

News Release

UMC Will Kick-off Centennial Celebration at NWSA Reunion

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Monday, June 13, 2005

The University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC) will kick off a yearlong celebration of its centennial at the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) reunion on June 24 & 25 on the UMC campus. "The Northwest School reunion is the perfect place to kick off this celebration of our history," said Mike Meyer, chair of the centennial steering committee. "The Northwest School helped bring education to northwest Minnesota and fulfill the University of Minnesota's land grant mission."

The reunion begins on Friday afternoon with alumni registration. The new student center will be host for the activities of the reunion including the dedication of Bede ballroom. The room is named for Retta Bede, an instructor on the campus from 1925 until 1957. Recently, UMC used the Bede name on its student center. That building was razed in 2004 and a new student center stands in its place. Representing the family at the dedication of the ballroom will be Retta's niece, Virginia Thirlkel.

The official Web site of the centennial is located at www.umcrookston.edu/buildings/centennial and includes a video history of the campus. Other reunion events include the alumni social and dance on Friday evening and a full day of special events on Saturday concluding with an alumni recognition banquet and program.

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2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716
800-862-6466 | 218-281-6510 | umcinfo@umn.edu

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