UPDATES

The Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center Moves Forward

**Activities:** UROC is collaborating with the Science Museum of Minneapolis (SMM), and community partners, to design a fun and exciting way to deliver information about healthy living, nutrition, fitness, culture and community values. This project would create a visible presence through a physical interactive exhibition component (kiosks) similar to the Science Museum’s award winning [Science Buzz exhibits and website](http://www.smm.org/buzz/).

**Infrastructure:** The Infrastructure for UROC will emerge out of a strategic planning process that will commence by May 1. We will begin to look at what staff will be needed to support the Core UROC and Affiliated UROC programs that will be housed in the renovated facility. Upon the opening of the facility, Makeda Zulu-Gillespie, the UROC-UNP Community Liaison, will relocate.

**Space:** The last tenant has vacated the 2100 Plymouth Street former shopping center. Archie Givens has been named to serve as the owner’s representative to coordinate the renovations; for more visit: [http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/NS_details.php?release=080421_3498&page=NS](http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/NS_details.php?release=080421_3498&page=NS)

**FIPSE Grant to Support activities for UROC**

Three workgroups: Vital Communities, Urban Wellness and Human Talent continue to meet on a regular basis to implement the activities approved by the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE) grant. For more information on the FIPSE-UROC workgroups, please contact Geoff Maruyama at [geoff@umn.edu](mailto:geoff@umn.edu) or (612) 625-5861.

**CENTER FOR URBAN & REGIONAL AFFAIRS (CURA)**

-- Northside Seed Grants (NSG) Spring Round of Competition

These seed grants support community organizations serving residents of the Minneapolis Northside community by providing student research assistants and faculty researchers to carry out neighborhood-initiated and neighborhood-guided projects. The program provides approximately 200 hours of student time to work on a project defined by the community (260 hours during the
summer.) Applications are available online at the Center for Urban & Regional Affairs (CURA) website:  [http://www.cura.umn.edu/NSG.php](http://www.cura.umn.edu/NSG.php). For more information contact Kris Nelson, the University-Northside Partnership Seed Grant coordinator, by phone at 612-625-1020 or by e-mail at ksn@umn.edu. Next deadline: **June 15, 2008**

**UROC Partnership Update: Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board – BCBS Active Living Grant Update**

In mid-March, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, in a new collaboration with UROC, responded to BlueCross and BlueShield of Minnesota’s RFP #599: Active Living Minnesota. The proposed project is a case study of physical activity level among a selected group of Near North Minneapolis residents, using a participatory action research model that included training community residents to collect and analyze data. While the request was not funded by Blue Cross /Blue Shield, UROC and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board plan to seek other funding.

**Community Benefits Agreement Town Hall Meeting**

Preliminary results of the UNP-CBA Town Hall meeting held On Thursday, April 3 at the Minneapolis Urban League, where 28 participants voted on the Strategies that have emerged from several community dialogues conducted over the last two years show that:

- 62.50% said the U of M should grant automatic enrollment and acceptance to the top 15% of minority public and charter high school students.
- 19.75% said that the UNP shall develop a community ownership & economic development center and the same percentage of voters said the UNP shall also work to strengthen small and existing businesses in North Minneapolis.
- 22.73% said the UNP shall cultivate, mentor and help students get into health fields.
- 54.55% said that an appropriate governance structure to monitor, assess, and evaluate the progress of the UNP-CBA agreed upon strategies should be comprised of an outside entity, community residents, leaders, stakeholders, Community and University representatives.
- 33.87 said that the governance structure should be diverse and representative of community residents to include people of color, youth; community institutions; schools; law enforcement; churches and the mosque.
- 95.83% said that a research and review board should be created to oversee the research and data collected to assure transparency and accountability of research data collected.
- 45.83% said that residents who participate in the Community Research and Review Board should be adequately compensated.

Sherrie Pugh Sullivan and Clarence Hightower facilitated meeting, allowing questions and comments after the voting process. Residents were also given index cards for their questions and comments for either UNP or U of M representatives. The questions and comments were collected, typed-up in a document for University representative(s) to respond to at a later date.

**North Community YMCA**

_ UROC/UNP Community Affairs Committee Brief  - April 23, 2008_
The current North Community YMCA site is being transformed into a “YMCA Youth and Family Enrichment Center”. The new center will offer services specifically targeted to children, youth and teens and their families. Those services will focus on high quality educational programs with an emphasis on school success, leadership training, and recreational fun. The center core of the building will offer functional multi-purpose space that will accommodate small and large group gatherings, programs, and classes. A zero depth addition to the current pool will provide a fun and safe place for small children and families to enjoy YMCA aquatics offerings.

**Employment Opportunities**

**Job Code and Title:** (9354) Coordinator  
**Requisition Number:** 154441  
**Working Title:** Manager, Center for Innovation & Economic Development

The Center for Innovation and Economic Development is a new division of the Office for Business & Community Economic Development (OBCED) that is dedicated to the promotion of economic growth and development, economic diversification, entrepreneurial expansion, innovation and increasing productivity of the businesses, community-based organizations, youth, residents and special interest groups working in the North Minneapolis community. The Center will serve as a clearinghouse for information, a gathering place for education and networking, and a laboratory for innovation, technology transfer and research. The CIED will be located in North Minneapolis and will be part of the University's new Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center and University Northside Partnership, a collaboration between the University, Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis, and several North Minneapolis organizations and constituent groups.

This is a full-time position as a University of Minnesota employee. Benefits include health, dental and life insurance, retirement after a waiting period, 22 vacation days per year, and University of Minnesota employee tuition reimbursement benefit. Salary is commensurate with education, experience and qualifications. The expected salary range is $65,000 - $72,500.

**Application Instructions:** Application should be made electronically through the University of Minnesota’s Online Employment System.

To apply online, visit:  
https://employment.umn.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1208975223753

The following documents are necessary to apply online:

- Letter of application expressing interest in the position and addressing specifically how your experience and education meet both the required and preferred qualifications  
- Current résumé  
- Names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of three professional references

If you are unable to use the electronic application process, please contact:
Craig Taylor
Director
Office for Business & Community Economic Development
2221 University Avenue SE, Suite 136
Minneapolis, MN 55414
Phone: 612-624-0530