

Rollin' with Old Man River

How the Mississippi River shaped the cities we live in

Dillsbury; WCCO; General Mills; Cargill: All are household names. All are Twin Cities institutions that got their start because of the Mississippi.

Park Service historian John Anfinson. Nunnally, who is also a U of M adjunct assistant professor of landscape architecture, says, "The river is truly the agent that fueled the city's growth. Without the river, the Twin Cities as we know it would not exist."

the falls after his patron saint, St. Anthony of Padua.

It wasn't until the construction of Fort Snelling in 1819 that permanent Euroamerican civilization set up along the river. In 1821, Josiah Snelling (the fort's namesake), erected a small sawmill on the west side of St. Anthony Falls; a gristmill followed two years later.

In 1854, a suspension bridge traversing the river from Minneapolis to Nicollet Island and then to St. Anthony Village became the first permanent bridge ever to cross the Mississippi. It created a boom in both settlement and industry.

By the 1840s, lumbermen were taking advantage of the falls' hydropower, and a decade later industrial-scale flour milling had also begun to spring up. Dams and tunnels were created to direct the water flow and create power for the mills, and the city's population boomed.

It was clear that the falls, the river, and their impact on the milling industry were the most important factors in the area's success.

Fearing that the falls would be destroyed, townspeople threw in whole sections of houses to try to stop flooding caused by a tunnel collapse in 1869.

Without the waterpower, the mills would not run; without the mills, the growing metropolitan area would most likely disappear.

So in 1869, when a 2,500-foot tunnel that was under construction between Nicollet and Hennepin islands caved in, it sparked a frenzy. As the tunnel collapsed, it created a violent whirlpool that sucked in everything that came through its path.

City officials feared that the falls would be undercut and destroyed by the swirling maelstrom. Frantically, townspeople began throwing everything they could find into the river to stop the flooding—including sections of houses and other large pieces of debris.

After several stopgap measures, the Army Corps of Engineers stepped in to create a permanent solution.

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Built in 1854, the bridge between Minneapolis and St. Anthony was the first permanent bridge over the Mississippi.

One Curiosity Camp this summer, "The Mighty Mississippi: Historic Preservation on the River," will explore the central importance the Mississippi's St. Anthony Falls played in Twin Cities history, and how that legacy is being preserved today.

The coordinator of the Mississippi River Design initiative, Patrick Nunnally, will lead the camp, which also includes a talk by National

How the river was won

Prior to white settlement, the area in what would become the Twin

"The river is too much of a force, too much of a draw to move away from."

Cities was primarily Dakota territory. St. Anthony Falls was considered a sacred site by the Dakota.

Europeans first set foot in the area in 1680 when Father Louis Hennepin came upriver after being captured by the Dakota. He named



This 1778 postcard shows St. Anthony Falls surrounded by untouched wilderness.

GREAT CONVERSATIONS 2007

Great Conversations, Headliners wrap up successful seasons

Great Conversations, the popular discussion series featuring U faculty members and their guests from around the world, finished its sixth season in June with a sold-out dialogue between Richard Leider from the Center for Spirituality and Healing and his mentor Richard Bolles, bestselling author of *What Color Is Your Parachute?*. Since its inception, more than 19,000 people have “joined the discussion” at Great Conversations.

In addition, Headliners, a new monthly forum featuring an overview of current events by a U faculty member followed by audience Q&A, also wrapped up its inaugural season in April.

Says the director of both programs, Margaret O’Neill-Ligon, “Both of these programs are so popular, I think, because they put leading thinkers and doers in a place where the average person can really grasp the complexities of an issue —and then have a lively discussion about it.”

Visit www.cce.umn.edu/conversations and www.cce.umn.edu/headliners for audio downloads of past lectures.



**SPLIT ROCK
ARTS PROGRAM**

Split Rock Arts Program summer workshop registration underway

The Split Rock Arts Program’s weeklong workshops on the Twin Cities campus and at the Cloquet Forestry Center serve artists of all

interests, backgrounds, and skill levels. All workshops allow for significant one-to-one contact between participant and instructor, and participants may select from 40 workshops in creative writing, visual art, and design.

Workshops include Bringing Words to Life: An Introduction to Children’s Book Illustration with Lauren Stringer; The Fabric of Nonfiction with Robin Hemley; Digital Textile Design with Hitoshi and Heather Ujii; The Art of Literary Conjure with Frank X Walker; The Visual Journal: Exploring Urban Landscapes with Julie Baugnet; and The Photographic Project with Harry Mattison.

Graduate or undergraduate credit and on-campus accommodations are available.

To learn more, visit www.cce.umn.edu/splitrockarts or call 612-625-1976.

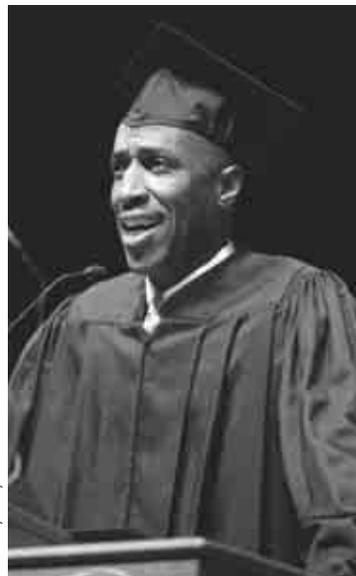


Photo by Tony Nelson

Presenting the Class of 2007

Graduates from the College of Continuing Education’s baccalaureate programs were honored at a commencement ceremony on May 5 at Northrop Auditorium. Graduates were from the Program for Individualized Learning, the Inter-College Program, and the Bachelor of Applied Science program. The keynote speaker for the event was former Gopher basketball and NBA standout Trent Tucker, pictured here. For more photos of the May 5 event, turn to page 7.

In addition, graduates of the College’s Master of Liberal Studies program received their diplomas at the Graduate School Commencement on May 11.

Register now for fall

Registration for the fall semester is now open. You can download a current catalog or request a mailed copy at www.cce.umn.edu/catalogs.

College to be centered in St. Paul

This summer, the offices for the College of Continuing Education’s Information Center and Degree and Credit Programs (including the advisers for the Inter-College Program, Master of Liberal Studies program, Multidisciplinary Degree, and other degrees and certificates) will be moving from Wesbrook Hall on the East Bank to the Classroom Office Building on the St. Paul campus.

The move, which brings the bulk of the College’s staff together on one campus, will be completed by July 31, 2007.

For more information, including maps, office and suite numbers, and parking and shuttle information, visit www.cce.umn.edu/St.Paulmove.

Looking for a Change?

Career Workshops

Who Am I? Clarifying Your Career and Lifework Goals

Includes the newly revised *Strong Interest and Skills Confidence Inventory* and the more detailed *Myers-Briggs Type Inventory Step II* career assessments.

Two meetings: June 20 and 27, 6:30-8:45 p.m.

What's Next for Me? Exploring Career and Educational Options

Two meetings: July 11 and 18, 6:30-8:45 p.m.

How Do I Get There? Setting Goals and Taking Options

Two meetings: August 1 and 8, 6:30-8:45 p.m.

Workshops, which are offered at the McNamara Alumni Center on the Minneapolis campus, can be taken individually or as a three-part series.

The cost for the series is \$335. Individually, the cost for the first (Who Am I?) workshop is \$175 (includes the cost of the assessments), and the second and third workshops is \$105 each.

For more information or to register, call 612-624-4000 or visit www.cce.umn.edu/career.

University of Minnesota Alumni Association members and College of Continuing Education learners admitted to college degrees, credit certificates, and those enrolled in professional development certificates receive discounts. Free parking is available next to the McNamara Center.

Online Resources

Lifework Indicator

Pursuing changes in lifework can be overwhelming, and the Lifework Indicator can help you identify some initial steps to get you started. Find it on the Web at www.cce.umn.edu/career (click on "Online Tools").

Lifework Lifeline Exercise

The Lifework Lifeline is a simple exercise designed to help you reflect on your career and lifework path and, in so doing, take that first step in self-assessment. Use this free tool at www.cce.umn.edu/career (click on "Online Tools").

CareerPath

See your career path and strengths in a whole new light. CareerPath is a new online personal career management tool that's offered free through the College of Continuing Education. See this issue's Career Matters column for details, or visit www.cce.umn.edu/career.

Career Matters

Advice from a University of Minnesota career consultant with years of experience helping motivated adults explore their options, chart their course, and reach their goals.



Janet Pelto

Have you ever found yourself staring at a blank page trying to draft a résumé and cover letter that effectively sum up all your past experiences?

Or maybe you've been interested in a certain career or job, and wonder what path others in the field have taken to get there.

Perhaps you're looking for another way to network and get your name out in front of potential employers.

As a career and lifework counselor, I frequently see people faced with all of these issues. And that's why CareerPath, a new service offered through the College of Continuing Education, is such a useful tool.

The CareerPath program, powered by NavAgility, is an online career management tool designed to help users assess their career histories and prepare for career advancement or change. Figuring out your next step can seem overwhelming. CareerPath provides a structured format to help you think through where you have been and where you might want to go next.

CareerPath can help you capture and present your educational and professional achievements in a compelling visual way.

With CareerPath's features you will be able to assess all aspects of your career and work history; expand your career options by viewing real-life career paths of others; review your accomplishments to help you determine next steps; and easily write or update your résumé using insightful templates.

For people trying to take stock in their careers, the program can help you develop deep insights about what is truly unique about you (i.e., your talents, passion, and values) in order to increase your overall career satisfaction and success.

For those seeking a new job or direction, the powerful résumé-builder tool can help you communicate your in-depth career experiences in a compelling visual way to differentiate yourself in the job market. Plus, because all your information is saved to your own account, you can update your résumé and career profile and build on them as your experience grows. You also will be able to view other users' public CareerPath profiles to gain an idea of how they got where they are today, and what steps you might employ to take a similar path.

So whether you're actively seeking a new career, or simply want an easy-to-use graphic representation of your goals, strengths, and interests, I encourage you to check out CareerPath! For more information, visit www.cce.umn.edu/navagility, or give us a call at 612-624-4000.

Sincerely,

Janet Pelto
Career and Lifework Consultant
College of Continuing Education
University of Minnesota

Get the lowdown on financial aid

College of Continuing Education scholarships and grants provide funding for more than 200 students each year and are applicable to the College's credit or noncredit courses.

Admission to a certificate or degree program is not required.

**Visit www.cce.umn.edu/financialaid
or call 612-624-4000 to find out more.**

A spring break to change lives

Skipping the beach, CCE student volunteers in post-Katrina New Orleans

Dustin Dresser, a third-year student studying construction management with a minor in Spanish, used his spring break to volunteer in New Orleans. Here, he talks with *c.c.e.times* reporter Megan Rocker about his experience.

MR: Tell me a little bit about yourself. How did you get involved in volunteerism?

DD: My name is Dustin Dresser, and I'm 21 years old and in my third year of school studying construction management and Spanish.

My volunteerism is mostly something that I am motivated to do....The personal relationships that you develop not only with the people you are helping but also with the other volunteers are something that can only come from this type of work.

MR: Describe a typical day for you during your trip to New Orleans.

DD: Most days depending on where we were staying, we would get up and prepare for a food distribution or we would work on repairing the church we stayed in or we would be cleaning yards in the Lower Ninth Ward.

MR: How would you describe the scene? The people? The general attitude?

DD: The scene in New Orleans seemed to be kind of chaotic. Where we stayed there were a lot of volunteers and not much organization, so it was hard to figure out what to do at first. The majority of the people there were volunteers from other schools on spring break and had positive attitudes about getting work done, and the local people were very grateful for our help.

MR: For those of us "up here"—people who haven't been to New Orleans since the storm, or who have never been there at all, what's the one thing we should know about it?

DD: Even though it has been over a year and a half, there are still houses to be gutted and rebuilt. The people with money have come back and rebuilt, but many people can't afford to rebuild or even gut their own houses. Just because the Saints (football team) came back doesn't mean the city is back on its feet.

MR: Is tourism responding to the rebuilding? Are people returning? How many do you think will return?

DD: Tourism is doing its part. The French Quarter is back to normal, and there were plenty of tourists in the city. I know that a lot of people have moved and started over, but I believe that many will return and rebuild. It will take time though.

MR: What was the best part of your trip? The hardest?

DD: The best part of this trip had to be sharing it with 13 other students who used their spring break to volunteer in a hurricane relief zone when they could have been doing a lot of other things.

The hardest thing had to be working in the Lower Ninth Ward in grassy prairies knowing that at one time it was a typical residential neighborhood. Every personal belonging that we found in the Lower Ninth Ward made us stop and think of the people who lost pretty much everything they had.



Photos by Eric Garvey

Student volunteers gather to get their assignments for the day.



Dresser noted the determination of the people of New Orleans to rebuild their homes.



Many houses in the Lower Ninth Ward still need major repairs, such as this one, captured by Eric Garvey, a student volunteer traveling with Dresser's group.



The Island Sash and Door Company building, seen here in a 1971 photograph, was converted into the Nicollet Island Inn.



Photo courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society

In 1878, the Washburn A Mill was partially destroyed by an explosion thought to be caused by a build-up of flour dust. The building is now the Mill City Museum.

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Several aprons and dam configurations were built to attempt to save the falls. It wasn't until 1885 that the Corps considered the falls stabilized, and returned the maintenance responsibility back to Minneapolis. (In the modern era, the Corps is responsible for the lock and dam and apron.)

With the falls stabilized, the milling industry flourished, and Minneapolis led the world in flour production from 1882 to 1930. State-of-the-art milling facilities such as the Washburn A Mill, the Crown Roller Mill, and the Pillsbury Mill dominated the cityscape.

By the turn of the 20th century, the Mississippi had brought prosperity to the Twin Cities. St. Paul was the headwaters of river travel; Minneapolis, a world leader in manufacturing and milling.

But as strong as the Mississippi current was, it wasn't enough to stop changes from happening. Following World War I, the milling industry in Minneapolis began to decline, and one by one, the mills were abandoned. By the 1960s, the riverfront, once a bustling hub, had become a derelict wasteland.

Reviving the riverfront

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, attention turned back to the run-down area along the river. Sensing opportunity, a number of civic groups began a push to revitalize the riverfront—this time as a tourist and recreational attraction.

"People build to adapt themselves to a place," says Nunnally. "The river is too much of a force, too much of a draw to move away from."

Thanks to the efforts of several concerned groups, many of the older buildings were preserved or transformed. "The Minnesota Historical Society made heroic efforts to keep the Minneapolis Fire Department from just knocking down what was left of the Washburn-Crosby A mill when it burned in 1991. The remains of that building have been transformed into the Mill City Museum," says Nunnally.

He continues, "Areas are being adapted, rebuilt, and reused....One of my favorite examples is the Island Sash and Door Company on Nicollet Island. When industry was booming, you had factories and mills everywhere—and they all needed window sashes and doors. But when that all went away? Then what do you do with this gorgeous

limestone building? Well, now you make it the Nicollet Island Inn, which is an upscale boutique hotel/restaurant."

Reuse, reinvent, reinvest

Nunnally sees the future of the Twin Cities area once again hinging on the success of river development—but for different reasons than before. "Why the river is such a draw, and what it's drawing people to do or to make from it has changed over time...but it's still an essential component.

"These days," he continues, "it's because we need to attract people nationally, even internationally, to be economically viable. . . How do

you do that when people can go anywhere in the world? . . . Give them benefits, recreation, culture.

"In many respects," muses Nunnally, "the river is just this raw thing. We make of it what we need it to be. What is important to us changes over time....The river isn't this natural thing that we have 'corrupted'—nor is it this fully controllable thing that we manage. It is at once bigger than us, and it is us."



Curiosity Camp will host "The Mighty Mississippi: Historic Preservation on the River" on July 25. Participants will learn about and explore historic St. Anthony Falls, as well as tour the Mill City Museum. For information or to register, please visit www.cce.umn.edu/curiosity or call 612-624-4000.



Photo courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society

The Pillsbury A Mill, Phoenix Mill, and the Pillsbury elevator and grain shop stand above St. Anthony Falls in this circa-1900 photo.

Great minds don't think alike

U hosts national discussion on recruiting, retaining, and supporting faculty of color

By Ami Berger

In the world of academia, there are few issues on which everyone agrees. But no one can disagree with the fact that, despite 30 years of affirmative action and hard work, the ranks of faculty of color in higher education remain frustratingly small.

In 2003 (the most recent year for which data are available) the *Chronicle of Higher Education* reported that less than 12 percent of full professors in America were people of color.

Closer to home, the outlook isn't much brighter. The Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), which represents the Big Ten institutions and the University of Chicago, reports that in 2005, the CIC school with the highest percentage of full-time tenured faculty of color was the University of Michigan, with 8 percent. The University of Minnesota reported that 4 percent of its full-time tenured faculty were faculty of color that year, the same percentage as the University of Iowa, Purdue University, and the University of Chicago.

Faculty diversity at the University of Minnesota is at the heart of the U's Keeping Our Faculties: Recruiting, Retaining, and Advancing Faculty of Color symposium. Held at the University four times since 1998, Keeping Our Faculties is the nation's only conference focused entirely on increasing the percentage of faculty of color in colleges and universities.

The 2007 conference, held April 12-14, attracted over 300 participants and presenters from 115 different institutions, including Harvard, Columbia, Villanova, and New York universities; the universities of California-Berkeley, Massachusetts-Amherst, and Virginia; Smith, Carleton, and Macalester colleges; and every institution in the Big Ten. Keeping Our Faculties addresses issues which are multilayered and

"If we're going to increase the numbers of faculty of color, we need to redefine merit to include more than just these academic journals or only those graduate schools"

Caroline Turner, professor, Arizona State University

overlapping: How do we develop effective pipelines for undergraduate and graduate students of color? How can tenured faculty mentor junior faculty and graduate students of color effectively? And how can we redefine the merit-based system of faculty hiring and promotion to value the different kinds of contributions that faculty of color may bring?

"The idea of merit is so ingrained into the culture of higher education, but who's deciding what is 'meritorious'?" asks Caroline Turner, who originated the idea of the faculty-of-color discussion while an assistant professor at the U, and is now a professor at Arizona State University. "If we're going to increase the numbers of faculty of color, we need to redefine merit to include more than just these academic journals or only those graduate schools," she says. "The lens has to be widened."

Symposium attendee Fredrik Palm, an assistant dean at Columbia University's school of engineering, was happy to see Keeping Our Faculties focusing on the diversity problems within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Palm calls Keeping Our Faculties 2007 "the best conference I have

been to in a very long time," and laments the "tremendous waste of intelligence if we do not include all kinds of people in the dialogue of academia."

"I remember seeing a magazine ad years ago that said 'Great minds don't think alike,'" adds Turner, "and I thought to myself, 'Wow, they've got it right!' Academia will not be able to keep up with the global economy and the educational needs of our students if we don't have all our minds—the minds of women, of racial and ethnic minorities, of all underrepresented groups—at the table and in the classroom."

Keeping our Faculties was hosted by the Office of the Senior Vice President for System Academic Administration and Office of the Vice President and Vice Provost for Equity and Diversity, University of Minnesota; sponsored by the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the Minnesota Private College Council; and facilitated by the College of Continuing Education.

Ami Berger is director of communications in the Office for Equity and Diversity.



Photo by Tom Foley



Nancy "Rusty" Barceló, Vice President and Vice Provost for Equity and Diversity, gave the closing remarks at the Keeping our Faculties of Color symposium.



Photo by Tom Foley

Symposium attendees at the opening session.



Construction management graduate Daniel Shetler celebrates with his daughter Karina.



Inter-College Program graduate Gao Vang receives her diploma from University of Minnesota Regent Dallas Bohnsack.

Commencement 2007

Saturday, May 5

Northrop Auditorium, Minneapolis

Photos by Tony Nelson



Family and friends surround Estifanos Tesfe, who graduated with a degree in information technology infrastructure.



College of Continuing Education Dean Mary Nichols congratulates applied business graduate Julianna Pelletier.



Program for Individualized Learning graduate Lin Calof delivered the student address at commencement.

The mission of the College of Continuing Education is to provide adults with quality continuing education and lifelong learning opportunities for professional development, personal enrichment, career transitions, and academic growth.

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A Newsletter for Lifelong Learners

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM