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5-6-2009

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**MORRIS**

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**Faculty and staff honored during annual recognition dinner**

*Summary: Faculty and staff employees who have given extraordinary service to the University of Minnesota, Morris were honored during the annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Dinner on April 30.*

(May 6, 2009)-Faculty and staff employees who have given extraordinary service to the University of Minnesota, Morris were honored during the annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Dinner on April 30. Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson provided the welcome and awards were presented by Madeline Maxeiner, associate vice chancellor for external relations, Lowell Rasmussen, vice chancellor for finance and facilities, Sandra Olson-Loy, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Michael Korth, chair of the Division of Science and Mathematics.

Morris campus staff who received awards are:

**Henry Fulda**, assistant vice chancellor, Student Activities and counselor, Student Counseling, Morris Academic Staff Award

*The Award was established to annually recognize a member of the Academic Professional and Administrative staff who has made distinguished contributions to the mission of the University of Minnesota, Morris.*

It was the students who attend Morris who impressed Fulda from the moment he was interviewed hired as the director of Student Counseling Services in 2001. The campus climate of diversity and respectfulness is another reason that Fulda likes it here. "I enjoy working at an institution that not only talks the talk but also 'walks the walk,'" he said. "We celebrate our differences with Pride Week and World Touch Cultural Heritage Week, Asian Awareness Week, Black History Month and the Circle of Nations Indian Association Pow-wow." Fulda loves "working with dedicated faculty and staff. It's not just a job to people at UMM, they take it on as a calling."

Fulda holds a doctor and master of education in counseling, and a master in business administration from Texas A&M University at Commerce. He also earned a bachelor of arts in history from Lamar University. Prior to coming to UMM, Fulda was Director of Health Services and Counseling at South Dakota State University.

**Carol McCannon**, associate administrator, Office of Student Activities, Mary Martelle Memorial Award (staff recipient) and Outstanding Staff Award (Civil Service recipient)

*The Mary Martelle Memorial Award is presented annually to a student and to a staff member deemed to have made outstanding contributions to the quality of Morris campus life, the Mary Martelle Memorial Award perpetuates the memory of Mary Martelle, senior secretary in the Office of Student Activities from 1965 until her death in 1976.*

*The Outstanding Staff Award is based on job performance and competence, a cooperative spirit, helping attitude and innovative ideas.*

Where a tree grows in Morris, Carol McCannon '80 was probably standing beside the student who planted it. McCannon began her Morris career as a student, then as a recruiter of students in the Office of Admissions, and finally as one who nurtures and supports community service and volunteerism in the Office of Student Activities.

"I am privileged to have been in the right place at the right time several times in the last 33 years that allowed me to embrace the talents and enthusiasm of our high ability student body who over the years have built lasting relationships with local residents and agencies."

McCannon has energetically worked with students and others to coordinate projects such as community meals tree plantings Performing Arts performances Convocations lectures Grandview Apartment window washings Toys for Tots, Salvation Army, and Adopt-a-Family. She has received the Student Activities Leadership Award and the University of Minnesota Outstanding Community Service Award. She holds a bachelor of arts in English from the University of Minnesota, Morris.

**Nathan Giles**, student recipient, Mary Martelle Memorial Award

“As Mary Martelle was an extremely hard worker and great contributor to the campus, it is an honor to be compared to her and be recognized as someone who shared her passion,” said Giles of the award. A graduate of St. Paul Central High School, Giles will graduate with a Liberal Arts for the Human Services major and a minor in psychology with emphases in Spanish and ethics in philosophy. While at Morris, he has been a Gateway mentor, vice president and president of the Black Student Union and a member of Asian Student Association, United Latinos and IMANI. He has also been involved in search committees for director of the Multi-Ethnic Student Program and campus police officers, on the Dining Services committee and a student representative in the Morris Campus Student Association. “I have been a community adviser for the past couple of years. I was also in a program called the Global Issues Honors Consortium, which allowed me to study abroad in South Africa,” said Giles.

“I enjoyed most about UMM coming into contact with awesome people and getting to know them better over my four years here. The great personalities that have surrounded me enabled me to enjoy my college experience all the more. I will miss meeting and having spontaneous with such people most when I leave UMM,” he said.

Giles is also the recipient of the 2009 Curtis H. Larson Award conferred upon the graduate chosen as senior class speaker.

**Linda Pederson**, executive office and administrative specialist, Outstanding Staff Award (AFSCME recipient)

“What an honor to be recognized by faculty for a job that comes natural and I love ... What a thrill!” shared Linda Pederson.

After High School, Pederson enrolled in a General Secretarial course at Jackson Area Vocational School. She also worked for John Morrell & Co. in Estherville, Iowa, and moved with her family to Morris in 1983, where she operated an in-home daycare business for 13 years. She has served as president of the Stevens County Day Care Association and worked for [then] Kleepies Tank & Petroleum.

In September 1999 “a new door opened for me. I began my secretarial position for the Faculty Center for Learning and Teaching. I enjoy the opportunity to work with the wonderful faculty, students and staff at UMM. Working at UMM has given me the opportunity to grow in knowledge and grow as a person. Because I work for the Faculty Center, the Service Learning Program and several grants, no day is ever the same. Each day brings a new task, a new challenge and sometimes a problem needing quick action. I take pride every day in the work I do for the U and words can’t describe how I feel—knowing that my talents are truly appreciated!”

**Mark Staebler**, building and grounds worker, Outstanding Staff Award (Teamsters recipient)

An honors graduate from Morris Area High School, Mark Staebler worked for 13 years on a hog farm before coming to the Morris campus. He also trained racehorses as well as breaking and training riding horses. Now he is the adviser for the campus Saddle Club and has also been a talent judge for the Meiningens student theatre organization. He’ll represent the United Staff Association on two campus committees during the 2009-2010 academic year—the Scholarship Committee and the Staff Development Fund Committee.

“I took it for granted that I would have to be employed [on campus] for a number of years before one’s efforts were recognized,” shared Staebler. “My favorite part of working at the UMM is the social interaction with the students as well as fellow co-workers. Knowing that I’m doing my part to keep the school as accommodating and presentable as possible is a source of great pride.”

Assistant Professor of English [Bradley Deane](#) was honored as this year’s recipient of the University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association Teaching Award.

Faculty and staff who will retire from the Morris campus this academic year were recognized. They are:

**James Carlson ’65**, professor of music, Division of the Humanities

**Kay Carlson ’65**, teaching specialist, Division of the Humanities

**Janie Klein**, executive office and administrative specialist, Health Services  
**Tom Mahoney '74**, director, Office of Grants Development  
**Carol McCannon '80**, associate administrator, Office of Student Activities  
**Mike Miller**, coordinator, Multi-Ethnic Student Program  
**Tim Ray '91**, electronics technician, Media Services  
**Judy Riley**, principal informational representative, University Relations  
**Lynn Schulz '68**, informational technology professional, Computing Services  
**James Van Alstine**, professor of geology, Division of Science and Mathematics

Photo, l-r: Retirees Tom Mahoney, James Van Alstine, Carol McCannon, Judy Riley, Kay Carlson, Mike Miller, Lynn Schulz, James Carlson. Not pictured, Tim Ray and Janie Klein.

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.