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### Weekly News Digest 04/12/2017

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*University of Minnesota - Morris*

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## Announcements

### This Week in Photos

- [Powwow 2017](#)
- [2017 Jazz Fest](#)
- [French Poetry Reading 2017](#)
- [Art and Activism 2017](#)
- [Brorby Lecture 2017](#)
- [James and the Giant Peach](#)

### New Emergency Notification System

The University's emergency notification system, TXT-U, has been replaced and rebranded as SAFE-U. Here's what you need to know:

- Alerts are now called 'SAFE-U Alerts' instead of 'TXT-U.'
- If you received TXT-U messages in the past, you have been automatically opted in to receive SAFE-U.
- Text messages will come from '89361' or '87844.' Save these numbers in your cell phone.

Your safety is a top priority. The University of Minnesota is, and will continue to be, diligent and focused in our efforts to protect the safety of our campus community. More information, including how to add other phone numbers to receive these notifications, is available on the [SAFE-U website](#).

### Thank You, Student Employees!

Each year colleges and universities across the country recognize the importance of the student work experience during National Student Employment Week. Morris is celebrating its student employees this week, April 9–15. Student employees perform invaluable services with enthusiasm, dedication, and initiative. The University depends on the contributions of this reliable workforce for the efficient operation of many departments. Student employees are essential to our university—thank you for all you do!

### Take the Employee Service Workload Survey

Concerns surrounding service workload issues have been raised with several committees on campus. The Commission on Women has created a [survey](#) to collect data about the service workload of faculty and staff. Your participation in this research is voluntary. [Please respond by April 19.](#)

## Accomplishments

### Spring Award Winners Announced

The Functions and Awards committee is pleased to announce the following 2017 award winners:

- Curtis H. Larson Award - 2017 Senior Class Speaker: **Katie Ledermann**
- Allen W. Edson Award: **Megan Jacobson**
- Morris Student Sustainability Leadership Award: **Hannah Goemann, Katie Ledermann**
- Morris Student Sustainability Championship Award: **Sophie Bishop, Theo Buysse**
- Mary Martelle Student Award: **Taylor Montbriand**
- Mary Martelle Staff Award: **Lynn Johnson**
- Edith Rodgers Farrell Memorial Award for Undergraduate Research: **Calvin Cicha**
- Mimi Frenier Award in GWSS: **Terese McCauley**
- Bill and Ida Stewart Award for Ethnic Diversity (Staff): **Mohammed Farah**

The Morris Academic Staff Association Steering Committee is pleased to announce that **Kevin Flicker** has been selected as the 2017 recipient of the UMM Academic Staff Award.

### Miller '89 is MS Principal of the Year

[Sioux Valley's Belinda Miller '89 has been selected the 2017 Middle School Principal of the Year by The South Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals.](#)

### Bashir '14 Accepted to ACS Summer School on Green Chemistry & Sustainable Energy

[Abdala Bashir '14](#) has been accepted into the American Chemical Society (ACS) Summer School on [Green Chemistry & Sustainable Energy](#). The program allows students to explore scientific solutions to global sustainability challenges, including sustainable energy. The curriculum includes presentations by experts in green chemistry and sustainable energy; poster sessions; collaborative projects; and discussions on the roles of science and technology in solving global sustainability challenges.

In the News

#### **Work Co-Authored by Waye Continues to Earn International Attention**

Work co-authored by **Heather Waye**, associate professor of biology, continues to earn international media attention this week. Media outlets covering the study include [National Geographic](#), [Science magazine](#), [Sydney Morning Herald](#), [Age](#), [Canberra Times](#), [Daily Telegraph](#), [Courier Mail](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin](#), [Daily Mail](#), [News.com.au](#), [IFL Science](#) (Canada), [New York Post](#) (US), [International Business Times](#) (UK), [Science Times](#) (US), and Yahoo! ([UK](#), [India](#)).

#### **Alumni Take Part in a “Full Day of Harmony”**

*The Marshall Independent* reports that alumnus vocal ensemble Kordal Kombat took part in [“A full day of harmony.”](#) The ensemble features **Adam Helgeson '12**, **Scott Veenhuis '13**, **Mark Halverstadt '13**, and **Ben Israelson '14**.

#### **Chancellor Behr Urges Local Community to Support the University**

[An op-ed by Chancellor Michelle Behr in the Morris Sun Tribune this week urges the Morris community to ask legislators to support the University.](#) “Your actions are critical for Minnesota's students and families, critical for this community and critical for the future of our state,” she concludes.

#### **Rothchild Honored by Someplace Safe**

[The Morris Sun Tribune reports that Jennifer Rothchild, associate professor of sociology and gender, women, and sexuality studies, was honored recently by Someplace Safe for her efforts to advocate for crime victims.](#) “These are the issues I feel it is my responsibility to address until they go away. And we have a lot of work to do,” Rothchild said.