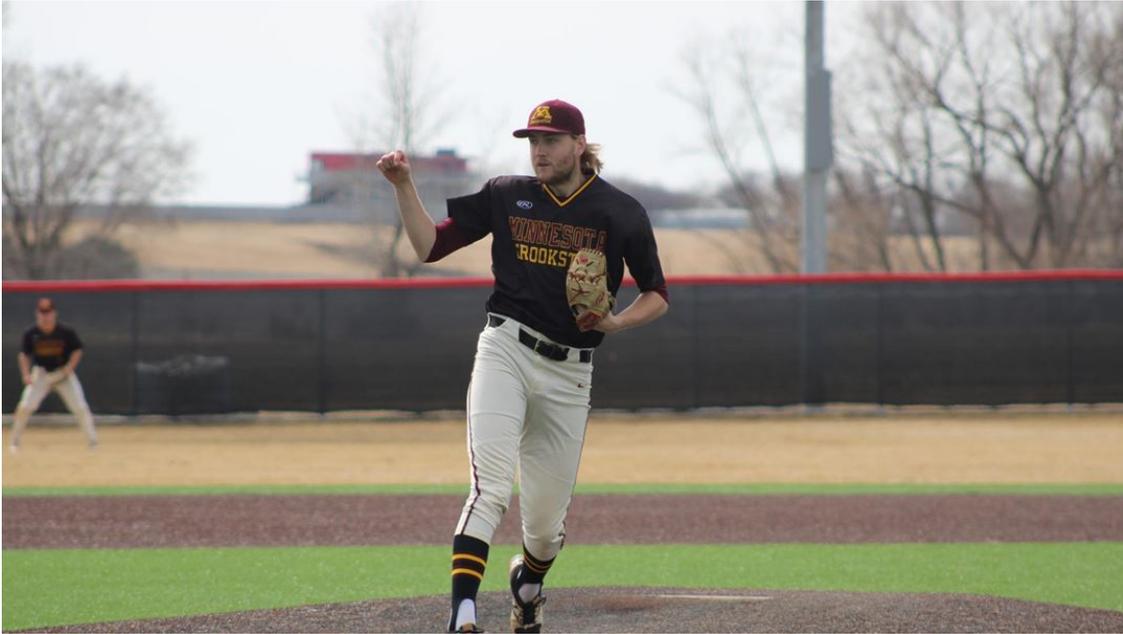


[View this email in your browser](#)



The [Golden Eagle Baseball team](#) continues conference play next week with Concordia-St. Paul on Saturday and Sunday. First pitch with the Golden Bears on Saturday is set for 1:30 P.M.

LEADERSHIP LETTER

Leadership Letter

From the Chancellor

Happy Spring and Welcome Back!

Hoffman to be President of Bemidji State and Northwest Technical College

Please join me in congratulating John Hoffman, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs. Dr. Hoffman has accepted the position as president of Bemidji State University (BSU) and nearby Northwest Technical College effective in late June. Thank you John for all you have done for our campus over the last four years. Included in his many accomplishments is his work on helping us become a more welcoming campus and numerous DEI efforts, streamlining and integrating the work of student affairs into its important role for student development, creating efficiencies in the administrative structure, and creation of an asset-based academic approach.

Dr. Tony Kern will be assuming the role as Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the coming academic year. We will initiate a search for a permanent Vice Chancellor in the fall. Student Affairs will continue to be led by Dr. Savala DeVoge. Dr. DeVoge will report to the Chancellor, as will the departments

of Enrollment Management and Institutional Effectiveness. In the near future, we will announce the leadership transition for the Interim Head for the Division of Agriculture, Natural Sciences, and Technology.

Mask Updates

Effective March 21, the following indoor mask requirements will be in effect in University-owned facilities:

Masks are still required:

- In all classroom and instructional laboratory settings
- In all healthcare settings
- In all transit settings as required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). When the FTA requirement is eliminated we will remove this provision.
- In settings where masks are required due to environmental or hazardous material conditions

Masks are not required:

- In any dining setting (food courts, residential dining halls, etc.)
- In common areas (hallways, student unions, study spaces, libraries, recreation facilities, etc.)
- In all University office workspaces
- At all sporting events
- At all entertainment venues
- At spring commencement events

Individuals may continue to wear masks at any time, and in any location, as a matter of personal protection.

Accolades

Congratulations to Bianca Turman (Advisor: Dani Johannesen, Ph.D.) for being selected as one of the 60 students in the entire University of Minnesota system to present at the Posters on the Hill for this year. This is another milestone in Undergraduate Research at Crookston. The poster is entitled “ An Analysis of International Humanitarian Law on a Scorched Earth Policy”. The event is April 26 and 27 from 1-3 PM and is a virtual event this year.

Report to the Regents

On March 11, I spoke to the Board of Regents about our Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) work on our campus. The report highlighted three areas. It included the work we are doing with first generation college students, student success initiatives focused on first-year students addressing retention and reducing disparities among underrepresented groups and the third initiative -- a comprehensive series of

professional development experiences to provide education and training to increase intercultural competency and interactional diversity.

We also highlighted some of the successes we have had recently. These include:

- Over the past 5 years, 49.9% of incoming new high school students and new advanced standing students at the University of Minnesota Crookston have been first generation college students. This is the highest rate in the University of Minnesota system, and as a point of comparison, the system-wide total for this same period was 28.3%.
- First generation college students have outperformed continuing generation students in four-year graduation rates in three of the past five years at UMN Crookston with only negligible graduation rate gaps in the other two years.
- In the last two years, we have cut the average retention rate gap between students of color and white students from 20% to 10%.

Be well!

Chancellor Mary

CAMPUS UPDATES

FREF

The deadline for the spring round of [Faculty Research Enhancement Funds \(FREF\) grants](#) is Monday, April, 4, 2022. Category I and Category II proposals will be reviewed.

University of Minnesota GPS Alliance, International Travel Grants

Application deadlines are March 15, August 15, or December 15 each year, click [here](#) for more information.

Upcoming External Funding Opportunities

NSF Developmental Sciences

Supporting research on the cognitive, linguistic, social, cultural and biological processes involved in human development across the life span — illuminating the developmental processes that support individuals in living productive lives as members of society. Click [here](#) for more information, deadline, July 15.

NSF Career

The Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program is a Foundation-wide activity that offers the National Science Foundation's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization. More information can be found [here](#), the deadline is July 25.

NSF Division of Environmental Biology, rolling deadline

Supports research and training on evolutionary and ecological processes acting at the level of populations, species, communities and ecosystems. For more information, click [here](#).

Human Resources

Safety of Minors information

- Hiring a youth intern this summer?
- Planning a spring or summer activity?

Youth programs, activities, and events engaging with minors (18 and under) must comply with the University of Minnesota's [Safety of Minors policy](#) and must be registered (annually) on the [YouthCentral Registration System](#). Program leaders/heads of units are encouraged to be a part of the [pre-college network](#). Questions, reach out to Griffin Gillespie, Human Resource Director gill0395@crk.umn.edu

New to the University or just looking to make new connections?

The pandemic has limited our ability to make social connections at work during the last 2 years. In order to foster more relationship building, we will be reserving the Leadership Room from 11:30-1:00 on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month for an informal lunch. Stop by this Friday, March 25th, with your lunch and get to know some of your fellow colleagues better as well as those who are new to campus.

COVID 19 Testing

Reminder: "Protect the Nest: Test"

- Remember to do a COVID test before coming back from Spring break.
- Follow-up testing 3-5 days after they return to campus.
- If you have COVID symptoms, Test!
- If you don't have symptoms but think you may have been exposed, test!

Educational Programs and Transitions

Celebration of Achievement, Student Award Ceremony is slated for Thursday, April 28

Does your department have an award or awards with scholarships for acknowledgement? Complete this [Google Form](#) to submit the awards you/your department would like to present. (fill out the form separately for EACH award). Contact Brooke Novak (novak303@umn.edu) with questions.



The Employee Wellbeing Program has a variety of upcoming programs for you to participate in. Learn more about these opportunities by clicking [here](#). Also, within the Virgin Pulse portal you can review the Events Calendar under the "Social" tab for upcoming wellbeing programs and classes.

SKY Campus Breathing Retreat

The SKY Campus Happiness Retreat is a breathwork, wellbeing, and resilience training tailored for staff and faculty at the University of Minnesota. This experiential workshop includes SKY breathwork, interactive group process, light yoga, positive psychology, and emotional intelligence exercises. Research shows that SKY meditation significantly increases wellbeing and resilience while significantly reducing anxiety and stress markers.

Through meditative breathwork and self-awareness practices, you'll gain knowledge and skills to:

- Clear and relax the mind
- Increase personal resilience by managing negative emotions and stress
- Increase energy naturally through breath practices
- Gain balance and broader perspective on life when facing challenges

- Develop strategies for social connection and community building

[Register](#) for the next SKY retreat, March 22 to 24, 4-7.

Mark your calendars to attend the upcoming Group Health Presentations. Follow the [link](#) for future class offerings and Zoom webinar information.

Tuesday, March 22nd at Noon

National Nutrition Month - Getting Back to the Basics
Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute, University of Minnesota

Thursday, March 31st at Noon

Digital Wellbeing - Passwords
University Information Security, University of Minnesota

Earn 200 points per session, 2021-'22 Wellbeing program, prior to the August 31st completion date. Click on the following [link](#) for additional information about the 2021-22 Employee Wellbeing Program:

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23rd Annual Grad Fest, March 30

No hassle for your tassel from 8:30-2 in the Sargeant Student Center. Grad Fest is a senior's one-stop shop for everything needed to know about Commencement. Information about keeping their laptop, exit loan requirements, purchasing cap and gown, winning door prizes and so much more.



- In the Spirit of Cinco de Mayo, April 22 3:30 - 8, Sergeant Student Center
- Pancakes and Ponies, [April 24](#), 10-1pm, University Teaching and Outreach Center (UTOC)
- UMN Crookston [Commencement](#), May 7
- [Northern Great Plains Youth Institute](#), May 9
- Faculty/Staff Awards Luncheon, Tuesday, May 10, 11:30-1:30, Bede Ballroom
- Rotary Youth Leadership Youth Camp, July 9-16

For more information on other activities and events, check out the [Events Calendar](#).

Agriculture and Natural Resources

North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) car washes, cost \$40 per vehicle. Support the NACTA students as they fundraise for their annual NACTA competition. Contact Melissa Hammer at hamme734@crk.umn.edu to schedule a time. All vehicles are cleaned in the Kiser Building, and can be picked up and dropped off for your convenience. Car wash appointments available Thursdays and Fridays between 1-5.

UMC Teambackers

Consider participating in the UMC Teambacker Golf Tournaments in June 2022

Mark Olsonawski Scholarship Tournament, June 9 register [here](#)

UMC Teambacker Golf Classic presented by Altru, June 17 register [here](#)

To register your team, contact Michelle Christopherson mchristo@umn.edu For more information on other activities and events, check out the [Events Calendar](#).



Highlights

Four UMN Crookston Equine Science students receive one-thousand dollar scholarships. The Thoroughbred Education and Research Foundation (TERF) awarded, Sophomore Abby Olsen (Chisago City, Minn.), sophomore Jenna Pedrow (Blaine, Minn.), junior Kendra Putzke (Esko, Minn.), sophomore Ashleigh Lueder (Rochester, Minn.). Read more [here](#).

