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LEADERSHIP LETTER

From the Chancellor

Hey Golden Eagles,

I hope you had a good weekend and a chance to enjoy the amazing autumn days we had. The autumn colors are exquisite and even all the locals are saying this has been a really

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Campus Assembly

Join us for a Fall Campus Update on Thursday, October 1, from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. At this meeting we will provide updates on campus enrollment, budget, athletics, campus committees, etc. Individuals can attend in person in Bede Ballroom or can watch it via Zoom using the connection information below. We will serve sandwich box lunches to those who come in person but seating is limited. If you would like to come in person, please contact Chris Winjum, cwinjum@umn.edu, so he can track the seat availability.



Please click the link below to join the Campus Update webinar:

<https://umn.zoom.us/j/96474874745?pwd=Y1hiQ3hMV3Q1Mmkzb2FBMTBGVGFRdz09>

Passcode: Crookston1 or via Telephone by dialing (651) 372-8299 or (312) 626-6799 and Webinar ID: 964 7487 4745 and Passcode: 4628737200

Updates to the Spring Academic Calendar

After reviewing feedback from faculty, staff, and students, and pending final approval from the Board of Regents, we have made a few changes to our academic calendar for Spring 2021. We will keep the same start and end dates for the semester, and we will open the Spring semester as we did this fall with a two-week 9 p.m. back to campus order. We will plan to test all students who live in the residence halls.

Faculty, especially those in Agriculture and Natural Resources, shared the importance of labs and field experiences at the end of the spring semester. For this reason, we decided against options to move classes online at the end of the semester, and we will also cancel spring break and replace it with a single “study day.” This should help to limit travel and reduce the likelihood of outbreaks that could cause students to miss classes during this important time of the school year.

Remember Maroon and Gold Fridays

Let's get into the Golden Eagle spirit and sport that great University of Minnesota Crookston gear on Fridays. One of our great Golden Eagles DeShaun Diggs looked pretty good last week in his Maroon and Gold. My phone camera will be on me this Friday to see who can top this good look.

Exercising Your Right To Vote

November 3. We urge you to check your voter registration at z.umn.edu/votes and make sure it is current.

Minnesota provides you with three reliable voting options:

1. You can vote in person on November 3 at your [polling place](#).
2. Using z.umn.edu/votes, you can apply to vote absentee by mail. (Your ballot must be postmarked by November 3 and arrive at your county election office by November 10.)
3. You can vote before Election Day at an early voting location or the county election office.



The deadline to pre-register to vote in Minnesota is October 13. After that, you must vote in person, either on Election Day or at an early voting location and register at that time. Make your voice heard.

Community Health

So what can you do to keep our community safe during COVID-19?

Prevention - [Wear a face covering, wash your hands frequently, and most of all, avoid large gatherings where you cannot maintain physical distancing.](#) Ignoring these public safety precautions places our entire community at risk. We know that some in our community have underlying conditions that can increase their risk from COVID-19. Others may have at-risk relatives or friends to whom we could pass the virus, with potentially terrible results. But together, we can protect our entire community by making good choices. There will come a time where we can reflect on the challenges we currently face and the triumph of our collective willpower. But we need your help, today, to get there.

Engagement - The temptation is to equate physical distancing with full isolation. You should still go outside. You should be with friends in small groups six feet apart. And we encourage you to stay involved with a wide range of appropriate activities. We have several units on campus that are providing activities for students to be involved in. For more information on events stay up-to-date on the [events calendar](#) and the [UMN Crookston Today](#) page. The UMN Crookston Wellness Center has been hosting intramurals, and events on campus, as well. [Please stay up-to-date with their offerings.](#) The Wellness Center is now open on Sunday too.

Report concerns - We know that so many of you are doing everything you can to stay safe and keep others safe. But if you have concerns, or see something that worries you, make a

We address each incident with a process that is rooted in education and learning, but we will not take lightly activities that put our entire community, and this fall semester, at risk.

Kindness and compassion - COVID-19 is relentless. We are all under a tremendous amount of pressure. But I am very concerned to hear reports of disrespectful behavior, particularly toward our housing and dining staff and others on the front lines. It is not acceptable to lash out at each other, at staff and faculty, or at members of our community. Kindness and compassion are part of what it means to be a University community. If you are stressed and need help, please seek support through the wide variety of wellness resources available to [students](#).

Community Safety

Your security as a member of our community is incredibly important. When you are out and about, please remember to:

- Be alert to your surroundings and walk with others you trust. Watch out for others—and don't leave your friends behind.
- Avoid texting while walking, wearing earbuds, or other activities that may cause you to be less observant.
- Be aware of emergency call buttons and Code Blue Emergency Telephones in the areas you travel regularly. They are answered by the University's dedicated 911 center 24 hours a day.

Be safe, be healthy and enjoy the yellow hues of fall all around us.

BTW--Can you guess what my favorite color is? Well since I moved to the U of Minnesota it is not yellow but close--Gold with Maroon.

Chancellor Mary

CAMPUS UPDATES

National Coming Out Day

Stand in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community and help build a Rainbow. Swing by the Sargent Student Center anytime from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to grab a cupcake and write a message of support.



From International Programs

Fall officially started last week and what came to mind was apples. The international students made a trip to an apple orchard to learn about Johnny Appleseed and the different varieties of apples grown in northern Minnesota from Gary Kircher of Garden Hills Farms in Fertile, MN. Gary also showed them his pumpkin patch and demonstrated how to identify when pumpkins and squashes are ripe and how to harvest them.



Back on campus, we introduced students to an all-time American favorite fall dessert-- apple pies! The students spent Friday afternoon peeling and cutting apples and making delicious apple pies. For many students, this was their first experience making apple pies and we suspect they will proudly show off their new skill to family and friends in the future. We'd like to thank Ned and Lucy for allowing our students to use Brown Dining facilities.



From Dining Services

New campus dining hours starting Monday, September 28.

Brown Dining

- Breakfast Tuesday only 7 a.m. - 9 a.m.
- Lunch 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Dinner 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Weekends

- Brunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Dinner 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Eagles Nest

Caribou Coffee will open for limited hours.

- Breakfast from 7 a.m. - 9 a.m. (for students on a meal plan)
- Breakfast 10 a.m. for (everyone.)

Caribou

- Monday, Wednesday - Friday 7 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Evergreen Market

Starting Monday, it will feature an expanded c-store and our signature Simply TO-GO program of fresh daily made sandwiches, wraps, salads and more.

We still will feature Blue Bunny Ice Cream as well as the F'Real Shakes.

The Dining room will be closed and use as a staging area for those waiting to come in to the Market, the space is small so a limited number of people will be allowed in at one time.

Hours

- Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Closed on the weekends.

To everyone who has been dining at Brown this semester thank you for welcoming the changes we have had to make to serve you in a safe manner. Since we are doing so well a few things are changing and going back to a little more of last year. Drinks will be self served now. Cups will be handed out by the cashier and if you need a refill pick up a new glass from the dining room attendant. The ice cream machine is coming back as well, plus the condiment pumps. These will be cleaned and disinfected every 30 minutes to get us all safe as we move forward. Thank you again for your patience.

HIGHLIGHTS

Alumni Profile: Kari Torkelson, 1991 Graduate

1. I attended the University of Minnesota Crookston from 1989-91 and then attended North Dakota State University from 1991-1993. At that point, I was one credit short of my bachelor's degree but because of my prerequisite classes I was still admitted to Indiana University-School of Optometry. I received my Bachelor of Science in Optometry in 1995 and my Doctor of Optometry degree in 1997. I began my optometry career with Dr. Jeffery B. Yunker and Associates which had offices in the Fargo and Grand Forks, ND Wal-Mart stores. Then, in 2003 he built a private office in Grand Forks, ND called Lifetime Vision



2. The main reason I chose to attend the University of Minnesota Crookston (UMN Crookston) was because I was recruited to play basketball and volleyball. It had other advantages of being close to home, small class sizes, and a good reputation for classes being able to transfer (UMN Crookston was a two-year school). At that time, I was planning on becoming an architect and it offered drafting classes. I found out that I didn't particularly like that field and decided to become an optometrist. I was also offered a Presidential Scholarship for my academic success which was very helpful.

3. There were MANY faculty and staff who made an impact on my student experience. In fact, I would say it is the people of UMN Crookston who made my experience so positive. My faculty advisor, Jerry Knutson, was my instructor, advisor, and biggest advocate. Then, Janna Hjelseth, was my volleyball and basketball coach. I obviously spent most of my time outside of the classroom in Lysaker Gymnasium. I was also in the choir and had a role in one of the musicals, so I spent many hours with George French. Then, my second year I was a resident advisor and worked for Gary Willhite and Andrew Svec. I was a member of campus ministry and Collette Conati led that group. Then there is the long list of others like Don Sargeant, Jack Bywater, Dale Knotek, Marv Bachmeier, Bob Johnson, Ray Tate, Butch Schleisher, Bill Tyrell, Cleon Melsa, John Zak, Lynne Mullins, Sharon Neet, Bill Peterson, Gary Senske, Jim Sims and MANY others. UMN Crookston was a place where I felt like I was noticed and people cared about me, my education, and my future.

4. I take great pride in the Maroon and Gold of UMN Crookston. As a former student-athlete, it was an honor to wear maroon and gold as I represented the university on and off the court. As a student-athlete, I enjoyed being able to walk around the campus in my maroon and gold. I also liked the feeling of being part of a team in our maroon and gold as we made our way onto opposing teams' campuses. I felt a sense of unity in our goal to beat the opponent. Now, as an alum, that maroon and gold pride might be even more intense because I am so proud of our student-athletes. I am proud of their academic success and the achievements made on the court, field and in the arena.

Mask Up

Eagles Protecting Eagles. Learn more about how we can [#ProtectTheNest](#) together at the link below.

<https://protectthenest.crk.umn.edu/>

*If you feel sick, **stay home** and away from others.



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