



Public Information Office

A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY



Minot State University to confer degrees

President David Fuller will confer more than 650 undergraduate and graduate degrees during Minot State University's commencement exercises on May 12, in the MSU Dome beginning at 10 a.m. The keynote speaker for this year's ceremony is U.S. Sen. Kent Conrad. Faculty members who intend to march in the procession should dress in academic regalia and arrive at the south end of the second floor of the Dome at least 10 minutes prior to 10 a.m. President Fuller invites all members of the MSU community to celebrate our students' achievements and the completion of their academic programs.

Conrad will keynote commencement



U.S. Sen. Kent Conrad will deliver the key address at Minot State University's commencement ceremony May 12. Beginning with his first Senate race in 1986, North Dakotans have sent him to represent them in the Senate in four successive elections. Time magazine, after speaking to academicians, political scientists and current and former senators, picked Conrad as being one of the 10 best senators of the 109th Congress.

Conrad is a renowned advocate of fiscal discipline and the protection of the Social Security and Medicare trust funds, especially in his role as the ranking member of the Budget Committee and as a senior member of the Senate Finance Committee. As the representative of one of the most rural states in the nation, he also serves as a senior member of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

A fifth-generation North Dakotan, Conrad was born on March 12, 1948, in Bismarck, and attended Roosevelt Elementary and Hughes Junior High. He began his official career in politics in 1968 when, as a teenager, he headed up a statewide campaign to grant voting rights to 19-year-olds.

May 3, 2006

MSU goes smoke free June 1

Minot State University will become a smoke-free campus effective June 1. The policy, which has been approved by the Faculty and Staff senates, Student Association, University Cabinet and President's Staff, reads: Smoking on university property, indoors or outdoors, or in university vehicles, is prohibited at all times. For purposes of this policy, "smoking" means carrying or having in one's possession a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, or other object giving off smoke. The full policy is available at www.minotstateu.edu/smoking.

NEXT ISSUE

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In 1980, Conrad won his first statewide race for North Dakota Tax Commissioner. He was re-elected to the office in 1984, with what, at the time, was the highest percentage of the vote (79 percent) in a contested race in state history. His subsequent 1986 Senate victory was among the biggest upsets in state history.

Conrad holds a bachelor's degree from Stanford University, and a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) degree from George Washington University. He is married to Lucy Calautti, and has a daughter, Jessamyn Conrad.

President wraps up this year's community visits

President David Fuller visited the communities of Rugby and Towner April 24. The purposes of the visits are to foster relationships with communities in the region, to inform area residents about MSU initiatives and programs, and to build relationships with local alumni. Fuller spoke to the Rugby Lions Club at noon and hosted an afternoon pie and coffee social in Towner. In both communities he toured the public schools and met the school superintendents, principals and guidance counselors. A visit to Kenmare and Crosby was completed May 1. The president spoke at the noon Kenmare Association of Commerce meeting. He then hosted residents of Crosby and the surrounding area at an afternoon social. The Kenmare-Crosby visit wraps up this year's program of community visits. Additional cities Fuller has visited over the past two years include Bottineau, Stanley, Garrison, and communities where Tribal Community Colleges are located.



President David Fuller, center, with Rugby Lions members Jeff Lind, superintendent of Rugby Public Schools (left), and Pat Bye of the Rugby Job Development Authority (right). Lind also conducted a tour of the elementary and high schools for Fuller. Bye was in charge of the Lions April 24 program.

Staff Senate to hold elections

May 9

Elections for Staff Senate will be conducted Tuesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The ballot table will be located by the post office, second floor Administration Building.

Passive nominations will be utilized again this year. Consequently, the Election Committee mailed Staff Senate Constituency and Eligibility Lists, as defined by functional areas, through intra-college mail April 26. If an employee does not wish to be considered for election to Staff Senate, Cathy Horvath, director of Information Technology Central, must be contacted by 4:30 p.m. today, and the employee's name will be removed from the ballot. Horvath's telephone number is 858-4445; her e-mail address is cathy.horvath@minotstateu.edu.

For clarification, once a staff senate representative has completed a two-year term of service, the individual is eligible to serve another two-year term.

RSES project earns national award

The Rural Special Education Strategist (RSES) program at the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities (NDCPD) at Minot State University, along with the Special Education Resident Teacher Program at the University of North Dakota received a national award in teacher preparation.

The American Council on Rural Special Education (ACRES) presented Brent Askvig from MSU and Lynne Chalmers from UND with the "2006 Exemplary Program Award" for their excellence in interagency collaboration in personnel training.

The recognition was awarded March 24 at the organization's 26th annual conference in Lexington, Ky. Askvig and Chalmers have been partnering on special education teacher preparation for several years, and this award recognizes their efforts in working together to assure high quality special education teachers for North Dakota.

"There has been a national shortage of special education teachers for many years," said Askvig. "Dr. Chalmers and I have been working within our universities and with local school districts to assure that rural North Dakota students with disabilities have quality teachers. The local school

administrators and our state special education leaders have been instrumental in our success in this area.”

Chalmers said the collaboration between the universities and schools has been critical to UND and MSU’s success.

“The local principals, special education directors and the teachers have been wonderful. We have unprecedented access to schools for practical experience and training,” said Chalmers. “Our students not only get real life classroom experiences in the schools, but they have also allowed us to deliver interactive video and online courses for these teachers directly into their schools.”

Also central to the success is the partnership between the universities.

“About three years ago, the education deans at UND and MSU signed a collaborative agreement to support special education teacher preparation,” said Askvig. “That agreement allowed us to demonstrate a strong commitment to the students and the schools. When we show that the university deans are behind this, it isn’t just a one time thing and we are in it for the long term, the schools respect that.”

The Special Education Resident Teacher program at UND has been in operation for nearly nine years, and has prepared over 130 teachers for the state. This program works with local school districts to find and prepare teachers who live in the rural towns. Coursework is delivered through summer training sessions and through distance delivery modes during the school year. Federal funding, support from the state special education office, and local contributions have made the program possible.

The RSES Project is administered through NDCPD at MSU, and is supported by a federal personnel training grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Over the past three and one-half years, RSES has provided over \$500,000 in student stipends for 90 teachers to receive special education training. While the RSES grant ends later this year, MSU special education faculty have developed some strategies to keep the training efforts going. A key method will be the incorporation of the UND resident teacher model into the MSU special education training program.

The partnership has also received strong support from Robert Rutten, director of special education at the N.D. Department of Public Instruction.

While receiving the national award is significant, Askvig and Chalmers are not resting on their laurels but looking ahead.

“We have some new ideas on how to expand and improve our programs and want to try some new things,” said Askvig. “Although our programs have helped, there are still too many special education teacher openings, especially in the rural schools. We need to make sure our students get great teachers and the quality education they deserve.”

Kids are at college again

Once again, Minot State’s Center for Extended Learning is undertaking its perennially popular “College for Kids.” Eleven summer camps will be offered throughout June and July. The 2006 camps include: Forensic Science, Imagine It...Create It!!, Clay Play, Disease Detectives, Business of Babysitting, Archeology for Kids, Young Writers Workshop, Advanced Archeology for Kids, On the Move, Exploring Robotics and Conversational Spanish. Schedules, age groups and prices vary. For additional information, contact CEL at 858-3822 or access the Web site www.minotstateu.edu/cel/html/college_for_kids.shtml. MSU personnel receive a \$10 discount for each child for each enrollment.

Technology occupations student loan forgiveness now available

College graduates employed in technology-related occupations in North Dakota may be eligible for student loan forgiveness through a program coordinated by the North Dakota University System and the Bank of North Dakota.

The program provides loan forgiveness of up to \$1,000 per year for a maximum of three years. To qualify for loan forgiveness, an applicant must have:

- Graduated from a college approved by the State Board of Higher Education (including public and private colleges and universities)
- Successfully completed an SBHE-approved, technology-related program
- Maintained at least a cumulative 2.5 grade point average based on a 4.0 grading system
- Obtained a student loan from the Bank of North Dakota or other participating lender and must not be in default on that student loan and
- Been employed in an SBHE-approved technology occupation in North Dakota for at least one year following graduation.

Applicants who meet these qualifications will be considered based on the date their applications are received in the North Dakota University System Office, but no later than June 30, 2006. Award recipients will be notified by July 31, 2006. Applicants must apply or re-apply annually for new or continued funding.

The Technology Occupations Student Loan Forgiveness Program was introduced by Gov. Hoeven and approved by the 2001 Legislative Assembly. The Bank of North Dakota is responsible for applying loan forgiveness payments. More information is available by calling Peggy Wipf, NDUS director of financial aid and federal relations, at 701.328.4114 or by accessing the North Dakota University System Web site at www.ndus.nodak.edu and clicking on Student and Parent Information/Financial Aid.

Kids build skills at athletic camps

Children's summer athletic camps have been scheduled at Minot State University. Children of MSU employees receive a \$10 discount for each camp except Mini-Camp Grades K-2.

BOYS BASKETBALL:

Mini-Camp—Grades K-6, July 24-27;
Individual Camp—Grades 5-12, June 18-22.

BASKETBALL TEAMS:

Girls Teams—Grades 9-12, July 21-22;
Boys Teams—Grades 9-12, July 22-23.

GIRLS BASKETBALL:

Mini-Camp—Grades K-6, July 24-27;
Perimeter Players Camp—Grades 6-12, June 2-4;
Post Players Camp—Grades 6-12, June 2-4;
Individual Camp—Grades 5-12, June 4-8.

VOLLEYBALL:

Grades 6-12, June 12-15.
FOOTBALL: Satellite Camps—in various communities, check Web site www.msubeavers.com for a camp nearby.

MSU participates in campus and city-wide clean-up

Minot State University has registered as a participating team in the city-wide clean-up sponsored by the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce May 5, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to volunteer for whatever length of time you can commit. Staff may participate without using leave as approved by supervisors. MSU's effort will start at the former A.J. Automotive property, which has been purchased by the university and is located at the corner of Broadway and University Avenue. From there, we'll head north on Broadway and collect trash as far as time allows. A van will be available to shuttle volunteers back and forth from the A.J. property as the project progresses north. City-wide clean-up is annual challenge by the chamber's Project CLEAN (Community Leaders Enhancing Area Neighborhoods) committee. The city will provide garbage bags and pick them up from alongside the road. It is suggested to bring gloves.

MSU also hosted its own campus clean-up April 26 in conjunction with Earth Day. Volunteers struck out with recyclable bags, scoured the campus, and built Mt. Trash in quad area. The event was coordinated by Chad Heinzel and Guy Hanley of geosciences and AUGITE students. Thanks to all who participated. A full truckload of garbage was gathered!

Ojibway scrolls on display in Library Gallery

From May 8 to May 31, Spirit Trails and Sky Beings: Mythical Scrolls of the Ojibway Nation will be on display in the Gordon B. Olson Library Gallery. This exhibit features Ojibway stories scribed on birch scrolls, as made by Ojibway traditionalist Richard LaFromboise (Miskomin). Birch bark scrolls, or pictographic scrolls, serve as memory aids to correctly and completely tell the traditional stories through an elaborate series of symbols called pictographs. These stories pertain to expressions of Ojibway culture with the purpose of teaching lessons, morals, and values to children as well as adults. This exhibit is a significant step in the preservation and continuation of this tradition.

Faculty, staff and student notes

Three psychology students, **Charles Crites**, **Leah Crites** and **Chengying Guo**, attended the Red River Psychology Conference with Shirley Cole-Harding, associate professor of addiction studies. The meeting was held mid-April at North Dakota State University in Fargo. Guo presented a poster with Cole-Harding titled "Project Alert: Alcohol and Drug Prevention in Minot 6th and 7th Graders." Leah Crites and Charles Crites also presented a poster with Lee Ellis, professor of social science, and Cole-Harding titled "Caffeine and Pregnancy." Leah Crites was awarded "Best Oral Presentation of a Poster."

Ruth Kihm, a lecturer of social work, presented a poster in October at the International Partnership for Service Learning and Leadership (IPSL) 23rd International Conference in Rapid City, S.D. IPSL is a worldwide association of universities, colleges, non-governmental and related organizations united to foster service learning. The conference was attended by 200 people representing 26 different countries. Kihm presented her work on student service learning in Guatemala with La Asociación Nuestros Ahijados/GOD'S CHILD Project and on future directions in international partnerships.

Lindsay Stayton, a senior social work major, was included in an article in the winter 2006 issue of "The New Social Worker," a national publication for social work students and recent graduates. The article, "Weathering the Storm: Social Workers and the 2005 Hurricane Season," highlighted the work of social work students, faculty and professionals in response to hurricanes Rita and Katrina. As a service project for her community social work class, Stayton worked with the American Red Cross Mid-Dakota Chapter in Minot, assisting with the Response Center Network. Her role included scheduling and recruiting volunteers, promoting the call center and answering calls from hurricane disaster victims.

Lynda Bertsch, director of career services, was named an April "Eagle Award" recipient by the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce. The program is sponsored by the chamber to recognize employees in Minot who exhibit superior customer service. Recipients must be nominated for a specific circumstance and by someone outside of the business or organization where they're employed.

Announcements

Arts and Sciences to host appreciation reception

The College of Arts and Sciences invites you to an appreciation reception to honor several individuals for their services and contributions. CAS will host the reception May 5, 3:00-4:30 p.m., in the lobby of Aleshire Theater in Hartnett Hall. Those being honored include Kathy Funke, administrative assistant in the Department of Math and Computer Science, Catherine Walker, director of the Northwest Art Center, Conrad Davidson, chair of the Division of Humanities, Richard Seklecki, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, John Webster, chair of the Division of Science, and Sally Pufall, CAS Advisory Board member.

—*Office of the Dean, College of Arts and Sciences*

Information sought on international programs

Margaret Sherve and I have been tasked to gather information about how we can identify, diversify, and strengthen Minot State University's international programs. We need to find out what we have already done, or what we are already doing, and who we have on board with international teaching experience, ESL experience, or a general interest in developing our international programs here.

If you have an interest, and/or if you have international experience, and/or if you have already developed international activities, events, programs at MSU or elsewhere, please take some time and tell us about your interest, your experience, your programs. If possible, we would appreciate a hard copy version of any plans or programs you have developed.

We are going to assemble the whole and then sit down and talk about where we are, where we wish to go, and what we have to do to get there. You are invited to play as small or as large a role as you may wish in the development of international programs, but please do let your interest, your participation, your contribution, begin here and now. You can email info to me (robert.kibler@minotstateu.edu), or to Margaret (margaret.sherve@minotstateu.edu), and please do also indicate if you want to be kept regularly informed as to the group's progress.

—*Robert Kibler, associate professor of English and humanities*

Check schedule for final examinations

The following link will take you directly to the spring final examination schedule: <http://www.minotstateu.edu/records/exams.shtml>. You may also access the schedule from the MSU home page and by clicking on "current students" and "final exam schedule," located under the heading "current events." If you are unable to adhere to this schedule please contact the Registrar's Office to make other arrangements. As a reminder all grades are due by 12 p.m. on May 15.

—*Jennifer Sick, associate registrar*

New discount for employees at bookstore

The MSU bookstore is announcing a new employee pricing program beginning in May. Come and browse our fine selection of adult apparel and accessories. Any university employee with appropriate I.D. will receive a 20 percent discount on any clothing purchase made on the regularly scheduled bimonthly pay dates (i.e., dates in May are May 15 and May 31). This special pricing is for adult apparel and accessories (caps, etc.) only and will remain in effect until further notice. Children's clothing is not eligible for this discount.

—*Ron Dorn, vice president for administration and finance*

Calendar

May 3-June 6, 2006

- 3 Who's Who luncheon, Conference Center, noon.
3 Brown Bag Book Talk: Heidi Super, biology, on "Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith," by Anne Lamott, Olson Library lower level, noon.
3 Open discussion about the future of online learning management system, Jones room, noon.
4 Honors Program senior presentation by Karla Kruschwitz, Library Media Center, noon.
4 Admission to teacher education seminar, Old Main 214, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
4 Faculty Senate, Westlie Room, 3:30 p.m.
4 Sophomore recital: Joel Kanning, piano, Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m.
4 SAC: movie, Aleshire Theater, 9 p.m.
4-6 Baseball at DAC Tournament, Madison, S.D.
5 Project CLEAN city-wide clean-up, meet at former A.J. Automotive property, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
5 SAC: Dance, International Inn, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.
5 Outdoor Track & Field DAC Championships, Spearfish, S.D.
5-6 Softball DAC Tournament, South Hill Complex, Minot

- 8-31 N.D. Art Gallery Association exhibit "Spirit Trails," Library Gallery.
8-31 Rudy Wall, senior art exhibit, Hartnett Hall Gallery.
9 Graduate Council, Jones Room, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
9 SAC: study break with free food and music, quad between Old Main and Student Union, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
10 Interim Finance Legislative Council, MSU campus, 8-11 a.m.
10-13 Softball Region III Tournament
11-13 Baseball Region III Tournament
12 MSU Commencement, Dome, 10 a.m., Alumni Association reception following ceremony.
13 MSU-B Commencement, Thatcher Hall, 10 a.m.
14 Outdoor Track & Field Last Chance Qualifier meet, Parker Stadium.
15 Grades must be entered by noon.
16 Staff Senate, Jones Room, 9 a.m.
17 University Cabinet, Westlie Room, 9 a.m.
19-21 Baseball NAIA Super Regional.
20-27 Softball NAIA National Tournament.
25-27 Outdoor Track & Field NAIA Championships, Fresno, Calif.
26-June 2 Baseball NAIA World Series.
29 Memorial Day holiday, university closed.
31 Summer term eight-week classes begin.



**Minot State
UNIVERSITY**

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