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Weekly News Digest 08/13/2014

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University of Minnesota - Morris

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

Vol. 5, No. 36: August 13, 2014

Editor: Jenna Ray

Please send comments, questions, and submissions to the [editor](#). The submission deadline for the next edition of *Weekly Bulletin* will be Tuesday, August 26, at 4 p.m.

In this issue:

- **Morris Faculty, Staff, and Students Return**
- **Morris Value Recognized by *Forbes* Magazine**
- **Alayna Johnson '15 Spends Summer at Harvard Forest**
- ***Morris Sun Tribune* Reports on Campus Effectiveness Ratings**

Featured Events

[Community Needs and Assets Presentation](#)

Monday, August 18, 10 a.m.

Morris Area High School (151 South Columbia Avenue, Morris, MN 56267)

Fall Professional Development Day

Tuesday, August 19, 9 a.m.

Student Center, Oyate Hall

Faculty and Staff Welcome Back Picnic

Tuesday, August 19, 5 p.m.

Campus Mall (Rainsite: Student Center, Oyate Hall)

[Framing the Field Exhibit Opens](#)

Wednesday, August 20, 9 a.m.

Humanities Fine Arts, Edward J. & Helen Jane Morrison Gallery

Opening Faculty/Staff Convocation

Wednesday, August 20, 3 p.m.

Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall

[Alexandria Area Alumni Event](#)

Thursday, August 21, 5:30 p.m.

Minnesota Lakes Maritime Museum (205 Third Avenue West, Alexandria, MN 56308)

New Student Orientation

Sunday, August 24–Tuesday, August 26

Morris Campus

UMM Community Picnic

Sunday, August 24, 4:30 p.m.

Tug Lake (Rainsite: Dining Hall)

Student Activities Fair

Tuesday, August 26, 5:30 p.m.

Campus Mall (Rainsite: Dining Hall)

UMM Alumni Association Freshman Ice Cream Social

Tuesday, August 26, 6 p.m.
Campus Mall (Rainsite: Dining Hall)

Fall Classes Begin

Wednesday, August 27
Morris Campus

News and Announcements

[Morris Value Recognized by *Forbes* Magazine](#)

The University of Minnesota, Morris is among the best educational values in the nation.

[Morris Earns Two College Success Grants from Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation](#)

The grants will help Morris support at-risk students.

[Gateway and STELLAR Provide Academic and Cultural Enrichment](#)

The summer programs provide students tools for college success.

[National Science Foundation Extends Funding for New Research Experience](#)

"Indigenous American to Indigenous Borneo—Adventures in Biology and Biodiversity" is led by Michael Ceballos.

[Barbour Receives Grant for HCl Emission Research](#)

His work will improve biomass plant emissions and functionality.

[Turk Receives Imagine Fund for Vidding Research](#)

Tisha Turk, associate professor of English, researches new media literacy and fandom.

[Sungur and Perfetti Research Data Sonification](#)

The team studies the effects of sound in data analysis.

[CST Students Assist Alexandria Watershed Area](#)

Francis Reed '16 and Benjamin Odegaard '16 look for invasive species, write articles, and take water samples.

[The New Standards to Open Performing Arts Series](#)

The group plays with the freedom of jazz and a love of pop and rock tunes.

[This Month in Photos](#)

WCSA alumni celebrated an [all-class reunion](#), the campus dedicated [the Legacy Courtyard](#), and Morris alumni gathered in [New York](#), [Midway Stadium](#), [Washington, DC](#), and [Cumberland, Wisconsin](#). Enjoy [these photos and more!](#)

Accomplishments

The [women's basketball team](#) finished the 2013–14 academic year with a 3.527 GPA and tied for the 13th-best GPA in National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III. The team's success earned it a place in the Women's Basketball Coaches Association 2014 Academic Top 25.

The [women's track and field squad](#) earned U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) 2013–14 Track and Field All-Academic Team honors. This is the second consecutive year in which the Cougars have received this honor.

[Alayna Johnson '15](#), Poplar, Wisconsin, has spent her summer doing ecological research at Harvard Forest, a department of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University. Johnson is working with Chris Williams, associate professor of geography at Clark University, to examine the relationship between climate and deforestation.

Kia Kolbinger '17, Becker, is interning at the Lab Theater in Minneapolis as a choreographic assistant for the upcoming musical *Golden Boys*. Kolbinger is one of two choreographic assistants responsible for teaching cast members choreography for the large production numbers.

Natasha Myhal '15, Cleveland, Ohio, has been interning at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, Montana, under a National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates through the University of Minnesota. Myhal is working on a restoration project for a plant that is culturally significant to tribes in the area.

Work by **Jessica Larson**, professor of studio art, is on exhibit at the Textile Center in Minneapolis through August 16. Larson's [Woman Troubles](#) challenges expectations of both beauty and embroidery conventions.

Ted Pappenfus, professor of chemistry, received an award from the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) for his poster presentation at the 23rd International Conference on Chemical Education (ICCE) in Toronto, Canada, on July 15. His paper, titled "A Convenient Microscale Microwave Synthesis of Acetylferrocene," describes an approach to introduce students to microwave chemistry as a synthetic tool for green chemistry. Alumni **Sarah Goergen '13** and **Chase Gerold '13** contributed to the work.

Jim Hall, director of information technology, gave a [keynote presentation](#) at the GNOME Users And Developers European Conference (GUADEC) in France. Hall has been working with the development team of GNOME, an open-source desktop environment, to identify problems and solutions to GNOME applications.

In the News

The *Morris Sun Tribune* reported on the **University of Minnesota, Morris's** recent ranking as the [most effective public, four-year institution in Minnesota](#). This is the second consecutive year in which the Midwestern Higher Education Compact has recognized Morris for its effectiveness and efficiency.