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Weekly News Digest 04/05/2017

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News

[University of Minnesota, Morris Named to New List of Nation's Top Public Colleges](#)

In the new study by *Business First*, Morris stands out for academic excellence, affordability, diversity, and economic strength.

Announcements

This Week in Photos

- [Play in a Day 2017](#)
- [Spring 2017 Campus Photos](#)
- [Wong Fu Productions Workshop](#)

You Are Invited: Thursday Afternoon Faculty Seminar

Make plans to attend the last Thursday Afternoon Faculty Seminar (TAFS) of the year: "Education in Hong Kong Dyed Red: Alliance Building and Social Movements around Patriotic Education." Sara Lam, elementary education instructor, will speak on Thursday, April 6, in Imholte Hall 109. Refreshments will be served at 4:30 p.m. The presentation begins at 5 p.m. and will be followed by discussion. This activity is sponsored by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean.

Please Attend: System-wide Strategic Planning World Cafe

The system-wide Strategic Planning Committee co-chairs Stephen Lehmkuhle, chancellor at Rochester, and Rebecca Rogers-Huilman, vice provost for faculty affairs, along with Meredith Cox, consultant, made a visit to Morris last fall. During their visit they heard about the exceptional aspects of our campus as well as how Morris contributes to and is strengthened by the system. Three individuals from Morris are representing the campus in this system-wide planning effort: Bart Finzel, vice chancellor for academic affairs; Brook Miller, professor of English; and Katie Lederman '17, Morris Campus Student Association president. There will be a follow-up World Cafe-style event on Tuesday, April 11, from 3:45-5:15 p.m. in Oyate Hall. This is an opportunity to get an update and provide feedback on the [current draft of the plan](#).

You Are Invited: Top Performing Perennials

The next event in the West Central Research and Outreach Center's monthly horticulture educational series, "Top Performing Perennials: A Blend of New with Tried and True," will take place on Wednesday, April 19, at 6 p.m. in the AgCountry Auditorium (46352 State Hwy 329, Morris, MN 56267). Find out which perennials have proven reliability in our northern landscapes. [Learn more](#).

Save the Date: Anishinaabe Language Immersion

Anishinaabe Language Immersion camp is set for May 22–June 2, 2017. The camp will be offered on campus at no cost to participants; lodging and meals provided. Features include guest teachers, games, men's and women's talking circles, and breakout sessions. There are 15 spaces available. For information and to sign up, contact haver041@morris.umn.edu or desr0019@morris.umn.edu. This activity is sponsored wholly or in part through the Native American Serving Non Tribal Institutions Grant. Details about funding are available upon request.

Just a Few Weeks Left: University of Minnesota, Morris Technology Survey

There are just a few weeks left for students, staff, and faculty to [take the UMM Technology Survey](#). Your feedback will help shape the future of technology on campus. This short and valuable survey only takes about 10 minutes to complete.

Accomplishments

[Garavaso Receives Faculty Distinguished Research Award](#)

Professor of Philosophy Pieranna Garavaso has enjoyed a long and distinguished career, producing a massive body of work that has earned her the admiration and respect of colleagues all over the world.

[Rebecca Dean Receives 2017 UMMAA Teaching Award](#)

Dean stands out for her creative and highly effective pedagogy, her incorporation of community outreach into her teaching and research with students, and her leadership in redesigning the anthropology curriculum to emphasize service learning.

Outstanding Support Staff Awards Announced

The following individuals received for the 2016- 2017 Outstanding Support Staff Awards:

- Sandy Kopel, executive office and administrative specialist, Campus Police, AFSCME recipient
- Rita Bolluyt, grants/contracts professional 2, Grants Development, Civil Service recipient
- Phil Hengemuhle, building and grounds worker, Residential Life, Teamster recipient

Each recipient will be recognized at the faculty/staff recognition dinner on Tuesday, April 25.

Eckmann '78 Receives Minnesota Radiological Society President's Gold Medal Award

David Eckmann '78 received the President's Gold Medal Award from the Minnesota Radiological Society. Although Eckmann no longer is teaching, he "continue[s] to work with the MRS foundation, in an effort to help the residents become good representatives and stewards of the profession."

In the News

Work Co-Authored by Waye Gets International Media Attention

Work co-authored by **Heather Waye**, associate professor of biology, is receiving international media attention this week. [Waye was part of an international team of scientists led by the University of Sydney that has confirmed a frenzied approach to the mating season is resulting in males ageing faster and dying earlier and in worse condition than their female counterparts, who prioritise body-maintenance over short-term reproductive success.](#) The paper, "[Age-related sex differences in body condition and telomere dynamics of red-sided garter snakes](#)", was published today in the Royal Society journal *Proceedings B*. [University of Sydney](#) co-authors at the School of Life and Environmental Sciences are Dr Friesen, Nicky Rollings and Dr Camilla Whittington (Sydney School of Veterinary Science). Other researchers comprise: Prof Mats Olsson, Goteborgs Universitet; Prof Robert Mason, Oregon State University; Waye; Assoc Prof Randolph Krohmer, Saint Xavier University and Dr Emily Uhrig, Linköping University. The work has already earned the attention of [Australian Science Media Centre Inc.](#) and [PhysOrg](#).

Norman's THOR Continues to Earn Attention of the Star Tribune

The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) reports on progress of the new Thor Companies headquarters. **Ravi Norman '98** serves as THOR's chief executive officer.

Lindberg Quoted in MinnPost

Tim Lindberg, assistant professor of political science, is quoted in [MinnPost's "Will Tim Walz solve the DFL's rural Minnesota problem?"](#) Lindberg discusses Walz's bid for governor.

Braegelmann '14 Garners Attention as Jans Joohs Intern

The [New Ulm Journal](#) and [KNUJ](#) report that **Jon Braegelmann '14** will soon leave for Germany as the Jans Joohs intern. Braegelmann will intern at three different job and assist an English, history, and social studies teacher in addition to serving the Department of Environmental Law and Industry Oversight.

This Week on Pioneer Public Television

[Mary Solbrekken of the Rustic Designs Flower Farm near Belgrade will be interviewed for the upcoming *Prairie Yard and Garden* on Pioneer Public Television on Thursday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m.](#) A 30-minute television show about gardening in the upper Midwest, *Prairie Yard and Garden* is produced by **Instructional and Media Technologies** in association with Pioneer Public Television.