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Morris to host sustainability conference in September

Summary: Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability presentations and workshops will feature research and success stories in the campus sustainability movement. Call for proposals open until April 15.

(April 1, 2011) The Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability (UMACS) has announced that the University of Minnesota, Morris will host its 2011 conference on September 23 and 24. The event is a learning and networking opportunity for representatives from more than 35 colleges and universities. Presentations and workshops will include research and success stories from students, faculty, staff, and administrators engaged in the campus sustainability movement.

Morris’s first National Wildlife Federation Campus Ecology Fellow Joseph Hartmann ’12, Roseville, will be working with Troy Goodnough, sustainability coordinator, to organize and facilitate the UMACS conference.

“Green” initiatives at the Morris campus provide an appropriate location for the UMACS conference. The campus features wind energy, biomass energy, solar thermal energy, numerous research projects, a local foods program, a GreenCorp program, and student-led organizations.

A call for proposals is currently underway. Submit a 250-word abstract on any campus sustainability area online. Encouraged topics are new partnerships, expanding diversity, and the campus as laboratory for paradigm change. Categories are posters, 20–25 minute presentations, and one-hour workshops. Deadline is Friday, April 15, 2011. Contact Goodnough for more information at 320-589-6303.

UMACS was established in 2005 to take advantage of colleges and universities’ unique position to foster the desire for growth and learning about environmental issues facing our world as well as developing solutions for overcoming problems. Focused on the goal of a sustainable future, the organization seeks to inspire and equip established and new sustainability leaders.

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.