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University Relations

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**Gateway students prepare for University of Minnesota, Morris careers**

*Summary: The campus community welcomed 28 first-year students for the annual Gateway program.*

(August 1, 2011)-The Morris campus community welcomed 28 incoming first-year students to campus for the annual [Gateway](#) program held this year between July 11 and August 5, 2011. Arriving from all over Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, and even Arizona, these students of color have been presented an opportunity to begin to prepare for their college careers through the Gateway program.

With the support of faculty, staff, and peer mentors, Gateway students are given the chance to excel academically while becoming comfortable with college life. The program offers four weeks of umbrella courses in English, mathematics, and computer science, as well as workshops and seminars about everything from career planning to financial aid. The students are introduced to experiences and resources that they will encounter throughout their time at Morris. Peer mentors, or Gateway Student Mentors, are upper class students who connect to the challenges of college life at a more personal level and offer guidance and friendship to work through these obstacles.

As Gateway participants, Katherine Galvez and Olivia Klemeck explain, “The Gateway Program is exciting because it allows you to get to know the campus and know what to expect during the school year.”

The students will experience more than just the academic advantages. Weekends are spent exploring the Morris area and becoming familiar with the possibilities the town offers. Canoe trips and catching a movie at the Morris Theatre are activities that past Gateway students have participated in. These events also provide an environment to make friends and build relationships that will last throughout their college careers.

Gateway was founded in 1995 by the late Joseph Latterell, professor emeritus of chemistry the late Thomas McRoberts, director of continuing education and William Stewart, former Multi-Ethnic Student Program director as way to help incoming students transition into college life through an environment that inspires learning and personal development.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at [morris.umn.edu](http://morris.umn.edu) or call 888-866-3382.