

News Release

2010 Summit Connecting Ag Listening Session Scheduled at the U of M Crookston for Wednesday, July 28, 2010; Session from 11

By Itollefs on Friday, July 23, 2010

Listening sessions related to the 2010 Summit Connecting Ag have been scheduled across Minnesota including one to be held at the University of Minnesota Crookston. With job creation a priority for the state, these sessions will help design, develop, and create the future direction of agriculture. The session at the U of M Crookston is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 28, 2010, in the Kiehle Auditorium.

Lunch will be provided, and the public is welcome. Attendees should register for the session online. Participants will include representatives from all levels in education, agriculture, and related fields.

According to research completed by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, the agricultural, food, and renewable natural resources sectors of the U.S. economy will generate an estimated 54,400 annual openings for people with baccalaureate or higher degrees in food, renewable energy, and environmental specialties between 2010 and 2015. Session participants will discuss how Minnesota can take best advantage of this opportunity by discussing the following topics: who will fill these jobs, how can agriculture education best prepare students to compete for these jobs, and is Minnesota's agriculture education community prepared to provide the necessary training.

Results of the eight listening sessions will be shared at a state-wide summit scheduled for December 2010 titled, "Connecting the Growth Opportunities in Agriculture."

Today the University of Minnesota Crookston delivers 29 bachelor's degree programs, 17 minors, and more than 40 concentrations, including several online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of about 1,300 undergraduates from more than 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

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