



U of M, Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

www.umcrookston.edu

November 27, 2012

From the Chancellor

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act, which funded state “land grant” colleges through granting federal lands to the states that could then be sold. As you know, the University of Minnesota is the land grant university for our state, and, as we celebrate, we should take great pride that we are so closely tied to the land grant ideals, especially here at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. During this anniversary year much has been written about the true purpose of the Morrill Act and the intent of the following:

“ . . . the endowment, support, and maintenance of at least one college where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such manner as the legislatures of the states may respectively prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions in life.”

Reading this short passage, it is clear that we have maintained a close connection through our origins as the Northwest School of Agriculture, through our work as a technical college, and now as a baccalaureate college which has maintained ties to these ideals via a commitment to experiential learning and internships as well as a commitment to the foundations of a liberal education. As I read the surrounding literature, I am struck by the difficult times in which this legislation was signed, perhaps the darkest in the country’s history. Yet, there was clearly an understanding that higher education was important for not only the wealthy, but also for the working class and for a young developing democratic nation. There was an appreciation of the value of higher education as a public or common good, and perhaps no one can state this importance more clearly than the president who signed the Morrill Act into law:

"The land-grant university system is being built on behalf of the people, who have invested in these public universities their hopes, their support, and their confidence."

— President Abraham Lincoln upon signing the Morrill Act, July 2, 1862

These ideals certainly ring true for me as someone who grew up in a working class family; while neither went to college, my parents instilled in me the importance of a college education. They believed in the value of a college education not only for their children, but also as common good for society. Having attended a land grant institution with relatively low tuition, I strongly feel that the public invested in me and my education. I feel a debt of gratitude and work every day to repay that investment.

For our students, unfortunately, the equation has changed. Here at UMC we should be proud of our efforts to continue to provide access to our students and our efforts to maintain affordability. However, the cost of higher education has risen substantially as the state has reduced its investment

leading to increasing financial challenges for our students and their families. Many of our students must work more hours leaving less time for other educational activities, and many must take out loans to help pay for their education.

Perhaps the most heartbreaking outcome of the increasing cost is that far too many of our students leave us without obtaining a degree. It is clear that going forward our retention and graduation rates will increasingly be a public focus and will be important measures as we work to maintain and increase the confidence and support of the state and federal governments. As I have gotten to know the staff and faculty here at UMC, I know of no place that cares more deeply about students. We should all take pride in the work we collectively do and in the great accomplishments of the students we serve. While we will never retain all the students who enroll with us, nor will they all graduate with us, I know we will strive to do whatever we can to help our students obtain their degrees. To do so is consistent with the land grant ideals that have been entrusted to us.

–Fred

Fred E. Wood, Chancellor
University of Minnesota, Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

Thursday Commons: Fall Semester Campus Assembly Meeting, Thursday, November 29 – 12:30 to 1:45 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

uMobile Tech Support Session for Faculty and Staff, Thursday, November 29 – 2 to 4 p.m., 116 Kiehle Building

UMC Women's Commission Meet and Greet, Thursday, November 29 – 4:30 p.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center

UMC Music & Theater Presents the Comedy Murder Mystery "Smoke and Mirrors," Thursday, November 29; Friday, November 30; and Saturday, December 1 – 7:30 p.m. nightly, Kiehle Auditorium, admission is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults

Admissions Hosts Campus Visit Day for Prospective Students, Saturday, December 1 – 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

Residential Life Presents "Holidays Around the World," Saturday, December 1 – 7 to 9 p.m., Evergreen Hall, open to the campus community and their families

Speaker Lou Cornicelli, Ph.D., Wildlife Research Manager for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Tuesday, December 4 – 7 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, free and open to the public

Galen Abdur-Razzaq and Flutejuice: "An Evening of Jazz and Kwanzaa," Tuesday, December 4 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

Retirement Reception for Carol Windels, Ph.D., Wednesday, December 5 – 2 to 4 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Thursday Commons: Fall Semester Research Day, Thursday, December 6 – 12:30 to 2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Agriculture & Natural Resources Activities Day, Friday, December 7 – 7:15 a.m. to 2 p.m., across campus, awards presentations at 1 p.m. in Lysaker Gymnasium

Crookston Student Association Hosts Santa Land, Saturday, December 8 – Noon to 4 p.m., Sargeant Student Center, free for children of all ages and open to the public

U of M, Crookston Choir Holiday Concert, Saturday, December 8 – 7 p.m., Hafslo Chapel, Polk County Museum Grounds, 719 E Robert St., free and open to the public

Last Day of Class Instruction for Fall Semester 2012, Friday, December 14

Final Exams, Monday, December 17, through Thursday, December 20

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 –

The fall semester meeting of **Campus Assembly** will be held Thursday, November 29, from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. An agenda and minutes from prior meetings are available at the [Campus Assembly website](http://www3.crk.umn.edu/academics/campusassembly/Current.htm).

<http://www3.crk.umn.edu/academics/campusassembly/Current.htm>

The campus community is encouraged to attend the **Fall Semester Research Day** during Thursday Commons on December 6 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Among those scheduled to present their research are **Margot Rudstrom**, Ph.D., "Simulation of Milk Revenues from Crossbred Dairy Cattle;" **Omar Al-Azzam**, Ph.D., "Evaluating the Reliability and Relevance of Markers Toward the Radiation Hybrid Mapping of the Wheat D-Genome;" **Jack Geller**, Ph.D., "The Shift from Adoption to Utilization and the Rise of Mobile Internet;" and students **Danielle Wavra** and **Jake Hegge**, "Streptomyces 'beets' Aphanomyces." Light refreshments will be served, and attendees may bring their lunch.

Academic Affairs –

The **Music and Theater Department** will present the comedy murder mystery “**Smoke and Mirrors**” by Will Osborne and Anthony Herrera on Thursday, November 29; Friday, November 30; and Saturday, December 1, at 7:30 p.m. nightly in Kiehle Auditorium. Admission is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. The cast includes **Alan Frank**, a sophomore majoring in hotel, restaurant, and tourism management from St. Michael, Minn.; **John Habeck**, a senior majoring in marketing from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; **Tyler Lowthian**, a freshman majoring in business management from Richfield, Minn.; **Ross Sigler**, a sophomore majoring in accounting from Graceville, Minn.; and **Anthonette Sims**, a junior majoring in communication from Robbinsdale, Minn. **Liz Massie**, a sophomore majoring in communication from Eagan, Minn., is the student director and is assisted by **Travis Jones**, a junior majoring in applied studies from Milwaukee, Wis. The production is under the direction of George French, associate professor in the Liberal Arts and Education Department.

A website has been established for the search process for UMC’s new vice chancellor for academic affairs. The site contains information about the search process, a listing of the search committee, and important dates and events on the search timeline. Visit www.umcrookston.edu/vcsearch.

Several new articulation agreements have been implemented by the Business Department at the U of M, Crookston. Agreements recently were signed with Hibbing Community College (HCC) in Hibbing, Minn.; Inver Hills Community College in Inver Grove Heights, Minn.; and Pine Technical College in Pine City, Minn. [Learn more.](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/11/business-department-implements.html)
<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/11/business-department-implements.html>

Lou Cornicelli, Ph.D., wildlife research manager for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), will present on Tuesday, December 4, at 7 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Topics will include Minnesota deer management history, estimating population sizes and management, and a look at future wildlife research in the state. The event is free and open to the public. Prior to becoming the DNR's wildlife research manager, Cornicelli was the big game program leader, a position he held for ten years. He is an expert in deer population management, and as the big game program leader, he was responsible for managing deer, elk, and moose seasons and populations. Cornicelli's presentation is sponsored by the U of M, Crookston Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

The Agriculture & Natural Resources Department will host **Ag & NatR Activities Day** on Friday, December 7 in locations across campus. Registration begins at 7:15 a.m.; contests begin at 8:15 a.m.; awards will be presented at 1 p.m. in Lysaker Gym. This annual event has taken place at the U of M, Crookston for over 30 years and allows high school students from across the region the opportunity to participate and compete in over 20 contests. More than 1,000 students from 50 high schools are expected.

Student Affairs –

The **UMC Women's Commission** will host its first meet and greet session on Thursday, November 29, at 4:30 p.m. in the Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center. Beverages and appetizers will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend and discuss ways the Women's Commission can be supportive of the campus community. The group's working mission is to advance and enrich the working and learning environments for UMC women by providing recognition, leadership, support, and expertise to the community.

The Office of Admissions will host a **Campus Visit Day for prospective students on Saturday, December 1**, from 10:30 to 1 p.m. During these times, prospective students and their families will meet with Admissions staff, take campus tours, and meet with faculty in their study area of interest.

Residential Life invites the campus community and their families to celebrate "**Holidays Around the World**" on Saturday, December 1, from 7 to 9 p.m. in Evergreen Hall. This event celebrates the diversity of our campus and this year features the countries of Korea, Togo, Kenya, Mali, France, and Mexico.

Galen Abdur-Razzaq and Flutejuice will perform "An Evening of Jazz and Kwanzaa" on Tuesday, December 4, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. This event is free and open to the public. Several jazz selections will be performed followed by a presentation about Kwanzaa, the African holiday observance. Abdur-Razzaq is a flutist from Montclair, New Jersey, who has performed both domestically and internationally for over thirty years. A former student of the Berklee College of Music, Boston, Massachusetts, and a graduate of Rutgers University, Galen holds a master's degree in fine arts and education. The event is sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Programs.

Ashley Langevin has been hired as a financial aid officer in the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships. She holds a bachelor's degree in marketing communications from Bemidji State University and most recently worked as a sales representative for DigiKey Corporation in Thief River Falls, Minn.

Matthew Blair has been hired as a security guard in the Office of Residential Life and Security Services. He is a 2011 graduate of UMC with a bachelor's degree in aviation with law enforcement and natural resources law enforcement emphases. He completed his Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Summer Skills Program at Alexandria Technical and Community College. He also has served as a park ranger at Beaver Lake State Park in Wishek, N.D.

Technology Support Services –

Technology Support Services will offer another **uMobile Tech Support session** on Thursday, November 29, from 2 to 4 p.m. in Kiehle 116. The sign-up form is available at <http://cmyu.umcrookston.edu/umobile>. Faculty and staff may sign up for one 30-minute session. The goal of this initiative is to provide assistance to faculty and staff for mobile devices such as iPads, Android tablets, and related apps.

Development & Alumni Relations –

Only five months into fiscal year 2013 (FY13) the **Crookston campus is less than \$70,000 from surpassing the total gift productivity of FY12**, which was the best year in nearly a decade. Thanks go to all donors for their continued support and advocacy of the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Earlier this month the campus received a generous and significant six-figure gift which will support the classroom in the new residence hall and also will support study abroad scholarships. Currently, the top fundraising initiatives are philanthropic investments for a new wellness and recreation center, artificial turf for the football field, and student scholarships.

University Relations –

One of the new features of the updated academic major websites is the option **to easily share each site via social media such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, Pinterest, Tumblr, WordPress, and many others.** This option is found on each major's website immediately under the photo slideshow and to the right of the page. This option also shows how many times each site has been shared. Refer to www.uncrookston.edu/academics.

Athletics –

Seventeen U of M, Crookston student-athletes have been named to the **2012 Fall Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) All-Academic Teams.** To be eligible for this honor, the 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 standing and completed at least one full academic year at that institution. The list includes:

Football (8)

Matt Borowicz, So., Stephen, Minn.

Myint Maung, So., St. Paul, Minn.

Keith McBride, Jr., Lodi, Wis.

Josh Perea, Jr., Pico Rivera, Calif.

Chris Secrest, Sr., Hollywood, Fla.

Drew Selvestra, So., Eagan, Minn.

Joe Stearly, Sr., Blaine, Minn.

Andrew Steinfeldt, Jr., Green Bay, Wis.

Soccer (3)

Jensen Crots, Sr., Chesterton, Ind.

Megan Flynn, Sr., Chanhassen, Minn.

Rachel Halligan, Jr., Duluth, Minn.

Volleyball (6)

Brittany Looker, So., Rochester, Minn.

Mary Mikutowski, So., Stillwater, Minn.

Hannah Schiller, So., Coon Rapids, Minn.

Alyssa Schneider, Jr., Racine, Wis.

Alexandra Skeeter, Jr., Milwaukee, Wis.

Chelsea Wiesner, Jr., Rochester, Minn.

Northwest Research & Outreach Center (NWROC)–

The campus and community are invited to a retirement reception honoring **Carol Windels**, Ph.D., on Wednesday, December 5, from 2 to 4 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. Professor Windels is retiring after a distinguished career of research and service. She has served as a faculty member at the University of Minnesota at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center with tenure and promotion in the Department of Plant Pathology, St. Paul, since May 1984.

University of Minnesota System

Later this week an Enterprise Systems Upgrade Program (ESUP) program management website will launch, including internal program communications and tools pertaining to program norms and resources, onboarding materials, space and equipment information, and more. The ESUP blog at <http://upgrade.umn.edu> will still be the primary source of up-to-date program news and information about the upgrade; however, the new site will enable staff to communicate information and updates pertaining specifically to ESUP team members in a more targeted manner. Anyone interested in ESUP still will be able to access both sites, whether they are an ESUP team member or not.

Campus and Community

The Crookston Student Association and numerous student clubs and organizations will host **Santa Land**, a day filled with holiday cheer, on Saturday, December 8 from Noon to 4 p.m. in Sargeant Student Center. Free for children of all ages, Santa Land will offer cookies, cider, crafts, activities, and an opportunity to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus and their helpers.

The **Achieve More Initiative**, administered by UMC's Center for Adult Learning, appears to be a success. Staff members involved with the initiative report that 39 students at Crookston High School completed college applications as part of Minnesota College Application Week, and 40 parents attended Parents Night on Thursday, November 15. More than 50 institutions of higher education waived their application fees during the week to encourage students to complete an application. [Learn more.](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2012/11/achieve-more-initiative-during.html)

Accolades

William Christopher Brown, M.A., lecturer in the Liberal Arts & Education Department, recently had an article published by *In Progress Journal*, a peer reviewed, online journal that addresses "issues affecting graduate students across the academic disciplines." His article, "Developing Professionally through Graduate Student Publications," is available online at www.inprogressjournal.net/inprogressjournal.net/Developing_Professionally.html

Adam Switzer, a senior majoring in sport and recreation management from Apple Valley, Minn., successfully passed the Microsoft Office® 2010 Master Certification. He is the first student to earn the certification at the master level from the Crookston campus, which is an authorized Microsoft Testing Site. The certification denotes fluency in several important applications. To achieve this highest designation, a candidate must pass three required exams—Microsoft Word® 2010 Expert, Excel® 2010 Expert, and PowerPoint® 2010—and one elective exam.

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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