

News Release

UMC Presents Social Forces Shaping Retirement – Join the Conversation May 16 at 7:30 p.m.

By Krista Lemos on Thursday, May 11, 2006

CROOKSTON, MN (May 11, 2006) – The changing face of retirement will be the topic of the next University of Minnesota Great Conversations scheduled for Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.

The program is via teleconference at the University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC) campus in Dowell Hall 100. Attendees can ask questions and participate through email during the presentation.

Dramatic social changes and shifting demographics are starting to alter our traditional notion of retirement. In this conversation, two innovative thinkers will challenge previously held myths and explore new possibilities — how to reshape retirement in ways that offer retirees a greater range of options while improving overall quality of life. The Great Conversations' season finale features University of Minnesota professor Phyllis Moen, also a McKnight Presidential Chair in the University's sociology department, and Marc Freedman, founder and president of Civic Ventures, a national nonprofit organization that works to expand the contributions of older Americans in society.

Moen is a pioneering researcher in work-life issues. She is the author of *The Career Mystique: Cracks in the American Dream* and editor of *It's About Time: Couples and Careers*. Both these works expose serious shortcomings in our current system and propose new paradigms for work and retirement. Freedman has served as an advisor to government agencies and nonprofit organizations, spawning new thinking about aging and civic life. His recent book, *Prime Time: How Baby Boomers Will Revolutionize Retirement and Transform America*, was described by the Wall Street Journal as a "passionate argument that aging is an opportunity rather than a problem."

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

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