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Weekly News Digest 03/04/2015

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

Vol. 6, No. 25: March 4, 2015

Editor: [Jenna Ray](#)

The submission deadline for the next edition of *Weekly Bulletin* will be Tuesday, March 17, at 4 p.m. Please send comments, questions, and submissions to the [editor](#).

In This Issue:

- **Campus Prepares for Spring Break**
- **Piper Kerman is Coming to Morris**
- **Cotter Receives UMMAA Teaching Award**
- **In Case You Missed It: Morris Featured on TPT**

Featured Events

Thursday Afternoon Faculty Seminar

Thursday, March 5, at 4:30 p.m.

Imholte Hall 109

French & Francophone Film Festival: *The Past*

Thursday, March 5, 6:30 p.m.

Science Auditorium (2950).

First Half Semester Classes End

Friday, March 6

Morris Campus

Spring Break

Monday, March 9–Friday, March 13

Morris Campus

Campus Floating Holiday

Friday, March 13

Morris Campus

Second Half Semester Classes Begin

Monday, March 16

Morris Campus

Annual Planning Begins

Monday, March 16

Morris Campus

Come Grow with Us: Backyard Composting

Wednesday, March 18, 12 p.m.

AgCountry Auditorium, West Central Research and Outreach Center (43652 State Highway 329, Morris, MN 56267)

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

News and Announcements

[Piper Kerman is Coming to Morris](#)

The University of Minnesota, Morris will host the best-selling author in a convocation.

[2015 Rural Arts and Culture Summit Registration Open](#)

The Summit will feature Theresa Secord, founder of the Maine Indian Basketweaver's Association and winner of Creativity in Rural Life award.

Outstanding Support Staff Award Nominations Sought

Outstanding Support Staff Awards will be presented to employees in each of the following bargaining unit groups: AFSCME (including Clerical and Technical units), Civil Service/Law Enforcement, and Teamsters. Nominations are due on Tuesday, March 17, by 4:30 p.m. For more information, please [contact Jenny Quam](#).

Political Science Seeks Applications for Internship Awards

The Political Science Discipline is accepting applications for the following awards: the David Minge Public Affairs Internship Award, which provides financial support for students of all majors doing internships on the federal level, the Gieske Internship Award, which is offered annually to an outstanding political science major in his/her sophomore or junior year, and the Rick Jauert Memorial Internship, which is open to any student applying for a Minge or Gieske internship award. To learn more about award details and application guidelines, please [contact Roger Rose](#).

[This Week in Photos](#)

- [Pride Week 2015](#)

Accomplishments

[Jim Cotter](#), professor of geology, has received the 2015 University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association Teaching Award, which honors faculty members for outstanding contributions to undergraduate education by calling attention to educational philosophies, objectives, and methods. Cotter has, in the words of his nominators, "created and applied a dynamic process that includes making geology and science accessible, getting students involved, and enriching students' learning experiences with independent research."

The [women's basketball team](#) is headed to the NCAA tournament after an overtime win over Northwestern in the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) championships last weekend. The Cougars were the #2 seed in the UMAC tournament after earning their sixth consecutive Conference Champion title the previous week. **Emily Auch '15**, Benson, was named the UMAC Tournament MVP.

[Greta Alms '04](#), broker associate and REALTOR® with ResCom Realty, has been named the next University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association (UMMAA) board president. Alms is the 35th board president to serve during the UMMAA's 50-year legacy.

In the News

The **University of Minnesota, Morris** was featured on the Twin Cities Public Television's (tpt) "[Integrated Energy Solutions.](#)" which premiered on Sunday, March 1. The program will air on tpt's Minnesota and Life Channels throughout the day of Sunday, March 8. It also is available now for [online viewing](#).

The [Arbor Day Foundation announced](#) this week that the **University of Minnesota, Morris** has earned 2014 Tree Campus USA recognition for its commitment to effective urban forest management. Tree Campus USA is a national program created in 2008 to honor colleges and universities for effective campus forest management and for engaging staff and students in conservation goals.