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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROOKSTON

October 29, 2019



Leadership Letter

From the Vice Chancellor

My wife, Joy, likes to tell a story from the time when I was courting her (and she was resisting me) when she asked me what I was looking for in a life's partner. I responded, "I'd like to date someone who has gone through some counseling." Perhaps this was not the most romantic response I could have come up with, but it was honest. Most of us face challenges at various times in life that are bigger than we are. Asking for help is something strong, capable, and healthy people do when they face unusual challenges, and I am proud to share I have spent over 10 years in counseling, and it has been one of the best investments of time and money I've ever made.



This fall and through the coming year, I anticipate many of our strong, capable, and healthy students and their families will face significant challenges. Between the tariffs, the wet spring, and this fall's rain and snow, farming families are facing historic challenges that will place many farms at risk. Having grown up in a small farming community, I know for many farmers, asking for help from a counselor feels like a sign of weakness, even when it is precisely the opposite. Asking for help is healthy, but it is not easy, and too often, only the strongest among us seek the assistance of others. Knowing this, one of our most important jobs as educators will be to help some of our strong and capable students learn how to ask for help.

In August, I asked Technology Support Services to add a "red folder" link to every new laptop. Unfortunately, I forgot to send a message to the campus community

about why the red folder link was there. “Red folders” are used by colleges and universities across the country. They include information about mental health, indicators of distress, how to help, and how and where to make referrals. If you have not done so already, now would be a good time to review the red folder and print a copy for easy access. If you deleted it from your desktop, you can access UMN Crookston’s red folder at <https://www.crk.umn.edu/sites/crk.umn.edu/files/red-folder-umn-crookston.pdf>, and once you’re there, simply highlight the URL and drag it to your desktop to add a direct link.

In addition to the red folder, our newly reimagined Student Success Center is a great resource for anyone who has a concern about a student, whether it be related to mental health, academics, campus life, or anything else. The vision for the Student Success Center is that it will become a central hub for promoting student success and assisting students with all kinds of needs. When you have any type of concern about a student, the Student Success Center and Lamesha Brown, Ph. D., are a great place to start. They will gather information from you about the student, then reach out to others on campus and coordinate a strategy for helping the student. The strategy may involve connections with mental health professionals, development of academic success plans, or even allocations of emergency aid dollars secured from donors to help students facing unique financial challenges. Of course, if a student is in a significant and immediate crisis, you should call 9-1-1 or walk the student directly to the counseling center. For most situations, however, the Student Success Center will serve as a central hub for coordinating assistance and, when necessary, interventions for our students.

One of the great things about small communities like Crookston is the way people from the community all come together to help those in need. One of our great challenges is that most of us find it easier to stretch ourselves to help others than to stretch ourselves to ask for help when needed. Knowing many in our community will face some of the most significant challenges in their lives in the coming weeks and months, now is a time to listen and attend to one another carefully in order to ensure everyone receives the help and care they need.

Point of Pride

Next week, Chancellor Holz-Clause will present the Torch & Shield Award to two recipients. The award, first presented in 1966, recognizes individuals who have provided leadership and who have aided in the development of the University of Minnesota Crookston, NWROC and Extension. It is the highest award an individual can receive from the



campus.

BEDE BALLROOM

THURSDAY COMMONS PRESENTATION:

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS
(Day of the Dead)

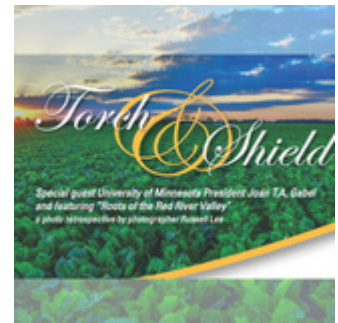
THURSDAY 10/31 AT 12:30 P.M.

[EVENT DETAILS](#)

Highlights

Torch & Shield

All faculty and staff are invited to attend the 2019 Torch & Shield event, November 6, beginning with a program in the Kiehle Auditorium at 5:30 p.m., followed by a social featuring the Roots of the Red River Valley exhibit in Bede Ballroom, and finally an elegant meal in Brown Dining Room. In addition, this year we have the honor of hosting our new University of Minnesota President, Joan T.A. Gabel.



Cost to attend is \$60. RSVP and/or purchase your ticket by Friday, November 1

by contacting Angelika Huglen in person (temporarily located in Kiehle 124) or at ahuglen@umn.edu. Attire - black tie (optional).

Campus Announcements

Halloween Costumes

When choosing a Halloween costume, be sensitive about costumes that may be offensive. Remember, culture is not a costume.



Elections in Minnesota

On **Tuesday, November 5**, elections will take place in Minnesota. The polls will be open and we remind everyone to plan accordingly. All University classes will be held on that date. Instructors are requested to make reasonable accommodations for students who can only vote during class time. Students who will be late to, or absent from class in order to vote should speak with their instructor in advance of that date.



Visit <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/whats-on-my-ballot> for more information on how to vote.

From the Professional Development Committee

Thank you to all those who attended this year's fall professional development day activities. As a committee, we greatly appreciate your participation.

To help develop bigger and better development days in the future please take just a few minutes to fill out the evaluation form. Even if you DID NOT ATTEND, we still want to hear from you. Click the link below to submit your evaluation:

https://umn.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_81tKGreUrjKzMNf

This evaluation is completely anonymous.

Roots of the Red River Valley

For University of Minnesota Crookston alumnus Ken Mendez 2011, it's a legacy integrally connected to the history of Northwest Minnesota, the University of Minnesota Crookston, and the people of the Red River Valley.



To read more click [here](#).

From Athletics

Wednesday, Oct. 30 - MBB exhibition vs Bethel University (4pm)
- WBB exhibition vs Concordia College (6pm)

Thursday, Oct. 31- Volleyball vs Bemidji State (Fright Night/Costume Night) (6pm)

Sunday, Nov. 3- Soccer vs MSU Moorhead

UMN Crookston Hosts Section 8A Volleyball Match this Friday night at 7 p.m.



Faculty and Staff Announcements

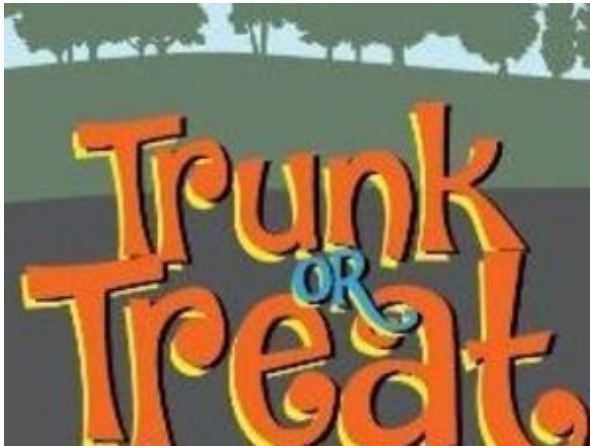
Welcome

- Jonathon Fuller, UMN Crookston Director of Human Resources

In Memory Of...

UMN Crookston Online Student Morgan Taylor Johnson

Morgan attended the University of Minnesota-Crookston online and pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Health Care Management. She wanted to return the love and support she received from so many health care professionals.



Trunk or Treat

Come to UMC for Trunk or Treat! From 4:30-6:30p.m. come and trick or treat along the UMC mall, it should be a scream of a time! Sponsored by Athletics and...

Thu, Oct 31 4:30pm



National First Generation Celebration Day

UMN Crookston observes National First Generation College Celebration Day! First generation students, faculty, and staff are invited to take part in the...

Fri, Nov 1 10am •

Northern Lights Lounge



Dr. Mark Thomas - Science of Addiction

Dr. Mark Thomas, a professor of neuroscience at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, will be speaking on addiction in Kiehle Auditorium from 7 - 9 p.m....

Tue, Oct 29 7pm •
Kiehle Auditorium



Mens and Womens Basketball Kickoff - Maroon and...

Head over to the Lysaker Gymnasium for the first basketball games of the season! Cheer on mens (vs. Bethel at 4 p.m.) and womens (vs. Concordia Moorhead...

Wed, Oct 30 4pm •
Lysaker Gymnasium

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SURVEY



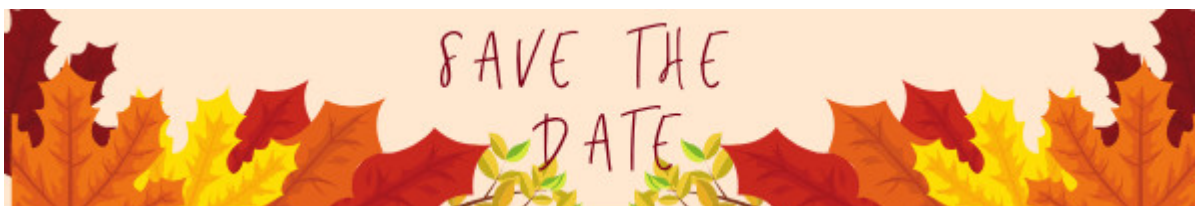
Employee Engagement Survey - Make your voice heard

Make your voice heard! Take 10 minutes and share your thoughts about your work and workplace by filling out the Employee Engagement Survey.

Tue, Oct 29 •
<https://ee.ltd.umn.edu>

[View more events...](#)

[Submit an Event](#)



Looking Forward

- Torch & Shield/President Gabel Visit - November 6
- Roots of the Red River Valley: photographs from 1937 sugarbeet harvest - November 4-10
- Agriculture and Natural Resources Day - December 6



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