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Weekly News Digest 07/20/2016

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News

[McIntosh Champions Discovery-Based Student Learning Using the Haystack Radio Telescope](#)
[Barry McQuarrie and Harrison Piehowski '19 Tackle Familiar Mathematical Models](#)
[Schrock '17 Learns Job Skills through Computer Science Research](#)
[Cristina Ortiz Earns Institute on Diversity, Equity and Advocacy Multicultural Research Award](#)
[MONEY and FORBES Praise Morris for Return on Investment](#)
[Center for Small Towns Seeks Proposals for Community-Based Projects](#)

Announcements

This Month in Photos

- [Gateway 2016](#)
- [WCSA All-School Reunion](#)
- [Cougar Golf Classic](#)
- [Green Dot Training](#)
- [Stevens County Emergency Exercise](#)
- [Summer 2016 Campus Photos](#)
- [Washington, DC Alumni Event](#)

August Events for Faculty and Staff Posted

The August 2016 Schedule of Events for faculty and staff is available on the [Academic Affairs homepage](#) and at [events.morris.umn.edu](#). Events take place Monday, August 15, (faculty fall appointments begin) through Wednesday, August 24 (fall semester classes begin). Please [contact Darla Peterson](#) with questions.

Update on the Chancellor Search

The search committee is at the recruiting stage of the process with the following timeline planned:

- June–mid-September: national recruitment targets potential candidates; materials reviewed
- Week of October 3: off-site interviews of semifinalists
- October 26–November 4: anticipated dates for on-campus visits of finalists
- November 28–December 2: anticipated dates for announcement of new chancellor

To nominate potential candidates, please [email Ann Yates](#). For more information, future updates, and nominating procedures [visit the search committee's webpage](#).

You Are Invited: Law Enforcement Appreciation Social

Faculty, staff, and students are invited to a Law Enforcement Appreciation Social on Tuesday, August 2, from 4–6 p.m. at East Side Park (7th Street, Morris, MN 56267). Attendees can enjoy root beer floats and meet the officers, deputies, and support staff who protect the Morris campus and community. For more information, contact [Campus Police Lieutenant Jennifer Lund](#).

Accomplishments

Campus is a Best Small-College Deal for Environmentally Minded Students

[According to Great College Deals, Morris is one of the best small-college deals for environmentally minded students.](#) Editors note that Morris stands out among "small campus communities that are

particularly proactive in Earth advocacy" because of its "committed community of students who are passionate about their studies."

UMAC Honors 44 Cougars with Academic All-Conference Awards

[Forty-four Morris student athletes were named to the Academic All-Conference list by the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference in June.](#) Individuals who earn a 3.5 or better grade point average during their respective semesters of competition are recognized with the prestigious honor.

Herrmann Meets with Sister City Officials in Saerbeck

[Vice Chancellor for Finance and Facilities Bryan Herrmann '01 recently met with city officials, including the mayor, of Saerbeck, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany.](#) The City of Morris has partnered with this sister city to learn more about community-level renewable energy projects.

Herrmann and Olson-Loy Present at NACUBO

[Vice Chancellor for Finance and Facilities Bryan Herrmann '01 and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Sandra Olson-Loy presented at the National Association of College and University Business Officers' \(NACUBO\) 2016 Annual Meeting on "Net-zero Tools for Building and Operations" in Montreal, Quebec, on Monday, July 18.](#) The presentation focused on setting ambitious sustainability goals, strategies for working with a design team, plug load and peak load reductions, and a case study on the Green Prairie Living & Learning Community.

Staff Anniversaries Celebrated at Eastcliff

University of Minnesota civil service and bargaining unit employees celebrating milestone work anniversaries of 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years were honored at a reception at Eastcliff on Thursday, June 16. Morris honorees were: Senior Electronics Technician **Ron Rosen** (40 years), Gift Funds Specialist **Laura Thielke** (20 years), Executive Office and Administrative Specialist **Terri Hawkinson** (20 years), and Executive Office Administrative Specialist **Jenny Quam** (20 years).

Work by Fairbanks Molin '66 on Display at the Mitchell Museum

Work curated by **Paulette Fairbanks Molin, PhD '66** is on display at the [Mitchell Museum of the American Indian](#). "Contemporary Native Women Opening Doors to Change" showcases 12 leaders whose contributions make a difference in the lives of countless people. The exhibition draws from their eloquent voices, stunning photographs, and selected objects to tell their stories.

In the News

Conde '86 Profiled in *Milwaukee Wisconsin Journal Sentinel* and *Stars and Stripes*

Rafael Conde '86 is profiled in the [Milwaukee Wisconsin Journal Sentinel](#) and [Stars and Stripes](#). The Wisconsin Army National Guard's new command sergeant major was born in Cuba and fled the Communist country on a "Freedom Flight" at the age of five.

Mehr '13 Named NDSU Women's Basketball Director of Operations

[KFGO reports that Emily Mehr '13 is now director of basketball operations for North Dakota State University's women's basketball program.](#) According to North Dakota State University head women's basketball coach Maren Walseth, "Emily was an outstanding player at the University of Minnesota, Morris and has had some unique experiences since graduation."

Aberdeen News Notes Students and Alumna to Appear in *Spitfire Grill*

[Aberdeen News](#) reports that [Katie Rowles-Perich '18](#), Shoreview; [Justin Anderson '18](#), Eyota; [Wendy Unger '19](#), Minneapolis; and [Brittany Schilla '12](#) will appear in Northern Fort Playhouse's [The Spitfire Grill](#).

Work by Schommer '97 Discussed in *St Cloud Times*

[The Saint Cloud Times discusses a new show by Jason Schommer '97](#). *Mixtape! The Stories and Songs from a Crazy Life!* follows Schommer as he recounts his life from his time in Little Falls to New York City and everything in between, including his comedic encounters with celebrities in Los Angeles.

Work by Jones '00 Previewed in *Pipestone County Star*

[The Pipestone County Star recently previewed the Calumet Player's production of Mary Poppins, directed by Brenna Jones '00](#). Writer Jen Burris promises "Magic and surprises [are] in store."

Bemidji Pioneer Previews Work by Bremer

[The Bemidji Pioneer recently previewed the Paul Bunyan Playhouse's production of Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, which starred Associate Professor of Theatre Arts Siobhan Bremer](#). Natalie Grosfield writes that Bremer "maneuvers the audience" with finessed skill. [Bremer next will appear in Leaving Iowa, which runs through the end of July](#).

Joos '98 Profiled in the *West Central Tribune*

Phyllis Joos '98 is profiled in a [West Central Tribune story on Studio Hop](#). The artist "started dabbling in art when she took pottery classes as part of a continuing education program at the University of Minnesota, Morris."

Morris Sun Tribune Reports on Campus's Role in Community Goings On

The *Morris Sun Tribune* reports on happenings in the Morris community that involved the University. It notes [ground has been broken on East Point Village, a 60-unit apartment complex](#); **the University of Minnesota, Morris**, which has a master lease agreement for several units in the building, was represented at the groundbreaking by Vice Chancellor for Finance and Facilities **Bryan Herrmann '01** and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs **Sandra Olson-Loy**. [University staff also took part in a countywide train derailment exercise to test emergency preparedness](#). During the exercise the campus activated its Emergency Operations Center to practice coordinating the campus response to such a disaster.

KKOK/KMRS Runs Tribute to Bert Ahern

[KKOK/KMRS ran a brief tribute to the late Professor Emeritus Wilbert "Bert" Ahern](#). Ahern, who passed away on Wednesday, July 6, is remembered fondly for the profound impact he had on the Morris community and on higher education.

Star Tribune and *Mille Lacs Messenger* Report on Virnig's '83 Great Cycle Challenge

The [Star Tribune](#) and the [Mille Lacs Messenger](#) have followed **Dr. Arden Virnig's '83** quest to complete the Great Cycle Challenge. The top rider in both the state and nation, Dr. Virnig finished with 983 miles under his belt and raised more than \$18,000 dollars for the Children's Cancer Research Fund.