



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROOKSTON

U of M Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

www.umcrookston.edu

January 26, 2016

From the Chancellor

In meetings with members of the Board of Regents, President Kaler, and the various vice presidents and leaders of the University of Minnesota system, we discuss a bright future for our campus. By both their words and actions, they are clearly supportive of the Crookston campus in many ways. We have only to look at the substantial construction on campus and the hiring we are engaged in as evidence of that support. In these discussions it is also clear that our system leaders are especially supportive of our distinctive online efforts and often comment on our national accolades, like those mentioned in this edition of E-Update in the “Accolades” section. Fundamentally, they appreciate our online efforts and recognize them as a modern extension of the land-grant mission of the University of Minnesota.

As we work on campus and see our on-campus students daily, it is understandable that we might focus our attention on these students. However, we also recognize that our mission includes our online efforts and that these efforts are critical to our present and future success. We serve not only these students, but also the University and the state through these efforts. Last month I had a chance to view an outstanding video of recent online graduate and Crookston resident Kristi Page as she reflected on her UMC online experience. She also described the importance of her education in ways that I found compelling. I hope you will take four minutes to view this video, as I think you will find it insightful and quite moving. You can find it at www.umcrookston.edu/online or directly at www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkLUE2Fr85Y.

It is important to keep our online students in mind and understand how important our work is in serving them. We often see the transformational impact we have on traditional students who we work with directly day-to-day on campus, but we also touch online students every day as well. Clearly, obtaining her degree was transformational for Kristi, as it is, no doubt, for many online students as well as for more traditional on-campus students. We recognize that a college education is important for employment, but it is also important for improving our students’ lives in so many ways, both in the near and long term.

Our student-centered mission resonates with our leaders; it is one of our great strengths. We are rightly proud of the personal attention we provide students, of helping students meet their many challenges, and of the great value we add to our students’ development. What we provide for many of them—both on-campus and online—is greater opportunity. We are able to help them open doors to a better future. We work with our students to raise their sights to higher objectives, and we help our students achieve them. That is what we are all about.

Thank you.

Fred Wood
Chancellor
University of Minnesota Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

2016 UMC Job and Internship Fair, Wednesday, January 27 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Panel Discussion: United Against Human Trafficking, Thursday, January 28 – 7 to 9 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

Ag Arama Chili Feed, Friday, January 29 – 6 to 8 p.m., University Teaching and Outreach Center (UTOC), \$5 per person, open to the public

41st Annual Ag Arama, Saturday, January 30 – 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., UTOC, free and open to the public

Ag Arama Dance Featuring Live music by Levi Pelzer, Saturday, January 30 – 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Crookston Eagles Club, 105 South Broadway, Crookston, \$10 admission, open to the public

“The Athens Boys Choir” Performed by Harvey Katz, Monday, February 1 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

Blood Drive, Wednesday, February 3 – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Thursday Commons: International Dimensions of Sustainability, Thursday, February 4 – 12:30 to 2 p.m.,

ZuZu African Acrobats, Thursday, February 4 – 6:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

Brown Bag Lunch Presentation: “Service learning: What is it? What is it not? Why should I care?” Friday, February 5 – 1 to 2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

UMC Hosts the 67th Western Minnesota Regional Science Fair, Saturday, February 6 – 8 a.m. to 3:30 pm., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

6th Annual Justin Knebel Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament, Saturday, February 6 – 9 a.m. registration, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. lines in water, awards program following, Zippel Bay Resort on Lake of the Woods, Williams, Minn., tickets \$20 in advance, contact Alysa Tulibaski at 701-215-4300

Music on Monday Featuring Dustin Kaiser, Monday, February 8 – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Northern Lights Lounge, Sargeant Student Center, free and open to the public

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://news.crk.umn.edu/news>.
Learn more about events across the entire University of Minnesota system via Brief: <http://brief.umn.edu/>.

Around Campus

Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) –

A new AQIP Action Project, Developing Advisory Assessments for Optimal Mathematics Placement, has been chartered by UMC’s AQIP Steering Committee. The project, led by Marcella Melby and T.J. Chapman,

will provide another instrument to help place students in math courses to enhance student success. Assessment will be created for College Algebra, Precalculus, and Calculus. While ACT will continue to be the primary placement tool, these new math assessments will also be available for use when ACT may not be accurate. The plan is to pilot the instrument in spring 2016 College Algebra classes. The deadline for the next round of AQIP action project proposals is March 15, 2016. The request form is available online at www.umcrookston.edu/aqip. Questions regarding proposed projects should be directed to Sue Erickson, director of institutional effectiveness.

Student Affairs –

The 2016 UMC Job and Internship Fair will be held on Wednesday, January 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. Approximately 40 employers are expected to attend, as are representatives from several graduate schools. All are welcome. Admission is free. The first 150 students will receive a custom gift bag. The event is sponsored by UMC Career Development and Counseling .

The United Way of Crookston, UMC's Office of Community Engagement, and UMC Residential Life will co-sponsor a panel discussion to bring awareness and solutions to combatting human trafficking on Thursday, January 28, from 7 to 9 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. This discussion is free and open to the public. Panelists will include Monica Miller, Northwest Regional Navigator, Support Within Reach, Bemidji, Minn.; Chief Paul Bermeier, Crookston Police Dept.; and Stephanie Pry, Polk County Coordinated Victim Services. As part of the event, the video "Look Beneath the Surface: Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking in the U.S." will be shown.

"The Athens Boys Choir," a performance by Harvey Katz, is scheduled for Monday, February 1, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. Sponsored by UMC's Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA), the performance is free and open to the public. Katz, the solo member of the Athens Boys Choir, performs a show made up of spoken word poetry, storytelling, and multi-media hip-hop. It is intended for both entertainment and education as well as to highlight the transgender experience as a vibrant part of the human story. Learn more at www.athensboyschoir.com.

The ZuZu African Acrobats will perform on Thursday, February 4, at 6:30 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public. Known in the United States for their appearance on "America's Got Talent," the six-member troupe delivers a family-friendly show blending circus arts and physical feats with high-energy dancing, driven by the rhythms of traditional and popular African music. This event is part of Black History Month and is sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Programs.

Business Affairs –

Effective January 1, 2016, the mileage allowance for personal vehicle use on approved University business decreased from 57.5¢ to 54¢ per mile. Faculty and staff should use the updated form linked from the following policy page to reflect the mileage change when submitting employee reimbursements: <http://policy.umn.edu/finance/travel-proc02>.

Technology Support Services –

University Information Security (UIS) wants to remind the University community to beware of tax scams.

They have already seen one tax-targeted phishing scam. UIS is working with Human Resources and IT Communications to communicate the potential issues with phishing and tax fraud as widely as possible to the University community. W2s were released 1/15, and the HR announcement had a warning about tax fraud scams. UIS recommends not waiting too long to file your taxes. This gives offenders time to file fraudulent tax forms.

Development & Alumni Relations –

UMC Teambackers along with the Office of Development & Alumni Relations will host the 6th Annual Justin Knebel Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament on Saturday, February 6, at Zippel Bay Resort on Lake of the Woods, Williams, Minn. Tickets are available for \$20 by contacting Alysa Tulibaski at haug450@umn.edu or 701-215-4300. Registration begins at 9 a.m. on the ice at the tournament site with fishing from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds from the tournament support the Justin Knebel Memorial Scholarship Fund at the U of M Crookston. Knebel was a point guard for the Golden Eagles. In the fall of 2002 he became ill and passed away unexpectedly from complications, but he left behind a legacy of dedication, determination, and a drive to excel. Learn more at www.umcrookston.edu/justinknebel.

The latest edition of *Torch*, UMC's alumni magazine, was recently published. It is available online at <http://z.umn.edu/12im>. The magazine features a cover story on Dayle (Rockenscok) and Ivan Reinke, 1997, who promote grazing their cattle using sustainable practices for better land use management.

University Relations –

Faculty and staff are invited to provide feedback on their experience with the service and products from UMC's Printing & Design Unit. A survey is available online at

https://umn.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_daSQgduUdAQp1Wt. With a total of 18 questions, it should take only a few minutes to complete. The survey will be available through Wednesday, February 10, 2016.

Athletics –

Six U of M Crookston student-athletes have been honored with the NSIC Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award. The students are women's golfers **Rikki Roscoe**, a senior from Big Stone City, S.D., majoring in communication, and **Katie Sheetz**, a senior from Grand Rapids, Minn., majoring in health sciences; women's basketball players **Alexa Thielman**, a senior from Buffalo, Minn., majoring in health sciences, and **Katrina Nordick**, a senior from Perham, Minn., majoring in applied studies; and softball players **Kristi Larson**, a senior from New Ulm, Minn., majoring in sport and recreation management, and **Jordyn Derflinger**, a senior from Henderson, Nev., majoring in elementary education. The honor, named for the late NCAA President Dr. Myles Brand, is bestowed to senior NSIC student-athletes who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 or higher, are exhausting their eligibility, and are on track to graduate. Each student-athlete will be recognized by the NSIC with a certificate of achievement and a wrist watch.

University of Minnesota Crookston women's basketball player Alexa Thielman, a senior from Buffalo, Minn., majoring in health sciences, was selected as the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) North

Division Player of the Week on January 11. Thielman averaged 17.5 points, 6.0 rebounds, and 2.5 assists as UMC picked up an important sweep of UMD and St. Cloud State over that weekend. She was 10-of-18 for 55.6 percent from beyond the arc on the weekend. Thielman would break two records for three-point shooting on the weekend, as she set the school record with seven three-pointers in a game against Minnesota Duluth. Her first three on Saturday, January 9, set the school record for most three-pointers in a career, surpassing Amy Kuznia.

Campus and Community

Students, faculty, and staff involved in UMC's Agriculture & Natural Resources Department will host the 41st annual Ag Arama on Friday and Saturday, January 29-30. Contests in agronomy, animal science, horticulture, agricultural business, and natural resources highlight Ag Arama weekend. They serve as an opportunity for students to showcase their knowledge and skills and to interact with alumni and the community. On Friday evening, the Animal Science Association will sponsor a chili feed from 6 to 8 p.m. in the University Teaching and Outreach Center (UTOC) for \$5 per person. On Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., the animal showmanship contests are held, and the public is welcome to watch the competition as it unfolds in both novice and experienced categories. From 9 a.m. to noon, an agricultural industries show features some of the latest in agricultural equipment. The Round Robin Showmanship will begin at 1:30 p.m., followed at 2 p.m. by alumni showmanship. Coronation of the 2016 Ag Arama royalty is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. along with the presentation of awards and the sweepstakes presentation. An alumni reception will take place from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Crookston Eagles followed by the Ag Arama Dance, also at the Crookston Eagles, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Admission is \$10 per person. Live music will be provided by Nashville recording artist Levi Pelzer.

The University of Minnesota Crookston will host the 67th Western Minnesota Regional Science Fair on Saturday, February 6, 2016 in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The event will draw junior and senior high school students from the Western Minnesota Region. One of the eight regions in Minnesota, the Western Region includes the counties of Big Stone, Becker, Clay, Grant, Mahnomen, Norman, Ottertail, Polk, Traverse, and Wilkin. For more information go to www.umcrookston.edu/sciencefair, or contact Assistant Professor Katy Smith at katys@umn.edu or 218-281-8262.

Accolades

The University of Minnesota Crookston has been ranked among the "Best Online Bachelor's Programs" for 2016 by U.S. News. The U of M Crookston ranked at 63 among the 300 schools who responded to this year's survey. Of the Minnesota colleges and universities included in the rankings, the U of M Crookston ranked the highest. *U.S. News & World Report* began publishing rankings of institutions offering online degrees in 2012. To view the rankings, visit www.usnews.com/online.

The U of M Crookston has been recognized among the top two "Best Online Colleges in Minnesota" by OnlineColleges.net for 2016. In addition, the online resource recognized the Crookston campus as one of the top 10 "Most Affordable Online Colleges in Minnesota." To view the rankings, visit www.onlinecolleges.net/minnesota. The University of Minnesota Twin Cities and its system-wide Digital Campus captured the number one position. It is notable that the U of M Crookston's fourteen online bachelor's degree majors are also offered among the options available via the University of Minnesota Digital Campus.

The UMC Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society has been selected to receive the Best Student Chapter of the Year Award from the North Central Section of The Wildlife Society. The North Central Section includes the eight Midwestern states from Ohio to Minnesota containing 27 student chapters. The award was presented this week at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, with Associate Professor John Loegering accepting it on behalf of the UMC student chapter. Alisha Mosloff, chapter president in 2014-2015, prepared the application. The award also includes a \$1000 travel grant for a future professional meeting.

W. Chris Brown, Ph.D., lecturer in the Liberal Arts & Education Department, recently had a journal article published: Brown, William Christopher. (2016). The Play-element of Environmental Sustainability in Michael Johnathan's *Walden: The Ballad of Thoreau*. *Impact: The Journal for the Center of Interdisciplinary Teaching & Learning*, 5(1), 17-23. It is available online at http://sites.bu.edu/impact/files/2016/01/Impact-Winter-2016_Final.pdf.

Student Stories

Nathan Cole, a senior marketing major from Aliso Viejo, California, knew he would be leaving his comfort zone when he committed to playing football at the University of Minnesota Crookston. However, writing his signature on the National Letter of Intent meant a whole lot more than accepting a scholarship. [Learn more.](http://news.crk.umn.edu/news/trading-golden-state)
<http://news.crk.umn.edu/news/trading-golden-state>

It's a year of firsts and a year of lasts for Katrina (Moenkedick) Nordick of Perham, Minn. It is her last semester at the University of Minnesota Crookston, her last season of college basketball, but for the senior forward, it's been a season of firsts for her Golden Eagle Basketball Team, and along with it, her first year of marriage.
[Learn more.](http://news.crk.umn.edu/news/year-firsts-and-lasts)
<http://news.crk.umn.edu/news/year-firsts-and-lasts>

Publication notes: E-Update is published approximately twice each month except for May, June, July, and December, when it is published only once. 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. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.