

# Online Catalyst

*A Newsletter for Students*

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Editor Darlene Esko  
Managing Editor Susan Amos Palmer  
651.793.1820  
darlene.esko@metrostate.edu

## Interim provost appointed

President Sue K. Hammersmith has appointed Dr. Gary Seiler, Shoreview, as Metropolitan State University's interim provost and vice president for academic affairs. The appointment is effective July 1 and lasts for one year. The current provost, William Lowe, will become chancellor of Indiana University Northwest, Gary, Ind., beginning July 1.

In addition to being the university's chief academic officer and deputy chief executive, Dr. Seiler will serve as acting president in President Hammersmith's absence. Working with administrators, faculty, staff and students, he will provide academic leadership in setting and meeting the institution's goals and priorities.

Seiler has been the dean of Metropolitan State's College of Management since May 1998. He had joined Metropolitan State in 1989 as the chair of the Department of Management and coordinator of undergraduate business programs. He has a cumulative total of 37 years in higher education.

Seiler holds a B.S. and an M.A. in business education, an M.B.A. in management and a Ph.D. in strategic management, Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota. In addition to his role as dean, he is also a professor and a consultant to many Twin Cities organizations.



## Spring commencement set for May 6

Metropolitan State University's 86th commencement exercises are Thursday, May 6, in the Minneapolis Convention Center Auditorium. Approximately 890 students are receiving bachelor's, master's or doctorate degrees. Roman E. Rowan, Plymouth, First College outstanding student, is the student speaker. Rowan, who at age 69 is the university's oldest outstanding student, worked successfully in computer software development and later in executive management for a group of 1,400 people, retired and pursued an individualized B.A. focusing in the natural sciences and environmental issues.

David Urbia, Farmington, a retired U.S. Navy senior chief petty officer, is receiving a master of business administration. He is serving in Najaf, Iraq, with the U.S. State Department. He is working as a senior city manager/urban planning advisor for the provincial reconstruction team. He returns home later this summer to his civilian position as city administrator for the city of Victoria. His oldest two children will represent him as the graduate program graduates cross the stage.

Other commencement participants include: Metropolitan State President Sue K. Hammersmith; Barbara Keinath, vice provost and graduate studies director for Metropolitan State; James Van Houten, trustee, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system Board of Trustees; Kenneth Zapp, Inter-faculty Organization representative; Kathy Burnham, president, Metropolitan State University Alumni Association Board; Samuel Verdeja, Metropolitan State University Foundation trustee; Dr. Tony Chia-Hung Ku, president, China University of Technology; and Victoria Reinhardt, chair, Ramsey County Board of Commissioners.

## Facilitate service-learning programs for young people

### Be a part of UAB

University Activities Board (UAB) is a student professional and staff-run organization. Volunteer for the UAB and gain skills in leadership, cooperation, communication, decision making, committee structures/workgroups; network with university student leaders, faculty, staff, employers and other MnSCU students; and meet new friends. For information on how to join, contact Lori Yang at [student.activities@metrostate.edu](mailto:student.activities@metrostate.edu) or call 651.793.1556.

Spend a few weeks this summer helping young people discover how to make a difference in the world! The Civic Education Project (CEP), a leadership and citizenship program at Northwestern University, is seeking strong instructor and administrator candidates for the summer Civic Leadership Institute programs.

### About the Civic Leadership Institute

The Civic Leadership Institute is a three-week summer service-learning program for outstanding high school students, offered on top college campuses in Baltimore (June 27–July 16), Chicago (July 11–July 30) and San Francisco (July 18–Aug. 6). Each Civic Leadership Institute integrates challenging academic work, meaningful service, hands-on field experiences, guest speakers, and facilitated reflection designed to help young people develop the knowledge, experience and leadership skills they need to make a positive impact on society.

### About the instructor position

Each instructor works with a teaching assistant to facilitate a service-learning curriculum on “Civic Engagement and Contemporary Social Issues” for a group of outstanding high school students. Instructors teach five hours of class daily, five days per week for three weeks, to a single group of 14–16 students, and help facilitate an additional two-hour academic session in the evenings. CEP provides suggested curricula and sets up field experiences; instructors prepare and facilitate all lesson plans and class activities and evaluate student work. Instructors should have a minimum of 3–5 years of experience teaching high-achieving students in junior high, high school or university settings, as well as expertise in service-learning and/or experiential education. Instructors earn \$2,000–\$3,000 per three-week session, plus room and board.

### About the academic dean position

The academic dean, a member of the site administrative team, assumes primary responsibility for supervising the academic staff and coordinating the academic program. Academic deans support and guide instructional staff with a variety of educational backgrounds and teaching skills. Through classroom observations and conferences with staff, academic deans provide feedback and mentoring on teaching strategies and classroom management. They also address student performance issues and oversee the editing of student evaluations, and furnish logistical support for field experiences, speakers, class projects and other academic activities. Academic deans should have extensive experience teaching high-achieving students in junior high or high school settings, and a strong background in service learning and/or experiential education. They should have administrative and supervisory experience and strong communication, organizational and computer skills. The academic dean salary starts at \$2,750 per three-week session, plus room and board.

Additional instructional, residential, and administrative positions are available at all of the summer sites.

### Apply now

Learn more about these programs and positions and apply online at: <http://www.civiceducationproject.com/jobs/summer/>.

Applications are reviewed as they are received. Apply as early as possible to:

Civic Education Project  
617 Dartmouth Place  
Evanston, IL 60208

(847.467.2572 or [cep@northwestern.edu](mailto:cep@northwestern.edu)  
<http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/cep>).

### Blink Bonnie's summer hours

Blink Bonnie's hours during the semester break are:

- Wednesday, May 5, open 8 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Thursday, May 6–Saturday, May 8, closed for ceiling replacement in the kitchen area.

Beginning summer semester, May 10, the hours will be:

- Mondays–Thursdays open 8 a.m.–6 p.m.
- Fridays–Saturdays, open 8 a.m.–2 p.m.

## Summer Partnership in Law offered

### Internship opportunities

Visit the following Web sites for internship opportunities:

- Career Link: [metrostate.edu/career](http://metrostate.edu/career)
- Center for Community-Based Learning: [metrostate.edu/ccbl/](http://metrostate.edu/ccbl/). Click on “Academic Internships,” “Internship Resources.”

William Mitchell College of Law and Metropolitan State's First College are again offering the Summer Partnership in Law (SPIL) program. The SPIL introduces undergraduate students to law and legal education through participation in law school-level summer courses, and is designed for students who have completed their sophomore, but not their senior year.

Two courses must be taken concurrently:  
1) American Legal System (PRSP 370-01), and  
2) Legal Reasoning and Writing (PRSP 371-01).

Both courses are offered at William Mitchell College of Law. Complete scheduling information is available in the Metropolitan State *Summer Class Schedule* under Individualized, Interdisciplinary and Lifelong Learning.

For further course and registration information, refer to the online *Class Schedule* at: <http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/catalog/schedule>.

Textbooks will be available at William Mitchell College bookstore.

## MnSCU proposes to increase tuition and fees

Proposed tuition and fees will increase, on average, by \$210 at state colleges and \$301 at state universities next fall according to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees' proposed 2011 budget recommendation. Cuts in state funding contribute to the need for the tuition increase.

The proposal calls for students at the 25 state colleges to pay an average of \$4,907 or 4.5 percent more, and students at the seven state universities to pay an average of \$6,596 or 4.8 percent more for tuition and fees than the current year.

The trustees are expected to act on the tuition

proposal at their May 19 board meeting.

The 32 presidents are balancing their budgets by reducing expenses for travel and equipment purchases, eliminating administrative support, increasing class sizes, limiting course offerings, restructuring and closing programs.

State appropriations are expected to cover 43 percent of the cost of educating students, while tuition would cover the other 57 percent.

Metropolitan State will continue to have the lowest annual tuition and fees of the seven state universities at \$5,923, an increase of \$296.

## Need a Goal 1 online class for fall?

Here's a suggestion for students needing an online class that meets Goal 1 Communication: Oral and Visual Communication requirements: MDST 363 Children and the Media, four credits, Aug. 21–Dec. 11.

This course examines the influence of television, radio, film and new technologies on children and the family. Students discuss the unique production considerations involved when

producing a media program for children and explore the research on media literacy, media violence, advertising, education, gender roles, new technology and the child's response to programming. It includes critical viewing of media programs produced for children on broadcast and cable television, video, radio, computer and feature films.

## Social Work faculty Donald Bibeau retires



*Donald Bibeau*  
professor emeritus

At a reception on April 20, Metropolitan State's retiring faculty member Donald Bibeau was honored and presented with a plaque and a gift of personalized bookends by President Sue K. Hammersmith. Maythee Kantar, professor and Inter-faculty Association president, presented him with a marble red apple memento, symbolic of his teaching career.

Metropolitan State's Social Work Department has earned a widespread reputation for educating high-quality graduates. So much so that department graduates are selected for positions often designated for those with master's degrees. Considerable credit for that success goes to Donald Bibeau, long-time Social Work faculty member and one-time department chair.

Bibeau, who holds an Ed.D., served as acting chair and chair for about four years. During this period, the department steadily increased its student diversity. Persons of color now comprise about half of the Social Work Department's

student body, making it arguably the most diverse social work program among Minnesota's colleges and universities.

Students benefited from Bibeau's wealth of experience as educator, counselor, social worker, trainer, consultant, therapist, administrator, lecturer and author. He once chaired the American Indian Studies Department at Bemidji State University and the University of Minnesota Duluth and served as executive director of the Minnesota Indian Affairs Inter-tribal Board. Students also learned from the five classes he developed and taught and from his wide-ranging community service.

Bibeau, an enrolled member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, says he will miss the enthusiasm of Metropolitan State's students and the faculty's collegiality. Both are what the university will miss about him, a newly-designated professor emeritus.

## College of Management professor Ken Zapp retires



*Ken Zapp  
professor emeritus*

At a reception on April 20, Metropolitan State's retiring faculty member Ken Zapp was honored and presented with a plaque and a gift of personalized bookends by President Sue K. Hammersmith. Maythee Kantar, professor and Inter-faculty Association president, presented him with a marble red apple memento, symbolic of his teaching career.

Ken Zapp was instrumental in ushering Metropolitan State into the big leagues. He spearheaded the launch of the university's first graduate program and further broadened the institution's scope by developing its initial international program.

He was hired in 1984 to create Metropolitan State's first graduate degree, the then master of management and administration, and served as that program's first resident faculty member. As current chair of the College of Management, Zapp was a lead proponent of the university's second doctoral degree, the applied doctor of business administration.

Zapp chaired two departments and served as the college's graduate programs director and international programs coordinator. As interim dean of the college, he initiated a Metropolitan State program at Tamkang University in Taiwan that has conferred degrees upon more than 900 international students.

He traveled broadly, offering seminars, presenting papers and lecturing at 25 academic conferences in 10 countries. His international exposure was evident in the classes he taught in Slovenia, Poland and elsewhere, the training he headed for economists in Poland and Slovenia,

the consulting he did in Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia, and in his Ph.D., which he obtained from Lancaster University in England. His polished international skills led to his selection as Honorary Council for the Republic of Slovenia.

As faculty association president, Zapp kept the founding spirit of Metropolitan State alive by helping forge a compromise that produced the First College, which retains the university's nationally acclaimed and innovative individualized degree program. His diplomatic skills were also apparent as the faculty association's grievance officer.

Zapp developed a wide range of undergraduate and graduate courses and his peers recognized his academic proficiency by selecting him for a Faculty Excellence Award. But his expertise extended beyond the classroom. He garnered visibility for the university by providing expert commentary to the Twin Cities media and writing about issues ranging from the breakup of the former Yugoslavia to sports stadium funding. He was also invited to offer testimony before Minnesota Senate and House legislative committees, and he represented consumers before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

Zapp has said he derived considerable enjoyment during his 27 years at Metropolitan State because he could make a real difference in the lives of many students, especially working adults. As it turned out, the newly-designated professor emeritus was also a real difference maker for the College of Management and the entire university.

### Updated policies

Two policies and one procedure have been added to the Web site:

<http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/choose/policies/index.cfm>.

Academic Affairs Policy #2130, Course Prerequisite Policy, is new and was signed on April 13.

The Scholarship Committee policy was taken out of Academic Affairs and placed under Student Affairs. The Scholarship Committee Policy is now #3020. Along with this newly numbered and updated policy is Procedure #302, Administering Annual Student Senate Grant and Student Senate Academic Achievement Awards.

## Join the Cinco de Mayo parade on May 8

Join your Metropolitan State friends at the Saturday, May 8, Cinco de Mayo parade on Saint Paul's West Side. Line up for the parade at 8:30 a.m. at the Holiday Station at Plato Blvd. and Wabasha; parade time is 10 a.m.–noon. Parade walkers will receive a free t-shirt. Register at [cultural.events@metrostate.edu](mailto:cultural.events@metrostate.edu) by May 5 and give them your shirt size. For more information and to

view the shirt design, click on this link:

<https://db.metrostate.edu/webapps/drep/Cinco%20de%20Mayo%20Parade%202010.pdf>. For

complete fiesta event information, click on the following link:

<http://www.districtdelsol.com/cincomayo/events.html>.

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