



## ***U of M Crookston Campus E-Update***

an internal administrative news digest

[www.umcrookston.edu](http://www.umcrookston.edu)

March 11, 2015

### **From The Chancellor**

As many of you may be aware, higher education is under considerable stress as an industry. I am reminded of this regularly as I read the national news. The causes include reduced state support and increasing tuition costs, economic fluctuations, and declining enrollments. Over the last few months there have been announcements of these factors taking their toll on many institutions throughout the country. As we have discussed, the enrollment challenges are especially impactful in the Midwest where, as demographic studies have predicted, we are experiencing a decline in the number of high school graduates.

Due to on-campus enrollment challenges, we are experiencing a strained budget like other institutions in the region. This stems mainly from a small entering class in Fall 2012 that is working its way through the pipeline toward graduation coupled with an increasingly competitive environment for recruiting students overall. In the immediate future, this will temporarily result in limited funds for new initiatives and positions; however, I am confident that our budget will improve in the long run. We should be very thankful for the outstanding leadership of Michelle Christopherson in the Center for Adult Learning and Carola Thorson in Admissions and for the ongoing work of their staff to help to minimize the budget strain through increasing enrollments of recent classes. Our coaches are also working to help via their recruitment efforts. As I've mentioned before, we all play a role in the important work of recruiting and retaining students. Please continue to be responsive and supportive of requests for your assistance in our work to enroll each incoming class and especially the Fall 2015 class.

We are also very fortunate to be a part of the University of Minnesota for so many reasons. The budget of the state is strong, and so we remain hopeful that our system-wide biennial budget request will be funded. This would have an important impact on our campus in a number of ways including holding tuition constant for our students, providing funds for facility repair, and providing funds for initiatives like rural economic development and creating pipeline programs to address rural health workforce needs. A couple of weeks ago, Vice Chancellor Keinath, Director Sanders, and I presented our campus budget compact to the system-wide budget review committee. They understand our stresses and certainly will try to help us as funds allow. While we discussed many needs across campus, this year they requested that we focus on just a few priorities that align with strategic planning efforts. Those "top strategic priorities" along with the actions we are taking can be found online at [www.umcrookston.edu/admin/chancellor/initiatives](http://www.umcrookston.edu/admin/chancellor/initiatives). We asked for additional funding to support these efforts including allocations for the operational cost and debt service related to the Wellness Center, funds for more scholarships, and funds to enhance our efforts to recruit and retain students. While we won't know the outcome of our request for a number of months, members of the budget review committee appeared supportive during the discussion.

While higher education overall is facing rough times, we will certainly meet the challenges here at UMC. We have demonstrated again and again a remarkable ability to adjust to a changing

environment. We have a good team of folks, both on campus and in the Twin Cities, who will do what is necessary to ensure we are well positioned to advance the institution. While we face some challenges in the near term, our future is extremely bright.

Fred E. Wood, Chancellor  
University of Minnesota Crookston

## **Featured Events & Activities**

**Spring Break, March 16 – 20, classes excused, campus offices open**

**UMC Hosts the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary River Watch Forum, Tuesday, March 17** – 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

**UMC Hosts the Annual Crookston Chamber of Commerce Career Day for High School Juniors, Thursday, March 19** – 9 a.m. to Noon, Kiehle Auditorium and locations across campus

**Crookston Youth Basketball Association (CYBA) Basketball Tournament, Friday, March 20** – 3 to 10 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium, UMC Sports Center

**CYBA Basketball Tournament, Friday, March 20** – 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium, UMC Sports Center

**CYBA Basketball Tournament, Saturday, March 21** – 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium, UMC Sports Center

**Registration for Fall Semester 2015 Begins, Monday, March 23**

**Music on Monday Featuring Brett Young, Monday, March 23** – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Northern Lights Lounge, Sargeant Student Center

**International Dinner Series: “Mapping Brazil,” Monday, March 23** – 6 to 8 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, advanced tickets only, contact Rae French

**Business Department Speaker: Edie Ramsted, Owner of Weave Got Maille in Ada, Minn., Tuesday, March 24** – Noon to 1 p.m., Bede Ballroom, rooms D & E, Sargeant Student Center

**UMC Teambackers Maroon and Gold Madness, Friday, March 27** – 5 to 8 p.m., Crookston Eagles Club, tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, contact the Office of Development & Alumni Relations

**UMC Hosts Red River Valley Development Association’s 77th Annual Honor Banquet, Saturday, March 28** – Noon, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, tickets \$18, call 1-888-241-0781

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

## Around Campus

### Academic Affairs –

**Jed Shanley has been hired as a professional writing consultant for the Writing Center** in the Academic Success Center. Shanley holds a B.A. in English and a Certificate in Writing and Editing from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, N.D. He will be available to assist writers on Mondays and Wednesdays.

**The Business Department and the Center for Rural Entrepreneurial Studies (CRES) will bring Edie Ramsted, owner of Weave Got Maille in Ada, Minn., to campus on Tuesday, March 24,** to speak to business students and other interested individuals about her experiences as the owner of a small business that conducts business internationally. **She will speak at Noon in Bede Ballroom,** rooms D and E. Her company, Weave Got Maille, sells chain maille and jewelry supplies. She also is branching out into a new area: translating tutorials into Japanese, Russian, German, Italian, French, and Norwegian. Learn more about her business at [www.weavegotmaille.com](http://www.weavegotmaille.com).

### Student Affairs –

**Music on Monday will feature singer-songwriter Brett Young on March 23, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Northern Lights Lounge,** Sargeant Student Center. The performance is free and open to all. Young has played venues ranging from House of Blues to Troubadour, and he has shared the stage with such artists as Mandy Moore, Tyrone Wells, Gavin Degraw, Tyler Hilton, Katy Perry, and many more. He is currently touring his way across the U.S. Learn more at [www.brettyoungmusic.com](http://www.brettyoungmusic.com).

### Technology Support Services –

**Faculty, staff, and students are being asked to help the University identify its future information technology priorities by responding to a short online survey.** Responses will be used as one critical source of input for senior executives to consider as they determine information technology priorities and how the budget is allocated for the coming year. Individuals may complete the survey at <http://z.umn.edu/itinputsurvey2015>.

### Human Resources –

The University of Minnesota is now in the final stages of the Peoplesoft upgrade (also known as ESUP) with the transition set for mid-April, when all related systems will be shut down for the upgrade process. As a result, departments will not be able to post or hire new employees or student workers from April 8 to 20. **It is essential departments and hiring authorities understand that newly hired employees, including any student workers, will not be able to begin work or be entered into the Human Resource Management System during the period of April 8 to April 20. New position requests and requisitions also will not be able to be processed during this period of time.**

The Board of Regents recently reviewed and approved the **UMC Employee Advanced Degree Tuition Reimbursement Pilot Program** at its February meeting. This is a pilot program which starts January 1, 2015, and ends December 31, 2019. The program is designed to increase skill and educational credentials of faculty and staff that assist in the attainment of campus strategic priorities, facilitate recruitment and retention of faculty and staff, and support a continuing culture of excellence through educational investments in UMC employees. The program provides for partial tuition cost reimbursement of pursuing an advanced degree, dependent upon funding. Interested individuals should complete the program description and application form available online at [http://www3.crk.umn.edu/humanresources/Application Form - UMC Employee advanced degree tuition reimbursement program 2015.pdf](http://www3.crk.umn.edu/humanresources/Application%20Form%20-%20UMC%20Employee%20advanced%20degree%20tuition%20reimbursement%20program%202015.pdf). The application deadline for spring semester has been extended to 4 p.m. on Monday, March 23, 2015.

### **Development & Alumni Relations –**

**UMC Teambackers will host “Maroon and Gold Madness” on Friday, March 27, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Crookston Eagle’s Club.** Proceeds from this fundraising event will support UMC athletic scholarships. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. The purchase of an event ticket enters an individual into a drawing for a \$1,000 travel voucher from Bergan Travel. Silent auction items will be available for bidding, and hors d’oeuvres will be provided along with a cash bar. Members of Teambackers will sell raffle tickets and will give away \$10,000 in cash prizes at this event. These raffle tickets are \$100 each, and only 250 will be sold. Those interested in attending Maroon & Gold Madness or in purchasing a raffle ticket can contact Garret Kollin, development officer in the Office of Development & Alumni Relations, at 218-281-8436 or by e-mail at [koll0131@umn.edu](mailto:koll0131@umn.edu).

### **University Relations –**

**TV commercials showcasing the various majors within each of UMC’s four academic departments will air on KSTC TV** (channel 45 in the Twin Cities metro area) during the Minnesota State High School League Boys’ Basketball Tournament, March 12-14.

### **Athletics –**

**University of Minnesota Crookston Women’s Basketball Coach Mike Roysland has been named the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) Coach of the Year.** This is the first time in his eight years with the Golden Eagles that he has earned the honor, which is voted on by his peer coaches within the NSIC. During the 2014-15 season, Roysland led the Golden Eagles to one of their most successful seasons in program history with 14 regular season wins as well as a first round home playoff win in the NSIC Tournament. The 14 wins surpassed his previous high of 13 by the 2010-11 team, which earned a berth in that year’s NSIC Tournament (when the tourney took just the top eight teams). For 2014-15 Roysland led his team to a third place finish in the NSIC North Division and an eighth place finish in the overall standings. In addition, his squad has received four weekly honors from the NSIC office (a program record), led by two NSIC North Player of the Week honors for Katrina Moenkedick, one for Alexa Thielman, and one for Emily Gruber.

**Three members of the Golden Eagle Women's Basketball Team have earned NSIC All-Conference Team honors. Katrina Moenkedick, a junior from Perham, Minn., majoring in applied studies, and**

**Alexa Thielman**, a junior from Buffalo, Minn., majoring in health science, were named to the All-NSIC First Team, and **Emily Gruber**, a freshman from Monticello, Minn., earned NSIC All-Freshman honors.

[Learn more.](#)

[www.goldeneaglesports.com/news/2015/2/26/WBB\\_0226150129.aspx](http://www.goldeneaglesports.com/news/2015/2/26/WBB_0226150129.aspx)

**The University of Minnesota Crookston Hunt Seat Equestrian Team closed out the season earning a Regional Championship within the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA).** **Emily Steeley**, a junior from Portsmouth, Rhode Island, majoring in equine science, captured the Cacchione Cup, awarded to the top hunt seat open rider in the region, for the second consecutive season. Steeley will move on to compete at IHSA Nationals at Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Massachusetts, April 30-May 3. The Golden Eagles earned High Point Team honors in their final regular-season show of the season Saturday, March 7. In addition, **Anna Ojczyk**, a freshman from White Bear Lake, Minn., majoring in animal science, earned High Point Rider for the show, winning both Intermediate Equitation on the Flat and Intermediate Equitation over Fences. On Sunday, March 8, at the IHSA Regional Competition, which was hosted by UMC, the Golden Eagles sent three student-athletes on to the Zone Championships. **Ojczyk** advanced with wins in Novice Equitation over Fences and Novice Equitation on the Flat. **Sable Bettencourt**, a senior from Cloquet, Minn., majoring in equine science, advanced with a win in Open Equitation over Fences, and **Steeley** advanced with a win in Open Equitation on the Flat.

**Golden Eagle baseball player Ethan Mushitz, a freshman from East Grand Forks, Minn., majoring in criminal justice, was named Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) Player of the Week** on March 2. He is a first-time honoree and is only nine games into his collegiate career with the Golden Eagles. [Learn more.](#)

[www.goldeneaglesports.com/news/2015/3/2/BB\\_0302154659.aspx](http://www.goldeneaglesports.com/news/2015/3/2/BB_0302154659.aspx)

**The Golden Eagle Football Program has hired Taylor Summers as an assistant football coach.**

Summers, who spent the previous three seasons as a graduate assistant coaching the defensive line for Bemidji State University (BSU), will coach wide receivers at UMC. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in education at BSU.

To view all game scores and upcoming athletic events, visit [www.goldeneaglesports.com](http://www.goldeneaglesports.com).

### **“The Upgrade” a.k.a. The Enterprise Systems Upgrade Project (ESUP)**

**The Upgrade is scheduled for Go Live in April. Employees are encouraged to use the Upgrade Readiness Checklist to ensure their area is prepared for the April 10 systems interruption and April 20 upgrade launch.** The document provides information and links to help individuals prepare. It is available online at [www.upgrade.umn.edu/assets/pdf/upgrade\\_readiness\\_checklist.pdf](http://www.upgrade.umn.edu/assets/pdf/upgrade_readiness_checklist.pdf).

Here are other ways to prepare for this transition:

- Visit [www.upgrade.umn.edu](http://www.upgrade.umn.edu) for more information.
- Find training at The Upgrade's [Education & Training page](http://upgrade.umn.edu/training/upgradeeducation.html). (<http://upgrade.umn.edu/training/upgradeeducation.html>)
- Get support from your network of [Advance Team members](http://upgrade.umn.edu/advanceteam). (<http://upgrade.umn.edu/advanceteam>)

- Sign up for [The Upgrade Newsletter](http://upgrade.umn.edu/news.html). (<http://upgrade.umn.edu/news.html>)

## Campus and Community

**The 20th Anniversary River Watch Forum will be held at the U of M Crookston on Tuesday, March 17,** from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Approximately 200 students from more than 25 schools throughout the Red River Basin will participate in watershed education sessions, compete in team challenges, and present posters highlighting their watershed research and education activities. Learn more at [www.iwinst.org/education/river-watch-forum](http://www.iwinst.org/education/river-watch-forum).

Approximately 500 high school juniors from several regional schools are scheduled to visit the U of M Crookston to learn about different careers from a number of local professionals during the annual **Crookston Chamber of Commerce Career Day on Thursday, March 19**. The event, sponsored by the Crookston Chamber of Commerce Education Committee and UMC, begins at 9:30 a.m. with a keynote address in Kiehle Auditorium and continues with two occupational sessions before concluding with lunch in Brown Dining Room.

**The Red River Valley Development Association's 77th Annual Honor Banquet will be held on Saturday, March 28,** beginning at noon in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Tickets for the noon banquet are available for \$18 per person from the Extension Regional Office, Crookston, and can be reserved by calling 1-888-241-0781 by March 20. Payment may be made at the door. Those honored at the banquet were selected for the good example they have set through volunteering, community service, farming or agricultural operations, and their commitment to conserving natural resources.

**The U of M Crookston will serve as a host convening site for Climate Minnesota: Local Stories, Community Solutions on Wednesday, April 15,** from 5 to 8 p.m. One of twelve public convenings scheduled across Minnesota throughout 2015 and into 2016, the goal is to connect communities through local science, stories, and solutions in order to respond to the urgent need to increase climate literacy and promote sustainable behavior change among Minnesotans. Learn more and register for this free event at [www.climateminnesota.org/crookston](http://www.climateminnesota.org/crookston). Climate Minnesota is made possible through a collaboration between The Will Steger Foundation and the U of M Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships with funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the McKnight Foundation, and numerous local partners.

## University of Minnesota System

On Wednesday, March 4, a joint convention of the Minnesota Legislature met to elect five members of the U of M Board of Regents. Current Regents **Richard Beeson** (4th congressional district) and **Patricia Simmons** (1st congressional district) were re-elected, along with **Darrin Rosha** (3rd congressional district), who previously served on the board as a student representative and who will serve the remaining two years of the term of David Larson, who died in October. **Michael Hsu** (6th congressional district) and **Thomas Anderson** (7th congressional district) were elected for the first time. Rosha is a lawyer in the Twin Cities. Hsu is president of TeeMaster Corp and lives in Blaine. Anderson is co-owner of Anderson funeral home in Alexandria.

## Accolades

**The University of Minnesota Crookston has been named to the 2014 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll in the category of General Community Service.** According to the Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency that administers the award, the President's Honor Roll recognizes institutions of higher education that support exemplary community service programs and raise the visibility of effective practices in campus community partnerships. The designation is the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to community volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement. This is the fifth time in the past six years the U of M Crookston has earned a listing on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. View the full list online at [www.nationalservice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/CNCS\\_HonorRollProgram\\_GeneralCommunityService\\_508.pdf](http://www.nationalservice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/CNCS_HonorRollProgram_GeneralCommunityService_508.pdf)

**Rachel McCoppin**, Ph.D., professor in the Liberal Arts & Education Department, recently had an article published: McCoppin, Rachel. "Jesus as Modern Metaphor in Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*." Published in *Studies in the Literary Imagination*, 46.2, Fall 2013, printed 2015.

**Pat Hagen, a fall 2014 UMC graduate in natural resources with a wildlife management emphasis, recently received the Student Conservationist Award from the Minnesota Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society** at the group's annual meeting hosted by the Northwest Research and Outreach Center in Crookston. The award, consisting of a plaque and cash award, recognizes a student who is majoring in the conservation field at a Minnesota college or university.

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