



U of M, Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

www.umcrookston.edu

November 12, 2012

From the Chancellor

One of my roles as chancellor is to “make the case” for UMC whenever and wherever I can. This includes within the U of M system and also within the community and region.

In terms of the system, along with the other chancellors, I have advocated for greater involvement of the campuses within the system, and I have used every opportunity to highlight the many areas where UMC can help the system as well. In a related action, last week President Kaler publicized his decision to accept the recommendations of a task force that reviewed the Office of Academic Administration for the University of Minnesota System following the recent announcement that Senior Vice President Robert Jones was leaving the university. As outlined in that group’s report (available online at www.umn.edu/president/recommendations), the chancellors will now have a greater role within the system and will report directly to the U of M president. This as an important step for our campus, and I look forward to working within the system and with President Kaler to draw attention to and advocate for our campus.

As we approached the election, I met with as many candidates as possible to begin to develop relationships with them and to thank them for their willingness to serve the public. Now that the election has concluded, I will be sending congratulatory notes to all the successful candidates and will schedule additional meetings. While state support for higher education has declined in recent years, the state continues to be our single largest funding source, and we must continue to advocate with our elected officials at all levels for additional funding in order to continue our important work for the future of Minnesota and the world. In my meetings with some candidates I found they were not always entirely familiar with our campus or fully aware of the great work at UMC or of the challenges our students face. They might not be completely familiar, for instance, with our exemplary work in providing students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences they need to succeed in the workplace or with the high debt many students are assuming in obtaining their degrees.

This experience of meeting folks who are not fully informed has not been uncommon during the first four months of my serving as your chancellor. For example, this past week we hosted the outstanding Torch & Shield recognition which provided the campus an opportunity to honor supporters of the campus, acknowledge many of our benefactors, and showcase exceptional faculty-led undergraduate research projects and student presentations. It was a marvelous event, and the food was fabulous! That evening as I met with attendees, many of whom are longtime supporters, I found that some of them also were unaware of the great things that are happening at UMC. We have so many great stories to tell! I hope each of you will also look for opportunities to tell success stories from your perspective whenever the opportunity presents itself as you interact with system folks, elected officials, opinion leaders, as well as friends.

Finally, for many of our students this was their first presidential election. I would like to thank the many staff and faculty who helped our students through the process, which may have included assisting them in registering, getting them to the polls, answering their questions, and encouraging them to participate in the democratic process. I also appreciated the many "I voted" stickers which set a good example and hopefully encouraged more students to vote. It was a pleasure for me to attend a crowded polling place for the first time in many years and to live in a place where such a high percentage of the registered voters participate. Yet another reason to be thankful for living in Northwest Minnesota!

As we approach the beginning of the holiday season and the traditional Thanksgiving Holiday, I hope everyone enjoys a restful time next week with family and friends as we all anticipate the busy time at the end of the semester.

–Fred
Fred E. Wood, Chancellor
University of Minnesota, Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

International Market, Wednesday, November 14 – 2 to 6 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

University of Minnesota, Crookston Alumni Association (UMCAA) Board of Directors Annual Meeting, Wednesday, November 14 – 6 to 8:30 p.m., Kiehle 116

International Education Week Guest Speaker: Fun wi Tita, Director of Making a Difference International, Wednesday, November 14 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

International Kids Carnival, Friday, November 16 – 5 to 7 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Hunt Seat Equestrian Home Show, Saturday and Sunday, November 17 and 18 – events begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday and at 9 a.m. on Sunday, University Teaching and Outreach Center (UTOC) Arena

Speaker JT Shining Onside: "The Circle of Life, Sacred Medicines, and a Celebration of Animals," Monday, November 19 – 7 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

"Thanksgiving: A Native's Perspective - History, Hope, and Healing" by Bill Paulson of the White Earth Reservation, Tuesday, November 19 – Noon, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

"River's Edge: An Evening of Native American Song, Dance, and Music," Tuesday, November 19 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

Thanksgiving Holiday, Thursday, November 22, and Friday, November 23 – classes excused, campus offices closed

Flu Short Clinic, Tuesday, November 27 – 8 to 10 a.m. for faculty and staff, 1 to 3 p.m. for students, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

For details on these and a comprehensive listing of other events or to discover what's happening this week, visit UMC Today at www.umcrookston.edu/today or review our news page at <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news>.

Learn more about events across the entire University of Minnesota system via *Brief*: www.umn.edu/twincities/faculty-staff/brief.

Around Campus

Administrative Affairs –

As a result of the November 6 election, the DFL will regain control of both the **Minnesota House and Senate** when the legislature convenes on January 8, 2013. After results are verified and made official by the state canvassing board on November 27, the Senate will be composed of 39 DFL and 28 Republican members, while the House will be made up of 73 DFL and 61 Republican members. With Governor Mark Dayton, the DFL now controls the entire lawmaking process, which has not occurred since 1990. The focus of the upcoming session will be on developing a biennial budget, which may include a major tax reform initiative from the governor. Last week, both the House and Senate DFL elected party leaders. In the Senate, **Tom Bakk** will become the majority leader and **Sandy Pappas**, former Higher Education Committee chair, will become president. In the House, **Paul Thissen** will serve as the speaker and **Erin Murphy** will become majority leader. Committee chairs and Republican leadership are yet to be decided. For more information, visit the U's Government and Community Relations website: www.govrelations.umn.edu.

Academic Affairs –

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Tom Baldwin has returned from a trip to Asia, where he visited current academic partners and met with others to explore possible new partnerships. In Taiwan he visited **National Taiwan University's College of Bio Resources and Agriculture, China University of Science and Technology, Chinese Culture University, and Lunghwa University of Science and Technology**. He met with officials of National Taiwan University and Chinese Culture University, both of which are interested in a possible relationship in agriculture and natural resources. UMC will conclude an agreement of cooperation with Chinese Culture University, and that opens the door for cooperative programs in agriculture and in communications. China University of Science and Technology and Lunghwa University of Science and Technology are interested in summer programs and would offer opportunities for some UMC students to go and study Chinese language there free. In China he met with UMC's partner institution **Zhejiang Economic and Trade Polytechnic** and made a presentation to around 120 students interested in UMC's articulated program. In Korea he met with the president of **Gyeongin National University of Education**, a current partner institution that hosts a 1+3 program with UMC. He also met with about 60 students who are coming to Minnesota for spring semester 2013.

Student Affairs –

A series of events commemorating **Native American Heritage Month** is planned for November 16-20. Highlights include "The Circle of Life, Sacred Medicines, and a Celebration of Animals" by JT Shining Oneside of the Turtle Mountain Community College/YouthBuild, on Monday, November 19, at 7 p.m. in Bede Ballroom and "River's Edge: An Evening of Native Song, Dance and Music," on Tuesday, November 20, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. [View a listing of the full series of events.](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/11/native-american-heritage-month.html)
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/11/native-american-heritage-month.html>

International Programs

Three Crookston faculty members, **Courtney Bergman**, MBA; **Brian Dingmann**, PhD; and **Matt Simmons**, PhD, have been selected to participate in the **University of Minnesota's 2012-13 Internationalizing Teaching and Learning (ITL) Cohort Program** sponsored by the Global Programs & Strategy (GPS) Alliance, the Center for Teaching and Learning, Instructional Development Services (UMD), and the Office of Information Technology. Each will receive a \$1000 professional development stipend for their successful completion of this program. Faculty members from all five U of M campuses are among the ITL Cohort Program and represent a wide range of disciplines. UMC's Eric Castle, MLA, and Katy Smith, PhD, took part in the program in 2011-12.

A series of events and activities will mark **International Education Week** on the Crookston campus November 12-16. Highlighting the week is a presentation by Fun wi Tita, director of Making a Difference International (MADI), on Wednesday, November 15, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. [View a full listing of the week's events.](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/11/international-week-brings-fun.html)
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/11/international-week-brings-fun.html>

Development & Alumni Relations –

Alumni and friends in the Fargo-Moorhead area are invited to attend the **UMC Alumni Social** on Thursday, November 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Ramada Plaza Suites, located at 1635 42nd Street South in Fargo, N.D. Refreshments will be served. This marks the third time the University of Minnesota, Crookston Alumni Association has hosted an alumni social in Fargo, and all alumni are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Rose Ulseth (rulseth@umn.edu) at 218-281-8439.

University Relations –

Refreshed and updated websites for UMC's various academic majors, minors, and departments have been launched. These new sites are the culmination of several months of work by a number of staff, faculty, and students. These sites are also among the most important tools to market our degree programs to prospective students. Thanks go to **Amber Bailey**, e-communications manager, for shepherding this multifaceted project. Additional thanks go to **Elizabeth Tollefson**, assistant director of communications, and student workers **Ruth Navarro**, **Sean Rozell**, **Melissa Freitag**, and **Austin Czichotzki '12**, as well as all the faculty and staff members who assisted in developing and refining the content. View the new sites at www.umcrookston.edu/academics.

Athletics –

Golden Eagle Football kicker **Stephen Henderson**, a senior from Chatsworth, Calif., was named the NSIC Special Teams Player of the Week as announced by the conference office on Monday. Henderson's kicks would help send UMC to a 37-36 win over the University of Mary on Saturday, November 10. The UMC kicker hit a career-long 43 yard field goal to put UMC on the scoreboard 3-0. The field goal surpassed his previous long of 37. Then, he bested that kick connecting on a new career-long of 47 in the second quarter. He was also three-for-three on PATS for the day.

Golden Eagle Women's Soccer player **Rachel Halligan**, a junior from Duluth, Minn., majoring in an early childhood education, has been named All-Conference Honorable Mention by the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC). Halligan appeared in all 18 games for the Golden Eagles, starting for 17. She led UMC with three goals and also added two assists for eight points which also led the team.

Golden Eagle Volleyball player **Brittany Looker**, a sophomore from Rochester, Minn., majoring in biology, has earned All-Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Second Team honors. Looker has led the team in kills for the second season in a row with 203 for an average of 2.77 kills per set. She has also been among the nation's leaders this year for service aces with 33. The total is third in the NSIC. Looker is second on the team for digs with 255 for an average of 3.07 digs per set.

The renovation of the office suite in Sports Center 139 has been completed. Athletics staff members located in that suite include Shawn Smith, sports information director; Natasha Reiersen, assistant athletic director and senior women's administrator (SWA); Chris Vito, head baseball coach and assistant sports information director; Joe Alianiello, head women's soccer coach; and Catherine "Tizz" Connell, athletics administrative assistant.

University of Minnesota System

Between now and December 2014, the University of Minnesota system is upgrading its essential human resources (HR), student service, and financial systems and re-examining related business processes to improve the user experience and operational efficiency and effectiveness. This \$83.5M project is known as the **Enterprise Systems Upgrade Program (ESUP)**. Since the upgrade applies to the University's HR, student service, and financial systems, ultimately all students, staff, and faculty across all campuses, colleges, and units will all be affected at some point. The upgrade is necessary in order to maintain software vendor support and regulatory compliance for the system; perform mission-critical activities and day-to-day business functions; and position the U to leverage new and emerging technologies and devices. This foundational technology upgrade will enable future enhancements and functionality to be added in 2015 and beyond. To learn more visit <http://upgrade.umn.edu/>.

Open Enrollment for employee benefits is currently underway through November 30. Faculty and staff may enroll online at Employee Self-Service (<http://hrss.umn.edu/>) and must make their election by November 30. If they are satisfied with medical and dental plan choices, there is no need to re-enroll, and current plans will continue into 2013. However, if anyone wishes to have a flexible spending account in 2013, he or she must enroll during Open Enrollment. Increases can be made in the amount of existing short-term disability by up to \$200 without medical evidence of insurability, and, if eligible, individuals may enroll in or increase the amount of long-term disability. For more information, see the online benefits guide and narrated workshop. Call the U of M Employee Benefits Service Center at 612-624-9090 or 1-800-756-2363, Option 2, with specific questions about Open Enrollment.

Campus and Community

Veterans and their families are invited to a unique opportunity to learn more about starting and operating a small business at a **Veteran Entrepreneur and Business Networking Event** on Tuesday, November 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Sponsored by the Northwest Minnesota Small Business Development Center (NW MN SBDC) and the Center for Rural Entrepreneurial Studies (CRES) at the U of M, Crookston, the event will cover a wide range of topics including starting and financing a business. Information will also be available to those interested in strengthening a current business. Attendees will meet key partners who offer resources at no or low cost in their local communities. The event is free, and lunch is included. Registration is requested by contacting the NW MN SBDC (sbdc@cord.edu) at 218-299-3037.

The U of M, Crookston will, again, serve as a co-sponsor of the Northwest Minnesota IDEA Competition. Now entering its fifth year, the IDEA Competition was designed to grow the economy of Northwest Minnesota by helping the next generation of local entrepreneurs. The regional innovators with the most promising breakthrough ideas earn a \$10,000 cash award to help them fund their business effort and gain access to receive services and direction from some of the best business resources the region has to offer. Since it began, the program has awarded over \$250,000 in funding, and ten awardees have brought their products to market. The reduced rate "early-bird" entry deadline for this year's competition is November 15, 2012, and the final entry deadline is November 30. Learn more and obtain entry materials at www.ideacompetition.org.

Accolades

A \$100,000 grant from the U.S. Department of State will fund a collaborative effort between the University of Minnesota, Crookston and Zhejiang Economic and Trade Polytechnic (ZJETP) to establish an American Cultural Center in Hangzhou, China. The purpose of the cultural center, to be located on the campus of ZJETP, is to cultivate greater understanding between the United States and China. **Jingpeng Tang**, PhD, an associate professor in UMC's Math, Science, and Technology Department, is the grant's principal investigator. Tang and **Kim Gillette**, PhD, director of UMC's Office of International Programs, will serve as the cultural center's deputy directors. Serving as their counterpart deputy director in China will be **Mingdi Gu**, who is the director of the international office at ZJETP. [Learn more.](#)

<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/11/u-of-m-crookston-receives-1000.html>

Two U of M, Crookston students are among the 2012 recipients of the prestigious **Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity (SEED) Award**. **Wemimo Samson Abbey**, a senior from Lagos, Nigeria, majoring in business management and organizational psychology, and **Dae Yeul "Danny" Lee**, a senior accounting major from Seoul, Korea, are recipients of the Sue W. Hancock Undergraduate SEEDs of Change Award. The two will be recognized on Wednesday, November 14, at the University of Minnesota Equity and Diversity Breakfast held at the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus. Each year six to ten undergraduates from across the U of M system are honored with the SEED Award.

The **U of M, Crookston's Collegiate FFA chapter earned the platinum level A.W. Nolan Memorial Leadership Award** at the National ATA Conclave on Friday, October 26, in Indianapolis, Ind. The U of M, Crookston was among four colleges to earn the award—the highest level attainable—and it marked the first time the campus has received the honor. The award was accepted by a group of sixteen UMC students attending and competing at the event. The Crookston students participated in all contest areas including parliamentary procedure, debate, quiz bowl, program of excellence, and the essay competition. [Learn more.](#)

<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/11/u-of-m-crookston-collegiate-ff.html>

Three UMC agricultural education majors were recently awarded the **American FFA Degree**, the highest degree that can be earned from the National FFA Organization. **Nathan Anderson**, a sophomore from Appleton, Minn.; **Thomas Chute**, a senior from Aitkin, Minn.; and **Amy Lee** a sophomore from Mercer, N.D., were each presented their American FFA Degree on Saturday, October 27, at the 2012 National FFA Convention held in Indianapolis, Ind. Anderson, Chute, and Lee are all members of the U of M, Crookston Collegiate FFA Chapter as well as concurrently enrolled in their respective high school chapters.

The essay "Horror Obsessions: Poe's Legacy of the Unreliable Narrator" authored by **Rachel McCoppin**, PhD, associate professor in the Liberal Arts and Education Department, is included in a book published recently on Edgar Allan Poe. The book entitled *Adapting Poe: Re-Imaginations in Popular Culture* published by Palgrave Macmillan and edited by Dennis R. Perry and Carl H. Sederholm, is a collection of essays examining a wide range of genres and media all centered on Poe and his works. The compilation looks closely at Poe's influence on popular culture and his relevance today.

Sharon Neet, DA, professor of history in the Liberal Arts and Education Department, spoke on the life of J.A. Wayland and his Appeal to Reason newspaper as the keynote address at the 15th Annual Gene DeGruson Memorial Lecture on October 11 at Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas.

Jeff Sperling, director, UMC Technology Support Services, recently was presented with a leadership award "for outstanding vision, dedication, and commitment to excellence in IT" from Scott Studham, vice president and CIO for the Office of Information Technology, on the Twin Cities campus. Jeff was also recognized for his service as an IT Leadership Alliance co-chair in the U of M system.

Jack Geller, PhD, professor and department head, Liberal Arts & Education Department, and director of the EDA Center at the U of M, Crookston, attended the Tekne Awards hosted by the Minnesota High Tech Association in Minneapolis on November 1. He was among those honored with the "Innovative Collaboration Award" as representatives of the Minnesota Intelligent Rural Communities (MIRC) initiative. Through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant, the MIRC coalition brought together a network of resources and support to rural Minnesota individuals and communities—especially those unemployed and seeking employment, small businesses, coalitions of government entities, and local leaders.

Publication notes: The *E-Update* is published twice each month August through April and once each month May through July. Issues are posted online at www.umcrookston.edu/admin/chancellor/eupdate. If you have any questions regarding the information in this news update, please send them to urumc@umn.edu.

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Andrew Svec
Director of Communications, Public Relations and Marketing
University of Minnesota, Crookston
www.umcrookston.edu

E-mail: asvec@umn.edu
Phone: 218-281-8438
Fax: 218-281-8440
Cell: 218-280-2656

Office of University Relations
117 Kiehle Building
2900 University Avenue
Crookston, MN 56716-5001