

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

Dean of students named

Cecilia Stanton, Crystal, was appointed dean of students by President Sue K. Hammersmith effective Aug. 4. As dean of students, she is responsible for overseeing services and programs to foster student success, including student life and leadership development (orientation, student organizations and governance), TRiO programs, multicultural student and retention services, international student services, veterans, women's and GLBT services, and handling student judicial and disciplinary matters.

Stanton has more than 10 years' experience in student affairs and extensive experience in diversity training and development. She served as interim dean at Metropolitan State for seven months this year. She came to the university from the Art Institutes of Minnesota, where she was on the faculty. Previously, she was director of faculty diversity and engagement for Capella University, assistant vice president for culture and leadership with Allianz of North America, and assistant dean of students for Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa. She also has a consulting business, Stanton Consulting.

Stanton holds a B.A. in psychology from Bloomfield College, an M.A. in sociology/psychology from Lehigh University, an M.A. in industrial organizational psychology, and is a Ph.D. student in industrial organizational psychology at Capella University.



Associate v.p. for financial management appointed

Ronald E. Beckstrom, Centerville, was appointed associate vice president for financial management by President Sue K. Hammersmith effective Aug. 4.

In this position, he provides professional advice to executive leadership on financial planning and processes and develops financial management policies and procedures. He directs Financial Management Office operations and oversees business and financial services, including budgeting, student payroll, bursar, purchasing, contracts and accounts payable, accounting, financial reporting, and grants management and accounting. Beckstrom also serves as the university's controller, ensuring adequate internal controls and compliance with federal and state laws and regulations.

For the past year, he served as interim associate vice president. He came to Metropolitan State from Minnesota State Colleges and Universities where he worked since 2005, most recently as financial reporting specialist. Previously, he was finance manager for The Minneapolis Foundation, director of finance, operations and technology for Reuben Lindh Family Services and in several positions for Northside Residents Redevelopment Council.

Beckstrom holds a B.S. in accounting from the University of Wisconsin, River Falls, and an M.B.A. in finance from the University of St. Thomas.



“Ask Us” knowledge base has changed

Internship opportunities

Visit these Web sites for internship opportunities:

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

Metropolitan State University’s “Ask Us!” system has undergone some changes. Beginning Aug. 25, all students and staff had new accounts created in Ask Us! The main page now looks different, and users are able to submit questions to three separate areas:

- 1) **Gateway**—ask about registration/transcripts, student accounts, financial aid, tuition and more;

- 2) **IT Services**—ask about NetDirect, wireless access, e-mail, accessing the shared folder and more;
- 3) **DataSlice**—ask the Institutional Research Office about university data, institutional measurements, historic trends and more.

Please be patient if the whole process does not work seamlessly during the transition period.

National Science Foundation seeks minority research students

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 or call 651.793.1556.

The National Science Foundation has made money available to qualified Metropolitan State students through the Luis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation. Qualified students are those who

- 1) are citizens or permanent residents of the United States;
- 2) are pursuing (or at least have an interest in pursuing) a B.A. or B.S. degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) disciplines; (this translates to Metropolitan State students who pursue math, biology, computer information systems, management information systems, and computer forensic majors); and

- 3) are African-American, Native-American, Hispanic-American or Pacific-Islander.

Qualified students can use this money to do research with a faculty member at Metropolitan State (\$800 for a period of research lasting from one semester up to a year); and attend workgroups which meet once per week to do class work and/or attend talks, conferences and workshops throughout Minnesota (\$500/year plus expenses).

For more information follow the link below: <http://www.northstarstem.org/>

To apply, contact Ramin Daghig, associate professor, natural sciences, at ramin.daghig@metrostate.edu.

Jerry Cotton Memorial Golf Tournament is Sept. 19

On Sept. 19, the Metropolitan State University Foundation is hosting the fourth annual Jerry Cotton Memorial Golf Tournament at Emerald Greens Golf Course in Hastings, beginning with registration at 10:30 a.m. and a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. This tournament raises funds for Metropolitan State scholarships for students going into Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

Jerry Cotton, who passed away in 2006, was a Dakota County Sheriff’s Deputy and a 2002 graduate of Metropolitan State University. Besides

working full time at the Dakota County Sheriff’s Office, Jerry also worked part time for 12 years at Metropolitan Learning Alliance, a charter school for juniors and seniors.

For more information about the tournament, click on this link:

http://metrostate.edu/msweb/community/foundation/scholarship/golf_cotton.html

After the golf tournament, the banquet begins at 5 p.m. followed by a silent auction, a live auction and golf awards. If you can’t golf, you can also sponsor a hole.

Join the Literacy Corps and teach a child to read

The Literacy Corps is recruiting students to provide literacy tutoring at inner-city schools and other sites. Several academic opportunities are available through courses, group internships and courses with required or elective community-based (service-learning) hours. Tutors may also choose to participate through a variety of programs that

offer opportunities during the day, after school, evenings and weekends. Training and placements are provided. Days and times are flexible.

To find more information or to receive an application, contact Vanessa Young, the Literacy Corps work study coordinator, at 651.793.1296.

Annual Constitution Day to be celebrated Sept. 17

Labor Day hours

Building hours for Saturday–Monday, Sept. 4–6, (Labor Day weekend) are:

- Saint Paul Campus and Midway Center, all buildings and offices closed; no classes.
- Minneapolis Campus (MEC and MCTC), open Thursday, Sept. 4, from 7 a.m.–5 p.m.; all buildings and offices closed on Sept. 5–6.
- Library and Learning Center, all offices closed and building closed Sept. 4–6.
- Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Education Center, open Sept. 4 from 7:30 a.m.–5 p.m.; all offices and building closed Sept. 5–6.

Metropolitan State University is observing Constitution Day 2010 on Friday, Sept. 17. This year's speaker is Bob Fox, professor emeritus, First College. The theme for the event is "The Constitution: Historic Facts and Contemporary Fiction."

Immediately following the presentation, teams of faculty, students, staff and administrators will be vying to be the Metropolitan Constitution *Jeopardy* champions! There are four teams: Administration—Ginny Lane, Cecilia Stanton and Bob Heuermann; Resident and Community Faculty—Sarah Hansen, John Rafferty and Steve Creason; Staff—Phil Fuehrer, Eve Nichols and Sam Erickson; and Students—Jahan Powell, Dea Price and Brian Wermerskirchen. Bob Fox will serve as host, Professor Tom O'Connell as judge, and Allyn Uniacke as timekeeper.

There are prizes and light refreshments. Come cheer your favorite team on as they

challenge one another's knowledge of the constitution!

As you may know, the Byrd Amendment requires that all educational institutions that receive federal funds must hold "an educational program on the U.S. Constitution" in honor of its signing on Sept. 17, 1787. This event is one way Metropolitan State is commemorating the signing of the U.S. Constitution.

In addition, the Center for Community-Based Learning is offering free pocket constitution booklets for all students. If faculty wish to hand out constitution booklets to students in their classes, contact cbl.center@metrostate.edu, or call the CCBL at 651.793.1285 with your name, the course title and number, and the number of booklets needed. The requested number of booklets will be sent to you via campus mail to hand out during the week of Sept. 13.

United We Serve: Day of Service and Remembering 9/11

In 2009, President Barack Obama put a call out for all Americans to participate in community service activities that serve their country through local action that benefits the community. Metropolitan State University is responding to that call by offering the Second Annual United We Serve Day of Service on Wednesday, Sept. 8. The Day of Service offers faculty, staff and university students a variety of community service project opportunities. Students, faculty and staff are invited to sign up and serve at one of 12 different community organizations across the Twin Cities. To sign up and serve, register at

<https://db.metrostate.edu/webapps/drep/UnitedWeServe.pdf>

On Sept. 10, family members of local 9/11 hero Tom Burnett are joining us for a public event that will inspire audience members to "Do Something" by learning how Tom Jr.'s family and friends turned a tragedy into a legacy through educating young people to be good citizens. This Remembering 9/11 event takes place on Sept. 10 at noon at the Saint Paul Campus, Founders Hall, Auditorium. This event is free and open to the public.

Study Abroad Programs procedure issued

University Policy #2140, Study Abroad Programs, issued on Aug. 26, is available on the Metropolitan State Web site. Access the policy by clicking on "Catalogs" on the home page, then "Undergraduate Programs," then "Academic Policies and Procedures" under "Undergraduate

Catalog." Finally, click on "University Policies" and scroll to Section II, "Academic Affairs Policies."

This policy applies to student-initiated and faculty-sponsored study abroad programs.

Upward Bound tutors needed

The Upward Bound Program is seeking students to provide tutoring for high school students. Subject areas consist of, but are not limited to, mathematics (algebra, geometry, pre-calculus, calculus), literature, social science, science (chemistry, physics), technology, college applications and essays, preparation for standardized tests (MCAs, BSTs, ACTs and

Accuplacer). Generalists are also needed. Weekday and weekend hours available. Training provided. Students may receive academic credit through community-based courses. For more information or to receive an application, contact Yolonda Rogers at Yolonda.rogers@metrostate.edu or 651.793.1288.

Participate in College for Kids

Assist in making college a reality for local elementary students by participating in College for Kids on the Saint Paul Campus. Fourth, fifth and sixth graders have the chance to experience a college environment and dream about the future when they visit Metropolitan State. The students arrive in the morning, register and attend fun classes, and participate in a special graduation ceremony.

We are seeking Metropolitan State University students, faculty and staff to design and teach

classes. Participants are also needed to assist classroom teachers and guide students throughout the day. College for Kids is a great opportunity to fulfill community-based/service-learning requirements and explore interests in working with elementary students.

If you are interested in participating in College for Kids or would like to learn more about the program, contact Yolonda Rogers at 651.793.1288 or via e-mail at yolonda.rogers@metrostate.edu.

Middle School Campus Visits

Assist in making college a reality for middle school students by participating in Middle School Visits on the Saint Paul Campus. Local seventh and eighth graders have the chance to experience a college environment and dream about the future when they visit Metropolitan State. The students arrive in the morning, participate in a campus tour/scavenger hunt, register and attend fun classes designed and taught by university students, faculty and staff.

We are seeking Metropolitan State University

students, faculty and staff to design and teach classes. Participants are also needed to assist classroom teachers and guide students throughout the day. Middle School Visits are a great opportunity to fulfill community-based/service-learning requirements and to explore interests in working with middle students.

If you are interested in participating or would like to learn more about the program, contact Yolonda Rogers at 651.793.1288 or e-mail yolonda.rogers@metrostate.edu.

Join the Neighborhood Leadership Program

The Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, in collaboration with the Minnesota Historical Society, is pleased to announce that applications are being accepted for the six-month Neighborhood Leadership Program. Join a diverse group of 30 people to explore neighborhood involvement and develop leadership skills to take effective community action. Community members come from a wide range of ages, cultural backgrounds, and levels of community involvement and meet in bimonthly sessions over six months.

Topics include:

- understanding your leadership style;
- working inclusively in neighborhoods;
- conflict resolution; and
- drawing on community history to take action today.

Participants are also paired with a coach who shares in the journey as an attentive listener, sounding board and reflective partner.

To participate in the program, you need to:

- live, work or volunteer in Saint Paul;
- be 16 years of age or older;
- demonstrate interest and/or involvement in contributing to the community;
- make a commitment to attend two sessions per month (October–April) and the retreat; and
- pay a registration fee of \$100 or locate a sponsor (limited scholarships available).

Applications are due Monday, Sept. 27. Child care and transportation to sessions are available within Saint Paul—request them on your application. The application/information sheet can be found at www.wilder.org/nlp.html.

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Anyone with disabilities needing accommodations for a Metropolitan State event or who needs a publication in an alternative format, should call Disability Services at 651.793.1549 or 651.772.7687 (TTY).

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