

News Release

Professors Maiga and Westrom Recognized; Westrom Named NACTA Central Region Director - Elect for 2014-15

By ltollefs on Monday, September 8, 2014

Professor Harouna Maiga (at right), who teaches in animal science at the University of Minnesota Crookston, was presented with a Certificate of Honorable Mention at the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference in Bozeman, Mont., this summer for his journal article entitled "Using Interactive Flash Games to Enhance Students' Learning in Animal Sciences." The article appeared in the September 2013 issue of *NACTA Journal*.



Westrom Named NACTA Central Region Director - Elect

Professor Lyle Westrom, who teaches in agricultural education and animal science, was elected as NACTA Central Region Director- Elect for the 2014-15 academic year and will serve as Central Region Director for the 2015-16 academic year. As a member of the NACTA Executive team, Westrom will encourage NACTA membership from Central Region colleges/universities



and serve as a member of the executive team that plans future conferences. The 2015-16 conference will be held in Athens, Ga., and the 2016-17.

NACTA is a professional organization that focuses on teaching in the agriculture and natural resources area. It is open to faculty members across the United States and Canada. conference will be held in Hawaii.

NDAAE Honors Westrom with Outstanding Cooperation Award

The North Dakota Association of Agricultural Educators (NDAAE) presented Professor Lyle Westrom with the NDAAE Outstanding Cooperation Award at their annual banquet on August 13, 2014, in Bismarck, N.D. The award was sponsored by the North Dakota Farm Bureau and Dakota Plains Cooperative.

Westrom prepares agricultural educators for high school and farm business management education. Seven U of M Crookston graduates (photo at right, below) are currently teaching at the high school level in North Dakota and two are teaching farm business management to adults in North Dakota. Agriculture is the second most important field economically behind oil production, which recently moved ahead of agriculture in North Dakota.



U of M Crookston Alumna Desiree Severance was also honored at the NDAAE Banquet with the Outstanding Young Member Award. Severance has been teaching at Wyndmere, N.D., for the past five years. She serves as the advisor to a rapidly developing FFA chapter and is also working toward her master's degree at North Dakota State University. (She is pictured above, left, presenting Westrom with his award.)

Today the University of Minnesota Crookston delivers 29 bachelor's degree programs, 20 minors, and 36 concentrations on campus--as well as 13 degrees online--in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,800 undergraduates from more than 20 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

In the photo, bottom, right, are Kaitlyn Tollefsrud '13, James Jansen '09, Desiree Severance '10, Kasey Okke '13, Danielle Hannon '09, Amy Lee '14, and Brent Arndt '06.

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