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## LEADERSHIP LETTER

Dear Students,

One of my former colleagues, Margaret, spent two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Swahili early in her career. Later I worked with Margaret on a USAID project in rural Uganda helping to establish boreholes for water and planting gardens for greater food

in Uganda and frequently use the term and concept they used in Swahili “harambee,” which in English translates as “all pull together.”

I recently read an article from another university leader talking about their COVID experiences. He used the same word “harambee,” from his time in Swahili to describe his university’s response during COVID-19. It seems like the perfect word for what is happening here at the University of Minnesota Crookston. You all are going above and beyond and pulling together through this unique time.



Thank you for the many changes you had to make, improvising along the way, sacrificing your extra time and energy.

### **Hope**

Saying we are currently experiencing an intense moment in American history is such an understatement. I’ve read volumes of U.S. history books and biographies, and I won’t go so far as to say these are the most turbulent times ever but, I have never experienced as many things happening concurrently that are so challenging. In the area of racial unrest and violence, we haven’t seen days like these since when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was with us. Learn more about his work and legacy via Zoom, [z.umn.edu/6kuq](https://z.umn.edu/6kuq). Dr. King’s words are as relevant today as they were in 1967.

In the spirit of MLK and homage to his work, I encourage you to check in with others in your life to see how they are processing the current events, as we all have been navigating these strange times together.

Working with you gives me hope for the future we want to collectively build.

Chancellor Mary

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## EVENTS

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## From the Student Success Center

### Tutoring

Now is a great time to sign-up for a tutor! Tutoring will start this week and next. This [video](#) walks students through how to request a tutor and you can request a tutor using this [Request a Tutor link](#). The earlier you request a tutor, the more effective it can be. Online tutoring is available at no cost to all online students. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Parrill or email [umctutor@crk.umn.edu](mailto:umctutor@crk.umn.edu).

There is also Science/Math Drop-In tutoring with Kelsey Torgerson held M-F 3:30-4:30 p.m. (M&F via Zoom, TuWTh in-person or via Zoom). Students in Intro Chem, Intro Physics, or Chem Principles II can email Kelsey ([kwatkins@crk.umn.edu](mailto:kwatkins@crk.umn.edu)) ahead of time for the Zoom link.

The Math Center is now open for the semester Monday - Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., except on University holidays. They are available in-person (Owen Hall 170) during the morning and virtual in the afternoon. To join virtual hours or for questions, email [umcmathcenter@crk.umn.edu](mailto:umcmathcenter@crk.umn.edu).

### Writing Center

Feeling unsure about your next writing project? The [Writing Center](#) is available to all students (on campus and online) who want to discuss their writing, free of additional cost. This [video](#) walks you through how to use the Writing Center. You can choose to schedule a live consultation (in person or via video conference) or use our asynchronous email feedback. We provide constructive feedback to writers at all stages of the writing process.

For a live consultation, you may schedule a one-on-one conversation with a writing consultant to discuss comments on your draft using this [Make Appointment link](#). This can be done in person or via phone, Zoom, or Google Meet. If you'd prefer to receive email feedback, fill out an [Online Consultation Request](#). You'll answer questions about your writing project, upload a draft, and include your assignment instructions. A writing consultant will be in touch with you within one business day and will provide personalized feedback to you on your writing project. Note our new hours for this semester: Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Central Time. If you have any questions, please email [umcwrite@crk.umn.edu](mailto:umcwrite@crk.umn.edu).

### GRE Study Groups

Planning to take the GRE? Don't know what to expect? Not sure how to study? Sign up for a GRE study group this semester! Led by Kelsey Torgerson and Denise Greene, these

all three sections - quantitative reasoning, verbal reasoning, and analytical writing will be covered. We will meet for an hour every other week via Zoom, and we hope to begin at the beginning of February. If interested, please fill out this [interest form](#) by Friday, January 29. If you have any questions, please contact Kelsey Torgerson or Denise Greene.

### **Multicultural Education**

Join us as we celebrate the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 21 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. We will be meeting in person in Bede Ballroom, but if you are unable to join in person feel free to participate via [Zoom](#). We will watch an excerpt from one of Dr. King's addresses and will have time to discuss his ideas and how they still relate to us today.

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### **From Athletics**

The UMN Crookston women's basketball team picked up their first season sweep of perennial power Northern State University in program history last weekend. The Golden Eagles defeated the Wolves 66-63 Friday and 69-64 Saturday in two games that came down to the final whistle.

Minnesota Crookston was guided by Emma Carpenter with 16 points and Mary Burke with 15 points Friday. Freshman Jes Mertens tallied a school-record seven steals in the win.

Saturday, UMN Crookston looked to Mertens with 19 points. Burke added 13 points in the game. Haylee Wheeler, playing in only her second game back from an ACL injury in high school, scored 10 points and secured five rebounds.

The Golden Eagles take on Minot State on the road Friday, January 22 at 6 p.m., and Saturday January 23 at 2 p.m.

In addition, Mertens currently leads all of NCAA Division II in steals per game with 4.83 and is second in the nation with 29 steals.

The Minnesota Crookston men's basketball team returns home after playing No. 2 Northern State tight on the road with much of both games Friday and Saturday. UMN Crookston will play their fifth and sixth games in their friendly confines of Gary Senske Court at Lysaker Gymnasium. The Golden Eagles will face Minot State at 5:30 p.m. Friday and 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

The Golden Eagle hockey team had the week off of games after going 1-1 in their opening weekend against University of Jamestown. Minnesota Crookston will take on the University of North Dakota club team in their first game at the Crookston Sports Center at 7 p.m. Monday, January 25.

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## HIGHLIGHTS

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### Student Story: Peter Andrada

Every student at the University of Minnesota Crookston campus has a unique story of how they got here, and their stories are what weave the history of this campus in northwestern Minnesota. Peter Andrada, a Minnesota native, found his way to the University of Minnesota right out of high school in the early 90s, but the timing wasn't quite right for him then. Nonetheless, years later Andrada would find himself thriving in his IT career and back at the University of Minnesota Crookston to finish his degree.

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



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### Preserving the History of Hispanics in the Red River Valley

University of Minnesota Crookston employee and 2011 alumnus Ken Mendez and 2002 alumna Victoria Ramirez will be two of three panelists on a discussion and premiere screening of “Ésta Es Mi Casa - This is My Home,” Prairie Public’s original documentary about the Hispanic migration to the Red River Valley.

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

