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Weekly News Digest 02/05/2014

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

Vol. 5, No. 20: February 5, 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, February 11, at 4 p.m.

In this issue:

- **Meiningens Student Theatre Presents *BENT***
- **Alumnus Drew Schield '12 Contributes to *PNAS***
- **Fourteen Professors Receive 2014 Imagine Fund Awards**
- **Wente '15 and Hoidal '15 Appear on *The Uptake***

Featured Events

Jane Addams Project

Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Imholte Hall 111

Spanish Conversation Table

Wednesdays, 6 p.m.
Student Center, Turtle Mountain Cafe

Russian Conversation Table

Fridays, 4 p.m.
Student Center, Turtle Mountain Cafe

[Panel Discussion on Minimum Wage](#)

Thursday, February 6, 7 p.m.
Science 1020

Thursday Afternoon Faculty Seminar

Thursday, February 6, 4:30 p.m.
Imholte Hall 109

[Meiningens Student Theatre Presents: *BENT*](#)

Thursday, February 6, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, February 7, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 8, 2 and 7:30 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts, Black Box Theatre

Prism Concert

Friday, February 7, 4:15 p.m.
Saturday, February 8, 4:15 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts, Proscenium Theatre

[Mesa, AZ Alumni Event](#)

Monday, February 10, 6:30 p.m.
Mesa, Arizona

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

News and Announcements

[Morris Will Welcome Community of Scholars Visitors](#)

Students from across the country will compete for Morris's most prestigious competitive scholarships.

[Rin Takes the Less Traditional Path](#)

The senior transfer student may have just completed her first semester at Morris, but she already has a wealth of experiences under her belt.

[Schield '12 Contributes to Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences](#)

Drew Schield '12 is conducting research on reptile population genetics, phylogeography, and comparative genetics as a PhD student at the University of Texas, Arlington.

[Register to Participate in the U's 2014 Legislative Briefing](#)

Participants will get an insider's preview of the 2014 capital request to the Minnesota Legislature from President Kaler, network with other U supporters, and learn ways to raise our voices for a better U on Wednesday, February 12, at 5 p.m. For registration and more information, see [Legislative Briefing](#). Contact [Jeff Lamberty](#) for transportation options.

Calls for Nominations: System and Campus Awards

The Office of the President seeks nominations for the President's Award for Outstanding Service. This award honors active or retired faculty and staff who have gone well beyond their regular duties and have demonstrated an unusual commitment to the University community. Nominations are due March 7. A complete description of the award and nomination requirements is available [online](#). The Functions and Awards Committee calls for nominations for the 2014 Morris Sustainability Champion Award, which recognizes students who have displayed exemplary service on the Morris campus to advance our sustainability initiatives and campus sustainability conversation. [More information is available online](#). The committee also seeks [nominations](#) for the Mary Martelle Memorial Award, which serves as a continuing tribute to those personal qualities and many and varied contributions made by Mary Martelle, a senior secretary in the Office of Student Activities from 1965 until 1976. Only full-time students are eligible for the student award. All United Staff Association personnel are eligible for the staff award. [Nominations](#) are due March 7.

[7th Annual Morris Festival of French and Francophone Films Continues](#)

On Monday, February 10, the festival will feature *Monsieur Lazhar / Mr. Lazhar*. Directed by Philippe Falardeau,

2012, 94 minutes, rated PG-13. Falardeau's unforgettable movie, based on a one-person play by Evelyne de la Chenelière, explores the intricate process by which M. Lazhar earns the respect and trust of his pupils. Some, the children of immigrants or, like this devoted instructor, recent arrivals to Quebec. As the reasons for M. Lazhar's immigration to Canada from Algeria are made clear, so, too is his rather unconventional method for applying for the teaching position. *Monsieur Lazhar* is that rarest of movies about education, one that avoids clichés and sentimentality, favoring honesty and clear-eyed compassion. Films are screened at 7 p.m. on Mondays in the Student Center's Edson Auditorium.

[This Week in Photos](#)

A [retirement reception](#) was held in honor of Roger Boleman, director of Instructional and Media Technologies. Enjoy these photos and [more](#) today!

Accomplishments

[Fourteen Morris professors](#) received all-University 2014 Imagine Fund Awards. Supported by a grant from the McKnight Foundation, the Imagine Fund is a unique system-wide program that supports projects in the arts, humanities, and design at the University of Minnesota. Morris campus recipients and projects include:

- Sheri Breen**, assistant professor of political science, Tamil Nadu Women's Collective: A Political Analysis of Seed Sovereignty
- Sarah Buchanan**, associate professor of French, Coming Out as French-Muslim Women: The Emergence of Cross-Dressing Nationalisms in Women's Immigration Literature and Film
- Rebecca Dean**, associate professor of anthropology, Ritual and Symbolic Animal Use at the Marana Mound Archaeological Site
- Dan Demetriou**, assistant professor of philosophy, Gender Exaggeration as Transgender
- Ann DuHamel**, teaching specialist in music, Magical, Dissonant, Fantastic Beauty: A Video
- Thomas Genova**, assistant professor of Spanish, Hemispheric Entanglements: Race and the National Family in the Nineteenth-Century
- Chrissy Kolaya**, assistant professor of English, We Didn't Come to Have a Good Time, We Came to See You: A Book of Poems
- Michael Lackey**, associate professor of English, Mental Illness and the Biographical Novel
- Jessica Larson**, professor of studio art, Patterns of Behavior
- Brook Miller**, associate professor of English, Prestige Culture and Literary Scholarship Digital Humanities Project
- Benjamin Narvaez**, assistant professor of history, Becoming Sino-Cuban and Sino-Peruvian: Post-Indenture Chinese in Nineteenth-Century Cuba and Peru
- Denise Odello**, assistant professor of music, Style and Context in American Marching Traditions
- Ray Schultz**, professor of theatre arts, It Could Be Worse: Cancer, Mutant Genes, the Mayo and Me
- Tisha Turk**, associate professor of English, The Ecology of Vidding

Ray Schultz, professor of theatre arts, was invited to perform [Blanche and Beyond: Letters of Tennessee Williams](#) at the [Kennedy Center American College Theatre Region V Festival \(KCACTF\)](#) in Lincoln, Nebraska, January 19–25. Through regional and national festivals, KCACTF participants celebrate the creative process, see one another's work, and share experiences and insights within the community of theater artists. More than 16 million theatergoers

have attended approximately 10,000 festival productions nationwide.

Work by **Susan Gilbert** and **Nic McPhee**, professor of computer science, will be displayed at the Prairie Renaissance Cultural Alliance. Their *Portrait of an Artist: A Collaboration* examines Gilbert at work, capturing her use of her own head as canvas. No single image is the “true portrait” of the artist. Rather, they are all fragments of a whole, distorted by the cultural lens through which they are viewed.

In the News

Jordan Wentz '15, Dodge Center, and **Natalie Hoidal '15**, Forest Lake, were recently featured on [The Uptake](#) after speaking in opposition to Polymet’s proposed sulfide mine in northern Minnesota. Wentz and Hoidal traveled with **Kristian Nyberg '14**, Minnetonka, **Emily Thomsen '17**, Coon Rapids, **David McComas-Bussa '17**, Shakopee, **Emma Zapchenk '17**, Roseville, and **Katie Ledermann '17**, Mahtomedi, to Saint Paul on January 28 for a public hearing on the topic. The students spoke about effects mining could have on wild rice growth and the indigenous people of the area as well as the economics of the project.