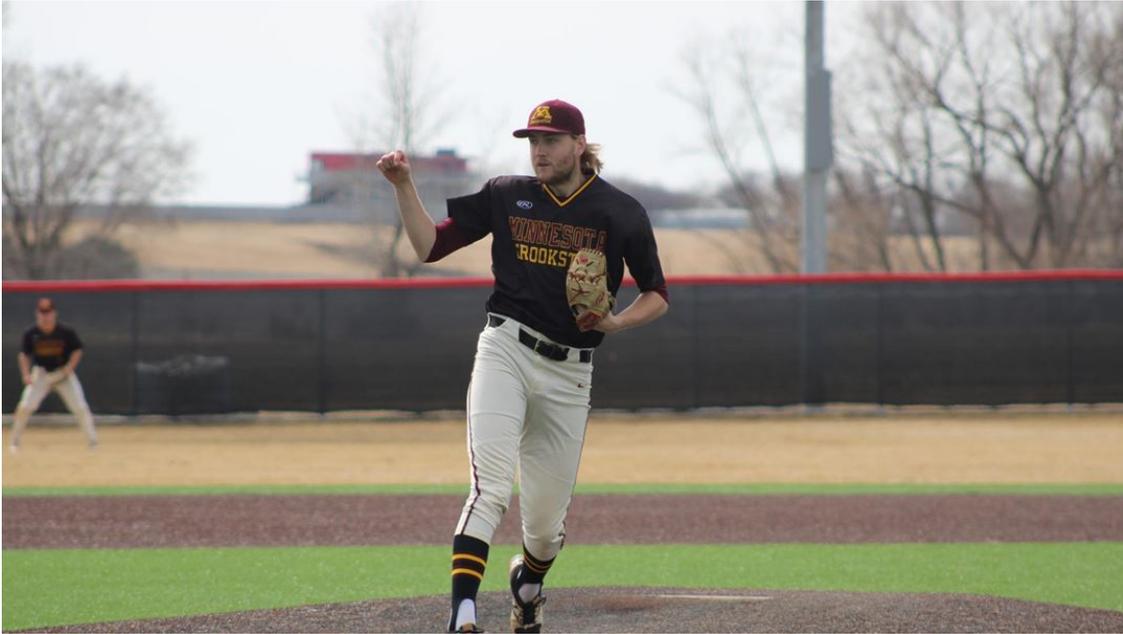


[View this email in your browser](#)



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

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## CAMPUS UPDATES

### **Student Success**

#### **Help foster a sense of belonging for next year's first-year Eagles as a peer mentor!**

UMN Crookston is beginning to recruit peer mentors to guide our incoming students for the upcoming fall semester. Peer mentors assist incoming students to adjust with their transition to college during their first semester through UMC 1200 - Introduction to University life and a variety of out-of-class connections. Interested students can view the [Peer Mentor Job Description](#) or stop into the Student Success Center for more details. To apply to be a peer mentor, be ready to upload a resume and cover letter and answer a few questions through the [First-Year Eagles Peer Mentor Application](#).

### **Institutional Effectiveness**

First-year students and seniors: you should be receiving invitations to complete the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). This survey will ask about your experiences both inside and out of the classroom. The NSSE results help us at UMC better understand our student experience and identify ways we can improve.

### **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!

## EVENTS

### 23rd Annual Grad Fest, March 30

No hassle for your tassel from 8:30-2 in the Sargeant Student Center. Seniors, Grad Fest is your one-stop shop for everything you need to know about Commencement and to ensure you are ready to graduate. Learn more about keeping your laptop, exit loan requirements, purchase your cap and gown, win door prizes and so much more.



- In the Spirit of Cinco de Mayo, April 22 3:30 - 8, Sargeant 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 - last week of washes.

Support the NACTA students as they fundraise for their annual NACTA competition. Contact Melissa Hammer at [hamme734@crk.umn.edu](mailto: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 Thursday and Friday between 1-5.

### 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](#).

