

## News Release

# Rachel McCoppin Awarded Imagine Fund Annual Award

By Cassandra Morthera on Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Last week, University of Minnesota Crookston Professor Rachel McCoppin was named the recipient of the 2019-2020 Imagine Fund Annual Award. McCoppin's research proposal is on "Women as Representations of Nature in Germanic and Norse Mythology."

McCoppin hopes to pursue a scholarly book project involving the role of women as representatives of nature in various mythological traditions, as McCoppin feels the topic of women in mythology, and in particular women as representatives of the natural environment, is a topic that has received little attention. With this grant, she plans to travel to Scandinavia in order to research various sites that were sacred to the Germanic and Norse. Visiting the sacred sites, viewing the archaeological artifacts found at such sites, taking part in on-site mythological narrations, among other activities, will provide essential information into making connections with written mythological materials. In addition, viewing the landscape surrounding sites connected to mythological narratives will help McCoppin gain an understanding of how Norse and Germanic women achieved the portrayal they did within their narratives.

Imagine Fund grant programs support projects in the arts, design and humanities at the University of Minnesota. The three Imagine Fund programs support leading-edge, innovative lines of research or scholarship that may not otherwise be possible. Awards often leverage investments and funds from other sources in support of projects in arts, humanities, and design.

An initiative of the Executive Vice President and Provost, the programs are supported by a generous grant from the McKnight Foundation; additional contributions have come from the Provost's Office, Graduate School, and the Office of the Vice President for Research, and from the creation of the Arts, Design, and Humanities Chair through the Permanent University Fund.

### About UMN Crookston

One of five campuses that comprise the University of Minnesota System, the University of Minnesota Crookston now delivers 35 bachelor's degree programs and 25 minors on campus as well as 16 degree programs entirely online. These degrees are offered in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,800 undergraduates from more than 20 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. Visit [www.umcrookston.edu](http://www.umcrookston.edu).

### About UMN

The University of Minnesota System, with campuses in Crookston, Duluth, Morris, Rochester, and the Twin Cities, is driven by a singular vision of excellence. We are proud of our land-grant mission of world-class education, groundbreaking research, and community-engaged outreach, and we are unified in our drive to serve Minnesota.

## Contact

Cassandra Morthera

University Relations

218-281-8432

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2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716  
800-862-6466 | 218-281-6510 | [umcinfo@umn.edu](mailto:umcinfo@umn.edu)

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