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Crookston Campus E-Update

an internal administrative news digest

December 21, 2009

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From the Chancellor

Students completed their final examinations last Thursday, and most left for their homes to enjoy the semester break. Spring classes will begin on Monday, January 11. It's nice to think about spring, but we know we have a lot of winter remaining.

While students have left campus, faculty are here busy with grading examinations and submitting final grades before having a few days to spend with family and friends. Staff members are equally busy with many year-end activities and preparations for the next semester.

On Wednesday, December 9, the campus recognized Agronomy Professor Chuck Habstritt for his 40 years of service to the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Chuck has made numerous contributions to the campus through his teaching and advising of students, research, and outreach to producers in the region. He received several awards during his career, and many individuals took time to recognize his contribution and express their appreciation to him. We wish him the very best in his retirement from the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

Congratulations are due to Dr. David Rolling on the successful completion of his Ph.D. Dave is a faculty member in the Business Department, where his area of teaching is in sport and recreation management.

I want to extend thanks to everyone for the time and contributions given toward the success of the University of Minnesota, Crookston and best wishes for a Happy Holiday, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

– Chuck

Charles H. Casey, Chancellor
University of Minnesota, Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

Christmas Holiday, Thursday, December 24, and Friday, December 25 – campus offices closed

New Year Holiday, Thursday, December 31, 2009, and Friday, January 1, 2010 – campus offices closed

Residence Halls Open for Returning and New Students, Friday, January 8, 2010 – 8 a.m.

Spring Semester Classes Begin Monday, January 11, 2010

Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday, Monday, January 18, 2010 – classes excused, campus offices closed

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.

Around Campus

Administrative Affairs –

The U.S. House of Representatives and the **U.S. Senate** passed an appropriations bill that includes \$500,000 to establish the **Center for Entrepreneurial Studies** at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. **U.S. Congressman Collin Peterson** and **Senators Amy Klobuchar** and **Al Franken** all voted in support of the bill. The project came about from a proposal developed by **Susan Brorson, Ph.D.**, professor and head, Business Department. Meetings with Congressman Peterson and Senator Franken over the past year helped develop and refine the proposal, which is intended to help create jobs and stimulate economic growth regionally by having faculty and students from the Crookston campus work with entrepreneurs and small businesses on projects that will share and apply expertise in business management, marketing,

and the use of technology in these areas. President Obama signed the legislation into law on December 16, 2009.

Academic Affairs –

A name change to **software engineering** for the U of M, Crookston's bachelor of science program in computer software technology was approved at the December meeting of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. While the curriculum of the academic program essentially will not change, the new name more accurately reflects the content of the program and is expected to help in marketing the degree to prospective students.

Student Affairs –

New carpeting will be installed in **Owen Hall 170** starting on Tuesday, December 22, and continuing until Monday, January 4, 2010. During that time, phone extensions will still connect with the appropriate staff members, but staff from the **Office of Admissions** will be operating out of Kiehle 116. Staff from the **Office of Financial Aid** will be working from home but will be available via e-mail. On Monday, January 4, staff members will return to their offices in Owen 170.

New Student Orientation for spring semester 2010 is scheduled for Friday, January 8. Students living on campus will check in between 9 and 11 a.m. at Centennial Hall. Orientation check-in begins at 11 a.m. in Sargeant Student Center. A welcome and general information session is set for 1 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. Computer check-out and campus life sessions will run from 1:30 to 5 p.m. in Bede Ballroom and Dowell Hall 106. If you have questions, please contact Sara Kaiser, student experience and parent coordinator.

International Programs -

Thirty new international students are expected to arrive the first week in January for spring semester 2010. Countries represented by this group include **Cameroon, China, South Korea, Nepal, Nigeria, and Togo**. Orientation for these new members of the campus community will begin on Wednesday, January 6.

Technology Services -

The Computer Help Desk will offer **Google Apps “show-n-tell sessions”** the week of January 4. The dates of these training sessions are tentatively set for January 5 and 6 in Dowell 106. A reminder and confirmation of times and location will be sent via e-mail on January 4. Through a partnership with Google, U of M students, faculty, and staff can access a suite of Google-powered communication and collaboration tools designed to enhance the ability to work together. The suite includes e-mail, calendar, document sharing, instant messaging, and Web site publishing tools. Some UMC students have already received invitations to use this suite and are now using Google Apps. All University undergraduate students should be invited to take part in Google Apps by year’s end. Faculty and staff will begin receiving invitations sometime late January. For additional information please visit the U of M Google Apps web site: <http://oit.umn.edu/google/index.htm>. Questions should be directed to Jeff Sperling or Thea Holen.

Development & Alumni Relations –

The annual **NWSA/U of M, Crookston Alumni & Friends Social** is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday February 19, 2010, at Terrace Green, Viewpoint Resort, 640 Hawes Road, Mesa, Arizona. On Saturday, February 20, 2010, a Crookston Area Reunion will be held at Dolca Vista, 3301 South Goldfield Road, Apache Junction, Arizona. Contact [Sue Dwyer](#), 218-281-8401, for further information on either event.

The staff from the Office of Development & Alumni Relations offer sincere appreciation to all donors for their continued support in 2009 and look forward to 2010.

University Relations –

Crookston’s **Willow & Ivy Gift Shop, owned by Larry and Ellen Leake**, was the randomly drawn winner of the fall semester Maroon and Gold Fridays office party prize. They selected a \$250 gift certificate from Happy Joe’s Pizza. Twenty-five local businesses took part in Maroon and Gold Fridays this past semester. Two Fridays per month Communications Assistant student Stephanie Onken and Regal the Eagle visited randomly selected participating businesses. If the employees were wearing maroon and gold or UMC logo clothing, they received complimentary game passes, buttons, and a chance to win the office party prize. The program will continue spring semester 2010.

Athletics –

The men’s and women’s **Golden Eagle Basketball Teams** will play home conference games on Saturday, January 2, against Minnesota State Mankato and on Sunday, January 3, against

Southwest Minnesota State. Each day games in Lysaker Gymnasium begin at 4 p.m. for the women and 6 p.m. for the men.

Sustainability -

Dan Svedarsky, Ph.D., professor and director, Center for Sustainability, attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. He attended various sessions December 7-14. [Learn more.](#)

Accolades

David Rolling, lecturer, sport and recreation management, recently completed his dissertation and earned his Ph.D. in sport administration with a doctoral minor in human resources management from the School of Business at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas. His dissertation was entitled "A Study to Determine the Incentive of Companies in Their Decisions to Either Sponsor or not Sponsor Professional Sport Teams."

UMC horticulture students and their holiday crop of poinsettias were featured in a news segment by reporter Steve Bodakowski of WDAZ TV, Grand Forks. The segment aired on Thursday, December 10. While the video segment is not available, an accompanying article was published online.

Agweek, a regional weekly publication focusing on agriculture, published a cover story career retrospective of **Charles "Chuck" Habstritt**, associate professor, agronomy, in its December 14, 2009 edition.

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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