I.   **Chancellor's Remarks**.

At this point in the winter, it can be easy to focus on what we wish were different, whether that's the hard, dirty snow, the number of projects we are behind on, or, more seriously still, the persistence of COVID-19 and the atrocities being perpetrated by the Russian government against Ukraine. Among our current students at UMN Morris, we have none directly from Ukraine or Russia, but we can and do stand with the people of Ukraine in resisting this aggression and in supporting those with both direct and indirect corrections to Ukraine and Russia. I'm grateful for last night's forum led by our Political Science faculty, and I want to call your attention to the University of Minnesota's Global Programs and Strategy Alliance [webpage](#) dedicated to resources and information specific to this situation. As we become aware of other resources, they will be added to this page. Students, staff, and faculty with additional questions related to their own situation or that of their relatives and friends are encouraged to [contact International Student and Scholar Services](#) directly.

In addition to the support specific to this conflict, please, all of you, do not hesitate to access our broader mental health resources, which are provided for all students, staff, and faculty. Jeanne Williamson's monthly updates provide a good starting place for learning about mental health resources on our campus (the most recent came out just last week), as do our campus mental health webpages. The University also offers support for faculty and staff through the Employee Assistance Program. I encourage you to use these resources, now and in the future, as you need them. I'll also provide links to them again in this Friday's message to campus.

While we continue to watch anxiously the news abroad, we have much we are working on at home. At the February Board of Regents meeting, Associate Vice President Julie Tonneson summarized the University of Minnesota budget situation for FY23 as "we will need to grow revenue and reduce spending." That statement includes, of course, the Morris campus. We have our annual budget meeting this Friday with University of Minnesota's Senior Vice President for Finance and Operations, Myron Frans, Executive Vice President and Provost Rachel Croson, and others, at which we'll review where we are now and what we expect in our budget for the next fiscal year. We need, as we are all well aware, more students to recognize what an excellent place the University of Minnesota Morris is for their college education, and we need more students to stay here to complete their degree. No one thing is likely to achieve this goal, and what students and their families are seeking from a college education has been changed by the pandemic, by the economy, and by other forces. Those who pay close attention to the enrollment choices students are now making are, as you know, helping us on the marketing front, and we will continue discussions this spring about what else we can do to help students choose Morris. Enrollment remains, as it has been since I stepped into the acting chancellor role, our top priority, and I am grateful to all of you who are directly and indirectly working to reduce the challenges in this area.

One of the key ways we can and do continue to make this campus a competitive option for students is through our engagement with our students, including in academic programs. While the budget continues to require careful management, we have invested in a tenure-track search this year in psychology, currently our largest major on campus. It's too soon to announce a successful conclusion to this search, but we had a strong pool of candidates and the outcome looks very promising. Searches, too, for other instructional positions are planned or underway, including in Music, for example, for a jazz director.

We have also re-invested in other positions that are critical to our campus, with searches in process for a vice chancellor for enrollment management and instructional research, a One Stop Counselor, a Career Services specialist, a web-content strategist, admissions counselors, and more. Some of these positions will be filled by people who do at least some of their work remotely, but we also need those who will help us meet the demand for in person services and who will continue to contribute to the *community* that is central to our campus identity.

In Admissions, arguably the most critical area right now, I want to highlight three recent hires:

Eiluj "Lu" Ringle serves as the Admissions Visit Coordinator/Program Specialist, and she recently moved to Morris from St. Paul. She graduated from Bemidji State University with a Bachelor's in Business Administration and she is an interdisciplinary artist focused on sustainable creative processes and art accessibility.

Connor Oldenburg is a proud Morris alum from 2021 with degrees in Political Science, CMR, and Social Science. Connor says, "Working as an Admissions Counselor has been an extremely rewarding way to engage with the other side of the campus activities which I enjoyed participating in so much, such as the football team and Activity Fee Review Committee. (AFRC)." With intentions to enter law school this fall, Connor, so far, has been accepted to 5 of the 7 programs he's applied to.

Addy Lutchen will start later this month as our new regional recruiter based in the Twin Cities, although she knows Morris well. A 2017 Morris grad, some of you may remember her as Addison Schnabel. During her time at Morris, she taught ESL classes and was granted a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English in Spain. Addy will be earning her M.A. in Spanish from the University of Nebraska at Kearney later this year.

There are new faces this spring elsewhere across campus, too, including in the Humanities Division office, where we've been joined by Michelle Blake bravely making a move from Florida to Minnesota midwinter and by April Klimek in the Student Success Center—and I'm happy to note that April, too, is one of our graduates, and one who exemplifies what Morris can offer: during her time as a student, April worked as an orientation group leader, was a member of the orientation task force, and worked in the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research. While I know you all can and do help in welcoming these and other new members of our community, my key point here is to stress some—and these are just some—of the investments we are making to help this campus move forward.

On a related note, you will, I hope, remember hearing about the highly successful capital campaign that concluded at the end of the last fiscal year—the extraordinarily good work of our development office staff as well as faculty, staff, alumni, and friends. I am happy to report now that for *this* fiscal year (which ends in June), private giving to the University of Minnesota Morris continues to be very strong. That strong result is highly unusual in the first year after a campaign. Year-to-date, we are at $5.5M, which is the second highest yearly giving total in the history of this campus. Such donor support is a marker of belief in our strong future.

That future includes ongoing work focused on equity and diversity. I am co-presenting at next week's Board of Regents meeting with Vice President of the Office Equity and Diversity Michael Goh, on how our campus is meeting MPact 2025 goals (the systemwide strategic plan) on equity and diversity. In part to help the Board focus on overall goals rather than trying to explain to them in our brief time all the details of any one program, we are limited to covering three MPact 2025 topics—in what may be typical Morris campus fashion, I pushed to cover four, which VP Goh agreed to: [slide 2: MPact 2025 Commitment 4: Community and Belonging]. I don't have time to go through the entire presentation--you all know, I believe, that Regents meetings are available on YouTube, should you wish to watch them, and they are often very informative—but I do think it important that you're aware of at least some of the

system level representation of our campus. The presentation selectively identifies areas of work under each of those four headings, and links them to our own strategic vision and plan: [slide 3: UMN Morris Strategic Vision; slide 4: Overlaps in strategic commitments]. The presentation will make clear that we have much more work to do to achieve equity in our student population, which is the focus here: [slide 5: Diverse Community at UMN Morris]. It also highlights some of our successes: [slide 8: Gateway data and slide 11: McNair]. The presentation is the result of much good collaborative work, including from liz Thomson, Becca Gercken, and Chip Beale, as well as, once again, the graphic skills of Kari Adams. Even more, I want to acknowledge how much of a campus-wide effort all of this work is.

We are better because of your efforts, and we will continue the critical work of supporting and developing diversity and equity at the University of Minnesota Morris.

II. **For Action.** From the Steering Committee. Approval of February 1, 2022 Campus Assembly Minutes

Minutes Approved

III. **For Action.** From the Curriculum Committee. Off-cycle course approvals

Reported by Peh Ng, chair of the Curriculum Committee

Curriculum committee provided information on the off-cycle courses needing approval in the February Campus Assembly. Now that Assembly members have had time to review the course information located on the Canvas page, Curriculum called for a vote of approval. Course approval passed with 94% voting to approve and 6% abstaining.

IV. **For Action.** From the Planning Committee. Building Naming Proposal

Reported by James Wojtaszek, chair of the Planning Committee

In February, the Planning Committee presented information on a proposal to rename what is currently the Education Building on the UMN Morris Campus to William B. and Ida B. Stewart Hall, after two former colleagues . The proposal originated with alumni and was approved by the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor group, the Division Chairs and the building occupants. It was discussed and voted on by the Planning Committee, according to the honorary naming procedures created for this campus and most recently revised in 2020. A summary of the proposal and supporting information was shared with the Steering Committee and was made available on the Campus Assembly Canvas page. The next action item is to vote to approve this proposal in Campus Assembly before it can be sent on to the All-University Honors Committee and, if approved there, to the Regents for final approval. .

After the Planning Committee summarized the proposal, the Steering Committee introduced a vote to suspend the requirement that a 2/3 majority of all Campus Assembly members be required for renaming campus buildings in favor of a simple majority of Assembly members voting. This suspension would only apply to the proposed renaming of the Education building. The 2/3 majority vote can be suspended by a majority vote of Assembly members, as stated in Robert's Rules, because it is not a Parliamentary procedure. It is most commonly used in committees to pass initiative measures. Besides a vote to change the Constitution, no other vote in Campus Assembly requires a supermajority. There are several reasons why suspending the 2/3 majority requirement and holding an electronic vote would be beneficial to this proposal:

1. There are a number of Campus Assembly members who felt strongly about the proposal but knew in advance they could not be present for the vote.
2. The Steering Committee was aware that the high threshold (2/3 majority vote of all Assembly members) could still sink a popular proposal. Even if every member present at today's Assembly meeting voted in favor of the name change, this might still not meet the benchmark set by the current voting requirements to approve the proposal.
3. Allowing the vote to be conducted via a Simply Voting poll would allow more members to vote and more accurately reflect the will of Campus Assembly members.

It should be noted that The University of Minnesota Board of Regents reviewed and accepted new guidelines around the naming process at their February 2022 meeting. The updated policy will require the University to conduct a naming review after 75 years. Although UMN Morris has no plans in place for renaming any other buildings at this time, the Planning Committee is considering creating a standardized process for naming proposals. The Steering Committee has instructed the Planning Committee to revise the campus naming policy and voting requirements so the process is transparent and more closely matches the University of Minnesota Board of Regents' policy.

The vote to suspend the 2/3 majority requirement passed with 74% voting for, 15% voting against, and 11% abstaining. A Simply Voting poll to vote on the proposal to rename what is currently the Education Building will open on 3/1 at 1pm and remain open through 3/11 at 4:30pm.

V. **For Information.** Update on Boarding Schools Consultations & Progress

Reported by Janet Ericksen, Acting Chancellor

Acting Chancellor Ericksen continues to meet with students and communicate with Tribal chairs. In January, letters were sent out to 14 Tribal chairs, with two specific requests:

1. Their preference on next steps regarding a search for any potential unmarked burials of Native American students from the boarding schools that operated on what is now our campus site. We offered to visit Tribal councils, speak with their THPO, legal counsel, or whomever they wished, or to host a visit to Morris, and

2. Responses to our proposed land acknowledgement.

At this point, there has been one formal response, though Acting Chancellor Ericksen has had informal conversations with the THPO or legal counsel at three Tribal nations. Because we know that Tribal offices are inundated with requests and tightly stretched in staffing, Chip Beal volunteered to follow up on the letters by phoning Tribal offices. As soon as we have a reasonable number of responses we will move forward.

VI. **Campus Committee Reports.** Update from the Faculty and P&A Affairs Committee

Reported by Elena Machkasova, chair of the Faculty and P&A Affairs Committee

FACPAAC continues to look into concerns of non-tenure-track faculty. They have narrowed their scope to focus on multi-year contracts, ways of promoting non-tenure-track faculty, and issues of workload. If you would like to discuss any of these issues, you are very welcome to talk to any of the

FACPAAC members. All conversations will remain confidential.

VII. **Announcements.**

    Reported by Barbara Burke, Undergraduate Research Symposium Chair

    URS will be held on April 21 and 22. If there are students interested in doing a project or presenting a work in progress, the deadline for intention to participate is March 8. A Zoom Q&A session for students who need guidance will be held on Thursday, March 3.

    Reported by Julia Scovil, Morris Campus Student Association (MCSA) Representative

    Tech Fee 2022 is open and taking applications. All members of the Campus Community are urged to participate.

    Reported by Dylan Young, Morris Campus Student Association (MCSA) President

    As a reminder, MCSA elections will be open starting March 7 and continue until March 12. Please remind students of the upcoming election and of the importance of voting for the student representatives. (Electronic vote available at Vote.umn.edu)

    Reported by Andrew Hao, Assistant Professor of Sport Management

    At what point does the TMC breach their contract due to closing early?

    Sodexo has been closing early due to the University's struggle with staffing. Staffing is an issue across the UMN system, and in Higher Education as a whole. Sodexo will not be held in breach of their contract.

VIII. **Adjournment.**

    12:33

University of Minnesota

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February 10, 2022   *REVISED 2/24/2022*

Memo to: Steering Committee

From: Peh Ng, Curriculum Committee Chair

Subject: UMN Morris curricular course changes proposed - off catalog cycle requests

Below are items approved by the Curriculum Committee that we request be placed on the agenda for the March 1, 2022 meeting of the Campus Assembly. For more detail, please review the documents in this folder, which we also ask be made available to members of the Assembly.

A summary of votes cast by Curriculum Committee members (12 voting, 3 non-voting) is presented below:

Division of the Humanities Proposal:

Program/Form/Course Action	Meeting Date	Vote (For-Against-Abstentions)

Art History
   Course seeking regular approval:
     ArtH 2111 Art and Environment
     ArtH 2501 Art & Archaeology of the Alps
French
   Course seeking regular approval:
     Fren 3608 FRS: Literature and Film of Francophone First Nations
Philosophy
   Course seeking regular approval:
     Phil 2115 Ethics and Artificial Intelligence
Theatre
   Courses seeking regular approval:
     Th 2223 Musical Theatre History
	Feb 10	(11-0-0)

Music
   Course seeking regular approval:
     Mus 2201W Music, Ourselves, and Society
	Feb 24	(9-0-0)

Division of Science and Mathematics Proposal:

Program/Form/Course Action	Meeting Date	Vote (For-Against-Abstentions)

Biology
   Course seeking regular approval:
     Biol 4322 Animal Behavior
Computer Science
   Course seeking regular approval:
     CSci 4660 Processes, Programming, and Languages: Introduction to
            Computer Game Development
Geology
   Course seeking regular approval:
     Geol 1803 Lost Cities, Lost Continents
	Feb 10	(9-0-0)

Division of the Social Sciences Proposal:

Program/Form/Course Action	Meeting Date	Vote (For-Against-Abstentions)

Psychology
   Course seeking regular approval:
     Psy 1808 College: The Social Network
	Feb 10	(10-0-0)

Interdisciplinary Studies Proposal:

Program/Form/Course Action	Meeting Date	Vote (For-Against-Abstentions)

Interdisciplinary Studies
   Courses seeking regular approval:
     IS 2502 Castles in South Tyrol
     IS 3261H Honors: Reading Without Words: Cultural Literacy, Medieval
            Manuscripts, & American Indian Ledger Art
     IS 3262H Honors: Ancient Wisdom and the Good Life
	Feb 10	(11-0-0)

PROPOSAL AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR BILL AND IDA STEWART BUILDING NAMING PROCESS

The Planning Committee brings a proposal to Campus Assembly to rename the current Education Building in honor of former UMM colleagues Bill and Ida Stewart, after their nomination by alumni and approval by the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor group, the Division Chairs and the building occupants, according to honorary naming procedures created for this campus in 2020. Now that the proposal has been voted on and approved through the Planning Committee, it would now need to be approved by the Campus Assembly before it could be sent on to the All University Honors Committee and ultimately to the Regents. If the proposal is fully approved, the Education Building will be renamed William B. and Ida B. Stewart Hall. I will share a few comments from the proposal and supporting documents that speak to the weight and value of this honorary naming:

First, the nomination letter highlights how Bill and Ida's "tireless effort, commitment, and dedication to welcoming and supporting especially minority students cultivated remarkable campus diversity and a network of thousands of alumni of color," with the result that they "nurtured a culture and spirit of community at UMM that afforded many…the opportunity to thrive both beyond and during their time on campus." Letters of support highlight their "fierce educational and social justice advocacy" as well as the "unprecedented graduation rates" resulting from "relentless efforts to make university systems more manageable and equitable academically and socially for students of color." These comments, whether consciously or not, seem to line up with multiple pieces of the current strategic visioning and planning process we are now working to implement at UMN Morris.

BACKGROUND

William B. (aka "Bill") and Ida B. Stewart were significant contributors to the campus and Morris community.

Bill Stewart served as Director of UMM's Minority Student Program for 33 years, starting in 1973. During his time at UMM, he created a model for recruiting, retaining, and graduating minority students in predominantly white universities. The percentage of minority students at UMM increased dramatically, from 1% when he arrived to 26% at his retirement. Thanks to his foundational work, the Minority Student Program, now known as the Multi-Ethnic Student Program, continues to support the engagement and success of students from traditionally underserved backgrounds at UMM.

Bill also started the Gateway program, a summer course designed for students from under-represented groups to develop their educational and career aspirations as they start college. Bill and his wife, Ida Stewart, developed UMM's 'World Touch Heritage Week'. The programwas designed to celebrate and honor the cultures and contributions of every ethnicity. Bill was a masterful educator, influencer, motivator, and supporter of the MSP students. He was known for his faith in every student's potential, for his enduring commitment to student academic success and identity development, and for his efforts to support a diverse and thriving community at UMM and in Morris. From the plaque created in honor of his 90th birthday, his legacy to the university is "his love for education, ability to see potential in every student, and determination to make the campus and community a more culturally diverse place to live and grow."

Additionally, Ida was a staff member in the Education Division and brought her extensive and vast knowledge and experiences of teaching elementary school, junior high school, and high school to the campus. This couple was ahead of their time, and we know from numerous alumni that they made a meaningful impact on so many students' lives.

For those interested, you can hear an interview with Bill Stewart about his work at UMN Morris: https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/stories/29/

Please note that we are are voting at the Campus Assembly level on **whether to move this proposal forward to the Honors Committee and then the Regents of the University of Minnesota, per University policy**:

BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY: Namings

SECTION IV. HONORARY NAMINGS
Significant University assets may be named in honor of an individual or a non-University entity to recognize service, dedication, or meritorious contributions to the institution when the naming is not associated with a gift or sponsorship.

Subd. 3. Naming of Buildings and Other Significant University Assets.
Buildings and other significant University assets may be named in honor of an individual or non-University entity. A building may be named for a person still living who has left the service of the University.
(a) Approval. The Board of Regents (Board) reserves to itself authority to name, rename, or revoke the honorary naming of buildings and other significant University assets.
(b) Management. The Honors Committee manages the process and submits recommendations to the president, who recommends namings to the Board.

Full policy: https://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/2019-09/policy_namings.pdf

Prior to bringing the proposal to the Campus Assembly, procedure followed our local campus policy for approval of honorary namings of parts of buildings. Since this proposal is for the naming of a building in its entirety, if passed locally at UMN Morris, it must then be approved by the Honors Committee and the Regents.

UMM POLICY ON NAMING PARTS OF BUILDINGS Revised October 19, 2017

Naming buildings is covered by all university policy, but naming parts of buildings is regulated by the University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM) policy below.

UMM POLICY ON NAMING PARTS OF BUILDINGS Parts of

University buildings may be named to honor one or more individuals. Living or deceased individuals associated with the University who retired or left the service of the University may be recognized on the basis of their philanthropic activities toward UMM. Deceased individuals may additionally be recognized for extraordinary achievements, contributions, or service to UMM. Separate names may be given to rooms, laboratories, lecture halls, or auditoriums within a building.

Procedures for Naming Parts of Building in Recognition of Extraordinary Achievements, Contributions, or Service Recommendations

should be initiated by a division or administrative unit, and submitted to the Planning Committee (PC).

Recommendations sent to and approved by PC will be submitted to the Chancellor and, finally, to the Campus Assembly for approval.

Procedures for Naming Parts of Building in Recognition of Philanthropy
The University of Minnesota, Morris will follow existing University of Minnesota Regents and University of Minnesota Foundation Policy in regards to Philanthropic naming of significant university assets. When articulated in University of Minnesota Regents Policy Section V Subd 2 and a naming committee is constituted, the Chancellor will consult with the University of Minnesota President to include representation from the Morris Campus on any such committee.

Nomination Process
Board of Regents policy requires that no disclosure is to be made to the nominee, or persons other than those writing supporting letters, until a decision is forthcoming.

Nominator – Must be an alumnus or a current member of the faculty or staff.

Nomination Summary-- 50 words or less.

Letter from Nominator – should focus, from personal knowledge, on the extraordinary achievements, contributions, or service of the nominee or the philanthropic activities that justify the nomination.

Supporting Letters -- at least 2, not more than 4. Persons writing letters of nomination should know that such letters will be legally available to the nominee upon request, even to an unsuccessful candidate who becomes aware of the nomination. Nominators should also make sure that writers of supporting letters are aware that their letters, too, will be available on request.

Date of Submission -- at least 6 months before the naming is to take place. Later submission will be considered, but without any guarantee of timely decision.

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