spot on the Map: Exploring Alaska's Wild Frontier" ([Sept. 26](#)); Civil Conversations: Pro-Life, Pro-Choice, Pro-Dialogue ([Sept 26](#)); P & A Women's Reception ([Sept. 27](#)); Food Stories: Growing, Eating, Thinking about Food in Southwest Minnesota—Discussion with Peter Shea and Valentine Cadieux ([Sept. 28](#)); Fly Fishing Day Trip ([Sept. 29](#)): Weekends with the Weisguides—Pop-Up WAM ([Sept. 30](#)); A Discussion with Maria Schneider ([Oct. 1](#)); Mini Medical School, Fall 2012 ([Oct. 1](#)); Google Scholar and Web of Science: Complementary Tools for Finding Academic Content ([Oct. 2](#)); Celebrating 120 Years of the College of Pharmacy ([Oct. 12](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Subscription guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™

One Stop > myU >

Search Websites and People

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (10-3-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 30; October 3, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Inside This Issue

--VP for Research public interviews are scheduled.
--Features: The right to vote; New digs at Itasca; This Week @Minnesota.
--People: The U of M STEM Education Center has received an \$8 million grant from the National Science Foundation; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

PUBLIC INTERVIEWS FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH POSITION are scheduled to take place on the UMTC campus Oct. 8, 9, and 10. Forums will also be streamed live online. The candidates are Mark Banaszak Holl, professor of chemistry, University of Michigan; Brian Herman, Chancellor's Health Fellow for Collaboration, University of Texas System, special assistant to the president, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, and professor of cellular and structural biology; and Meredith Hay, professor of physiology, College of Medicine, Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute, Sarver Heart Center, University of Arizona. For more information, see [VP for Research](#).

Features

FEATURE: A lot is up for grabs this November in America—the presidency of the United States, for one. Not to mention a third of U.S. Senate seats, all seats in the U.S. House, and state-level amendments on issues ranging from voter ID to same-sex marriage (Minnesota has both on the ballot). But almost six million Americans will sit this one out because of something they've done. They're felons—perpetrators, at some point in their lives, of a serious crime. U criminologist Christopher Uggen's latest research released this past July quantified what the landscape looks like going into November. For more information, read "[The right to vote](#)."

FEATURE: The U's Itasca Biological Station will soon get an upgrade. On Sept. 21, U President Eric Kaler headed a group of dignitaries who broke ground for a new campus center at Itasca. Made possible by a \$4.1 allocation from the Minnesota Legislature, the center will replace three obsolete buildings and quadruple the number of full-time employees at the facility. The new center will help the college keep up with rising enrollment by increasing the station's faculty-student capacity to 130. Construction of the campus center is slated to begin in April 2013 and end that December. For more information, read "[New digs at Itasca](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Sept 24–28. In this episode of the weekly video feature, we visit the health careers fair, get a free flu shot, and learn how to know when you're sick enough to stay home from class. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: The U of M STEM Education Center has received an \$8 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF); the U has also received a \$4.3 million NSF grant to study interactions between water and land-use systems; Governor Dayton has appointed Extension's Kathryn Draeger to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency citizens' board; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

A PEOPLESOFT OUTAGE WILL OCCUR OCT. 13–14. Beginning Saturday, Oct. 13, 6 p.m., PeopleSoft Campus Solutions (student admin and HRMS) and PeopleSoft Financials will be unavailable for use during a planned upgrade. It is intended that full functionality will be restored by Sunday, Oct. 14, 2 p.m. During this time, access to all of the PeopleSoft core applications, as well as the many other applications such as One Stop self service and employee self service, will be unavailable. Updates will be posted throughout the maintenance period at [system status](#). For more information, see [PeopleSoft upgrade](#).

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT: The new administrative policy, Senior Leadership Compensation and Separation aligns with recent changes to Board of Regents policy, Employee Compensation and Recognition. The policy covers peer market comparisons, both at time of hire and on a regular basis; the amount of a severance package (if granted) based on years of service in senior leadership positions; and the approval points with the chair and vice chair of the Regents. The Professional Development Leaves for Academic Professional and Administrative Employees policy has been revised to reflect a recent Regents decision to eliminate transitional leaves for individuals separating from senior leadership positions. The review period ends Oct. 18. For more information, see [policy review](#).

THE U OF M ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SURVEYED 2012 MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES to help U of M alumni and friends make informed decisions when they go to the polls on Nov. 6. The Alumni Association is not endorsing candidates. To see the survey questions and results, visit [candidate survey](#).

GOOGLE GROUPS, a tool that allows a team of users to quickly collaborate with one another either via email or any of Google's various applications, is now available with Google Apps for the U of M. U faculty, staff, and students, may request a Google Group for themselves, or for their unit or organization. Google Groups request forms, including instructions, are available on the University's Google support website. For more information, see [Google Groups](#).

CROOKSTON:

FALL SEMESTER CONVOCATION will take place Oct. 4, 12:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. UMC Student Association President Adam Switzer will serve as master of ceremonies. The keynote speaker will be Lorna Hollowell, the new director of diversity and multicultural programs. For more information, see [convocation](#).

THE WRIGHT BROTHERS and the history of the first flight at Kitty Hawk will be the topic of a presentation by renowned aviation historian Darrell Collins Oct. 4, 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. A Q&A will follow the presentation. Free and open to the public; refreshments will follow. For more information, see [Wright Brothers](#).

MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE MARK RITCHIE will speak to students, faculty, and staff Oct. 8, 1 p.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center, about the importance of civic engagement, the role students play in the election process, how to get involved and stay informed, and the issues on the Minnesota ballot in 2012. A Q&A will follow the presentation. For more information, see [civic engagement](#).

DULUTH:

THE UPCOMING LAND-GRANT EVENT "Land, Law, and Education: An American Indian Perspective on Land-Grant Universities" will take place Oct. 16, 7 p.m., Kirby Ballroom. Speakers are Colette Routel, professor of law, William Mitchell College of Law; Leo Brisbois, federal magistrate (White Earth Band); Jill Doerfler, UMD American Indian Studies Department (White Earth Band); and Tadd Johnson, director, UMD Master of Tribal Administration and Governance program (Bois Forte Band of Chippewa).

VOTE FOR BOB NIELSON: The 2012 Liberty Mutual "Coach of the Year" competition is under way. The winning coach in each division is awarded \$50,000 for charities of choice, and a \$20,000 award is given to the Alumni Association. Cast your vote [online via Twitter](#).

A SCHOLARSHIP HAS BEEN NAMED after the first graduate of UMD's American Indian Studies program, Mike Munnell. For more information, see [Munnell Scholarship](#).

MORRIS:

UMM ROSE 68 PLACES IN *WASHINGTON MONTHLY'S* 2012 ranking of liberal arts colleges, coming in at 105 as compared to 173 in 2011. It ranked sixth among the 26 public institutions on the list. *Washington Monthly* assesses colleges based on their "contribution to public good." For more information, see [Washington Monthly](#).

THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY'S 37th Annual Midwest Philosophy Colloquium begins Oct. 5, 3:30 p.m., 109 Imholte Hall. This year's colloquium explores moral realism and features two of the most notable moral realists in philosophy today: Michael Huemer, professor of philosophy at the University of Colorado-Boulder; and Russ Shafer-Landau, professor of philosophy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. For more information, see [Philosophy Colloquium](#).

AWARD-WINNING SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY AUTHOR LOIS MCMASTER BUJOLD will speak at UMM Oct. 9, 7 p.m., 109 Imholte Hall. Bujold will read from her latest book and take questions from the audience. She is a *New York Times* best-selling author, four-time winner of the Hugo Award for best science fiction or fantasy novel, and two-time winner of the Nebula Award. For more information, see [Bujold](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR IS A FINALIST for a 2012 Tekne Award from the Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA). UMR was recognized in the EdTech category for its innovative intelligent System for Education Assessment and Learning (iSEAL). UMR developed iSEAL as a complete curriculum management system that makes course materials available online to students and shareable across the curriculum. Unlike traditional course management systems, iSEAL goes a step further. For more information, see [iSEAL award](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

THE 2012 COMMUNITY FUND DRIVE: "Continuing a Culture of Caring" launched on Oct. 1. Participate by making a gift to any of more than 400 organizations that are part of the seven federations represented in the 2012 campaign. The U raises more than \$1 million every year, helping to enrich the community and transform lives. This year's goal is 40 percent participation from colleges, departments, and units. Please join fellow faculty and staff in giving. Pledge today at [umn.edu/cfd](#). The drive continues through October 31.

THE RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (RAP) helps new faculty and staff identify suitable housing accommodations in the Twin Cities. RAP is broadening its current housing database to include homes that are for sale by current and retired University-affiliated employees. Homes must be located in the University District or in a neighborhood convenient to the UMTC campus. To include your home in the database, to view available properties, and for more information, see [Relocation Assistance](#). [Email RAP](#) with questions.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE U OF M MOBILE APP CHALLENGE invites students to imagine and pitch ideas for a mobile app, and over the course of two semesters, work in teams to develop the app. Prizes include iPads for the winning team and iPods for runners up. For more information and the kickoff event Oct. 8, see [Mobile App Challenge](#).

THE NEW NATURAL RESOURCES LIBRARY is now open in Hodson Hall on the St. Paul campus. U Libraries will celebrate its grand opening with an event Oct. 10, 2–4 p.m. The celebration will include snacks, games, and a chance to win prizes. For more information, see [library opening](#).

THE CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE (CTSI) will host a "transforming Partnerships: Community Engagement for Health Summit" Oct. 10. CTSI will gather community advisory members and University faculty and staff at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum to celebrate its growing partnerships and to discuss how best to support engagement among the University and the community to improve health through clinical and translational research. Free, but [registration is required](#) by Oct. 5.

LANDSCAPE HEALTH: DIVERSE KNOWLEDGE TRADITIONS will include a keynote presentation by Dudley Edmondson, facilitated panel conversations, and small group discussions on the topics of indigenous environmental knowledge and community-based African resource systems. The event is part of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences' celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act, which created land-grant universities in the United States. Oct. 18, 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m., St. Paul Student Center. Free, but [registration is requested](#).

REINVENTING THE USER EXPERIENCE IN TRANSPORTATION is the featured topic at the Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) 25th Anniversary Seminar and Reception Oct. 11, 3:30–5:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library. Wildcat professor Hani Mahmassani, director of the Northwestern University Transportation Center, will present. Free, but [registration is requested](#). Includes refreshments and hors d'oeuvres. For more information, see [CTS seminar](#).

NORTHROP UPCOMING EVENTS include the world-renowned New York City Ballet opening Northrop's season featuring works by George Balanchine, Peter Martins, William Forsythe, and Christopher Wheeldon, as well as live music played primarily by musicians from the NYCB Orchestra. Oct. 23 and 24, 7:30 p.m., Orpheum Theatre. For tickets and more information, see [Northrop events](#).

MORE EVENTS Thursday Families Valued: A Play by Randy Beard ([Oct. 3](#)); Frontiers in the Environment ([Oct. 3](#)); BIG Thursdays at the Bell Museum ([Oct. 4](#)); Gopher Adventure Race ([Oct. 5](#)); Sacred Space, Contested Terrain ([Oct. 6](#)); EduTech 2012 Showcase ([Oct. 8](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, news, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™

One Stop ▶ myU ▶

Search Websites and People Search

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (10-10-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 31; October 10, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Inside This Issue
 --Board of Regents meet Oct. 11–12.
 --Federal Relations Update.
 --UMN-TV: A Smart Solution.
 --Features: Islands in the Sun; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: Irving Gottesman will receive the Honorary Fellowship of King's College London; and more.

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

TOP NEWS:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS will meet Oct. 12 to act on President Kaler's proposed biennial budget request and legislative proposal for fiscal years 2014–15. Pending board approval, the U will submit its request to the state by Oct. 15 and pursue the proposal during the 2013 legislative session, which begins in January. Other agenda items include a continued discussion of University spending with a focus on spending for mission support and administrative leadership relative to total expenditures; review of a new entrepreneurial leave policy to support faculty in commercializing intellectual property or pursuing other private sector development opportunities; and more. For more information, see the [news release](#).

FEDERAL RELATIONS UPDATE: U of M VP Richard Pfitzenreuter made a presentation to the Board of Regents Sept. 13, estimating the effect of the federal government's potential budget sequestration on the U in FY13. Estimates include a loss of \$50.8 million in federal grants and contracts, and a cut of approximately 8 percent to Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants, federal work-study, and TRIO programs. Pfitzenreuter also detailed potential impacts to the Academic Health Center, Fairview, and U Physicians with the expiration at the end of 2012 of Medicare payments to physicians and a reduction of the Medicare provider payment. For more information, see [Federal Relations](#).

Operational Excellence
 UMN-TV: A SMART SOLUTION: As colleges, departments, and units around the University work to reduce costs while enhancing services as part of President Kaler's Operational Excellence initiative, the status quo is being challenged. UMN-TV is one example of improving a service while saving an estimated \$250,000 over the next five years. For more information, see [Operational Excellence](#).

Features
 FEATURE: More than half the people on earth live in cities, and those urban areas are warming at twice the rate of rest of the planet, with heat waves becoming more frequent. The University of Minnesota's four-year Islands in the Sun research project seeks to discover how "heat islands" work—and to help lower the temperature in cities through landscape design. For more information, see ["Islands in the Sun."](#)

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Oct. 1–5. In this episode of the weekly video feature, we visit the U's first-ever multi-faith week and attend a Campus Conversation with President Eric Kaler. For more information, watch ["This Week @Minnesota."](#)

Awards, appointments, and other announcements
 CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

PEOPLE: Irving Gottesman will receive the Honorary Fellowship of King's College London; John Finnegan, dean of the School of Public Health, has received the Albert Justus Chesley Award from the Minnesota Public Health Association; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information
 ENTERPRISE SYSTEM UPGRADE KICKOFF EVENT: Between now and December 2014, the U of M is upgrading its essential human resources (HR), student, and financial systems and re-examining related business processes to improve operational efficiency and user experience. A program kickoff will take place Oct. 16, 1–4 p.m., Great Hall, Coffman Union. ESUP team members, targeted leaders, and others who should attend this event in person will receive an electronic invitation with RSVP instructions included. All project team members are expected to attend; team members from outstate locations will be able to participate and ask questions remotely via ITV locations. Sessions will also be recorded and streamed. For the full agenda, ITV viewing locations, and more, see [upgrade.umn.edu](#).

A MICROSOFT HOME USE PROGRAM is now available for faculty and staff, enabling those who use Microsoft Office for their work at the University to purchase one licensed copy per platform of Office (for Windows or Mac) to install and use on home computers, for work, and for personal purposes. Eligible faculty and staff must be currently employed at the University. The cost to the user is \$9.95 for the download. For more information, see [Microsoft Home Use](#).

Awards and funding opportunities
 PROPOSALS FOR THE FALL 2012 MINI GRANTS COMPETITION sponsored by the Institute on the Environment are due Nov. 1. Faculty, staff, and students from across the University system are invited to apply for funding. IonE Mini Grants seek to spur new collaborations across disciplines, units, and campuses by providing small amounts of funding (from \$500 to \$3,000, with average grants being \$1,500), administrative support (including organizing and staffing meetings), and space (for meetings, small conferences, new courses, reading groups, etc.). For more information, see [Mini Grants](#).

A REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFAs) has been issued by the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) for its Research Education, Training, and Career Development programs. CTSI has three opportunities designed to support junior investigators as they build independent research careers. Investigators may apply for the New Investigator Pre-K Pilot Grant, the K to R Transition Grant, and the R to R Pilot Grant. Eligibility ranges from assistant professor rank (≤ 3 years) to associate professor rank (≤ 7 years). Application deadline is Dec. 10. For eligibility criteria, an application, and more information, see [CTSI](#).

NOMINATIONS FOR THE JOHN TATE AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING are due Jan. 17. The Tate Awards serve to recognize and reward high-quality academic and career advising. Nomination guidelines and materials, as well as sample dossiers of previous award winners, are available at [Tate Awards](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events
 "DESIGN + COMMUNITY + SUSTAINABILITY: Accelerating the Transformation," a Frontiers in the Environment lecture by Virajita Singh, senior research fellow and adjunct assistant professor with the College of Design, will take place Oct. 10, noon, live online and at R380, Learning & Environmental Sciences Bldg., St. Paul. Frontiers in the Environment lectures take place each Wednesday at noon. For more information, see [Frontiers](#).

"A SALUTE TO LAKE SUPERIOR'S SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES," hosted by the University of Minnesota Sea Grant Program, spotlights the state's seasonal abundance of lake herring from Lake Superior and celebrates the people involved in managing, harvesting, studying, and preparing this sustainably harvested fish. The event features a professional chef cook-off and public tasting event where ten of the Midwest's finest chefs will compete for \$1,000 and public approval by turning Lake Superior's lake herring into haute cuisine. Nov. 13, 5–7:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For more information, see [Sea Grant](#).

CROOKSTON:

APPROXIMATELY 100 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS involved in Minnesota Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) will take part in their annual regional conference on campus Oct. 10, 8 a.m.–2:30 p.m. For more information, see [FCCLA leaders](#).

THE FACULTY AND STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN-SERVICE DAY will take place Oct. 12. Classes will not be held but campus offices will remain open. The first session of uMobile Tech Support is scheduled Oct. 12, 10 a.m.–noon, 116 Kiehle. For more information, see [in-service day](#).

EXTENSION WILL HOST A NATURAL PLAY SPACE WORKSHOP, including morning plenary presentations by U staff and local partners covering the planning, installation, and programming aspects of natural play spaces with examples of what has been done in the region. Afternoon breakout discussions will address exactly what is needed to move such projects forward. Oct. 17, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. For more information, see [Natural Play Space](#).

DULUTH:

NATIONAL FOOD DAY 2012, Oct. 24, will begin with a presentation by Steven Kuross, who has 26 years of medical experience and practices hematology and internal medicine and medical oncology. Kuross's presentation starts at 7 p.m., UMD Kirby Ballroom, and will be followed at 8:30 p.m. by a free "Farm to Table" meal at Sara's Table, 1902 East 8th Street, Duluth. Leading up to the annual national food day there are workshops, seminars, and tours throughout October. For more information, see [National Food Day](#).

\$4.3 MILLION NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANT: UMD's Karen Gran is one of four researchers from the University of Minnesota who received the recently announced Water Sustainability and Climate grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). For more information, see [NSF grant](#).

JOSEPH GALLIAN will be named a Fellow of the American Mathematical Society on Nov. 1. For more information, see [Gallian](#).

THE ANNUAL KERLAN AWARD CEREMONY on Sept. 18 celebrated the 100th birthday of Irvin Kerlan. Presenters included UMD associate professor Jean Stevenson, who prepared a Kerlan Chapbook. For more information, see [Kerlan Ceremony](#).

MORRIS:

CHRISTOPHER BUTLER, instructor of English, sociology, and honors, was recently awarded a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship for work he is conducting at the University of California, Santa Cruz. The title of the project for which he received the fellowship—which officially begins in the summer of 2013—is "Water Unites, Water Divides: Resistance to the West Seti and Upper Karnali Dams in Nepal." For more information, see [Butler](#).

UMM IS PLEASED TO WELCOME BILL ROBERTS, '96, AND KARI ROBERTS, '95, as the featured speakers at the 2012 Latterell Visiting Alumnus Lecture. The lecture, "Molecules, Medicine, and Morris Musings," will be held Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m., Science Auditorium. The Joseph J. Latterell Memorial Visiting Alumnus Program honors the value of alumni perspectives on post-graduate studies and career opportunities. For more information, see [Latterell Alumni](#).

THE HUMANITIES FINE ARTS GALLERY WILL PRESENT *YOU COMPLETE ME*, an exhibition featuring the work of mixed media artists and couple Liz Miller and David Hamlow. Miller's mixed media installations and works on paper recontextualize shapes, signs, and symbols from disparate historical and contemporary images to create abstract fictions. Hamlow's work addresses the interface of art-making and daily life. Oct. 18–Nov. 21. For more information, see [mixed media](#).

ROCHESTER:

CHANCELLOR STEPHEN LEHMKUHLE WILL DELIVER THE UMR STATE OF THE CAMPUS ADDRESS Nov. 8, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., University Square. Lehmkuhle will provide a report to the community about UMR's progress, growth, and innovation. For more information, see [State of the Campus](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

NOMINATIONS FOR THE U SERVICES STAR PERFORMER AWARDS are due Nov. 5. Star Performer Awards are given out each fall to University Services employees and teams of employees who have provided star quality service to the University of Minnesota over the past year. Award recipients are honored at the University Services Leadership Forum in December and receive a personalized Star Performer plaque. For more information and a 2012 nomination form, see [Star Performers](#).

THE GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (SELP) asks that supervisors encourage undergraduate student employees to complement their on-campus employment experiences by participating in workshops and activities focused on leadership and workplace topics. The program is open to any student employee currently enrolled as an undergraduate. Students can complete the program within two successive semesters (does not have to fall within one academic year). For more information, see [student employment](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

IT'S HOMECOMING 2012: Participate in events like the Wednesday blood drive, the Friday parade, and more to help celebrate this legendary University. Submit ideas for the Homecoming 2013 theme now at [homecoming.umn.edu](#).

VIEWS FROM THE U: THE POLITICAL SCIENCE OF ELECTION 2012 will feature some of the University's leading political science researchers. Moderated by Kathryn Sikkink, this panel discussion will feature topics including political psychology, partisan identity, the Electoral College, the impact of judicial decisions on voting, and the world economy's influence on U.S. elections and vice versa. A Q&A will follow the program. Oct. 16, 5:30 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. Free, but registration is requested. For more information, see [Election 2012](#).

"PRIVATE DATA, PUBLIC COMPUTATION," a public lecture sponsored by the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA), will feature Kristin Lauter, Cryptography Group, Microsoft Research, Oct. 16, 7 p.m., 175 Wiley Hall. For more information, see [IMA public lecture](#).

FREE WEBINAR: BUILDING ENGAGEMENT THROUGH LEADERSHIP. Join the College of Continuing Education in a discussion of the fundamental concepts and tools that are a necessary part of successful leadership. The course will explore the importance of situational leadership and adjusting leadership style to fit the circumstances at hand, the source of employee motivation and how to harness it, and how consequences explain employee behavior. Oct. 17, noon–1 p.m. Free, but [registration is required](#).

IMMERSION 2012: BRIDGING CONTEXTS FOR A MULTILINGUAL WORLD conference will foster research-informed dialogue and professional exchange across languages, levels, learner audiences, and sociopolitical contexts and will engage participants from the full range of immersion education. The conference features five plenaries, ten symposia, and nearly 100 sessions presented by leading immersion educators from around over the world. Oct. 18–20, Crowne Plaza Hotel, St. Paul. For registration and more information, see [Immersion 2012](#).

MUSIC AND THE ENVIRONMENT: Pedelty of Journalism faculty member and Institute on the Environment resident fellow Mark Scholty will present a reading from his book *Ecomusicology: Rock, Folk, and the Environment* at the U Bookstore Oct. 19, 4–4:30 p.m., Coffman Union. The Hypoxic Punks will perform acoustic versions of three songs as part of the presentation, which will be followed by a book signing. For more information, see [U Bookstores](#).

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC'S ANNUAL COLLAGE CONCERT will celebrate the music of legendary composer Dominick Argento. Argento is America's preeminent composer of lyrical opera and holds the title of U of M Regents Professor Emeritus. He is a Grammy Award winner, a Pulitzer Prize winner, a Fulbright and Guggenheim Fellowship recipient, and more. He is celebrating his 85th birthday this year. Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m., Ted Mann. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Collage Concert](#).

MORE EVENTS include Civil Conversations: The Future of Marriage ([Oct. 10](#)); Ally 101 Training! (GLBT Programs Office) ([Oct. 11](#)); Celebrating University Women Awards and Recognition Program ([Oct. 12](#)); Courting Harry ([Oct. 13](#)); Tax Reform ([Oct. 15](#)); Indoor Bouldering Clinic ([Oct. 16](#)); Frontiers in the Environment ([Oct. 17](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, news, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (10-17-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 32; October 17, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Inside This Issue
 --Board of Regents meeting summary.
 --Operational Excellence: "Bricks and mortar."
 --Features: This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: The U of M Alumni Association honored its outstanding alumni volunteers, groups, and programs at the 2012 Alumni Awards Celebration; and more.

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

TOP NEWS:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS approved President Kaler's biennial budget request and legislative proposal for fiscal years 2014-15 at its October meeting. The U has submitted the request to the state and will pursue the proposal during the 2013 legislative session. The board also heard a workforce and mission cost analysis outlining how the U will define personnel and non-personnel costs related to mission and administrative oversight. In addition, the board reviewed a proposed entrepreneurial leave policy that would support faculty in commercializing intellectual property or pursuing other private sector development opportunities. For more information, see [Regents](#).

Operational Excellence
 THE U OF M MAINTAINS FACILITIES with a square footage about seven times the size of the Mall of America—29.3 million square feet (22.6 million on the UMTC campus). The average yearly energy bill for the UMTC campus alone is about \$50 million. With higher education hyper-focused on finding savings that it can reinvest in its core mission—research, academics, outreach—Facilities Management has and will continue to play an important role in supporting a quality education. And they're finding big savings. For more information, read "[Bricks and Mortar](#)."

Features
 THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Oct. 8–12. In this episode of the weekly video feature, we take a look at Homecoming Week at UMTC, with GopherFest, the Homecoming Parade, and a sold-out concert featuring music by B.o.B and Timeflies. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements
 PEOPLE: The U of M Alumni Association honored its outstanding alumni volunteers, groups, and programs at the 2012 Alumni Awards Celebration; UMD graduate Brian Kobilka won the 2012 Nobel Prize in Chemistry along with another U.S. scientist for studies about how cells in our body sense their environments; Disability Services has announced the winners of the 2012 Access Achievement Awards; Steven Miles, Center for Bioethics, has been awarded the St. Olaf College Alumni Achievement award; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE U RECEIVED \$244 MILLION IN GIFTS AND COMMITMENTS in fiscal year (FY) 2012, an increase of 10 percent compared with FY11 and a 31 percent increase over FY10. One of the highest priorities for fundraising in recent years has been to increase financial support for students in the form of scholarships and fellowships. In FY12, donors committed \$60 million in gifts for student support, up from \$52 million in the previous year. For more information, see [giving](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR RETIREES: The Office of the Vice President for Research and the U Retirees Association have announced a fifth cycle of awards to help U retirees pursue projects related to their research, instructional, or other work history or to their new scholarly and/or creative interests. Faculty, P&A, and civil service retirees from Twin Cities and statewide campuses are eligible to apply. Application deadline is Dec. 10. For more information, see [development grants](#), email [Judd Sheridan](mailto:Judd.Sheridan), or call 651-208-4280.

FUNDING PROPOSALS FOR NEW OR EXISTING INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE GROUPS are invited by the vice provost and dean of Graduate Education to seed and support the development of research, educational, and training activities in emerging areas of inquiry. Faculty with graduate education responsibilities are eligible to apply. Awards will be made through a competitive process and are expected to range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 for activities planned after June 30, 2013. Applications are due March 4, 2013. For more information, see [call for proposals](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

FOOD DAY 2012 at the University of Minnesota, a student-organized event with support from the Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute, will feature two full days of events, presentations, symposiums, and eating. The event, themed, "Food: Good for eating—Good for thinking" is a celebration of healthy, affordable, and sustainable food. Oct. 23, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.; Oct. 24, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information, see [Food Day 2012](#).

CROOKSTON:

FORMER NBA PLAYER CHRIS HERREN will share his story of substance abuse during UMC's Alcohol Awareness Week. The event is free and all are welcome to attend. Oct. 17, 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. For more information, see [Alcohol Awareness Week](#).

A PRESENTATION ADDRESSING how hurtful and discriminating language may be used intentionally and unintentionally will be made by Josh Caplan, a graduate student at Georgetown University who is working on a master of arts degree in public policy. Oct. 18, 7 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sergeant Student Center. For more information, see [Hate Speech](#).

THE MINNESOTA EDA CENTER, based at UMC, recently published its latest report, "Successful Businesses in Rural Minnesota: Lessons Learned," by faculty members Eyad Yousef, Jack Geller, Ken Myers, and Denis Maier. The report details common traits and characteristics related to new business success across rural Minnesota in order to identify successful "second-stage" businesses and to understand the factors leading to their success. The [report is available online](#).

COURTNEY BERGMAN, lecturer in the UMC Business Department, has been named a Sam Walton Fellow, an internationally recognized designation signifying her service as a professional business adviser for Enactus (formerly Students in Free Enterprise). In addition to serving as an adviser for students involved in Enactus at UMC, she may be asked to assist with the selection of various awards, meet with corporate partners, present at national training sessions, or serve on panels related to her areas of expertise.

DULUTH:

THE 2012 NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY was awarded to UMD graduate Brian Kobilka, '77, along with U.S. scientist Robert Lefkowitz, for their study on how cells sense their environments. For more information, see [Kobilka](#).

TWEED MUSEUM OF ART OPEN RECEPTION FOR *ENCODED: Traditional Patterns/A Contemporary Response* will take place Oct. 20, 2–4 p.m., Tweed Museum. On Oct. 23, a Visual Culture Lecture Series presented by *ENCODED* curator John Hitchcock will further explain the exhibit, as well as Hitchcock's career. Both events are free. For more information, see [Tweed exhibit](#).

AN UNVEILING CEREMONY FOR NEW MAROON AND GOLD SIGNS took place Oct. 16. The campus signs include a bulldog emblem with an eye-catching design. For more information, see [signs](#).

MORRIS:

THE SECOND EVENT IN UMM'S ANNUAL PERFORMING ARTS SERIES—James Sewell Ballet's Dance Macabre—will take the stage Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m., Edson Auditorium. Inspired by the tales of Edgar Allan Poe, the ghost ballet *Giselle Pas De Deux*, and the company's own favorite daydreams and nightmares, James Sewell Ballet's latest performance promises an evening of beauty and the dark side. For more information, see [James Sewell Ballet](#).

KATHLEEN DEAN MOORE, 2012–13 environmental studies scholar in residence, will give a public lecture on Oct. 23 and a public reading on Oct. 24. Both events will be held in the Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Moore is best known as a nature writer whose works work to celebrate cultural and spiritual connections to the Earth. For more information, see [Noted Writer and Environmental Ethicist](#).

THE HUMANITIES FINE ARTS GALLERY is accepting entries from professional artists for a site-specific outdoor sculpture to be located in the north courtyard of the newly renovated Welcome Center, which serves as the gateway to the Morris campus. The commission awarded to the artist will total up to \$20,000, including all expenses. A dedication is planned for July 2013. For more information, see [outdoor sculpture](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE NATIONAL MARROW DONOR PROGRAM (NMDP) Bioinformatics Research Department and the UMR Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology (BICB) program have announced the establishment of a collaborative partnership pursuing joint projects involving NMDP and BICB faculty, staff, and researchers. For more information, see [partnership](#).

FOUR UMR STUDENTS were awarded scholarships to attend the Mayo Clinic Center for Innovation TRANSFORM 2012 event in September. The symposium focused on innovation and design solutions that transform the experience and delivery of health care. Students [reflected on their experience online](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

DONATE TO THE 2012 COMMUNITY FUND DRIVE by making a gift to any of more than 400 organizations that are part of the 2012 campaign, or by choosing your own charity. The U raises more than \$1 million every year to help enrich the community and transform lives. This year's goal is 40 percent participation. Pledge today at umn.edu/cfd. The drive continues through October 31. For more information, including unit participation rates, see [Community Fund Drive](#).

RECREATIONAL SPORTS AND THE COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING CENTER are partnering with the Big Ten Network to inspire the UMTC campus to get involved with community service. Several buildings around campus will serve as drop-off locations for donations going to the Minnesota Internship Center Charter High School. Collection will take place through Oct. 25. For donation and drop-off sites, and for more information, see [Recreational Sports](#).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY: The 2013–14 Student Services Fee Committee (SSFC) is seeking faculty and staff to serve as members of the Administrative Units and Student Organizations Student Services Fee Committees. These committees play a vital role in determining how student services fees are allocated. The committees begin training in November and will conduct their work from late-January through late-April. Faculty/staff members will receive a \$750 stipend. The application deadline is Oct. 26, 4:30 p.m. For more information, see [SSFC](#) or email [Megan Sweet](mailto:Megan.Sweet).

THE MINNESOTA SUPERCOMPUTING INSTITUTE (MSI) will put into production a new Panasus ActiveStor 14 data storage system in late November. The new system will be a central storage solution that will eliminate the need to transfer data within systems at MSI. Current MSI users are required to migrate their data between high-performance scratch storage and capacity project space storage, which has created bottlenecks in data flow. Overall, the capacity of the new storage system will be more than double the current MSI storage offering. For more information, see [Minnesota Supercomputing Institute](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

AMBASSADOR SHABAZZ, producer, writer, diplomat, and the oldest daughter of Malcolm X, will speak on "A Commitment in the Spirit of Humanity" Oct. 17, 6–7:30 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. The free event is cosponsored by the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence Ambassadors and five student groups: Al-Madinah Cultural Center, Black Student Union, Humphrey Students of Color Association, Minnesota International Students Association, and Sankofa: The African Student Reading Collective. Light refreshments will follow. For more information, call 612-625-8524.

A 2012 MINNESOTA JUSTICE FORUM will examine collateral consequences of criminal records. Legal practitioners, policy makers, scholars, and members of the community will discuss the effects of collateral sanctions, rationales, and options for reform. Participants will focus on Minnesota's laws and practices, especially those affecting employment opportunities. Oct. 19, 8 a.m.–5 p.m., Lockhart Hall, Law School. Free, but registration for attorneys requesting CLE credits is \$99. For more information, see [criminal justice forum](#).

THE ST. ANTHONY FALLS LABORATORY will present its internationally renowned Lorenz G. Straub Award for most meritorious Ph.D. thesis in hydraulic engineering, ecohydraulics, and related fields. In conjunction with Civil Engineering's Warren Lecture Series, the event will include brief remarks by the award recipient, Jorge B. Abad, followed by a keynote presentation by professor Eckart Rumberg of the University of Santa Barbara titled, "Gravity and Turbidity Currents Interacting with Submarine Topography." Oct. 19, 3:30 p.m., 210 Civil Engineering. For more information, see [Straub Award](#).

OPEN ACCESS WEEK: U LIBRARIES STAFF and graduate student leaders will roam campus the week of Oct. 22–26 to inform librarians, faculty, and staff about options for providing broader access to published research. They will also provide information about the recent establishment of a U of M Open Access Publishing Fund. The fund will help defray the costs authors sometimes face when they want to make their work more accessible. For more information about open access, Open Access Week activities, and the OA Publishing Fund, see [open access](#).

A U-SPATIAL SYMPOSIUM will bring together people from across the U who are working on spatial research and issues in their research. The inaugural half-day symposium will seek to build momentum, support existing research networks, and facilitate new networks in spatial research. Modeled after the non-conference concept, the symposium focuses on input-based, semi-structured activities to enhance networking, develop collaboration, and provide vital input for the future of U-Spatial. Oct. 22, 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Digital Technology Center, Walter Library. For more information and to RSVP, see [Spatial Symposium](#).

THE U OF M TUCKER CENTER'S FALL DISTINGUISHED LECTURE will highlight the state of women in sport leadership positions. Two expert scholars, Janet Fink and Sally Shaw, will discuss the critical issue of the decline of women in key positions of power in sport. Oct. 24, 7–9 p.m., Humphrey Center. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [Tucker Center Lecture](#).

U OF M THEATRE will present *The Rover* by Aphra Behn, adapted and directed by Joel Sass. Nov. 1–11, Rarig Center. Part sex farce, part revenge drama, part romantic comedy, *The Rover* will be performed by the senior class of the U's BFA/Guthrie Theater Actor Training Program. For tickets and more information, call 612-624-2345 or see [theatre.umn.edu](#).

THE CENTER FOR NANOSTRUCTURE APPLICATIONS will host its eighth annual Minnesota Nanotechnology Workshop, Nov. 7–8, Commons Hotel. This year's workshop offers talks on Nanoparticle Synthesis and Reactivity, Advanced Electronic Materials, Nano Toxicity, and Photovoltaics. For registration and more information, see [Nanotechnology](#).

THE 20TH ANNUAL KUEHNAST ENDOWMENT PROGRAM will take place Nov. 8, 1–5 p.m., St. Paul, Student Center Theater. The program will feature a "Mini-Climate School" with lectures by three outstanding scientists; David Phillips, senior climatologist with Environment Canada, will present "Canada: No Longer the Cold, White North"; Sue Grimmond, from King's College (London), will present "Current Advances in Monitoring and Modeling Urban Climates"; and Harold Brooks, research meteorologist with the NOAA National Severe Storms Lab, will present "Severe Thunderstorms and Climate Change." For more information, see [climate lecture](#).

A WOMEN IMPACTING HEALTH CARE CONFERENCE will feature some of the strongest female voices in health care today. Participants will develop their own personal leadership approach through a series of collaborative discussions and group learning activities. Nov. 9, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [healthcare conference](#).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE MINI BIOETHICS ACADEMY sponsored by the Center for Bioethics and modeled after the popular Mini Medical School program. The fall series, "Bioethical Issues in Film and Television," features ethicists John Song, Daniel Groll, and Maryam Valapour. Using film and television clips from *House*, *My Sister's Keeper*, and *Gattaca*, faculty will facilitate discussion about the ethical issues raised in these shows. Join for one, two, or all three sessions: Nov 12, 19, and 26, 6:30–8:30 p.m., St. Paul Student Center. For registration and more information, see [Mini Bioethics Academy](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers in the Environment ([Oct. 17](#)); The IKEA Project: Coloring in the Rooms—Thursdays at Four presentation by Talya Chalef and Kelly Ryall ([Oct. 18](#)); Encore Transitions: Pathways to Post-Career Life ([Oct. 19](#)); Canoeing Day Trip—Calhoun, Isles, Cedar Lake ([Oct. 20](#)); Fireside Sippers: Warming Beers for Fall and Winter ([Oct. 23](#)); Zadie Smith Talk & Discussion ([Oct. 23](#)); Religion and the Election: Roundtable Discussion ([Oct. 29](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (10-24-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 33; October 24, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Inside This Issue

- Public interviews are scheduled for the VP for Equity and Diversity position.
- Operational Excellence: Natural Resources Library.
- Features: A tradition is born; Distinguished McKnight Professor David Samuels; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: The U's Center for Design in Health will share in a more than \$16 million grant to reduce ICU complications and costs; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

PUBLIC INTERVIEWS FOR THE VP FOR EQUITY AND DIVERSITY POSITION are scheduled to take place on the UMTC campus Oct. 31, 3–4:30 p.m.; and Nov. 1, 10:30 a.m.–noon; 3-180 Keller Hall. The presentations will also be recorded and posted on the VP for Equity and Diversity search website. The candidates are Katrice Albert, vice provost for equity, diversity, and community outreach, Louisiana State University; and Karen Dace, deputy chancellor, division of diversity, access, and equity, University of Missouri–Kansas City. For more information, including candidate vitae and evaluation forms, see [Equity and Diversity](#).

Operational Excellence

THE NEW NATURAL RESOURCES LIBRARY on the St. Paul campus recently celebrated its grand opening. The library will save \$130,000 annually in operating costs through consolidation of collections in the former Forestry and Entomology, Fisheries, and Wildlife libraries, and will better support interdisciplinary efforts and meet the demand for more study space. The project also responded to changes in how scholars use library resources by tapping digital technologies to enhance the onsite collection and use of the popular "Get It" delivery system. For more information, see [Natural Resources Library](#).

Features

FEATURE: Huntley House, a section of Sanford Hall for black, male, first-year students to find companions and support, is in its inaugural year. It has three residents and one member from another residence hall; together, these four are a small but solid nucleus of what the students and their advisers hope will grow into a large fellowship of black male undergraduates who help each other and the surrounding community. For more information, read [A tradition is born](#).

FEATURE: In recent decades, newer democracies have begun to adopt the U.S. model of rule—and more countries are choosing to elect a chief of state. With a focus on the relationship between presidents and their political parties, 2012 Distinguished McKnight Professor David Samuels studies how democracy is organized by institutions of government and where democracy comes from. For more information, read ["Defining democracy: David Samuels."](#)

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Oct. 15–19. This episode of the weekly video feature is all about STEM education. The video highlights chemistry professor Christy Haynes, who was named one of *Popular Science's* "Brilliant 10," and stops by a technology lecture by *New York Times* tech writer David Pogue. For more information, watch ["This Week @Minnesota."](#)

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: The U's Center for Design in Health will share in a more than \$16 million grant to reduce ICU complications and costs; Wendy Pradt Lougee, University Librarian and McKnight Presidential Professor, begins a one-year term this month as president of the Association of Research Libraries; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

UREPORT IS A CONFIDENTIAL reporting service for faculty and staff who are concerned about a possible violation of law or policy and are uncomfortable raising it through normal channels. Reports can be made on the web at [URReport](#) or by phone at 1-866-294-8680. For more information, see the [Office of Institutional Compliance](#).

ArcGIS SOFTWARE LICENSE prices will be reduced Nov. 1 for department- and collegiate-level software, which is available through a partnership between the University and MnSCU. The decrease is due to increased usage and a reduction in annual license fees. For prices and more information, see [ArcGIS license](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: The Food Policy Research Center (FPRC) has announced a fall 2012 Request for Proposals. FPRC is requesting applications to fund innovative food and nutrition policy analyses. Preference will be given to transdisciplinary faculty teams who solicit broad input and examine policies from multiple perspectives such as public health, economics, and the environment. One-page letters of intent are due Nov. 15. For more information, see [FPRC proposals](#).

NOMINATE OUTSTANDING TEACHERS FOR THE 2013 Horace T. Morse-University of Minnesota Alumni Undergraduate Education Award and the [Award for Outstanding Contributions to Postbaccalaureate, Graduate, and Professional Education](#). Pending final approval by the Board of Regents, both faculty and P&A teachers are now eligible for the awards. The deadline for submitting nomination dossiers is Jan. 17.

CROOKSTON:

THE CROOKSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Legislative Committee and UMC will host a "Meet the Candidates Forum" Oct. 24, 7–10 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. For more information, see [candidate forum](#).

THE BREMER FOUNDATION HAS AWARDED a \$50,000 grant to the Center for Rural Entrepreneurial Studies (CRES) at UMC. The grant offers operational support to extend the entrepreneurial assistance services and programming of CRES to northwestern Minnesota. It will also focus on developing entrepreneurial awareness among area high school and UMC students. Susan Brorson, head of the UMC Business Department, serves as the principal investigator for the grant, which was written by Kevin Cooper, director of CRES, and Rachel Lundbohm, assistant director. For more information, see [CRES grant](#).

DEB ZAK, Extension regional director in northwest Minnesota, has received the Distinguished Outstanding Leadership Award. Zak began her career as a county Extension educator in Pennington County before moving into regional leadership positions. Some of Zak's administrative accomplishments include serving on the state coordinating committee for the Regional Sustainable Development Partnership; completing a nine-year term on the State Tourism Advisory Council; and serving on the UMC Executive Committee. For more information, see [leadership award](#).

DULUTH:

2012 SUMMIT ON EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND MULTICULTURALISM: "Diversity: Why? ...And What's In It For Me?" will feature keynote speaker Nancy "Rusty" Barcelo. Oct. 25, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (keynote at 4 p.m.), Kirby Student Center. For more information, see [equity and diversity summit](#).

GLENSHEEN SPOOKTACULAR will celebrate its second year with more than 950 carved pumpkins illuminating the grounds. Oct. 25–28, 6–9 p.m. For more information, see [Glensheen Halloween](#).

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES: Narayana Kocherlakota, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, will speak at UMD as part of the Labovitz School of Business and Economics 2012–13 Distinguished Speaker Series. Oct. 30, 7 p.m., Weber Hall. For more information, see [distinguished speaker](#).

THOSE WHO CAN, BUILD ROBOTS: It isn't often that undergraduate students capture the attention of the United States military. And it's pretty rare when an engineering senior design project is so successful that it's considered one of the top examples of ingenuity and creativity in student collaborations. Learn about last year's silo-climbing robot and [view current projects](#).

MORRIS:

UMM WILL WELCOME AUTHOR ANNE PANNING Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m., Briggs Library. Panning will read from her latest novel, *Butter*. The event will also feature readings of works by authors attending the 2013 Prairie Gate Literary Festival, which provides opportunities to learn from and interact with published writers and professionals in the field of literary arts. For more information, see [Prairie Gate Literary Festival](#).

UMM'S COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCIPLINE recently donated 31 computers to "PCs for People," a Saint Paul-based nonprofit that provides personal computers and education to people who have limited experience with technology. Morris faculty and students first learned about the organization when founder Andy Elofson and executive director Casey Sorensen delivered the keynote address at the 2011 Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium. For more information, see [PCs for People](#).

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR UMM'S 2012 CAROL CONCERT, *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*—the 34th and final Carol Concert directed by Ken Hodgson, associate professor of music. The concert will be held Nov. 30; Dec. 1; and Dec. 2; Assumption Church. For more information, see [Carol Concert](#).

ROCHESTER:

"THE FISCAL CLIFF AND THE LAME DUCK CONGRESS" with Tim Penny, president/CEO of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, will take place Oct. 30, 7–8:30 p.m., 417 University Square. The lecture will address whether the U.S. president will reach a budget deal with Congress in a "lame duck" session between the election and the end of the year, what kind of agreement they might seek, and what happens if they fail. For more information, see [Fiscal Cliff](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

"OPTIMIZING THE PRACTICE OF MENTORING: An Online Curriculum for the Professional Development of Research Mentors" has been created by the Clinical and Translational Science Institute to prepare faculty in higher education to be effective research mentors for junior faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate students. The course is free and available online. For more information, see [mentoring curriculum](#).

DONATE TO THE 2012 COMMUNITY FUND DRIVE by making a gift to any of more than 400 organizations that are part of the 2012 campaign, or by choosing a charity. As of Oct. 22, University faculty and staff had pledged more than \$823,000, a participation rate of 20 percent (with a goal of 40 percent). [Pledge today at umn.edu/cfd](#).

UNIVERSITY STORES 2012 OPEN HOUSE, a vendor-sponsored event, will feature more than 40 vendors that will focus on products that improve "organizational efficiency." Nov. 1, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Coffman Union Great Hall.

"LIKE" THE "IT ALL ADDS UP" FACEBOOK PAGE BY NOV. 9 for a chance to win an iPad. The [Facebook contest](#) is part of a campaign utilizing posters and sidewalk clings that feature a fresh twist on stale political slogans to promote conservation of campus resources. The drawing will be held on Nov. 9. View and order posters and find contest details at [It All Adds Up](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

"AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE 21ST CENTURY" with Jake Sullivan, U.S. State Department director of policy planning and deputy chief of staff to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, will take place Oct. 26, 11 a.m.–12:15 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. A Minnesota native, Sullivan has been deeply involved in all of the major national security issues confronting the United States over the past four years. He will address the challenge of sustaining American worldwide leadership in the context of conflicts in Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia, and elsewhere; the international economic crises; and relations with China and other emerging powers. [RSVP online](#).

"DEEPENING YOUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Strategies for Partnering, Creating Scholarship, and Making Impact" will teach strategies for partnership formation, building trust, engaging community partners in research, creating scholarship from community engagement, and publishing traditional and nontraditional products of community engaged research. Oct. 29, noon–1 p.m., room 105, 717 Delaware St. SE. Refreshments provided. [RSVP by Oct. 25](#). For more information, see [community engagement](#).

A FRONTIERS IN GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM will feature presentations by more than 15 medical leaders, including Hans Rosling, professor of international health, Karolinska Institute, one of *TIME Magazine's* 100 Most Influential People, and one of the top 10 most popular TEDTalks speakers of all time; and Peter Agre, Nobel Laureate, professor and director, Johns Hopkins University Malaria Research Institute, and senior adviser to U President Eric Kaler. Researchers will discuss the major causes of death and suffering and research approaches to prompt a meaningful decline. Nov. 1–2, American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis. Free. Registration is required. For more information, see [Frontiers Symposium](#).

AN EVENING WITH LYNNE ROSSETTO KASPER will feature a buffet prepared by executive chef Beth Jones with recipes from Rossetto Kasper's book, *The Splendid Table's How to Eat Weekends*. Rossetto Kasper will also provide a lively and insightful view of food today, and copies of her book will be available for purchase and signing. Cost: \$45 for Campus Club and Slow Food members and \$55 for non-members. Proceeds will benefit Slow Food Minnesota. Nov. 1, 6–8:30 p.m., Campus Club, Coffman Union. For more information, see [Slow Food](#).

UNIVERSITY OPERA THEATRE'S production of Robert Aldridge and Herschel Garfein's *Parables*, directed by David Walsh, will be broadcast on Twin Cities Public Television this fall. The first broadcast will take place Oct. 28, 8 p.m. For more information, see [University Opera](#).

"BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE U," a photography exhibit created by retired U of M professor Vic Bloomfield, is on display throughout the fall semester at the Campus Club. The exhibit features images taken from around the U during 2012. For more information, see [Behind the Scenes](#).

MORE EVENTS include U of MN Food Day 2012 ([Oct. 24](#)); Half the Fight with (Oct. 25); THE NICE SLICE: Capitalism, the One Percent, and the Occupy Movement ([Oct. 26](#)); Ghosts and Goblins in the Gardens ([Oct. 27](#)); Weekends with the Weisguides—What's Your Dream? ([Oct. 28](#)); Darby Nelson discusses his book *For Love of Lakes* ([Oct. 29](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or subscription information at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (10-31-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 34; October 31, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Inside This Issue

- Election Day is Nov. 6.
- Features: Sinking teeth into rural Minnesota; Unraveling a mystery; In search of 'greener' grass; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Brian Herman has been named the U's next vice president for research; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

ELECTION DAY IS NOV. 6 and the U encourages everyone to vote. High voter turnout and long lines at the polls are expected, so please plan accordingly. Polls are open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. Minnesota Statute 204C.04 allows for employees to be absent from work on Election Day for the time necessary to vote. If you think you may miss work, be sure to let your supervisor know ahead of time. To find out where your polling place is located or how to register to vote on Election Day, see [Minnesota Secretary of State Voter Information](#).

Features

FEATURE: For the last eight years, the U's School of Dentistry has been tackling the challenge of access to dental care in underserved communities through a variety of creative strategies. The approach involves both providing care for patients and adapting dental education in response to workforce needs and changes in the dental care delivery system. One key in addressing the rural access challenge has been positioning students in rural areas so that they get firsthand experience with underserved communities before graduation. For more information, read "[Sinking teeth into rural Minnesota](#)."

FEATURE: Margaret Semrud-Clikeman sees the pain and frustration often when she works with children who have autism spectrum disorders or other nonverbal learning disabilities. The preteens and teens participating in her studies often blame themselves for their outbursts, peer clashes, and trouble making friends—their difficulty in controlling their emotions in general. Over the summer, those kids got a whole new perspective on their behavior from functional MRI brain scans taken by Semrud-Clikeman, who directs the U's Division of Behavioral Neuroscience, where U researchers are looking for answers on the anatomy, early diagnosis, and prevalence of autism spectrum disorders. For more information, read "[Unraveling a mystery](#)."

FEATURE: The summer and fall of 2012 have not been kind to grass, but new research by U scientists could lead to more sustainable and drought-resistant turf grasses—for both home lawns and public spaces—that also require less effort and "inputs" (water and fertilizer) to maintain. For more information, read "[In search of 'greener' grass](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Oct. 22–26. In this episode of the weekly video feature, food is on the mind. We visit the second annual Food Day expo, and learn how U of M's Extension is partnering with the community to provide basic nutrition information to those with limited incomes. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Brian Herman has been named the U's next vice president for research; Professor David Largaespada has been named an American Cancer Society Research Professor for his contribution to the field of cancer research; Elizabeth Nelson, office manager in TRIO Upward Bound, has received the 2012 University Women of Color Tapestry Award; Nicole Letawsky Shultz has received the Outstanding Advising Administrator Award from National Association of Academic Advisors; Nicki Crick, McKnight-University Professor and Harris Professor of Child Psychology, passed away Oct. 28 following a brief but courageous battle with cancer; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

OPEN ENROLLMENT IS NOV. 1–30. Enroll online starting Nov. 1 at [Employee Self-Service](#); you must make your election by Nov. 30. If you are satisfied with your medical and dental plan choices, you do not need to re-enroll, and your current plans will continue into 2013. However, if you wish to have a flexible spending account in 2013, you must enroll during Open Enrollment. You can increase the amount of your existing short-term disability by up to \$200 without medical evidence of insurability, and, if eligible, you can enroll in or increase the amount of long-term disability. For more information, see the [online benefits guide and narrated workshop](#). Call the Employee Benefits Service Center at 612-624-9090 or 1-800-756-2363, Option 2, with specific questions about Open Enrollment.

THE GLOBAL PROGRAMS AND STRATEGY ALLIANCE has announced the next theme for its Global Spotlight, a biennial focus on a region of the world and a pressing global issue. During 2012–14, the Global Spotlight focus will be on South Asia and Global Food Security. Global Spotlight will sponsor events and activities related to South Asia and global food, and offer grants to support faculty and graduate student research related to the themes. All units systemwide are encouraged to incorporate Global Spotlight themes into their events and programs. The initiative will be led by Karen Brown, assistant vice president for international scholarship. For more information, see [Global Spotlight](#).

CROOKSTON:

AN ESSAY BY RACHEL MCCOPPIN, associate professor in the Liberal Arts and Education Department, is included in a new book on Edgar Allan Poe entitled *Adapting Poe: Re-Imaginations in Popular Culture*. The essay, "Horrible Obsessions: Poe's Legacy of the Unreliable Narrator," focuses on Poe's narrators in some of his most famous stories. For more information, see [Edgar Allan Poe](#).

A CERTIFICATE OF TAXATION is now available for students interested in advancing as tax professionals. The certificate, offered through the Business Department, is available to students both on campus and online. For more information, see [taxation certificate](#).

THE MID-AMERICA COLLEGIATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE was recently held at South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD. Placing second overall, the UMC team consisted of four juniors all majoring in horticulture. The teams competed in the areas of plant judging, plant identification, and a general knowledge examination. This year's competition included teams from UMC, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, Iowa State University, North Dakota State University, Northwest Missouri State, and Western Illinois University. For more information, see [horticultural conference](#).

DULUTH:

ROBERT F. KENNEDY JR. will speak Nov. 9, 7 p.m., UMD Marshall Performing Arts Center. His talk, "Our Environmental Destiny," will examine fresh water and the environment. UMD student tickets are free. For more information, see [Kennedy lecture](#).

VOTE FOR BOB NIELSON in the 2012 Liberty Mutual "Coach of the Year" contest and watch [this brief video meme](#) about him, "the most amazing coach in the world."

MORRIS:

BECCA GERCKEN, associate professor of English and American Indian studies, has been named the first UMM "Founders Scholar." The Founders Fund was established with gifts from a private donor in honor of UMM's founding faculty members. Founders Scholar projects reflect, question, challenge, investigate, or advocate for UMM's public liberal arts mission. Professor Gercken's project involves research that investigates the trajectory of UMM's mission from Indian boarding school to public liberal arts university.

"CLEAN ENERGY IN OUR COMMUNITY: UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MORRIS," a video recently produced by UMM for the Department of Energy, was named "Best Promotional Video" by the Consortium of College and University Media Centers. The video was produced by Roger Boleman and Mike Cihak, director and assistant director, respectively, of Instructional and Media Technologies. It was written by David Ericksen, assistant professor of English. For more information, see [Clean Energy](#).

SAMUEL GOCKEL '13, Saint Paul, was recently awarded a GlaxoSmithKlein fellowship. The highly competitive award provides funding for undergraduate research in synthetic organic and/or analytical chemistry. The fellowship is designed to encourage deserving undergraduate students to consider a career in chemistry, and is awarded to five applicants annually. Gockel's research focused on the creation of a molecule for use in therapeutic drugs—one that produces less waste and uses fewer resources. For more information, see [Samuel Gockel](#).

ROCHESTER:

THE LOCAL COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP FELLOWS PROGRAM, a partnership of the University of Minnesota Rochester, Winona State University, and Rochester Community and Technical College, sets its targets on solving community problems. For more information, see [Rochester Post-Bulletin](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

THE 2012 COMMUNITY FUND DRIVE HAS BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL NOV. 4. Pledge online to one of the seven federations or any of more than 400 organizations that are part of the 2012 campaign, or choose your own charity. As of Oct. 30, University faculty and staff have pledged more than \$1,100,000, with a participation rate of 27 percent (the goal is 40 percent). For more information, including unit participation rates, see [Community Fund Drive](#).

A NEW PHONE AND WEB CONFERENCING TOOL is planned as use of the U's existing conferencing tool, Gopher Conferencing, has increased dramatically since the beginning of the fall semester and is nearing capacity. Voice Network Services is planning to upgrade to a new application in the upcoming months. For more information, see [phone and web conferencing](#). Questions or comments should be directed to technology help at 612-301-4357 (1-HELP on campus) or help@umn.edu.

A PROJECT UPDATE on the Combined Heat and Power Plant for the UMTC campus will be presented Nov. 15, 5 p.m. The University of Minnesota is planning to reinvest in steam and electrical power operations at the "Old Main" facility on the East Bank campus. The plant will use natural gas to co-generate steam heat and electrical power, reducing UMTC's carbon footprint by 10 percent, for a savings of nearly \$2 million annually. [Register for the event online](#), or see [power plant](#) for more information.

CALL FOR PROGRAMS: THE U's FOCUSING ON THE FIRST YEAR CONFERENCE is seeking program proposals that will help the University community learn more about the first-year experience and student engagement. Presentations and poster sessions may include specific campus topics, innovative programs, national trends, cross-campus collaborations, assessment results, or theoretical frameworks relating to work with first-year students. [Proposals are due Nov. 15](#). The event takes place Feb. 13, Coffman Union. Registration will begin Dec. 3. For more information, see [First-Year Conference](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE ENGAGEMENT ACADEMY FOR UNIVERSITY LEADERS will be hosted for the first time by the U of M Oct. 31–Nov. 2, Academy Hotel. This national institute for higher education administrators of community engagement initiatives will convene more than 100 leaders from the U and other institutions who are working to further the institutionalization of public engagement at their home campuses. Nationally recognized faculty members Barbara Holland, Judith Ramaley, Lorilee Sandmann, and David Weerts will facilitate. Organized by the Office for Public Engagement, Minnesota Campus Compact, and the Virginia Tech Center for Organizational and Technological Advancement. For more information, see [engagement](#).

"TOWARD ACTIVE TRANSPORT IN MINNESOTA: Insights and Ideas From a Statewide Survey," a Frontiers in the Environment lecture by Ingrid Schneider, professor in the Department of Forest Resources, and director of the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, will explore differences in perceived bike safety and transportation attributes among three types of commuters, and suggest ways to increase and promote bicycle commuting. Oct. 31, noon, [live online](#) and at R380, Learning & Environmental Sciences Bldg., St. Paul. Frontiers in the Environment lectures take place each Wednesday at noon. For more information, see [Frontiers](#).

FACULTY AND STAFF WORKING WITH GRADUATE STUDENTS as advisers or mentors are invited to attend "Supporting Graduate Student and Postdoc Career Planning: A Workshop for Advisers and Mentors." The workshop will focus on sharing information, strategies, and resources related to academic and non-academic career planning processes and job search practices. Nov. 6, noon–1:30 p.m., 319 Akerman Hall. Register online at [workshop](#).

SENSE OF PLACE IN ARTIST BOOKS, a panel discussion with Sarah Bodman, Betty Bright, Jeff Rathemel, and Marianne Coombs, will take place Nov. 7, 6–7:30 p.m., 125 Nolte. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [U Libraries](#).

ADOLESCENT BRAIN DEVELOPMENT studies have influenced debates on such issues as the constitutionality of the juvenile death penalty and whether minors need parental consent to get an abortion. The lecture, "Should the Science of Adolescent Brain Development Inform Legal Policy?" with Laurence Steinberg, Temple University's Distinguished University Professor and Laura H. Carnell Professor of Psychology, will take place Nov. 15, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Coffman Union Theater. For registration and more information, see [brain development](#).

HOMECOMING 2013 THEME SUBMISSIONS are due by the end of the day Oct. 31. Submit ideas for the Homecoming 2013 theme now at [homecoming.umn.edu](#).

MORE EVENTS include Harry Potter Halloween Colloquium ([Oct. 31](#)); An Evening with Lynne Rossetto Kupper ([Nov. 1](#)); & Paradise (Nov. 5); Being Well (Nov. 2); Shadows traces Undercurrents ([Nov. 3](#)); Sex, Lies, and Paradox ([Nov. 5](#)); What Happened on Tuesday? A Post-event Analysis ([Nov. 7](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Related Links

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (11-7-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 35; November 7, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Brief publication calendar: *Brief* will not be published Nov. 21 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Weekly publication will resume Nov. 28.

Inside This Issue

- Office for Academic Administration Review.
- Features: Barley getting by.
- People: Dante Cicchetti was awarded the Klaus J. Jacobs Research Prize by the Jacobs Foundation for more than 30 years of work in child development; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

THE REVIEW OF THE OFFICE FOR ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION (OAA) IS COMPLETE. The office, led by Senior Vice President Robert Jones, will be eliminated Jan. 1. The functions and reporting lines from that office will be realigned to the administrative unit or college that most closely shares their mission and work. The task force [report is available online \(PDF\)](#). For more information, see [OAA realignment](#).

Features

FEATURE: One of the foundation crops of the Western World—barley—is getting a boost from Gary Muehlbauer, professor in the Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics and head of the Department of Plant Biology. Along with a large international team of colleagues, he has produced a "draft" sequence of the barley genome and published it in the journal *Nature*. For more information, read "[Barley getting by](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Dante Cicchetti was awarded the Klaus J. Jacobs Research Prize and more than \$1 million by the Jacobs Foundation for his more than 30 years of work in child development; U alumnus and inventor Robert Gore has donated \$10 million for the expansion of Amundson Hall; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

eLEARNING: TOOLS AND TRIUMPHS, a presentation of University resources to assist instructors and programs in the development of online or digitally enhanced coursework and curricula, will take place Nov. 19, 2-3:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library and [via UMConnect](#). In addition to introducing the offices and personnel dedicated to U-wide digital efforts, specific examples of success stories that highlight the nature of the team-driven development process will be provided. Open to all University faculty members and staff. For more information and to RSVP, see [developing courses for eLearning](#).

KEEPING OUR FACULTY OF COLOR SYMPOSIUM: "Transforming Our Institutions: Advancing Inclusive Excellence Among Faculty in Higher Education" seeks session and panel proposals. Begun at the U in 1998, the symposium is the only national conference focused on advancing faculty diversity in higher education. This year's symposium is co-chaired by Louis Mendoza, professor and chair of the Department of Chicano and Latino Studies and associate vice provost for the Office for Equity and Diversity, and Catherine Squires, Cowles Professor of Journalism, Diversity, and Equality in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. April 14-16, Twin Cities campus. For more information, see [faculty of color symposium](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: The Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment, and the Life Sciences seeks proposals addressing the societal implications of problems in health, environment, or the life sciences. Awards are available in categories for graduate/professional students and for consortium/joint degree program members. One of the student awards is designated for a joint degree program applicant. Proposals for student-initiated programs or colloquia will also be accepted. Proposals are due Feb. 18. For more information, see [awards](#) or email boyle032@umn.edu.

CROOKSTON:

AN EVENT HONORING 2012 TORCH & SHIELD AWARD RECIPIENTS will take place Nov. 7. Recipients include Alan Cattanch, general agronomist at American Crystal Sugar Company in Moorhead, MN; Wayne Goeken, director of the International Water Institute's Center for Watershed Education; and Otter Tail Power Company, Fergus Falls, MN. The award honors those who have aided in the development of UMC, the Northwest Research and Outreach Center, and Extension. For more information, see [Torch & Shield](#).

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK celebrations will be held Nov. 12-16. Highlighting the week is a presentation by Fun wi Tita, director of Making a Difference International, Nov. 15, 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium. For more information including a full schedule of events, see [international education](#).

SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE IN EQUITY AND DIVERSITY (SEED) AWARD recipients include two UMC seniors: Wemimo Samson Abbey and Dae Yeul "Danny" Lee, who each received the Sue W. Hancock Undergraduate SEEDs of Change Award. The two will be recognized Nov. 14 at the U of M Equity and Diversity Breakfast held at the McNamara Alumni Center, Twin Cities. For more information, see [SEED Award](#).

DULUTH:

JUSTICE ALAN C. PAGE will join the panel discussion "57 Years After Brown v. Board of Education: The Current and Future State of Black America" Nov. 15, 11 a.m., Kirby Student Ballroom. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [panel discussion](#).

"A SALUTE TO LAKE SUPERIOR'S SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES," hosted by the University of Minnesota Sea Grant Program, spotlights the state's seasonal abundance of lake herring from Lake Superior and celebrates the people involved in managing, harvesting, studying, and preparing this sustainably harvested fish. The event features a professional chef cook-off and public tasting event Nov. 13, 5-7:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center, Minneapolis. For tickets and transportation information, see [Minnesota Sea Grant](#).

MORRIS:

JEFF LIEBERMAN, host of the Discovery Channel's *Time Warp*, will speak at UMM Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m., Edson Auditorium, Student Center. A modern renaissance man, Lieberman explores connections between the arts, sciences, education, passion, creativity, and the potential future of human consciousness. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Campus Activities Council Convocations Committee. For more information, see [Lieberman](#).

THE IMPROVISED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY (ISC) will perform Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m., Edson Auditorium, Student Center. The performance is the third event in UMM's 2012-13 Performing Arts Series. Hailed as "one of the funniest, most amazing things I've ever seen" by the *Charleston City Paper Online*, ISC promises an evening of off-the-cuff comedy that should not be missed. For more information, see [Improvised Shakespeare Company](#).

JOSHUA JOHNSON '10 AND ERIC WARDELL '08 are the two most recent recipients of the Rebecca Mason Perry Award, presented annually by the English Department at West Virginia University to its outstanding first-year graduate student. Johnson was the recipient of the 2011 honor, and Wardell received it in 2012. Both believe that their UMM educations contributed to their postbaccalaureate success. For more information, see [alumni](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR HAS WON THE 2012 TEKNE AWARD from the [Minnesota High Tech Association](#). UMR was recognized in the EdTech category for its innovative intelligent System for Education Assessment and Learning (iSEAL). UMR developed iSEAL as a complete curriculum management system that makes course materials available online to students and shareable across the curriculum. Unlike traditional course management systems, iSEAL goes a step further. For more information, see [iSEAL Award](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

THE INSTITUTE ON THE ENVIRONMENT'S SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION PROGRAM maintains a searchable database of sustainability-related courses across all Twin Cities campus colleges and departments. See the database and propose new courses for inclusion at [Sustainable Education](#).

A STRENGTHSQUEST EDUCATION SEMINAR will teach more about the strengths-based philosophy, a person's "Top 5," and how to use the StrengthsQuest program with students, staff, and faculty. Jan. 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 312 STSS. For registration and more information, see [StrengthsQuest](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

A SUMMER ADVANCED RESEARCH PROGRAM will provide research training through a structured core curriculum, mentored research projects, weekly research seminars, and a final mini-symposium to present research to other scholars and mentors. Applicants must be doctoral or professional health sciences students with interests in clinical or translational research. Includes a \$560/week stipend. Informational sessions will take place Nov. 27, 2-118 Moos; and Dec. 4, 2-580 Moos, each at noon. For more information, see [summer research](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

HEADLINERS, NOVEMBER EDITION: ELECTION 2012 RECAP. Join political science professor Kathryn Pearson as she analyzes the campaigns and election results, and asks what they might mean for addressing the crises facing the state and nation. Nov. 8, 7 p.m. Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul. For registration and more information, see [Election 2012 analysis](#).

OLYMPIC MEDALISTS including Ryan Lochte and Missy Franklin will return to the pool at the Minneapolis Grand Prix Swimming Series, hosted at the University Aquatic Center, Nov. 9-11. Tickets will be available for purchase beginning Nov. 8, 4 p.m. For more information, see [Rec Sports](#).

COMMUNITY DAY 2012 at the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC) will celebrate community partnerships and urban research initiatives. The event offers the public a chance to tour UROC's 22,000-square-foot facility and review University/community collaborations aimed at strengthening health, education, and economic development in North Minneapolis and other urban communities. Activities will include free computer classes and health screenings, healthy cooking demonstrations, live music, and a reception. Nov. 9, 3-7 p.m., UROC. 2001 Plymouth Ave. N. For more information, see [community day](#).

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES WILL HOST A LIBRARY INFORMATION FAIR for international students as part of [International Education Week](#). The information fair is an opportunity for international students to learn more about Library resources and services. Light refreshments will be provided. Nov. 14, noon-1:30 p.m., 101 Walter Library. For more information, see [Library Information Fair](#).

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE (GIS) DAY is a worldwide celebration and salute to geospatial technology and its power to transform and better lives. Eight centers at the University will be hosting open houses Nov. 14, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and invite faculty, staff, and students to stop by and learn more about their fascinating work. Visitors can grab a passport at the first stop and visit multiple open houses. Those who visit at least two open houses will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 University Bookstore gift card. For more information, see [GIS Day](#).

THE BUCKMAN FELLOWSHIP PANEL ON PHILANTHROPY'S ROLE IN SOCIETY will include leaders from local and national foundations addressing philanthropy and its evolving role in addressing key issues in changing communities and the world. Free and open to the public, but seating is limited. Nov. 14, 5-6:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [Buckman Fellowship](#).

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC'S UNIVERSITY OPERA THEATRE presents Giuseppe Verdi's *Falstaff* from Nov. 15-18, Ted Mann Concert Hall. Tickets: \$20 adults; \$5 U students and children; group rates available. Two-for-one tickets are also available for U faculty, staff, retirees, and alumni. Seating is general admission. For tickets and more information, call 612-624-2345 or see [University Opera](#).

THE MATH AND SCIENCE FAMILY FUN FAIR will feature fascinating activities, more than 30 hands-on exhibits, and entertaining presentations showcasing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. This year's highlights include Physics Force shows, Energy and U shows, a Mystery Science Lab, and more. Nov. 17, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Coffman Union. Free. For more information, see [fun fair](#).

THE 1862 MORRILL ACT'S IMPACT ON THE U OF M is on display in the exhibit "For the Common Good" at the Andersen Library's Atrium Gallery through Nov. 30. The 1862—set aside agricultural College Act—known as the Morrill Act and signed by President Lincoln in 1862—sent aside public lands, the sale of which were used to fund public colleges to "promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes." For more information, see [Morrill Act exhibit](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers in the Environment ([Nov. 7](#)); World Usability Day 2012 ([Nov. 8](#)); International Human Trafficking Symposium: Policing, Legal, and Field Interventions ([Nov. 9](#)); American Health Care: An International and Ethical Perspective ([Nov. 10](#)); Jay Walljasper: This Place is Your Place, This Place is My Place ([Nov. 12](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > [Brief \(11-14-2012\)](#)Vol. XLII No. 36; November 14, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.eduFor additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.**Brief publication calendar:** *Brief* will not be published Nov. 21 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Weekly publication will resume Nov. 28.**Inside This Issue**

- Biennial budget request goes to MMB and governor this week.
- Features: Is healthy too hard?; Pioneering organic electronics; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Naty Lopez and J.B. Mayo are recipients of the 2012 Lillian Williams Award; and more.

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

BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST GOES TO GOVERNOR AND MMB THIS WEEK as the state government turns its focus from the election to the upcoming legislative session. President Eric Kaler and other University staff will present the U's biennial budget request to staff from the governor's office and Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) Nov. 16. The governor is developing his biennial budget recommendations to present to the legislature in January. For more information on the University's request, see [2014-15 Biennial Budget Proposal](#). For more on the election outcome and the upcoming session, read [State Relations Update](#).

Features

FEATURE: With the prevalence of obesity rising, health practitioners want lowering the obesity rate, especially among children, to become a national priority. Much of the onus seems to fall on obese children and their parents, but a recent report made the case that responsibility for the health of Americans lies partly with systems like schools, workplaces, restaurants, and the media. Sarah Gollust, assistant professor in the Division of Health Policy and Management, and her colleagues are endorsing the report and adding some data of their own. For more information, read "[Is healthy too hard?](#)"

FEATURE: The great eras of mankind are defined by materials that shape technology. In the 19th century, it was steel. Later, new alloys redefined manufacturing. Today's technology is shaped by plastic and semiconductors. And tomorrow may be defined by organic chemicals, says Distinguished McKnight University Professor Daniel Frisbie. His work proves that "molecular electronics" hold a promising place in the booming silicon electronics industry. For more information, read "[Pioneering organic electronics](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Nov. 5-9. In this episode of the weekly video feature, student hosts Sam and Lannie check in with students to see what they'd tell President Obama after his re-election. Students also explain why it's so important to vote. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Naty Lopez, director of admissions and diversity at the School of Dentistry, and J.B. Mayo, assistant professor of social studies education in the College of Education and Human Development's Department of Curriculum and Instruction, have been named the recipients of the 2012 Lillian Williams Award; the U.S. Department of State has awarded the University of Minnesota Crookston a \$100,000 grant to establish an American Cultural Center in China; U recognized with Commuter Choice Award; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

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

eLEARNING: TOOLS AND TRIUMPHS, a presentation of University resources to assist instructors and programs in the development of online or digitally enhanced coursework and curricula, will take place Nov. 19, 2-3:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library and [via UMCConnect](#). In addition to introducing the offices and personnel dedicated to U-wide digital efforts, specific examples of success stories that highlight the nature of the team-driven development process will be provided. Open to all University faculty members and staff. For more information and to RSVP, see [developing courses for eLearning](#).

A WINDOWS 8 TECHNICAL BRIEFING WEBINAR for IT training and support professionals is being offered by Technology Training Services. A Microsoft representative will present an overview of Windows 8. Topics will include Windows 8 security and encryption, Windows 8 To Go, and group policy management with Windows 8. Two sessions are scheduled: Nov. 19, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Jan. 23, 1-2:30 p.m. For registration and more information, see the [Technology Training website](#).

RESEARCHERS CAN SAMPLE 'A TASTE OF INFORMATICS' at a workshop hosted by the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) and Office of Biomedical Health Informatics (BMHI), Nov. 29. The event is designed to show how informatics can support research. Zohara Cohen, informatics research manager at BMHI, and Genevieve Melton-Meaux, faculty fellow in the Institute for Health Informatics, will present an introduction to medical ontologies. Free. Noon-1 p.m., 2-690 Moos Tower. For more information and to register, see [Researcher Workshop: A Taste of Informatics](#).

'DISCOVERY IS ILLUMINATION' RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE for use by colleges and units on [brand.umn.edu](#). Resources include print and digital templates, graphic standards and guidelines for use in adopting the campaign, and examples that show how to capture the tone and essence of *Discovery Is Illumination*. The campaign is a chance to emphasize the University's contributions to society and the possibilities a U education can provide for those in Minnesota and around the world. For more information, see the [Discovery Is Illumination standards site](#).

ESUP CAMPUS KICKOFF DRAWS CROWD. Approximately 180 people attended a Nov. 7 Campus Kickoff on the UMD campus to learn about the Enterprise System Upgrade Program (ESUP). Between now and December 2014, the University is upgrading its essential human resources, student service, and financial systems and re-examining related business processes to improve the user experience and operational efficiency and effectiveness. ESUP teams are holding events to provide system users with information about the program. To read more about the upgrade program, see [ESUP](#) or [ESUP calendar](#). For more on the UMD event, see [ESUP campus kickoff](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

PROVOST'S REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: Enhancement of Academic Programs Using Digital Technology. Undergraduate degree-granting programs are invited to propose transformational enhancement of their curricula and pedagogy using existing or emerging digital technologies. Programs may request up to \$35,000 for each of up to two years of support. Deadline is 5 p.m. Jan 31, 2013. Learn more at [Enhancement of Academic Programs Using Digital Technology RFP](#).

AAALAC HAS AWARDED FULL ACCREDITATION to the University of Minnesota following a site visit in June 2012. The Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) renewed the University's full accreditation status, a significant achievement that recognizes the efforts and dedication of faculty and staff from across the University to providing and maintaining a high-quality program of laboratory animal care and use. For more information, see [AAALAC](#).

CROOKSTON:

UMC RECEIVES \$100,000 GRANT FOR CULTURAL CENTER IN CHINA. The grant from the U.S. Department of State will fund a collaborative effort between UMC and Zhejiang Economic and Trade Polytechnic (ZJETP) to establish an American Cultural Center on the ZJETP campus in Hangzhou. The center's purpose will be to cultivate greater understanding between the United States and China. It will house a 3-D immersive lab similar to the one located on campus. For more information, read the [news release](#).

NOVEMBER IS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH. A number of events will take place on campus Nov. 16-20 in celebration of the rich Native American culture and heritage. Highlights include Bill Paulson presenting "Thanksgiving: A Native's Perspective...History, Hope, and Healing," Nov. 20. For more events and information, see [Native American Heritage Month](#).

AWARD HIGHLIGHTS EXTENSION WORK IN RURAL MINNESOTA. The Minnesota High Tech Association honored several rural communities and their partners with a Tekne Award on Nov. 1. Representatives of the Minnesota Intelligent Rural Communities (MIRC) initiative collected the Innovative Collaboration Award for their work on broadband access and adoption. UMC's Economic Development Administration University Center is a MIRC coalition partner. Jack Geller, director of the center, served as the project's primary evaluator. Read more about the partnership at [local broadband work garners award](#).

DULUTH:

'SHAPING OUR FUTURE: How Should Higher Education Help Us Create the Society We Want?' will offer an opportunity for dialogue about higher education and its purpose and impact. Hosted by UMD Office of Civic Engagement, facilitated by Minnesota Campus Compact. Nov. 15, 6:30-9 p.m., Griggs Center. For more information, see "[Shaping Our Future](#)."

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE FOR BOB NIELSON in the 2012 Liberty Mutual "Coach of the Year" contest and watch this [brief video meme](#) about "the most amazing coach in the world."

MORRIS:

UMM'S AMERICAN INDIAN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING SOCIETY (AISES) CHAPTER was named Stelvio J. Zanin Distinguished Chapter of the Year at the 2012 AISES National Conference, held Nov. 1-3 in Anchorage, AK. The honor recognizes overall excellence and is reserved for the premier chapter in the nation. The chapter also received the 2012 Outreach and Community Service Award. Alexandra Myhal '14, Parma Heights, Ohio, took fourth place honors in the student oral presentations category. [Read more](#).

THE SECOND UMM CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS will showcase outstanding research and artistic work produced by faculty and staff. Works will be open to the public Nov. 14 and 15 in the Student Center's Oyate Hall. U of M VP for Research Timothy Mulcahy plans to attend as part of his last visit to the Morris campus before his retirement in December. For more information, see [Scholarly Accomplishments](#).

RILEE MOULTON '14, Spicer, Minn., is working with the Center for Small Towns and Prime West Health—a county-based purchasing health plan operated and overseen by 13 rural counties in Minnesota—to provide tools that will enable the company to better understand the needs of its 1,300 health service providers. Working closely with Moulton is Kelly Asche, Center for Small Towns program coordinator. For more information, see [Moulton](#).

ROCHESTER:

SIGNATURE SERIES COMPLETE. UMR has completed its 14th annual Signature Series: *Management of Technology Essentials*. Each year, the series offers courses that allow leading local businesses to give their employees additional tools to work with in the fields of management and technology. For more information, see [Signature Series](#).

UMR STATE OF THE CAMPUS ADDRESS. More than 150 people attended the State of the UMR Campus Address, held Nov. 8. Chancellor Lehmkuhle took a look back at his inaugural speech to see the progress UMR has made. See [chancellor looks back](#).

TWIN CITIES:**Administrative information**

THE *GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT UPDATE* (GPU) is a regular email communication designed to push coordinated campus-wide messages to graduate and professional students. A joint effort of the Office for Student Affairs and the Graduate School, GPU aims to reduce the number of emails sent out by individual departments through consolidation. The bi-weekly email is sent during the academic year to all Twin Cities graduate and professional students, and includes information on resources and events that may be of interest. It was developed after the success of the *Undergrad Update* email. For more information, or to subscribe or submit content, see [Graduate and Professional Student Update](#) or [Undergrad Update](#).

WORKSHOPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS. International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) is offering an H-1B Visa Workshop, Nov. 15, 4-5:30 p.m., L-114 Carlson School of Management; and an Employment-based Visas and Permanent Residency Workshop, Nov. 28, 4-5:30 p.m., 235 Bleggen Hall. For more information, see [ISSS events](#).

U RECOGNIZED WITH 2012 COMMUTER CHOICE AWARD. Parking and Transportation Services received Employer of the Year honors for earning the top score among nominees. The department was commended for its new bike center, the biking-related programs and incentives it has, and the services it offers to encourage the use of alternate transportation modes, like U-Pass, Zimride and Zipcar. Read more about the honor at [Commuter Choice Award](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON ECOSYSTEMS: The Big Picture and a Few "Zoom-in" Forays. Peter Reich, Regents Professor in the Department of Forest Resources and resident fellow, Institute on the Environment, will provide an overview of his work on how climate change is altering the face of our planet. It will cause changes, many adverse, for natural and human ecosystems, and it has the potential to cause substantial, and perhaps catastrophic, change for human society. Nov. 14, noon-1 p.m., IonE Seminar Room R380, Learning & Environmental Sciences Bldg., St. Paul, or [online via UMCConnect](#). Free and open to the public; no registration required. For more information, see [The Big Picture](#).

JOHN BORCHERT LECTURE FEATURES NINA LAM, professor of environmental sciences at Louisiana State University, as the speaker at the sixth annual event honoring the late John Borchert, Regents Professor in geography at the U and member of the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Lam's presentation, "From Disease to Disaster: Geospatial Analysis for Environmental Decision Making," will be held Nov. 16, 3:30 p.m., Honeywell Auditorium, L-110, Carlson School of Management. Read more at [Borchert Lecture](#).

2012 ADA COMSTOCK LECTURE. Karen Mesce, professor in the Department of Entomology and the Graduate Program in Neuroscience, will deliver the U's annual Ada Comstock Distinguished Women Scholars Lecture, "Two Brains Are Better Than One: How Small Brains Make Big Decisions," Nov. 28, 4 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School of Public Affairs. For more information, see [Comstock Lecture](#).

THE FUTURE OF SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE. Dean Baker and Kevin Hassett, prominent national experts on entitlement reform, will discuss the options and decisions facing Congress and President Obama over the future of these important federal programs as America faces a fiscal cliff. Baker is co-director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research. Hassett is a senior fellow and director of economic policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute. Professor Larry Jacobs, director of the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance, will moderate. Nov. 28, noon-1:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. Free and open to the public, but registration is required. For more information or to register, see [social security and Medicare](#).

U ARBORETUM IS 'MAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT' with a season of festive decor, live music, story times, traditional teas, winter walks, and more. The Arboretum Auxiliary Holiday Sale, Nov. 30-Dec. 2, features unique, handcrafted gifts, with proceeds benefiting the Arboretum. Events begin Nov. 24—with performances by the Minnesota Chorale and the cast of Chanhassen Dinner Theatre's "Our Ovetvren Christmas Pageant"—and Nov. 29, at a special Auxiliary Sale Preview Night featuring hors d'oeuvres and wine. For a complete schedule of holiday events and admission information, or to reserve tickets, see "[Making Spirits Bright](#)" or call 952-443-1400.

MORE EVENTS include "Should the Science of Adolescent Brain Development Inform Legal Policy?" ([Nov. 15](#)); Innovating Our Future: Robotics and AI at an Inflection Point for Society ([Nov. 16](#)); Math and Science Family Fun Fair ([Nov. 17](#)); University and Opera Theatre presents Giuseppe Verdi's "Falstaff" ([Nov. 18](#)); Café Scientifique, "Dark Matter: Seeing the Invisible Universe" ([Nov. 20](#)); Wind Ensemble: Blockbuster Evening with Frank Ticheli ([Nov. 20](#)); Weekends with the Weisguides—Visual Journal Making ([Nov. 25](#)); Global Practices in Architecture; Hitoshi Abe ([Nov. 26](#)); and John Wright discusses "Gordon Parks Centennial" ([Nov. 27](#)). SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



- What's Inside**
- [Brief](#)
- [Campus Conversations](#)
- [Features](#)
- [People](#)
- [Resources for Internal Communications](#)

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (11-28-2012)
 Vol. XLII No. 37; November 28, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Inside This Issue

--State Relations update.
 --Features: Shaking out sugars; Counting bites, not calories; This Week @Minnesota.
 --People: 2012 recipients of the Award for Global Engagement were honored at a ceremony Nov. 15; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: The new legislative DFL majority has announced leaders for their caucuses and committees; the 2013 legislative session begins Jan. 8. Meanwhile, President Kaler recently presented the U's biennial budget request to state officials. Kaler offered his vision on the budget request, emphasizing the critical role the U of M plays in the health and vitality of the state. The governor's budget will be released in mid-January. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: With all the talk these days about fructose, glucose, sucrose, high-fructose corn syrup, and sugar in general, it can be hard for a health-conscious person to sort out the truth. U diabetes researcher and endocrinologist John Bantle says the bottom line is that too much sugar is bad, if only for the excess calories. But the story isn't quite so simple. For more information, read ["Shaking out sugars."](#)

FEATURE: Of all the dieting aids a person could imagine, a baseball pitch counter might be the least likely. But using a counting device to monitor the intake of unhealthy food can actually help people become full more quickly, according to new research by the U's Joe Redden. Redden's research gets at the intersection of self-control, desire, and attention. For more information, read ["Counting bites, not calories."](#)

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Nov. 12–16. In this episode of the weekly video feature, students Sam and Lannie visit Student Veterans Appreciation Day, talk about the bowl-bound Gopher football team, and check out the operating room of the future at the Academic Health Center. For more information, watch ["This Week @Minnesota."](#)

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: 2012 recipients of the Award for Global Engagement were honored at a ceremony Nov. 15; Professor Aaron Folsom has been selected as the recipient of the 2012 Population Research Prize of the American Heart Association; the U of M Human Rights Program has received a \$1.25 million USAID grant; the Minnesota Digital Library has been chosen as a key early contributor to the Digital Public Library of America; TCF Bank Stadium was recently named the Best Public Rain Garden by Metro Blooms; the Office for Equity and Diversity recently named student winners of its 2012 Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity (SEED) Award; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

A CAMPUS CONVERSATION with Rosie Barry, HR associate director of organizational effectiveness, and Georgi Frye, assistant program director of change management, Enterprise Systems Upgrade Program, will take place Dec. 3, noon–1 p.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union. The event will also be broadcast live via [UMConnect](#). The conversation will center on change the U community has experienced over the past few years and will continue to experience, insight into how change affects our brains, tips for coping with change, and what the U is doing to manage change. [RSVP online](#). Bring a lunch; refreshments will be provided.

UNIVERSITY WEB DEVELOPERS are now able to download responsive web headers and footers for their responsive and mobile website efforts. These new resources and the guidelines for their use can be found on the [Our Brand website](#). Email the [U Relations Electronic Communications and New Media team](#) with questions or comments. Developers are also invited to [submit mobile and/or responsive websites](#) to a directory that will be published on a new U of M mobile home site, scheduled to launch by the end of the year.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IS NOW ACCESSIBLE through additional ways at no cost to the U community at UMTC, UMD, and UMC. Users can read the publication via downloads to an iPad, web browsing on a smart phone or tablet, and/or from any computer in the world. Users on the three campuses need only to create a free account using a U of M email address. For more information, see [free access](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE U OF M SENATE WILL MARK ITS CENTENNIAL with a series of events to commemorate the milestone anniversary, with attention to the history that informs its plans for the future. The next event will take place Dec. 6, 2–3:30 p.m., 25 Mondale Hall. In a special conversation on Jan. 31, President Eric Kaler, Provost Karen Hanson, Regent Patricia Simmons, and Professor Fred Morrison will share their perspectives on the future of shared governance at the U. For more information, see [Senate centennial](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

PROPOSALS FOR THE IMAGINE FUND SPECIAL EVENTS GRANT PROGRAM are due Nov. 30. A total of \$50,000 is available each year for all special events. For more information and details about the application process, see [Imagine Fund](#).

CROOKSTON:

THE CAMPUS ASSEMBLY fall semester meeting will take place Nov. 29, 12:30–1:45 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. For minutes and the agenda, see [Campus Assembly](#).

"SMOKE AND MIRRORS," a comedy/murder mystery, will be performed Nov. 29, 30, and Dec. 1, Kiehle Auditorium. The theatrical production by Will Osborne and Anthony Herrera will begin each evening at 7:30 p.m. For more information, see [theater](#).

UMC FACULTY MEMBERS Courtney Bergman, Brian Dingmann, and Matt Simmons have been selected to participate in the U's 2012–13 Internationalizing Teaching and Learning Cohort Program sponsored by the Global Programs & Strategy Alliance, the Center for Teaching and Learning, Instructional Development Services, and the Office of Information Technology. Each will receive a \$1,000 professional development stipend for their successful completion of the program. Faculty from all U campuses are among the cohort and represent a wide range of disciplines. UMC's Eric Castle and Katy Smith took part in the 2011–12 program.

SEVERAL NEW ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED by the UMC Business Department. Agreements were signed with Hibbing Community College, Inver Hills Community College, and Pine Technical College. For more information, see [new agreements](#).

DULUTH:

FORMER UMD CHANCELLOR KATHRYN MARTIN has been awarded an honorary fellowship by the University of Worcester. For more information, see [fellowship](#).

THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION HAS AWARDED A \$600,000 GRANT to UMD's Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) to advance the science and understanding of thermal modification techniques using a pilot-scaled kiln. The research will test the process for making regional wood more marketable. For more information, see [NRRI grant](#).

MORRIS:

TISHA TURK, associate professor of English, testified earlier this year on behalf of the Organization for Transformative Works regarding exemptions to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. One of these exemptions was for renewal and expansion of the noncommercial remix exemption requested in 2009. Turk argued that creators of noncommercial remix videos and fan vids have a technical need for DVDs as source material. For more information, see [Turk Testifies](#).

COREY JOHNSON '14, Redwood Falls, and CLAIRE GOODRICH '14, Rochester, recently attended the National Education Association Student Program Fall Connections Conference in San Diego. Elected by peers at the Education Minnesota Student Program fall conference earlier this year, they were two of only four Minnesota representatives to attend the national conference. For more information, see [NEA-SP Conference](#).

SETH ELSÉN '13, Shelton, WA, is working with the Center for Small Towns and the City of Morris Public Access Television channel to improve the practicality and usability of the station. Elsen, along with city manager Blaine Hill, began work on the project in October. The goal of the project's initial phase is to create a plan that will streamline the channel's program delivery. For more information, see [public access](#).

ROCHESTER:

CLAUDIA NEUHAUSER has been named a Fellow of the American Mathematical Society (AMS) for 2013, the program's initial year. Mathematical scientists from around the world were named to the inaugural class of 1,119 fellows representing more than 600 institutions. For more information, see [Neuhauser](#).

UMR DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE MICHON ROGERS is a recipient of the 2012 Maude Finch Award. The award honors those who have distinguished themselves in advancing the common good with their service, volunteerism, and leadership. For more information about Michon's involvement in the Rochester community, see [Maude Finch Award](#).

VIDEO OF THE UMR STATE OF THE CAMPUS ADDRESS is now [available online](#). In the address, Chancellor Lehmkuhle took a look back at the progress UMR has made since his inauguration.

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

ADOPT A FAMILY FOR THE HOLIDAYS: The Student Parent HELP Center (SPHC), a program of the U's Office for Student Affairs, is seeking sponsors for its annual holiday assistance program. Students served by SPHC are typically young parents making significant sacrifices to complete their education and provide a good future for their children. All of the student parents served by the program are low income, and the vast majority are single parents in the lowest income bracket. For more information, see [Adopt-A-Family](#).

OPPORTUNITIES FOR A U-WIDE, INTERDISCIPLINARY FOOD INITIATIVE will be explored during three sessions, Dec. 4–5. RSVP for one of the listening sessions, receive background information, and be added to the distribution list, by registering at [food listening session](#). Hosted by the Center for Animal Health and Food Safety, the College of Veterinary of Medicine, and in partnership with CFANS and the School of Public Health.

COPYRIGHT PERMISSION REQUESTS FOR SPRING 2013 course materials should be submitted to the Copyright Permissions Center as soon as possible. Source information may be dropped off at any Printing Services location, faxed to 612-626-9810, mailed to 102 Printing Services Building, or [submitted online](#). For more information, email [Jackie Pitts](#) or [Dale Mossestad](#), or call 612-624-8258.

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

PREDICTIONS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY will be the topic of the Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) annual fall luncheon. Design and construction futurist Frank A. Stasiowski will describe economic, political, social, and technological trends that could define the next decade and have a direct impact on transportation. Nov. 28, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For more information, see [transportation predictions](#).

ADA COMSTOCK DISTINGUISHED WOMEN SCHOLARS LECTURE: "Two Brains Are Better Than One: How Small Brains Make Big Decisions, Nov. 28, 4–6 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. The lecture will feature Professor Karen Mesce from the Department of Entomology. Mesce will present an overview of her original and imaginative, almost playful, approach to understanding how neuronal networks develop and function. A dessert reception follows the lecture. Free and open to the public, but [RSVP online](#). For more information, see [Ada Comstock lecture](#).

EAT LOCAL CHALLENGE: Gopher Community is challenging the U community to eat local foods through Nov. 30. Receive \$1 off any local item in the stores and enter to win a free local foods goodie bag during [the challenge](#).

"ALAN TURING: THE POWER OF MATHEMATICAL DISCOVERY," an Institute for Mathematics and its Applications public lecture, will take place Dec. 4, 7 p.m., 175 Wiley Hall. Andrew Hodges of the University of Oxford will illustrate the way that Turing seized on a great range of mathematical ideas and turned them into world-changing discoveries. For more information, see [mathematical discovery](#).

THE "BE DAZZLED" HOLIDAY SHOPPING CELEBRATION at the Weisman Art Museum will take place Dec. 5, 4–6 p.m. The WAM 20 invites members of the U community to "Be Dazzled" by imaginative gifts, festive melodies, and a 20 percent discount on purchases. A "Be Dazzled" discount week with 10 percent off all purchases for U faculty, staff, and students continues Dec. 6–9. Purchases support WAM programs and exhibitions. For more information, see ["WAM Shop."](#)

A START-UP SEMINAR featuring a post-doc by entrepreneur and investor Michael Berman will offer faculty, graduate students, and non-docs the opportunity to find out more about the creation of new companies. The event will include networking with complimentary appetizers and beverages, followed by the keynote presentation and a panel discussion on incubators. Dec. 6, 5–7:30 p.m., Campus Club. For registration and more information, see [Start-up Seminar](#).

FRACKING: FACTS, FICTION, AND FIXES: Join U professor Larry Wackett as he discusses how hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is impacting the United States, and how his research seeks to use biotechnology to mitigate its potential environmental impacts. Cost: \$15. Dec. 6, 7 p.m., Continuing Education Conference Center, St. Paul. For registration and more information, see [fracking facts](#).

WINTER LIGHT SHOW PREMIERE PARTY and 5K RUN: Join the College of Science and Engineering Dec. 7, 5–8 p.m. for the premiere of a dazzling light show designed by students. The entire Civil Engineering Building Plaza will be covered in lights for an immersive 3D outdoor experience entitled "Illumination." This year's show will feature more than 100,000 LED lights set to music composed and performed by University of Minnesota students. The premiere will include entertainment and exhibits in Rapson Hall between shows. The "Freezin' for a Reason" 5K Run will precede the premiere. Shows will run weekends through Dec. 21. For more information, see [light show](#).

GME GRAND ROUNDS: Graduate Medical Education Administration will host GME Grand Rounds, a quarterly gathering of the local GME community, Dec. 13, 4–6:30 p.m., Mayo Auditorium. Louis Ling, former GME associate dean, will present "The Next Accreditation System: What Does it Mean for My Program?" Ling is currently senior vice president for hospital-based accreditation at the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. For more information, see [Grand Rounds](#).

MORE EVENTS include Frontiers in the Environment ([Nov. 28](#)); WAM Chatter—Is History True? ([Nov. 28](#)); MISSISSIPPI RIVER WALK ([Nov. 30](#)); Meet author Chris Stedman discussing his book *Faithful* ([Dec. 3](#)); Minnesota Funk ([Dec. 4](#)); CTS Freight and Logistics Symposium ([Dec. 7](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

What's Inside

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

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (12-5-2012)Vol. XLII No. 38; December 5, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.eduFor additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.**Brief publication calendar:** Brief will not be published Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Publication will resume Jan. 9. All submissions for the Jan. 9 issue are due no later than noon, Jan. 4.**Inside This Issue**--Features: Stand up for yourself; This Week @Minnesota.
--People: Seven U of M faculty have been named Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and more.**University News and Events**[Top News](#) | [University-wide](#) | [Crookston](#) | [Duluth](#) | [Morris](#) | [Rochester](#) | [Twin Cities](#)**TOP NEWS:****Features****FEATURE:** Evidence that moving frequently during the day promotes good health has made associate professor of epidemiology Mark Pereira an advocate for upgrading workplaces to encourage people to stand and move around more. Pereira and several colleagues recently conducted a study to determine the feasibility of giving sit-stand workstations to office workers. The volunteers not only spent a lot more of their workday on their feet, but—surprisingly—they reported being less hungry and ate about 200 calories less every day. For more information, read "[Stand up.](#)"**THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA:** Nov 26–30. In this episode of the weekly video feature, students Sam and Lannie check out a 90-second business pitch contest at the Carlson School, find out how the U has illuminated students' lives, and learn about mental health resources that are available on campus for students. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota.](#)"**Awards, appointments, and other announcements****PEOPLE:** Seven U of M faculty have been named Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; the U has been awarded a \$4.5 million NSF grant to study low-carbon, sustainable cities; the U has also received a \$1.8 million grant for research that could improve efficiencies in fuel and plastics production; psychology professor (retired) Irving Gottesman received the 2013 University of Louisville Grawemeyer Award in Psychology; Debra DeBruin has been appointed director of the Center for Bioethics; Northrop Concerts and Lectures director Ben Johnson has accepted a position as director of programs for The United States Artists Foundation; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).**CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS****UNIVERSITY-WIDE:****Administrative information****A PILOT FUND FOR U OF M AUTHORS** to underwrite the cost of making their work accessible to the public is now available through a joint effort of University Libraries and the Office of the Vice President for Research. To be eligible, a work must be a peer-reviewed journal article, scholarly monograph, conference proceeding, or data set created by a U of M author (faculty member, researcher, post-doc, graduate student, or staff member), and fully accessible immediately upon publication. For an application and more information, see [open access publishing fund](#).**CHANGES MADE TO STUDENT CONDUCT CODE:** The Board of Regents approved changes to the University of Minnesota [Student Conduct Code](#) (PDF) that will go into effect on Jan 1. Changes include the addition of bullying, sexual assault, and providing alcohol to minors as distinct disciplinary offenses. A definition for plagiarism was also added. Changes reflect current practice and support efforts to promote the academic environment, civility, and livability on and off campus.**AN ANNUAL DATA CENTER MAINTENANCE OUTAGE** is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 5, 6 a.m., with restoration scheduled to begin at 6 a.m., Jan. 6. All affected services are expected to be restored by noon, Jan. 6. For more information, see [data center maintenance](#).**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY:** Applications are now available for University Professional Circles, a 10-month program designed to advance employee professional goals, hone interpersonal communication and networking skills, and cut across the traditional barriers that lead to staff isolation. Registration fee: \$50. Limited to 50 applicants. Applications are due Jan. 11; the program begins on Jan. 30. For the application and more information, see [Professional Circles](#).**CROOKSTON:****A RETIREMENT RECEPTION** honoring Carol Windels, professor in the Department of Plant Pathology and faculty member at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center, will take place Dec. 5, 2–4 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. For more information, see [retirement](#).**AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES ACTIVITIES DAY** will bring students from nearly 50 high schools to campus to compete in more than 20 contests on Dec. 7. The competition has been held for more than 30 years on the Crookston campus. For more information, see [Ag and Natural Resources Day](#).**FALL SEMESTER RESEARCH DAY** is Dec. 6, 12:30–2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The campus community is encouraged to attend. For more information, see [research day](#).**THE UMC CHOIR**, under the direction of associate professor George French, will celebrate the holiday season with a concert Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Hafslø Chapel, located on the grounds of the Polk County Museum. Free and open to the public. For more information, see [choir concert](#).**DULUTH:****GINA KATZMARK** will join UMD as director of external affairs Dec. 17. Katzmark currently serves as the associate director of communications at Wake Forest University Schools of Business in Winston-Salem, NC. For more information, see [external affairs](#).**DULUTH HAS BEEN RANKED A TOP COLLEGE DESTINATION** by the American Institute for Economic Research in its academic environment, quality of life, and professional opportunities. Duluth was ranked 14th among top locations in the "Small Metro" category in the U.S. For more information, see [top destination](#).**A TEEN ENTERPRISE CAMP** was organized by UMD interns Mercede Winberg and Reece Zimm and funded through the LaBounty Center for Entrepreneurship at the Center for Economic Development. For more information, see [enterprise camp](#).**UMD UNDERGRADUATE FAITH ENGEN IS TOURING WITH *SESAME STREET LIVE***. The bachelor of fine arts musical theatre performance major and dance minor is currently part of *Sesame Street's* live touring show based on the children's TV show. For more information, see [Sesame Street](#).**MORRIS:****UMM STUDENTS** of associate professor Michael Eble will be auctioning their artwork and donating the proceeds this holiday season. The studio arts students have been busy creating townscape paintings of Morris that will be sold to the highest bidder Dec. 6–14. All proceeds will benefit the Prairie Renaissance Cultural Alliance, Morris's arts and cultural center. For more information, see [Morriscapes](#).**WORK BY UMM FACULTY MEMBERS JON ANDERSON AND STEPHEN BURKS**, and students/alumni Manjari Govada '12, Tricia Steffen '11, and Chris Thorne '11, is currently receiving significant media attention—most notably from the journal of *Science* daily news website, *ScienceNOW*. The research came from UMM's long-running Truckers & Turnover Project. For more information, see [ScienceNOW](#).**LOUIE'S LOWER LEVEL** is open for use after undergoing renovations. Seeking to open the space and give it a new function, the Student Center Committee spent two years planning the renovations, which were completed earlier this fall. The primary focus of the redesign was to create a study and relaxation space that was inviting to students. For more information, see [Louie's](#).**ROCHESTER:****LINDA DICK**, UMR web and software development group leader, has been awarded a Ryland Fellowship to support her to participation in EDUCAUSE professional development offerings in 2013. For more information, see [professional development](#).**TWIN CITIES:****Administrative information****THE PROJECT AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT COLLABORATORS (PCMC) GROUP** is offering an interactive session on "Facilitation Tools and Techniques" Dec. 6, 1–2:30 p.m., 120 Anderson Library. To register and for more information, see [PCMC](#). RSVP after joining the [PCMC Moodle site](#) (enrollment key: pcmc).**THE REUSE PROGRAM WILL EXPAND ITS pickup service** to five days per week beginning Dec. 17 to accommodate increased demand. To be collected, items must be taken to a designated building collection area by 6 a.m. on the day of pickup. Items must be in a reusable condition and be clearly labeled "REUSE." On-call buildings may schedule a pickup by emailing reuse@umn.edu or by calling 612-626-9152. For more information and route schedules, see [ReUse](#).**UMPD IS A DROP SITE FOR TOYS FOR TOTS**. UMPD is collecting new, unwrapped toys to be distributed to those less fortunate in the community. The age groups most in need include 0- to 2-year-olds and 15- to 17-year-olds. Bring toys to the lobby of the Transportation and Safety Building, 511 Washington Avenue, S.E., by Dec. 18, 3 p.m. For gift suggestions, see the FAQ section at [Toys for Tots](#).**REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE FOCUSING ON THE FIRST YEAR CONFERENCE**, a forum for faculty and staff to strategize and discuss academic and student development issues related to first-year students. Jennifer Keup, director of the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition, will be the keynote speaker, presenting "Peer Leadership in Higher Education: Learning From National Data." Feb. 13, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Coffman Union. For registration and more information, see [first-year conference](#).**STRENGTHSQUEST:** Faculty and staff can continue to grow both professionally and personally using a strengths-based approach to promote the following upcoming program opportunities. For registration and more information, see [StrengthsQuest](#).**Lectures, exhibits, and other events****GOPHER FOOTBALL BOWL TICKETS:** The University of Minnesota Gopher Football team is heading to Texas to play in its first bowl game since 2009 and Gopher Athletics wants faculty, staff, and students to be part of the fun. The Gophers will take on Texas Tech in the Meineke Car Care Bowl of Texas in Houston on Dec. 28 at Reliant Stadium. Tickets for faculty and staff are on sale now at the [Bow! Central link](#) on Mygophersports.com. Tickets start at \$25.**CLA CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF THE WINTON CHAIR** with a free, public, staged reading of Somali novelist (and outgoing Winton Chair) Nuruddin Farah's latest play, *A Stone Thrown at the Guilty* Dec. 7 and 8, 7:30 p.m., Rarig Center. British theater director Irina Brown directs. Part of Farah's mission at the U of M has been to mentor Twin Cities Somali youth, and four Somali readers, including College of Design student Kaamil Haider, will join participating professional actors Bruce Young and Sonja Parks (theatre arts lecturer). For more information, see [CLA Winton Chair reading](#).**WALTER MONDALE WILL PRESENT "RESTORING CONGRESS: TIME TO FIX THE FILIBUSTER,"** Dec. 18, noon–1:15 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School. Mondale led the last major reform of the filibuster. During the presentation he will draw on his years in the U.S. Senate and in the White House as vice president to discuss the need to fix Congress and the filibuster. Free and open to the public. Find more information and RSVP at [filibuster](#).**"REAL GOALS FOR 2013,"** a U of M Communicators Forum presentation, will instruct participants on the process of goal setting, aligning them to one's strengths, developing a personal brand, and more with Margaret Smith, founder of UXL, a local career, coaching, and leadership consulting firm. Dec. 19, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library. Cost: free for members/\$10 for others. For registration and more information, see [Real Goals](#).**A U LIBRARIES EXHIBIT** explores the quirkiness of historical sexual health campaigns by the American Social Health Association. The association used research, education, undercover investigations, and civic action in efforts to eradicate prostitution and human trafficking, while promoting the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. The exhibit runs through Dec. 31, Andersen Library. For more information, see [sexual health exhibit](#).**FOURTH ANNUAL MESTENHAUSER LECTURE:** "Internationalizing the curriculum and student learning: Preparing graduates for the 21st century," will take place Feb. 8, with workshops Feb. 9 and 11. Events will feature Betty Leask, globally recognized scholar and practitioner of internationalizing the curriculum and student learning from the University of South Australia. The lecture is free and open to the public; workshops are free to U of M participants. For registration and more information, see [Mestenhauser Lecture](#).**MORE EVENTS** include Frontiers in the Environment ([Dec. 5](#)); Minnesota Funk ([Dec. 5](#)); An Eye-Witness View from Gaza ([Dec. 6](#)); University Dance Theatre's new productions ([Dec. 6–9](#)); Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Information Session ([Dec. 7](#)); "Renewable Energy as an Opportunity for Community-based Economic Development" ([Dec. 10](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).**UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS:** [Golden Gophers](#) | [UMD Bulldogs](#) | [UMM Cougars](#) | [UMC Golden Eagles](#)

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, and other pertinent information.Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.*Brief* is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).

Faculty and Staff

Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (12-12-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 39; December 12, 2012
 Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Brief publication calendar: Brief will not be published Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Publication will resume Jan. 9. All submissions for the Jan. 9 issue are due no later than noon, Jan. 4.

Inside This Issue

- Board of Regents meet Dec. 13–14.
- State Relations update.
- Features: A friend in the fight against cancer; Keep on truckin'?; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Katrice Albert has been named the U's next VP for Equity and Diversity, effective June 28; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS will meet to discuss business partnerships, student graduation rates, the Amundson Hall/Gore Annex addition, and more Dec. 13–14. At the board's final meetings of 2012, Regents will discuss a proposal to create venture capital funds to jump-start University and other business ventures, and review revisions to faculty leave policies in order to encourage participation in entrepreneurial start-up companies, or otherwise engage with for- or nonprofit organizations. The board will also hear presentations on the U's current compensation philosophy and steps under way to build a comprehensive strategy for the U that includes all employees and is supported by data and metrics, and a report on faculty and staff compensation that will include trends and analyses. For more information, see the [news release](#).

STATE RELATIONS UPDATE: Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) recently released the November economic forecast, which showed a surplus in the current biennium and some reduction in the last projected deficit for the 2014–15 biennium. Nevertheless, the state still faces a \$1.1 billion deficit for the 2014–15 biennium, and the outcome of fiscal cliff negotiations leave much uncertainty. The results of the fiscal cliff negotiations could have broad effects on Minnesota's economy, especially through endangered federal funding. Governor Dayton will present a budget to the legislature in January based on the MMB forecast. In other news, the DFL announced Senate committee membership, giving Minnesotans an idea of what the new majority's priorities will be. For more information, see [State Relations](#).

Features

FEATURE: After more than an hour discussing the shared evolution of dogs and humans, and how the cancer mysteries that lie deep within one may inform and effect treatments on the other, U researcher Jaime Modiano smiles and says, "I love my job." He's at the forefront of an array of exciting research that stands to improve the health of both dogs and people. For more information, read "[A friend in the fight against cancer](#)."

FEATURE: Every day trucks ply the neighborhoods of America, driving "the last mile" of the delivery chain for goods ordered through Amazon, eBay, and other online retailers. But this last mile produces about half the fossil fuel consumption and emissions of the total retail system. What if somebody designed a system of drop-off points where people who regularly pass nearby could pick up packages for friends? Associate professor Tim Smith recently led a study that modeled a socially networked distribution system, which could reduce travel miles by 30 to 95 percent. For more information, read "[Keep on truckin'?](#)"

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Dec. 3–7. In this episode of the weekly video feature, students Sam and Lannie visit the Forestry Club's Christmas tree sale in St. Paul, check out the College of Science and Engineering's annual Winter Light Show, and roll with the U's Unicycle Club. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Katrice Albert has been named the U's next VP for Equity and Diversity, effective June 28; Jane Davidson has received the Frank Kreith Energy Award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; Josie Johnson has been recognized with Minnesota's Humanitarian Service Award; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

U OF M PERSONAL WEB SPACE WILL BE DECOMMISSIONED June 30. In preparation for decommission, new personal web space folders will no longer be created effective Dec. 31. For more information, see [personal web](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

2013 MULTICULTURAL RESEARCH AWARD: The Institute for Equity, Diversity, and Advocacy (IDEA) is accepting applications from tenured and tenure-track faculty for innovative and transformative research and scholarship that address the urgent social issues of underrepresented populations in the U.S. Proposals are due Jan. 11 by 4 p.m. For more information and instructions for submitting an application, see [IDEA awards](#).

THE OFFICE FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT is seeking applications for the MacJannet Prize for Global Citizenship, an international award recognizing exceptional student community engagement and community service. The award also financially supports up to \$7,500 for ongoing work of University-based civic initiatives. Deadline is Jan. 18, 4 p.m. For criteria and more information, see [MacJannet Prize](#). Email the completed nomination form to public@umn.edu. For questions and more information, email [Amber Cameron](mailto:Amber.Cameron).

THE CENTER FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS (CURA) invites proposals from regular faculty on all campuses for its Faculty Interactive Research Program. The program encourages research projects that involve a significant urban-related public policy issue for the state or its communities, and that include active engagement with groups, agencies, or organizations in Minnesota involved with the issue. Deadline is Feb. 11, 4:30 p.m. For application instructions and more information, see [CURA proposal](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE U OF M LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM has indoor and outdoor recreation activities all winter long. Cross-country ski trails opened Dec. 11, and snowshoers are already out enjoying the latest snowfall. In all, the Arboretum has about 11 miles of cross-country ski and snowshoe trails. Snowshoes are available to rent at \$6 for the first hour and \$4 for each additional hour. In addition, Three-Mile Drive is kept plowed for walkers; and approximately two miles of gently rolling trails traverse gardens and woodlands. For more information, see [winter trails](#).

CROOKSTON:

THE NATIONAL CROPS JUDGING CONTESTS have a long and celebrated history, and UMC's Collegiate Crops Teams have been a part of that history since 1967. This year, the UMC team placed second in both national competitions, held during the month of November. The 2012 team consisted of three agronomy majors including Dan Grefsrud, a senior from Hawley, Travis Lund, a senior from Brandon, and Missy Geiszler, a junior from Mayer. For more information, see [crops judging](#).

FALL SEMESTER GRAD FEST will be held Dec. 12 in the International Lounge, Sargeant Student Center. For more information, see [Grad Fest](#).

A WEBSITE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED for the vice chancellor for academic affairs search. The site contains information about the process, a listing of search committee members, and important dates and events on the search timeline. For more information, see [vice chancellor search](#).

DULUTH:

FINAL ROUND! UMD's head football coach, Bob Nielson, was named one of five Division II finalists for the 2012 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year campaign. Vote every day through Dec. 20 to bring him to first place. For more information, see [Coach of the Year](#).

THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY READING of *Saint Matthew in Appalachia* by UMD English professor Joseph Maiolo will take place Dec. 12, 3:30 p.m., Weber Music Hall. For more information, see [holiday reading](#).

MORRIS:

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW GREEN PRAIRIE LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITY (GPLLC) began Dec. 10. The new facility complements Morris's focus on environmental sustainability and marks the first residence hall construction on campus since 1971. The two-story hall will provide suite-style housing for 72 students during the academic year. For more information, see [breaking ground](#).

PAIGE SCARBOROUGH, Morris's newest GreenCorps member, has been serving the local community by promoting urban forestry initiatives. After working as an environmental educator, Scarborough applied for the GreenCorps position at Morris, having been drawn to the school's sustainability efforts as well as her family's extensive history with the campus. Scarborough's work builds on the efforts made by former GreenCorps member Laura Anne Hunt '13. For more information, see [Scarborough](#).

KRISTINA GRUNDMANIS '13, Minneapolis, and RACHEL HARDER '12, Redwing, are traveling to Ghana this December. During their trip, organized by the International Volunteer HQ, the two will be assigned to an orphanage in the capital city of Accra, where they will provide childcare and teach English. Upon returning, Grundmanis and Harder will present on their travels in order to spread awareness of international volunteerism and travel. For more information, see [Ghana](#).

ROCHESTER:

UMR FACULTY MEMBER JIM FORD has been selected as one of 11 faculty members systemwide to participate in the U's 2012–13 [Internationalizing Teaching and Learning Cohort Program](#). Faculty participants will engage in professional development aimed at internationalizing the curriculum, joining 28 other faculty members who have been in the program since 2010.

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

PRESIDENT KALER IS SEEKING NOMINATIONS for a Faculty Athletics Representative who will serve as one of two delegates to the NCAA, Big 10, and Western Collegiate Hockey Association representing the UMTC campus on athletic issues that affect the institution. Learn more about the [selection process and responsibilities \(PDF\)](#), and about the [qualities of a representative \(PDF\)](#). To apply, send a letter stating the nominee's qualifications and interest along with a resume* (self-nominations will be accepted). Nominations are due Jan. 25 to Liz Eull, deputy chief of staff, Office of the President, 202 Morrill Hall, or via email at eullx001@umn.edu.

THE OFFICE OF CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT (OCM) IS REQUESTING FEEDBACK from those who teach in general purpose classrooms. On Dec. 5, OCM emailed survey invitations to faculty and instructors who taught in general purpose classrooms fall semester. OCM encourages those who received the survey invitation to complete it by Dec. 20. The survey provides OCM with valuable input on the needs, expectations, and experiences of those who teach in these classrooms. For more information, contact the [Office of Classroom Management](#).

THE PROJECT AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT COLLABORATORS (PCMC) GROUP is hosting a "Project Management Software Expo" Jan. 8, 312 STSS building. The event will feature short presentations on project management solutions used across the University followed by a Q&A with presenters. For registration and more information, including a Google Doc where users can add unit solutions and Moodle site (enrollment key: pcmc).

Award opportunities

STUDENT UNIONS AND ACTIVITIES is seeking faculty and staff volunteers to serve as judges on selection committees for the Excellence Awards or the President's Student Leadership and Service Awards. Serving on these committees is an excellent way to show support for the U community while recognizing students for outstanding work in leadership, service, and student group contributions. For more information, email [SUA awards](mailto:SUA_awards) by 4:30 p.m., Dec. 21.

NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE 2013 PRESIDENT'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARDS. The awards honor the accomplishments of outstanding students for their leadership and service contributions to the U of M and the community. All faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to nominate current students for the awards. Nominations are due Jan. 25. For more information, see [leadership awards](#) or call 612-626-6919.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL TONY DIGGS EXCELLENCE AWARDS will be accepted by Student Unions and Activities through Feb. 20. The awards recognize student group achievements during the calendar year and are open to all Campus Life Programs and Registered Student Organizations, which include registered student groups who serve undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. For more information, see [Tony Diggs](#).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

THE 2012 U OF M HOLIDAZZLE PARADE will take place Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m., between 12th and 4th streets on Nicollet Avenue in downtown Minneapolis. The U community is encouraged to put on maroon and gold and cheer for parade grand marshal President Eric Kaler, as well as Goldy Gopher, the U of M Marching Band, and more than 150 student and staff volunteers who will be wearing illuminated costumes and marching in the parade. [RSVP on Facebook](#). For more information, see [Holidazzle](#).

GOPHER ATHLETICS WILL HOST A "BREAKFAST WITH CHAMPIONS" in coordination with the Cultural Diversity Task Force, an advisory committee to the intercollegiate athletics department. Speakers will include athletics director Norwood Teague, volleyball coach Hugh McCutcheon, volleyball player Tori Dixon, and former Gopher Chester Cooper (football, 1977–82). Award-winning TV journalist Robyne Robinson will serve as the event's MC. Jan. 8, 8–9:30 a.m., TCF Bank Stadium. Cost: \$25 per person or \$150 per table, with proceeds going to support community outreach for disadvantaged youth. For tickets, call 612-624-8080. Space is limited; register by Jan. 4. For more information, see [Breakfast](#).

THE CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING will offer a half-day workshop, "Developing Memorable Presentations: Strategies to Shake Teaching Stick," Jan. 16, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Lunch will be provided. For more information, see [CTL workshop](#).

MORE EVENTS include Sketch Off: An Improv Concept Sketching Battle ([Dec. 12](#)); Minnesota Funk ([Dec. 13](#)); CSE Winter Light Show ([through Dec. 21](#)); Café Scientifique, "The Known Universe: A Tour of the Cosmos" ([Dec. 18](#)); Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Information Session ([Dec. 19](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send questions in the [Office of University Relations](#) at brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).



What's Inside

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

Related Links

[Office of the President](#)

[Government & Community Relations](#)

Faculty and Staff



Brief

A weekly internal news digest for all campuses

[Home](#) > [Brief](#) > Brief (12-19-2012)

Vol. XLII No. 40; December 19, 2012
Editor: Adam Overland, brief@umn.edu

For additional news and information, see the [Faculty](#) and [Staff](#) views of the U homepage.

Brief publication calendar: Brief will not be published Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Publication will resume Jan. 9. All submissions for the Jan. 9 issue are due no later than noon, Jan. 4.

Inside This Issue

- Board of Regents meeting summary.
- Register for the 2013 Legislative Briefing.
- Academic Health Center external review report.
- Features: Fiscal 2012 research report; All in the family kitchen; This Week @Minnesota.
- People: Regents Professor Elaine Tyler May and associate professor David Chang were two of three Minnesotans awarded National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships for College Teachers and Independent Scholars for 2013–14; and more.

University News and Events

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

TOP NEWS:

THE BOARD OF REGENTS heard results highlighting the sustained success of the University's research enterprise and nationally lauded tech transfer operation, and considered measures aimed at fostering continued growth. Regents also heard a report highlighting the best graduation rates in the U's history. The board also approved the capital budget request for the 2013 legislative session. For more information, see [Board of Regents](#).

SAVE THE DATE AND REGISTER FOR THE 2013 LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING. Support the U with hundreds of other faculty, staff, students, and alumni who believe in higher education's role in pushing our state forward. Held annually, the legislative briefing serves as the U's kickoff to the legislative session, which begins Jan. 8. The evening features a reception and dinner, while University officials introduce the U's proposed legislative agenda and discuss the political landscape with attendees. Jan. 23, 2013, 5 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center. For registration and more information, see [Legislative Briefing 2013](#).

THE REPORT ON THE EXTERNAL REVIEW OF THE ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER is available online. The findings emphasize that the U has an outstanding platform for its Medical School and health sciences enterprise, and its research portfolio is strong. The review articulates the need for increased strategic planning at the Medical School, and President Kaler has asked VP for health sciences and dean of the Medical School Aaron Friedman to launch a faculty-led strategic planning process. In addition, deans of CBS, CFANS, and CSE have been asked to join the AHC deans and define areas of further health collaboration, especially in curriculum and in research. For more information, see [AHC External Review](#).

Features

FEATURE: U faculty and staff competed successfully for nearly \$750 million in sponsored research awards in FY 2012. According to the National Science Foundation, the U ranked sixth in research expenditure growth since 2005 among the top 20 universities and fourth among public research universities in terms of portfolio growth. Research expenditures increased 59 percent from fiscal 2005 to fiscal 2011. The Office for Technology Commercialization also continued its robust performance in fiscal 2012, helping to launch a record 12 start-up companies. For more information, read [2012 research](#).

FEATURE: Associate professor Jayne Fulkerson has long been interested in the implications of eating together as a family, but she realized that there's been missing information in the research puzzle; namely, just what the health benefits are or could be, and how they might aid the effort to combat childhood obesity. Fulkerson is leading a five-year, NIH-funded research effort involving families with children ages 8–12 focused on changing the home food environment and attitudes about healthful eating. For more information, read "[All in the family kitchen](#)."

THIS WEEK @MINNESOTA: Dec. 10–14. In this episode of the weekly video feature, students Sam and Lannie talk to other students about finals week and see some therapy dogs in action at the "Pet your stress away" event. For more information, watch "[This Week @Minnesota](#)."

Awards, appointments, and other announcements

PEOPLE: Regents Professor Elaine Tyler May and associate professor David Chang were two of three Minnesotans awarded National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships for College Teachers and Independent Scholars for 2013–14; recently selected faculty members in the 2012–13 Internationalizing Teaching and Learning Cohort Program include 10 faculty members representing all U of M campuses; the U has been awarded a \$720,000 NSF grant to lead a virtual institute for the study of Earth-surface systems; a collaboration between the U School of Dentistry and 3M has received the 2013 William J. Gies Award from the American Dental Education Association; U in the news includes highlights of [Today's News](#), which features U faculty and staff cited in the media daily. Read about these topics and more in [People](#).

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE:

Administrative information

THE U HAS LAUNCHED A SEARCH for a new vice provost for student affairs and dean of students. Dean Allen Levine, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, will chair the search committee. Other members of the committee were selected to provide broad representation from across the University and from a range of interested constituencies. For more information about the position, search process, or application or nomination procedure, email [Chair Levine](mailto:ChairLevine) or [Kate Stuckert](mailto:KateStuckert).

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT: The Alcoholic Beverage Sales and Service and Venue Liquor Licensing policy consolidates all alcohol-related information into one policy. Private University departmental events, non-University entity events, and the process to request a State of Minnesota issued liquor license for a venue are covered in the procedures. Changes to the Awards for Outstanding Contributions to Education policy expand the award eligibility to include P&A instructional staff, and also reflect a change in the manner in which the award is disbursed (from a recurring stipend to a one-time lump sum.) The Faculty Development Leaves policy now includes the option of an entrepreneurial leave of up to 12 months; benefits vary based on the percentage of leave. The policies are available for review and comment at [policy review](#).

ENTERPRISE SYSTEMS UPGRADE PROGRAM (ESUP): College of Biological Sciences dean Robert Elde has agreed to chair the ESUP Executive Oversight Committee when the current chair, vice president for research Tim Mulcahy, retires this month. For more information on the transition, see the [ESUP blog](#).

Awards and funding opportunities

DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR THE PROVOST'S REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: Undergraduate degree-granting programs are invited to propose transformational enhancement of their curricula and pedagogy using existing or emerging digital technologies and associated pedagogies. Programs may request up to \$35,000 for each of up to two years of support; deadline is Jan. 31. For more information, see [Learn more at Enhancement of Academic Programs RFP](#).

Lectures, exhibits and other events

ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE: INNOVATION IN TEACHING, LEARNING, AND RESEARCH will highlight how members of the University community are using technology to drive innovation. Faculty, instructors, researchers, and students are invited to [submit applications](#) and to present at the event. The application deadline is Feb. 20. The showcase takes place April 10, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Coffman Union. For more information, see [Academic Technology](#).

DISCOUNTED ARBORETUM MEMBERSHIPS for U faculty and staff are available at \$10 off the regular price of the individual, family, or family-plus-friends membership levels, and include a 2013 Arboretum calendar with stunning photos. Call 952-443-1440 by Dec. 31 and reference "U of M staff discount."

CROOKSTON:

FACULTY AND STAFF ARE INVITED TO THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON Dec. 20, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sergeant Student Center. Faculty and staff from the entire community—including UMC, the NWROC, Extension, the NWRSDP, and the NW AHEC—are encouraged to dress up according to their interpretation of this year's "Decorate Yourself" theme. For more information, see [holiday lunch](#).

CAMPUS RESIDENCE HALLS WILL CLOSE for the winter break Dec. 20, 4 p.m., and reopen Jan. 13, 1 p.m. Current plans are to allow students moving into the new residence hall to officially occupy their rooms beginning Jan. 10, provided arrangements have been made in advance with the Office of Residential Life. For more information, see [residence halls](#).

HUNDREDS OF ROOTED POINSETTIA cuttings arrive in August at UMC in anticipation of another holiday season. Under the skill and coaxing of students involved in the commercial floriculture class, those cuttings develop into a beautiful poinsettia crop. For more information, see [poinsettias](#).

DULUTH:

"THOSE WHO CAN, DULUTH" is UMD's new campuswide positioning statement. The phrase illustrates a can-do attitude that encompasses the spirit of UMD and the city of Duluth. Curious about how to incorporate it? For more information, see [Champ's video](#).

UMD PARTNERS WITH BUSINESSES through the Student to Business Initiative program. Accounting students from UMD's Labovitz School of Business and Economics pair up and present financial analysis findings to businesses. For more information, see [UMD business](#).

MORRIS:

WORK BY SHENG XIAO, assistant professor of economics and management, and coauthors Ronald Masulis, Christian Ruzzier, and Shan Zhao, was featured in a recent issue of *Agenda*. The story discussed Xiao's presentation at the 2012 Corporate Governance Symposium, "Do Independent Expert Directors Matter?"—which was 1 of 4 academic papers accepted from among 76 submissions. For more information, see [Sheng Xiao](#).

SEVEN MORRIS STUDENTS traveled to St. Cloud to participate in an Environmental Congress Citizen Forum on Dec. 12. Anna Pratt '15, Preston Meyer '16, Chris Blowers '13, Aaron Goemann '14, Jordan Wente '15, Adrian Schiller '14, and Natalie Hoidal '15, joined Ellen Anderson, senior adviser to the governor on energy and environment, Minnesota state agency commissioners, and community leaders for a facilitated discussion on air, water, land, energy, and climate. For more information, see [Citizen Forum](#).

THE HFA GALLERY AT UMM will present *LOCAL COLOR: Artists from the Lake Region*. Curated by Michael Eble, associate professor of studio art, the exhibit will survey artists who work in a range of mediums and subject matter and reside within the lake region of west central Minnesota. The opening reception will be held Jan. 17, 7–9 p.m. For more information, see [LOCAL COLOR](#).

ROCHESTER:

BICB SYMPOSIUM: Keeping Our Curriculum Current. The Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology (BICB) graduate program, now in its fifth year, invites BICB faculty, students, researchers, and others to participate in a discussion on how to keep the BICB curriculum current and provide opportunities for students. A keynote address from Gianrico Farrugia, director of the Mayo Clinic Center for Individualized Medicine, and short presentations from students and industry partners will bring perspectives on the importance of BICB in the future of biomedical research and clinical practice. Jan. 18, 10:15 a.m.–4 p.m., 417 University Square. Transportation from UMTC will be provided. For registration and more information, see [BICB symposium](#).

TWIN CITIES:

Administrative information

CAMPUS SHUTTLE SERVICE HOURS OF OPERATION will be reduced Dec. 21–Jan. 21. From Dec. 21 to Jan. 18, Campus Connector buses will run every 15 minutes from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Connectors will not run during the evening hours or on the weekends. The East Bank Circulator will run from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. every 20 minutes; the St. Paul Circulator will not operate during winter break. Connectors will run every 20 minutes, Jan. 20 and 21, from 9 a.m.–9 p.m. For more information, see [busing details](#).

AN ANNUAL DATA CENTER MAINTENANCE and planned service outage will take place beginning Saturday, Jan. 5, at 6 a.m., with restoration scheduled to begin at 6 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 6. It is expected that all affected services will be restored by noon Sunday. The outage is required in order to perform necessary maintenance, testing, and repairs to facility infrastructure. A complete list of affected services will be shared with the University community as soon as it is available. For more information, see [service outage](#).

THE PROJECT AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT COLLABORATORS (PCMC) GROUP will host a book club brown bag lunch Jan. 17, noon–1 p.m., 101 Walter Library and 100 Skok Hall. The group will discuss Patrick Lencioni's *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team: A Leadership Fable*, a story describing how one manager handles a dysfunctional department, with to-the-point methods for others to do the same. RSVP for the [Twin Cities](#) or the [St. Paul](#) session after joining the [PCMC Moodle site](#) (enrollment key: pcmc).

Lectures, exhibits, and other events

IMPROVING ANIMAL AND WORKER HEALTH AND WELFARE is the topic of a forum being hosted by the U's Center for Integrative Leadership, the Global Initiative for Food Systems Leadership, and the Upper Midwest Agriculture Safety and Health Center. The one-day forum takes place Jan. 17, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Minnesota Humanities Center. For more information and registration (\$50), see [Common Ground forum](#).

HOUSING & RESIDENTIAL LIFE CREATED A SUSTAINABLE MOVE-OUT VIDEO to aid students leaving campus for winter break. Students who complete the online "Sustainable Checkout Checklist" prior to leaving for break will gain points towards the year-long "Live Green Games" competition. The residence hall with the largest point total at the end of April will be treated to a catered "Sustainable Study Break" during finals. For more information, see [watch the video](#).

CAMPUS CLUB WINTER BREAK HAPPY HOUR is open to the U community weekdays, Dec. 27–Jan. 18, 2–6 p.m. No membership is required. For more information, see [happy hour](#).

MORE EVENTS include Minnesota Funk ([Dec. 19](#)); Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Information Session ([Dec. 19](#)); CSE Winter Light Show "Illumination" ([Dec. 20](#)); Hidden ([Jan. 7](#)); SEE THESE AND MORE TWIN CITIES [CAMPUS EVENTS](#).

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

Brief is the official University of Minnesota staff and faculty weekly news digest, featuring human resource, employee benefit, administrative, legislative, budgetary, event, and other pertinent information.

Published by [Internal Communications](#) in the [Office of University Relations](#) at the University of Minnesota. Please send comments, questions, or submissions to brief@umn.edu. The deadline for submissions is **noon** on the Friday before publication. [Submission guidelines](#) are available online.

Brief is published by email and on the web. [Subscribe to Brief](#).