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Classes at UMM will resume August 29

Summary:

(August 19, 2005)-The passing of the Stevens County Fair signals the end of the summer, and the return of students, faculty and staff for another academic year at the University of Minnesota, Morris. Classes at UMM resume for the fall semester on Monday, Aug. 29.

"Beginning college is an important and exciting moment of transition for young women and men...and for those of us welcoming them to their new homes for the next four years," said UMM Chancellor Sam Schuman.

Schuman will also be among those helping students move into their residence hall rooms when they arrive on campus. He will also chat informally with both parents and students during the campus orientation process.

"Life at UMM picks up dramatically these last weeks in August," said Sandra Olson-Loy, UMM vice chancellor for student affairs. "The campus has a bit of a 'New Year's Eve' feeling as we're ready to begin the new academic year."

The UMM New Student Orientation program, August 25-28, welcomes new students and their families, and assists incoming students as they make the transition to college life.

"Beginning college is an important transition period in the life of new students. The new student orientation program provides our students with resources and skills to help them manage this process and have a great beginning," said David Swenson, director of student activities at UMM. "We help them to build new friendships and make contacts with their peers, faculty and staff. Students begin to find their niche at UMM during Orientation."

Highlights of the UMM orientation program include a welcome ceremony for students and their families a Parent Information Fair and Morris Area Business Expo a Community Picnic for students and their families academic choices and college challenges group sessions music auditions an opportunity to meet the chancellor a Student Activities Fair and a Multi-Ethnic Student Program reception. Students also find time during these busy four days to move in to residence halls, socialize with other students, and meet UMM faculty and staff.

In addition to their Orientation Groups, entering students will be part of on-campus living communities. Over 90 percent of UMM's first-year students live in campus residence halls each year. The First Year Seminar program offers a shared academic experience for all of UMM's first year students. In addition, students will engage in small group seminars with a faculty member. A complete New Student Orientation schedule is available at <http://www.morris.umn.edu/services/stac/oschedule.html>

The campus will also welcome new and returning faculty and staff. These new members of the community fill full and part-time positions of recently retired faculty members as well as positions that were in transition in the last year.

"The start of a new academic year is such an exciting time for everyone," said James Morales, associate vice chancellor for enrollment. "In addition to welcoming our new faculty and staff, we eagerly anticipate the arrival of yet another solid incoming class as many of the best and brightest students from Minnesota and beyond continue to choose UMM."

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.