The Dean’s Perspective

This is our fourth newsletter and I hope you enjoy the fruits of our effort. Although we sometimes struggle to find time to create the content, the newsletter serves at least two purposes. One, it provides us with a way to give you an overview of what is going on in CEL at this particular point in the semester. Two, it gives CEL staff the opportunity to showcase some of the many ways they support the university as it moves toward becoming one of the premier public, regional universities in the “great” Great Plains.

Thank you for reading our newsletter. If you have suggestions for items you would like to see, feel free to contact me at kris.warmoth@minotstateu.edu or 6.3188. Here’s to a great spring semester! — Dr. Kristen Warmoth

Who is this CEL staff member?

Last newsletter’s question: This CEL staff member once was a rural mail carrier.

Answer: If you guessed Julie Keller, you were right!

Who can this be? This CEL member lost an umbrella in the fountain in front of Buckingham Palace. Look for the answer in our next CEL newsletter.

Notes of Interest from OIT

• The Adjunct Faculty Handbook 2009-2010 is now available at the Center for Extended Learning and Office of Instructional Technology.
• The Office of Instructional Technology would like to welcome their newest student worker, Abby Langehaug. Abby is majoring in nursing, enjoys playing basketball, and spending time with her friends. She is from Glenburn, N.D. Welcome Abby!
• Office of Instructional Technology Development Opportunities: All sessions will be held in Memorial Hall, Room 124, and require RSVP due to limited seating.
  • Thursday, March 5, 1 p.m., Building Rubrics for Grading in Blackboard, 45 minute
  • Thursday, March 12, 9 a.m., Using SafeAssign: Plagiarism Prevention Tool, 45 minute
  • Thursday, March 19, 12 noon, Clicker Basics, 45 minute
  • Thursday, March 26, 2 p.m., Using SafeAssign: Plagiarism Prevention Tool, 45 minute

The Center for Extended Learning is pleased to announce its intention to host the Northern Great Plains Technology Institute during the summer of 2009. The Office of Instructional Technology is seeking faculty and staff input for hosting sessions. The following sessions are currently being considered:

• Use of Teamboard/Smartboards
• Creating PowerPoint presentations for PRS RF Clickers
• PRS RF Clicker use in the classroom
• How to use the SafeAssign Plagiarism Prevention Tool
• Digital Voice Recorders in the classroom
• Wimba Live Classroom
• Adobe Acrobat Connect Professional
• Using PowerPoint to create audio presentation
• Basic Blackboard Operations
• Advanced Blackboard Operations

Quote of the day:
It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.
— Charles Dickens
If you would like to influence the development schedule for this summer’s institute, contact the Office of Instructional Technology right away by calling 701-858-3832 or 701-858-3280.

College for Kids

College for Kids is gearing up for another great summer. We are having some new and exciting camps this summer along with great returning camps. It’s not too late to send in your proposals if you want to participate in this great opportunity for kids! If you are interested, contact Amy Woodbeck at 6-3989.

MSU and the Petroleum Technology Transfer Council

Jennifer Miskimins, Ph.D., P.E., an Assistant Professor in the Petroleum Engineering Department at the Colorado School of Mines is returning to Minot to conduct another one day seminar for area geologists and engineers. Completions and Stimulation for Geologists will be held on April 22, from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., in the Student Union Conference Center. It is a one-day short course that will provide a basic understanding of completion and stimulation techniques for geoscientists. The design of wells, from casing schematics through initial stimulation, is covered including many more topics. If you know of anyone who is interested in taking the course, please have them contact Amy Woodbeck at 858-3989.

Introducing our new IVN Coordinator: Carla Davis

Carla is a California native who worked for MSU as an IVN technician while completing her AAS in advertising and marketing from MSU-Bottineau. She is married to Leroy Davis and they have two girls Amber, a senior at Magic City High, and Alexsea, an eighth grader at Jim Hill Middle School. Carla and her family have lived in Minot since 1998 and she enjoys reading, shopping, and quiet time.

CLEP and DSST Testing now available at Minot AFB

Minot State University is pleased to announce the opening of our new CLEP and DSST Testing Center at Minot Air Force Base. We offer all 34 College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams and 36 DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) in a computer-based testing format. CLEP and DSST are credit-by-exam programs that give you the opportunity to receive college credit for what you already know by earning a qualifying score on any exam. This helps reduce the rising cost of higher education and shorten the path to a college degree.

CLEP and DSST exams are free to military service members and active duty Guard and Reserve personnel. CLEP and DSST testing is also available to retirees and civilians who have access to Minot Air Force Base with a military dependent ID card. Civilian candidates, however, are responsible for paying a $20 administration fee to Minot State University for each exam and a $70 examination fee to CLEP or an $80 examination fee to DSST on the day of the exam. One official score report is included in the examination fee and will be mailed to a college or university of your choice.

Minot State University’s CLEP and DSST Testing Center is located in Room 214 of the Francis X. Deignan Building on the Minot Air Force Base. Two exam sessions per week are available, one each for CLEP and DSST testing. Call Sue or Brigitte at 701-727-9044 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

For students who do not have access to Minot AFB, Minot State University’s on-campus CLEP testing center is open to the public and located on the 2nd floor of the Gordon B. Olson Library. For more information or to register for an exam, contact Kim Schwinler in the Center for Extended Learning on the 1st floor of the Administration Building, Room 161, or call 701-858-3990.

SmarTHInG Overview

Smarthinking is an online tutoring service that MSU Online is making available to all students. Smarthinking provides tutoring in mathematics (basic math through Calculus including Bilingual Math), Biology, Intro Human A & P, Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, Economics, Accounting, Intro to Finance, Statistics, Spanish, and Writing. Please join this session to learn more about this service and the ways in which it can help your students succeed.

SmarThinking Webinar Invite to Faculty & Staff

Watch for invitations to the monthly online webinars designed to introduce faculty and staff to tutoring services that are being provided for MSU students. These sessions also provide a chance for faculty and staff to get answers to any questions that they might have about these services and the ways in which students can use them.