



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROOKSTON

U of M Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

www.umcrookston.edu

March 26, 2014

From the Chancellor

This is a time for advocacy. On Thursday, March 27, a group of our students will take part in “Support the U Day” at the State Capitol, where they will ask for legislative support for the University of Minnesota and UMC. Remarkably, these students will take their seat on a bus leaving at 4:45 a.m. for the very long trek to St. Paul. (That is extraordinary in itself!) It being a bonding year, one topic our students will address is their support for our Wellness Center and, as members of our State Legislature have commented, listening to the voices of our students is powerful. I hope everyone will encourage and support them, as hearing from our students in the legislature is critically important at this time.

The Board of Regents will join in the advocacy effort as well, and I have been invited to a special meeting they are hosting with legislators. In addition, later today, Wednesday, March 26, Representative Debra Kiel will introduce me to numerous representatives at the Capitol as we join in advocating for the Wellness Center.

You may not have heard that our Wellness Center was included in House Capital Investment Committee Chair Alice Hausman’s bonding bill. While certainly encouraging, this proposed \$1.34 billion bonding bill is more than the Governor’s version, and this may be more than what will eventually be funded. Thus, our work continues. I want to thank everyone who has written in support of our project and once again urge others to send your personal letters. It is indeed a time for advocacy. Thanks again for all you do for UMC and our students.

Sincerely,

Fred Wood
Chancellor
University of Minnesota Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

Crookston Kestrel Watch Informational Presentation, Wednesday, March 26 – 3 to 4 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, open to the public

Support the U Day at the Minnesota State Capitol, Thursday, March 27 – 12:30 to 3 p.m., Capitol Building, St. Paul, MN

Gardening and Local Foods Seminar Supper “High Tunnel Gardening,” Thursday, March 27 – 5:30

p.m. meal, 6 p.m. program, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, call 218-281-8128 to register

"Under the Sea" Kiddie Carnival, Friday, March 28 – 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, free and open to the public

Crookston Youth Basketball Association (CYBA) Tournament, Friday, March 28 – 5 to 9 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium, UMC Sports Center

Crookston Youth Basketball Association (CYBA) Tournament, Saturday, March 29 – 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium, UMC Sports Center

Red River Valley Development Association's 100th Anniversary Honor Banquet, Saturday, March 29 – Noon to 2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, tickets \$16 per person, call in advance to reserve

Red River Valley Emerging Leadership Banquet Celebrating 30 Years, Saturday, March 29 – 5 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. dinner and program, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, tickets \$16 per person, call in advance to reserve

Crookston Youth Basketball Association (CYBA) Tournament, Sunday, March 30 – 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium, UMC Sports Center

Meet the Crookston Student Association Candidates, Tuesday, April 1 – 4 p.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center

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

Annual Multicultural and International Dinner, Wednesday, April 2 – 5 p.m. displays in Northern Lights Lounge, 6 p.m. dinner followed by program, open to the public, tickets \$15 in advance only

Thursday Commons: Spring Semester Campus Assembly Meeting, Thursday, April 3 – 12:30 to 2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Admissions Hosts Campus Preview Day, Saturday, April 5 – 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

Alpha Lambda Delta First-Year Honor Society Induction Ceremony, Sunday, April 6 – 2 to 3 p.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center

Music on Monday Featuring Jason LeVasseur, Monday, April 7 – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Northern Lights Lounge, Sargeant Student Center

2014 UMC Health Expo, Tuesday, April 8 – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 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 –

The spring semester meeting of the UMC Campus Assembly will be held Thursday, April 3, at 12:30 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The agenda for this meeting and minutes from the previous meeting are available at <http://www3.crk.umn.edu/academics/campusassembly/Current.htm>. All are encouraged to attend this important meeting. Refreshments will be available.

An overview of the strategic planning process and directions will take place at the spring semester meeting of UMC's Campus Assembly on April 3. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to review the information and documents posted at www.umcrookston.edu/stratplan prior to the meeting. Thoughts, feedback, and involvement from the campus community will be welcomed.

The University of Minnesota Crookston College Advisory and Advancement Board (CAAB) will meet on campus on Friday, April 4, from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Chancellor Fred Wood will lead CAAB through campus updates including strategic planning. More information about CAAB, which is a reformulation of the former All-College Advisory Committee, is available at <http://www3.crk.umn.edu/alumni/caab/>.

Claudia Neuhauser, Ph.D., director of the new U of M Informatics Institute (UMII) on the Twin Cities campus, will visit UMC on Wednesday morning, April 16. Her schedule includes a presentation and Q&A session on UMII from 8 to 9 a.m., a tour of the 3D immersive lab from 9 to 10 a.m., and a meeting with interested faculty and staff from 10 to 11 a.m. The presentation and meeting with the faculty will take place in Bede Ballroom. Learn more about UMII at <https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/informatics-institute/home>.

Academic Affairs –

Three candidates for the position of department head for the Math, Science and Technology Department will be brought to campus for interviews on Tuesday, March 25; Thursday, April 3; and Monday, April 7, respectively. During these interview dates, an open forum with a presentation by each candidate will be scheduled as well as sessions for students and for faculty and staff to meet the candidates. The campus community is encouraged to watch for e-mail announcements for each candidate.

Two candidates for the position of department head for the Business Department will be brought to campus for interviews on Monday, March 31, and Tuesday, April 8, respectively. During these interview dates, an open forum with a presentation by each candidate will be scheduled as well as sessions for students and for faculty and staff to meet the candidates. The campus community is encouraged to watch for e-mail announcements for each candidate.

The Office of the Registrar, working with several other campus units, will host Grad Fest 2014 on Wednesday, April 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the International Lounge, Sargeant Student Center.

Graduating seniors will receive important information about all things regarding the process of graduation. This includes checking graduation status, receiving commencement information and info about graduation photos, receiving financial aid loan exit information, registering with Career Services, learning about the UMC Alumni Association, and purchasing cap, gown, tassel, graduation announcements, diploma frame, and class rings. Graduates-to-be also will receive the Almost Alumni graduation manual. All graduating seniors are encouraged to attend.

Student Affairs & Enrollment Management –

The annual Support the U Day will be held Thursday, March 27, at the State Capitol Building in St. Paul. Students from all five U of M campuses will travel to the Capitol for a rally and to meet with state legislators and Governor Dayton in order to advocate for U of M issues and projects. Learn more at <http://mslc.umn.edu/support-the-u-day.html>.

UMC students will host a fun-filled late afternoon children's carnival with the theme "Under the Sea" on Friday, March 28, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The event, which is free and open to the public, will feature more than a dozen activities and prizes for children (suggested age range of 2 to 12 years old). The carnival is sponsored by Student Programming and Activities for Campus Entertainment (S.P.A.C.E).

The campus community is invited to join the Crookston Student Association (CSA) in meeting the candidates who are running for CSA leadership positions for the 2014-2015 academic year on Tuesday, April 1, at 4 p.m. in the Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center. There will be opportunities to ask the candidates questions as well as to get to know them better. Refreshments will be provided.

Admissions will host a Campus Preview Day on Saturday, April 5. Prospective students and their families will check in at the Sargeant Student Center by 10 a.m. The schedule includes a welcome presentation by Admissions, campus tours, academic sessions, and lunch.

Students, faculty, and staff can get information on a variety of health and wellness topics at the annual UMC Health Expo on Tuesday, April 8, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Sargeant Student Center. Many local vendors and health experts as well as various campus offices and services will have booths and exhibits. There also will be information about Donate Life organ and tissue donation, Be the Match bone marrow donation, and the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank. Learn more at <https://lamprey.crk.umn.edu/calendar/index.php?eID=8428>.

Technology Support Services –

Amy Lubarski has been hired as the new help desk manager for the Technology Support Services Department, a position recently vacated by Thea Oertwich, who has transferred to the Office of Admissions and Enrollment Management. Lubarski has served as an executive office and administrative specialist for UMC's Math, Science and Technology Department since August of 2012. She also served in a similar capacity for the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department. Lubarski holds a Master's in Management from the University of Mary, Bismarck, N.D., and a B.S. in information technology management from UMC. She will begin her new responsibilities on April 1.

University Relations –

University Libraries and University IT will retire the UThink blog system

[\(http://blog.lib.umn.edu/uthink/\)](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/uthink/), and sites within the UThink domain no longer will be available after December 31, 2014. After June 30, 2014, the ability to create new blogs or sites on the system will be removed; existing blogs will be accessible throughout the 2014 spring and fall semesters; and full system decommission is set for December 31, 2014. The UMC University Relations Department uses several blogs created in the UThink system for news purposes. Staff members are currently evaluating options and beginning plans for alternate news sites.

Athletics –

The Golden Eagle Women's Basketball Team had seven student-athletes named to the 2013-14 Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) Winter All-Academic Teams: **Kenzie Church**, a junior from Fairmount, N.D., majoring in management; **Avery Jackson**, a sophomore from Wadena, Minn., majoring in elementary education; **Lindsey Lahr**, a sophomore from Isle, Minn., majoring in health management; **Ashley Martell**, a junior from Somerset, Wis., majoring in health sciences; **Erika McRoberts**, a sophomore from Byron, Minn., majoring in health sciences; **Alexa Thielman**, a sophomore from Buffalo, Minn., majoring in health sciences; and **Katrina Moenkedick**, a sophomore from Perham, Minn., majoring in early childhood education. To be eligible for this honor, the student must be a member of the varsity traveling team, must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or higher, and must have completed at least one full academic year at that institution and reached sophomore athletic and academic standing.

To view all results and upcoming athletic events, visit www.goldeneaglesports.com.

University of Minnesota System

Last week, Minnesota State House Capital Investment Committee Chair Alice Hausman released her \$1.34 billion bonding bill. This proposal provides the University of Minnesota with \$224.2 million for requested projects, including full funding for five of the projects. Chair Hausman also included \$51.5 million for the Bell Museum. View a comparison of Chair Hausman's and Governor Dayton's proposals at http://govrelations.umn.edu/assets/pdf/state/2014/2014ProposalComparison_House.pdf. President Kaler called Hausman's proposal "a strong boost for the U of M and the state's economy."

Governor Dayton has signed into law a federal tax conformity bill that provides three postsecondary-related tax benefits for tax year 2013. The tax changes will affect employees participating in the Regents Scholarship Program who use the benefit for graduate-level studies. The bill reinstates the exclusion of up to \$5,250 of employer-provided education assistance for graduate-level studies, increases the income limits for student loan interest deductions, and provides a tuition expense deduction. Affected taxpayers who have not filed are asked to wait until April 3 to file. The Department of Revenue will contact those who have already filed and are eligible for refunds, although that process may take some time. U Payroll Services will contact employees affected by this change directly.

Campus and Community

UMC's Lysaker Gymnasium will be a host site for the annual Crookston Youth Basketball Association (CYBA) Tournament from Friday, March 28, at 5 p.m. through Sunday, March 30, at 3 p.m. CYBA 7th Grade, 8th Grade, and High School Divisions will play at Lysaker, while other games will take place at Crookston High School, Cathedral Elementary School, Highland Elementary School, and Washington Elementary School. Learn more, and view all brackets and game times at www.crookstonbasketball.com.

The 100th Anniversary of the Red River Valley Development Association will be held on Saturday, March 29, beginning at noon in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Tickets for the noon banquet are available in advance from the Extension Regional Office, Crookston for \$16 per person. Couples from northwest Minnesota will be honored as Red River Valley Farmers and Homemakers for the good example they have set with their family life, community service, farming or agribusiness operations, and their efforts to conserve natural resources. Funding for the Red River Valley Development Association is provided by the 14 counties in northwest Minnesota. [Learn more.](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2014/03/red-river-valley-development-a-3.html)
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2014/03/red-river-valley-development-a-3.html>

On the evening of Saturday, March 29, Extension will host the Red River Valley Emerging Leadership Banquet Celebrating 30 Years. Social begins at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. followed by a program. Tickets for this banquet are also available in advance from the Extension Regional Office, Crookston for \$16 per person.

Accolades

The University of Minnesota Crookston is ranked among the top 20 of the nation's best online colleges by TheBestSchools.org. That organization's recent listing of colleges and universities providing "a high-quality online education" places the U of M Crookston at #19. TheBestSchools.org is an online resource for prospective students seeking a college degree. It includes traditional campus-based schools like the U of M Crookston only if they provide an extensive and well-rounded offering of online degree programs. To view the full list, go to www.thebestschools.org/rankings/30-best-online-colleges-2014.

Dan Svedarsky, Ph.D., professor and director, Center for Sustainability, was recently honored with the **2014 Education Award presented by the Minnesota Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society.** The award was presented on March 3 at the annual meeting of the Chapter at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. While attending the meeting, Svedarsky also had the pleasure of accepting the **Student Conservationist Award** for two natural resources students: **Andy Albertsen,** a senior from Nelson Minn., and **Vayla Van Dyke,** a senior from Edgerton, Minn.

Laura Bell, lab services coordinator in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department, was recognized with the Voyageur Award at the 19 Annual River Watch Forum, held on campus on March 18. The award recognizes efforts that go above and beyond the normal monthly monitoring duties of the River Watch program and that demonstrate the greater potential and contribution that River Watch can provide to a school, a community, and a watershed. Bell is the current River Watch liaison with Fisher, Climax, and East Grand Forks River Watch teams. She paddles with the River Explorers program and helps with both the River Watch Forum and the annual Water Quality and Water Monitoring Training and Certification Day.

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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