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## Weekly News Digest 08/26/2015

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A weekly news digest for University of Minnesota, Morris faculty, staff, and students

Vol. 6, No. 37: August 26, 2015

Editor: [Jenna Ray](#)

The submission deadline for the next edition of *Weekly Bulletin* will be Tuesday, September 1, at 4 p.m. Please send comments, questions, and submissions to the [editor](#).

#### In This Issue:

- Fall Semester 2015 Begins
- Chancellor Johnson Announces Retirement
- University Celebrates Civil Service and Bargaining Unit Employees
- Privatsky '11 Gets Attention of the *Washington Post*

#### Featured Events

##### [Fall Semester Begins](#)

Wednesday, August 26  
Morris Campus

##### [Welcome Picnic](#)

Thursday, August 27, 5:30–7 p.m.  
East Side Park

##### [Morris Fest–Welcome Week 2015](#)

Saturday, August 29, 2 p.m.  
Morris Campus

##### [Women's Volleyball vs. Bethel University](#)

Tuesday, September 1, 7 p.m.  
P.E. Center Gymnasium

[Check out all of the campus events.](#)

#### News and Announcements

##### [Chancellor Jacqueline R. Johnson Announces Retirement](#)

Chancellor Johnson plans to retire as chancellor at the end of the academic year.

##### [Rasmussen Received Inaugural James Farrell Re\(Cognition\) Award](#)

The award honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions towards advancing sustainability efforts in the Upper Midwest.

##### [Morris Hires First Senior Administrative Director of Institutional Effectiveness](#)

The appointment responds to the growing trend of evaluating effectiveness in higher education.

### [Tricia Melfy Named Head Volleyball Coach](#)

Melfy comes to Morris with 17 years of volleyball coaching experience at the high school, community college, club, and university levels.

### [Students Gain Valuable Experience in Greek Nursing Home](#)

Students perform service work overseas as part of aging-care class.

### [Alumni Reconnect with Past during Archive Visit](#)

Alumni perform academic service work to improve campus historical database

### [Faculty and Students Partner on Summer Research](#)

More than 30 students enhanced their educations with research opportunities and professional experience.

### **Computing Services Is Now Information Technology**

Computing Services has changed its name to Information Technology to more accurately represent the services provided by the department. Please continue to work with the office for networking, computer labs, websites, data feeds, and more.

### **Community Engagement Opportunities Available**

Fall 2015 community engagement opportunities are available to students, staff, and faculty. You can get more information about the Office of Community Engagement [online](#) or by [contacting Argie Manolis](#).

### **Work with This Year's Distinguished Visiting Professor for the Liberal Arts**

This year's Distinguished Visiting Professor for the Liberal Arts is MacArthur Genius Gary Nabhan. Nabhan will be available to visit classes September 22–October 30 and again November 16–20. If you are interested in hosting Nabhan in your class, please contact [Athena Kildegaard](#) or [Vicki Graham](#).

### **Last Call for Submissions: 2015 Celebration of Scholarly Accomplishments**

Faculty and staff members are asked to please [submit their scholarly work to this year's Celebration of Scholarly Accomplishments](#) by Thursday, September 3. For more information, [contact Jayne Blodgett](#).

### [This Week in Photos:](#)

- [Fall Campus Photos](#)
- [Activities Fair and UMMAA Ice Cream Float Party](#)
- [Move In Day](#)
- [Fall Professional Development Day](#)
- [Morris on the Move to Duluth](#)

## Accomplishments

**Jane Kill**, office manager and test center coordinator, **Ann Kolden**, executive office and administrative specialist, **Gail Boe**, senior gardener, and **Diane Kill**, principal office and administrative specialist, traveled to Eastcliff, the official residence of the president of the University of Minnesota, for the annual celebration honoring civil service and bargaining unit employees with 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years of service. The Morris vehicle carried 115 years of combined service: J. Kill 35, Kolden 20, Boe 35, and D. Kill 25.

## In the News

**Matt Privatsky '11** is at the center of a debate covered by the *Washington Post* last week. In "[Thick coats, thin skins: Why Minnesotans were outraged by a recent Washington Post report](#)," writer Christopher Ingraham credits Privatsky with instigating the "Indignant Minnesota Twitter" campaign that responded to a recent *Post* report by "refut[ing] the notion that Minnesota is somehow lacking in beauty of natural amenities."

The **Center for Small Towns (CST)** is mentioned in a recent [story](#) by KXRA's *Voice of Alexandria*. The story discusses a study on the price of produce at farmers markets in west central Minnesota, which was conducted by CST and University of Minnesota Extension staff.

According to the *Pope County Tribune*, **Heather Pennie-Roy '94** has been inducted into the Minnewaska Laker Hall of Fame.