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Weekly News Digest 03/08/2017

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News

[Summer Term 2017 Promises Diverse Learning Options](#)

Announcements

This Week in Photos

- [Interfaith Panel](#)
- [Soul Food Monologues](#)
- [Drag Show 2017](#)
- [LGBTQ+ in the Workforce](#)

Chancellor Behr Meets with Media Outlets and Alumni in Greater Minnesota

Chancellor Michelle Behr is traveling the region this week to meet with media outlets, alumni, and other external constituents. Chancellor Behr met with media, alumni, and friends in Appleton and Willmar on March 7 and in Morris on March 8. She will travel to Alexandria, Fergus Falls, and Moorhead on March 9.

Latest Issue of *Scholarly Horizons* Released

[Volume 4, Issue 1 of Morris's undergraduate publication, *Scholarly Horizons*](#), is now available. *Scholarly Horizons* is published twice a year, with nomination deadlines in January and June. For more information, please [contact Naomi Skulan](#).

Nominations Sought: Spring Awards

You are invited to nominate outstanding faculty, staff, and students for the following spring awards:

- [Outstanding Support Staff Awards](#): Friday, March 10
- [2017 Morris Academic Staff Award](#): Friday, March 17
- [Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity \(SEED\) Awards](#): Friday, March 31
- [César E. Chávez Award](#)

Applications Sought: UMM Catalyst Fund

Applications are now being accepted for the UMM Catalyst Fund, which enhances the successful undergraduate co-curricular experiences of students by supporting life-changing travel, creative projects, and other adventures. The application deadline is Friday, March 24. All degree-seeking students enrolled for six credits or more and in good academic and community standing are eligible to participate, unless they have received this award in the past. For more information, [contact Hannah Palmeyer](#).

Accomplishments

Student Leaders Present at the Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, and Ally College Conference

The following student leaders presented at the Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, and Ally College Conference in Chicago February 17–19 :

- **Jay Vocu '17**, Pine Ridge, South Dakota, and **Alice Barnett '17**, Orrville, Ohio: "Two Spirit Identity 101"
- **Katrine Sjovold '18**, Sioux Falls, South Dakota: "Challenging the Queer Aesthetic"
- **Lynn Egger '17**, Rochester, and **Mickey Capps '18**, Rogers: "Quiet Queer: Campus Advocacy through Administrative Activism"

Undergraduate Research Published in the Journal of the American Chemical Society

[Work by Morris researchers has been published in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society \(JACS\)*.](#)

JACS is a leading journal in chemistry with an impact factor over 13. The investigation was performed by scientists at several institutions, including Morris. **Chris Droske '11** and **Matt Lovander '12** completed their work for the project in the Chemistry Discipline's Introduction to Research course. The course at the time was taught by Professors of Chemistry **Nancy Carpenter** and **Ted Pappenfus**, and the research was performed under Pappenfus's direction. The research investigates how electrons are distributed in

organic molecules and the results have implications for the development of materials used in solar energy production.

In the News

Brand '95 Poised to Become Associate Attorney General

[The *National Law Journal* reports that Rachel Brand '95 "is poised to become the third-in-command at the Justice Department under Attorney General Jeff Sessions, a position where she would play a lead role in the defense of federal agencies in litigation."](#) Brand testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee during her confirmation hearing to be Associate Attorney General at The United States Department of Justice on Tuesday, March 7. [During questioning, Senator Amy Klobuchar complimented Brand on her choice of college.](#)

Campbell Talks Jazz Fest on Community Connection

[Assistant Professor of Music Jonathan Campbell stopped by KMRS/KKOK to discuss the upcoming UMM Jazz Festival.](#)

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

[A look back over 30 seasons of locally produced gardening programs will be featured on *Prairie Yard and Garden* on Thursday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m. on Pioneer Public Television.](#) Host Mary Holm will be live in the studio with **Roger Boleman**, former director of instructional media technologies (IMT), and **Mike Cihak**, director of IMT, to celebrate the show's 30th season. *Prairie Yard and Garden* is produced by Cihak. Funding is provided by the University of Minnesota, Morris; Shalom Hill Farm; The Heartland Motor Company; Acira and the members of Pioneer Public Television.