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Weekly News Digest 02/20/2013

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

Vol. 4, No. 22: February 20, 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, February 26, 2013, at 4 p.m.

In this issue:
● Third Annual Prairie Gate Literary Festival Begins
● Senator Al Franken to Serve as 2013 Commencement Speaker
● Natalie Hoidal ’15 Organizes MNYEN Conference
● Michael Lackey Profiled by the Morris Sun Tribune

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

Wednesday, February 20, 7:30 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts Raymond J. Lammers Proscenium Theatre

Concert: Guante
Wednesday, February 20, 9 p.m.
Student Center, Oyate Hall

http://bit.ly/XaMFnm Prairie Gate Literary Festival
Thursday, February 21
Friday, February 22
Saturday, February 23
Student Center and Briggs Library

Midwinter 2013
Thursday, February 21, 5 p.m.
Coffman Art Gallery, Coffman Student Union, U of MN Campus

Movie with a Professor
Friday, February 22, 8 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts 6

Jazz Ensemble Concert—J. Squinobal
Sunday, February 24, 3 p.m.
Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall

ISA International Movie Night
Monday, February 25, 6:30 p.m.
Science and Math 2950

Tuesday, February 26, 6 p.m.
Common Cup Coffeehouse (501 Atlantic Avenue, Morris, MN 56267)

Spring Festival Dinner
Tuesday, February 26, 6 p.m.
Student Center, Oyate Hall

Tuesday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.
Student Center, Edson Auditorium

Honors Lecture Series—Barry Finzel: Structural Biology and 3-D Modeling
Wednesday, February 27, 5 p.m.
Science and Math 2190


News and Announcements
Senator Al Franken to Serve as 2013 Commencement Speaker

United States Senator Al Franken will serve as the 2013 Commencement speaker at Morris. Senator Franken is a long-time advocate for affordable, accessible health care, an economy that works for the middle class, the protection of a secure retirement, the promise of a twenty-first century education for children, and the creation of a green economy that creates jobs and improves the environment.

New Equipment and Renewed Studio Space for KUMM

Morris’s student-run radio station, KUMM, is looking toward the future after receiving a much-needed upgrade. The station recently acquired a number of new audio devices and a live transmitter. This upgrade not only modernizes the station, but also makes it possible for an unused studio, Studio B, to be useful once more.

Prairie Yard and Garden to Discuss Growing Cacti in Minnesota

Prairie Yard and Garden (PY&G) travels the state to confer with researchers, gardening and nursery professionals, educators, and backyard gardeners about their expertise in horticulture, landscaping, and a variety of other gardening topics. PY&G airs Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. on Pioneer Public Television. This Thursday, February 21, Daiv Freeman will demonstrate growing cacti in Minnesota.

Women’s Basketball Team to Host UMAC Tournament

After completing a 14-0 season in the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC), the Cougars women’s basketball team will host St. Scholastica on Wednesday, February 20, in the P.E. Center at 7:30 p.m. to start the UMAC Tournament. The Cougars are the number one seed in the four-team tournament and have won 16 straight games since early January.

Tech Fee Proposals Due March 1

The electronic proposal form for this year's allocation of Morris Campus Technology Fee funds is available online. Electronic proposals must be submitted by Friday, March 1, at by 4:30 p.m. Hearings will be held the following Friday and Saturday, March 8-9.

Accomplishments

Natalie Hoidal ’15, Forest Lake, is teaming up with the State of Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB), Minnesota Youth Environmental Network (MNYEN), Minnesota Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG), Youth Environmental Activists of Minnesota (YEAMN), and the Will Steger Foundation to organize the upcoming MNYEN conference. This conference answers Governor Mark Dayton’s call for citizens’ support in shaping a future that addresses Minnesota’s environment and energy challenges.
Jolee Henkel ’15, Clara City, has been working for the past year with the Center for Small Towns (CST) to help create a comprehensive breakdown of Stevens County’s carbon footprint. She and CST have undertaken the project in partnership with Stevens FORWARD!, a nonprofit agency focused on creating a brighter future for members of Stevens County. This will be the first study of Stevens County’s carbon footprint ever completed.

Oscar Baldelomar, assistant professor of psychology, received a 2013 Institute for Diversity, Equity, and Advocacy (IDEA) Multicultural Research Award for a project titled “Children’s Understanding of Their Ethnic Categories.”

Lee Korby ’04 recently received the Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools Teacher of the Year Award for her work at Prior Lake High School.

In the News

Michael Lackey, associate professor of English, was featured in the Morris Sun Tribune on Saturday, February 16. The paper discussed his upcoming book The Haverford Discussions: A Black Integrationist Manifesto for Racial Justice, which is scheduled to be released in August. Rachel Balzar ’14, North Branch, has worked on the project as Lackey’s research assistant.