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Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson to speak at University of Wisconsin, River Falls

Summary: Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson will present *Leading Ladies: Reflections of Women, Work, Identity and Leadership* on Thursday, April 26, 2012 at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls.

(April 24, 2012)-Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson will present *Leading Ladies: Reflections on Women, Work, Identity, and Leadership* on Thursday April 26, 2012 at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls (UWRF).

Her presentation is part of the Ann Lydecker lecture series, which was created in memory of the late UWRF chancellor Ann Lydecker and features a speaker on the issues facing women leaders in many contexts, both in academia and beyond.

“This presentation considers what it means to be a woman who leads—a ‘leading lady.’ I chose the concept of leading lady because of the images it evokes for me: images of powerful women, independent women, women who are forces unto themselves in their own right, leading from their feminine strength through grace, wit, intelligence, and humor,” says Johnson.

She added, “These are women who take what they have, who they are, their femininity, and use it to shape situations, others, and the world around them. Throughout the lecture I employ analytical concepts from my discipline (sociology and social psychology), I draw from my own experiences and relationships, and I incorporate data about women in leadership positions in higher education. I hope at the end of my remarks that I will have provoked others in the room—men and women—to examine their own capacity and style as leaders and, if they haven’t already, to ‘read for the part’.”

Johnson currently serves as the fifth chancellor and the first female chancellor of the University of Minnesota, Morris, a position she has held since August, 2006. She earned her bachelor’s degree at Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minnesota, her Master’s and Ph.D. in sociology at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, and began her career as a faculty member and administrator at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan. Johnson was chief academic officer at both Saint Martin’s University in Lacey, Washington and at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa before joining the University of Minnesota system.

She co-chairs the University of Minnesota’s Committee on Sustainability and she is a member of the boards of Pioneer Public Television, Minnesota Campus Compact, and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. She is also a member of the steering committee of the American College and University President’s Climate Commitment. Her research interests include gender studies, social psychology, and comparative culture.

Led by students seeking change, she and her colleagues at the University of Minnesota, Morris, are working to achieve carbon neutrality (through a combined heating and power system of renewable energy sources) and fossil fuel energy independence on a campus that serves as a demonstration platform for sustainability and environmental stewardship.
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 or call 888-866-3382.