Weekly News Digest 03/13/2013

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

Vol. 4, No. 26: March 13, 2013

Editor: Jenna Ray

Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor. The submission deadline for the next edition of Weekly Bulletin will be Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at 4 p.m.

In this issue:
- Campus Observes Spring Break
- On-Site Composting Comes to Morris
- Jong-Min Kim Receives Faculty Distinguished Research Award
- 29th Annual CNIA Powwow Mentioned in This Week from Indian Country Today

Featured Events

Spanish Conversation Table
Wednesdays, 6 p.m.
Student Center, Turtle Mountain Cafe

Russian Conversation Table
Fridays, 4 p.m.
Student Center, Turtle Mountain Cafe

GWSS Discussion Series—"Performing Gender: The Impact of Cultural Practices, Racialization, and Space on Hmong Immigrant Youth and Their Families"
Wednesday, March 13, 5:30 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts 6

Community Meeting
Thursday, March 14, 10:00 a.m.
Welcome Center 122

Mixed Students Recital
Thursday, March 14, 12:15 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall

Safe Zone II Training
Thursday, March 14, 5 p.m.
Student Center, Moccasin Flower Room

<http://bit.ly/WuxAtZ>-Soup and Substance
Thursday, March 14, 5:30 p.m.
Old No. 1 Bar & Grill (412 Atlantic Avenue, Morris, MN 56267)

Spring Break
Monday, March 18-Friday, March 22
Morris Campus

News and Announcements


After much planning and preparation, organic waste disposal is now a part of campus-wide sustainability efforts. In the past, all compostable materials—food waste and food-soiled paper—were sent off-campus to be incinerated. Two years ago a group of students imagined that, by composting these materials on campus, Morris could avoid a substantial waste hauling fee and create a valuable resource for use in landscaping projects.


Two Morris alumni have been making a splash in the Twin Cities theatre scene with their script showcase, *TEASE: The Easy Access Script Experience*. Through this showcase, Erin Denman ’09 and Victoria Pyan ’07 provide up-and-coming Minnesotan playwrights a public venue for new work.


Morris is pleased to announce a new lecture series beginning this spring—the Careers in Biology Alumni Speakers Series. Brandon J. Burbach ’95, senior research associate at the University of Minnesota Medical School Center for Immunology, will deliver the first of these lectures on Thursday, March 28, at 7 p.m. in the Science Auditorium (Science 2950).


Each week *Prairie Yard and Garden (PY&G)* travels the state to confer with researchers, gardening and nursery professionals, educators, and backyard gardeners about their expertise in horticulture, landscaping, and a variety of other gardening topics. *PY&G* airs Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. on Pioneer Public Television. This Thursday host Larry Zilliox visits Morris’s student-grown Native American Garden.

**Date Change: Briggs Library Associates Collection Enhancement Grants**

Due to a change in the date for the Briggs Library Associates Annual Meeting, the deadline for submissions for Collection Enhancement grants has been extended to Friday, March 29, at 4:30 p.m. Please send your questions and submissions to Jayne Blodgett.

**Call for Nominees: UMM Academic Staff Award**

Do you know an amazing Academic Professional and Administrative (P&A) staff member? Do you think s/he should be recognized by the campus? Nominate that person for the UMM Academic Staff Award! Sponsored by the Office of the Chancellor, the UMM Academic Staff Award was established to recognize a member of the P&A staff who has made distinguished contributions to the mission of the University of Minnesota, Morris. For details on nomination guidelines and eligibility requirements, visit the award [webpage](http://bit.ly/1z8b5Yd). Nominations are due by Friday, April 5, at 4:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Jayne Blodgett.
Accomplishments

Jong-Min Kim, professor of statistics, has been selected to be the recipient of the UMM Faculty Distinguished Research Award. His research has garnered a national reputation with a high level of output sustained over many years across multiple areas of statistics. He has also served as an editor for three statistics journals simultaneously and as a reviewer for dozens of manuscripts.

The Functions and Awards Committee has identified two co-recipients of the 2013 UMM Alumni Teaching Award: Nic McPhee, professor of computer science, and Timna Wycoff, associate professor of biology. Since joining the faculty in 1991, McPhee has, in the words of the nomination, "served as a beloved teacher and influential mentor for hundreds of students, played a vital role in shaping an outstanding computer science program, created and taught dozens of excellent and enjoyable courses based on principles of liberal arts education, pursued a very successful research agenda while including many students as equal collaborators, and contributed his time and expertise to the campus at large." In the twelve years she has been on the faculty at Morris, Wyckoff has mentored, guided and inspired numerous students in their pursuit of science. A former student writes "Timna's strength is simple. She is passionate, not only for the material she teaches, but more importantly for her students, for their improvements and their success."

Camilla Bjorklund '16, Farwell, was recently received second-place honors in the Minnesota Music Teachers Association (MMTA) College Young Artist Competition. The competition was held on Saturday, March 2, at Northwestern College in Saint Paul. Contestants in this annual competition include collegiate piano students from across the state. For this contest, Bjorklund performed a 30-minute program that included music by Beethoven, Schubert, and Prokofiev. She has subsequently been invited to perform one piece from her program in the MMTA Honors Recital at the annual MMTA convention on June 9, 2013, in Plymouth.

In the News

The Circle of Nations Indigenous Association (CNIA) 29th Annual CNIA Powwow was mentioned in the latest issue of This Week from Indian Country Today. The powwow, which will be held Saturday, April 6, is the commencing event of the annual World Touch Cultural Heritage Week. In 2012, the 28th Annual CNIA Powwow featured more than 250 American Indian dancers and singers—the largest in Morris’s history.

A video by the Office of Community Engagement entitled “English as a Second Language at the University of Minnesota, Morris” premiered on YouTube Thursday, March 7. The video encourages members of the local community to take advantage of the University’s English as a Second Language (ESL) programming.