Great news! Dr. Mary Holz-Clause will become the next chancellor of the University of Minnesota Crookston.

As you are reading E-Update this week, Dr. Holz-Clause’s appointment is no longer a surprise, but it is still exciting! We look forward to welcoming her to campus on June 30. Between now and then, there’s a whole lot going on as we prepare for the end of the academic year and the leadership transition.

The culminating celebration of the academic year is, of course, commencement. Arguably, preparation for the next commencement ceremony begins almost as soon as the previous year’s commencement ceremony ends. Commencement Committee members conduct a debrief on what went well (almost everything!) and what could be improved (continuous improvement in action!) The committee meets at least once in fall semester. Come January, about the time graduating seniors are getting underway for their last semester, the committee’s work really kicks into gear.

In much the same manner, preparation for the next chancellor of UMC began almost as soon as Chancellor Wood announced that he would be leaving. Interim leaders were appointed, and transition conversations regarding the interim period began. Now, with the announcement of Dr. Holz-Clause as our next chancellor, the transition from the interim period to her leadership has begun.

Dr. Holz-Clause and I will be meeting by phone, probably on a weekly basis, so that she can begin to better understand UMC’s opportunities and challenges, key processes, and events. She will have many questions for me and the rest of the leadership team. When she assumes her position as chancellor on June 30, she will be able to hit the ground running. She is eager to join us and looks forward to listening to faculty, staff, students, and community members and to learning even more about UMC.

A big thank you to all the members of the Chancellor Search Committee, which was ably chaired by Professor Dan Svedarsky. You all spent hours and hours and hours poring over candidate materials, conducting semi-finalist interviews, making decisions about who to bring to campus, hosting the four finalists, and providing your insights on their strengths and weaknesses. We are all beneficiaries of your great work. Thanks also to Chris Winjum, assistant to the chancellor, for all of the scheduling, logistical, and hosting work you provided.

As we move forward, we’ll celebrate our next graduating class on May 6 and wrap up our 50th year as a college. Shortly after that we’ll welcome our next chancellor and open the chapter on our next 50 years. Very exciting, indeed!

Barbara Keinath
Interim Chancellor
University of Minnesota Crookston
Featured Events & Activities

18th Annual Grad Fest, Wednesday, April 5 – 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., International Lounge, Sargeant Student Center, all graduating seniors are encouraged to attend

International Dinner Series Finale, Wednesday, April 5 – 5 p.m. displays from various countries, Northern Lights Lounge; 6 p.m. dinner followed by program, Bede Ballroom, contact Rae French for tickets at rfrench@umn.edu or 218-281-8339

Spring Semester Campus Assembly Meeting, Thursday, April 6 – 12:30 to 2 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Crookston “Mayor’s Meetup,” Thursday, April 6 – 5 to 6:30 p.m., Kiehle Auditorium, free and open to the public

“Celebrating Internationalization” Campus Conference for Faculty and Staff, Friday, April 7 – Noon to 5 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

New Student Advisement and Registration Day, Monday, April 10 – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

Music on Monday: Steve Means, Monday, April 10 – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Northern Lights Lounge, Sargeant Student Center, free

Legislative Town Hall Meeting with Representative Deb Kiel, District 01B, and Senator Mark Johnson, District 01, Tuesday, April 11 – 8 a.m.. Irishman's Shanty, 1501 S. Main St., Crookston, open to all

Alumni Brew Bash Tour at Drekker Brewing Co., Fargo, N.D., Tuesday, April 11 – 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Drekker Brewing Co., 630 1st Ave N., Fargo, N.D.

Info Session: Developing a Manufacturing and Quality Management Career Track, Tuesday, April 11 – 6:30 to 8 p.m., Prairie Room, Sargeant Student Center, free and open to the public

System-Wide Strategic Planning "World Cafe" Meeting, Wednesday, April 12 – 3:30 to 5 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Floating Holiday, Friday, April 14 – classes excused, campus offices closed

New Student Advisement and Registration Day, Monday, April 17 – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., check-in at Sargeant Student Center

It's a Wrap: "The Impact of Barbie on Girls’ and Women's Self-Image," Monday, April 17 – 3 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center

Northwest Minnesota Tourism Conference presented by Riverland Association, Tuesday, April 18 – 9:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, $40.00 for Riverland Members, $45.00 for non-members, including all materials and lunch
Chancellor Search

Mary Holz-Clause, Ph.D., has been named chancellor of University of Minnesota Crookston. Dr. Holz-Clause’s appointment is effective June 30, 2017, pending approval by the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. She comes from California State Polytechnic (Cal Poly) University Pomona, where she has served since 2014 as dean of the Huntley College of Agriculture and as a tenured professor in the Department of Agricultural Business Management and Agriculture Science. Prior to her work at Cal Poly Pomona, she served as vice president for economic development at the University of Connecticut. Accepting the chancellorship of the University of Minnesota Crookston marks a return to the Midwest for Holz-Clause, who has spent much of her life in Iowa—more specifically, at Iowa State University (ISU) in Ames. After earning her B.S. in Agriculture Business, a Master in Public Administration, and a Ph.D. in Agriculture Education and Extension there, Holz-Clause spent 25 years working at her alma mater.

Student Stories

Senior Karen Choi is actively involved in promoting environmental sustainability and building community for students from around the world. She is also the recipient of the Josef Mestenhauser Student Award for Excellence in Campus Internationalization.

A soon-to-be University of Minnesota Crookston alumna is headed to graduate school. Senior Heather Buchhop, Cary, Ill., knows hard work pays off as she double majors in animal science, (pre-veterinary emphasis) and biology with a minor in chemistry and graduate school at Purdue University just months away.

Around Campus

The spring semester 2017 meeting of the U of M Crookston Campus Assembly will be held on Thursday, April 6, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. All faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend. In addition to the various standard reports, Interim Chancellor Barbara Keinath will provide
A University of Minnesota System-Wide Strategic Planning "World Cafe" meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 12, from 3:30 to 5 pm in Bede Ballroom. This meeting is open to all faculty, staff, and students. U of M Rochester Chancellor Steven Lehmkuhle and U of M Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Rebecca Ropers-Huilman, who serve as co-chairs of the U of M System-Wide Strategic Planning process, will present a draft of the plan their committee has compiled for the system and will facilitate a discussion and collect feedback about the plan and how to implement it. Snacks and beverages will be provided. For more information, contact Chris Winjum at cwinjum@umn.edu or 218-281-8343. Learn more about the process at http://president.umn.edu/strategic-vision/system-wide.

Academic Affairs –

Anthony Kern has been hired as director of the UMC Math, Science & Technology Department. Since 2012 he has served as associate professor and chair of the Department of Biology and Chemistry at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, where he also served concurrently as interim chair of the Department of Applied Agricultural and Food Studies for two years. Kern holds a Ph.D. in plant genetics and an M.S. in agronomy, both from Montana State University in Bozeman, and a B.S. in biology from the University of South Dakota, in Vermillion. He previously served as a faculty member at Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin, and he has been involved with numerous grant funded research projects across the Upper Midwest. Kern will begin his appointment at UMC on June 19.

Student Affairs –

Grad Fest will be held on Wednesday, April 6, from 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. in the International Lounge, Sargeant Student Center. All graduating seniors are encouraged to attend in order to receive important information regarding the process of graduation and related services. Grad Fest is sponsored by UMC Career Development, the Office of Development & Alumni Relations, UMC Bookstore, Computing Services, the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships, and the Office of the Registrar.

Musician Steve Means will perform as part of the Music on Monday series on April 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Northern Lights Lounge, Sargeant Student Center. Sponsored by Student Programming and Activities for Campus Entertainment (SPACE), the event is free. Learn more at www.youtube.com/smeansmusic.

The Office of Diversity and Multicultural Programs will host the next discussion in the It's a Wrap series, "The Impact of Barbie on Girls’ and Women's Self-Image," on Monday, April 17, at 3 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Everyone is invited to take part in this discussion. For more information, contact Lorna Hollowell at lhollowe@umn.edu or 218-280-8580.

International Programs –

The 2017 International Dinner Series will conclude with the Annual International Dinner and Festival on the evening of Wednesday, April 5. Cultural displays from various countries will begin at 5 p.m. in Sargeant
Student, and a meal featuring food from several different countries will be served at 6 p.m. in Bede Ballroom. Following the meal a program will highlight student cultural talents such as dancing, singing, instruments, and more. For more information, contact Rae French at rfrench@umn.edu or 218-281-8339.

Faculty and staff are encouraged to attend “Celebrating Internationalization,” a first annual campus conference, on Friday, April 7, from Noon to 5 p.m., in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. Attendees of this free event will discuss the importance of preparing globally-minded students, will learn what their colleagues are doing to internationalize their courses, and will take part in a workshop on how to engage international students in their classes. For more information, contact Kim Gillette, director, International Programs, at gillette@umn.edu or 218-281-8442.

Admissions –

As part of an international recruitment collaboration with Wisconsin International University Ukraine (WIUU), a delegation from UMC including Director of Admissions Michelle Christopherson, Assistant Professor Oxana Wieland, and Teaching Specialist Kristina Gray, is visiting Kiev, Ukraine. While there, they will lead a seminar on academic integrity and the basis of creative and research writing for students and faculty staff. They also will represent UMC at the annual international specialized fair “Education and Career 2017” and the fair of foreign educational institutions “Education Abroad.” Additionally, part of the collaboration with WIUU will involve the development of an articulation agreement and memorandum of understanding specific to increasing the diversity of UMC’s international student population. Education Abroad Career Fair organizers include Society “Znannya” (Knowledge) of Ukraine with support and participation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and National Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine. The fair is also supported by the European Union, Embassy of France, Embassy of Canada, Trade Department of the Embassy of Austria, Embassy of Israel, as well as Campus France, DAAD, British Council, Goethe Institute, and representation of “Rossotrudnichestvo” in Ukraine.

Development & Alumni Relations –

The next event of the Alumni Brew Bash Tour will take place on Tuesday, April 11, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Drekker Brewing Co., 630 1st Avenue N., Fargo, N.D. All UMC and NSWA alumni and friends, as well as current and retired faculty and staff members are encouraged to attend. To RSVP, contact Sue Dwyer (sdwyer@umn.edu or 218-281-8401) or visit http://z.umn.edu/1e16 for more details. Mark your calendar for the next stop in the tour on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, at the Revelation Ale Works, Hallock, Minn.

Student Clubs & Organizations

Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD) will host the seventh annual Pi Run on Saturday, April 22. The run starts at Highland School, 801 Central Avenue North, Crookston, Minn. Races include the 3.14 mile “Pi Run/Walk” (a distance roughly equal to Pi Run logo 5 kilometers) and the 6.28 mile “2Pi Run” (approximately 10k). Prior to the Pi Run, there will be a “Slice of Pi” kids run which is approximately one-half mile. Learn more and pre-register online at http://ALD2017pirun.zapevent.com. Participants who register by Friday, April 7, will be guaranteed a race shirt in their selected size. ALD is an honor society at the University of Minnesota Crookston for students who have earned a 3.5 or higher grade point average and are in the top 20% of their class during their first year or term of higher education.
Campus and Community

Crookston Mayor Wayne Melbye and the Crookston Area Chamber & Visitors Bureau will host a “Mayor’s Meetup” on Thursday, April 6, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., in Kiehle Auditorium. The event is free and open to all. The purpose of the event is to hear from partners, organizations, and committees on their missions, projects, and happenings. This will be the first in a series of community meetings intended to increase awareness and knowledge of the many groups and projects in local Crookston community and to further public involvement. All community residents and partners are encouraged to attend.

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to attend a town hall meeting with Deb Kiel, member of the Minnesota House of Representatives representing District 01B, and Mark Johnson, Minnesota Senator for District 01, on Tuesday, April 11, at 8 a.m. at the Irishman’s Shanty, 1501 S. Main St., Crookston. The meeting is open to the public, and all are welcome to attend. The town hall session is intended to provide an opportunity for residents to meet with their local legislators, hear about the 2017 legislative session, and ask questions.

The University of Minnesota Crookston’s Bede Ballroom will serve as the host site for the Northwest Minnesota Tourism Conference on Tuesday, April 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Presented by Riverland Association and the Crookston Area Chamber and Visitors Bureau, the theme of the event is "Building Your Business One Visitor at a Time." Presenters include Ryan Pesch with University of Minnesota Extension; Chris Ingraham of The Washington Post; Frank Soukup, Cote Family Companies; and Jessica Dodge and David Bergman from Explore Minnesota Tourism. Cost is $40 for Riverland Members, $45.00 for non-members, including all materials and lunch. Contact trfcvb@mncable.net or info@visitcrookston.com with any questions or to register.

University of Minnesota System

The University of Minnesota has requested $147.2 million from the legislature for FY18-19 for six different initiatives (http://government-relations.umn.edu/content/fy18-19-biennial-budget-request). This includes the core mission, student success, and four other initiatives. In order to hold tuition flat, the University would need $128.6 million to fund the core mission request and the student success initiative request, plus replace a projected 2% increase on resident tuition at all levels. The Minnesota House of Representatives has proposed offering the U of M $22.1 million and the Senate has proposed $29.6 million, while the Governor has proposed $96.8 million. Given these proposed numbers, the University's core mission is significantly underfunded, and that will likely lead to tuition increases. Now is a critical time for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends to voice their concerns, both as constituents and as supporters of the University of Minnesota, to Minnesota legislators.

Held on the Duluth campus, the March meeting of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents highlighted UMD’s community engagement work, among other important topics. UMD Chancellor Lendley Black outlined the institution’s outreach efforts at the meeting. The University’s efforts to meet rural and Native American health care needs were discussed, including a plan for a cancer clinical trial network, which is seeking support from the Minnesota Legislature. Regents also discussed the framework for the FY18 budget and reviewed progress on system-wide strategic planning efforts. Learn more at https://twin-cities.umn.edu/news-events/umd-community-engagement-efforts-highlighted-board-regents-meeting.
Faculty, staff, and graduate students from across the U of M system are invited to attend the biennial conference of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers on Thursday, April 27, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center on the Minneapolis East Bank campus. The event’s theme is “Good Stress, Bad Stress, and the Teaching-Learning Relationship,” and it will feature presentations, workshops, information about Learning Management Software (Moodle and CANVAS), as well as a technology showcase and poster session. The keynote address will feature Minnesota Health Commissioner Edward Ehlinger speaking on "The 21st Century Role of Land-Grant Universities: Advancing Health Equity and Optimal Health for All." Learn more and register at https://faculty.umn.edu/events/adt-2017-conference-good-stress-bad-stress-and-teaching-learning-relationship.

Extension

University of Minnesota Extension will begin offering one-to-one financial counseling to farmers in serious financial stress. The new program offers distressed farmers help in understanding their financial situation and exploring options to keep their farms functioning as a viable enterprise. Learn more at http://news.extension.umn.edu/2017/03/extension-offers-one-to-one-services.html.

University of Minnesota Extension has published Befriending Bumble Bees: A practical guide to raising local bumble bees. The guide provides the step-by-step information needed to find, capture, house, and feed the next generation of bumble bees. Beekeepers, gardeners, nature lovers, and anyone interested in pollinators will enjoy the benefits these bees provide to gardens and crops while helping to support native ecosystems. http://highlights.extension.umn.edu/content/u-m-extension-publishes-befriending-bumble-bees

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