

Written by

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The University of Minnesota's Urban Research & Outreach/Engagement Center North Minneapolis" presents "Coming Together to Create a Shared Future for community a conference to discuss the future of the center and its work in the community.

The conference will be held from 4 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20 and from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 at Parents In Community Action, Inc., 700 Humboldt Ave. N., Minneapolis.

Nearly a year ago, the university purchased property at 2001 Plymouth Ave. N. in north Minneapolis. The existing building on the property is being renovated to house the university's Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center (UROC). This multipurpose space will create opportunities to facilitate new and existing university research, outreach and engagement activities with the north Minneapolis

The Shared Future conference uses a methodology called Future Search, facilitated by Erlene Belton of the Lyceum Group. Future Search is an interactive planning process that brings together university and community stakeholders to determine the future of the University Research & Outreach/Engagement Center. The conference is designed for maximum interaction and dialogue among the participants. Working together in several small groups, as well as in a large group, participants will pool information, analyze it and present conclusions.

Robert Jones, senior vice president for Systems Academic Administration will present the official welcome on Friday, and university President Robert Bruininks will deliver the welcome Saturday. The interactive aspects of the workshop will be showcased on Friday from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m.

For more information about the Urban Research & Outreach/Engagement Center, visit the UROC Web site at www.uroc.umn.edu or contact Hawona Sullivan Janzen at uroc@umn.edu.