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Weekly News Digest 01/15/2014

Jenna Ray

University of Minnesota - Morris

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

Vol. 5, No. 17: January 15, 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, January 21, at 4 p.m.

In this issue:

- Campus to Take Part in MLK Day of Service
- Speaking in Tongues to Perform at Morris
- Biology Faculty Receive Grant In Aid Awards
- Bart Finzel Featured in *Mpls.St.Paul* Magazine

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

[ARTIST TEACHER SCHOLAR Opening Reception](#)

Thursday, January 16, 7 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts, Edward J. and Helen Jane Morrison Gallery

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Monday, January 20
Morris Campus
No classes. Administrative offices closed.

[Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service](#)

Monday, January 20, 12:30–5:30 p.m.
Faith Lutheran Church (108 West 8th Street, Morris, MN 56267)

GWSS Works in Progress Discussion—Marynel Ryan Van Zee, “Disciplining Desires: Sexuality and Self-Interest in German Economic Thought”

Tuesday, January 21, 5:30 p.m.
Imholte Hall 109

Careers in Biology Alumni Speaker Series: Larissa M. Mottl '96

Tuesday, January 21, 7 p.m.
Science 2950

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

News and Announcements

[Speaking in Tongues to Perform at Morris](#)

The world-music ensemble will perform on Saturday, January 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center's Edson Auditorium.

[Morris to Host Chris Hedges in a Convocation](#)

Morris will host Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and writer Chris Hedges in a convocation on Tuesday, January 28, at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center's Edson Auditorium.

[Ericksen Contributes to COPLAC Book Project](#)

Work by Janet Schrunk Ericksen, associate professor of English, will appear in a Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC) multi-campus book project titled *Roads Taken: The Professorial Life, Scholarship in Place, and the Public Good*.

[Luciana Ranelli '14 Looks to El Paso](#)

Having completed her preliminary coursework, the accomplished biology and secondary education student is looking forward to teaching in and exploring an unfamiliar city.

[Malone Works to Establish Assisted Living Facility](#)

Patrick Malone '14, St. Michael, partnered with the Hoffman Economic Development Authority (HEDA) to create a survey evaluating public interest in such a facility.

Enterprise Systems Upgrade Update

The Enterprise Systems Upgrade Program (ESUP) is a University-wide initiative to upgrade a number of key business systems. It is scheduled to go live in the fall of 2014. This new system aims to be more efficient and to meet University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler's goal of operational excellence. These brief videos introduce the program and the scope of changes facing the University: [ESUP Overview](#), [How ESUP works](#), and [Challenges and opportunities](#). For more information, go to upgrade.umn.edu or email any questions to esup@umn.edu.

Prairie Yard and Garden Begins Its 27th Season

The season premiere of [Prairie Yard and Garden](#) is scheduled for Thursday, January 16, at 7:30 p.m. on *Pioneer Public Television*. The popular television program begins its 27th season with an episode featuring Pat Kirmeier, who transformed her yard with spectacular landscapes, plants, and granite hardscape to complement her Mediterranean-style home. *Prairie Yard and Garden* is produced by Roger Boleman and Mike Cihak of Instructional and Media Technologies.

Accomplishments

Michael Ceballos, assistant professor of biology, and **Rachel Gibbons**, assistant professor of biology, received three awards in the fall grant round of the University of Minnesota Grant-in-Aid of Research, Artistry and Scholarship Program. **Ceballos** was awarded a \$38,381 New Assistant Professor GIA for his proposal titled *Epilepsy and Herpesvirus Infection*. **Gibbons** was awarded a \$35,107 New Assistant Professor GIA for her proposal titled *Investigating the Influence of CD80/B7-H1 Signaling on Anti-Tumor Immune Responses Mediated by CD8+ T Cells*. Together they were awarded a \$34,090 Shared Equipment GIA for the Acquisition of a BD Accuri C6 Flow Cytometer.

Melissa Weber, director of communications, and **Erin Christensen**, associate director of alumni relations and annual giving, presented at the [Council for Advancement and Support of Education \(CASE\) District V](#) conference in Chicago, Illinois, December 15-17, 2013. Their presentation, "Using a Collaborative Social Media Strategy for Small Shops," examined Morris's integrated and successful approach to social media.

Work by **J. Wesley Flinn**, assistant professor of music, was selected to appear on [WPRB 103.3 FM](#)'s end-of-year new music marathon. *Vegas Vespers* aired on December 28, 2013.

Troy Goodnough, sustainability director, has been awarded an [Institute on the Environment \(IonE\) Fall 2013 Mini Grant](#). IonE Mini Grants are designed to encourage collaboration among faculty, staff and students across University of Minnesota disciplines, units, and campuses on environmental themes. The grant will support a student engagement leadership fellow who will advance the Student Engagement Workgroup of the Systemwide Sustainability Committee, help organize its 2013-14 leadership event, explore networking and communication relationship opportunities, and connect University student leaders with other Minnesota youth environmental leadership groups and networks.

In the News

Bart Finzel, vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean, is featured in the January 2014 issue of *Mpls.St.Paul* magazine. In "Study Here. Stay Here," Finzel discusses the importance of keeping Minnesota students in the state.

The Rural Arts and Culture Summit, sponsored by Springboard for the Arts and co-hosted by the **Center for Small Towns**, was featured on Pioneer Public Television's *Postcards* in January. In 2013 the summit brought together hundreds of artists and art administrators from throughout the upper Midwest to share stories about ways that the arts are revitalizing small towns. The program is now available for [online viewing](#).

Alissa Jacobsen '12 was featured in a [story](#) by the *Pioneer Press* for inspiring her grandparents to transform their Oakdale property into a working farm. Jacobsen was involved in a similar project at Morris.

The **University of Minnesota's Next Generation Environmental Leaders** are highlighted in the December 2013 [Sustainability: Journal of Record](#). These students from the Morris and Twin Cities campuses received the [Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education \(AASHE\) Student Sustainability Leadership Award](#) last fall.