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### We mourn the death of UMM student Leann Dick

University Relations

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Contact

Melissa Weber, Director of Communications  
Phone: 320-589-6414, [weberm@morris.umn.edu](mailto:weberm@morris.umn.edu)

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer  
Phone: 320-589-6068, [jrray@morris.umn.edu](mailto:jrray@morris.umn.edu)

**We mourn the death of UMM student Leann Dick**

*Summary: University of Minnesota, Morris student, Leann Dick, passed away Wednesday evening December 2, 2009, as a result of injuries from an accidental fall that took place that morning off campus. Leann transferred to the University of Minnesota, Morris this fall and was majoring in biology and American Indian Studies.*

(December 4, 2009)-University of Minnesota, Morris student, Leann Dick, passed away Wednesday evening December 2, 2009, as a result of injuries from an accidental fall that took place that morning off campus. Leann transferred to the University of Minnesota, Morris this fall and was majoring in biology and American Indian Studies. She was Valedictorian of the Leech Lake Tribal College Class of 2009, [Leech Lake Tribal College Class of 2009](#). Leann was from Onigum, Minnesota. She was a talented woman with great promise who made deep and meaningful connections here. We are very saddened by this tragic accident and express our deepest sympathy to Leann's family and friends, as well the Leech Lake Tribal Community.

Funeral services for Leann were held on Monday, December 7 at 1 p.m. in Onigum, Minnesota. Arrangements were made by the [Northern Peace Funeral Home](#). The wake was held Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6, 2009, in Onigum.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Leann's mother, Carole White, at 1011 Washington Avenue South, Apt 9, Bemidji, MN 56601.

A campus gathering to honor and celebrate the life of Leann Dick will be held on Thursday, December 10 at 7 p.m. in the Cougar Room of Oyate Hall, UMM Student Center.

*I had the privilege of knowing Leann for only a few months as my academic advisee, but during that time we had several meaningful conversations. I will remember her as a lovely, talented and determined young woman whose dream was to spend her life as a professional in service to others. I looked forward to helping her work toward that goal, and it is tragic to lose her before she could realize her dream. I will miss her very much.*

-University of Minnesota, Morris Associate  
Professor of Biology Margaret Kuchenreuther

We extend our sympathy to our native student community. We encourage students who are looking for cultural/traditional ways of support and guidance during this difficult time, to contact Tracy Peterson, Associate Director of the Multi-Ethnic Student Program at [trpeters@morris.umn.edu](mailto:trpeters@morris.umn.edu) or 320-589-6097. Tracy will work to accommodate your needs and seek further assistance and guidance from local elders.

We encourage all students who are grieving to seek support from our Student Counseling staff. Student Counseling will meet with students individually or in groups. Their services are free and confidential. Their office is located on the 2nd floor of Behmler Hall. Student Counseling staff are available to talk with you from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. After 4:30 p.m.,

please call Campus Police at 320-287-1601 to connect with Student Counseling.

We ask that members of our community reach out to support each other. We ask your particular support for Leann's roommates and friends and all of the students from our American Indian community. Our hearts are with Leann's family and friends as we mourn this loss.

Please contact the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs for additional information or support at 320-589-6013 or by e-mail to Sandy Olson-Loy, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, [olsonloy@morris.umn.edu](mailto:olsonloy@morris.umn.edu) or Melody Veenendaal, her assistant at [veenema@morris.umn.edu](mailto:veenema@morris.umn.edu).

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