

News Release

UMC names Marv Bachmeier, Alan Dexter, Ph.D., William Hunt and Linda Kingery as recipients of the prestigious 2006 Torch & Shield Award, Recognition to take place October 25, 2006

By Elizabeth Tollefson, Corby Kemmer on Tuesday, October 10, 2006 CROOKSTON, MN (October 10, 2006) – The Torch & Shield Award, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC), will be presented to Marv Bachmeier, Alan G. Dexter, Ph.D., William Hunt and Linda Kingery on Oct. 25, 2006 at a campus and community ceremony.

The Torch & Shield Award recognizes individuals who have provided leadership and who have aided in the development of UMC, the Northwest Research and Outreach Center (NWROC) and Extension Service on campus.

The recognition evening begins with a social in the Bede Ballroom in the Student Center at 5 p.m. followed by a program at 6 p.m. and concludes with a dinner in Brown Dining Room. Tickets for the Torch & Shield Recognition are \$15 and may be purchased by contacting Sue Dwyer by e-mail at stdwyer@umn.edu or by calling 218-281-8401.

"Each one of these committed individuals has invested in the success of our students, our campus and our mission of education, research, outreach and public engagement in northwestern Minnesota," UMC Chancellor Charles H. Casey said. "Over the years, they put community ahead of personal recognition and have served as exemplary leaders. They are very deserving of this honor – as seen by their dedication, collaboration and unique contributions."

NWROC Head Larry Smith also notes the strategic role each has played in moving organizational initiatives forward. "The Torch & Shield Award is an important opportunity for us to recognize individuals who have contributed in a significant way. Their dedication has proven instrumental in our development and our success."



Marv Bachmeier came to the University of Minnesota, Crookston in 1968 as head men's basketball coach. He coached several sports in his long tenure, and in 1976, he succeeded Herschel Lysaker as the University's athletic director. Bachmeier helped athletics make the transition from a two-year to a four-year program. He was also instrumental in establishing Teambackers, the fundraising organization for UMC Golden Eagle athletics.



Alan G. Dexter, Ph.D. has been Extension Sugarbeet and Weed Control Specialist for the University of Minnesota and North Dakota State University since 1969. After 38 years of research on weed control and sugarbeet production, the Northwest Research and Outreach Center dedicated the sugarbeet research ranges to Dexter during their 2006 Field Day. His research has contributed to the success of the sugarbeet industry in the Red River Valley.

William Hunt began his career with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, formerly the Soil Conservation Service, in 1965. He has developed a contribution agreement with UMC for Wetland Reserve Program monitoring at the Glacial Ridge Project, the largest prairie and wetland restoration project in U.S. history. Hunt has worked closely with prairie burns and other educational activities at Glacial Ridge and assisted UMC students with the monitoring of amphibians, birds and wetlands.



Linda Kingery has served as the executive director of the Northwest Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnership since 2000. Under her leadership the Partnership functions with the University to further research, education and outreach consistent with sustainable development principles. Kingery, an advocate for citizen initiatives, has helped foster the development of agriculture, tourism and natural resources in the Red River Basin.

The Torch and Shield Award presentation takes place in conjunction with UMC's annual donor recognition. The Torch and Shield Award was first presented in 1966 when it was initiated by UMC's Founding Provost Stanley Sahlstrom.

The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) delivers more than 24 different undergraduate degree programs, including online options, in agriculture; arts, humanities and social sciences; business; math, science and technology; and natural resources. UMC is dedicated to helping students and the region aim higher, reach further and dream big dreams. To learn more, visit www.UMCrookston.edu.

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