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Weekly News Digest 04/24/2013

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A weekly news digest for University of Minnesota, Morris faculty, staff, and students

Vol. 4, No. 32: April 24, 2013

Editor: Jenna Ray

Please send comments, questions, or submissions to the editor. The submission deadline for the next edition of Weekly Bulletin will be Tuesday, April 30, 2013, at 4 p.m.

In this issue:
- Campus Celebrates Spring Recognition Dinner
- Sustainability Semester to Premier this Summer
- Stephen Burks Quoted in the New York Times “Bits” Blog

Featured Events

German Conversation Table
Mondays, 6 p.m.
Student Center, Turtle Mountain Cafe

Anishinaabe Language Table
Mondays, 7 p.m.
Student Center, Turtle Mountain Cafe

French Conversation Table
Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
Student Center, Turtle Mountain Cafe

Jane Addams Project
Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
Imholte Hall 111

Spanish Conversation Table
Wednesdays, 6 p.m.
Student Center, Turtle Mountain Cafe

Russian Conversation Table
Fridays, 4 p.m.
Student Center, Turtle Mountain Cafe

Student Leader Recognition Banquet
Wednesday, April 24, 6 p.m.
Student Center, Oyate Hall

UMM Retirees Association Reception
Thursday, April 25, 4 p.m.
LaFave House

Recognition Dinner
Thursday, April 25, 6 p.m.
Student Center, Oyate Hall

**CMR Spring Guest Speaker**
Thursday, April 25, 7 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts 6

**Chamber Concert**
Thursday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall

**Meiningens Presents: An Evening of One Acts**
Thursday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 26, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts Black Box Theatre

**Fashion Trashion**
Friday, April 26, 7 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts Gallery

**Jazz Dance**
Friday, April 26, 8 p.m.
Student Center, Oyate Hall

**Tinman Triathlon**
Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m.
Morris Campus

**Symphonic Winds Concert**
Sunday, April 28, 3 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall

**GWSS Discussion Series: "The Julia Child Project"**
Monday, April 29, 5 p.m.
LaFave House

**Cyrus Bina Book Reception**
Wednesday, May 1, 5 p.m.
LaFave House

Check out all of the campus [events](#).

**News and Announcements**

**Sixth Annual Bread ‘N Bowls to be Held April 29**
The 6th annual Bread ‘N Bowls event will take place on Monday, April 29, at 5:30 p.m. in the Morris Area Elementary School cafeteria (201 South Columbia Avenue, Morris, MN 56267). Since its inception in 2008, Bread ‘N Bowls has established a reputation for its delicious food and beautifully crafted bowls.

Sustainability Semester to Premier this Summer at Morris

Morris will premier a new course offering in sustainability this summer. Students taking part in this innovative “Sustainability Semester” will make connections between food, renewable energy, history, and culture while networking with peers interested in sustainability and making change. Participants may choose from two complementary courses—Culture, Food and Agriculture and Experiencing Sustainability—or enroll in both.

Students Give Back to Local Elementary School

On April 13, more than 30 volunteers from the University of Minnesota, Morris gathered at St. Mary’s School to complete an “Outreach to Teach” project. Students from the Education Minnesota Student Program (EMSP) and the Studio Art Discipline renovated the school’s teacher’s lounge and painted a mural in a small tunnel connecting the school to Assumption Catholic Church.

Student Documents History of Local Non-Profit

Abbie Thebault-Spieker ’16, Bemidji, is working with the Center for Small Towns to catalog historical documents for the Barnes-Aastad Soil and Water Conservation Research Association. The Barnes-Aastad Association is a stakeholder group for the USDA-Agricultural Research Service and the North Central Soil Conservation Research Laboratory in Morris.

Post Cards on Pioneer Public TV

Post Cards, a program produced by Instructional and Media Technologies, will air on Pioneer Public television this Sunday, April 28, at 7 p.m. Titled “Art on the Prairie,” the program features four segments on Morris faculty members. Ken Hodgson, associate professor of music, discusses the early Morris choir program and his last performance as a director. Jenny Nellis, professor emeritus of studio art, talks about her work and the history of the studio arts program. Kevin Flicker, instructor of ceramics will focus on his wood-fired kiln process, and Siobhan Bremer, associate professor of theatre arts, will give a historical background to the theatre program and discuss some of Morris’s memorable stage performances. The program was produced and directed by Roger Boleman, director of Instructional and Media Technologies, and was edited by Mike Cihak, assistant director of marketing communication and design.

Accomplishments

The University of Minnesota, Morris has again been included in The Princeton Review’s Guide to 322 Green Colleges. In this guide, The Princeton Review commends Morris for its “deep roots in agriculture and land stewardship.” The company selected schools based on its 2012 survey of administrators at over 800 four-year
Kali Cordes ’13, Glenwood, has been named a recipient of the 2013 Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) Scholar-Athlete Leadership Award. The award, which is given to one male and one female student-athlete from UMAC member-institutions, recognizes graduating seniors who demonstrate a healthy balance by achieving excellence in academics, leadership, and service while participating in intercollegiate athletics.

A new musical by Amanda Petefish-Schrag ’99, Ben Schrag ’99, and Michael Trosvig ’98 premiered at the Ron Houston Center for the Performing Arts in Maryville, Missouri, on April 19. Their new work, Death Comes for Jesse James, blends classical tragedy, modern myth, and American history in a folk musical.

Nic Johnson ’13, Mound, has been awarded a graduate fellowship at Johns Hopkins University. He plans to pursue a PhD in economics.

The following students from the Division of Science and Mathematics have been selected to serve as discipline representatives for the 2013-14 academic year: Chen Chen ’14, Zhongshan City, China, Anne Gair ’14, Coon Rapids, Emily Irey ’14, Woodbury, Aubrey Thyen ’15, Faribault, Melissa Denler ’14, Champlin, Brandon Karels ’15, Perham, Alex Kleinfehn ’14, Melrose, Andrew Latterner ’14, Jordan, John McCall ’14, Saint Joseph, Sonia Ellison ’13, Aitkin, Molly Olson ’15, Lakeville, Mitch Patzer’15, Marshall, and Connor Lewis’15, Moorhead.

In the News

The New York Times “Bits” technology blog quoted Stephen Burks, associate professor of economics and management, in a story posted Sunday, April 21. Burks is quoted about a working paper, “The Value of Hiring through Referrals,” which he co-authored with Mitchel Hoffman, Yale University, Bo Cowgill, University of California, Berkeley, and Michael Housman, Evolv on Demand, Inc. The paper analyzes employee referral results from tens of thousands of workers from nine firms across three industries, and one of the main data sets used is from Morris’s long-running Truckers & Turnover Project. The core of the paper began life as part of Hoffman's doctoral dissertation at the University of California, Berkeley, for which Burks was an outside member of the supervising committee.

Sheri Breen, assistant professor of political science, was profiled in the May 2013 issue of Minnesota Monthly. In the article, Breen discusses her lifelong support of Minnesota Public Radio, which she now incorporates in her classroom lectures and discussions. She notes, “MPR’s technological changes improve access, and [it is] a remarkable resource for stories...I think my classroom should hear.”