



## Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

August 21, 2007

Welcome to the *Crookston Campus E-Update*, where we highlight administrative activities and programs on campus. We share news from the Chancellor along with some featured events and activities. We'll also talk about what's happening in Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Finance and University Services, Human Resources, University Relations, Development & Alumni Relations and Athletics, on a rotating basis. If you have suggestions or ideas for the *E-Update*, please let us know ([urumc@umn.edu](mailto:urumc@umn.edu)).

**Publication notes:** The *E-Update* is published twice each month August thru April and once each month in the summer, May thru July. [Issues are posted online.](#)

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### From the Chancellor

On Monday, faculty and remaining staff returned to start the new academic year. They bring with them renewed energy to support students who start classes next Tuesday, Aug. 28. There is something special about the start of a new school year... new students, new faculty and staff and their families and friends. It's a good time to be at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. I welcome everyone back to campus

A broad range of workshops and presentations are scheduled during opening week for faculty and staff. Internationalizing the campus and diversity are major themes of presentations. In addition, workshops will focus on the application of technology in the classroom, safety and emergency management, marketing and image and newly introduced graduation planner technology.

On Thursday, August 16, U of M Assistant Vice President Barbara Brandt, Ph.D., who also serves as director of the [Minnesota Area Health Education Center](#) (AHEC), was in Crookston for an AHEC site visit at RiverView Health. During that time, Joan Porraz was named executive director of the new Northwest Minnesota Area Health Education Center based in Crookston. I'm very pleased we can now move forward in establishing the AHEC to serve northwestern Minnesota.

Many new faculty and staff have joined the campus community since last year. They include some who are filling new positions and others who are taking on existing roles. Change is always a part of the campus environment. On that same note, two of our academic department heads have announced they will be stepping away from their role as department head to return to their full-time faculty responsibilities at the end of the 2007-08 academic year. David DeMuth, Jr., Ph.D., Math, Science and Technology Department head, and Bill Peterson, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Department head, have served the campus well in their leadership roles and will help us transition in the months ahead. Director of Facilities Management and Operations Mark Koepke will be leaving his position on August 29 to pursue other professional opportunities. I extend thanks to all three for their service to the University of Minnesota.

We are also pleased to announce that [U.S. News recognized the Crookston campus as a top public college in the Midwest](#) for the tenth consecutive year. We were ranked fourth in the newly

established category of “Top Public Baccalaureate College.” This category was more competitive as it included additional schools, which we were not ranked against last year. The 2008 America’s Best Colleges used the 2006 Carnegie Classifications, the first major category revision by Carnegie since 2000. While our placement appears lower than last year’s class ranking, we proved extremely successful given the new group of universities that were included – another affirmation of the exceptional applied-learning, technology-driven approach to education that we provide students.

We look forward to another exceptional year at the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

Chuck

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

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## Featured Events & Activities

**Golden Eagle Fall Sports** – The women’s soccer team hosts the first home game of the year on August 24 at 4 p.m. against Augustana. For other event dates, visit [www.goldeneaglesports.com](http://www.goldeneaglesports.com).

**Residence Halls Open, August 25** – Students move into residence halls from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Faculty, staff, alumni and friends are encouraged to help and participate in Orientation Convocation at 3:30 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium.

**U of M, Crookston at the Minnesota State Fair, August 25 and 26** – Come out and visit with representatives and experts from the Crookston campus at the State Fair. The booth is located in the U of M Building. On Saturday, faculty members Harouna Maiga and David DeMuth, Jr., will share their expertise and research with fairgoers. Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) will hold a trivia contest at 2 p.m. followed by live music by student Deb Halstad at 2:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Assoc. Professor Maiga is back on Sunday along with staff from Admissions and U Relations.

**First Day of Classes, August 28** – Classes get underway next Tuesday. Join in the “welcome back” activities scheduled from August 28 to September 2. For more information, visit the activities calendar at [www.UMCrookston.edu/umcnews/events](http://www.UMCrookston.edu/umcnews/events)

**Crookston Retail Merchants Association Student Picnic, August 30** – Join students, faculty and staff for a welcome back picnic in Brown Dining from 5 -7 p.m.

**Labor Day Holiday, September 3** – No classes, offices closed.

We look forward to seeing you. For more details or to discover what’s happening this week, visit UMC Today at [www.UMCrookston.edu/umcnews](http://www.UMCrookston.edu/umcnews) or review our news page at [www.UMCrookston.edu/umcnews/stories](http://www.UMCrookston.edu/umcnews/stories).

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## Around Campus

**Academic Affairs** – Assist. Professor Brian Dingmann, Ph.D., who chaired the honors program committee this past year, was appointed Honor Program coordinator and will lead development and implementation efforts for the Crookston campus. Information Technology Professional Steve Hannah has been selected coordinator of the re-focused Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology. The Center was established to support teaching and learning excellence in the classroom. A faculty advisory board will be established this semester to direct the teaching and learning aspects of this new focus. Some \$325,000 has been invested in purchasing classroom

equipment this summer to enhance the student learning experience. Peter Phaiah, Ph.D., has taken over the associate vice chancellor for student affairs and enrollment management position formerly held by Pam Holsinger-Fuchs. Kimberly Gillette, Ph.D., has joined the Crookston campus as the new director of International Programs. She joined the team the first part of July. Two department heads have indicated they will step down by the end of this next year to return to their full-time faculty responsibilities. Bill Peterson and David DeMuth, Jr., will work with their departments to ensure a smooth transition. Bill and David have both provided outstanding leadership to their departments as the University transitioned to its current structure.

**Student Affairs and Enrollment** – Justin Reed has joined campus as a new admissions counselor. Justin, '05, holds a bachelor's in animal science. Enrollment numbers for incoming students remain stable for fall 2007.

**Finance & University Services** – Director of Facilities Management and Operations Mark Koepke has announced his resignation effective August 29, 2007. We want to thank Mark for his efforts over the last year in helping to facilitate many of the projects that have been completed on campus. We wish him the best at his new position at North Dakota State University. The newly installed floor in Lysaker Gymnasium was painted at the end of last week. We are hoping that the floor will be finished and in condition for use prior to the first women's volleyball game on August 30.

**Development & Alumni Relations** – Please note the following upcoming dates/events: on Friday, October 5, the Outstanding Alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet will be held in Bede Ballroom; Homecoming activities will be held October 1 to October 6; and on Tuesday, October 23, the Torch & Shield Banquet will be held in Bede Ballroom. The final issue of the *Aggie* magazine is scheduled to go out in September. Alumni news from the Northwest School of Agriculture will now be featured in the *Torch*. We are working with Norby's Work Perks, Inc., in Grand Forks, N.D., on a five-year commitment in support of the Crookston campus. Recently Alumnus and professional chef Mike Maresca, '71, recently visited campus for the first time in 36 years. A talented and involved student-athlete during his time on campus, Mike has spent the past several years in Tampa, Fla., working at a PGA course.

**University Relations** – Get a newly designed campus "mission" poster for your office or unit by contacting Editor John Zak at [jjzak@umn.edu](mailto:jjzak@umn.edu). U Relations staff will host Marketing and Image workshops on August 22 and 23 (Wed. and Thurs.) from 1 to 2 p.m. in Dowell 220 to present market research findings from spring surveys of future students and educators/counselors in Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin. The duplicate sessions will also introduce a newly developed Image Library to provide access to the Crookston campus refreshed logo and style guides. We will also show how to access the services U Relations provides, including graphic design, printing, photography, media relations and marketing consultation. Thank you to Assistant Director of Communications Elizabeth Tollefson for coordinating a great Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social as part of Ox Cart Days this past weekend.

**Athletics** – Golden Eagle Athletics has launched a refreshed Web site online at [goldeneaglesports.com](http://goldeneaglesports.com). Get the latest on events and your NCAA Division II teams with dynamic news feeds and a consolidated events calendar. With 18 teams participating, the successful [U of M, Crookston Women's Golf scramble](#) raised \$2000 for athletic scholarships. Volleyball heads to Big Rapids, Mich., on Wednesday to participate in a tournament. The concessions/restrooms/ticket area at Ed Widseth field is complete, and a community celebration will be held August 31 beginning at 4:30 p.m. [NFL Youth Flag Football](#) gets underway September 9.

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

