From the Chancellor

I want to thank those of you who participated in the Employee Engagement (E2) Survey last fall. The results of this survey were posted last spring on the HR website (www.umcrookston.edu/humanresources/e2.html), and I hope you’ve had an opportunity to review them. The results were generally positive, especially related to national norms, but we are eager to engage in discussions to improve the UMC workplace. On the website you will find a summary and a number of analyses including comparisons of our results to the entire system (which, due to size differentials, is essentially a comparison to the TC campus) and comparisons with the small system campuses (the Crookston, Morris, and Rochester campuses), which I think you will find particularly interesting and useful. As presented, you can see that the results for both faculty and staff are quite different on the smaller campuses relative to the larger ones. Unfortunately, we did not receive the small campus comparisons until May, so we were not able to move forward with campus-wide discussions last spring as we had hoped, but we will be doing so this fall—on September 4 with faculty and teaching staff and on September 15 for staff. I strongly urge you to join this conversation as we work towards making our workplace even better by addressing the most relevant opportunities for both staff and faculty.

Also following up from last spring, with my full support Athletics Director Stephanie Helgeson has led discussions within the Athletics Department of developing an even stronger academically focused athletics program going forward. As staff and faculty who have spent time on other campuses comment, we really do care about the complete student at UMC, and we want all our students, including our student-athletes, to have success academically. We also want all of our students to develop on the many dimensions of their lives and to have balanced and broad successful educational experiences in all aspects of their experiences while here. This is a UMC hallmark. Director Helgeson and the coaches are working to renew that commitment in our athletics program. Just as we will do for all students, we will recruit to retain and to graduate our student-athletes. We will celebrate their academic achievements, and we will maintain an alignment of our athletic values with the values of UMC. I mention this because it is certainly different than the national direction of major Division I schools regarding athletics. We will do it the right way at UMC.

Finally, I know many of you had planned to attend the informational session about the Campus SaVE Act, the Cleary Act, and Title IX. That session was canceled, but faculty and staff can look for rescheduled sessions this semester, with one likely during the Professional Development Day on October 24. There are a number of new federal regulations and related changes to University policies and procedures which everyone should be aware of in the areas of campus safety and the reporting of sexual violence. A session for students is scheduled for Thursday Commons on September 4. I know we all care about student safety and the prevention of sexual violence, and I’m glad we take these issues
very seriously within the U of M system. If you have questions regarding any of this, please contact Associate Vice Chancellor Peter Phaiah, who has taken the lead on this for our campus.

I hope the start of fall semester has gone well for you all.

Sincerely,
Fred Wood
Chancellor
University of Minnesota Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

What’s on Wednesday (W.O.W.): Comedian Brandon Vestal, Wednesday, September 3 – 7 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium

Thursday Commons: Employee Engagement (E2) Survey Results Review for Faculty and Teaching Staff, Thursday, September 4 – noon to 2 p.m., Peterson Classroom, Heritage Hall

Thursday Commons: “Sexual Violence, The Law, and Your Student Rights,” Thursday, September 4 – noon to 2 p.m., Peterson Classroom, Heritage Hall

Home Opener for Golden Eagle Football vs. Augustana College, Saturday, September 6 – 1 p.m., Ed Widseth Field

Special Meal and Celebration of Brazilian Independence Day, Sunday, September 7 – 5 to 6:30 p.m., Brown Dining Room, Sahlstrom Conference Center, UMC students may use their meal plans, faculty and staff $5.50, others $8

Music on Monday (M.O.M.): Musician Scott Wesley, Monday, September 8 – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Northern Lights Lounge, Sargeant Student Center, free

Involvement Expo, Tuesday, September 9 – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sargeant Student Center

U of M Crookston Alumni Social at TCF Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, Tuesday, September 9 – 5 to 8:30 p.m., Club Room, TCF Bank Stadium, 420 S.E. 23rd Ave. Minneapolis, Minn., free appetizers and cash bar available

Study Abroad Fair, Wednesday, September 10 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sargeant Student Center

Employee Engagement (E2) Survey Results Review for Staff, Monday, September 15 – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Cultural Chamber Music Performance: “Tres Vidas” by Core Ensemble, Tuesday, September 16 – lunch performance at noon in Bede Ballroom, students may use meal cards, faculty and staff $5.50, all others $7.80; evening performance at 7 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public
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 –

In the fall of 2013, the University of Minnesota conducted the Employee Engagement (E2) Survey for the first time. Results of U of M Crookston faculty and instructional staff responses will be presented and discussed on Thursday, September 4, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Peterson Classroom, Heritage Hall. Results of U of M Crookston staff members (Civil Service, Teamsters, AFSCME, and non-instructional P&A) will be presented and discussed on Monday, September 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. All UMC faculty and staff members are encouraged to attend their respective session. A light lunch will be provided for those who pre-register. Individuals may also bring their own lunch to the meeting. Contact Les Johnson at ljumc@umn.edu or 218-281-8345 to pre-register. A summary of all E2 Survey results is available at www.umcrookston.edu/humanresources/e2.html.

Academic Affairs –

Four faculty members—three from the U of M Crookston and one from the Northwest Research & Outreach Center (NWROC)—have been approved by U of M Provost Karen Hansen and by the Board of Regents for promotion, effective fall semester 2014:

- Mark Huglen, Ph.D., associate professor to professor, Liberal Arts & Education Department
- Rachel McCoppin, Ph.D., associate professor to professor, Liberal Arts & Education Department
- Ian MacRae, Ph.D., associate professor to professor, NWROC
- Venu Mukku, Ph.D., assistant professor to associate professor with tenure, Math, Science & Technology Department

Student Affairs & Enrollment Management –

All students are encouraged to attend the program “Sexual Violence, The Law, and Your Student Rights” on Thursday, September 4, from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. This is an annual student training event regarding sexual assault, date violence, domestic violence, and stalking. Student leaders and staff will provide information on federal and state laws, University policies and procedures, definitions, student rights, confidentiality, how to report an incident, bystander intervention, prevention, and available resources. Students may bring their own lunch or take their lunch trays from Brown Dining Room to attend this event in Bede. Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

Don Buegel has been hired as a program director for international admission for the Office of Admissions and Enrollment Management and the Office of International Programs. He comes to UMC from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, where he served as director of international
recruiting and support from 1999 to 2014. He also served for three years as an assistant English teacher at a junior high school in Shibayama, Chiba, Japan. Buegel earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. He began his responsibilities at UMC on August 29.

**Heidi Lamb Castle has been hired as an assistant counselor in UMC Career Development & Counseling Services.** She holds a Master of Science in school counseling from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, and a Bachelor of Science in psychology from the University of Idaho, in Moscow, Idaho. She completed post-baccalaureate work in special education at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. She has worked with at-risk youth through St. Francis in Manhattan, Kansas, and with Lutheran Social Services in Moorhead, Minnesota.

The Tri-valley Heartland Express (T.H.E.) Bus will once again provide local Crookston bus service for the UMC campus. Students and employees may ride the designated UMC bus on its normal loop for free by presenting their UCard ID. This free service will be available from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday during the academic school year. Starting Saturday, September 6, T.H.E. Bus will be available every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the small fee of $1 per ride. T.H.E Bus will also provide transportation to the UMC community during winter and summer breaks. The cost will be $1 per ride during those times. Schedules and routes will be posted on campus soon. Please contact T.H.E. Bus at 218-281-0700 or Debi Chandler at 218-281-8572 with questions.

**International Programs –**

A special meal featuring Brazilian cuisine and a celebration of Brazilian Independence Day will be held on Sunday, September 7, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Brown Dining Room, Sahlstrom Conference Center. This is an opportunity for the campus community to welcome and learn more about the many new Brazilian students. UMC students may use their meal plans. Cost for faculty and staff is $5.50 and $8 for all others. Everyone from the campus and local community is welcome.

**Development & Alumni Relations –**

The Office of Development & Alumni Relations invites all faculty, staff, and alumni to attend an alumni social on Tuesday, September 9, in the Club Room at TCF Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, 420 S.E. 23rd Ave. Minneapolis, Minnesota, from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Attendees will have a chance to tour the TCF Bank Stadium at 7 p.m. Free appetizers and a cash bar will be available. RSVP on Facebook, by calling 218-281-8436, or by e-mailing koll0131@umn.edu.

**University Relations –**

As the 2014 election season kicks off, the University of Minnesota encourages its students, faculty, and staff to civically engage and vote. However, it is important to remember that federal and state laws prohibit the use of University resources to support specific candidates, ballot initiatives, or referenda. U of M political engagement policies reflect these legal regulations. Please take a moment to review the U of M political guidelines and share them with personnel in your office. These guidelines lay out how to engage politically while adhering to University and legal standards. Guidelines are posted online at www.govrelations.umn.edu/assets/pdf/state/2014/2014PoliticalGuidelines.pdf
Athletics –

The UMC Golden Eagles and Crookston Parks & Recreation have teamed up with the NFL to, again, bring the official Youth NFL Flag Football League to the region. Youth NFL Flag Football, for 3rd and 4th graders, will run on Monday nights from September 8 through October 20 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Ed Widseth Field. The league concludes with playoffs and a superbowl game on October 20. For more information, contact Kathleen Brown at brownk@umn.edu or 218-281-8423.

Michael Lukkason has been hired as an assistant baseball coach. Lukkason was an assistant coach for his alma mater Dakota Wesleyan University (DWU) in Mitchell, South Dakota, last season after earning NAIA Honorable Mention All-American honors in 2013 as a short stop. He earned his Bachelor of Science in sports management and business and his Master of Education and Administration from DWU.

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

Campus and Community

A raised bed or "grow box" was recently set in place at the Early Childhood Development Center Edited (ECDC). Growing soil will be placed in the box, and it will be used to grow vegetables for the children enrolled there. The grow box is part of an emergent national movement to engage children in eating more vegetables and to expose them to the process of gardening. The project is sponsored by Crookston Students for Sustainable Development (CSSD), U of M Crookston Horticulture Club, and the Center for Sustainability with financial support from the Office of Academic Affairs. Construction was by Josh Bruggeman and Alex Nemmers, interns with the Center for Sustainability and the Northwest Research and Outreach Center.

The Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership (NWRSDP) invites “Idea Briefs” to be submitted by September 26, 2014. The NWRSDP seeks early drafts of proposals for projects that contribute to the vibrant future of Northwest Minnesota through collaborations with the U of M. A second round of Idea Briefs will be solicited in January 2015. As a part of University of Minnesota Extension, the Regional Sustainable Partnerships (RSDP) bring together local talent and resources with University of Minnesota knowledge and seed funding to drive sustainability in four areas: agriculture and food systems, tourism and resilient communities, natural resources, and clean energy. For more information and to submit an idea, see the Idea Brief section at www.extension.umn.edu/rsdp, or contact Linda Kingery at kinge002@umn.edu or 218-281-8697.

To learn more about the work of the Northwest Regional Partnership go to http://blog.lib.umn.edu/rsdp/northwest.

Accolades

The Princeton Review has named the University of Minnesota Crookston one of 159 colleges and universities in its "Best in the Midwest" list for 2015. This recognition marks the eighth consecutive
year the campus has been included on the list by the Princeton Review, an education services company widely known for its test prep programs and college and graduate school guides. Results are posted in the website feature, "2015 Best Colleges: Region by Region" at www.princetonreview.com/best-regional-colleges.aspx.

Assistant Professor Katy Nannenga, Ph.D., Math, Science & Technology Department, and Assistant Professor Kristie Walker, Ph.D., Agriculture & Natural Resources Department, presented some of their recent research findings regarding turfgrass and greenhouse gas emissions at the conference of the European Turfgrass Society, held in Osnabrueck, Germany, in July 2014. As part of the conference they also published a peer-reviewed article in the European Journal of Turfgrass Science. The two faculty members have taken greenhouse gas research to UMC’s practice football field and to Lincoln Park Golf Course in Grand Forks, North Dakota, thanks to the connection Walker has to UMC alumnus Aaron Motl ’06. Motl is the assistant superintendent of Lincoln Park Golf Course and has allowed Nannenga and Walker to conduct research over the past two summers with the help of several undergraduates: Amber Suchy, a senior majoring in biology from Vining, Minn.; Wade Wallace, a senior majoring in environmental science from Euclid, Minn.; Michael Laurich, a junior majoring in biology from Lansing, Ill.; Nate Harthoorn, a junior majoring in natural resources from Reasnor, Iowa; and alumna Missy Geiszler ’14, Bachelor of Science degree in agronomy from Mayer, Minn.

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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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