From the Chancellor

As I have met with many around campus, in the city, and in the region, I’ve been asked about my vision for UMC. It’s a natural question. My answer is that my vision is developing, but that it will develop as a collaborative vision, and it will develop as we collectively have discussions regarding our hopes for UMC.

That is why I am spending time visiting offices and units on campus, talking to alumni and others in the community and the region, and creating a dialogue with the leaders of the U of M system. I’ll also be meeting with local elected representatives, since as we know, all politics are local. In all these meetings I am listening carefully and learning. To develop a vision which will be sustained there is a need to understand the place, the history, the traditions, and most importantly its people. Thus, a strong level of understanding is my initial goal.

For a vision to develop into a successful plan it must be a collective vision, and so we, collectively, need to engage in discussions about the future. We will all need our best collective ideas and our fullest engagement. Everyone’s ideas, everyone’s perspectives are important. Collectively we can do great things.

Through my careful listening some initial themes of a developing vision have surfaced that I think will be a part of our discussions moving forward.

Foremost has been the discussion of quality. We need to be ever vigilant in maintaining and enhancing our attention to quality. As a campus of the great University of Minnesota, our quality is, in business terms, our place in the market in all of our academic programs (both on-campus and online) and in all of our services and programs. Maintaining and enhancing our quality will be challenging in a time of reduced state support and increasing tuition, but I believe it must be near the top of our list.

The issue of state financial support is also one that we must keep in mind. Decline in state support causes us to examine our operations to be sure we maintain and enhance efficiencies. And, particularly, since we have a land grant mission, whenever the opportunity arises we all need to share the great work we do here at UMC in our service to the public in terms of our programs and in terms of maintaining access and affordability. It is crucial to enhancing public support.

While we need to pay special attention to state support—after all it is our biggest donor—we must also diversify our revenue streams wherever possible to strengthen our financial position. To some degree all of us are fundraisers, whether it’s an ask, a grant submission, or a conversation with someone in line at the store. We all must make the case for UMC and the great things we do here. This includes enhancing the connections to the city and region. There are already many strong connections, but to
remain viable in the long run, we have be sure our partners have a strong sense of connection going forward.

This includes strong connections with the U of M system, wherever we can find them. We must remind them of our unique perspectives, which are often shaped by our size and unique mission. It is also valuable to invite our colleagues from other campuses within the U system to the Crookston campus whenever possible. While as chancellor I may have a unique role in this effort, I hope all of you will watch for opportunities to make the case for UMC in your interactions with central administration and with the coordinate campuses.

I have saved the most important topic for last. Let me finish with a few observations about our students. While I have met a relatively small subset of them so far, I have found them to be inspiring in all respects. From the interns on campus this summer, to the fall athletes, to the community advisors in the residence halls, and to the student leaders in the Crookston Student Association, they have inspired me with their intelligence, work ethic, satisfaction and appreciation of what we do, and their commitment to this place. Let’s continue to keep them at the forefront of our discussions and decisions. Let’s be sure to listen to them and, as we continue to evolve, to keep our focus on providing them with the best of educational experiences. Based on what I’ve seen thus far, I am certain we will.

I offer my thanks to everyone for all your great work for the campus and our students. I anticipate a great year for the students, staff, and faculty at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. I very much look forward to working with you as we embark on a journey to take UMC to higher levels of excellence.

—Fred
Fred E. Wood, Chancellor
University of Minnesota, Crookston

**Featured Events & Activities**

**U of M, Crookston Alumni Association Board Meeting, Wednesday, September 12** – 6:30 p.m., Kiehle 116

**Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, Sunday, September 16** – 5 to 6:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

**Comedian Adam Grabowski, Wednesday, September 19** – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

**Homecoming Powderpuff Football Game, Thursday, September 20** – Noon to 2 p.m., UMC Campus Mall

**Outstanding Alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame Recognition Banquet, Friday, September 21** – 6 p.m. social, 7 p.m. dinner followed by program, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, cost is $20 per person, reservations are required, contact Rose Ulseth at 218-281-8439

**Admissions Hosts Campus Preview Day for Prospective Students, Saturday, September 22** – 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sargeant Student Center
Homecoming Parade, Saturday, September 22 – 10:30 a.m., around the Campus Mall

Homecoming Tailgating Featuring the Band Four Wheel Drive, Saturday, September 22 – 11 a.m., Parking Lot E

Homecoming Golden Eagle Soccer vs. Augustana Vikings, Saturday, September 22 – 11 a.m., UMC Soccer Field

Homecoming Golden Eagle Football vs. Southwest Minnesota State Mustangs, Saturday, September 22 – 1 p.m., Ed Widseth Field

Homecoming Golden Eagle Volleyball vs. Augustana Vikings, Saturday, September 22 – 5 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium, UMC Sports Center

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.

Learn more about events across the entire University of Minnesota system via Brief.

Around Campus

Administrative Affairs –

While the final, official numbers will not be available until mid-October, enrollment at the University of Minnesota, Crookston has surpassed previous record levels, continuing a six-year trend. Preliminary, unofficial reports put enrollment at 1,773 degree-seeking undergraduates—the highest enrollment in the history of the campus. That number beats 2011’s all-time record of 1,600. The number does not include nearly 1,000 non-degree students who are part of the College in the High School (CIHS) or PostSecondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) programs. Learn more.

Academic Affairs –

The Business Department has implemented two new articulation agreements with Vermilion Community College (VCC), located in Ely, Minn. Eligible students with an associate degree in business from VCC may transfer to the Crookston campus to complete a baccalaureate degree in business management either online or on site. Students with an associate degree in sports management from VCC have the option of a bachelor of science in sport and recreation management at the U of M, Crookston.

Student Affairs –

Starting Thursday, September 6, Dr. Eric Kanten will be on campus every Thursday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. providing free consultation for UMC students at Student Health Services in Sargeant Student Center. This is a change from his schedule of the previous years, as he was here on Wednesdays before. After
visiting with Dr. Kanten, it was determined that it works best with his current schedule for him to be on campus Thursday afternoons.

In observance of September as **Hispanic Heritage Month**, the Office of Cultural Diversity and Multicultural Programs will host a **Celebration of Life, History, and Freedom** on Sunday, September 16, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. All activities are free and open to the public. The event will feature a piñata and games for children, vocal music by Bryan Sanchez, dancing by Los Rositas, presentations on history, Mexican Independence Day, and the flag by area elementary and middle school students, a special presentation on the history of Hispanics and Latinos in the Red River Valley, and an informational presentation on the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act, known as the DREAM Act.

**Admissions and Enrollment Management –**

Admissions will host a **Campus Preview Day** on Saturday, September 22. Prospective students and their families will check in at the Sargeant Student Center at 10 a.m. The schedule includes a welcome presentation, campus tours, academic sessions, and lunch, as well as the opportunity to take part in Homecoming events.

**Facilities & Operations –**

Facilities is in the process of migrating away from the COMPASS System to a **new work order system**. Starting immediately, please request all work orders by sending an e-mail to umcfm-wo@umn.edu to get the request into the system. A return note will confirm that the request has been received. Requests for work or services may also be called-in to Brenda Bozyk at extension 8483.

**Human Resources –**

A University of Minnesota **employee benefits specialist** will be on campus on Friday, October 19, to help faculty and staff with retirement planning and answer any questions regarding the University’s UPlan, dental plans, and/or disability insurance coverage. Interested individuals may call Sandy Herkenhoff at ext. 8346 or Les Johnson at ext. 8345 to schedule an individual meeting during the morning or early afternoon to discuss any specific benefits questions. Individual meetings will be held in 308 Selvig Hall, Selvig Conference Room.

**Development & Alumni Relations –**

The **Outstanding Alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame Recognition** will be held on Friday evening, September 21, in Bede Ballroom beginning at 6 p.m. with a social followed by dinner and a program. The 2012 Outstanding Alumni are **Kirk Schultz ’79, Doreen (Johnson) Roy ’81, and Gerald Landby ’82**, and **Ryan Driedger ’97** will be inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame. Cost is $20 per person, reservations are required, contact **Rose Ulseth** at 218-281-8439.
Homecoming Weekend 2012, Friday, September 21, and Saturday, September 22, is packed with events for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the community. For a full listing of events, visit www.umcrookston.edu/homecoming.

University Relations –

UMC Printing, located in Kiehle 125, can order any quantity of paper—reams or cases—in various colors at very competitive prices. Campus units need simply provide their budget number for cross-charge. Small amounts (a ream or a case) can be picked up at or delivered same day by UMC Printing, and usually larger orders can be filled within a couple of business days. Contact Linda Wilkens at extension 8403 for more information or to order.

Athletics –

Homecoming athletic events on Saturday, September 22, include women's soccer against Augustana College at 11 a.m. at the UMC Soccer Field, football against Southwest Minnesota State University at 1 p.m. at Ed Widseth Field, and volleyball against Augustana College at 5 p.m. in Lysaker Gymnasium. Support the Golden Eagles by attending.

Prior to last weekend, only two U of M, Crookston volleyball players in the history of the program had achieved membership in the “1,000 dig club.” After opening the Golden Eagles' first seven matches of the 2012 campaign, Chelsea Wiesner, a junior from Rochester, Minn., is the third member of this rather exclusive club. Wiesner now has 1,045 digs in just over two years at UMC. She joins digs record holder Jaclyn Slepicka (2006-09), who had 1,471, and Joan Ebnet (2003-05), who had 1,423 digs. Learn more.

The UMC Golden Eagles and Crookston Park & Recreation have teamed up with the NFL to host the official Youth NFL Flag Football League. Youth NFL Flag Football, for 3rd and 4th graders, runs on Monday nights, September 10 through November 5, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Ed Widseth Field on the UMC Campus. The league concludes with playoffs and a superbowl. For more information, contact Natasha (Kuhle) Reierson at 218-281-8423.

Extension –

Rani Bhattacharyya will join Extension’s Center for Community Vitality on September 24 and will be based out of the Crookston regional office. A Minnesota native with a keen interest in rural communities and rural development, Rani holds a master’s degree from Western Illinois University in recreation, parks, and tourism administration and a bachelor’s degree in environmental studies from Northland College in Ashland, Wis. Her work experience includes two years as a community development fellow with the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, working on agritourism research and serving as statewide field staff for Rural Partners Illinois. Rani also has worked with the Peace Corps in Bulgaria, primarily focused on supporting implementation of a regional sustainable tourism development strategy but also working with Roma/Gypsy populations on an environmental education program. More recently, she worked for four years with Green Seal in D.C. on environmentally responsible facility management practices.
University of Minnesota System

Applications are being accepted for the Internationalizing Teaching and Learning Cohort Program to be held January 9–11, 2013. The program provides opportunities for faculty to internationalize the curriculum by identifying global learning outcomes for their courses; expanding their teaching strategies; and developing course materials, activities, and assessments. The program is sponsored by the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, Center for Teaching and Learning, Office of Information Technology, and Instructional Development Service (UMD). Learn more and obtain an application.

The U of M has launched a new, system-wide website to support the president's vision of working smarter, reducing costs, enhancing services, and increasing revenues. Visit www.excellence.umn.edu to find out more about strategies to reallocate resources and effort to the U's core teaching, research, and public service mission. Faculty and staff are asked to share ideas for improving U operations in a variety of areas, as well as read about and vote on others' ideas.

Campus and Community

Managing land to enhance wildlife, specifically birds, will be the topic of the Bird-friendly Forest Management Workshop slated for Thursday, September 20, at the Forest History Center near Grand Rapids, Minn. The workshop, which runs from 7 a.m.to 1 p.m., will include an optional birding walk. The workshop is open to the general public as well as natural resource professionals and is under the coordination of Associate Professor John Loegering. Woodland Advisor Credit (WAC7) also is available. The cost is $10 and includes workshop materials, breakfast treats, and lunch. Pre-registration by September 18 is required and registration fees will be collected on the day of the workshop. Participants should register online (preferred) or call the University of Minnesota Extension-Itasca County at 218-327-7486.

Accolades

The University of Minnesota, Crookston has moved up in this year's U.S.News Best Colleges rankings in the category Midwest Top Public Regional Colleges. The rankings for 2013 mark the 15th consecutive year the Crookston campus has appeared in the top four and signals a move up to number two from last year's placement at number three. The exclusive rankings, available at usnews.com on Wednesday, September 12, will be published in the September issue of U.S.News & World Report, available on newsstands on Tuesday, September 18, 2012. Learn more.

Associate Professor Mark Huglen, PhD, has authored a textbook, Public Speaking: Strategies for Effective Public Speaking, with assistance from Associate Professor Kevin Thompson, PhD, his colleague in the Liberal Arts and Education Department. The book is the culmination of years of teaching experience and research. The official reference citation is Huglen M.E. with Thompson K. (2012). Public Speaking: Strategies for Effective Public Speaking. Dubuque, IA. Kendall Hunt. It is available at the UMC Bookstore. Learn more.

The U of M, Crookston’s Center for Adult Learning (CAL) has received a $25,000 grant from the Northwest Minnesota Foundation (NMF) in support of the Achieve More Project. Achieve More has
emerged from the regional IMPACT 20/20 Education Task Force’s priority initiative to increase high school graduation rates and encourage more students to consider attending college. Launched this fall, the project is a collaborative effort among CAL, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), and the Crookston Area Chamber of Commerce. Achieve More will consist of two major components, UMC’s current College and Career Preparation 101, aimed at grades 8-12, and Junior Achievement, which returns to the Crookston School District for grades 3-7. The NMF grant will fund volunteer coordination for the first year. For more information contact Janessa DeBoer at 218-281-8673.

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