



U of M, Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

www.umcrookston.edu

January 30, 2013

From the Chancellor

As you may recall, early in fall semester I asked a group of students, staff, and faculty to discuss the future of Thursday Commons. This committee was asked for recommendations and, specifically, if the commons should be kept in its present form, changed, or discontinued. The full charge to the group and its membership can be found online at <http://www3.crk.umn.edu/chancellors-office/documents/thursdaycommonschargeletter.pdf>. The group was asked to make its recommendations by November 16, 2012, to allow for the implementation of possible changes in fall 2013, but it was decided early in the conversations that it would be valuable to gain further input from many others on campus. The members reached out to the broad campus community through departmental visits, group meetings, and even through campus surveys. I fully agreed with the committee that it was important to take the time needed for broad consultation, even if this meant that a fall 2013 implementation would not be possible. That extra time allowed for further discussions and for the group to reach a consensus, which is presented in a report found online at <http://www3.crk.umn.edu/chancellors-office/documents/2013adhoccommonsrecomm.pdf>.

As you can see in their report, they have recommended that we keep Thursday Commons and that it remain on Thursday afternoons. The group also recommended that we lift the restriction that no other activities can be held concurrently during that time period. I accept these recommendations. So, for both this spring and next fall the Thursday Commons will be held at the same time and attendance will no longer be considered mandatory. I hope, however, that you will choose to attend as many of these activities as possible to support the various presenters and sponsors.

The discussion of the Thursday Commons also led the committee to many thoughtful discussions on the efficient use of class times since the commons does limit the available time slots for classes on both Tuesdays and Thursdays. Many different course scheduling models were discussed. After substantial discussion they arrived at recommendations which reduce the time between courses and, thereby, add available course periods during both Tuesday and Thursday. I believe that these thoughtful recommendations have merit in allowing for a more efficient use of our classroom resources, and they warrant greater review and thorough consideration. For this reason, I have asked Senior Vice Chancellor Thomas Baldwin and Faculty Assembly Chair George French to continue the campus-wide discussion of these recommendations. I hope you will join the conversation as they reach out to various groups during spring semester. Once they have completed this review, we can then consider implementation of possible changes in the spring 2014 or fall 2014.

I hope you will join me in thanking the members of the committee for their excellent work and especially the chair, George French, for his outstanding service to the campus which required both diligence and persistence. I know that many differing opinions and options were carefully considered to reach the consensus expressed in the group's report. The committee's work is an excellent example

of reaching out to many in our community, listening carefully to widely diverse perspectives, and then working together to reach a consensus. I hope it can serve as a model for our future.

I had the opportunity to attend my first Ag Arama this past weekend. This event is a great way to showcase what our students can do. It was also nice to see so many parents of our students in attendance. Congratulations to all the students, staff, and faculty in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department for all their work on putting together a successful campus, community, and alumni event.

I am excited to attend our 11th Annual Job and Internship fair this week. This year's event is the largest ever with approximately 50 companies and graduate schools represented. It's exciting to know that our graduates are highly sought after; this is validation of what we do here at UMC. I want to thank Frito-Lay and Sodexo for partnering with UMC Career and Counseling Services and Enactus to sponsor this event which is a great opportunity for our students.

–Fred
Fred E. Wood, Chancellor
University of Minnesota, Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

11th Annual Winter Job and Internship Fair, Wednesday, January 30 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

What's on Wednesday (WOW) Event: Mentalist Chris Bolter, Wednesday, January 30 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

Thursday Commons: Spring Semester Research Day, Thursday, January 31 – 12:15 to 2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Special Presentation: "Aldo Leopold - A Standard of Change," Thursday, January 31 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

Admissions Hosts Campus Preview Day for Prospective Students, Saturday, February 2 – 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

Third Annual Justin Knebel Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament, Saturday, February 2 – 10 a.m. registration, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. fishing, Zippel Bay Resort on Lake of the Woods, Williams, Minn., tickets are \$20

Panel Discussion: "The Evolution of Africa," Monday, February 4 – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., lunch option featuring African food may be purchased in Brown Dining Room for only \$5 per person

U of M Portal Project Kick-Off, Monday, February 4 – 2 to 4 p.m., 141 Kiehle Building

What's on Wednesday (WOW) Event: Comedian Seaton Smith, Wednesday, February 6 – 7 p.m.,
Kiehle Auditorium

“Support the U Day” Rally for Students at the Minnesota Capitol, Thursday, February 7 – 12:15 p.m.,
State Capitol Rotunda, St. Paul

Mixed Blood Theatre Company Performance of "Daughters of Africa," Friday, February 8 – 7 p.m.,
Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

Chinese Cultural Demonstrations, Saturday, February 9 – 4 to 6:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, free and open to the public

Performance by Chinese American Association of Minnesota (CAAM) Dance Theater, Saturday, February 9 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, tickets at the door \$5 adults, \$3 kids and high school students, \$1 for UMC students

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

Academic Affairs –

The campus community is encouraged to attend the **Spring Semester Research Day** during Thursday Commons on January 31 from 12:15 to 2 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Among those scheduled to present their research are **Mehdi Mekni**, Ph.D., assistant professor, Math, Science, and Technology Department: “Computer Simulation Involving Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, and Geo-Computation Techniques”; **Lacole McPherson**, Ph.D., assistant professor, Business Department: “An Overview of Student-Athlete Career Development Measures”; **Alvin Killough**, Ph.D., assistant professor, Liberal Arts and Education Department: “Equality in Health Research Beyond the Dream Implementing the Vision: A Model Using Sickle Cell Disease”; and **Nicole Sorlie** and **Constantin Adalakoun**, students, Math, Science, and Technology Department: “Antimicrobial activity of selected Native American seeds.” Light refreshments will be served, and attendees may bring their lunch.

A generous donation of more than 500 fish specimens was recently added to the Wildlife Museum in the natural resources program at the U of M, Crookston. The specimens were donated by the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History, curated by Andrew Simons, and cover 79 species of fish in Minnesota. Simons is an associate professor in the U of M's Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology and Curator of Fishes, Amphibians, and Reptiles at the Bell Museum of Natural History. He is also a colleague of Associate Professor John Loegering who has a joint appointment with the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at the U of M and the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department at the U of M, Crookston. Loegering serves as

curator and manager of the Wildlife Museum on the Crookston campus. Learn more at <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2013/01/students-in-natural-resources-1.html>

Student Affairs –

UMC's **11th Annual Winter Job and Internship Fair** will be held Wednesday, January 30, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. More than 45 employers and graduate schools will be on hand to provide information to students (a full listing is posted online at <http://www3.crk.umn.edu/ccs/career/jobfair/index.htm>) . Attendees are encouraged to come prepared by dressing professionally and having copies of a current résumé in hand. This event is hosted by University of Minnesota, Crookston's Career and Counseling Services, Enactus, and Frito Lay.

The Office of Admissions will host a **campus visit day for prospective students** on Saturday, February 2, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. During this time, prospective students and their families will meet with admissions staff, take campus tours, and meet with faculty and staff in their study area of interest.

A series of events in February will commemorate **Black History Month** at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Among the events are a panel discussion "The Evolution of Africa" on Monday, February 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, and the theatrical performance "Daughters of Africa" presented by Mixed Blood Theatre Company on Friday, February 8, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. Learn more at <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2013/01/february-2013-brings-celebrati.html>

Cher Hexum has been hired as an office support assistant for the Office of the Registrar and the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships. She will work mornings in 5 Hill Hall, ext. 8546, for the Registrar and afternoons in 170 Owen Hall, ext. 8567, for Financial Aid. Previously she worked as an administrative assistant for LM Wind Power in Grand Forks, N.D.

International Programs

A performance by the **Chinese American Association of Minnesota (CAAM) Dance Theater** is scheduled for Saturday, February 9, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. Tickets at the door: \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids and high school students, and \$1.00 for UMC students. The event is sponsored by the Confucius Institute and UMC's International Programs Office. Earlier that day from 4 to 6:30 p.m. the campus will host a number of Chinese cultural demonstrations in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. These demonstrations will include martial arts, making paper lanterns and animals, the Chinese tea ceremony, calligraphy interaction, and an art display—all free and open to the public. Learn more at <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2013/01/chinese-dance-theater-to-grace.html>

Technology Support Services –

The U of M is in the process of creating an easy-to-use interactive web tool for facilitating access to information and services system-wide; this is known as the **Portal Project of the Enterprise Systems Upgrade Program (ESUP)**. Amber Bailey, e-communications manager, is serving as a representative from the Crookston campus on the system-wide planning committee for this project. The feedback received over the next few months will help define the future direction of portal at the U of M.

Interested individuals are invited to attend a Portal Project Kickoff on Monday, February 4, from 2 to 4 p.m. in 141 Kiehle (access through the Computer Help Desk), where a World Cafe (<http://vimeo.com/23045061>) conversation will be held. Learn more at <http://z.umn.edu/portal>.

Library Services –

The **UMC Library will move to a new library system in December 2013**. This new system will be shared with the other campuses of the University of Minnesota system. It will look much different while searching for books, ebooks, and videos. To see what the new system will look like, go to: http://primo.lib.umn.edu/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do?vid=CROOKSTON.

The Library has recently acquired another library's **DVD collection, adding approximately 600 new titles to our holdings**. Some very nice videos were added. View the list of newly available DVDs at <http://umclibrary.crk.umn.edu/Newdvds.htm>.

The UMC Library has added a **new service, called Get It**, to help speed up the borrowing of books from other U of M libraries. When looking in the online library catalog (http://umplib.oit.umn.edu/F/MP2PDEV9B4FGSGED3TAJTTHSN5P6P277EV1HJ536AU7F24Q2RX-00112?func=find-b-0&local_base=umn01pub), if the UMC library does not have the book in question, users will see a button that says "Get It." By simply clicking the button, a request to borrow it will be generated. Notification will be sent when it arrives on campus.

Development & Alumni Relations –

The 2013 NWSA/UMC Arizona Social will take place Friday, February 15, at the Terrace Green at ViewPoint Resort in Mesa, Arizona, from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. All alumni are invited to attend. The Social will be hosted by Corby Kemmer, director, Development & Alumni Relations, and will include greetings from U of M, Crookston Chancellor Fred Wood. UMC First Lady Mary Wood and University of Minnesota President Kaler and Karen Kaler are expected to attend as well as three top executives from the U of M, Foundation. Cost is \$15 per person; please contact Mary Lou (Barid) Dostal '54 at 480-354-8568 or the Alumni Office at 800-862-6466, ext. 8401 to RSVP.

With five months remaining in Fiscal Year 2013 (July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013), the Office of Development & Alumni Relations is pleased to announce they are **10% above all of last year (FY12) in total fundraising**. All donors are offered sincere thanks for their continued investments in the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

The **3rd Annual Justin Knebel Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament** will take place Saturday, February 2, at Zippel Bay Resort, on Lake of the Woods in Williams, Minnesota. Registration will begin at 10 a.m. with lines in the water from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person. Everyone is invited.

Athletics –

The University of Minnesota, Crookston **Student Advisory Committee (SAAC) will sponsor a fundraiser for the Crookston Area Special Olympics** during the Golden Eagles' home basketball games against University of Sioux Falls on Friday, February 1. The event will feature the Crookston Area Special

Olympics Basketball Team playing against a team comprised of UMC students, coaches, and community members during half-time of the women's basketball game, which begins at 6 p.m. Before both games and during the men's half-time, SAAC will have games for all ages in the hallways and on the basketball court. Prizes also will be given out throughout the night. For more information contact UMC Assistant Athletic Director Natasha Reiersen at 218-281-8423.

University of Minnesota System

Students from all campuses of the University of Minnesota will travel to St. Paul on Thursday, February 7, to take part in **Support the U Day**. The annual event is a day for students to communicate the importance of the U of M to leaders at the state level, to advocate keeping tuition affordable, and to ask for increased state support to maintain the quality of the U of M. The Crookston delegation will depart at 6 a.m. in order to arrive at 12:15 p.m. for a rally in the State Capitol Rotunda. Following the rally, students will attend meetings with elected officials from their home districts before heading back to Crookston.

Campus and Community

During the performance "**Aldo Leopold - A Standard of Change**," storyteller Jim Pfitzer will bring Aldo Leopold, conservationist, forester, philosopher, educator, writer, and outdoor enthusiast, to life on the stage of Kiehle Auditorium. The event, sponsored by the UMC Agriculture and Natural Resources Department, is scheduled for Thursday, January 31, at 7 p.m.; the performance is free and open to the public. Learn more at <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/12/storyteller-jim-pfitzer-to-bri.html>

The **Northwest Regional Farm to Cafeteria Workshop** will be held at the White Earth Tribal College in Mahanomen on Monday, February 4, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. The workshops are designed to meet the needs of the region and strengthen connections to advance partnerships between local farmers and community institutions. The 2013 workshops are coordinated by University of Minnesota Extension in partnership with the Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture, Statewide Health Improvement Program, and Renewing the Countryside, and they are funded by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.extension.umn.edu/go/1132>. Contact Linda Kingery at kinge002@umn.edu or 218-281-8697 for more information on the Northwest Regional Farm to Cafeteria Workshop. For information on Minnesota Farm to School, visit <http://www.extension.umn.edu/farm-to-school>.

Students involved with Enactus will host the **Second Annual Clean Water for Everyone Dinner** on Tuesday, February 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Tickets cost \$25 per person with proceeds going to help fund project teams building clean water systems for needy communities in locations around the world. For more information contact Abbey Wemimo via e-mail at abbey010@umn.edu.

Accolades

Ag Arama royalty were named on Saturday, January 26, at the 38th annual event: Queen **Victoria Martin**, a senior animal science major from Worland, Wyo.; King **Ben Wuebkers**, a senior animal science major from Freeport, Minn.; Princess **Olivia Fischer**, a sophomore animal science major from Kimball, Minn.; and Prince **Brady Breitenfeldt**, a sophomore animal science major from Frazee, Minn. Royalty are selected by a faculty and staff panel through a process involving candidates writing an essay, interviews, résumé, and student achievement. **The True Grit Award** was presented to **Matthew Green**, a triple major in agronomy, agricultural systems management, and agricultural business from Greenbush, Minn. The award is dedicated to the memory of Todd Opsahl a UMC student in 1973-74 whose life was cut tragically short by leukemia. In his remembrance, the True Grit Award is presented to the student who best demonstrates Todd Opsahl's active participation and encouragement of others.

Jack Geller, Ph.D., professor and department head, Liberal Arts & Education Department, has been asked by the Minnesota Senate Committee on Jobs, Agriculture and Rural Development (Chaired by Senator Dan Sparks, DFL – Austin) to make a presentation and provide testimony regarding broadband and its relationship to rural development. He will appear before the committee on Wednesday, January 30.

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 <http://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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