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Minnesota State University Moorhead Newsletter • www.mnstate.edu

970+ EXPECTED TO GRADUATE FRIDAY

Kristen Harris, a professor of neurology at the Medical College of Georgia and a 1976 MSUM graduate (Biology), will deliver the commencement address for the university's spring graduation ceremony at 2 p.m. Friday, May 13 in Nemzek Fieldhouse.

More than 970 students are expected to receive degrees that day.

Of that number:

- * 805 are spring graduates
- * 104 are summer graduates
- * 62 will receive master's degrees
- * Of the undergraduates: 16 will receive associate degrees, 217 bachelor of arts, 508 bachelor of science, 18 bachelor of fine arts, 2 bachelor of music, 19 bachelor of nursing and 24 bachelor of social work degrees
- * About 650 are expected to attend the ceremony
- * 85 will graduate summa cum laude (with the greatest praise)
- * 99 will graduate magna cum laude (with high honors)
- * 90 will graduate cum laude (with honors)
- * Top 10 majors, in order of popularity: Mass Communications, Elementary Education, Biology, Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Accounting, Art, Finance, Physical Education and, tied at 10th: Special Education and Speech/Language/Hearing Sciences.



Recognized as one of MSUM's Outstanding Alumni in 2003, Harris has risen to prominence as one of the leading researchers in the field of neurobiology. A professor of neurology at the Medical College of Georgia in August, Ga., she is also the Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar at the campus and director of its Synapses and Cognitive Neuroscience Center.

FROM THE ODD TRUTH

(The Odd Truth is a collection of strange but factual news stories from around the world compiled by CBSNews.com's Joey Arak.)

IT'S ALL GONE TO POT

(New York, May 2, 2005) Pizza Patrol driver Atif Yasin, a 22-year-old Minnesota State University Moorhead student, thought the man was asleep

when he arrived to deliver a medium pizza and 20-ounce soda. After knocking a few times and calling the man on his cell phone, Yasin said he answered the door in his boxers.

The man took the pizza, spent a few minutes looking for money and then offered to pay with marijuana, Yasin said.

Yasin said when he told the man that he either needed money or the pizza, the man began to yell and pushed him and punched him in the face.

After calling police and waiting for officers to arrive, Yasin delivered two more orders that were waiting in his car.

Officers who arrested the man said he was intoxicated, Sgt. Shannon Ruziska said.

Because the man is accused of assaulting Yasin while committing a theft, he was arrested on suspicion of robbery.

Yasin did not seek medical attention for his injuries. The right side of his face was still red and swollen Saturday afternoon.

Yasin said it is the first time he's been assaulted in three years delivering pizza.

He said he was a little nervous to work his next shift, which began at midnight on Sunday. Yasin said he'll handle it differently if he encounters a similar situation again.

"I won't argue with the people who took the pizza," he said. "I'll just leave right away."

Sunday, May 15 at Moorhead Public Library MSUM TO ANNOUNCE FIRST READ ALOUD BOOK AWARDS

The first Read Aloud Book Awards for children's literature, sponsored by the Curriculum Materials Center at Minnesota State University Moorhead, will be announced at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 15 at the Moorhead Public Library.



Children are invited to attend the event, where the award-winning books will be read aloud.

Called the Comstock Reading Aloud Initiative, this new project will support two annual awards for children's literature:

* The Comstock Book Award, for the best read aloud picture book for older children (ages 8-12). It's named in recognition of the pioneering Moorhead family headed by Solomon G. Comstock, a Moorhead State Senator and U.S. Congressman who's considered the father of the Moorhead State Normal School (now MSUM).

* The Wanda Gág Book Award, for the best read aloud picture book for younger children (preschool to age 8). It's named in honor of Wanda Gág, a children's book author, illustrator and artist who grew up in New Ulm, Minn. She's best known for "Millions of Cats" (published in 1928), which is considered the first American picture book.

The awards program is administered by the staff of the MSUM library's Curriculum Materials Center, which holds a large collection of children's books and resource materials for in-service teachers.

"At the beginning of last year, we asked publishers to send us copies of picture books published in 2004 that they'd like to nominate for the awards," says Carol Sibley, MSUM's Curriculum librarian. "We received more than 400 of them, which our committee first screened, then selected 190 to be field tested."

The 10-member committee included university students and faculty, local librarians and community members.

Regional teachers and librarians, along with about 150 MSUM Elementary and Early Childhood Education majors, read these books aloud to about 15,000 children last year.

"Based on the readers' own opinions and the responses from the children," Sibley said, "we picked the top books for each of the award categories along with honorable mentions for each category."

Sibley said the intent of starting this awards program is to recognize outstanding authors and illustrators, to promote reading aloud to children and to help anyone who reads to children with the selection of quality picture books.

The book award project is partially funded by a grant from the Solomon G. Comstock Memorial Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation and MSUM's Wanda Gág Book Award Fund.

NEEDED: CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Livingston Lord Library is looking for faculty members who are interested in serving on our children's book award committee. Committee work includes screening new picture books, attending committee meetings and ultimately selecting the best read aloud picture books of 2005. Committee work may also include reading aloud to children. If you are interested in serving on the committee and/or for more information, contact Carol H. Sibley, 477-2347 or sibley@mnstate.edu.

Application deadline: May 20, 2005.

ACADEMIC SERVICE LEARNING GRANTS

As you consider your classes for the next academic year, think about implementing a community service project. Academic Service-Learning is a pedagogical strategy which allows students to systematically apply course material in community-based projects.

The MSUM Academic Service-Learning Advisory Board is happy to announce grant opportunities to develop academic service-learning projects. Beginning Fall Semester 2005, there will be at least two \$1,000 grants awarded to faculty to develop a service project in a course. Grant applications will be available early fall semester and more information will be forthcoming.

It is the mission of the Academic Service-Learning Advisory Board to work collaboratively with faculty, students, and community organizations to initiate and provide quality academic service-learning opportunities that enrich the education and development of MSUM students while fulfilling real needs within the local community.

For more information on Service-Learning, contact the Academic Service-Learning Center, located in CMU 230 at www.mnstate.edu/asl or telephone: 477.2592. You may also contact the current Academic Service-Learning advisory board chair, Theresa Hest, at hestther@mnstate.edu.

CMU BUILDING HOURS FOR SUMMER:

Monday-Friday: open 7 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday: Closed

DRAGON OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT JUNE 6 FOR ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The 27th annual Dragon Golf Open starts at 1 p.m. Monday, June 6 at The Meadows Golf Course in Moorhead. Cost is \$150 per golfer (\$100 of it tax deductible).

The Texas Scramble event includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, dinner and a commemorative gift.

Money raised will benefit Dragon athletic scholarships.

Register by May 20 by contacting Tom Challey in the Dragon athletics office, 2622, or e-mail challeth@mnstate.edu

APAC MINUTES

(April 26, 2005)

Members present: Midgarden, chairperson, Cagle, Conteh, Enz Finken, Flack, Gess, Goodman, Hall, Hamrick, Hill, McGillivray, Wheeler

Members Absent: Crockett, Sanderson, Schmit, Schwartz, Strong, Suomala, Wallert

1. Approval of the 4/19/05 APAC Minutes

Conteh moved, Hill seconded to approve the 4/19/05 APAC minutes.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. 3-, 4-Credit Task Force Recommendations - Update

Brittney Goodman and Sheila Coghill were present to answer questions.

Comments received in response to the campus-wide invitation to comment on the 3-, 4-Credit Task Force recommendations:

1. Dr. Oscar Flores sent an email that indicated the Economics Department supported 3 credits for Liberal Studies courses, with the exception of labs. They do not support an exception for writing intensive courses for:

- a. Grading issue for these courses can be managed by capping enrollment in the low 20s range.
- b. If the exception is allowed for English 101 and 102 and they remain at 4 credits, none of the scheduling problems going to 3 credits is supposed to solve would be accomplished.

2. Dr. James Weckler sent an email commenting that there was no mention of a start time of 8:30 a.m. for 4-credit classes. 4-credit classes starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 10:10 a.m. make it impossible for students to take 3-credit classes that begin at 10:00 a.m.

Discussion. *What follows if a collection of individual comments; no APAC consensus should be inferred with regard to any individual statement.*

*Blend of 3-credit and 4-credit courses will continue

to be problematic for scheduling.

* Academic content of the courses should determine the credit level, not scheduling concerns. Some courses use the fourth credit to teach skills.

* The daily course hour schedule should be changed to allow 4-credit courses to begin at 8:30.

* It is impossible to define a 3-credit writing intensive course that addresses all of the student learning competencies contained in the MNTC for written communications.

* The Liberal Studies Task Force (LSTF) is working on whether writing intensive courses should be sequential in the freshman year, as is the case now in the liberal studies program, or integrated vertically in the liberal studies program and in the major. LSTF conversations have consistently focused on requiring more writing courses that are now expected of students, not fewer. Writing could be across the curriculum merging more than one discipline; this could be addressed as a university.

* The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum is based on 10 competencies, not on specific courses. Some competencies might require more courses than others, and some approved courses might address competencies in more than one MnTC area. The LSTF members are working from a philosophy that to some extent, liberal studies courses should build on the competencies of courses taken earlier – the inner core

* The University needs to adopt and implement a definition of what a writing intensive course must look like and what a reasonable enrollment should be. The 3-, 4-credit TF recommendations contain such a proposed policy. University resources will need to be redirected to support this kind of change. Enrollment management will be important.

* The Liberal Studies committee will be responsible for approving courses for the new liberal studies program and the LSTF will develop policies and parameters governing course approvals for APAC to review and act on next fall.

* The question of whether there should be a liberal studies faculty, in a manner analogous to the graduate faculty, was raised. Moreover, should there be a writing program director or a liberal studies coordinator?

* The LBST is moving in the direction of a very small set of core courses that all incoming freshmen would take during the first year and that the other liberal studies courses would be able to build on the requisite core competencies. [Note: at the LSTF meeting on 4-27-05, it was demonstrated that the size of the inner core being considered does not interfere with any departmental major's ability to begin the major as is currently done in the freshman year.]

* A homogeneous approach to Liberal Studies will push out discipline specific knowledge factors in

major courses that meet the Liberal Studies requirements.

- * Retention and contact hours sitting with students one on one is valuable; we have to remember that students are important and contact at the lower level is very important.
- * Hard to talk just about the inner core without looking at the next levels.
- * Rethinking the current FYE, 1-credit course is also under discussion by the LSTF.
- * Would courses focus on subject matter or on the student competencies outlined in the MnTC? It will be important for us to stop thinking of one course for each set of student learning competencies. Some of the competencies in the MnTC might be appropriately addressed within majors, for example.
- * The new liberal studies program will still have to contain a mixture of small and large classes.
- * Concerns were expressed about how to handle students are not able to handle the defined competencies? Developmental courses? Making arrangements with MSCTC?
- * Students are referred to MDS 110: Expressive Writing now who need extra help, then they are gradually referred to the Write Site as their skills increase. Referral to the Write Site happens too late in many cases.
- * A "D" is a passing grade in freshman English; but the student would not be able to get into their major with a "D"; a different assessment system is needed for writing courses.
- * Transfer students, and students who have completed only part of the liberal studies requirement when they come to MSUM present a host of additional questions.

3. 2006-2007 Academic Calendar

Jayne Washburn was present to answer questions.

Washburn informed the members that the Calendar Committee followed the NDSU model when they redesigned the 2006-2007 MSUM Academic Calendar. The number of faculty duty days remain at 84 each semester, although instructional days have been reduced.

Discussion. *What follows if a collection of individual comments; no APAC consensus should be inferred with regard to any individual statement.*

- * More days are needed for grading, not fewer.
- * With more non-instructional days and so fewer five-day instructional weeks, some science classes will not be able to get in all their labs offered.
- * Planning days are needed for extra duties outside of teaching
- * Addition of extra planning day makes up for class days missed due to orientation

- * Extra rehearsals could be held on the extra non-instructional days
- * Devoting half of one of the non-instructional duty days in the spring to the Student Academic Conference was suggested.
- * Concern with no classes two Mondays in a row at the beginning of Spring 2007 semester received considerable attention. The first Monday is for orientation and registration of new students and the second is the Martin Luther King Holiday. Classes do begin at 4:30 on the first Monday of spring semester.
- * Need to look at academics rather than convenience of non-academic areas.
- * Number of students coming in spring semester is not significant enough to prevent classes from being held on the first Monday of spring semester.
- * Orientation can be held on Monday while classes are in session or on Sunday evening before classes begin.
- * We are one of the few universities that have 15 weeks of teaching, most are 14 weeks.
- * Take off the whole week at Thanksgiving because students don't come to class anyway.

Recommendation 1: Cagle moved, Conteh seconded to recommend acceptance of the proposal to change the final exam schedule so that study day is on Wednesday with finals being held Thursday through the following Wednesday. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation 2: Hamrick moved, Cagle seconded to recommend that one non-instructional duty day afternoon (April 10, 2007) be devoted to the Student Academic Conference. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation 3: Hamrick moved, Cagle seconded to recommend that Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week be designated as non-instructional duty days.

Discussion addressed issues of keeping the number of instructional days the same in each semester, concerns that class days are fully utilized now and should not be reduced, why reduce the number even more that proposed by the calendar committee until we see how the revised calendar works, caution urged with regard to eliminating even more days for labs, and that faculty are so stretched now that more non-instructional days will actually improve learning and will lead to the proposal that MSUM offer only 14 weeks of instruction.

Motion carried with two opposed.

Recommendation 4: Hamrick moved, Conteh seconded to recommend that classes be held on the first Monday of spring semester so that there are not two Mondays in a row without classes being held. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional Suggestions for the Proposed Calendar:

Spring semester orientation and registration should be held on Sunday evening or held simultaneously with classes on the first Monday, or call one of the two missed Mondays "Tuesday."

If the fall semester suggestions are approved, then take a look at spring semester to balance non-instructional days with fall semester.

Add non-instructional days in weeks that are already broken up.

4. Women's Studies Department

Laurie Blunsom was present to answer questions. Gess moved. Wheeler seconded to approve cross-listing the following courses with the Women's Studies rubric:

(The Liberal Studies Committee has approved the following changes)

ANTH 303: Cross Cultural Gender (3 crs)

ART 408: Women and Art (4 crs)

B1OL 300: Biology of Women (3 crs)

ENGL 246: Images of Women in Literature (3 crs)

MDS 232A: Women's Roles and Socialization in 19th & 20th Century America (2 crs)

MDS 232B: Women's Roles and Socialization in 19th & 20th Century America (1 cr)

PE 294: Women and Sport (3 crs)

PHIL 314: Introduction to Feminist Theory (3 crs)

PHIL 495: Topics in Feminist Theory (3 crs)

SOC 219: Sociology of Sexual Behavior (3 crs)

SOC 308: Introduction to Gerontology (3 crs)

SOC 310: Dominant-Subordinate Group Relations (3 crs)

SOC 320: Sociology of the Family (3 crs)

SOC 333: Sociology of Gender (3 crs)

SOC 416: Violence in the Family (3 crs)

Motion carried unanimously.

Hill moved. Flack seconded to change the rubric of the following courses from HUM to WS:

HUM 312: Women and the Humanities (3 crs)

HUM 395: Topics in Women's Studies (3 crs)

HUM 410: Directed Readings in Women's Studies (1-3 crs)

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Languages and Cultures Department

This agenda item was deferred to Fall 2005.

6. American Multicultural (AMCS) Department

Phyllis May-Machunda and D.C. Cole were present to answer questions.

Hill moved, McGillivray seconded to approve the Social Studies emphasis with a Secondary Emphasis in American Multicultural Studies (12-14 cr)

Requirements (12-14 cr)

This is the secondary emphasis in American Multicultural Studies for the Social Studies degree. Students must take a total of 4 courses from the following listed courses:

Restricted Electives: (9 credits)

One course from **each** of the 3 culture emphases below: African American, American Indian and Chicano/Latino

African American

AMCS 210: African American Humanities (4)

AMCS 211: Contemporary African Americans (3)

American Indian

AMCS 102: Contemporary American Indians (3)

AMCS 202: Traditional American Indians (3)

AMCS 225: Ojibwe Culture (3)

AMCS 270: American Indian Education (3)

AMCS 319: Plains Indian Cultures (3)

AMCS 332: Indians of the Southwest (3)

Chicano/Latino

AMCS 103: Contemporary Chicanos (3)

AMCS 203 Chicano Culture (3)

AMCS 303 Latinos in the U.S. (3) **And**

Required: (3-4 credits)

AMCS 300 Theories and Methods in American Multicultural Studies (3)

or

AMCS 372 Dynamics of Prejudice and Oppression (4)

(*With approval from department chair, AMCS 390: Topics in American Multicultural Studies may be substituted for one of the required courses, if appropriate.)

Motion carried unanimously.

New American Multicultural Studies Major – Hearing only

May-Machunda informed the members that this major would offer student flexibility while giving them a good foundation in diversity.

The following changes should be made when the proposal is brought back to APAC for action. Related requirements indicate 18 credits of upper level courses, but the list includes 200- level classes; remove those classes until they are approved as 300-level by APAC.

Include a line to say that students must complete 40-upper level credits for graduation.

AMCS 233 would be appropriate as an elective.

7. A subcommittee of the APAC will be formed to work with Registrar Jayne Washburn/designee to establish distinctive course numbering for research and reading courses. They will also propose expectations for student achievement for students to earn credits for reading and research courses at various course levels.

Meeting adjourned 5:15 p.m.
Jo Berg

MISCELLANEA

* **Kimberly Gillette**, International Programs, earned her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from The University of North Dakota. She will participate in the graduate ceremony on May 14.

* **Roland Dille**, former MSUM President and decorated World War II veteran, was the featured guest speaker at the Detroit Lakes Noon Kiwanis Luncheon last week at the Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn. His talk, on the "60th Anniversary of VE-Day," was a prelude to the day-long & city-wide Multi-Cultural May Fest Celebration for the Lakes Region.

* **Anita Bender**, director of the MSUM Women's Center, has been awarded the 2004-05 All-Star Award by the Division of Student Affairs. She was noted for her work in expanding the programming of the Center and for making it a welcoming, inclusive, and vital space for students, staff, and faculty.

* **Sandy Schob**, Activities and Athletics business manager, has been given the 2004-2005 Dragon Award by the Division of Student Affairs. She was recognized for her dedication to students, student organizations, the Office of Student Activities, Athletics, and MSUM.

CLASSIFIEDS
* **Lake house**, summer reservations now being taken. 3 br, 1ba, kitchen, living room, sun room, can sleep 9; fully furnished and equipped. Dock, canoe, kayak, 1 acre on Big Twin Lake 15 minutes from Detroit Lakes. Call Kim Nichols for information (701) 239-2642.

* **For sale:** Walnut dining room table with six chairs, early 1900s, recently refinished, \$700. Antique walnut china cabinet, glass front and sides, beautiful detail, \$600. For information or to see pictures, call Betty at 2497 or e-mail gundersn@mnstate.edu.

* **House for rent.** Two short blocks from campus. 1023 11th Ave. S. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, attached garage, laundry and character included. We're painting as fast as we can. Lease for June or July - May. No smoking, no pets, no parties. \$575. johnsoga@mnstate.edu or 236-8520

* **For sale:** 1999 HD Electra Glide Standard, FLHT, Many extras, 15,000 miles, black, very good condition. \$10,995. Call Cliff, 233-0623.

MSUM HOSTS HEADWATERS

ALUMNI REUNION JUNE 11

The MSUM Alumni Foundation will host a Headwaters Alumni Reunion Saturday, June 11 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Blueberry Pines Golf Club and Restaurant in Menahga.

More than 500 alumni from the surrounding area will be invited. MSUM faculty and administrators will also attend. Reunion activities will include a dinner buffet, program, entertainment and prizes.

For more information or to make a reservation, contact Judy Peterson at 2093 or e-mail peterju@mnstate.edu Faculty and staff are definitely invited. Cost is \$12.

The reunion is aimed at MSUM alums now living in and around the following communities: Park Rapids, Nevis Menagha, Walker, Sebeka, Bemidji, Akely, Lake George, Cass Lake, LaPorte, Ponsford Osage.

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATES, WORKSHOPS, OPEN HOUSE MAY 20

The Instructional Technology Advisory committee will be sponsoring an open house on May 20 from 9AM to noon in the Science Laboratory Building. A variety of workshops and hands-on sessions will be available, including:

- * representatives from Instructional Media helping with using laptops with projection systems
- * representatives from Instructional Technology will showcase Desire2Learn, our new Horizon Wimba videoconferencing system, the Tegrity web learner, and the Sympodium.
- * representatives from Information Technology will be on hand to assist with using the shared (LAN) drives, virus checking, using the laptop docking stations, etc.

There will be door prizes available for people attending. For more information, contact

Dr. Rhonda Ficek
Director of Instructional Technology
Phone: 701 477-2339
E-Mail: ficek@mnstate.edu