

News Release

Women's History Month Panel Discussion "Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives" at the University of Minnesota Crookston on Monday, March 9, 2015; Discussion begins at 3 p.m. in Youngquist Auditorium

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 In celebration of Women's History Month, the University of Minnesota Crookston will host a panel discussion around the theme "Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives" on Monday, March 9, 2015. The discussion will take place at 3 p.m. in Youngquist Auditorium. All are welcome and admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

Panel members include White Earth Nation Tribal Chairwoman Erma J. Vizenor, Ph.D.; Ninth Judicial District Judge Tamara Yon; District Judge Anne Rasmussen; and Dr. Gloria A. Adjekum, a pediatrician from Altru Health System.

Each of these women leaders are successful in their chosen profession and also play a vital role in the development of the region.

A grant from the Northwest Minnesota Women's Fund will help sponsor the panel along with the Center for Adult Learning, the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Programs, Student Activities, and Golden Eagle Athletics.

For more information, contact Michelle Christopherson, Center for Adult Learning, 218.281.8679.

Biographical information on panelists

Gloria Adjekum, M.D., specializes in pediatrics at Altru Health System. She earned her doctor of medicine from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology, School of Medical Sciences. She completed her internship and residency at Columbia University Medical Center, New York, New York.

Anne Rasmussen, J.D., was appointed judge by Governor Mark Dayton in April 2013 and she was elected in 2014. She earned her juris doctor from the University of Minnesota School of Law and served as a law clerk, associate attorney, and partner at Rust, Stock, Rasmussen, and Knutson, P.A., in Crookston.

Erma Vizenor, Ph.D., was elected as the Chairwoman of the White Earth Reservation in 2004 and is the first woman to lead the largest tribe in Minnesota. Previously, she was appointed Secretary/Treasurer in 1996 and then elected to the position in 1997. As Chairwoman she represents all districts both on and off the White Earth Reservation.

Tamara Yon, J.D., was appointed by Governor Tim Pawlenty in January 2006 and elected in 2008 and again in 2014. She earned her juris doctor from the University of North Dakota Law School and has been an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota Crookston since 1999. From 1994 to 2005, she was an attorney with Johannson, Rust, Yon, Stock, and Rasmussen in Crookston.

Background

The mission of the Northwest Minnesota Women's Fund is to develop resources and serve as a catalyst for improving the quality of life for women and girls. They support activities, projects, services, or programs that improve the quality of life and strengthening and empowerment of women and girls in the region. The Northwest Minnesota Foundation serves 12 Northwest Minnesota counties including Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Mahnommen, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau. For more information about the Northwest Minnesota Women's Fund and the Northwest Minnesota Foundation, visit www.nwmf.org.

The University of Minnesota Crookston now delivers 31 bachelor's degree programs, 22 minors, and 36 concentrations on campus as well as 14 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. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

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