From the Chancellor

“What’s that?” This was my response many years ago as an undergraduate when a faculty member asked if I would like to become involved in undergraduate research. I had recently transferred to the university from a local community college and had no idea what research entailed. At the time I was considering a career in high school or community college teaching; the undergraduate research experience expanded my view to the possibilities of becoming a university faculty member. The opportunity to participate in undergraduate research was transformational for me.

Based on student surveys, increasing numbers of our students are planning to attend graduate or professional school. Participation in undergraduate research is an important component of their preparation to be competitive for admission. One of our limitations in providing these opportunities to more students is the lack of appropriate research space. Since arriving I have made this one (among many!) of the top capital improvement priorities in discussions with university leaders; our facilities must continue to evolve in order to meet the needs of our students.

As you may know, this is a “bonding year” for our state government. The University of Minnesota’s request can be found at www.govrelations.umn.edu/capital-request.html. As is always the case, the U of M leads with a request for Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement (HEAPR) funding, which this year is $100M. These funds help extend the life of our buildings, and the related projects fall into four categories: (1) health, safety, and accessibility; (2) building systems; (3) utility infrastructure; and (4) energy efficiency. While there are many campus needs that align with these categories, our top priority for next year is to obtain funds to finish the modernization of our campus electrical infrastructure. The Governor’s capital bill included $55M for HEAPR and we won’t know about the funding for our project until the entire process is completed at the end of the session.

New on this year’s list is a system-wide request for Academic and Student Experience Investments. Of the total $16M request, if funded, our campus would receive $4M. While we have numerous important projects, many fall outside the parameters of this request category. We have chosen to focus on improved laboratories and other instructional spaces, which fall within the guidelines of this system-wide request. These spaces are critically needed for our students as the campus continues to evolve, and they will allow us to enhance our efforts in undergraduate research. We are not alone in the belief that this should be a top priority. The Senate and House Capital Investment Committees both visited the campus this fall and fully agreed that these were important needs. However, it is important to note that the Governor’s capital bill did not include funds for this aspect of the University’s request. We will see what happens during the Legislative session.

Our students are increasingly participating in research opportunities under our faculty’s guidance. One measure of success in undergraduate research is the dissemination of results in the form of publication or presentation. As just one example of our increasing success on this front, this year eight of our students (a
campus record!) will be presenting at the 30th National Conference on Undergraduate Research in North Carolina. See the section on “Undergraduate Research” in this edition for a listing of our student participants.

Successes like these are only possible through the great work of our faculty in mentoring these students. I want to thank the members of the faculty who are leading this effort and congratulate the students for engaging in this high impact work. We know this will deepen our students’ understanding of research and their specific area of interest, and it will improve their critical thinking and communication skills. These experiences can be transformative for them and open a world of additional possibilities.

Thank you.

Fred Wood
Chancellor
University of Minnesota Crookston

Featured Events & Activities

Service-Learning Brown Bag Lunch Discussion - Building and Maintaining Community Partnerships, Friday, February 12 – Noon to 1 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Saturday Admissions Visit with Focus on Prospective Students Interested in Majors within Agriculture & Natural Resources and Math, Science & Technology Departments, Saturday, February 13 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., check-in at Northern Lights Lounge, Sargeant Student Center

"The Power of Creativity" Clay Art Session, Saturday, February 13 – Noon to 2 p.m., 118 Owen Hall, free and open to students, faculty, staff, and community members (ages 10 and older), attendees should sign up in advance at the Centennial Hall Front Desk or at the Sargeant Student Center Info Desk by 4 p.m. on Friday, February 12

Professional Development Day, Monday, February 15 – classes excused, campus offices open

Soup & Substance: Discussion of Water Issues in Flint Michigan, Tuesday, February 16 – Noon to 1 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Thursday Commons: Campus Showdown, Thursday, February 18 – 12:30 to 2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

An Evening of Chinese New Year Celebration, Thursday, February 18 – 5 to 8 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, open to the public, admission is $1 for students from elementary to college, and $10 for others

Arizona Alumni Social, Friday, February 19 – 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., ViewPoint Resort, Mesa, Arizona, $15 per person, to reserve tickets contact Sue Dwyer at sdwyer@umn.edu

Student Activities Kiddie Carnival, Friday, February 19 – 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, free and open to the public, suggested age range of 2 to 8 years old
UMC Black Student Association Presents “A Night of Expression,” Monday, February 22 - 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. meal and cultural display, Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center; 6:30 to 8 p.m. program, Kiehle Auditorium; admission is $12 per person, $70 per table (8 people), $5 UMC for students (unless sponsored), free for children 5 and under; to reserve tickets contact Lorna Hollowell at lholowe@umn.edu

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://news.crk.umn.edu/news. Learn more about events across the entire University of Minnesota system via Brief: http://brief.umn.edu/.

Around Campus

Academic Affairs –

Spring semester Professional Development Day is Monday, February 15. Classes are excused and campus offices will be open. The Office of Academic Affairs has arranged a series of activities that day around the theme “In the Classroom,” and all interested faculty and staff are invited to attend. The morning session will begin at 9 a.m. in Bede Ballroom and will feature speaker David Langley, Ph.D., an education program specialist at the U of M Center for Educational Innovation (CEI). Concurrent afternoon sessions will run from 1 to 1:50 p.m. and from 2 to 2:50 p.m. with topics ranging from dealing with burnout, to using case studies in the classroom, humane course policies, retrieving data from Moodle, and using Strengths in the classroom.

During spring semester the Biology Seminar Class will host a series of weekly seminars on Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 225. The first four seminars are faculty presentations, and the last eight will feature seniors in the biology program. All members of the campus community are welcome to join for any of the seminars. The series is intended to be accessible to any audience.

Student Affairs –

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to the Soup & Substance discussion on Tuesday, February 16, from Noon to 1 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. The topic will be "Water Issues in Flint, Michigan." Jarvis Richardson, UMC’s new director of dining services, recently moved to Crookston from Flint, Michigan. He will speak about the events leading up to this disaster, his family (who are still in Flint), and what is currently happening in Flint to deal with the water crisis there.

The time-honored tradition of the Campus Showdown continues on Thursday, February 18, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. As per tradition, members of the faculty and staff will compete against students in a series of funny and friendly competitions for bragging rights and the Bronze Boot Traveling Trophy. All are welcome to attend. This event is sponsored by the Crookston Student Association.

Technology Support Services –

In late January the Technology Advisory Committee met to discuss whether to issue a notebook computer RFP this spring or to continue with HP as the vendor for an additional two years. After conversations with HP, Dell, and Lenovo about their product line and roadmap, the Committee concluded there was no compelling reason to move away from HP as the selected vendor at this time. UMC intentionally includes a contract period of 2-5 years to allow flexibility of vendor selection based on experience with and performance
by the vendor. Moving forward, the campus will have to issue an RFP in 2018, which allows time for the campus to consider the program, devices, and academic ambitions. Selecting a device or devices for the 2016-17 academic year will involve campus input. **HP will send four different models for review, ranging from a more traditional 14" Ultrabook, to a smaller 12" Ultrabook, a Surface-like tablet, and a 13" 2-in-1 Ultrabook featuring a 360-degree hinge.** The Committee will make these devices available at the Help Desk and, for the first time, will take them on a “road show” to the Student Center to get broader campus input. Before students and faculty leave for the summer, a decision will be made regarding what device(s) will be purchased.

**Kurt Prudhomme has been hired as a systems administrator for Technology Support Services.** He holds a B.S. in software engineering and a minor in information technology management from the U of M Crookston. He comes to UMC after serving as a level one helpdesk analyst for Rooms to Go in Tampa, Florida. While he was a student at UMC he also served as an assistant to the systems administrator. He began his responsibilities on February 8.

**Mariam Maiga has been hired as an end user support technician for the Northwest Educational Technology System (NETS), based on the UMC campus.** She will work with scheduling and support of NETS and NWLINKS resources for K-12 member schools. She is a recent graduate of the U of M Crookston with a B.S. in software engineering as well as a B.S. in business management. She also has worked for the UMC Math, Science & Technology Department in the interactive and immersive visualization labs on campus. She began her responsibilities on January 29.

**UMC managed Windows computers (notebooks and desktops) will be upgraded to Internet Explorer 11 (IE11) browser in February.** Computers will receive an automatic update to IE11. The update is necessary because, as of February, Microsoft will no longer provide technical support or security updates for older versions of Internet Explorer. It is possible some applications may not work with this latest version. Please report any issues to the Computer Help Desk at 218-281-8000. OIT Link: [http://it.umn.edu/news/internet-explorer-11-update](http://it.umn.edu/news/internet-explorer-11-update)

**Development & Alumni Relations –**

**Chancellor Wood and Brandy Chaffee, chief development officer, Development & Alumni Relations, will serve as hosts for the annual Arizona Alumni Social on Friday, February 19, at the Terrace Green, ViewPoint Resort, in Mesa, Arizona.** The event takes place from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and includes lunch at noon for $15 per person. For more information or to make reservations, contact Sue Dwyer at 218-281-8401 or sdwyer@umn.edu by Friday, February 12.

**Athletics –**


**The UMC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) will host "Bishop Strong – Never Give Up, Never Give In," a fundraiser to benefit Matt Bishop, who has served as the play-by-play announcer on Crookston’s KROX Radio for many UMC athletic events over the last two seasons.** The event will be held during the women's and men's home basketball games on Friday, February 12, at Lysaker Gymnasium, where the Golden
Eagles will take on Minot State University. Freewill donations will be accepted and will go directly to help Bishop and his family pay for medical costs as he fights his battle with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Bishop was diagnosed in December 2015 after beating his first battle with the disease in October 2014. For more information contact Kamille Wahlin, assistant athletic director, at kmwahlin@umn.edu or 218-289-4770.

Campus and Community

Members of the campus and local community are invited to take part in the “Power of Creativity” Clay Art Session on Saturday, February 13, from Noon to 2 p.m. in 118 Owen Hall. The event is free and open to the public (ages 10 and older). Free pizza will be served. Attendees are asked to arrive by noon to experience the full two-hour session and will learn the basics of working clay—either by sculpting or on a wheel. Those interested in attending are asked to sign up in advance at the Centennial Hall Front Desk or at the Sargeant Student Center Info Desk by 4 p.m. on Friday, February 12. For more information contact Matt Peterson at petersom@umn.edu or Trey Everett at evere102@umn.edu. This event is co-sponsored by UMC Residential Life and Campus Ministry.

The Confucius Institute at the University of Minnesota Crookston will present an Evening of Chinese New Year Celebration on Thursday, February 18, from 5 to 8 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. The event is open to the public. Admission is $1 for students from elementary to college, and $10 for others. The evening includes traditional activities from 5 to 6:30 p.m., dinner from 6 to 7 p.m., and performance from 7 to 8 p.m. The event will feature characteristic aspects of Chinese culture such as traditional cloth photo-taking, folk songs, folk dance, Chinese instruments, and traditional customs in arts and crafts, children's games, food and entertainment, and a drawing.

Local children are invited to join UMC students for a fun-filled late afternoon at the Kiddie Carnival on Friday, February 19, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. With the theme of pirates, the carnival will feature many activities for children (suggested age range of 2 to 8 years old) along with prizes. This event is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by SPACE (Student Programming and Activities for Campus Entertainment) and Student Activities.

On Monday, February 22, a “Night of Expression” will be held starting with a meal and cultural display in Bede Ballroom from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. followed by a program in Kiehle Auditorium from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Part of Black History Month activities, the evening will be a celebration showcasing spoken word, steppers, African and African-American music from various genres, tributes to Black/African historical figures and celebrities, tribal/modern dance, and gospel music. Special feature performances include the Lincoln Gospel Choir, Robbinsdale Cooper High School Step Team from Minneapolis, Minn., and the University of North Dakota Afro Fusion Dance Troupe. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Cost is $12 per person or $70 for a table of eight. Children age 5 and under are free. Contact Lorna Hollowell at 218-281-8580 or lhollowe@umn.edu to purchase tickets.

Accolades

U.S. News has included the U of M Crookston's online bachelor's degree programs among the “Best Online Bachelor's Programs for Veterans” for 2016. The U of M Crookston ranked at #58 nationally and was the highest ranked college or university on the list from Minnesota, North Dakota, or South Dakota. Rankings were determined by examining affordability, accessibility, and reputation as well as the ability of veterans to take
full advantage of federal benefits such as the GI Bill. The full listing is available online at www.usnews.com/education/online-education/bachelors/veteran-rankings.

The U of M Crookston’s online bachelor’s degree majors in communication and in health management have earned recognition on the “Best Online Degree Programs 2016” lists from SuperScholar.org. UMC ranked at #18 nationally among online communication degrees (see www.superscholar.org/rankings/best-online-bachelors-in-communication) and at #8 nationally among online health care administration degrees (see www.superscholar.org/rankings/best-online-bachelors-in-health-care-administration-2016).

SuperScholar.org’s “Smart Choice” rankings are designed to assist prospective online students and help them make informed choices about where to invest their time and money in earning their degree. Schools and programs were evaluated based on publicly available information about accreditation, academic quality, student satisfaction, reputation in the field, and cost.

Lorna Hollowell, director, Diversity and Multicultural Programs, and Gail Myers, director, Disability Resource Center, will present a workshop at the 2016 Summit on Equity, Diversity and Multiculturalism at the University of Minnesota Duluth on Tuesday, February 23. The title of their session is “A Blonde, Blind Lady and a Southern Sister, Turned Minnesotan: An Inclusive Model of Diversity, Ability, and Community.”

Steven Gonzalez, a sophomore from South Gate, California, majoring in biology and health sciences, was the inaugural student recipient of the Spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Award, presented during the Red River Valley Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on January 18 at the Empire Theater in Grand Forks, N.D. The annual award recognizes a person who has made valuable contributions in promoting diversity, equality, and human rights through demonstrated leadership, service, and advocacy on behalf of underrepresented populations and diverse individuals. Gonzales is involved with the UMC Multicultural International Club, the Gender and Sexuality Alliance, the Black Student Association, the Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math (STEM) Club, and he is currently the president of the P.E.A.C.E. (People for Equality, Acceptance, and Civility for Everyone) Alliance. He also serves as a UMC Ambassador and campus tour guide for the Office of Admissions.

A number of students were recognized with awards at the 41st annual Ag Arama, held on campus on Saturday, January 30. Royalty crowned included Prince Kamron Matejcek, a sophomore ag systems management major from Lakota, N.D.; Princess Madison Halvorson, a sophomore animal science major from Oglivie, Minn.; Queen Ellen Dauphinais, a senior animal science major from Parkers Prairie, Minn.; and King Keith Yorek, a senior animal science major from Little Falls, Minn. Luke Lundeby, an agricultural systems management graduate in 2015 from Osnabrock, N.D., was honored with the True Grit Award. The most coveted of all awards presented at Ag Arama, the True Grit Award is dedicated to Todd Opsahl, a student in 1973-74. Taylor Storhoff, a senior majoring in animal science from Valley City, N.D., was honored with the Round Robin Showmanship Award.

Student Stories

She has been riding since she was a ten-year-old, and when she talks about horses, you can sense the excitement she feels. University of Minnesota Crookston Senior Alyssa Newburg, Maple Grove, Minn., an equine science major, plans on becoming a veterinarian. Her longtime interest in animal medicine was cemented when she was in high school. Learn more. 
http://news.crk.umn.edu/news/undergraduate-research-horses
A total of five abstracts by U of M Crookston students have been accepted for presentation at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), set for April 7-9, at the University of North Carolina Asheville.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Submitter Name</th>
<th>Other Presenters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FENBENDAZOLE AND IVERMECTIN EFFICACY AGAINST SMALL STRONGYLES IN AN</td>
<td>Oral</td>
<td>Equine Science and Biology</td>
<td>Heather</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQUINE ROTATIONAL DEWORMING PROGRAM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Buchhop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE IMPACT OF TURFGRASS IRRIGATION PRACTICES ON GREENHOUSE GAS</td>
<td>Poster</td>
<td>Environmental Studies and Sciences</td>
<td>Soi (Karen)</td>
<td>Katy Smith, Kristina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMISSIONS AND TURFGRASS QUALITY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Choi</td>
<td>Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSEUDOGUAIANOLIDES FROM HELENIUM FLEXUOSUM SEEDS</td>
<td>Oral</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Lydia Hegge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USING ALAMARBLUE® CELL VIABILITY ASSAY TO SCREEN FOR PUTATIVE</td>
<td>Poster</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>You Bin Lee</td>
<td>Sierra Trost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTIMICROBIAL PRODUCTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVALUATION OF EXERCISE RELATED STRESS IN SCHOOL HORSES</td>
<td>Oral</td>
<td>Equine Science, Kinesiology, and</td>
<td>Alyssa Newburg</td>
<td>Allison Mangan, Kayla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Exercise Science</td>
<td></td>
<td>Miller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

***************

Publication notes: E-Update is published approximately twice each month except for May, June, July, and December, when it is published only once. Issues are posted online at www.umcrookston.edu/admin/chancellor/update. If you have any questions regarding the information in this news update, please send them to urumc@umn.edu. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.