



U of M Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

www.umcrookston.edu

April 8, 2014

From the Chancellor

Support the U Day activities went very well. Our students were extremely well prepared for their day at the Capitol and from all reports were equally professional in their advocacy. President Kaler made a special effort to greet them, and one of the speakers made a special note about how impressed she was by their continued advocacy for the Wellness Center. I was able to join the group for part of the day and am very pleased to report that our students clearly made the largest representational impact as a percentage of their campus enrollment, and from what I saw they may well have been the largest group from any campus. I could not be more proud of them and want to express my thanks to each of them for boarding the bus way before dawn to make the trek to St. Paul. I also want to thank Lorna Hollowell and Lisa Samuelson for all their work in helping our students and for joining them on the long trip.

The previous day I was also in St. Paul with Representative Debra Kiel, who took most of the morning to introduce me to numerous state representatives. During these meetings we both expressed our support for the Wellness Center project and obtained many positive responses. Again, thanks to everyone who has advocated for the project; our U of M State Relations Office mentioned that Crookston will serve as the model for others to follow in terms of advocacy! Based on this, we were certainly disappointed, but not completely surprised, when the House proposal came out a few days later with only planning funds for our project. As stated previously, we had been advised by those with considerable experience that this might happen, as this action provides an opportunity for negotiations with the Senate (who will be announcing their proposal soon) and as a way to obtain the necessary bipartisan votes for passage. We remain optimistic that our project could receive its full funding and will continue to work toward that.

One of the folks who explained this to me was long-time Senator Roger Moe, who was on campus last Friday as a member of our College Advisory and Advancement Board. You can find more information about this stellar group at www.umcrookston.edu/alumni/caab. Corby Kemmer and I had the pleasure of meeting with them all day and were joined by a number of campus leaders during discussions of the Wellness Center, advancement, student recruitment, academic affairs, and strategic planning. Their advice and perspective were extremely valuable, and their commitment to advancing the campus was encouraging. I look forward to continuing to work with this group in advancing our many initiatives. My thanks to Sue Dwyer and Chris Winjum for all their logistical support, to Elizabeth Tollefson and Gary Willhite for the tour of our residence halls, to Melissa Parkin and Dining Services for the wonderful meal, and to our presenters Michelle Christopherson, Stephanie Helgeson, Barbara Keinath, Corby Kemmer, Peter Phaiah, and Carola Thorson. I also want to express my appreciation to the students who participated, and especially to Mikala Gruidinger for her heartfelt remarks about her experiences at UMC and the support she has received from staff and faculty. You only have to listen to our students to fully understand the value of our work.

Sincerely,

Fred Wood
Chancellor
University of Minnesota Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

Meet the Candidates for Crookston Student Association (CSA) Executive Board, Tuesday, April 8 – 4 to 5 p.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center

UMC Music-Theater Department Presents “Little Shop of Horrors,” Tuesday, April 8 – 7:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, admission - free for UMC students, \$5 adults, \$3 students and children

What’s on Wednesday (W.O.W.): Comedian Jay Black, Wednesday, April 9 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

U of M Employee Benefits Specialist on Campus, Friday, April 11 – 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Kiehle 105, employees should call ext. 8346 to set up an appointment during this time frame

National Youth Service Day, Crookston Beautification Committee Clean-up of Downtown Crookston, Saturday, April 12 – 10 a.m. to Noon, meet at Crookston City Hall

National Society of Leadership and Success Induction Ceremony, Saturday, April 12 – 3 to 5 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Thursday Commons: “A Sustainability Tale of Two Campuses,” Thursday, April 17 – 12:15 to 1:45 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Floating Holiday, Friday, April 18 – classes excused, campus offices closed

Earth Day Celebration: “Having Fun Caring for the Earth,” Tuesday, April 22 – 9 a.m. to Noon, Sargeant Student Center

Earth Day Performance: “Walden: The Ballad of Thoreau,” Tuesday, April 22 – 12:30 p.m., repeated at 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

Student Awards Night, Thursday, April 24 – 6 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, reception follows in Kiehle Rotunda

For details on these and a comprehensive listing of other events or to discover what’s happening this week, visit UMC Today at www.umcrookston.edu/today or review our news page at <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news> .

Learn more about events across the entire University of Minnesota system via *Brief*: www.umn.edu/twincities/faculty-staff/brief.

Around Campus

Administrative Affairs –

Claudia Neuhauser, Ph.D., director of the new U of M Informatics Institute (UMII) on the Twin Cities campus, will visit UMC on Wednesday morning, April 16. Her schedule includes a presentation and Q&A session on UMII from 8 to 9 a.m., a tour of the 3D immersive lab from 9 to 10 a.m., and a meeting with interested faculty and staff from 10 to 11 a.m. The presentation and meeting with the faculty will take place in Bede Ballroom. Learn more about UMII at <https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/informatics-institute/home>.

Scott Studham, vice president and CIO for the U of M's Office of Information Technology, will meet with Chancellor Wood on the evening of Monday, April 14, regarding technology issues. His colleagues **Associate CIO Brittany Lloyd** and **Associate CIO Brad Cohen** will also be on hand. The two associate CIOs will meet with staff of UMC Technology Support Services on Tuesday, April 15, and will be available during an open meeting with interested UMC faculty and staff that day from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in Bede Ballroom.

Academic Affairs –

An open forum on UMC's strategic planning process and directions is scheduled for Friday, April 25, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center. The agenda will include a brief overview, small group discussion, and "input cards" for individuals to share their ideas. Light refreshments will be served. All faculty, staff, and interested students are encouraged to review the information at www.umcrockston.edu/stratplan.

On June 1, 2014, UMC will submit its first AQIP Systems Portfolio, a key document in verifying how the campus meets the Higher Learning Commission's Criteria for Accreditation and demonstrating faculty and staff commitment to continuous improvement. The Systems Portfolio addresses key processes, results, and improvements in nine categories. Draft responses for six of the nine categories are now posted at www.umcrockston.edu/aqip. The remaining three category drafts will be added to the site soon. Feedback from faculty and staff members on the draft responses will ensure that the Systems Portfolio submitted to the Higher Learning Commission is an accurate and robust presentation of UMC. Faculty and staff are encouraged to read the drafts and submit suggestions and corrections by May 10 using the web feedback form posted on the site. (Readers need not worry about minor editorial issues as Nancy Shay will edit the final copy for all nine categories.) For more information about the Systems Portfolio, contact Sue Erickson, director of institutional effectiveness.

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Department has been given a collection of nearly 200 wild bird specimens by the Wetlands, Pines, and Prairie Audubon Society. The collection will become a significant teaching tool and a distinctive addition to the campus wildlife museum in Owen Hall. [Learn more.](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2014/04/century-old-bird-collection-fi.html)
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2014/04/century-old-bird-collection-fi.html>

Student Affairs & Enrollment Management –

Comedian Jay Black will perform on Wednesday, April 9, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. Black is a former high school teacher turned comedian. He has performed at nearly 400 colleges and has been named the nation's top college comedian. His performance is sponsored by S.P.A.C.E. (Student Programming and Activities for Campus Entertainment).

In observance of Financial Literacy Month, the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarship will host a Student Loan Repayment Workshop on Thursday, April 10, at noon in the Prairie Lounge, Sargeant Student Center. Watch the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships Facebook page for weekly money management questions and a chance for students to win a gift card.

Human Resources –

The University of Minnesota’s Wellbeing Lecture Series will present “Cultivating Wellbeing Through Relationships,” by Daniel Siegel, M.D., on Thursday, April 24, at 6:30 p.m. in Northrup Auditorium on the Twin Cities campus. The event will be broadcast live via web streaming to all campuses of the U of M. Cost is \$10 for live webcast access; free for U of M students. Siegel, a clinical professor of psychiatry at the UCLA School of Medicine, will explain why one’s relationships with self and others are deeply connected to resilience, mental health, and overall wellbeing. Learn more and register at <http://z.umn.edu/wellbeingseries>.

Athletics –

University of Minnesota Crookston Western Equestrian rider Shannon Salm, a junior from Larsen, Wis., majoring in equine science, competed at the Zone 7, Region 3 semifinals in Canyon, Texas the last weekend in March. Placing in the top four riders, Salm now advances on to IHSA Nationals after a strong performance in a competitive division. [Learn more.](http://www.goldeneaglesports.com/news/2014/4/2/EQUESTW_0402141734.aspx)
http://www.goldeneaglesports.com/news/2014/4/2/EQUESTW_0402141734.aspx

To view all results and upcoming athletic events, visit www.goldeneaglesports.com.

Center for Sustainability –

Dan Svedarsky and Troy Goodnough, sustainability coordinators at the University of Minnesota Crookston and University of Minnesota Morris, respectively, will present an overview of the efforts and accomplishments of students, staff, and faculty at each campus with regard to the broad area of sustainability during **Thursday Commons: “A Sustainability Tale of Two Campuses,” on April 17, from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. in Bede Ballroom,** Sargeant Student Center. Advances in renewable energy, local foods and gardening, campus cost savings, energy efficiency, planetary stewardship, and earth ethics will be profiled.

University of Minnesota System

Do you have a breakthrough business idea? Are you ready to launch the next big startup? For ten years, the **Minnesota Cup competition**—the largest statewide new venture competition in the United

States— has supported and accelerated the development of innovative business ideas from around the state. On March 24, the Cup opened for entries in its latest round of competition. State residents have until May 9 to submit entries to compete for \$300,000 in prize money. The University of Minnesota and Well Fargo are the hosts and founding partners. Learn more at www.breakthroughideas.org.

Campus and Community

UMC students are encouraged to join members of the community of Crookston and the Crookston Beautification Committee in the spring clean-up of downtown Crookston during National Youth Service Day on Saturday, April 12, from 10 a.m. to noon. Volunteers should meet at Crookston City Hall, 124 N. Broadway for a light breakfast before picking up supplies and assignments.

An Earth Day celebration will take place on Tuesday, April 22, from 9 to noon in the Sargeant Student Center. The celebration, which will involve UMC students as well as high school students from local school districts, will consist of a sustainability fair; a poster contest for college and high school students with \$500 scholarships awarded to the winning posters; a Native American tribute; and "hot topic" Earth Day mini lectures. All are welcome.

To commemorate Earth Day on Tuesday, April 22, two special performances of the play "Walden: The Ballad of Thoreau" will be performed at 12:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. Each performance is free and open to the public. Freewill donations will go to a designated sustainability project. Under the direction of **Linnea Barton**, Writing Center coordinator, the cast consists of **Ian McCrae**, associate professor at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center, as Emerson; **Chris Sthultz**, assistant professor in the Math, Science, and Technology Department, as Thoreau; **Michael Laurich**, a junior from Lansing, Ill., majoring in biology as J.B.; and **Megan Luxford**, a senior applied studies major from Columbus, Neb., as Rachel. [Learn more.](#)

<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2014/04/theatrical-performance-of-wald.html>

Accolades

Travis Lawell, a senior from Apple Valley, Minn., majoring in agricultural systems management, recently presented on the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), a small, aerial vehicle piloted by remote control. Lawell built the UAV himself and presented his work to the remote sensing applications in precision agriculture class at the University of Minnesota Crookston and discussed how the new technology will help impact precision agriculture for crop scouting and remote sensing purposes. The class is taught by Paul Aakre and Gary Wagner in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department. [Learn more.](#)

<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2014/04/precision-ag-student-gets-hand.html>

Publication notes: The *E-Update* is published twice each month August through April and once each month May through July. Issues are posted online at www.umcrookston.edu/admin/chancellor/eupdate. If you have any questions regarding the information in this news update, please send them to urumc@umn.edu.

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