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8-19-2004

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Recommended Citation

University Relations, "'New Year's Eve" feeling pervades the campus as fall semester begins August 30" (2004). *Campus News Archive*. 2004.

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"New Year's Eve" feeling pervades the campus as fall semester begins August 30

Summary:

(August 19, 2004)-The events, classes and programs of summer will soon give way to the start of another academic year when classes at the University of Minnesota, Morris resume for the fall semester on Monday, Aug. 30.

"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."

An impressive group of incoming first-year and transfer students will begin their UMM experience with the excitement of New Student Orientation August 26-29. The UMM Orientation program is designed to welcome new students and their families, and to assist incoming students as they make the transition to college life.

"Beginning college is a difficult 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," 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."

In addition to providing time to move in to residence halls, socialize with other students, and meet faculty and staff, 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 meeting the chancellor a Student Activities Fair and a Multi-Ethnic Student Program reception.

The campus will also welcome new and returning faculty and staff. These new members of the community fill positions of recently retired faculty members as well as positions that were in transition in the last year. Faculty and staff who are new to the community are:

Division of Education:

Debra Riley Ose, elementary education
Keith Redfield, secondary education
Jeremy Karger-Gatzow, head coach, track & field and cross-country
David Molesworth, head coach, swimming and diving
Matthew Johnson, assistant coach, football/equipment room manager.

In addition, these assistant coaches join the campus in part-time appointments:

Neil Hofland, assistant coach, football
Robert Sarvis, assistant coach, football
Rebecca Witters, assistant coach, soccer.

Division of the Humanities:

Jacqueline Alvarez-Rosales, Spanish
Christopher Butler, English
Adam Parboosingh, theatre arts
Kristin P. Schaupp, philosophy
Jill Schreck, speech communication
Min Zhou, German.

Division of Science and Mathematics:

Joseph Alia, chemistry
Mohd M. Anwar, computer science
Sylke Boyd, physics
Mohammad Khasawneh, organic chemistry
Carlos Zuluaga, geology.

Division of the Social Sciences:

Victoria Houseman, history
Thomas Nisley, political science
Patrick Shorb, history
Cheryl Stewart, psychology .

Professional and Administrative Staff:

Julie Casey, assistant director, Office of Residential Life
Jennifer Falzerano, admissions
James D. Morales, associate vice chancellor for enrollment
Andrew Schilling, admissions
David Swenson, director of student activities.

“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.