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UMM receives Osher grant

Summary: The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Osher Lifelong Learning Institute recently awarded the University of Minnesota, Morris Continuing Education Regional Programs and Summer Session (CERP) with a \$5,000 grant.

(September 14, 2006)-The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Osher Lifelong Learning Institute recently awarded the University of Minnesota, Morris Continuing Education Regional Programs and Summer Session (CERP) with a \$5,000 grant to develop a pilot program in UMM Lifelong Learning: Liberal Arts Courses for Seniors in west central Minnesota. CERP will offer several liberal arts topics during 2007 in collaboration with regional community education programs.

“We are currently working with Learning Unlimited in Morris and Community Education in Alexandria to find ways that UMM Lifelong Learning courses might be offered to compliment existing programs for retired adults in these communities,” said Karen Cusey, program associate for CERP.

Although Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes are located at 73 locations on college and university campuses around the country, it was the Twin Cities campus location that really encouraged UMM to get started with this program. In May 2006, Tom McRoberts, director of CERP, submitted the grant proposal to fund this one-year pilot project. UMM Lifelong Learning will be structured around the Osher program model with volunteer instructors and facilitators, and courses attended by retired adults of all ages.

If the pilot program is successful, CERP hopes to continue to offer lifelong learning topics to be financially supported through modest participant fees.

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.