

News Release

Chinese University Officials Visit UMC May 11 and 12 to Get Behind-the-Scenes Look at International Partnership Structure

By Krista Lemos on Tuesday, May 9, 2006

CROOKSTON, MN (May 9, 2006) – Leaders from Zhejiang Economic and Trade Polytechnic (ZJETP) in Hangzhou, China, will be at the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) May 11 and 12, 2006, to get an up-close look at the workings behind UMC degree programs and see how they will be delivered to their students in China.

ZJETP officials President Li Shuming, Communist Party Secretary Tong Xuemin, International Coordinator Gu Mingdi, and Professor Shen Yinzhen will tour the UMC campus and meet with faculty and staff to learn about the curriculum, teaching, technology, and other cooperative opportunities that will support the educational agreement between the two universities. This agreement, signed in late 2005, establishes an international partnership to enhance opportunities for students to study and faculty to work collaboratively. UMC faculty will be traveling to Zhejiang Economic and Trade Polytechnic (ZJETP) this fall and next spring to establish programs in agriculture business management and computer software engineering and information technology management. Zhejiang students will also attend UMC this fall as part of the partnership.

"The University of Minnesota has a long-standing commitment to and relationship with the people of China," said UMC Chancellor Charles H. Casey. "As a campus of the University of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota, Crookston is pleased to continue this strong relationship with a growing partnership in the Zhejiang Province. "Our educational agreement builds on the existing connection and provides opportunities for information exchange related to trade, tourism, and social needs. This collaboration will benefit our students, institutions and our countries and will enhance the efforts already in place on both sides of the Pacific."

ZJETP officials are visiting as part of China-Zhejiang Week, which brings top Chinese leaders from the Zhejiang Province, an eastern coastal province of the People's Republic of China, to the United States. ZJETP leadership meets with University of Minnesota, Crookston Chancellor Casey, Chancellor Emeritus and Professor Donald Sargeant, and Assistant Professor Jingpeng Tang in New York on May 10 before traveling to meet with University of Minnesota administration in Minneapolis the morning of May 11. The group then will travel to Crookston for the campus visit.

The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) is a four-year baccalaureate degree granting institution, dedicated to learning, discover, and engagement in the northwest region. To learn more, visit www.UMCrookston.edu.

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MEDIA ADVISORY – Related events are ongoing at the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) from May 11 at 3:30 p.m. to May 12 at noon. This will be a great opportunity to capture great visuals – interaction between UMC staff and faculty and leaders from Zhejiang Economic and Trade Polytechnic (ZJETP). Interview opportunities can be made available as well.

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