From The Chancellor

The topic of “change” is an interesting one. There are those who believe that “change is good” and others who believe the only people who really like change are babies with a dirty diaper! I suspect most of us are somewhere in between. While it is human nature to be comfortable with the familiar, we all accept that change is a part of today’s fast moving society. However, the issue of change is far from new as it was the Greek philosopher Heraclitus (c. 535 – c. 475 BCE) who is credited with saying “everything changes and nothing stands still” and who is often credited with “the only constant is change.”

We certainly are experiencing a considerable amount of change in our working lives at UMC. Examples include the changes in personnel due to retirements/resignations and hires (including our new department head in Liberal Arts and Education -- congratulations to Professor Soo-Yin Lim-Thompson!), changing laptops this past fall, changes in software (e.g., PeopleSoft, Drupal, and Salesforce), changing spaces including the Wellness Center site and Admissions, and on and on.

As we have experienced these changes, I have appreciated how well we have handled each and every one. This is in part due to the many folks who have worked and who are working on the front-lines of each change and who have helped us all through their good work and communication. We owe all of these folks our thanks! I also think that handling change well is just part of our collective experience due to all the changes that have been experienced over the years. This is an extremely important and valuable asset here at UMC. We will need to remain nimble and embrace change to thrive in our workplace and national environment, and this ability is perhaps our greatest strength going forward. Will we be faced with more change? Certainly. Will we be able to respond and thrive? Absolutely. Thanks again to each of you as we continue to change and evolve as we strive for excellence.

Fred Wood
Chancellor
University of Minnesota Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

UMC Hosts Northwest Region Extension’s 2015 X-Camp (Experience Camp) Tuesday, June 2, through Thursday, June 4 – locations across campus

First Day of Classes for Summer Term 2015, Monday, June 8

Basketball Offensive Skills Camp, Monday, June 8, through Thursday, June 11 – 9 a.m. to Noon, UMC Sports Center, cost is $40 per camper (for boys and girls ages 12-14)
New Student Advisement and Registration Day, Thursday, June 11 – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

New Student Advisement and Registration Day, Friday, June 12 – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

New Student Advisement and Registration Day, Monday, June 15 – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

Discover and Explore Science Camp, Monday, June 15, through Friday, June 19 – all day and overnight available, check-in at Sargeant Student Center, cost is $100 per camper/add $170 if staying on campus (for youth in grades 6-12)

New Student Advisement and Registration Day, Thursday, June 18 – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

New Student Advisement and Registration Day, Friday, June 19 – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

New Student Advisement and Registration Day, Monday, June 22 – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

Language and Culture of India Camp, Monday, June 22, through Friday, June 26 – 2 to 5 p.m. daily, 208 Dowell Hall, cost is $100 per camper

Mark Olsonawski Scholarship Golf Tournament, Thursday, June 25 – 9 a.m. registration, 10 a.m. tee off, 4 p.m. social and awards program, Two River Golf Club, 903 7th St. SE, Hallock, Minn.

Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) Reunion, Saturday, June 27 – 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., 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: http://brief.umn.edu/.

Around Campus

Academic Affairs –

Following a national search, Soo-Yin Lim-Thompson has been offered and has accepted the position of department head for the Liberal Arts & Education Department. She holds a Ph.D. in teaching and learning with emphasis on child study, an M.S. in elementary education with emphasis in language arts, and a B.S. in music education, all from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. She has served as interim department head for the Liberal Arts & Education Department since August of 2013. Her new status is effective immediately.
Oxana Wieland has been hired as an assistant professor, tenure track, in the Business Department. She holds a Ph.D. in economics from Baikal State University of Economics and Law, Irkutsk, Russia, as well as an M.Ed. in teaching mathematics from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. Since 2009 she has served as an economics lecturer at UMC. Her new status and teaching in support of the finance major is effective this coming fall semester.

Anthony Schroeder has been hired as an assistant professor, tenure track, in the Math, Science & Technology Department. He holds a Ph.D. in biology from the University of North Dakota (UND) in Grand Forks. He also earned a B.S. in biology from UND. He most recently served as a post-doctoral research associate at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, where he worked in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the development of tools to link chemical occurrence to potential biological effects in field-exposed organisms. He will begin his responsibilities teaching biology at UMC this coming fall semester.

Susan Klassen has been hired as a lecturer in the Math, Science & Technology Department. She holds an M.B.A. for the University of Mary in Bismark, N.D. She also completed her B.S. there in management and operations. She earned her AD (Registered Nursing) from Southwestern College in Clarinda, Iowa, and is currently a registered nurse in Minnesota and North Dakota as well as a licensed nursing home administrator in Minnesota. She most recently has served as the administrator/CEO for Sanford Health’s Mahnomen Health Center in Mahnomen, Minn. She will begin her responsibilities teaching in the health management program this coming fall semester.

Janessa Quanrud has been hired as an assistant academic advisor for the Math, Science & Technology Department. She will work with both online and on-campus students. She recently completed an M.B.A. through the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, S.D. Quanrud is a 2011 graduate of the U of M, Crookston with a bachelor’s degree in marketing, and she has worked as a student personnel coordinator in UMC’s Center for Adult Learning since 2012. She will begin her new responsibilities on Monday, June 15.

Development & Alumni Relations –

The Mark Olsonawski Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, June 25, at Two River Golf Club, 903 7th St. SE, in Hallock, Minn. United Valley Bank of Hallock is the tournament sponsor. Registration begins at 9 a.m. with tee off at 10 a.m. and a social and awards program at 4 p.m. The format of the tournament is an 18-hole Texas scramble with teams of four. Registration fee is $50 per person. Registrations are urged by June 18. Interested golfers may contact Garret Kollin at 218-281-8436, or they may register with the Two River Golf Club by calling 218-843-2155.

The Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) Alumni Reunion is set for Saturday, June 27. Registration for the day begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Northern Lights Lounge of Sargeant Student Center. Highlights include the Top Aggie Luncheon at noon, class meetings and photos in the afternoon, campus tours, a barbecue supper at 5:30 p.m., and a social with music from the 40s, 50s, and 60s from 7 to 10 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. For a full schedule of events and more information go to www.umcrookston.edu/alumni/NWSAReunion.
University Relations –

A group from the U of M Crookston will present a breakout session at the annual University of Minnesota Communicators Forum 2015 Conference, held June 4 at the Humphrey School on the U of M Twin Cities campus. Megan Bell, Ph.D., Elizabeth Tollefson, Andrew Svec, and students Rikki Roscoe and Moninka Sweet will present “Communication Collaboration: Joining Students, Faculty, and Staff for Results.” The conference is an annual event for communicators working across the U of M system.

Athletics –

Twenty-three (23) student-athletes from the U of M Crookston have earned Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) All-Academic honors for the 2015 spring athletic season. Earning the honor were eight student-athletes from softball, six from baseball, four from men's golf and women's golf, and one from women's tennis. To be eligible for this honor, the student must be a member of the varsity traveling team and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or higher, must have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing, and must have completed at least one full academic year at that institution. For the complete listing of names, go to www.goldeneaglesports.com/news/2015/5/13/BB_0513155441.aspx.

Golden Eagle women's golfer Katie Sheetz, a junior from Grand Rapids, Minn., majoring in biology, has been named a recipient of the second annual Butch Raymond Scholarship. The $5,000 scholarship is sponsored by Sanford Health and is given to 16 student-athletes, one recipient at each of the NSIC member institutions. To be eligible for the scholarship, the recipient must be a senior in 2015-16, have a GPA of 3.20 or higher, be participating in intercollegiate athletics, and plan to work in a health related field or attend graduate school in a health related field. Sheetz plans to attend pharmacy school upon graduation from the U of M Crookston.

U of M System

On May 22, Gov. Mark Dayton signed the higher education bill into law. The law provides $30 million in new funding to the U of M Medical School, $22.2 million for operating costs to enable tuition relief, and $1 million for Alzheimer's disease research. On May 23, Gov. Dayton vetoed the environment and agriculture bill, which included funding for the University for avian flu research; agriculture research, education, extension, and technology transfer; and rapid response. See State Relations Updates for more information at http://govrelations.umn.edu/state-relations.html.

Campus and Community

Over the summer UMC will serve as the host site for a number of camps and conferences sponsored by University units as well as other organizations. Anyone looking for information about these events is encouraged to refer to the following online resource: www.umcrookston.edu/camps.

UMC and its Center for Adult Learning will host Crookston Park and Rec Club Kid, a summer program for elementary school aged children, several times this summer. In June scheduled days include Thursday, June 18, when local teacher Brian Follette will serve as instructor for an afternoon about
rockets on the Campus Mall, and Thursday, June 25, when Laura Bell, lab services coordinator for UMC’s Agriculture & Natural Resources Department, will lead “Natural Resources Day” on campus.

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Publication notes: 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 urunc@umn.edu. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.