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Undergraduate Research Symposium will showcase research by UMM students from every academic discipline

Summary: The research of over 100 UMM students will be showcased during the seventh annual Undergraduate Research Symposium at the University of Minnesota, Morris Friday, April 20. The Science Atrium will be filled with poster presentations and Imholte Hall's classrooms will be bustling with oral presentations.

(April 2, 2007)-The research of over 100 UMM students will be showcased during the seventh annual Undergraduate Research Symposium at the University of Minnesota, Morris Friday, April 20. The Science Atrium will be filled with poster presentations and Imholte Hall's classrooms will be bustling with oral presentations.

The Undergraduate Research Symposium includes original research from students in every discipline and "not just the A students," said Paula O'Loughlin, chair of the Undergraduate Research Symposium Committee and associate professor of political science. "The students can choose whatever they wish to be included, such as, in-class research or research that has been presented at other academic conferences, and present that research in either a poster or oral presentation." Students submitted their proposals in February for this spring's symposium. "Very few other schools do this sort of event and if they do it's more focused on faculty or it's very disciplinary specific," explained O'Loughlin.

This year the URS will be preceded by the inauguration of UMM Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson who chose the date of the Symposium for the inauguration with purpose because the program honors and showcases the achievement of students and faculty. "It is my hope that the inauguration itself will serve as an appropriate introduction to the day's more important event, that which showcases our wonderful students and the creative and scholarly work they accomplish under the mentorship of their faculty members," explained Johnson.

A luncheon in the Student Center Turtle Mountain Cafe will start the day's events from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The inaugural ceremony and address by Chancellor Johnson will be held at 1 p.m. in the Student Center's Edson Auditorium. A performance by the UMM jazz combo, Opposite Day, will follow at 2 p.m. The Undergraduate Research Symposium will begin at 3 p.m. and last until about 5 p.m. with oral presentations taking place in Imholte Hall and poster presentations in the Science Atrium. To kick off the oral presentations, Angela Bos, UMM alumna and 2005-2006 visiting professor of political science, will be the keynote speaker at 3 p.m. in the Cow Palace of Imholte Hall. Bos was a participant in the first year of the Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Both the inauguration and Undergraduate Research Symposium events are free and open to the public.

Photo: 2006 URS

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