From the Chancellor

The funding of public higher education has changed over the last decade. Many of us can recall a time when the State covered the vast majority of the educational cost, which in turn allowed for relatively low tuition. Like many of my generation, I benefited from relatively low tuition and graduated with low debt. This is certainly no longer the case for many of our students. As tuition has risen, so too has the debt our students incur, and this has placed pressure on institutions to slow the rate of tuition increases or to even lower tuition in some cases. At the U of M we are certainly thankful that the State funded our request to maintain the same tuition for our students this year and next. In fact, with the modest increases in federal grant aid, our students with the greatest financial need are actually paying less net cost this year than last. This is good news, and we do appreciate the continuing support of the State.

Going forward, however, we realize that there will be limits on what the State can provide and, as well, what tuition students and their families can afford. For these reasons we know that we will need to increasingly turn to philanthropy to help fund our needs and aspirations. In addition to the work done by our staff in the Office of Development & Alumni Relations, we will need assistance in this endeavor from many quarters. One of those is by turning to our closest supporters and advisors. With this in mind, we have modified the historic All College Advisory Committee to serve that campus as the new College Advisory and Advancement Board. This change reflects not only a continuation of the advisory nature of this body, but also the important need for an advancement role. I was pleased that the present members unanimously supported this change, recognizing that increasing the level of philanthropy to UMC is necessary going forward. The members of the Board are a very thoughtful and creative group of UMC supporters, and I look forward to working with them to advance our great campus. Learn more at www.umcrookston.edu/alumni/caab.

In truth, we are ALL working in advancement. Each time we work with a student, talk to a parent, or interact with a member of the community, we are ambassadors for UMC. As we tell the remarkable story of the wonderful things that happen here, we build support for our campus. As we provide great experiences for students and help them to graduate, one by one we build the alumni support that will be so very essential in the future. We can also, for example, demonstrate our commitment and help instill a philanthropic spirit by joining Team UMC as described below in the Development & Alumni section. By providing even the most modest gift to this scholarship fund, we send an important message to our students that we care and provide an example that we hope they will someday follow. In any case, each and every effort we make—even in the smallest way—helps build a culture of advancement that is so critical for our ongoing success.
Thank you again for all you do for our students and our campus. I am continually impressed by the real care for our students and the commitment to our campus that I witness here every day. I am very proud of all we do, and I hope you are as well.

Sincerely,

Fred Wood
Chancellor
University of Minnesota Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

The Clothesline Project, Wednesday, February 12, through Friday, February 14 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

What’s on Wednesday (W.O.W): “Live Group Sex Therapy Show,” Wednesday, February 12 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

Diversity Discussion “Them and Us,” Thursday, February 13 – 12:30 to 2 p.m., Bede Ballroom Rooms D & E, Sargeant Student Center

Faculty In-Service and Professional Development Day, Monday, February 17 – classes excused, campus offices remain open

CRES Workshop: Introduction to Social Media, Tuesday, February 18 – 9 to 11 a.m., Alseth-NWSA Business Boardroom, 116 Dowell Hall, open to the public, $10 registration fee

What’s on Wednesday (W.O.W): Learn About Mardi Gras in Preparation for BSA’s “A Night of Expression” Wednesday, February 19 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

CRES Workshop: Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) Introduction to Government Contracting, Thursday, February 20 – 9 to 11 a.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Cener, free and open to the public

Thursday Commons: Campus Showdown, Thursday, February 20 – Noon to 1:45 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Golden Eagle Baseball Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser, Thursday, February 20 – 4:30 to 7 p.m., Crookston Eagles Club, 105 S Broadway, $5 for adults, $3 for children under 10

Chinese Dance and Lantern Festival, Saturday, February 22 – 2 to 5 p.m. paper cutting and language workshops; 5 to 6:30 p.m. dinner in Brown Dining Room; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. dance performance in Kiehle followed by lantern release; tickets for workshops, dinner, and show: $15 adults, $10 students – all events are open to the public

“A Night of Expression” - Black History Month Talent Show, Monday, February 24 – 6 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, $5 students, $8 others
Soup and Substance: Responsible Pet Ownership, Tuesday, February 25 – Noon to 1 pm, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Third Annual Clean Water for Everyone Dinner Sponsored by Enactus, Tuesday, February 25 – 6:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, open to the public, $25 donation per person

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

Academic Affairs –

As a follow-up to the work done in October on writing student learner outcomes, UMC faculty members will dedicate the Monday, February 17, In-Service and Professional Development Day to preparing assessment plans. All scheduled activities will take place in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The day will begin at 8:30 a.m., with coffee and donuts, and at 8:45, the work will begin with a brief greeting and a short presentation explaining the work and goals for the day. Faculty will then meet as groups in their various programs to develop and document assessment plans. Lunch will be provided, followed by additional work time and a brief time for sharing progress and/or seeking assistance. The goal is to wrap up the day’s work by 3:30 p.m. Questions regarding the day can be directed to Sue Erickson at rosh0035@umn.edu or extension 8277.

Searches are about to get underway for tenure-track faculty positions in accounting, math, and agricultural systems management (ASM). Of the many needs across the various departments, two of these positions rose to the top of the list due to the lack of any tenure-track faculty in growing (accounting) and foundational (math) areas. Two of these three positions will replace retiring faculty members. The ASM position, specifically, is in a rapidly changing field (e.g., drones, precision agriculture) where the campus also has an opportunity to take advantage of burgeoning interest and a potential partnership with UND. These three positions are this year’s step toward the longer-term faculty complement. They are in addition to the two academic department head positions, searches for which are already underway. With the FY15 budget still unknown, no additional searches are anticipated for this year, but the conversation to build the longer-term plan will continue. Academic department heads have already begun work on vacancy notices and search committees for the three faculty positions.

Student Affairs & Enrollment Management –

The Clothesline Project, a visual display addressing the issue of violence against women, will be on display in Bede Ballroom Wednesday, February 12, through Friday, February 14, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily. The installation serves as a vehicle for women affected by violence to express their
emotions by designing a shirt. The shirt is then hung on a clothesline to be viewed by others as testimony to the problem of violence against women. Shirts will be displayed both from MN and ND. For more information, contact Lisa Logering at loege005@umn.edu or 218-281-8526. This event is sponsored by UMC’s Office of Community Engagement and Student Health. Learn more about this project at www.clotheslineproject.org.

The Live Group Sex Therapy Show featuring Daniel Packard will make a stop at UMC on its national tour on Wednesday, February 12, at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. A dating and relationship coach, Packer asks audience members to use their cell phones to text replies to various relationship questions. This interactive and engaging approach allows for an honest and frank discussion—often hilarious but also illuminating—from which students can leave confident and informed. This event is sponsored by Student Programming and Activities for Campus Entertainment (SPACE).

The campus community is invited to join the Advisory Council on Diversity for “Them and Us,” a discussion to explore how everyone categorizes others, leading to stereotypes, generalizations, bias, and sometimes even prejudice. This discussion will be held Thursday, February 13, from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, rooms D&E. It is sponsored by the Advisory Council on Diversity and the UMC Office of Diversity and Multicultural Programs.

A time-honored campus tradition continues on Thursday, February 20, from noon to 2 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, when the Crookston Student Association hosts the annual Campus Showdown. A team of students will face off against a team of faculty and staff members in a series of challenges—all for bragging rights and the Golden Boot trophy. Everyone is welcome.

To commemorate Black History Month the UMC Black Student Association will host "A Night of Expression" on Monday, February 24, at 6 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. The performances will include singing, spoken word, poetry, skits, and dancing/step. After the program there will be heavy hors d’oeuvres all in a Mardi Gras theme in the Kiehle Rotunda. All are welcome. Admission is $5 for students, $8 for others.

Facilities & Operations –

Two new building and grounds workers have been hired by the Facilities & Operations Department: Nicole Volker and Rebecca Sanders. They will begin their responsibilities on Monday, February 17.

International Programs –

The Office of International Programs and the Confucius Center will host a Chinese Dance and Lantern Festival on Saturday, February 22. All events are open to the public. The afternoon and evening event will feature UMC Confucius Institute workshops on the art of paper cutting, the history of the Chinese New Year Festival, and language learning from 2 to 5 p.m., followed by dinner in Brown Dining Room from 5 to 6:30 p.m. At 6:30 p.m. the Chinese Dance Theater will perform in Kiehle Auditorium from 6:30 -7:30 p.m. This performance will incorporate approximately 20 young students from the region as well as several UMC students and is made possible through a grant from the Minnesota States Arts Council. The evening will culminate with sending paper lanterns into the sky. Tickets for the workshops, dinner, and performance are $15 for adults, $10 for students. For more information, contact Rae French at rfrench@umn.edu or 218-281-8339.
Tickets for the 2014 International Dinner Series are now on sale. This year the series will feature the Caribbean on March 3, Japan on March 10, and Togo on March 24. The series also includes the April 2 Multicultural and International Dinner featuring food and performances from across the globe. Tickets for faculty and staff are $15 for each dinner or $50 for the series. Students may use their meal plan or pay $35 for the series. Contact Rae French at rfrench@umn.edu or 218-281-8339.

Development & Alumni –

Faculty and staff members are encouraged to take part in the 2014 Faculty and Staff Fund Drive. The goal is to reach 100% participation by faculty and staff. Gifts of any amount are deeply appreciated as well as tax deductible. Proceeds will go toward endowment of the Faculty and Staff Fund Drive Scholarship, but donors may designate their gifts to other scholarships if they choose. Those who donate $100 or more by February 23, 2014, will receive a Team UMC t-shirt.

Chancellor Wood and Corby Kemmer, director, Development & Alumni Relations, will serve as hosts for the Annual NWSA and U of M Crookston Arizona Social on Friday, February 21, at the Terrace Green, ViewPoint Resort, Mesa, Arizona. The event takes place from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and includes lunch at noon for $15 per person. Reservations may be made with Sue Dwyer at 218-281-8401 or Mary Lou (Baird) Dostal '54 at 480-354-8568.

The 4th Annual Justin Knebel Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament was held Saturday, February 1, at Zippel Bay Resort in Williams, Minn. More than 130 tickets were sold, and nearly 100 participants, including Chancellor Wood, cast lines into Lake of the Woods. The event raised more than $3,300 toward endowment of a scholarship in Justin Knebel’s name. Special thanks go to Alysa and Tim Tulibaski and Amber and Jason Bailey for their efforts and leadership on this event. A video slideshow of photos from the day is available at www.youtube.com/UofMCrookston.

Produced by the Development & Alumni Relations Office, a newly-created booklet about UMC specialty scholarships is now available online at http://issuu.com/umcrookston/docs/specialty_scholarships.

University Relations –

TV commercials showcasing the various majors within each of UMC’s four academic departments will air on KSTC TV (channel 45 in the Twin Cities metro area) during the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Girls’ Hockey Tournament, February 21-22; the MSHSL Boys’ Basketball Tournament, March 13-15; and the MSHSL Girls’ Basketball Tournament, March 20-22.

University Relations continues to expand its use of Merit, an online service by readMedia that assists with dissemination of announcements of student achievement to hometown media while allowing for the sharing of those announcements via social media. As an added bonus, students may activate a profile where their achievements are collected as an online résumé. UMC’s Merit site archives these releases at http://umcrookston.meritpages.com/.

Athletics –

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University of Minnesota Crookston hunt seat equestrian rider Emily Steeley, a sophomore from Portsmouth, R.I., has been awarded the Cacchione Cup for Zone 7, Region 3 as the high point rider in the open equitation division who earns the most points over the regular season. Steeley is the first ever UMC rider to win the Cacchione Cup, named for Mario "Marty" Cacchione, father of Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Founder and Executive Director Bob Cacchione. Steeley will now advance to compete against the best riders from across the nation at IHSA Nationals, set for May 9-11 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The University of Minnesota Crookston Baseball Team will host a fundraiser spaghetti feed at the Crookston Eagles Club on Thursday, February 20. The event will run from 4:30-7 p.m. Cost is $5 for adults and $3 for children under ten. Cost of an additional plate of spaghetti is $3. All proceeds will go to the UMC Baseball program to help fund their trips to Missouri and Florida. For more information, contact Golden Eagle Head Baseball Coach Chris Vito at 218-281-8445.

The Golden Eagle Football coaching staff announced the signing of 27 student-athletes to national letters of intent or offers of admission on the evening of Wednesday, February 5. The signing class is the first under Head Coach Mike Fritz. The incoming recruiting class is highlighted by 17 regional student-athletes from Minnesota and North Dakota. These 17 players make up one of the highest regional totals the Golden Eagles have had within the state of Minnesota and North Dakota in recent history. Learn more.

Head Women’s Soccer Coach Joe Alianiello recently announced the addition of six signees for UMC's 2014 signing class. All six signees are from the state of Minnesota, a priority in recruiting for Coach Alianiello, who has looked to bring in regional talent, especially talent from the state of Minnesota, into the fold for the Golden Eagle soccer program. Learn more.

To view all results and upcoming athletic events, visit www.goldeneaglesports.com.

Campus and Community

UMC Students involved with Enactus will host the Third Annual Clean Water for Everyone Dinner on Tuesday, February 25, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. The event is open to the public. Tickets cost $25 per person with proceeds going to help fund project teams building clean water systems for needy communities in locations around the world. Clean Water for Everyone has already provided clean drinking water for communities in countries such as the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Nepal, and Nigeria. Learn more about Clean Water for Everyone at www.cwfe.org.

University of Minnesota System

Faculty, staff, and students may register to participate in the U of M’s 2014 Legislative Briefing, scheduled for Wednesday, February 12, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall, McNamara Alumni Center, on the Twin Cities Campus. Participants will get an insider's preview of the 2014 capital request to the Minnesota Legislature from President Kaler, network with other U supporters, and learn ways to
advocate for a better U. For registration and more information, go to [http://legislative-action.umn.edu](http://legislative-action.umn.edu).

**Proposals are now being accepted by the U of M’s Institute on the Environment (IonE) for Discovery Grants.** IonE Discovery Grants are intended to help highly innovative, world-class research activities get off the ground with a one-time investment of venture capital funding of $50,000-100,000. The selection team looks for projects that will make a transformative difference in interdisciplinary research and discovery via research that addresses grand challenges of global significance in the areas of climate change; food, land use and ecosystems; freshwater resources; population, health and development; and strategies and systems for sustainability. Initial concept papers are due March 21, 2014. Learn more at [http://environment.umn.edu/research/discovery_grants.html](http://environment.umn.edu/research/discovery_grants.html).

**Accolades**

Maureen Aubol, office supervisor for the Northwest Research and Outreach Center (NWROC), was recently presented with the Research and Outreach Center (ROC) Operations Initiative Award. The U of M’s College of Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS) Division of Translational Research and Engagement (TRE) administers the award, which is among those given to Civil Service and Bargaining Unit staff in the areas of ROC Research Initiative, ROC Outreach Initiative, and ROC Operations Initiative. The TRE Division is made up of nine ROCs within the CFANS system which are located across the state of Minnesota.

A number of awards were presented at the 39th Annual Ag Arama, held Saturday, January 25. **Crowned as Ag Arama royalty this year were King Dustin Smith,** a senior from Browerville, Minn., double majoring in agricultural business and agronomy; **Queen Katie Nenn,** a senior from Wyoming, Minn., majoring in animal science; **Princess Amber Pesall,** a sophomore from New Brighton, Minn., double majoring in agricultural business and equine science; and **Prince Luke Lundeby,** a sophomore from Osnabrock, N.D., majoring in agricultural systems management. Royalty are selected through a rigorous application process involving the evaluation of student achievements and interviews. Student votes are also used to help decide the winners. **The 2014 True Grit Award was presented to Victoria Martin,** a senior from Worland, Wyoming, majoring in animal science. The True Grit Award is given to a student who best demonstrates the hardworking, persistent spirit of Todd Opsahl, a U of M Crookston student in 1973-1974 whose life was cut short by leukemia.

**Mawaye Appleton,** a sophomore double majoring in accounting and management from Brooklyn Park, Minn., won an essay contest and spent a day job shadowing at the headquarters of Anytime Fitness in Hastings, Minn., in early January 2014. While at Anytime Fitness, Appleton met personally with CEO and co-founder Chuck Runyon, Chief Financial Officer Gerry Thomas, and Vice President of Operations Jennifer Yiengou. Appleton’s winning essay was written as an assignment for her small business entrepreneurship class, taught by Kevin Cooper, a teaching specialist in the UMC Business Department.

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack recently announced a list of 30 university selected to attend the **USDA’s 2014 Agricultural Outlook Forum, titled "The Changing Face of Agriculture,"** to be held February 20-21, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. University of Minnesota Crookston Senior **Dustin Smith,** a double major in agronomy and agricultural business from Browerville, Minn., is among the twenty university undergraduate students who were chosen on the basis of their essays on "Agriculture as a Career." Ten graduate students were selected for their
response to "The Greatest Challenge Facing Agriculture over the Next Five Years." The list of all winners is posted at www.usda.gov/oce/forum/diversity/winners.htm.

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