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LEADERSHIP LETTER

From the Vice Chancellor

Perhaps my most cherished blessing is my marriage. Joy and I have been married for more than 18 years, and she is still the person who, more than any other, pushes me to be better. She reminds me daily of the person and leader I aspire to be. She challenges me to

others. Granted, I often fail to live up to these expectations, but when I do, she's the first to remind me to apologize, own up, and do better next time.

While ours is a great marriage, it took years and hard work to build. Looking back, I am especially thankful for a small men's group I connected with through church as well as a core group of men I reached out to during some of our challenging moments. There were times when I needed to connect with others who shared my lived experience to help me be more of the man and husband I aspired to be.



For years, our international students have connected through the Multicultural International Club (MIC). Last year, we reconstituted UMN Crookston's Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) and grew participation in the Hispanic Organization for Latin Americans (HOLA). This year, a group of Black students are reforming our Black Student Association (BSA), and the Crookston Student Association is working to update its constitution to strengthen its policies and better support and maintain all our identity-based organizations, a best practice in higher education. These student organizations provide our students with essential opportunities to gather with others who share their lived experiences and culture. In addition to these permanent organizations, we currently have 43 student clubs, which enable students to gather around common interests, service activities, or shared career goals. Some may question such gatherings as a sign of division, but I challenge you to look more deeply--it is through honoring and celebrating unique identities that we unite to build truly equitable and inclusive communities.

Next Tuesday is election day in the U.S., and it is possible it may be weeks before we determine who is elected to many significant positions including President of the United States. As the results emerge, many of us will gather with others who share our political stances, whether left, right, or center. My hope is these spaces ultimately facilitate the process of coming together in a unity that honors diversity - "E pluribus unum" as stated on the seal of the U.S. Additionally, professionals in student affairs will be hosting several election night watch parties as well as spaces for gatherings in the days and perhaps weeks after the election. If you are interested in helping support various groups of students through these activities, please reach out to Dean of Student Engagement Savala DeVoge.

Protect The Nest

I ask that as a campus we continue to remember the importance of protecting the nest as we enter the final stretch on campus this semester before Thanksgiving. Our campus has done a good job of taking COVID-19 seriously, but we can't let up now. Cold and flu

Vice Chancellor Hoffman

CAMPUS UPDATES

Reminder to apply for the Sexual Misconduct Hearing Committee

About 10 days ago the University community was sent an email asking interested individuals to consider service on the Sexual Misconduct Hearing Committee (SMHC). The SMHC is the University's system-wide hearing body to consider complaints of sexual misconduct involving students, staff, and faculty in accordance with the University's [Administrative Policy on Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Relationship Violence](#). The SMHC performs a critical function at the University, and we seek thoughtful, deliberative community members to hear these important matters.

As this committee is system-wide, I am asking you to please consider applying so that the SMHC will have adequate representation from our campus.

Please review the [SMHC Selection Process and Criteria](#) for more information and apply by Sunday, November 1, 2020, using the [SMHC Application](#). Questions can be directed to smhc@umn.edu.

From the Wellness Center

There are many upcoming events such as volleyball, e-sports, yoga, and ping pong in the Wellness Center. If you wish to sign up for the events, click [here](#).

From Information Technology

Google rebrands G Suite as Google Workspace

Around January 2021, Google will be rebranding the G Suite for Education product the University uses for Gmail, Calendar, Drive, etc., as Google Workspace. You may start to see Workspace branding in Google Support documentation and in the products themselves (especially in mobile apps) before January. Google Workspace will keep all of

Athletics Gear

The Golden Eagle volleyball team is holding a clothing sale. If you are interested in athletic gear, click [here](#).

UMN Crookston Teambackers

2020-2021 Membership Drive

All faculty and staff are encouraged to show their Golden Eagle Pride for University of Minnesota Crookston



Athletics and join UMC Teambackers. Recently, information was sent via campus mail about the 2020-2021 UMC Teambackers Membership Drive. The completed form and gift can be returned to the Alumni & Development Office, but you can also make your donation easily online by going to the link below and selecting "Ongoing Payroll Deduction" in the Gift Frequency section.

[Make a gift to UMC Teambackers](#)

We hope you will consider lifting up Golden Eagle Athletics and becoming a Teambacker today!

[UMC Teambackers brochure](#)

For questions, please contact Derek Martin at 218-281-8436 or derekm@umn.edu.

— FACULTY & STAFF UPDATES —

Thompson to Step Down as Division Head

Last Thursday, Kevin Thompson, Ph.D., announced he will step down as the Division Head for Business, Arts, and Education after serving the inaugural two years in the role. Prior to that, Thompson served five years as Head of the Business Department and nine years as

From the Business Department

Afr. Rutherford Johnson recently received the degree of master of liberal arts in the field of sustainability from the Harvard University Extension School. The degree focuses on social sustainability and also involved earning graduate certificates in social justice, corporate sustainability and innovation, and business communications from the Extension School, as well as a certificate in corporate sustainability from the Harvard Business School Online.

HIGHLIGHTS

Student Stories

Agricultural business major, Roseline Kanssole, shares her story of how she came to UMN Crookston and what has made her experience as a Golden Eagle so special.



UMN Crookston Receives \$1.35 Million in Upgrades From HEAPR Funding

signed Wednesday by Governor Tim Walz. The bonding bill includes \$38.5 million worth of HEAPR improvements to the University of Minnesota System campuses, research and outreach centers and field stations.

Read the full news release [here](#).

Drive Thru Groceries

Harvest Church Crookston, in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture's Farmers to Families program, is offering free drive-thru groceries from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, at the Crookston High School parking lot. Each family will receive a box or boxes (depending on family size) of food containing fresh produce, dairy items, meat/protein, and milk. Students are welcome to attend.

Student Feature: Vinayak Sharma

Vinayak Sharma, a native from New Delhi, India, never truly saw himself pursuing his undergraduate career in the United States. Continuing his education in a country other than his own was a thought that had not crossed Sharma's mind until he flew halfway across the world in the 8th grade. Looking back, Sharma appreciates the steps he took that led him to where he is today, and finds it incredibly rewarding.

To read the full story, click [here](#).

From International Programs

We know temperatures will drop rather rapidly in October and catch our international students by surprise, so we organized a shopping trip to Fargo. This was important for our international students so they could get some appropriate winter clothes. New student Maria Bustos, a native of Colombia, will be experiencing her first



winter here, so we wanted to make sure she would be warmly clad when the first snow falls. We also made stops at ethnic grocery stores to pick up foods the campus community will be able to taste during International Week (November 9-13).

at the end of the week because Diwali Celebration falls on November 14. Mark your calendars for great food and great cultural experiences. One such experience is the creation of a sand mandala which will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day in the International Lounge. Another learning experience is attending a Language Corner where you can speak freely in another language while having coffee/tea and snacks. These language corners will feature: Monday, Spanish; Tuesday, Japanese; Wednesday, French; Thursday, Mandarin; and Friday, Hindi. These sessions will also allow students who speak the language to visit freely and for beginners who would like to learn emergency phrases to practice speaking in a warm and friendly environment.

Maroon and Gold Winner

Congrats to this weeks maroon and gold winner, Eric Morgan! Want a chance to win next week? Simply tag @umncrookston or dm your photo! *You can enter every week in October!



From the Student Success Center

November is Native
American Heritage month,
Join us in person or via
Zoom for a conversation
about Native history and
heritage.



Trunk or Treat

Trunk or Treat will take place on Halloween from 4 p.m. - 6p.m. There is also a limit to four people around the car at all times and all other social distancing guidelines will also be in play! If you have any questions please let me know!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdCVKFI684-sscsF3g4s8gTaYI-aFZkLGfq7kvqepxd0tawvw/viewform?usp=sf_link

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 31

4:00 - 6:00 PM

Join us around the campus mall for some family fun and candy. The first 400 people will receive free trick or treating bags full of candy.

(Toys will be available for kids with food allergies)



REMEMBER TO WEAR MASKS & BE SOCIALLY DISTANT

(Children 5 and under will not need a mask.)

Parking Available in the Kiehle Lot



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