

News Release

U of M Crookston Horticulture Team Places Second at 2007 MACHS Competition

By Sue Jacobson, Elizabeth Tollefson, Kathryn Webster on Monday, November 19, 2007



(l to r) Jennifer Zoch, Kaarina Visness, Scott Hoffman and Kathryn Stangler

CROOKSTON, Minn. (November 16, 2007) – Four students from the University of Minnesota, Crookston made up a horticulture team that placed second in the Mid-America Collegiate Horticulture Society (MACHS) competition November 8-11, 2007.

Hosted by the University of Wisconsin, River Falls, the competition consisted of a written horticulture knowledge exam, judging of all types of horticulture crops, and identification of both herbaceous and woody plants.

U of M, Crookston student Kaarina Visness, Karlstad, Minn., was third place individual overall. Other members of the team included Scott Hoffman, Crookston, Minn., Kathryn Stangler, Deer River, Minn., and Jennifer Zoch, Remer, Minn. They placed second out of the thirteen teams participating, with the University of Illinois placing first and Michigan State University placing third.

“Our U of M, Crookston students have worked hard and accomplished great things. Although UMC is the smallest Horticulture Program in the competition, our students competed very well,” said Sue Jacobson, horticulture instructor.

The MACHS organization and contest provide a means of communication between horticulture clubs of participating schools. Sharing knowledge and ideas is an important part of the gathering. Besides the contest, the group of about 70 people toured horticulture businesses in the Twin Cities area. This year the tour went to Len Busch Roses, Bachman’s and Bailey Nurseries. After a banquet and dance on Saturday night, the MACHS convention ended with a business meeting, brunch and awards program the following morning.

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