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Hilda Ladner named Assistant to the Chancellor for Equity and Diversity

Summary: Hilda Ladner has been named as the Assistant to the Chancellor for Equity and Diversity and director of the Multi-Ethnic Student Program (MSP) at the University of Minnesota, Morris following a national search. Ladner will assume her role in March 2008.

(January 15, 2008)-Hilda Ladner has been named as the Assistant to the Chancellor for Equity and Diversity and director of the Multi-Ethnic Student Program (MSP) at the University of Minnesota, Morris following a national search. Ladner will assume her role in March 2008.

"I am very impressed with Ms. Ladner's record of accomplishments and her sincere interest in joining our community," said UMM Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson. "Her expertise provides a wonderful complement to our faculty and staff team. I know that we will benefit from her leadership abilities and vision as we work together to achieve the equity and diversity outcomes articulated in our campus strategic plan."

Ladner has directed the Multicultural Student Center at Northern Arizona University (NAU) for the past six years. She has led the center in strategic planning, goal setting and assessment. NAU's summer bridge programs supporting entering students of color, first generation college students and students with high financial need show significant positive impact on student retention and academic success. Ladner has been recognized with the President's Award for Ethnic Diversity by her Northern Arizona University for one of the programs she initiated, "Community Awareness and Respect for Everyone" She has been involved in a broad range of campus governance and planning groups addressing issues of difference and other big picture university issues.

Ladner earned her master's of education in bilingual/multicultural education and her bachelor of arts in modern languages, French and Spanish at Northern Arizona University. Her professional experience in multicultural affairs spans 13 years. She has been active professionally in the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities and the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA.)

Ladner has worked extensively with community members on issues related to access to higher education. She has helped university students connect with their local community through service learning and community partnerships. She served on the United Way of Northern Arizona - Success by Six Advisory Board, as a Big Brothers/Big Sisters university pipeline program mentor and worked with elementary school children in the "Calling All Colors" program and middle school children and their mothers in the Hispanic Mother Daughter Program.

Michelle Page and Lori Koshork, both of UMM, co-chaired the search committee. Committee members included Joel Eisinger and T.J. Ross, UMM staff Rickey Hall University of Minnesota, Twin Cities staff and UMM students Nate Giles, Ashley Fairchild, Bao Thao, and Viri Zuniga. Bonnie Tipcke, MSP staff, provided support for the search.

Sandy Olson-Loy, vice chancellor for student affairs, stated, "We are confident that Ms. Ladner's experience, skill and

commitment will serve UMM well as we work together to realize our commitment to educating a talented and diverse student body, building a respectful and inclusive campus culture, and preparing interculturally competent graduates for leadership in a global community."

The campus will host a variety of opportunities for students, faculty, staff and members of the community to welcome Ladner in March.

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 or call 888-866-3382.