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Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

December 13, 2011

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From the Chancellor

As we begin the last week of the semester I know everyone is especially busy attending to a broad range of student requests. We all wonder how the time has passed so quickly but take satisfaction in accomplishing so much over the past four months.

I am pleased to report the schematic plans for the new UMC Residence Hall and Classroom Building received a positive vote in the Facilities Committee of the Board of Regents meeting last week. The project also received support as part of the Capital Budget Amendment. Final approval is scheduled for the February Board of Regents meeting.

We also had a presentation in the Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee on our campus online programs. Associate Professor Bruce Brorson and Center for Adult Learning Director Michelle Christopherson did a great job providing committee members information about the development of our programs including faculty and staff leadership and development, the importance of campus and central support, student profile, degree programs and student services. Committee members were very interested and asked a number of questions. The presentation received very positive comments from a number of University administrators attending the meeting. Thanks to Chris Winjum for his assistance with preparing the materials.

Even though this is a busy time, we will be finalizing our proposal criteria for one-time investments this week and distributing the information to campus. We will be requesting that proposals be submitted by noon on January 13, 2012.

Barbara and I want to wish everyone a wonderful and peaceful holiday season and a very happy new year. The two of us will be traveling to China over the break to visit the Zhejiang Economic and Trade Polytechnic to meet with leaders and students. We'll see you in 2012.

– Chuck

Charles H. Casey, Chancellor
University of Minnesota, Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

Final Exams, Monday, December 12 through Thursday, December 15

Campus Community Faculty and Staff Holiday Get-Together, Thursday, December 15 – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Moodle 2 Training Session for Faculty and Staff, Thursday, December 15 – 2 to 3:30 p.m., Kiehle Building 116

Moodle 2 Training Session for Faculty and Staff, Monday, December 19 – 10:30 a.m. to Noon, Kiehle Building 116

U of M, Extension's Soybean College, Tuesday, December 20 – 8:30 a.m. to 3:10 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, registration is \$50

Floating Holiday, Friday, December 23 – campus offices closed

Floating Holiday, Monday, December 26 – campus offices closed

Floating Holiday, Friday, December 30 – campus offices closed

Floating Holiday, Monday, January 2, 2012 – campus offices closed

New Student Orientation for Spring 2012, Sunday, January 8, 2012 – 8 a.m. Residence Hall Check-In, Centennial Hall; 1 p.m. Orientation Check-In, Sargeant Student Center

Spring Semester 2012 Classes Begin Monday, January 9, 2012

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 blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news.

Learn more about events across the entire University of Minnesota system via [Brief](#).

Around Campus

Administrative Affairs –

Faculty and staff from across the campus community—the U of M, Crookston, the Northwest Research and Outreach Center, the Northwest Area Health Education Center, and the Crookston Regional Extension Center—are invited to the annual **Campus Community Faculty and Staff Holiday Get-Together** on Thursday, December 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. A free lunch will be served followed by a short program. Those who wish to take part in the white elephant gift exchange should bring a “garage sale worthy” white elephant gift. Attendees are encouraged to dress in festive clothing and to bring a dessert to share.

Administration has earmarked **a pool of approximately \$500,000 from which to fund proposals generated by faculty and staff for 2012**. These proposals are meant to be one-time investments, but proposals may include single-year or multi-year commitments. Unfortunately, long-term, recurring investments may not be able to be funded from this particular funding pool.

To be considered for funding, proposals should address one or more of the following criteria:

- The investment will enhance the overall student experience.
- The investment will aid in recruitment, retention, and/or graduation efforts.
- The investment will positively impact academic programs.
- The investment will support campus efforts to increase and improve research activities.
- The investment will promote or improve the use of technology by students, staff, and/or faculty.
- The investment will improve or enhance the physical appearance or functionality of the campus.

Proposals should utilize the 2012 Investment Allocation Proposal Application Form, available as a downloadable document at <http://www1.crk.umn.edu/admin/chancellor/budgetfinance/index.html>. Completed application forms should be submitted to the Office of the Chancellor, 107 Selvig Hall, by noon on Friday, January 13, 2012.

Student Affairs –

Donna Harshaw Albro has been hired as director of diversity and multicultural programs. She has extensive experience in multicultural affairs and education and worked most recently as a contributing faculty member for the Center for Undergraduate Studies at Walden University in Minneapolis. She has also served as diversity director (PK-12) for the Blake School in Minneapolis and as director of peer education in human relations at Hobart and William Smith College in Geneva, N.Y. She earned her baccalaureate degree in political science from Russell Sage College, in Troy, N.Y. and earned a J.D. from the Syracuse University College of Law in Syracuse, N.Y. She will begin her responsibilities on the Crookston campus on Monday, January 23, 2012.

Orientation activities for new students beginning spring semester 2012 is scheduled for Sunday, January 8. [See full schedule for New Student Orientation.](#)

Development & Alumni Relations –

Please consider the University of Minnesota, Crookston in calendar year-end giving. Holiday wishes and special thanks to all U of M, Crookston alumni, donors, and supporters. Their continued support is greatly appreciated.

The option of making up to a \$100,000 in **Qualified Charitable Distributions from an IRA** for donors age 70 1/2 year and above to qualified charities remains in effect until December 31, 2011. Please direct questions to [Corby Kemmer](#), director, Development & Alumni Relations at 218-281-8434.

University Relations -

A short video offering holiday greetings from various student, faculty, and staff groups is now posted on the U of M, Crookston's official Facebook page (www.facebook.com/umcrookston) and YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/uofmcrookston). The video was captured by students Kristine Neu and Katelyn Zins, student communications assistants for University Relations, and edited by John Zak, editor, University Relations. Everyone is encouraged to "like" the U of M, Crookston official Facebook page in order to receive regular postings about events and activities on campus.

Athletics –

Eighteen Golden Eagle student-athletes were named to the **All-Academic Team of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference** (NSIC) for the 2011 fall athletic season. To be eligible for this honor, a student-athlete must be a member of the varsity traveling team and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or better. The athlete must have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing at her or his institution and must have completed at least one full academic year at that institution. [See the full listing of students representing the U of M, Crookston.](#)

The “interim” tag has been removed, and **Paul Miller** has been named the head coach of the Golden Eagle Football program. Coach Miller began his career as a graduate assistant at the University of Minnesota, Morris and worked with the Minnesota Gophers as an intern on Jim Wacker's staff. Miller was an assistant coach at the University of St. Thomas and head coach at both St. Olaf College and Hamline University. His football coaching honors include Minnesota State Football Coaches Association Coach of the Year; University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Coach of the Year; KARE TV Metro Coach of the Year; and Section Football Coach of the Year (7 times). Miller earned his B.A. from the U of M, Morris, where he was a triple major in physical education/health (K-12), political science, and social sciences. He received his M.A. in physical education (athletic administration emphasis) from Minnesota State University, Mankato. He and his wife Judy, also a U of M graduate, have three daughters and five grandchildren.

Jeff Cheek has been hired as the new offensive coordinator and assistant coach with the Golden Eagle Football program. He comes to the U of M, Crookston from Fresno State University, where he was the offensive quality control assistant. He also has coaching experience at Golden West College as the offensive coordinator and offensive line coach, as well as at Humboldt State University and Eastern Oregon University. Cheek was a graduate assistant at his alma mater Boise State University, where he earned a B.S. in social science and an M.A. in education pedagogy.

Campus and Community

Soybean producers and agriculture professionals interested in practical and in-depth management information to help maximize profits in soybean production are encouraged to participate in the **U of M, Extension’s Soybean College**, held on campus in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, on Tuesday, December 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:10 p.m. Registration is \$50 at the door. Lunch will be provided for participants. Registration begins at 8 a.m., with a welcome at 8:30 followed by a general session on the Soybean Trade Mission to China and MSGA: Facing Policy Issues Together with Kurt Krueger, farmer and President of Minnesota Soybean Growers Association. The opening session will be followed by a series of lectures and laboratories to be repeated during the day at least once. The concurrent sessions begin at 10:05 a.m. and run until 3:10 p.m. with a break for lunch at noon. [Learn more.](#)

Russ Severson, Extension educator in crops, will retire on December 29, after 38 years with the University of Minnesota. A retirement reception, celebrating his career will take place on Tuesday, December 20, from 3 - 5 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Severson began his career in 1973 as a research scientist at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center in Crookston, Minn. In 1986, he joined University of Minnesota Extension where he served as a county educator in Polk County, eventually serving both Polk and Red Lake counties. Since 2008, Severson has served as Extension educator for crops programs in the Extension Regional Office in Crookston. His retirement reception is taking place at the conclusion of the Soybean College Workshop held the same day at the U of M, Crookston.

Accolades

A research paper by **Ken Myers**, associate professor, hotel, restaurant, and tourism management, has been approved for publication in the fall/winter 2011 edition of *HOSTEUR*. The journal is refereed by the International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education (ICHRIE). The paper is titled “All Bar Pourers are Not Created Equal.”

Rachel Lunbohm, instructor, marketing and management, and associate director, Center for Rural Entrepreneurial Studies, was named one of “40 under 40” young business leaders from Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota in the December 2011 edition of *Prairie Business* magazine. This is an annual feature in the publication and is meant to recognize those who “will play an important part as our business communities grow in the future.” [View the entire list.](#)

Jason Brantner, research fellow at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center (NWROC) located on campus, was recognized with the **Sugarbeet Distinguished Service Award** by the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association during their annual meeting on Thursday, December 1. The award is based on recent significant contributions to the success of the sugarbeet industry in Minnesota and North Dakota. Brantner has been actively involved in the NWROC sugarbeet plant pathology project since January 1995. He was instrumental in identifying *Verticillium dahliae* as the cause of yellows on sugarbeet and determined the disease occurred when sugarbeet was grown in rotation with potato. He has authored 59 technical articles, five refereed journal articles, a book chapter, and 23 abstracts presented at professional meetings as oral papers or posters at the American Phytopathological Society and the American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists.

Publication notes: The *E-Update* is published twice each month August through April and once each month May through July.

[Issues are posted online.](#)

If you have any questions regarding the information in this news update, please send them to urumc@umn.edu.

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