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## ***Crookston Campus E-Update***

an internal administrative news digest

March 22, 2012

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### **From the Chancellor**

I want to welcome everyone back from the spring semester break. I'm sure with the nice weather it provided a great opportunity to spend time outside with family and friends. Including finals week, only six weeks of the semester remain. Obviously, much needs to be accomplished during that time, and that will require everyone to remain focused on successfully completing the semester and the 2011-12 academic year.

Mentioning the end of the year reminds me of the many events and activities that will be added to the regular schedule. Many events recognizing student, staff, and faculty achievements will occur in the coming weeks. I encourage taking the time to submit nominations for the various awards as well as attending the recognition events. It's important to recognize those who make special efforts to do the many extra things that make the University of Minnesota, Crookston special.

On Friday, March 30, the University of Minnesota lobby day will be held at the State Capitol in St. Paul. There will be a group from the University of Minnesota, Crookston attending. If you are unable to attend, please consider sending a short note to your legislators asking them to support funding for the University of Minnesota. Postcards are available from University Relations. Also, updates on legislative activities are available at [govrelations.umn.edu/state-relations.html](http://govrelations.umn.edu/state-relations.html).

Last, I encourage anyone who may know of an individual you would like to nominate for the chancellor's position to contact a search committee member on campus or refer to the website at [www.umcrookston.edu/chancellorsearch](http://www.umcrookston.edu/chancellorsearch).

– Chuck  
Charles H. Casey, Chancellor  
University of Minnesota, Crookston

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## Featured Events & Activities

**Celebrating "U" Women's Expo, Friday, March 23** – 4 to 5 p.m. Vendor Fair; 5 to 6 p.m. Fashion and Prom Show; 6 to 7 p.m. Celebrate "U" and Chocolate, Sargeant Student Center

**Admissions Hosts Campus Preview Day, Saturday, March 24** – 9:30 a.m. check-in, 10 a.m. welcome, Sargeant Student Center

**International Dinner Series: Germany – East and West, Monday, March 26** – 6 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

**Thursday Commons: Campus Assembly, Thursday, March 29** – 12:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

**“Women Taking the Lead” Featuring Speaker Prairie Rose Seminole, Thursday, March 29** – 7 p.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center

**Music and Theater Production of “Oklahoma!” Thursday, March 29** – 7:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

**Support the U Rally, Friday, March 30** – Noon, State Capitol Building, St. Paul

**Horse Judging Open Invitational, Friday, March 30** – 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., UTOC Arena

**Music and Theater Production of “Oklahoma!” Friday, March 30** – 7:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

**Music and Theater Production of “Oklahoma!” Saturday, March 31** – 7:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

**Music and Theater Production of “Oklahoma!” Sunday, April 1** – 3:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

**Golden Eagle Egg Hunt, Monday, April 2** – 5:30 to 6:45 p.m., Campus Mall (rain site)

Sargeant Student Center), open to U of M, Crookston students, faculty, staff, and their families

**Grad Fest, Wednesday, April 4** – 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., International Lounge, Sargeant Student Center

**Floating Holiday, Friday, April 6** – classes excused, campus offices closed

**CLIMB Theatre Performance of “A Deeper Look,” Monday, April 9** – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

**Mixed Blood Theatre Performance of “Hijab Tube,” Tuesday, April 10** – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, 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](http://www.umcrookston.edu/today) or review our news page at [blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news).

Learn more about events across the entire University of Minnesota system via [Brief](#).

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## Around Campus

### Administrative Affairs –

The spring semester 2012 meeting of the **Campus Assembly** will be held Thursday, March 29, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The agenda and minutes from previous meetings are [available online](#).

### Academic Affairs –

Beginning fall semester 2012, the **bachelor of science degree in communication** will feature three distinct emphases: **communication studies, organizational communication/public relations, and writing**. These program changes involve the offering of several new classes and are meant to help prospective and current students better envision various career paths. [Learn more](#).

The UMC Music and Theater Department will present the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical “**Oklahoma!**” at 7:30 p.m. nightly in Kiehle Auditorium March 29, 30, and 31, and an afternoon matinee on Sunday, April 1, at 3:30 p.m. Admission is free to UMC students, \$6 for adults, and \$3 for other students and children.

## Student Affairs –

Women's History Month, observed annually in March, will include several events that spotlight the theme for 2012: Women's Education - Women's Empowerment. All area women are especially invited to attend the events on campus. Highlights include a **“Celebrating ‘U’ Women’s Expo”** on Friday, March 23, from 4 to 7 p.m. in Sargeant Student Center; “Women's Night in the Sports Center” with activities including Pilates and yoga on Tuesday, March 27, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Sports Center; and **“Women Taking the Lead” featuring keynote speaker Prairie Rose Seminole** on Thursday, March 29, at 7 p.m. in the Prairie Room in the Sargeant Student Center. [Learn more.](#)

On Friday, March 30, a group of students from the Crookston campus will travel to the Capitol in St. Paul joining students from across the U of M system to take part in the annual student-organized **Support the U Rally Day**. The system-wide event provides students with the opportunity to show their support for the University through a rally and meetings with elected officials. Faculty and staff are asked to inform and encourage students to attend the event. For registration and more information, see [Support the U Rally Day](#).

Members of the UMC campus community—students, faculty, staff, and their families—are invited to attend the **Golden Eagle Egg Hunt** on Monday, April 2, from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. on the Campus Mall (with the Sargeant Student Center reserved in case of inclement weather). This fun event will feature an age-appropriate egg hunt, relay races, egg toss, and sack races. Children will be grouped in activities based on their age or grade level.

On Wednesday, April 4, graduating seniors can receive information regarding the process of graduation at **Grad Fest** all in one stop between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. in the International Lounge, Sargeant Student Center. Attendees may receive commencement information, find out about graduation photos, purchase cap, gown, tassel, graduation announcements, diploma frame, and class ring, check their graduation status, receive info about keeping their computer after graduation, receive financial aid loan exit info, register with Career Services, learn about the UMC Alumni Association, enjoy free refreshments, and enter a drawing for door prizes.

**CLIMB Theatre of Inver Grove Heights, Minn., will present “A Deeper Look,”** an original play about accepting differences, on Monday, April 9, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. The performance is free and open to the public. The play asks its audience to both embrace and disengage from a shared American history of prejudice and religious intolerance and its power to repeat itself. Personal stories, bravely told through monologues, scenes, music, dance, and slides, provide a journey of deeper understanding.

**Mixed Blood Theatre of Minneapolis will perform “Hijab Tube”** on Tuesday, April 10, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. The performance is free and open to the public. This production offers a unique perspective on Islamic culture in 21st Century America as it is the story of a young Muslim woman who takes her questions about wearing a hijab, a traditional head covering, to YouTube. The result is an illuminating range of responses from others.

## **International Programs –**

On Wednesday, April 11, the Multicultural International Club and Office of International Programs will host the annual International Dinner, the culmination of the **International Dinner Series**. This event includes a talent showcase, demonstrations, table displays, and entertainment from countries all over the world. At 4:30 p.m. students will present displays representing a variety of countries in the International Lounge, Sargeant Student Center followed by the dinner in Bede Ballroom at 6 p.m. A program of international entertainment will follow the dinner. Tickets for the dinner series are limited and are available by contacting [Rae French at 218-281-8339](tel:218-281-8339).

## **Business Affairs –**

**Monica Fallon** has been hired as a principal accounts specialist. She earned her bachelor's degree in business management at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Most recently she worked in human resources and as a payroll clerk and credentialing coordinator for RiverView Healthcare Association. She has also worked as a human resources coordinator for Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. in Crookston. Monica's duties will include payroll/timecard entry, absence cards, and student employee set-up. She will begin on March 26.

**Bridget Steffes** also has been hired as a principal accounts specialist. She earned a secretary/receptionist diploma from Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Moorhead, Minn. Most recently she worked as the principal's secretary at the Fertile-Beltrami School. Bridget's responsibilities will include processing requisitions and purchase orders, p-card reconciliations, and internal cross charges, among other things. She will begin her duties on April 16.

**Peggy Chaput** is now an executive operations/student services specialist. Her new duties include processing all employee expense and travel reimbursements, vendor payments, cashiering, and student accounts receivable, among others. **Joan Reitmeier's** duties as executive administrative specialist remain essentially the same, however she will now have a nine-month contract.

## **Campus Health and Safety –**

The University of Minnesota's Department of Emergency Management has obtained a grant from the Department of Homeland Security to bring a trainer from FEMA to Minneapolis for a **multi-hazard emergency training course**, which will be held on the Twin Cities Campus March 27 through 29 and will be offered to teams on coordinate campuses. A team from the Crookston campus comprised of **Rich Connell**, director, Facilities & Operations; **Tom Feiro**,

environmental health and safety specialist; **Peter Phaiiah**, associate vice chancellor, Student Affairs; **Andrew Svec**, director of communications, public relations, and marketing; **Gary Willhite**, director, Residential Life and Security Services; and **Chris Winjum**, assistant to the chancellor, will take part in this training. This FEMA course is designed to be delivered to teams of campus personnel who are responsible for creating, reviewing, implementing, and exercising emergency operations plans.

### **Development and Alumni Relations -**

On Monday, March 12, the Fargo, N.D., Chapter of the U of M Alumni Association hosted a reception for **U of M President Eric Kaler** at the Plains Art Museum in Fargo. Showing support, a group from the U of M, Crookston attended the gathering. Representing the Crookston campus were Chancellor Chuck Casey; Corby Kemmer, director, Development & Alumni Relations; Rose Ulseth, Development & Alumni Relations; David DeMuth, associate professor, Math, Science, and Technology Department; adjunct faculty member Brent Sorenson; and UMC Alumni Association board members Juanita Lopez, Karl Syverson, Carl Melbye, and Rory Held.

**Corby Kemmer**, director, Development & Alumni Relations, has been selected to serve on the **Crookston Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors**. Those who have feedback about the Crookston Chamber are encouraged to contact him.

Alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of the U of M, Crookston are encouraged to mark their calendars for the 2012 series of **summer golf tournaments offered by Teambackers**: Thursday, June 28 - Hallock Tournament; Thursday, July 12 - Ada Tournament; Saturday, July 21 - Teambacker Classic at Minakwa in Crookston; Saturday, July 28 - Highway 2 Tournament in Fosston and Erskine. For more information contact [Bill Tyrrell](#) at [218-281-8436](tel:218-281-8436).

### **Athletics –**

Three Golden Eagle student-athletes were named to the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) All-Academic Teams for the 2011-12 winter athletic season. Women's Basketball: **Megan Eul**, a senior from Rosemount, Minn.; **Lauren Kessler**, a junior from Albertville, Minn. Men's Basketball: **Almir Krdzalic**, a junior from Sioux Falls, S.D. To be eligible for this honor, the student-athlete must be a member of the varsity traveling team, must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or higher, must have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing at her/his institution, and must have completed at least one full academic year at that institution.

Lysaker Gymnasium in the UMC Sports Center will be the host site for the **Crookston Youth**

**Basketball Association's 2012 Tournament** on March 23, 24, and 25. Nearly 100 teams, over 1000 athletes in grades 3 through 9, and over 3000 fans are expected. Games are scheduled from 5 to 9 p.m. on Friday, March 23, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 24, and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 24. Learn more at [www.crookstonbasketball.com](http://www.crookstonbasketball.com).

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## Campus and Community

The Crookston campus has again been selected to be a host site for a **Minnesota GreenCorps member. Ben Sullivan**, a fall semester 2011 graduate in natural resources, is back on campus as his GreenCorps position, which focused on River Keepers in Moorhead the first six months, will now focus on the Center for Sustainability in an outreach function. He will be working through September 2012 with the campus, the City of Crookston, and local businesses to develop ways of reducing energy consumption, to implement the “Communiversities” bike/hike trail system, and to educate on stormwater management and river stewardship. Minnesota GreenCorps is a statewide initiative to help preserve and protect Minnesota’s environment while training a new generation of environmental professionals.

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Department will host **Tours for Tots** Wednesday, April 11, through Friday, April 20. The tours, recommended for children ages 4 to 7 years old, will be led by current students and will feature stops at the beef and sheep barn, horse stables and arena, and the greenhouses on the Crookston campus. Groups of five or more with adult supervision are best suited to the tours. To schedule a tour time, contact Leah Stroot at [218-281-8101](tel:218-281-8101).

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## University of Minnesota System

At the **March 2012 Board of Regents Meeting**, the Board heard the report of the president, discussed a resolution related to the Ambulatory Care Center, approved the U's Six-Year Capital Plan, and heard a presentation on the University's land grant mission. [Learn more](#). The Board of Regents will not meet in April. The next meeting will take place May 10–11.

The **University of Minnesota ranked #2** out of more than 200 colleges and universities across the nation in the not-for-profit category for online education, according to the recently-released 2012 rankings by Guide to Online Schools, a leading college education website. [View the top 30 listing of colleges](#). The U of M, Crookston offers ten online undergraduate degrees, and those

degrees were included in the overall ranking. Divided into for-profit and not-for-profit categories, schools were evaluated and ranked based on criteria such as accreditation, tuition and cost of books, graduation and retention rates, student feedback, and student loan repayment rates. The statistics used in the online school rankings were gathered from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

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## Accolades

The U of M, Crookston was one of five campuses in Minnesota named to the **President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll “with distinction”** for 2012. The campus has been named to the Honor Roll every year since 2006 with the exception of one, but this is the first year the campus has been recognized on the list “with distinction.” Other Minnesota campuses honored with the distinction designation include Augsburg College, College of St. Benedict, Metropolitan State University, and Winona State University. This national level honor recognizes a college or university for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement. **At the U of M, Crookston in 2011, students tallied 59,683 hours of service** through academic service-learning courses, club and individual community service, community-based workstudy primarily through the America Reads Program, community service internships, and AmeriCorps.

Two U of M, Crookston students majoring in horticultural recently received scholarships sponsored by the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association (MNLA) Foundation. The scholarship recipients are **Lexi Salonek**, a freshman from Montrose, Minn., and **Alisha Aasness**, a senior from Fergus Falls, Minn. The MNLA scholarship program recognizes superior students enrolled in horticultural or landscape studies programs at several area colleges and universities. The scholarships are designed by MNLA and its member companies to help grow future leaders in the nursery and landscape industry.

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[Issues are posted online.](#)

If you have any questions regarding the information in this news update, please send them to [urumc@umn.edu](mailto:urumc@umn.edu).

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