TABLE OF CONTENTS

Julia Rinn .......................................... 4
Tiffany Hulinsky ............................. 6
Kaitlyn Banister ............................. 8
Tyler Lowthian ...............................10
Deli Sarsar ....................................... 11
John Hughes .................................. 12
Tyman Hayashi ..............................14
Jesse Jennings ..............................19
Manuela Brown ............................20
Kevin Lamp .................................... 22
Michael Roedl .............................. 23
Justin Goodroad .........................24
Staff Profile .................................... 25
Campus Headlines .....................26
Alumni News .................................28
In Memory .....................................30
From the Chancellor

If I could sum up all of our work on campus in the past year with a single word, it would be easy—students. This annual report issue of the Torch makes it abundantly clear why our focus is and always has been on our students. Simply put, University of Minnesota Crookston students are something special. I can’t tell you how much I enjoy meeting and getting to know the wonderful group we have on this campus. After two and a half years here, I appreciate what an amazing legacy this institution has, and I am delighted that we continue our tradition of excellence as we move forward.

Day in and day out, our students attend class in person or online, write papers, prepare presentations, take notes, study for exams, and test ideas as they lay the foundation for their future. Undergraduate education is a primary building block in preparation for a future career or graduate or professional school.

Many of these students represent the first generation of their family to earn a college degree. But whether it is first generation or twenty-first, their success is our success, and on this campus, we celebrate achievement with a deep sense of pride.

In the classroom, across the campus, or around the world, we are prepared to help our students all along the way. No one succeeds alone, it’s together we make a difference. Donors support students with their generous investments in scholarships. Faculty members involve students in and outside the classroom with opportunities for learning and mentoring, as well as providing guidance. Members of our staff offer assistance and advice on financial aid, work study employment, and so much more—both personal and professional.

When students are asked to provide one word for their experience at UMC, they often use the word “family.” With your help, here at the U of M Crookston we are like a family working together to help build the next generation of leaders; we are working to help our graduates discover satisfying careers and to create a future filled with possibility.

Thank you for reading and sharing this annual report with others. I hope you will see within its pages the unique opportunities we offer and examples of the countless students whose lives have been enriched by their academic experience. I would also like to say thank you to those who invest in students and the Crookston campus; your generosity changes lives and we deeply appreciate it.

Best regards,
Fred E. Wood
Chancellor
University of Minnesota Crookston
The Perfect Prescription

Working in an emergency room may sound intimidating or even terrifying to some, but Senior Julia Rinn loves working as an emergency room volunteer and plans to make medicine her life.

The health science and biology double major fell in love with science and math as a high school student in International Falls, Minn., where she claims she had the best high school science teacher anywhere. “Miss Jaksa was not easy, but she made learning fun,” Rinn explains. “I learn best when I can do something rather than just think about it and science gives me that opportunity.”

At first Rinn was interested in veterinary medicine but gradually discovered an even greater interest in helping people.

Growing up in Germany until she was 11-years-old, and then, adjusting to life in northern Minnesota, along with her study abroad trip to Greece, gives Rinn a unique perspective. “I know how it feels to be unfamiliar with a place and the people, and because I understand that feeling, I want to help others who might feel that way in a medical setting.”

Her list of favorite classes includes anatomy and physiology, developmental biology, cell biology, and organic chemistry. She has applied for internships at several major medical facilities and hopes to work in the emergency room of a hospital some day.

When she isn’t studying, you can find Rinn cooking at Drafts Sports Bar and Grill in Crookston. She is the president of the STEM Club, for students in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math and vice president of the Study Abroad Club. She enjoys biking, rollerblading, reading, drawing, spending time with family, and taking long walks when she finds the time.

She enjoys late night study alone in her room in

Rinn works in the lab on a research project under the guidance of Associate Professor Brian Dingmann.
Evergreen Hall, but if there is something Rinn wants her fellow students to know, it is that she is approachable. “I want people to know they can approach me no matter what it is about,” Rinn smiles. “They can ask me questions or ask for help, and they can trust me. I don’t care where they are from or what they look like, I am interested in them.”

As she prepares for her future career, Rinn will apply her ability to help with her passion for helping giving her the perfect prescription for becoming a great doctor.

Julia Rinn discovered her love for science in high school and plans to be a medical doctor.
Sprinting across the fairgrounds in Montevideo, Minn., managing activities during the fair was the highlight of Tiffany Hulinsky’s summer as the 4-H intern for Chippewa County. The senior agricultural business major from Burtrum, Minn., revels in organizing and scheduling and finds she is happiest in the midst of the frenzy of activity surrounding a county fair. It’s a good thing proclivity for time management is Hulinsky’s calling card.

A planner is her first purchase of the academic year and staying organized is important to her personally and professionally. “I grew up in 4-H and FFA,” she reflects. “I love both of these organizations because they offer something for everyone.”

Her family volunteers at the Minnesota State Fair and she represented the county as a dairy princess. “As a spokesperson for the dairy industry as a dairy princess, I saw the need to bridge the gap between the producer and the consumer,” Hulinsky states. “That experience showed me opportunities available in the industry and growing up on a dairy farm instilled in me a real passion for agriculture.”

After transferring from Ridgewater College in Willmar, Minn., to the University of Minnesota Crookston, Hulinsky immediately joined five clubs and immersed herself in campus life. “I knew I wanted a major in ag business and a minor in communication when I came to campus,” she confides. “The combination lets me focus on agriculture and gain
valuable skills as a professional communicator. It was a great combination that fit my career goals.” She found what she wanted in agriculture and communication at the Crookston campus and that sealed her decision on where she would transfer. She appreciates the guidance of her advisor Associate Professor Margot Rudstrom because as Hulinsky describes, “she understood what I needed to have to go where I wanted to go in my career.”

Hulinsky, who graduated in December, spent her final semester applying for jobs, networking, and interviewing along with completing coursework. No matter how harried her schedule, she keeps her cool, because true to form, she is prepared for whatever comes her way.
Great Advice from
Online Student Kaitlyn Banister

What is your educational background?
I started off my college career in 2009 as an international business major at the University of Wisconsin- La Crosse; however, I quickly changed to a communication major. In 2011, I returned to Brazil to study for a year (one semester of Portuguese and one semester of public relations). I returned to La Crosse for a semester and was then offered a scholarship to study in Wuhan, China, for a year to learn Mandarin.

How did you decide to take classes online?
Outside of my original plans, I got pregnant while in China. My mother suggested me coming home to live and finishing my degree online so that I may have help with my son while I studied and worked. As a full-time employee working overtime every week, online classes were the most feasible and enabled me to spend time with my son.

Where are you employed?
I work at Enstrom Helicopter Corporation. My current position is in the stockroom. I have worked to improve and develop the processes for drawings, hardware, and ordering parts as well as miscellaneous jobs for both my department and others. I recently created an organization guide of twenty-two pages to be used in setting up the new plant over in China.

How did you find the University of Minnesota Crookston?
Google. LOL. While in China, I typed in “online communication degree university” and UM Crookston was the first school to pop up. I knew I didn’t want to attend an online university and I was entirely impressed by the level of care as well as response time from every staff member I contacted at UMC.

What do you enjoy about the major and about learning online?
Honestly, I miss the interaction of class time and presentations. After having a lot of these professors, I wish ever so badly that I could have had the chance to study under them in person.

To me, there isn’t much to NOT like about being a communication student. I’ve always been fascinated by the way people interact with each other and why people (and processes) do and do not work together. Trying to find ways to better relations, improve productivity and efficiency, and make things more organized is a great joy! Communication is vital, yet still highly dismissed and/or ill understood.

Learning online is great as I am able to continue on with my busy life while still getting a degree. When looking at the lives of my fellow online classmates, I am amazed at what they are able to accomplish while taking these courses. I also think I’ve built stronger relationships with my online classmates than I did while present at the university.

Do you have any favorite classes?
I don’t know that I can say I have a favorite class. Any of the courses that involve my major, I have absolutely loved.

Kaitlyn Banister, a senior communication major from Marinette, Wis.
More so, the professors that I have make me love my courses. Getting to know my professors has been great.

**Where do you like to study best?**

Personally, I love getting to study at the library. It’s a place meant for focus. But, that is a rare gem getting to go there. I study wherever and whenever I can including places such as my desk, on breaks at work, friends’ houses, and restaurants.

**What advice do you have for students who want to take classes online?**

Studying online is great, especially when you have a busy schedule. There are three keys to taking courses online:

- **Organization.** It’s vital to keep calendars and checklists of due dates of all the assignments and re-check to make sure you don’t miss any discussions. Some of the projects can require a lot of time, so trying to bust projects out at the last minute are easier said than done.

- **Time management.** When you have a busy schedule, it’s important to find times that you can get homework done. Short breaks at work might allow you to get the small details of a large project prepared or get a chapter read as opposed to trying to sit down and do it all at once. Preparing in stages and picking small tasks first will help larger assignments to go smoother and quicker.

- **Get to know your professors and classmates.** This is key! The help I’ve received and given to other students has been amazing. There were a couple classes outside of my major that I would have struggled to get a passing grade in if it weren’t for the help of my classmates alone. Also, professors are a lot more helpful and understanding when they know your story.

**How do you manage your time?**

I do a lot of my work in small segments. During work breaks I would read and highlight notes I would need to write a paper or read chapters. I make lists galore. Lists of when all my assignments are due and revise these lists as the weeks go on. But understanding the assignment size as well as due date, I can prioritize when and how long I have to focus on a given assignment. Sundays have been my best days for getting homework done as it’s a rest day for myself and family. I know that my day will revolve around church, school, and breaks to play with my little guy.

**What surprised you the most about taking classes online?**

The thing that surprised me most was the level of understanding and grace I have received from my professors. I will not lie and say that I am meant to be an online student; I thrive in the classroom.

Learning to balance a full-time job, my son, and all the other responsibilities of my all too busy life, I have struggled for a lot of my time online. I started at UMC at the end of my pregnancy and returned to my second semester with my son being only two weeks old. I was used to balancing school, work, and life, but adding a child to the mix was something I couldn’t handle as well as I thought I could. Without the professors that I’ve had at UMC, I don’t think I would be able to finish my degree.
Right on Key

The tempo of a small town is slower than the upbeat pace of a big city. For Senior Tyler Lowthian, the small town, small campus feel of Crookston strikes the perfect note.

Lowthian, a management major from Ridgefield, Minn., visited three of the five University of Minnesota campuses before the Crookston campus won him over with its great options for on campus living. “I was spoiled by the residence halls here,” he explains. “I actually learn better and feel more comfortable learning in smaller groups and this campus was the right fit.”

He uses music as a stress reliever and enjoys being a part of the UMC Choir, and for the past two years, serving as its president. Lowthian enjoyed trips to New York City and Nashville as a member of the choir. But, he took his leadership role seriously and he and his fellow officers rewrote the constitution, expanded the roles of the club officers, and started several annual performances.

He also served as Student Orientation Staff (SOS) Leader during student orientation. “Michelle Boateng was my SOS Leader when I was a freshman, and I wanted others to have a great experience like I did right off the bat,” Lowthian remembers.

“The connections you make that first year really help you out,” he continues. “I knew I wanted to be help others have a positive start in their college career.”

The other stand out memory for Lowthian is the way Associate Professor George French allows students to take ownership of the choir as a club. “We are allowed to lead and to learn from our experience,” he says. “George encourages students to make a decision and run with it. We might not always make the best choice, but we learn from that experience, and in turn, become better leaders.”

Lowthian has also been a part of the Crookston Student Association Finance Committee and the Judicial Board in Residential Life. “I came in as a conditional admit,” he remarks. “And, this campus gave me the chance to grow as an individual, learn in the best environment for me, and enjoy taking on roles as a student leader.”

In May, Lowthian graduates and is preparing for a career in business. With his major in management joined by a minor in marketing and one in music, he is striking a triad written in a key just right for him, and he has the preparation and skills for the music his life is destined to make.

Since his arrival on campus, Tyler Lowthian has been part of a theatrical production almost every semester.
Making Data Talk

In 2017, the cities of Grand Forks, N.D., and East Grand Forks, Minn., will mark the twenty-year anniversary of the flood that inundated the two communities along the Red River and required the evacuation of some 50,000 people. Collecting data on the ‘97 flood keeps Junior Deli Sarsar submerged in the research of Raed Seetan, lecturer in the Math, Science, and Technology Department, in an effort to understand the factors related to flooding in the Red River Valley and patterns that may help in flood prediction.

Sarsar, a junior from Cameroon, Africa, started out at another institution majoring in finance because he liked business as well as computers. “I wasn’t enjoying the finance major like I thought I would,” he reflects. “So, I looked at my other interest and chose software engineering and the University of Minnesota Crookston.”

He is happy with his decision because he finds software engineering satisfies his creative side and gives him the chance to problem solve. Seetan is also Sarsar’s advisor and encourages students by challenging them to test concepts and make connections. “We have to think outside the box to find solutions,” Sarsar explains. “I love being challenged, and I am rewarded when we determine a workable solution.”

However much he enjoys technology, Sarsar has not abandoned his love for business and claims microeconomics a favorite class, along with database management where he says you “make data talk.” Sarsar has become adept in using databases as he collects flood and presented his research during the fall semester Faculty and Student Research Day. Spring semester will take him into the lab to work on the interpretation of flood data and simulation.

A love of travel has taken Sarsar to France, Dubai, Turkey, and into Canada. A trip to Houston, Texas, while still in high school was to compete in I-SWEEP, the International Sustainable World (Energy, Engineering, and Environment Project), a groundbreaking science fair competition open to high school students.

One day Sarsar would like to own his own business—one that combines his love of technology with his interest in business. “The world is software driven and I think finance and technology are a powerful combination.”
Chasing a Dream

Excerpted from a profile of John Hughes written by Shawn Smith, sports information director.

Five years ago, home for Christmas, and unsure of where his life was taking him, John Hughes went outside and started shooting hoops, a passion he had held for his entire life but that had been on hiatus since his senior year at Tualatin High School in Oregon in 2004.

Hughes’ brother Jason turned to John, seeing that something was on his mind, and asked what he was thinking about.

“At the time I really didn’t know where my life was taking me but I always knew I loved basketball,” Hughes said. “I had told my brother that I wanted to find some way to pursue basketball. I came to a point in my life where I wanted to follow what I loved to do.”

Hughes’ brother urged him that he needed to do anything possible to chase his dream.

At the age of 25, Hughes’ life had already taken him a lot of places. Out of high school, at just 5-10, his options of playing basketball were limited so he went to the University of Oregon to focus on academics. After struggling in the classroom, Hughes dropped out of college and was thrust out into the real world. Now 6-5, after growing seven inches as a freshman, Hughes found himself in South Florida working various construction and manual labor jobs.

“I moved back to Oregon to try to figure out what I was going to do with my life and I found wild land firefighting,” Hughes said.

The job took him deep into the wilderness among the thickets of dense forests, putting out wildfires and helping with tree and brush removal and doing prescribed burns in the wilderness. It took him across the Pacific Northwest.

“I thought that was going to be the thing for me,” Hughes said. “It was really hard work. You are working 14 hours
straight making good money. I worked two seasons but I was left wondering what is money at the end of the day when you aren’t doing what you love?”

Hughes went back into construction for a short time until that fateful day shooting hoops over Christmas break and the decision he was faced with. “No matter what my family thought, no matter what my friends thought, no matter what anyone thought, I came to it and I was like I don’t care any more,” Hughes said. “I want to play basketball. A lot of people gave me weird looks.”

Hughes, with the help of his father, started looking at the options he had to play basketball. His father directed him to former National Basketball Association player John Block, an NBA All-Star in 1973.

Block, a friend of his father, worked Hughes out and directed him to several coaches in Southern California, who could possibly help Hughes find a place to play basketball. With his help, Hughes found himself at Grossmont College, a junior college in El Cajon, Calif. With a sense of urgency at the age of 27 at the conclusion of his season at Grossmont, Hughes found himself signing with the Golden Eagles.

Hughes’ impact has been notable with his high energy and the hard work he puts in on and off the court. Now a junior, Hughes continues to dedicate himself to study in the classroom, and as a starter for the Golden Eagles, taking leadership on the basketball court.
From drifting ocean waves to drifting snow, Sophomore Tyman Hayashi concedes the “people make the place.” It is the primary reason, Hayashi, who comes from Honolulu, Hawaii, stayed at the University of Minnesota Crookston even after experiencing his first Minnesota winter in 2013.

The Golden Eagle Football player grew up deep sea diving and surfing but says he actually enjoys the cooler temperatures. “I don’t mind the cold,” Hayashi smiles. “The atmosphere, the size of the campus and the town, along with the friendships I have made far outweigh any weather challenges.”

He also enjoys the comradery he finds with his teammates and the way they look out for one another. “We are like brothers and if we see one of our teammates struggling with a class or personally, we go out of our way to offer help,” he remarks. “The coaches do the same. They look out for their players and encourage us on the field and in the classroom.

“Coach Fritze puts a high priority on his players having a good all-around academic and athletic experience here,” he continues. “I know as a player that I want to be the best I can be on the field, but I also want to take advantage of the opportunity for an education and explore my options for a future career.”

Hayashi, originally an environmental science major, is not sure what major he will finally decide on, but whatever he chooses, he is determined that sustainability and caring for the environment will be at the core of how he lives his life.

“We must consider what we do and its effect on the earth in order to save it for future generations,” Hayashi says. “In Hawaii, we are taught respect for the planet and the importance of taking care of one another and the earth.”

Football has given Hayashi friends who readily support one another, and he has found faculty are also willing to help. “I appreciate knowing instructors personally and I am grateful for their availability to students.”

Whether it is trudging through Minnesota snow or leaving his footprints in the sand, Hayashi will be prepared and welcome it all with his easy going smile and a warm “Aloha.”
Assistant Professor Chris Shultz in the lab with sophomore Tyman Hayashi sporting their Hawaiian shirts.
Thank you for investing in students!
Director’s Letter

Measuring the impact of a scholarship is hard to quantify, but investing in students has a powerful influence on their opportunities, and ultimately, on reaching their dream of a college education. We can look at numbers and recognize the financial help a scholarship provides, but the meaning a scholarship has for a student is very personal.

I had the opportunity to ask several students what receiving a scholarship meant to them and I think you will find their responses both powerful and touching.

Scholarships are an incredibly important part of my education, because without them, I wouldn’t be where I am. I certainly wouldn’t be in college, and my dream of becoming a doctor would be exactly that—a dream. The people that have the generosity to donate scholarships to the University for students just like me are the people who are helping me chase my dreams, instead of just hoping for them. I cannot thank them enough for the impact that they are having on my life, and they are some of the most amazing people I know. I’ve met them, and they’re not only willing to help me succeed, but they also care about what my experience at the University is like. They’re quite extraordinary people.

-Julia Rinn, senior, health science and biology double major from International Falls, Minn.

It is an honor to be chosen as a recipient of an athletic scholarship and other specialty scholarships. Attending the University of Minnesota Crookston has provided many opportunities as a student-athlete. In addition to receiving a great education, I have served as captain on the Golden Eagle football team and been active in the community. The support offered through scholarships is a source of both financial support and encouragement. Thank you for your support, I hope to follow this lead and pay it forward in the future.

-Jeff Pryor, senior, sport and recreation management major from Havana, Ill.

Investing in students is an investment in tomorrow. Students are our future and you are helping them reach their full potential and become the leaders and decision makers of tomorrow.

Thank you to our generous Northwest School of Agriculture, two-year, four-year, online, and international alumni who generously gave during fiscal year 2014. With your support, we will continue to help our students achieve.

Sincerely,
Corby Kemmer
Director
Development & Alumni Relations
Heartfelt Thanks

From Senior Jesse Jennings and presented at the Torch & Shield Recognition in October 2014.

I am honored to have been given the opportunity to speak to you tonight. My name is Jesse Jennings, I am a senior here at UMC, and I am a Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement major from Robbinsdale, Minnesota. I am also a member of the baseball team. I was thrilled to have been given this opportunity to not only share my story with you, but also the story about how I came to be who I am here at UMC.

Four years ago, my college search was largely dominated by having an opportunity to continue playing baseball, while at the same time pursuing a degree that would help me complete my ultimate objective—law school. I was fortunate enough to have a few schools interested in me, but I needed to find the right one that fit my interests. Believe it or not, I visited one school during my search process; I also only applied to one school. This may seem odd to some of you, but I can’t begin to explain my reaction when I first arrived at UMC. I visited UMC during September of my senior year, the moment I stepped foot on campus I made my decision that this was the place for me.

During my visit I saw all that I needed to see. I saw a school that would allow me to achieve my dream of playing college baseball, I met with an advisor that described to me a program that covered everything I was interested in learning, and finally, I found a school with a characteristic that isn’t always present from school to school. Here at UMC you have the freedom to be whoever you want to be. You can be as involved or uninvolved as you’d like. I have taken full advantage of that here at UMC. During my time I have served as the Regents Representative for the Crookston Student Association, been a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success, Alpha Lambda Delta, Student Orientation Service, and the Student Athletic Advisory Committee. I also tutored students in statistics and a handful of the criminal justice classes. My drive to be as involved as I am stems from advice given to me by my father, who told me that I am only going to get to have this opportunity once so I might as well do it right.

One of my favorite quotes is by Clement Stone, who said “You are a product of your environment. So choose the environment that will best develop you toward your objective.” I truly believe that the environment that UMC has provided me with is second to none. Through my degree I feel more ready than ever to take on law school. I feel prepared through the classes I have taken, but most notably, the opportunity I was provided through my internship where I got to spend the summer as an undergraduate intern at the Grand Forks County Courthouse. It was during my internship, and a couple classes towards the end of my major, that I had finalized my decision to commit myself to attending law school.

I have truly made the most of my time here and my story is just one of many. Although we, as students, are all unique, we do have one thing in common. We wouldn’t be here today if it weren’t for each and every one of you and your contributions to this school, to scholarships, and to the student experience. On behalf of all the students at UMC whose lives you’ve touched, and from the bottom of my heart, I sincerely say thank you.
One, the Other, or Both

On campus or online? For Senior Manuela Brown, it’s both. The accounting major from Germany began her college career online while her husband was stationed in Oklahoma.

“I knew I wanted to pursue my bachelor’s degree, and I knew it needed to move with me as my husband’s military service changed,” Brown explains. “I discovered a connection through my father-in-law to the University of Minnesota Crookston and the campus came highly recommended.”

After working on her degree online at the U of M Crookston for a year, her husband was medically retired from the military. With his retirement came the opportunity to move to Crookston to attend classes and gave her husband, Danne, a chance to finish his degree in business management. He will graduate in May 2015, and that will mean another move for the Browns and a chance for Manuela to complete her degree as an online student.

“Lisa Leiran, my online advisor, has been great for me as a student both online and on campus,” Brown remarks. “She is attentive and responsive and that is so critical especially when you are not onsite.”

While on campus, Brown has been a part of the Accounting and Finance Society, and she particularly enjoys tax season when members of the club and students in the taxation class...
assist members of the campus and community with tax preparation.

“I have had two great experiences with the U of M Crookston and scholarships made it possible for me to go back to school full time,” she says. With the addition of a minor in finance, Brown will take an additional semester to complete her degree, but she and Danne will walk through commencement together in May. Their two young children will witness the celebration for both of their parents, and it will Manuela’s final walk across campus as an onsite student.

In the midst of the family’s move this summer, she plans to be working on her internship as her husband is seeking employment. Then, she will complete her final semester and begin studying for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam. While graduate school is a part of her dreams for the future, right now, she is focused on the present.

Together, the Browns represent both online and on campus learning and appreciate the benefit of having the choice to use whichever works best no matter where you are in life.

Manuela Brown with her husband, Danne, with their two children.

Increase your impact, become a **MONTHLY DONOR** today!

**What is monthly giving?**

Monthly giving is a way to provide valuable support to what’s important to you, on a schedule that is manageable for your budget and busy lifestyle.

Once your gift is set up, it will automatically repeat each month, providing a convenient way to spread your contribution over time. You will create a larger impact through your giving by making manageable payments in an amount that’s right for you.

**Your monthly gift helps build a predictable source of funding for the U of M. Reliable donor support leads to significant advances in U-wide priorities such as scholarships, academic programs, research, technology enhancements, and preservation of all campuses.**

**Monthly giving saves administrative costs. It’s the greenest giving option because it saves paper, postage, and other resources by eliminating renewal notices in your inbox, voicemail, and mailbox.**

**How do I sign up?**

Become a sustaining donor today simply by filling out and returning the enclosed reply form or visit [giving.umn.edu/crookston](http://giving.umn.edu/crookston).

**Thank you!**
Taking a Positive Approach

If there is power in positive thinking, then Kevin Lamp has some power. The December 2014 graduate from Orono, Minn., knew he wanted a career where he could spend time outdoors and that’s why he chose a degree in wildlife management.

Lamp was encouraged by his parents to be active outdoors by fishing and hunting. “I enjoy them both, but I also enjoy just watching wildlife whenever I have the chance,” he says.

He gives his best to whatever he does including his work in the classroom and enjoys both research and writing. Lamp’s undergraduate research, under the direction of Assistant Professor Matt Simmons, was part of a parent study led by Stephen Hager, Ph.D., a professor in the Biology Department at Augustana College. The study looked specifically at the factors that influence bird-window collisions, a threat to birds in urban locations.

His internship in summer 2014 took him to Ball State University to work as part of an ongoing study of white-tailed deer in urban areas. His future may hold more in the way of research as he plans to take the Graduate Entrance Exam (GRE) and head to graduate school.

When Lamp came to campus for his freshman orientation, he found his group leader to be knowledgeable and inclusive. The experience left an impression and influenced Lamp to become an orientation leader himself, and in turn, a Campus Ambassador and a Peer Connections leader. “Those early days on campus can be made even better for students with a great orientation leader like mine was,” Lamp explains. “Once I got involved with orientation, it led to other opportunities for leadership.”

No matter the situation, Lamp’s approach errs on the side of positivity. “I try not to take a negative view,” Lamp reflects. “I always figure that just because someone else didn’t like a class or an instructor didn’t mean I wouldn’t like it. I try to form my own opinion and not just accept someone else’s.”

As a freshman, he remembers thinking the upper division classes seemed a far reach. Now, those classes are history, but it doesn’t mean there are not topics Lamp wants to study. The effects of humans on wildlife, habitat fragmentation, and urban sprawl interest him.

What to do and where to go are just two of the questions he will face next, but he will approach them as he does most things—with an open mind and his usual positive approach.

(Note: Lamp accepted a position with the University of Missouri as a white-tailed deer research technician and is working in Missouri looking at deer survival, movement, and recruitment.)
Business Major Bullish on the Future

When time is money and the pressure is on, Senior Michael Roedl is in his element. The cool and steady senior finance major at the University of Minnesota Crookston enjoys the fast-paced world of the trading floor.

An internship last summer at Piper Jaffray, a full-service U.S. investment bank and asset management firm, served to reveal Roedl’s ability to handle the demands of the career. One of three interns in Fixed Income hired by Piper Jaffray in Minneapolis, he was the only one to have his internship extended, and so along with playing golf for the Golden Eagles, he is working and finishing his final year as an undergraduate.

While Roedl knew business was the major for him, he wasn’t sure exactly what direction he would take. Following high school, Roedl attended another institution to play Division I golf before transferring to the U of M Crookston to play golf and to pursue a degree in business.

He enjoyed accounting, but his favorite class was corporate finance. Since internships are a mandatory aspect of the business degree on the Crookston campus, he began networking using LinkedIn®, connections through his mother’s preschool, and taking advantage of opportunities to job shadow.

“I used an informational interview at Piper Jaffray to ask people questions and learn more about what happened on the trading floor, and last winter during break, I went in again to keep my foot in the door,” Roedl explains.

The interview process for the highly competitive internship at Piper Jaffray started in earnest in February 2014 with a phone interview. Roedl moved from the phone interview to an interview with the Head of Fixed Income Sales and eventually received a call with an offer.

He started work in early June and says the first two weeks were overwhelming. “There was so much to learn including all kinds of software and everything was timed,” he says. “You have to be fast and do it right.” Roedl loved it.

Of the time he spent at Piper Jaffray, he says the most outstanding thing he accomplished was offering to update and improve a municipal bond pre-purchase template. “It took me a month, but I was able to use the Excel functions to pull data from software that tracks financial markets,” he continues. “I was working on that model while building bond portfolios.”

The model Roedl updated is now in use across the firm. He uses it to sends templates to Piper Jaffray New York for editing from their Municipal Credit Analyst team. Once they send the templates back to him, he sends them to Minneapolis so they can be used for client work across the country.

If Roedl were to give students advice on finding an internship, he would encourage them to network whenever possible. “Networking opened the door for me,” Roedl says. “It also gave me the assurance that I was where I wanted to be.”

Roedl is bullish on his future, and it is easy to understand why.
His skills range from cooking and baking to shooting a compound bow and everything in between. In fact Senior Justin Goodroad is game for almost anything. 

The president of the Crookston Student Association (CSA), Goodroad is a leader with a lot of experience. Growing up in Lindstrom, Minn., he was active in 4-H and FFA, serving as the president of his high school’s FFA as a senior.

He won first place in a turkey barbecue contest at an Ag Poultry Conference and decorated a cake for the talent portion when he vied for the title of “Mr. UMC” as a junior.

But, Goodroad’s versatility has broadened his interest in serving as a leader for the whole student body and given him a desire to market and brand CSA. “I want to see CSA become something students really want to be a part of and raise awareness of student success and increase the pride in our campus,” Goodroad explains.

He likes the hometown feel of the University of Minnesota Crookston and the way “everyone knows you.” He feels a leader has to know when it is his/her place to take action or when it is time to let others step up and do it. “There is so much more to going to school than just the course material,” Goodroad says. “I believe you have to take advantage of all the opportunities around you to learn from others and about others.”

When he was a freshman, he went to France to learn about international agriculture production, processing, and marketing systems. He spent last summer in Popotunoa, Otago, New Zealand, working as part of his international internship. Goodroad worked nine days on and three days off on a large dairy farm and traveled whenever he had the chance.

He says the internship taught him a lot about himself and what it is like to live and work with those who are non-native English speakers. “I learned independence, and how to communicate more effectively, and a lot of self-sufficiency,” Goodroad reflects. “I also learned to appreciate home.”

Spring semester will have Goodroad finishing his term as the student body president and preparing to graduate. His academic experience has broadened his already varied skill set. His future ambitions include working abroad, but until then, he will use the time he has left on campus to leave his mark and make a difference.
Their roles on campus are the same—but different, and each role is as unique as the department they serve. What these four alumni do every day touches the lives of a countless number of students as well as the faculty in their departments.

For Michelle (Ramstad) Beeghly, Jana (Leake) Brekken, Leah Stroot, and Cyndi (Weber) Wentz working as an executive office and administrative specialist for a department head comes with some major responsibility. The relationship they have with one another is something they value, and they have come to rely on one another’s expertise.

Stroot has perhaps the most unique mix in her role in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department. Her responsibilities include not only the human side of her department but also the plethora of tasks that are brought on by keeping animals. Those tasks include dealing with animal inspection; finding feed sources; keeping track of the selling and purchasing of animals; scheduling the arena for use by those inside and outside campus; recruiting at National FFA conventions, the Horse Expo, the Mid America Collegiate Horticulture Society (MACHS) conferences; and more.

Since Stroot is located across the road north of campus in the University Teaching and Outreach Center, she also serves as something of a trouble shooter for technology. That is no problem for Stroot who says, “I love my job because every day is different, and I love variety in my work.”

Beeghly sees her role in the Liberal Arts and Education Department as the primary support staff for the department head and in many ways a key player in keeping things running day to day. “When the department head is out of the office, we have to step up our game,” she explains. “We have a lot of responsibility and multiple tasks to complete.”

What each of them must focus on depends on the time of the year. Early in a semester, they are responsible for permission numbers and making sure the classes stay within their enrollment cap. “I also remind faculty members about deadlines and we all serve as the point of contact for adjunct faculty,” Beeghly continues.

Wentz, who recently filled the position in the Math, Science, and Technology Department, points out their “involvement in all the major things that happen within their respective departments.” As the newest person in her role, Wentz explains, “I am still learning the roles in responsibilities for the new department head in my area along with my own.”

“Our job is to make everyone else in our department’s job easier,” states Brekken, who works in the Business Department. “From scheduling to assisting with job searches, we focus on how we can help the head of the department and our faculty be successful.”

These specialists are engaged in more than answering phones, taking messages, and typing minutes, the information they track and report helps with decisions that affect the future.

It’s good to know that behind every department head, the Crookston campus has help from very capable hands.
CAMPUS HEADLINES

New Majors

Two new majors have been added to the list of academic offerings at the University of Minnesota Crookston following recent approval by the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. A major in International Business has been added to the degree programs in the Business Department, and a major in English is now offered in the Liberal Arts and Education Department. Both new majors lead to Bachelor of Science degrees, and International Business will be available to students entirely online as well as on campus. Students also have the option for a minor in each area. The programs were available to students for spring semester 2015.

International Business Major

The major in International Business at the University of Minnesota Crookston will help meet the need for graduates who understand and have experience in global business. Students will develop valuable skills to help streamline global pursuits with companies that trade, manufacture, or use contract manufacturing globally. The International Business major is designed to cultivate a global mindset that can support a company’s international production and marketing needs.

English Major

English is among the most popular degrees in the nation, and English graduates have created careers in such diverse areas as writing, editing, publishing, advertising, research, and in education, law, medicine, government, administration, sales, non-profit agencies, and cultural, entertainment, and communications industries.

Development Officer

Garret Kollin joined the Office of Development & Alumni Relations in July 2014. He holds bachelor’s degrees in sport and facility management as well as mass communication with an emphasis in advertising and public relations—both from Bemidji State University.

Upcoming Alumni Socials

Two alumni socials are scheduled for alumni from the University of Minnesota Crookston and the Northwest School of Agriculture in two locations. A spring social will be held on Thursday, April 16 at the Fargo Billiards and Gastropub from 5 - 8 p.m. In the fall, alumni are encouraged to attend a social at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chaska, Minn., on Monday, September 14 from 4 -7:30 p.m. Hors d’oeuvres and refreshments will be served. To RSVP for one or both socials, contact Garret Kollin at 218-281-8436 (koll0131@umn.edu).
This alumni news reflects submissions received by January 15, 2015. News received after that date will be in the next issue of the Torch. The deadline for alumni news for the next issue is May 15, 2015.

E-mail forwarding: If you are interested in reconnecting with a former classmate or acquaintance, the alumni office can help! Although we cannot release e-mail addresses due to privacy issues, we will be happy to forward a message to the person if he or she can be located in our database.

The U of M Crookston welcomed back a great group of alumni in January for the 40th celebration of Ag Arama! The theme for 2015 was “I Go Back.”

1960s

Ken and Judy (Rivard) Schuster, ’61 and ’64, Grand Forks, N.D., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in July with a family vacation on Deer Lake at St. Croix Falls, Wisc. They were married November 10, 1964, at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Oslo, Minn.

David Brule ’62 and Kathleen (Menard) Brule, Crookston, Minn., were married November 14, 1964, at St. Anne’s Catholic Church in Crookston. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on November 14, 2014, with a vow renewal and celebratory supper with all of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren in attendance.
**We Want to Hear From You!**

To submit an item for the Alumni News Section, send information to:

UMC Alumni Relations
115 Kiehle Building
2900 University Avenue
Crookston, MN 56716

e-mail: rulseth@umn.edu or complete the form online at:
www.umcrookston.edu/alumni/keepintouch.html.

Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail, year of graduation/attendance and information or news you wish to share (new job, career, family, or achievements, etc.)

---

**1970s**

Darrell Larsen ’72, Royalton, Minn., recently retired from his position as executive director of the Morrison County Farm Service Agency. He and his wife, Arlene, plan to spend more time with their three daughters and ten grandchildren. Retirement will also give him time to enjoy outdoor activities and tend their small family farm which includes raising horses and beef cattle.

Bob Larson ’79, Verndale, Minn., is now a licensed substitute teacher for K-12. In addition, he works the afternoon drive show on radio station KKWS 106 FM in Wadena and the weekend show on Classic Country KWAD 920 AM.

---

**1980s**

Doreen (Johnson) Roy ’81, Burlington, Iowa, is the owner of three businesses in the historic downtown district of Burlington including “Gypsy on Jefferson,” an accessories boutique, “Red Screen Door,” a cottage vintage home décor and gift shop, and “The Wholesome Basket,” a natural handmade soap and skincare company. Roy serves on the Downtown Board of Directors of the Greater Burlington Partnership Chamber of Commerce, chairs the Downtown Partners Marketing and Promotions committee, Burlington Riverfront Farmer’s Market board, plus several fundraising, special events, market analysis, and nominating committees. She and her husband, Robert, have five children.

Marcelo Campoverde ’85, East Grand Forks, Minn., joined the faculty ranks at Mayville State University fall semester 2014. He teaches in the Division of Education and Psychology and also serves as diversity coordinator. In addition to over 20 years of experience as an educator at both the high school and college level, Campoverde has been involved with coaching soccer. He served as head women’s soccer coach at the U of M Crookston and head boys’ soccer coach at Senior High School in East Grand Forks.

---

**Nominate a Classmate or Friend!**

Do you know an outstanding alumnus or alumna who is deserving of an award for exemplary commitment, achievement, or service? Consider nominating them for Outstanding Alumni, Top Aggie, or for induction into the Athletic Hall of Fame.

Nominations can be made by visiting www.umcrookston.edu/alumni, choose either UMC Alumni Association or Northwest School of Agriculture Alumni Association, and select the appropriate award for your nominee. For nominations for Athletic Hall of Fame go to www.goldeneaglesports.com and choose Athletic Hall of Fame to make your nomination.

Nominations can also be made by sending the name to Rose Ulseth in the Office of Development & Alumni Relations at rulseth@umn.edu or call 218-281-8439.
Nate and Denise (Albright) Klicker ’98 and ’99, live in Rochester, Minn., with their three children, Caleb, 12; Grace, 11; and Sarah, 10. Nate is the owner of Community Lawn Care, a lawn/landscape health and maintenance service company. He managed the company for three years prior to buying it four years ago. Denise enjoys being a stay-at-home mom while educating their children. “Spare” time is filled with serving at their church, coaching basketball, and enjoying quiet time at home.

Alumnus Scott Strohmeier ’99, Council Bluffs, Iowa, was featured in the November 2014 issue of the NJCAA Review. One of the most successful quarterbacks in University of Minnesota Crookston history, Strohmeier was a 2014 Athletic Hall of Fame inductee and a member of the 1997 Football Team, also

2000s

Bob and Gianna (Anderson) Goodroad ’02, welcomed twin boys into their family on November 19, 2014. Tyler was 18.5 inches, Bode was 19.5 inches, and both weighed 5 lbs. 11 oz. at birth. They also have a daughter, Macey Jae, who is 5 years of age. The Goodroads have enjoyed living in Sioux Falls, S.D., for the past 11 years.

2010s

Tyler Anderson ’11, East Grand Forks, Minn., is a member service specialist at Citizens Community Credit Union’s Grand Forks, N.D., location. He’s responsible for working with members and businesses for deposit, consumer loan, and mortgage loan needs.

Alysia Osowski ’12 and Brent Wilde ex. ’10, were married January 31, 2015, at Sacred Heart Church in Oakwood, N.D. Alysia is employed by Wilbur Ellis as a field sales agronomist and Brent is an environmental program manager with the Red River Regional Council, both in Grafton, N.D., where they make their home.
Silent thoughts of times together
Hold memories which will last forever.

In Memory

ALUMNI

Duane Lindberg '36
Baudette, Minn.
December 9, 2014

Myrtle (Hanson) Marti '38
Saint Paul, Minn.
May 7, 2014

Glendora (Krostue) Knutson '39
East Grand Forks, Minn.
November 16, 2014

Lois (Vietor) Miller '43
Leonard, Minn.
September 21, 2014

Carl E. Peterson '43
Bellingham, Wash.
November 5, 2014

Keith Pearson '45
Red Lake Falls, Minn.
December 10, 2014

Delores “DeeDee” (Hamre) Grant '46 Adv.
Fertile, Minn.
January 10, 2015

John W. Lapp '46 Adv.
Burnsville, Minn.
September 13, 2014

Jerome B. Hamre '47
Fertile, Minn.
October 14, 2014

Carroll J. Lindstrom '49
Carlton, Minn.
October 11, 2014

Jerome A. Ruich '49 Adv.
Fort Wayne, Ind.
November 11, 2014

Floyd Szczepanski '51
Stephen, Minn.
October 12, 2014

Ralph Jenson '53
Reynolds, N.D.
September 8, 2014

Richard Kluzak '54
Naperville, Ill.
January 13, 2015

Jean (Stromstad) Vigness-Parker '55
Grand Forks, N.D.
October 30, 2014

Jerome “Jerry” Tjon '60
Twin Valley, Minn.
December 16, 2014

Mike Connelly '61
Baker, Minn.
January 22, 2015

Philip Bjornson '63
Arvilla, N.D.
October 23, 2014

Eugene Miller '65
Larimore, N.D.
December 28, 2014

Lowell Amundson '67
Mentor, Minn.
March 16, 2008

John Merkins ex. '83
Perham, Minn.
January 28, 2015

Mark Uhlenkamp ex. '93
Olivia, Minn.
November 16, 2014

FACULTY/STAFF

Ruth Ann (Nelson) Kruta
Fargo, N.D.
December 10, 2014
Served as school nurse at the Northwest School of Agriculture from 1954 to 1965 and faculty class advisor from 1959 to 1962

Earl Ryden
Kennedy, Minn.
November 8, 2014
Served as an instructor and faculty class advisor at the Northwest School of Agriculture from 1959 to 1960
To RSVP for the spring and/or fall socials, contact Garret Kollin at 218-281-8436 (koll0131@umn.edu).

**Spring Alumni Social**
Fargo Billiards and Gastropub
3234 43rd Street South, Fargo, N.D.

April 16
5 to 8 p.m.

Trick shots 101: Expert demonstration at 6 p.m.

www.fargobilliards.com

**Fall Alumni Social**
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
3675 Arboretum Drive
Chaska, Minn.

September 14
4 to 7:30 p.m.

Learn more about the Arboretum at 6 p.m.

www.arboretum.umn.edu
UPCOMING EVENTS

April 16 .......................................................Spring Alumni Social, Fargo Billiards and Gastropub
May 9, 2015 ......................................................Commencement Exercises for the Class of 2015
June 27, 2015 .................................................Northwest School of Agriculture Alumni Reunion
September 14........Fall Alumni Social, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, Minn.
October 9, 10, 11..........................................................Homecoming

A gift of $25,000 can endow a scholarship

Donors provide over
300 SPECIALTY SCHOLARSHIPS for students at U of M Crookston

WE’RE CREATING SCHOLARSHIPS BECAUSE A GREAT IDEA CAN CHANGE US ALL.

Thanks to specialty scholarships, U of M Crookston students go after research, leadership, and service opportunities that let them tackle big challenges facing our state, our nation, and our world. It’s one more way the future is being Made in Minnesota.

crk.umn.edu