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Weekly News Digest 08/14/2013

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University of Minnesota - Morris

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

Vol. 4, No. 37: August 14, 2013

Editor: Jenna Ray

Please send comments, questions, and submissions to the editor. The submission deadline for the next edition of *Weekly Bulletin* will be Tuesday, August 27, 2013, at 4 p.m.

In this issue:

- Fall Classes Begin August 28
- Morris Students ‘Dig’ Summer Break
- Morris Recognized in “America’s Top Colleges”
- Stephen Burks Quoted in August Issue of *Safety + Health*

Featured Events

**Morris Area Farmers Market**
Mondays and Thursdays, 3–6 p.m.
East Side Park (corner of Seventh Street and Colorado Avenue, Morris MN 56267)

**Fall Professional Development Day**
Monday, August 19, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Student Center, Oyate Hall and Imholte Hall 109

**Welcome Back Picnic for Faculty and Staff**
Monday, August 19, 5 p.m.
Student Center, Oyate Hall

**Opening Faculty/Staff Convocation**
Wednesday, August 21, 3-4:30 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall

**New Student Orientation**
Sunday, August 25-Tuesday, August 27
Morris Campus

**Fall Classes Begin**
Wednesday, August 28
Morris Campus

Check out all of the campus events.

News and Announcements

**Morris Students ‘Dig’ Summer Break**
Ashleigh Thompson ’13 and Alex Short ’14 participated in archaeological fieldwork at the Angel Mounds State Historic Site in Indiana this summer.
Thebault-Spieker Conducts Rural Data Collection and Research

Abbie Thebault-Spieker ’16, Bemidji, is working with the Center for Small Towns to conduct research surrounding a multitude of closed, repurposed, and abandoned school buildings in west central Minnesota.

Gateway Program Welcomes and Prepares Incoming Students

Morris’s 19th annual Gateway Program welcomed 28 incoming students on Sunday, July 21. The program encourages talented students to expand their educational and career aspirations.

STELLAR Program Welcomes Incoming International Students

The International Student Program welcomed 29 incoming international students for the 2013 Summer Transition for English Language and Liberal Arts Readiness (STELLAR) program, which prepares them for success in the coming academic year.

Ceballos Coordinates Summer Research Program for Area Students

Michael Ceballos, assistant professor of biology, has received a Project SEED award from the American Chemical Society (ACS), which provides funding for two area-high-school students to work on summer research projects with science and math faculty members.

Soderberg Takes Part in Collaborative ChemWiki Creation

Tim Soderberg, associate professor of chemistry, has received a two-year grant from the National Science Foundation to assist in the creation of a single, flexible resource for chemistry education.

UMM Alumni Association to Host Annual First-Year Student Ice Cream Social

Sue Hendricks Basiago ’87, University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association (UMMAA) board president, will help welcome Morris’s newest students at the First-Year Student Ice Cream Social. The UMMAA will host their annual event during New Student Orientation on Tuesday, August 27, from 6-7:30 p.m.

Call for Submissions: 2013 Celebration of Scholarly Accomplishments

The Office of Grants Development encourages faculty, staff, and retirees to submit samples of their scholarly and creative work for display at the third annual Celebration of Scholarly Accomplishments, November 5-7, 2013. This event is sponsored by the Chancellor's Office, the Office of the Vice-Chancellor and Dean, Grants Development, and Briggs Library. For more information on submission guidelines, please contact Aaron Wenzel or Roger Wareham. Submissions are due no later than Thursday, September 5.

Accomplishments
The University of Minnesota, Morris has again been included in *Forbes* magazine’s listing of “America’s Top Colleges.” The 2013 list ranks the 650 foremost institutions of higher education in the country. Rankings are based on assessments in the following five areas: student satisfaction, post-graduate success, student debt, four-year graduation rate, and nationally competitive awards.

**Pam Gades**, instructional technology specialist, and **Chlene Anderson**, online learning coordinator, presented at the Minnesota eLearning Symposium at the University of Northwestern in Saint Paul. This summit is the premier gathering place for K-12 and college/university educators and innovators committed to effective learning and use of technology in the upper Midwest. Their session, entitled “Approaches to Faculty Development: Integrating Teaching and Technology,” is available online.

**Peter Wyckoff**, associate professor of biology, **Margaret Kuchenreuther**, associate professor of biology, **Jeff Aday ’12**, **Becca Erickson ’13**, **Luciana Ranelli ’14**, Duluth, **Alice Toll ’14**, Jamestown, **Angela Wipf ’14**, Eyota, recently represented Morris at the Ecological Society of America’s annual meeting in Minneapolis. Their presentation topics included the impact of deer and invasive buckthorn on forest in west central Minnesota, the distribution of invasive earthworms in western Minnesota, and outcomes from a joint biomass for energy study assessing the potential of prairie grass as a biofuel feedstock: "Development of sustainable, native grass-based bioenergy production systems in the prairie region of Minnesota: Biomass production and plant community response to fertilizer and harvest treatments," "Development of sustainable, native grass-based bioenergy production systems in the prairie region of Minnesota: Soil nutrient response to fertilizer and harvest treatments," and "Development of sustainable, native grass-based bioenergy production systems in the prairie region of Minnesota: Insect response to plant community type and management."

**In the News**

**Stephen Burks**, associate professor of economics and management, was quoted in a story about obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) among truckers in the August 2013 issue of *Safety + Health*, the official magazine of the National Safety Council of the United States. Obesity is strongly correlated with OSA, and Burks is quoted on the difficulties of eating healthily on the road. Burks, **Jon Anderson**, professor of statistics, recent and current student researchers **Tim Ginader ’13**, **Andrew Lexvold ’13**, **Alice Toll ’14**, Jamestown, **Ehren Wessel ’14**, Rochester, **Nick Cornhill ’14**, **Michael Anderson** (PSEO), and **Becca Erickson ’13**, research and outreach coordinator, have been working this summer on a Truckers & Turnover Project study about the relationship between OSA and accident risk among heavy truck drivers.

A recent article by the *Star Tribune* discusses the University of Minnesota Board of Regents’ July resolution supporting liquor licenses for three University venues, including Morris’s **Student Center**. Amy Phenix, chief of staff, Office of the President, notes that “giving the University of Minnesota, Morris the ability to provide sales and services at this venue will allow the college to host more events and be a stronger community asset.”