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**LEADERSHIP LETTER**

Dear Students;

Last week we started by celebrating the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Wednesday, January 20 the presidential inauguration. It reminded me that our democracy remains strong.

Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963, we watched Vice President Kamala Harris and the Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff observe an amazing firework display on inauguration night following her inauguration -- her inauguration as the first female vice president and the first black and Asian vice president. To me, that moment says a lot about how far our nation has come in nearly 60 years. But of course we still have work to do.



The task falls on you to carry on the legacy of Dr. King and the ideals of our democracy that were on display last week. I challenge you to be a part of moving our nation forward in years to come.

### **COVID-19 Update**

We advise you to remain diligent with the most effective ways to control the spread of COVID-19 — wear a face covering, wash your hands, physically distance from others, and avoid large gatherings. Continuing these actions will help us bridge the time until we have reached widespread vaccination of our community.

As highlighted last week, the vaccine rollout is proceeding although much more slowly than we would have hoped. As you know, the Minnesota Department of Health controls the distribution of the vaccine. We have also asked the University of Minnesota be allowed to vaccinate our own community. We have a vaccine team planning for the moment the vaccine is more widely available and determining how we can put the University's expertise and resources to work to rapidly distribute the vaccine to all members of the University community. [Learn more about our work at the Safe Campus website.](#)

In the meantime, remember testing opportunities are broadly available and accessible. [Order your free test online](#) or in person testing is available at the Crookston Armory from 12-6 p.m. January, 27-30. To schedule an appointment, contact [mncovidtestingappt.as.me](mailto:mncovidtestingappt.as.me)

Best,

Chancellor Mary



**Business School Visit**

attending the UMN [Carlson Early Career Master's Programs](#) (MS in Business Analytics, MS in Finance, and new Master of Marketing) career fair.

There will be faculty, staff, and alumni talking about the many different career trajectories and typical day-to-day work available in analytics, finance, and marketing, with time for Q&A as well.



Carlson School  
of Management

UMN Crookston students considering their career paths should join in and learn more.

Join the UMN [Carlson School's Early Career Master's Programs](#) for an upcoming event to learn how, in a year or less, a specialized business master's program can prepare you to hit the ground running in a fulfilling, high-impact, innovative career in your industry of choice.

[CLICK FOR ALL EVENTS](#)

[CAMPUS UPDATES](#)

#### **From the Information Desk**

Spring semester will see some changes at the Information Desk in the Student Center. During the morning hours while we are double-staffed, students are welcome to use the game equipment. Solid cleaning protocols are in place and everyone must maintain the wearing of face coverings and physical distancing. The hours for the Info Desk have changed and is open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and closed weekends.

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#### **From the Student Success Center**

##### **GRE Study Groups**

Planning to take the GRE? Don't know what to expect? Not sure how to study? Sign up for a GRE study group this semester! Led by Kelsey Torgerson and Denise Greene, these

all three sections - quantitative reasoning, verbal reasoning, and analytical writing will be covered. We will meet for an hour every other week via Zoom, and we hope to begin at the beginning of February. If interested, complete this [interest form](#) by Friday, January 29. If you have any questions, please contact Kelsey Torgerson or Denise Greene.

### **Extending the Classroom**

Extending the Classroom evening study sessions will start THIS WEEK!

The Student Success Center is again hosting weekly Extending the Classroom evening study groups for a few of our most highly requested classes. Study groups begin the week of January 24 and are led by veteran tutors who are familiar with the classes. If you would like a Google Calendar reminder for these groups, please add your name to the [Interested in Extending the Classroom List](#) and select the appropriate group you'd like to join. Even if you forget to sign-up on the form, we'd love for you to attend. For questions, contact [umctutor@crk.umn.edu](mailto:umctutor@crk.umn.edu).

- Intro Chemistry (Chem 1001) - Sundays 8-9 p.m. in Evergreen Classroom
- Sociology (Soc 1001) - Mondays 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Evergreen Classroom
- General Biology (Biol 1009) - Tuesdays 6-7 p.m. in Dowell Hall 106
- Intro to Animal Science (AnSc 1004) - Wednesdays 5-6 p.m. in Evergreen Classroom
- College Algebra (Math 1031) - Wednesdays 7:30-8:30 p.m. in Evergreen Classroom

Students should use the doors by the outdoor basketball court/sand volleyball court to enter Evergreen Classroom for Extending the Classroom, especially for the groups that start after 7:00 p.m.

Students joining the General Biology Extending the Classroom should use the outside door to the library and move into Dowell Hall.

### **Tutoring**

Tutoring groups are starting to form so now is a great time to [sign-up for a tutor!](#) The earlier you request a tutor, the more effective it can be. Tutoring is available at no cost to all (online and on-campus) students. You can meet with your tutor in person or via Zoom or Google Meet. If you have any questions, contact Josh Parrill or email [umctutor@crk.umn.edu](mailto:umctutor@crk.umn.edu) or refer to the [tutor request instruction video](#).

There is also Science/Math Drop-In tutoring with Kelsey Torgerson held Monday-Friday 3:30-4:30 p.m CT (M&F via Zoom, TuWTh in-person or via Zoom). Students in Intro Chem,

The Math Center is now open for the semester Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. CT. The Math Center is available in-person (Owen Hall 170) during the morning and virtual in the afternoon. To join virtual hours or for questions, email [umcmathcenter@crk.umn.edu](mailto:umcmathcenter@crk.umn.edu).

### Writing Center

Feeling unsure about your next writing project? The [Writing Center](#) is available to all students (on campus and online) who want to discuss their writing projects. You can choose to schedule a live consultation (in person or via video conference) or use our asynchronous email feedback. We provide constructive feedback to writers at all stages of the writing process. Our services are free and the Writing Center is located in Owen Hall 170. This [Writing Center instruction video](#) walks you through sign-up steps to meet with our staff. Note our new hours for this semester: Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. CT. If you have any questions, email [umcwrite@crk.umn.edu](mailto:umcwrite@crk.umn.edu).

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### From Athletics

The UMN Crookston hockey team started off their 2021 home slate with a 7-2 victory over the University of North Dakota club team Monday, January 25. The Golden Eagles scored five goals in the first period. Cam Olstad led the way with two goals and an assist, while Casey Kallock added one goal and two assists.



The Golden Eagle hockey team will remain at home at the Crookston Sports Center to take on Williston State College Friday, January 29 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, January 30 at 1 p.m.

The UMN Crookston baseball team was picked to finish seventh in the NSIC Preseason Coaches' Poll. The preseason selection was the highest in the history of the program. The Golden Eagles were picked eighth in the 2020 preseason poll. The preseason ranking shows the rise of a program picked 15 in the preseason poll in Steve Gust's first season as head coach in 2015.

The Golden Eagle men's basketball team has continued their 2020-21 season. Minnesota Crookston comes into this weekend with a 1-7 mark. The Golden Eagles will hit the road to take on University of Mary Friday, January 29 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, January 30 at 4 p.m.

The Minnesota Crookston women's basketball team comes in with a 2-6 mark during the

UMary Friday, January 29 at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday, January 30 at 1:30 p.m.

You can watch the Golden Eagle basketball and hockey games this weekend at <https://nsicnetwork.com/goldeneaglesports/>

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## HIGHLIGHTS

### **Prairie Public**

University of Minnesota Crookston staff member and alumnus Ken Mendez 2011, along with alumni Victoria Ramirez 2002 and Allan Dragseth 1957, also a member of the Campus Advisory and Advancement Board, were featured in Prairie Public's upcoming documentary "Ésta Es Mi Casa – This Is My Home". The documentary chronicles the migration stories of Hispanic families who came to the Red River Valley to help with hoeing beet fields, tending crops, and bringing in the harvest.

These families' migration stories are as compelling as those of the families that migrated centuries earlier. They took extensive risks and experienced culture clashes, climate shock, and language barriers.

Now, one and two generations later, these migrant workers have assimilated and settled in the region. Their children and grandchildren are working as professionals. They have contributed their own cultural stamp to the region's art, cuisine, diversity, and economy.

Prairie Public has produced a half-hour documentary to examine the amazing journey of the Red River Valley's Hispanic community.

### How to Watch

- Tune in to Prairie Public on Thursday, January 28, at 9 p.m.
- Stream on [PBS.org](https://www.pbs.org), the [PBS Video App](#), or [YouTube](#) after the broadcast.

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### **Alumni Feature**

Jason Carlson began his undergraduate journey at the University of North Dakota with no solid plan other than to play football. When injury interrupted that plan, he really didn't know what to do. He took a break, worked, and after a couple of years decided he needed

said he was transformed from a barely engaged student without much of a plan to a driven student with purpose who graduated with distinction. "I credit my instructors and advisors at UMC with much of that transformation," he stated.

Steve Shirley was his advisor and did an amazing job helping him find his way. There were other instructors who made a positive impact on his time at UMN Crookston such as Rob Smith and Bruce and Sue Brorson. "I would say my affinity for UMC has grown over time as I think back to the positive impact it has made on my life," he said.

A lifelong resident of Polk County, he and his wife, Nicki, son Charley, and daughter Svea live near McIntosh, Minn. Carlson graduated with a bachelor's degree in business management in 2000 and went on to earn a master of business administration (MBA) from the University of North Dakota.

Currently, Carlson is the chief executive officer for Tri-Valley Opportunity Council where he has been employed for the past 14 years. Prior to that, he spent six years in various roles with the Win-E-Mac School District. "I participated in an internship with the school district and it was a very valuable part of my education. Shortly after I completed my internship, the district created an administrative position that was focused on the non-academic functions of the school and I was hired to fill that position," he said.

Carlson said attending the University of Minnesota Crookston had a positive impact on his life and encourages any graduating senior to thoroughly check out what the campus has to offer.

