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Hunger banquet to raise awareness

Summary: In an effort to raise general awareness on hunger and poverty issues, Movement for Animal Rights by Concerned Humans at UMM will co-sponsor the fifth annual Hunger Banquet on April 17.

(April 11, 2006)-"Hunger, for things, is the supreme disease." So reads a well-known piece of wisdom of Buddha. Current estimates show that of the 842 million people going hungry in the world today, 798 million of them live in developing nations.

In an effort to raise general awareness on hunger and poverty issues, Movement for Animal Rights by Concerned Humans (MARCH) at the University of Minnesota Morris will co-sponsor the fifth annual Hunger Banquet on Monday, April 17, from 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. in the Food Service Building at UMM.

A hunger banquet is an event structured to simulate the unequal distribution of food and wealth across the globe. The interactive format of the banquet helps bring relatively distant global issues into an understandable and personal setting where learning is very hands-on, and often times quite moving.

The cost is \$1 for UMM students and \$3 for non-students. Most of the proceeds from the event will go to Oxfam International, a multi-country non-governmental international development and relief agency. Working with local partners, Oxfam delivers development programs and emergency relief services, and campaigns for change in global practices and policies that keep people in poverty.

The event is also co-sponsored by the following UMM units and offices: Minnesota Public Interest Research Group, Circle of Nations Indian Association, Inter-varsity Christian Fellowship, Gay Hall, E-Quality, Community Service and Volunteerism, the University Register, Women's Resource Center, United Latinos and Sigma Tau Delta.

For more information, contact Mike Stammer, facilitator for MARCH at: stam0054@morris.umn.edu

Photo: Food Services building at UMM

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