



UMMRA Info

A quarterly publication of the University of Minnesota, Morris Retirees' Association

<http://www.morris.umn.edu/ummra>

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Winter 2016

Happy New Year to each of you! I so look forward to getting to know you better in 2016!

Bryan Herrmann, the new vice chancellor for finance and facilities, spoke to us in November about his new responsibilities. It was enlightening and enjoyable, and he clearly enjoys his new position! In December, a group of us gathered at Grandstay Hotel for a holiday celebration. Good food, great company and delicious finger foods were on hand for our dining pleasure. In lieu of the White Elephant gift exchange, we opted to donate to the Stevens County Food Shelf! A huge box of goods and \$65.00 in cash was delivered.

While the Board has a full agenda through June of 2016, we have talked about the possibility of becoming more "social" and only having planned speakers for our quarterly meetings. We are hoping to increase participation as we have 110 paid members (near and far) at this time, but participation remains fairly steady at about 20 people. Feel free to contact any Board member with your thoughts!

Please note elsewhere in this issue the coming events that will take us through June. The Board will once again gather in August to create next year's agenda. Do let us know your thoughts on becoming more "social" with speakers at our quarterly meetings only. We do not meet in January, but on February 4 we will gather at Hotel 200 at 5:30 for Burger Night and fun!

See you in February!

Maggie Larson
UMMRA President 2015-2017

COMING EVENTS

All UMMRA members are welcome to attend meetings and events. Watch your UMMRA email for additional details.

Meetings

- February 4 – 4 p.m. Hotel 200** Quarterly meeting. Stay for burger night in Brick House around 5:30 p.m.
- March 3 – 11:45 a.m. LaFave House** Morris Area Chamber speaker. Meal catered by China Panda.
- April 7 – 11:45 a.m. Hotel 200.** Chancellor Jacquie Johnson will give a campus update.

Other Events

- May 7** – Commencement. UMMRA members may volunteer.
- June 2 – 11:30 a.m.** Lunch at Buddie's in Hancock followed by Anderson Acres tour.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Steve Poppe, WCROC horticulturist at the West Central Research and Outreach Center received the Bronze Award from the Minnesota State Horticulture Society. "Poppe's diligence and vision over the past 40 years has transformed the display garden at the research center in Morris into a jewel on the prairie."

Roger Rose, associate professor of political science, has joined the Center for Small Towns as its director. Rose is propelled by his interest in local and state policy, and his research identifies what motivates people to serve local governments and nonprofits. Read more at <http://www.morris.umn.edu/newsevents>

After nearly 13 years in Admissions at Morris, **Mike Vandenberg** has accepted a new position as Associate Director of Admissions at Concordia College in Moorhead, where he will recruit for their new business school. His last day at Morris was January 4.

Fred Peterson has a web site (<http://fredwpeterson.com>) a website that presents his work as an artist and author. "I was a professor of art history at UMM from 1961 to 2003. I was also in charge of and eventually the curator of the art gallery originally in Oyate (Edson) Hall and then in the HFA." Daughter Kristin Peterson, created the site. She is graduate of UMM and now a professional graphic artist/web designer (kristin@grandciel.com).

Food service worker **Cynthia Rohloff** announced her retirement from Dining Services in November.

SAD NEWS

• Harris "Tookie" Hoyer, father of **Garrett Hoyer**, boiler operator in the heating plant, passed away September 11. Funeral services were held September 16.

• Corrine Mattson, mother-in-law of **Sarah Mattson**, director of human resources, passed away Sunday, September 20. Services were held September 26.

• Marion Fahl, 88, passed away October 2 at the Barrett (Minn.) Care Center. Marion was the spouse of **Harold Fahl**, longtime plant services administrator, until his retirement in 1993. While in Morris, Marion owned the Ernst Shop.

• Rosalys Weiler, mother of **Rose Murphy**, Center for Small Towns, passed away October 20. Funeral services were held October 24.

• **Dr. Liselotte Gumpel**, professor emeritus of German, passed away October 22 at Parkshore Senior Campus in St Louis Park after a short illness. Dr. Gumpel was professor of German at Morris until her retirement in 1997.

• Dolores Schulz, mother of **Lynn Schulz**, computing services retired staff, passed away October 23 after an extended battle with Alzheimer's. Her funeral was held on October 29.

• First-year student **Laura Ann Schwendemann** passed away October 26. Services were held

November 4 in Starbuck. A campus memorial service was held November 12.

• Clar-Mae Anderson, mother of **Tom Anderson**, heating plant, passed away on October 31. Funeral services were held November 4 at Good Shepard Lutheran Church, Inver Grove Heights.

• Andrew Douglas "Andy" Johnson died October 27 in Minneapolis. The son of **Chancellor Emeritus David Johnson**, Andy was the director of sports information at Macalester College, 1988-2014.

• **Russell Edward DuBois**, retired UMM library director, passed away November 12 at home in Saratoga Springs N.Y. In 1967 Russell joined the UMM faculty, becoming the head librarian. He was part of the "second wave" of faculty and administration to be recruited to help build and grow the young college. During his tenure with UMM, he oversaw construction of both phases of the Rodney A. Briggs Library, creating a modern, state-of-the-art research center for the campus. He was also instrumental in helping to usher the University of Minnesota library system into the digital age with electronic card cataloging and online research.

HATS OFF TO UMM

For the first time since 2006 Minnesota Morris (3-2, 3-1 UMAC) walked out of Big Cat Stadium in October with a homecoming victory, beating MacMurray 44-43. Morris rushed for 333 yards on the day, the most since October 2008.

The University of Minnesota is the only public school to make it on the top 10 list of best for the money schools in 2016. Morris has a 13:1 student to faculty ratio, and 78% of its teachers are full time. Morris does not offer a reduction for in-state students, but keeps costs low for all students. Students pay an average of \$17,100 a year and graduate in 4.3 making the total degree cost \$72,000.

The Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) has again named the University of Minnesota, Morris the statewide leader in new measures of effectiveness and efficiency. This summer the 12-state, nonprofit higher-education alliance released a research brief assessing institutional effectiveness and efficiency in promoting timely degree completion. Morris received an effectiveness score of 1.21 (very high), while the average score for Minnesota's public

four-year schools was 0.45 (low). In terms of efficiency, Morris earned expenditure scores of 0.95 (low)—the state average was 0.18 (moderate). These scores indicate that Morris graduates students “at a rate that exceeds the expected rate” and that “average educational expenditures are lower than expected.” The Green Prairie Living and Learning Community was awarded an inaugural Best of Buildings, Benchmarks, and Beyond (B3) Award in September. The award recognizes eco-friendly initiatives in energy, water and recycling techniques performed by state buildings in Minnesota. Through its nomination, Green Prairie was deemed exceptional in its energy-efficient methods.

Winds of Change has again named the University of Minnesota, Morris one of the top 200 institutions in the nation in support of American Indian students. Published quarterly by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES), *Winds of Change* is the leading nationally distributed magazine with a single-minded focus on career and educational advancement for American Indian and Alaska Native peoples, with an emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

The University of Minnesota, Morris has been awarded a three-year, \$360,830 Career Ready Internship Grant from Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation. Morris will create an anticipated 190 new, paid internships during the 2015–18 academic years. The Career Ready Internship Grant will enable Morris to create an unprecedented number of new campus-affiliated paid internship opportunities—intended for students with demonstrated financial need—throughout the surrounding community. It also will strengthen Morris’s existing career services resources and alleviate transportation costs incurred by students during travel to and from work sites.

The outdoor learning venue, EcoStation, was dedicated in September, thanks to a generous gift of undeveloped land from Erik and Rima Torgerson, a couple from the Twin Cities who believe in UMM’s mission and want to help advance it. The land is just north of Ashby, Minnesota, about 40 minutes from the Morris campus. The donors are passionate about environmental conservation and about expanding opportunities for young people (and others) to experience and care for the outdoors. Their intent is that we will put this land to “wise use” and that it will provide a living laboratory for students and faculty in areas of research, education, and stewardship in the west central region.



Silver compost bins can be seen in several campus locations. Leftover food, food-soiled paper products, hand towels/napkins and biodegradable plastics can be composted. Morris has diverted over 186 tons-of-waste from the landfill because of the compost program. Each year the amount composted has increased:

2012 - 24,000 lbs.

2013 - 65,000 lbs.

2014 - 76,000 lbs.

2015 - 207,395 lbs. (as of 9-30-15)

University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler has announced a search for the next chancellor of the Morris campus with the goal of having a new chancellor assume the position in the summer of 2016. He has appointed the following individuals to serve on the committee. “I am grateful for their participation in this process, and want to thank Professor Peh Ng for agreeing to chair the committee and provide leadership to this important search process,” said Kaler.

- **Peh Ng**, professor and chair, Division of Science and Mathematics, University of Minnesota Morris, Committee Chair
- **Ray Schultz**, professor, Division of Humanities, University of Minnesota Morris

- **Jennifer Deane**, associate professor, Division of Social Science, University of Minnesota Morris
- **Ken Emo**, assistant professor, Division of Education, University of Minnesota Morris
- **Sam Gill**, student, University of Minnesota Morris
- **Bernard Gulachek**, interim vice president and chief information Officer, Office of Information Technology

- **Jane Kill**, office manager, Office of Student Counseling, University of Minnesota Morris
- **Hilda Ladner**, assistant to the chancellor for equity and diversity, University of Minnesota, Morris
- **Jason Lina**, attorney, Law Firm of Fluegel, Anderson, McLaughlin & Brutlag, Chartered, Morris, MN
- **Susan Schmidgall**, chief development officer, University of Minnesota Morris



Jessica Porwoll, who assumed **Bonnie Tipcke's** **Minority Resource Center** position, along with **Jessica's** daughter **Evelyn**, enjoy **Bonnie's** farewell party held at **LaFave House** in **November**. **Bonnie** and husband **Tip Tipcke** moved to be nearer their children who live in the **Twin Cities metro area**.

Plant Services crews took advantage of a seasonably mild fall to pave a much-used diagonal path to campus from **College Avenue** at the campus' **4th Street** entrance.

BOOKSTORE DISCOUNT: *UMMRA members receive a 10% discount at the University of Minnesota, Morris bookstore location with an UMMRA membership card. This discount is good on apparel, insignia gift items, general books and supplies. The bookstore discount excludes textbooks, computer hardware and software, graduation items, class rings, medical reference books and medical supplies. Savings are not valid in combination with other coupon or membership offers.*