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Students to present research and creative work during 10th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium

Summary: The event celebrates student scholarship and informs the campus and the community about the diversity and the quality of student research and creative work in every discipline.

(April 9, 2010)-University of Minnesota, Morris students will present their research and creative work during the 10th annual Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS) on Friday, April 23, 2010, on the Morris campus. The event celebrates student scholarship and informs the campus and the community about the diversity and the quality of student research and creative work in every discipline. The event is free and open to the public.

“The URS publicly celebrates the scholarship and creativity of UMM students,” states Gordon McIntosh, professor of physics and 2010 URS Committee chair. “I consider the individual research and creative activities carried out by our students to be one of the highest achievements of their undergraduate careers.”

An opening ceremony in the Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall begins at 1 p.m. with an improv performance by the Unusual Suspects student organization. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean Cheryl Contant will give welcome remarks at 1:30 p.m., and the featured presentation, A Prairie Cantata, begins at 1:50 p.m.

Composed by music major Mitch Grussing ’10, Morris, A Prairie Cantata, is a multi-movement piece for a mixed, four-part choir and wind ensemble. “In collegiate music ensembles, compositions with environmental themes are seldom encountered, especially music and lyrics by local and regional artists,” says Grussing. “Since UMM has devoted itself to providing a renewable and sustainable education, it now has a stronger connection to the surrounding environment than ever before, and this connection needs to be explored artistically as well as scientifically.”

After opening activities, oral presentations by students will begin at 2:30 p.m. in Imholte Hall, and the poster session will be held from 5 until 7 p.m. in the Science Atrium.

Manjari Govada ’12, Shakopee, a triple major in economics, math, and management, serves on the URS Committee and will present on the Truckers and Turnover research project. “This will be my second year presenting at the URS, and it’s a great time!” shares Govada. “It presents me with a great opportunity to showcase my work to not only the faculty and staff, but also to my peers and friends. It provides real world experience of talking about my research and presenting it to people who are not familiar with the project. I believe that experiences such as the URS are what define a Morris education—by going above and beyond the classroom we are better prepared for our future endeavors.”

Refreshments will be provided throughout the event. Visit the Web site for more information.

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.