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Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

December 4, 2007

From the Chancellor

On Wed., Dec. 5, there will be a campus forum to talk about becoming a **smoke-free/tobacco-free campus and gather input on such a move**. The forum will be in the Bede Ballroom from 3:30-4:30 p.m., and I encourage everyone to attend and participate. I have been discussing this topic with the Crookston Student Association (CSA), the Faculty Consultative Committee (FCC) and the Staff Executive Committee (SEC) throughout the semester. All three groups have agreed to co-sponsor the forum. They have been clear they aren't endorsing a policy change; they are only supporting the forum.

This will be an opportunity to engage the broader campus community on this issue and raise awareness on campus. The forum will be informational and provide an opportunity for comments and questions. Three speakers have been invited to present; and time will be reserved for questions and comments from the audience.

This past week, **forums were also held to provide information and gather campus input on proposals from outside vendors to operate food services on the Crookston campus**. Thank you to those who took time to participate in the discussion and share thoughts. The proposals are for a 10-year period, so moving to an outside vendor would be a major change for the campus. Follow-up information gathered in response to questions posed, along with a summary of the forum discussions, will be forwarded to the campus community shortly; we also encourage you to complete the e-mail survey that was recently sent about outside vendor options. Food choice and service are very personal issues. In the final analysis, the decision must be in the best interest of the campus.

We also begin **the 2008-09 budget process** this month. Asst. to the VC for Finance Tricia Sanders will be meeting with individual area managers to review their 2007-08 budgets and to discuss plans for next year. We plan to complete individual budget meetings by the end of December. It is necessary to start early because our budget meeting with central administration is scheduled for February 19, 2008.

As we enter the final three weeks of the semester, there is still plenty to accomplish for students, faculty and staff. I wish all students success on their final projects and exams; and I look forward to working together to meet our collective goals.

Chuck

– Charles H. Casey, Chancellor
University of Minnesota, Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

Winter Wonderland, December 7 – Join the community for an evening of holiday activities and shopping in downtown Crookston. Get your picture taken with Santa at the Crookston Student Association display.

Trapper Education Course, December 10 and 12 – Do you have an interest in trapping? This is your chance to learn everything you need to know to begin. Class runs from 7 to 10 p.m., in Owen 222. For more info, contact Lab Services Coordinator Laura Bell at 218-281-8131 or via e-mail at lbell@umn.edu.

Open House for Fall Semester Graduates, December 11 – Congratulate and welcome the newest alumni of the University of Minnesota, Crookston from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the International Lounge at the Student Center.

Golden Eagle Men's Basketball vs. U of M, Morris, December 14 – Cheer on the Golden Eagle Men's Basketball team as they face the Cougars at 7 p.m. in Lysaker Gymnasium.

Final Exams, December 17-20 – Winter break begins December 21. Happy Holidays to students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends!

We look forward to seeing you. For more details or to discover what's happening this week, visit UMC Today at www.UMCrookston.edu/umcnews or review our news page at www.UMCrookston.edu/umcnews/stories.

Around Campus

Academic Affairs – Thirteen Crookston Student Research grants have been funded for this semester and letters have gone out to the students and advisors who received grants. Congratulations to all. Applications for the next round of grants are due February 15, 2008. One application was submitted for funding through the system-wide [Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program](#) (UROP).

The increase in enrollment of online students has created a need for additional support for student advising. As a result, a full-time online advisor position has been approved. This position will be tied to the Business Department, as the department houses two of the three online degree programs. The advisor will work closely with the Center for Adult Learning, which currently supports online students in all three online programs.

Research release time for spring semester 2008 has been granted to Brian Dingmann, Ph.D.; Pam Elf, Ph.D.; Jingpeng Tang, Ph.D.; Rachel McCoppin, Ph.D.; and David Crawford. Applications for research release time for fall semester 2008 are due to department heads for consideration by Jan. 11, 2008.

Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Tom Baldwin is visiting Taiwan the first two weeks of December. He was invited to attend the National Taipei College of Business (NTCB) Academic Conference and will meet with their International Program Director and President Sheng-Hsiung Hsu to discuss future interaction between NTCB and U of M, Crookston. He will be speaking at several conferences and plans to meet with officials and students from Lunghwa University of Science and Technology and Nan Kai Institute of Technology as well. The first student from Nan Kai is expected to attend campus this spring semester.

Student Affairs and Enrollment – The Crookston campus Equality Room (Hill Hall 15) was dedicated Dec. 3 as a designated “safe space” set aside for GLBT and other student groups. Everyone is welcome to use this space as a lounge or meeting area as long as individuals act in a civil and respectful manner. The Equality Room is a “safe” place that honors all identities and experiences and is an affirming and welcoming environment in which people can be their whole selves. Student groups can reserve this space through the University’s SURE reservation system. All U of M campuses have a safe space similar to the Equality Room.

Construction of the 76x180-foot campus ice rink began in late November. Plans are in the works for music, benches, extra lighting and, eventually, a warming shed. Donations of ice skates of all styles and sizes are welcome. Look for the grand opening early in spring semester 2008.

Minnesota Campus Compact Executive Director Catherine Reid Day and Associate Director JoAnn Campbell are campus Tues., Dec. 4, to discuss our collaboration on retention efforts and service learning opportunities on campus.

We were pleased to welcome the following U of M visitors to campus on Dec. 3: [Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action](#) Director Kim Boyd; newly hired system-wide director for the [Office for University Women](#) Peg Lonquist; and system-wide director of [GLBTA programs](#) Anne Phibbs. The group met with students, faculty and staff to share successes and challenges of their work, discuss our needs and talk about possible collaborations between the Twin Cities and Crookston campus.

Finance & University Services – Applications for the position of facilities and operations director are currently being accepted. The search committee has reviewed applications received to date and plans to hold phone interviews for three candidates this week.

Development & Alumni Relations – The Jim Karn Baseball Endowment Fund was recently established to honor Jim Karn and recognize the tremendous affect he had on baseball in Crookston. The endowment creates a scholarship fund to provide ongoing financial support for future generations of baseball players at the U of M, Crookston. To support the fund or for more information, contact Athletic Fundraising Director Bill Tyrrell at 218-281-8436 (btyrrell@umn.edu).

Over the past two weeks, three major gifts have been pledged to the U of M, Crookston. We will share more details in a future issue. From Dec. 5-7, the Development & Alumni Relations staff will be traveling to Minneapolis for professional development opportunities on the U of M Twin Cities campus.

As 2007 wraps up, this is a great time to consider making [a gift to the University of Minnesota, Crookston](#). All gifts are tax deductible, and you’ll receive credit as a 2007 donor, for tax purposes, while supporting the Crookston campus and students. Your continued contributions of support truly make a difference in the lives of our students and strengthen this campus. For more information on ways to give, please contact Director of Development & Alumni Relations Corby Kemmer at 218-281-8434 or ckemmer@umn.edu.

Look for our holiday e-card to be sent in mid-December to all alumni who have provided e-mail addresses. Happy Holidays to you and yours!

University Relations – The safety and security of the University of Minnesota community are top priorities, and the University is launching an emergency notification system called TXT-U to enhance our abilities to communicate during an emergency. TXT-U is a new text messaging service that will allow users to receive emergency notifications from the University on their cell phones and PDAs. Technology Support Services is planning a spring 2008 launch at the Crookston campus. Students, faculty and staff will be able to subscribe to the text messaging notification system, which will only be used to notify users of real emergency and safety situations.

Printing & Design staff can advise on marketing strategies and develop printed or electronic documents that are engaging and successful. Style guides and creative imaging make it easier than ever to produce professional U of M, Crookston quality projects. We work with students, faculty and staff on the planning process and design for posters, booklets, program flyers, e-newsletters, graphics or Web pages. Printing and publication design pricing is online at <http://www.umcrookston.edu/relations/printingdesign.htm>.

Athletics – Eight Golden Eagle athletes earned Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference All-Academic honors for the 2007 fall athletic season. Congratulations to the following student-athletes: **Football:** Jordan McCormick; San Leandro, Calif.; Chris McMullen, Anchorage, Alaska; and Kyle Myers, Palmyra, N.J.; **Soccer:** Megan Hannon, Green Bay, Wis.; and Kiely Bladow, Monument, Colo.; and **Volleyball:** Theresa Crance, Timber Lake, S.D.; Lisa Steinbrecher, Seward, Alaska; and Cassie Yates, Buffalo, Minn. To be eligible for this honor, student-athletes must be a member of the varsity traveling team and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or better. Student-athletes must have reached sophomore academic and athletic standing with one full year completed at the particular institution.

The Golden Eagle's Women's and Men's Basketball teams and Golden Eagle Hockey Team opened their conference season at home this past weekend and look forward to competitive runs. The women's basketball team will be hosting a fundraising event in Hudson, Wis., on Dec. 6 at 6 p.m.

Publication notes: The *E-Update* is published twice each month August thru April and once each month in the summer, May thru July. [Issues are posted online.](#)

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