From the Chancellor

Clearly the past few weeks have been filled with many activities, ceremonies, and celebrations. I won’t attempt to recognize them all, but I would like to mention a few. Let me begin by stating the Regents were all very positively impressed by their recent visit to and tour of the campus. The open forum also went well and featured a good presentation of concerns and comments. Thanks to everyone who was involved with planning and presenting for this visit and to those who attended any of the related events. All three Regents commented about the strong student focus on campus, the excellent facilities, and the great dialogue they had with the campus community. As a side note regarding our current recreation facilities, the Regents saw the needs we have and expressed their support for a new wellness center. It was clear they were very proud that the Crookston campus is part of the University of Minnesota.

The following day began with the dedication ceremony of Heritage Hall. Again, the Regents were extremely impressed by the new facility and the ceremony. Many of them commented positively on the residence hall design and the spaces for students to gather and study. President Kaler also mentioned the beauty of the facility and how it must enhance the student experience. A number of visitors commented on the appealing furnishings and décor and how well everything is cared for by students and staff. I want to again thank everyone in Residential Life for their efforts and for organizing such outstanding tours. Visitors could see the pride everyone takes in this campus, and I am confident a lasting positive impression was made.

The inauguration ceremony was an equally resounding success. Many of our guests—from community members to Regents to colleagues from the Twin Cities campus and other campuses—commented on how well the ceremony was organized, the beautiful facilities, the wonderful music, and great speeches. They also enjoyed the reception with the outstanding food, and I know a number of visitors especially appreciated visiting with the students who participated in the displays. On a personal note, it was a day I will always remember, and I sincerely want to thank everyone who was involved and who attended. Mary and I want to thank everyone for our gifts. We will always remember your kindness and will wear our University of Minnesota watches proudly. It was yet another day in which I feel blessed to serve as your chancellor and very fortunate to have “returned home.” Thank you!

The April Fiesta in the Spirit of Cinco de Mayo was fun-filled and well attended by families from the surrounding community as well as our own campus community. Special thanks to Ken Mendez for all his work and to everyone who was involved in organizing this great event. Thanks, too, to everyone who attended and/or contributed to the Ramona Mendez scholarship fund.

The Student Awards Celebration last week was a wonderful way to recognize so many of our outstanding students and their achievements in academics, athletics, leadership, and service. As I
mentioned at the ceremony, our students are amazing in all they do and through their many contributions to the campus. It is important to note that their level of excellence would not be possible without the commitment and contributions of our staff and faculty.

The students themselves specifically recognized three folks with awards: Professor Ron Del Vecchio, Outstanding Educator; Associate Professor Phil Baird, Most Supportive of Students; and Lisa Samuelson, Outstanding Service to Students. Congratulations to the awardees, and thanks to all faculty and staff who provide guidance and assistance to our students every day. I know of no other academic institution that shows such great care for their students. It is certainly something of which we can all be very proud.

There are many other recent events and awards, too many to mention here. Congratulations to all those who are enhancing this campus every day through their excellent work and achievements.

Finally, the grand finale of spring events is almost here: Commencement! This day, along with residence hall check-in and the first day of classes, is among my favorite days of the year. I urge everyone to attend this event, as it is a culmination of our efforts and it symbolizes what we are all about – the graduation of our students! I hope to see you there. Thanks again for everything you do for our students to help them reach this important step in their life journey.

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

**Featured Events & Activities**

**Earth Week Speaker Jon Foley:** “Can We Feed the World without Destroying It?” Tuesday, April 30 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

**What’s on Wednesday (W.O.W.): Concert Featuring 32 Below, Wednesday, May 1 – 9 p.m.** to midnight, Crookston Sports Center, 801 Fisher Avenue, open to the public, admission is free for UMC students with ID, $5 for other students with ID, and $8 for other adults

**Enterprise System Upgrade Project (ESUP) Town Hall Overview/Brown Bag Lunch, Friday, May 3 – Noon to 1 p.m., Meeting Room D, Brown Dining Room, Sahlstrom Conference Center, attendees are encouraged to bring their lunch**

**Last Day of Classes for Spring Semester 2013, Monday, May 6**

**Extension and Crookston Chamber Tourism Conference, "Travelers: Making The Buck Stop Here,“ Tuesday, May 7 – 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, registration is $35 per person**

**Final Exams, Tuesday, May 7, through Friday, May 10**

**Reception for Online Graduates, Friday, May 10 – 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., NWSA Alseth Business Boardroom, 116 Dowell Hall**
Commencement Reception, Saturday, May 11 – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sargeant Student Center

Commencement Ceremonies for the Class of 2013, Saturday, May 11 – 2 p.m., Lysaker Gymnasium

Reception for International Graduates, Saturday, May 11 – 4 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Faculty and Staff Awards Day and Year-End Celebration, Tuesday, May 14 – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student 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 http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news.

Learn more about events across the entire University of Minnesota system via Brief: www.umn.edu/twincities/faculty-staff/brief.

Around Campus

Administrative Affairs –

All faculty and staff are encouraged to attend the annual Faculty and Staff Awards Day and Year-End Celebration on Tuesday, May 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 pm in Bede Ballroom. The theme for this year’s event is "It's a little known fact that..." When checking in for this event, individuals will be encouraged to write down a hobby, interest, or talent in an effort to get to know fellow co-workers better. Various recognitions and awards will be presented during the program following lunch including years of service and retirements, Distinguished Teaching Award, Distinguished Civil Service/Bargaining Unit Award, Distinguished P & A Award, Outstanding Service Learning Faculty Award, Outstanding Community Service Award, Students with Disabilities Support Award, and Builders of Diversity Award.

Academic Affairs –

Nearly two-hundred students are expected to take part in Commencement Exercises for the Class of 2013 on Saturday, May 11, at 2 p.m. in Lysaker Gymnasium, UMC Sports Center. (Doors will open at 1 p.m.) Kevin Kopischke, UMC Class of 1972 and current president of Alexandria Technical and Community College, will give the commencement address. Regent John Frobenius will confer degrees and offer greetings from the U of M Board of Regents. Arlene Carney, vice provost for faculty and academic affairs, at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, will bring greetings from the U of M system. A reception for all graduates and their families will be held prior to the ceremonies from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sargeant Student Center. A special reception for online graduates will be held Friday, May 10, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the NWSA Alseth Business Boardroom, 116 Dowell Hall, and a reception for international graduates will be held Saturday, May 11, at 4 p.m. in Bede Ballroom.

With the imminent departure of Jack Geller to Florida at the end of this academic year, Chancellor Wood has appointed Associate Professor Soo-Yin Lim-Thompson as interim department head of the Liberal Arts & Education Department; she will begin her duties on Monday, May 20, 2013.
The University of Minnesota Crookston Music and Theater Department will present “Arsenic and Old Lace” on Thursday, May 2, and Friday, May 3, at 7:30 p.m. nightly in Kiehle Auditorium. Tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for students and children. Student Bethany Motley will produce the show with Associate Professor George French as an undergraduate research opportunity project. Learn more. 

Student Affairs –

The Annual Ice Cream and Study Break Social will be held on Monday, May 6, from 9 to 10:30 p.m. in the Evergreen Grill. All students, faculty, and staff are welcome. The event is hosted by UMC’s chapter of the National Society for Leadership and Success (NSLS).

Faculty and staff are invited to attend the New Classroom Technology Demonstration and Luncheon on Wednesday, May 15, from Noon to 2:30 p.m. in the new classroom in Heritage Hall. This event will showcase the technology capabilities of the room, which can seat 100+ students. Attendees are encouraged to bring their tablets, convertibles, or laptop computers if they want to engage in the demonstration. A free luncheon for participants will begin at noon in the lobby of the new classroom, followed at 1 p.m. by the demonstration.

Center for Adult Learning –

For a fifth year, the Center for Adult Learning (CAL) has been awarded the University of Minnesota Digital Campus Calling Center. The Digital Campus Calling Center serves the entire University of Minnesota system and maintains student support and a referral call center to answer and respond to student inquiries concerning U of M for-credit and non-credit online programs. The Digital Campus requires a student support call center to answer questions about topics including, but not limited to, student resources, admission and administrative processes, policies, and academic programs along with e-mail and phone support for initial inquiries. CAL staff members serve as both information resources and advocates for online students, ensuring they receive accurate information in response to their questions in a timely manner. Learn more at www.digitalcampus.umn.edu.

Technology Support Services –

An Enterprise System Upgrade Project (ESUP) Town Hall Overview/Brown Bag Lunch will be held on Friday, May 3, Noon to 1 p.m. in Meeting Room D of Brown Dining Room, Sahlstrom Conference Center. Attendees are encouraged to bring their lunch. ESUP leadership team members Tricia Conway, Andy Hill, and Santiago Fernandez-Gimenez are scheduled to be on campus to meet with all interested students, faculty members, and staff members. Questions to be addressed include: why is the University upgrading now?; how will this impact me as a student, faculty member, or staff member?; and where can people get more information and/or provide feedback?

University Relations –
Printing and Design Services on campus will move to regular reduced summer staffing on Wednesday, May 15. Graphic Designer Patti Tiedemann will be off for the summer after Tuesday, May 14. Campus units needing design work for a summer project should contact Patti immediately as design work will not be supported on campus until she returns in early August. In the print shop, Linda Wilkens will be on staff and will be able to assist with printing through mid-June, but she will be off starting June 17 through the entire month of July. Editor and Photographer John Zak will be on campus only one day a week (and for scheduled registration days and as needed) starting May 22 through early August. If there are any questions or concerns, contact Andrew Svec at asvec@umn.edu or 218-281-8438. As always, if any unit or individual requires consultation for printing or design needs while staff members are off, Andrew Svec can assist with identifying off-campus vendors. Also, any design or printing work for official University documents should meet the standards established by the U of M: www.umcrookston.edu/relations/standards.

Athletics –

The University of Minnesota Crookston Athletic Department recognized its distinguished award recipients for the 2012-13 season during the University's Student Awards Reception on Thursday, April 25.

- **Outstanding Male Athlete of the Year honors went to Richard Haley**, a senior football running back from Detroit, Mich., who rushed for 2,690 yards in two seasons to rank as the Golden Eagles second all-time leading rusher.
- **Outstanding Female Athlete of the Year honors were shared by Brittany Looker**, a junior volleyball player from Rochester, Minn., and **Brittani Wiese**, a senior women’s basketball player from Albertville, Minn.
- **Male Student-Athlete of the Year honors went to Almir Krdzalic**, a senior men’s basketball player from Sioux Falls, S.D., who carries a 3.67 GPA in biology.
- **Female Student-Athlete of the Year accolades went to Chelsea Wiesner**, a junior volleyball player from Rochester, Minn., who has earned a 3.76 GPA in health sciences.
- **UMC men’s basketball player Broderick Schmidt**, a senior from Marion, S.D., **earned the Justin Knebel Memorial Award**

Campus and Community

Jon Foley, Ph.D., director of the Institute on the Environment at the University of the Minnesota Twin Cities, will present "Can we feed the world without destroying it?" on Tuesday, April 30, 2013, at 7 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The event is free and open to the public. He will present a follow up discussion on Wednesday, May 1, at 12:15 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. Foley holds a McKnight Presidential Chair in the U of M’s Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, and his work focuses on the behavior of complex global environmental systems and their interactions with human societies. This event is sponsored by the UMC Center for Sustainability and Crookston Students for Sustainable Development. Learn more, http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2013/04/jon-foley-phd-director-of-u-of.html

U of M Extension and the Crookston Chamber of Commerce will host a tourism conference "**Travelers: Making The Buck Stop Here**" on Tuesday, May 7, in Bede Ballroom from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Regisration is $35 per person, which includes lunch and materials. For more info and to register online visit [http://visitcrookston.com/riverland/](http://visitcrookston.com/riverland/).

**Accolades**

**Rachel McCoppin**, Ph.D., associate professor in the Liberal Arts and Education has been recognized for her teaching as a 2013 recipient of the prestigious [Horace T. Morse U of M Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/umcweb/news/2013/04/rachel-mccoppin-phd-recognized.html). She will be recognized, along with six others from across the U of M system, at a ceremony on Tuesday, April 30, at the McNamara Alumni Center in Minneapolis. The annual award recognition honors the University's best teaching professors for their contributions to undergraduate, graduate, and professional education. Learn more.

Among the many students honored on the evening of Thursday, April 25, at the annual Student Awards Reception were those presented with the Student Achievement Award in recognition of their academic performance, campus involvement, leadership, and service. They included **Wemimo Samson Abbey**, Alexmai Addo, Alex Buscher, Bryce Gillie, Matthew Green, Tashi Wangdi Gurung, Krista Kenyon, Almir Krdzalic, Whitney Lian, Dae Yeul "Danny" Lee, Brooke Novak, Alex Skeeter, Benjamin Williams, and **Sam Zuck-Roscoe**. From this group the Man and Woman of the Year were chosen: Dae Yeul "Danny" Lee and Sam Zuck-Roscoe.

Each spring, U of M Crookston students nominate a number of faculty and staff members for various awards. These awards are significant in that only students vote to select the recipient, meaning the award recipients have captured the imagination and gratitude of the student body. The following awards were presented by students at the Student Awards Program on April 25: **Outstanding Educator** – Ron Del Vecchio, Ph.D., professor and department head, Agriculture and Natural Resources Department; **Most Supportive of Students** – Phil Baird, MS, associate professor, Agriculture and Natural Resources Department; and **Outstanding Service to Students** – Lisa Sameulson, M.B.A., director, student activities and student center.

The University of Minnesota Crookston **Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society** team took top honors in the wildlife quiz bowl competition at the Midwest Student Conclave in Twin Lakes, Mich. The team was comprised of natural resources majors Senior **Jennifer DuBay**, Apple Valley, Minn.; Junior **Michael McMahon**, St. Paul, Minn.; Sophomore **Alisha Mosloff**, Thief River Falls, Minn.; and Senior **Matt Toenies**, Randall, Minn. This marked the first time students attended the conclave and competed in the quiz bowl. Learn more.

**The University of Minnesota has been ranked among the top 25 in the 2013 Online College Rankings by the Guide to Online Schools.** This is the second year the U of M has been featured on this list. The ranking is based upon quality and affordability of online degrees. The UMC Center for Adult Learning's involvement as the Digital Campus Calling Center has positioned the campus not only for inclusion in this recognition but also UMC's prominent role in providing online degree programs in the undergraduate area for the U of M system. (Go to [www.guidetoonlineschools.com/online-schools/university-of-minnesota](http://www.guidetoonlineschools.com/online-schools/university-of-minnesota) and click on Bachelor's.) The Guide to Online Schools portal lists over 500 institutions, all analyzed as part of the rankings study. Since this information is compiled from U.S. Department of Education sources, students are presented with a list of programs and data points but little custom content.
Publication notes: The E-Update is published twice each month August through April and once each month May through July. Issues are posted online at www.umcrookston.edu/admin/chancellor/eupdate. If you have any questions regarding the information in this news update, please send them to urumc@umn.edu.

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