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### An ending and a new beginning

University Relations

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**MORRIS**

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**An ending and a new beginning**

*Summary: Commencement day, May 13, will culminate the UMM experience for over 350 seniors who will receive bachelor's degrees this year. It will also mark the final UMM Commencement over which Sam Schuman will preside as chancellor.*

(April 28, 2006)-The 43rd annual Commencement ceremony at the University of Minnesota, Morris will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 13, on the Campus Mall. The event will culminate the UMM experience for over 350 seniors who will receive bachelor's degrees this year. It will also mark the final UMM Commencement over which Sam Schuman will preside as chancellor. Schuman will retire as UMM Chancellor at the end of June.

The UMM Concert Band, under the direction of junior Terri Jo Schuft, Stewart, and John Stanley Ross, assistant professor of music, will provide the pre-commencement concert, as well as music for the Commencement processional and recessional and throughout the ceremony. The UMM Concert Choir, under the direction of Kenneth Hodgson, associate professor of music, will also provide musical selections. Lily Opatz, Cambridge, will be the soloist. Alison R. Scherzer, Coon Rapids, will lead the singing of national anthem.

"The Honor Song," in recognition of the campus' origin as an American Indian Boarding School and to pay tribute to the achievements of UMM's scholars, will be performed by Oyate Teca

Student Color Guards will be Jessica Anderson, Mapleton and Ryan Kalmoe, St. Croix Falls, Wis. Mace Bearer will be Sarah Buchanan, assistant professor of French. Molly Friedmeyer Vacek, St. Paul, and Kimberly Watrud, Plymouth, as Student Marshals, will lead the graduates. Faculty Marshall will be Julie Pelletier, assistant professor of anthropology.

The Honorable University of Minnesota Regent John Frobenius will provide remarks. Timothy Hellendrung, New Ulm, as recipient of the Curtis H. Larson Award, will speak on behalf of the students. The award honors Curtis Larson, UMM's first class speaker in 1964, who lost his life in an accident while serving with the Peace Corps in Ecuador following his graduation. Chancellor Sam Schuman will give the graduation address.

Judith Kuechle, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean, will present the graduating class. Regent Frobenius will confer the degrees. Kenneth Traxler '89, president of the UMM Alumni Association, will provide a welcome on behalf of the Association.

A reception will be held in Oyate Hall in the UMM Student Center following the Commencement ceremony. Graduates, families and friends are cordially invited to attend.

The Humanities Fine Arts Gallery features the 2006 Senior Student Exhibition and is open to visitors before and after Commencement.

For more information about UMM Commencement, visit [www.morris.umn.edu/events/commencement/](http://www.morris.umn.edu/events/commencement/).

Photo: The Class of 2005 is a sea of mortar boards awaiting their diplomas.

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](http://morris.umn.edu) or call 888-866-3382.