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LEADERSHIP LETTER

From the Chancellor

Welcome back. I hope everyone had a chance to spend the last week getting everything ready for the arrival of our students. Hopefully you also had an opportunity to attend some of the many events last week celebrating retirements, the dedication of the Charles H. Casey Arena, welcoming our new students back

and the many activities of Ox Cart Days. Thank you to so many of you who worked very hard to make the events on campus go flawlessly.

The Chuck Casey Arena

I think many of you were able to attend in person, but if you weren't there we had a wonderful day celebrating Dr. Charles "Chuck" H. Casey, Chancellor Emeritus and naming the equine arena at UTOC after him. In case you are not familiar with the accomplishments of Dr. Casey here is a short summary.

- Built a successful veterinary practice in southeast Minnesota
- Served and was chair on the Board of Regents
- Strengthened the University of Minnesota's Veterinary Outreach programming
- Served as Dean of University of Minnesota Extension
- Served as Chancellor of the University of Minnesota Crookston

During his tenure, UMN Crookston improved its rankings with the U.S. News and World Report to #1 in 4-Year Regional Universities and achieved Higher Learning Commission North Central Accreditation for the campus. The University of Minnesota Crookston was the first University of Minnesota campus to achieve accreditation for online programs that were beginning to be offered under the leadership of Casey.

Also on campus last week for the ceremony were three members of the Board of Regents—Regents Powell, McMillian and Huebsch, Emeriti UMN President Robert "Bob" Bruininks, UMN Crookston Emeritus Chancellor Sargeant and many others. We had a wonderful celebration for our campus. I was Golden Eagle proud on Tuesday as people spoke about what a wonderful campus, faculty and staff we have.

Vax 2.0 Information

The FDA has approved the [Pfizer COVID vaccine](#).

Many of you have asked details about the announcement that our students will be required to get a COVID vaccine unless they have a medical or religious exemption. All students will receive an email with a clear and simple form to complete that verifies their vaccination status or provides them with instructions regarding a medical exemption (requires a doctor's note) or a religious exemption (requires a completion of a notarized form). We expect the email to go out to students in the next week to 10 days. Students must complete the form Monday, October 4, which is six weeks after Monday, August 23 FDA announcement of full approval for the Pfizer vaccine. Students who do not complete the process will have a registration hold placed on their account until they are in full compliance.

All faculty and staff will need to attest via an online form to one of the following:

- I certify that I am Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19 and agree to comply with University COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing requirements while I am employed at the University of Minnesota.
- I decline to certify that I have been Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19 and agree to comply with University COVID-19 Testing requirements while I am employed at the University of Minnesota. I

understand that I may later submit a revised form in which I certify that I am Fully Vaccinated.

Non-vaccinated employees must test for COVID-19 at least one time per week. Additionally, the testing requirements for all UMN employees include the following:

- Get tested immediately if you experience COVID-19 symptoms.
- Get tested 3-5 days after a confirmed exposure to someone with COVID-19.

Additionally, any employee who receives a positive test result for COVID-19 is required to follow CDC guidance, including isolating and participating in contact tracing efforts, and in return to work.

We will continue to provide you information by email and at the [Safe Campus website](#) as we pivot to protect the health and safety of our entire University community. Be assured that we will continue to closely follow state and federal guidance, public health data, science, and accompanying trends, and the best advice of the University's own medical and public health experts.

View the town hall meeting that aired on Tuesday, August 17.

Here is the [link](#). Although some of the information doesn't pertain to our campus please view those aspects that do.

Many of you have asked details about the announcement that all students will be required to get a COVID vaccine unless they have a medical or religious exemption. First of all, let me remind you that the Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, and Pfizer vaccines are effective in preventing the spread and effects of COVID-19 and the Delta variant. If you have not received your vaccine yet, I encourage you to do so. We will be holding a vaccination clinic on campus at the Wellness Center on Thursday, Sept. 2, from 1-3 p.m. If you haven't received your vaccination, you can pre-register for the clinic by [clicking here](#). You can access more information at the [UMN Vax 2.0 website](#).

Strategic Priorities

As we go through the year try to focus on three strategic initiatives we outlined for ourselves. Do our activities and ways of doing things reflect our goals? As you recall our three strategic initiatives are:

- Enrollment Management
- Diversity, Equity and Belonging
- Golden Eagle Pride/ Relationships and Engagement

How can we take programs and activities and ensure we are meeting our goals? An example was the Ox Cart Days Parade on Saturday night. We asked students that were back on campus to walk the parade route. Many students who had never participated in a parade were invited to attend and did. This type of inclusion can lead to a greater sense of belonging, which can support retention as well as diversity, equity, and belonging. More than 100 students came out and joined the event. The brigade of faculty, staff, students and alumni in maroon and gold were creating a sense of belonging to something, which in turn

created enthusiasm and pride for the Golden Eagles. Some of the conversations between students and alumni/community Teambackers created an opportunity for engagement across usual conversations. (Golden Eagle Pride). Did this effort affect recruitment? It probably didn't hurt to have a presence in our home territory, where historically most of our students have come from.

Point of Pride:

Tim Dudley won the 2021 Horace T. Morse Award, which is the highest accolade given for undergraduate teaching within the University of Minnesota system.

Be Well.

Chancellor Mary

CAMPUS UPDATES

Marketing Research Project

Consider participating in a marketing research project regarding questions related to awareness and perceptions of brands within specific industries. Some questions are related to alcohol brands, so if you are 21 and older consider taking this [10 minute survey](#).

EVENTS

Financial Aid

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROOKSTON

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Important Dates for Fall 2021

- Financial Aid for Fall semester disburses to student accounts: August 19, 2021
- First day that financial aid refunds are processed: August 26, 2021
(Refunds will continue to be processed on Tuesdays & Thursdays. Paper checks will only be processed on Thursdays).
- Fall 2021 Payment Due: September 8, 2021
- Deadline to waive University Health Insurance: September 30, 2021

The graphic features a dark red background with white and yellow text. It includes a decorative white line at the top and bottom, and a vertical stack of four colored circles (white, grey, yellow, black) on the right side.

Chalk it Up Crookston, September 11

Join in the fun from 10am-3pm in downtown Crookston. [Sign up](#) and create for UMN Crookston. This annual Chalk It Up is a community/family event open to all ages, create some artwork, come walk around and enjoy downtown Crookston.

