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Weekly News Digest 02/22/2017

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News

[Amy Doll-Wohlers '90 Becomes UMMAA Board President](#)

Announcements

This Week in Photos

- [President Kaler Campus Visit](#)
- [Cougar Con](#)
- [CNIA Indian Tacos](#)
- [Midwinter 2017](#)
- [Morris on the Move Arizona](#)
- [2017 Arizona WCSA All-School Reunion](#)

Ask Lawmakers to Support Morris

While on campus this week President Kaler stressed the importance of reaching out to local legislators to communicate with them that the University of Minnesota, Morris is an important part of the region. Now is your opportunity to ask lawmakers to support a strong funding target for higher education and support the U of M's budget request. Lawmakers are meeting to determine their priorities, and now is the time to remind them that the Morris campus is important to you. [Please send this pre-written email to lawmakers](#) urging them to make the U of M's five strong campuses a focal point of this session. Sending this email takes 60 seconds and could make all the difference as legislators begin making critical decisions about the funding of our University.

Save the Date: 26th Annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Dinner

Preparations are underway for the 26th Annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Dinner, which is planned for Thursday, April 27. Employees who plan to retire by June 11, 2017, are invited to be honored at this event. To be recognized at the 2017 Recognition Dinner, please submit a written notice of retirement to your supervisor by Friday, March 10. For more information, please [contact Sarah Mattson](#).

Proposals Sought: BLA Collection Enhancement Grant

The Rodney A. Briggs Library Associates (BLA) Board is now accepting proposals for the Collection Enhancement Grant competition. The BLA will award multiple grants, each up to \$500, to at least one student and at least one staff/faculty member for the purpose of enhancing and diversifying the Briggs Library collection. Items can be course related, extracurricular, or recreational. Proposals must include a list of the books or other media and accurate pricing information along with a paragraph explaining how the selections would benefit the collection. Please [email your submission as a Word document attachment to Jim Togeas](#) by Tuesday, March 21.

This Week on *Prairie Yard and Garden*...

Tom Meinhover's Grass Roots Garden Center near Ottertail will be featured on *Prairie Yard and Garden* on Thursday, February 23, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, February 25, at 4 p.m.; and Monday, February 27, at 1 p.m. on Pioneer Public Television. *Prairie Yard and Garden* is produced by Instructional Media Technologies in association with Pioneer Public Television. [Learn more](#)

Accomplishments

Heminger '93 Is CSCTFL Teacher of the Year

Cara Critchfield Heminger '93 was awarded the Central States Conference Teachers of Foreign Languages (CSCTFL) Teacher of the Year award.

Work by Hurd '12 Chosen for Film Festival

The Control Group, a film by **Peter Hurd '12**, has been chosen for a showing at the [Stormy Weather Horror Fest](#). Stormy Weather Horror Fest is a female-driven, online independent film festival that celebrates the horror, thriller, and sci-fi genres.

In the News

Morris Sun Tribune Explores Calls for Sanctuary Status

Mitchell Hancock '17, White Bear Lake, **Bridget Peterson '19**, Minneapolis, and University of Minnesota President Kaler discuss Students for a Democratic Society's petition of support for sanctuary campus status in the Morris Sun Tribune's "[UMM student organization calls for sanctuary status.](#)"

VanKempen Family Takes Sibling Rivalry to the Court

Abby '20, Elbow Lake, **Christine '92**, and **John VanKempen '88** are the subject of "[Cougars vs Saints: A Family Affair.](#)" Abby is a freshman center with the Cougars, and her older sister, Holly, is a junior post player for St. Scholastica. When the two face off on the court, John and Christine split their allegiances—literally.