August 2017

Engagement Spotlight

U of M Professor Abimbola Asojo uses design to advance student success

University College of Design Professor Abimbola Asojo and her students are using service-learning projects to explore how the school interior learning environment impacts students' well-being as part of a partnership between the University and St. Paul-based Bruce Vento Elementary School. Asojo is enlisting community-engaged design students to work on projects that improve facilities and promote learning among young populations.

Announcements

OPE, Minnesota Campus Compact offer eight issue-focused Communities of Practice

The University's Office for Public Engagement and Minnesota, and the Iowa and Wisconsin Campus Compacts are offering a series of issue-focused Communities of Practice (COP) ranging in topic from Developing as Community Engagement Professionals to The Scholarship of Engagement Viewed From Community and Academic Lenses: Mirror Image or Distinctive Reflection? Six of the COPs are open to all members of Minnesota, Iowa, or Wisconsin Campus Compact and will launch on October 13, 2017; two sessions will be offered exclusively to University faculty, staff, and students.

APLU announces four regional finalists for C. Peter Magrath Community Engagement Scholarship Award; U of M recognized for exemplary efforts

Four member universities of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) have been selected as regional winners of the 2017 W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Engagement Scholarship
A ward. In addition to the regional winners, five exemplary designees were recognized for their outstanding efforts. Those institutions — Michigan State University; Texas Tech University; the University of Minnesota; the University of Louisville; and the University of South Carolina — will be showcased at the Engagement Scholarship Consortium's Annual Conference in September.

Open Rivers: Heritage, Open Space and Water

The seventh issue of the University River Life Program's online publication, Open Rivers, provides tools for understanding the history and future of the Upper Mississippi in Minneapolis, and explores how familiar bodies of water in the Metro Area have been impacted by industrial activity.

U of M announces activities at 2017 Minnesota State Fair

The University's See You at the Fair website offers a schedule of University activities at the 2017 Minnesota State Fair. Highlights include Clean Energy Research Team presentations in the EcoExperience Building, the Ojibwe People’s Dictionary project in the Crossroad Building, and the opening of the University's newly remodeled Driven to Discover Building.

U of M Resilient Communities Project report highlights Metro Area development

The Healthy and Equitable Development Project, a new report from the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs’ Resilient Communities Project, provides insights into barriers that stakeholders face to building healthier, more equitable developments in first-ring suburbs of Minneapolis and St. Paul and provides steps to positively influence development decisions moving forward.

U of M researchers address language barriers for Hmong students

College of Education and Human Development Professor of Special Education Scott McConnell and Senior Research Associate Alisha Wackerle-Hollman have received a $400,000, two-year grant from the Institute for Education Sciences, entitled Addressing the Growing Diversity of Preschool Populations through Low Incidence Language Barriers: Hmong Language Development to Improve Assessment Approaches. In partnership with Lori Erickson, assistant director for the St. Paul Public Schools' Office of Early Learning, they will explore and develop growth and development indicators for Hmong preschool students.

Voices from Rural Minnesota: Rural Minnesota and the Automation Revolution

The University of Minnesota, Morris Center for Small Towns' (CST) Voices from Rural Minnesota blog features an exploration by CST Director Roger Rose of automation's impact on rural economies.

U of M Events

- Aug. 2 Immigration History Research Center Webinar
- Aug. 10 MEZI: Advancing Authentic Community Partnerships
- Sept. 18-20 Second Annual Conference on Native American Nutrition
Oct 12,13 Student Engagement: Connection to School, Motivation to Learn
Oct. 17,18 Minnesota Water Resources Conference
Oct. 25-27 2017 Food Access Summit

Other Events

- Aug. 9,10 Secondary Math Teachers and Social Justice
- Sept. 15,16 Dialogue in Divided Societies
- Sept. 26-27 Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference
- Oct. 8-11 Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities Conference
- Oct. 12-13 Student Engagement Conference
- Oct. 13 Communities of Practice Launch
- Oct. 18-20 Navigating the Future of Water
- March 25-28 2018 Campus Compact National Conference

Featured Resource

*Transform: The Journal of Engaged Scholarship*

*Transform: The Journal of Engaged Scholarship* is a new peer-reviewed online platform for engaged scholars and practitioners published by Engagement Australia. The debut issues features an article titled "Neighbourhood Emplaced Centers: A Trend Within American Urban Community-University Engagement" which sites the work of College of Education and Human Development Associate Professor Heidi Barajas and Robert J. Jones Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center Director of Research Lauren Martin.

Call for Award Nominations

**Call for Nominations: CTSI's Research Mentor of the Year awards (Deadline: August 24, 2017)**

The University's Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) mentor awards recognize outstanding research mentors who, among other things, provide research-related assistance and guidance to trainees, promote research career advancement, and motivate and serve as a role model to trainees.

Call for Papers/Conference Proposals

**Call for Papers: North Carolina Campus Compact's Partnerships (Deadline: Ongoing)**

North Carolina Campus Compact's *Partnerships: A Journal of Service-Learning and Civic Engagement* seeks articles that focus on how theories and practices can inform and improve partnerships between students, faculty, community agencies, administrators, disciplines, and more.

**Call for Submissions: Undergraduate Journal of Service Learning and Community-Based Research**
Pennsylvania State University's *Undergraduate Journal of Service Learning and Community-Based Research* seeks submissions that advance knowledge of service learning and community-based research.

**Opportunities**

**U of M Graduate School's Orientation and Resource Fair**
The University's Graduate School seeks exhibitors for its 2017 Orientation Resource Fair set for Wednesday, September 6 at the McNamara Alumni Center.

**Apply for the Health Equity Leadership and Mentoring Program**
The University's Program in Health Disparities Research is taking applications for the 2017-18 Health Equity Leadership and Mentoring Program. This opportunity is available to junior faculty members and postdoctoral fellows or trainees from minority and underserved groups and/or whose research is addressing health equity.

**U of M CBPR course free to community members**
Sponsored by the University's School of Public Health, this Community-Based Participatory Research course is free to community members.

**One-to-one services for financially distressed farmers**
University of Minnesota Extension will begin offering one-to-one financial counseling to farmers in serious financial stress. The new program offers distressed farmers help in understanding their financial situation and exploring options to keep their farms functioning as a viable enterprise.

The **Office for Public Engagement** is a unit of the **University of Minnesota** Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.