



## **Diversity Week promotes valuing people and diversity**

Diversity Week is scheduled Sept. 7-14 at MSU. The week of activities starts Thursday (Sept. 7) with a panel discussion “Sharing Diversity Stories – Then and Now,” in Aleshire Theater at 12:30 p.m. Topics that will be discussed include aging, sexual orientation, disabilities, international cultures, and race. The panelists include Michelle Sauer, Marilyn Hudson, Priscilla Carlson and Joseph Mujule. It will be moderated by Liana Henderson, Spanish.

Slated for Sept. 11, during the 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. class periods, in Aleshire Theater are lectures on civil rights experiences as an African woman and on new directions of civil rights by Avra Johnson, associate professor and assistant vice president at University of Minnesota-Mankato. A noon open forum on human harmony, peace and diverse beliefs will follow in Aleshire. Kathy Hammond, United Campus Ministries, is coordinator of the session; she may be reached at 833-5357 or [kathy.hammond@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kathy.hammond@minotstateu.edu).

A second panel “The Right to Be: American Indian Perspective in Dakota” follows Sept. 12 at 12:30 p.m. It will be moderated by Jasper Young Bear, MSU alumnus and instructor at Fort Berthold Community College. Panelists include James Davis, president of Turtle Mountain Community College; Harriett Skye, dean of Intertribal Program, and David Gipp, president, both of United Tribes Technical College; and Judy Young Bear, Mandan/Hidatsa/Arikara elder and Native American language specialist, Fort Berthold Reservation.

On Sept. 13, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., a multicultural and international social will be held in the new Multicultural Center, lower level of the Student Union. The center is located to the south of Buckshot’s Cafe (formerly called the snack bar). Enjoy cookies, coffee and lemonade and chat about how to build a multicultural and diverse climate on campus. Contact Wylie Hammond at 858-3365 or [wylie.hammond@minotstateu.edu](mailto:wylie.hammond@minotstateu.edu) or Ronnie Walker at 858-3348 or [ronnie.walker@minotstateu.edu](mailto:ronnie.walker@minotstateu.edu) for details.

The keynote address “Equal Opportunities and Diversity,” will be delivered by Delaware former Lt. Gov. S. B. Woo Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m. in Aleshire Theater.

**September 6, 2006**

### **Campus open forums scheduled tomorrow**

President David Fuller will convene two campus open forums tomorrow at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. in the MSU Conference Center. The purpose of the forums is to provide a follow-up session for members of the Minot State University faculty and staff to offer suggestions and comments and to ask any questions they may have regarding the draft strategic plan, Vision 2013.

The draft was distributed at convocation and includes ample space for notes. Anyone who did not receive a copy may contact Deb Wentz in the President’s Office by telephone at 858-3301 or by e-mail to [president@minotstateu.edu](mailto:president@minotstateu.edu). President Fuller invites all to attend the meetings and join in discussion. This will be the final opportunity to offer comments and suggest changes to the draft. Afterward a final version of Vision 2013 will be printed and distributed.

### **NEXT ISSUE**

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## New faculty aboard for 2006-2007

**Hasan Buker** is a full-time adjunct instructor in the Criminal Justice Department. A former lieutenant with the Turkish National Police, Buker is a doctoral candidate at Washington State University. He received his Master of Science degree from the University of Ankara, Turkey and his Bachelor of Arts degree from the Turkish National Police Academy.

**Darren Dobrinski**, a native of Makoti, is a full-time faculty member in the school psychology program. He has been a school psychologist for the Vermillion School District in South Dakota since 2004. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn. and his Master of Arts and doctoral degrees from the University of South Dakota.

**Liana Henderson**, a full-time adjunct instructor of Spanish, actually started at MSU during the 2005-2006 academic year. Previously, she taught at Carteret Community College. Originally from Nicaragua, Henderson received her bachelor's degree from Utah State University and her master's degree from the American Intercontinental University. She is currently working on earning her doctorate from Capella University.

**Jennifer Hefter** joins special education and communication disorders as a full-time faculty member. A native of Sherwood, she previously worked for Peace Garden Special Services. She has her bachelor's and master's degrees from MSU and is in the process of getting a doctoral degree from UND.

**Susan Herzog** is a licensed certified social worker in North Dakota. She is on a special contract to be a lecturer and the head of MSU's social work program in Bismarck. Since 1980, Susan worked at the West Central Human Service Center in Bismarck.

**Kathy Hintz** is a full-time faculty member in the College of Education after serving as an adjunct instructor at MSU since 1995. She completed her Bachelor of Arts degree at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn., and her Master of Arts in Teaching degree from Brown University. She is working toward her doctorate at UND.

**Grant Linsell** is an assistant professor of music and director of bands. He previously was employed by Arizona State University. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Michigan and a Master of Music degree from the University of Oregon. He is a doctoral candidate with Arizona State University.

**Audra Myerchin** is a full-time adjunct instructor in communication arts. She earned a bachelor's degree and a Master of Arts in communication from UND. Her areas of interest include gender, speech communication, interpersonal communication, and popular film studies.

**Michael A. Nason** has returned to MSU as a full-time adjunct instructor in criminal justice for our Bismarck program. Last year, he taught at the United Tribes Technical College. Before that he worked at our Rural Crime and Justice Center. Nason received his bachelor's and master's degrees from MSU and is working toward his doctoral degree at UND.

**Holly Pedersen** has joined communication disorders and special education as a full-time faculty member. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in deaf education and elementary education and a Masters of Science degree in special education from MSU. Pedersen is currently working toward a doctorate in education in teacher leadership from Walden University, Minneapolis. For nine years she worked for the North Dakota School for the Deaf as a Parent-Infant and Outreach specialist.

**Lisa Roteliuk** is the clinical supervisor in communication disorders. She completed her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science at MSU. Her prior employment was with the Ben Franklin Elementary School in Grand Forks as a speech-language pathologist.

**Alan Widmayer** is a full-time adjunct instructor in sociology and criminal justice. He completed his Bachelor of Science degree at Minot State and Master of Arts degree at Sam Houston State University. His areas of specialty areas include social problems, criminology, research methods and sociological law.

## 'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition' blesses MSU alumna's family

The family of MSU alumna Michelle Bliven, '85, '91, got a shocking surprise Aug. 19 when "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" star Ty Pennington and Heritage Homes, a builder in Fargo, knocked on their door offering a home makeover. The Blivens were chosen for "Extreme Makeover" through nominations that came from across North Dakota.

Michelle Bliven and husband Bill, along with daughter Kristen, 18, sons Aaron and Tyler, 14 and 13, went on a weeklong Disney cruise while a new home was built for them.

Because of the family's growing needs, and son Aaron's special needs due to cerebral palsy, the Blivens needed a house that would provide greater accessibility. Aaron needed to be carried through the house because his adult-sized wheelchair no longer fit through the small doorways and halls. Bill has suffered two heart attacks in the last year and was unable to lift his son so the lifting was left up to Michelle. Medical bills had made it difficult for the Bliven family to afford needed renovations to the home.

That's where ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" and Heritage Homes stepped in. A house normally takes four months to build. The Fargo builder with the help of a variety

of contractors and thousands of volunteers would build the house in four days. The remainder of the week would be spent furnishing the home and having special decorating touches added by the show's design team. It was also a first for "Home Edition" in that the Blivens' former home was given to Habitat for Humanity for occupancy by another family. Usually, the family's old home would be demolished or remodeled.

Kim Thompson, director of public information, also got a phone call Aug. 19. Identified earlier as a potential volunteer team lead, the call confirmed that the build was, indeed, going to happen in Minot and that a meeting would be held at 2 p.m. Beginning the next day, Thompson worked every day at the site, mainly from midnight to 6 a.m.

Due to Thompson's involvement and her association with MSU, the university responded to one of the first calls for volunteers. On the evening of Aug. 19, she was asked if MSU could provide student athletes the next morning. Coaches Mike Hultz, men's basketball, and Stu Melby, cross country and track and field, lined up 30 athletes to report Aug. 20 at 9:30 a.m. Some helped move the Bliven family belongings out of their original home and others helped set up the site.

Michelle Bliven started the Dream Catchers little league for children with disabilities because of Aaron's love of sports. An additional project of the week was the remodeling of a field at the South Hill Complex. Volunteers redid the bleachers, remodeled the press box, painted the buildings, built a universally-accessible viewing platform shaped like a baseball cap, put up a new scoreboard and new portable sound system and installed a webcam on top of the back stop to stream video onto the Internet.

A city-wide appeal went out for donations to the Dream Catchers Fund, an account set up to achieve special projects for the Blivens. MSU President David Fuller encouraged employees to contribute to the fund because the Bliven family has strong connections to MSU. Michelle Bliven earned both a Bachelor of Science in Education degree and Master of Arts in Teaching from MSU. She played varsity softball while she was an undergraduate. Michelle teaches algebra classes for MSU at our Minot Air Force Base site. She has helped coordinate the Youth Disability Leadership Conference sponsored by NDCPD since its inception three years ago. Daughter Kristen is also a freshman at Minot State. In a three-day period, about \$600 was collected at MSU and added to the fund, which now stands at about nearly \$50,000.

Among the projects accomplished by the contributions are a trust fund of more than \$10,000 to assist with Aaron's future medical expenses and a pay off of the Blivens' mortgage on their former home. The MSU Foundation Board presented first-year tuition to all three Bliven children.

Minot State also stepped up to house about 30 students from North Dakota State University in its residence halls. The architecture and landscape students had been in tents at a local campground, but a downpour on Aug. 24 left them soaked and exposed to the elements. The NDSU students expressed much appreciation for the dry lodging and hot showers.

The interior of the new Bliven home remains a secret until the show airs, tentatively scheduled late October. But builder Daryl Braham of Heritage Homes promises, "It's an incredible, incredible house."

## **Sherve starts Brown Bag Book Talks for 2006-2007**

Margaret Sherve, assistant professor of English, will talk about the book "Service-Learning Across Cultures: Promise and Achievement," Sept. 13.

This book, the culmination of a three-year, three-part study funded by the Ford Foundation, explores the effects of international service-learning on the students who participate, the institutions where they study, and the agencies where they perform their service. This work was edited by Humphrey Tonkin.

You need not read the featured book ahead of time and are encouraged to bring a sack lunch; dessert will be provided. The book talks, sponsored by the Gordon B. Olson Library, begin at noon and conclude in time for 1 p.m. classes. All are held in the lower level of the library in Group Study Room 2.

Other book talks for the semester are:

- Oct. 25—Kathy Hintz, education, on "Should We Burn Babar?: Essays on Children's Literature and the Power of Stories."
- Nov. 21—Chad Heinzl, geosciences, on "Education of a Wandering Man," Olson Library lower level, noon.
- Dec. 5—John Girard, business, on "The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century."

## **'Freedom from Tobacco' classes begin Sept. 14**

Has Minot State University's smoke-free policy got you thinking about quitting smoking (or chew)? A new series of cessation classes will start on campus Sept. 14. The eight sessions will be held from noon to 1:15 p.m. in the Jones Room, Student Union. By teaming up with the First District Health Unit, the class is free and NDPERS will pay up to \$500 of physician and medication costs. There are no up-front costs for participants because FDHU provides patches and gum and bills PERS. Besides MSU employees, their spouses and dependents

18 years and older may participate because all are eligible for the NDPERS benefit. A flier with details has been distributed via e-mail, and questions may be directed to FDHU at 852-5043.

## Announcements

### MSU offers condolences to Paul Sims family

It is with sincere sadness that I notify the Minot State University community of the death of the daughter of Paul Sims, a faculty member in chemistry. Paul's daughter, Jenna, who was a second grader passed away Aug. 29 in Rochester, Minn. Please join President Fuller and me in extending sincere condolences and support to the Sims family during this tragedy. A fund is being set up on campus to help the Sims with expenses. Along with medical costs, the family has incurred travel expenses as Paul, his wife, and their son flew to Rochester to join Jenna. Contributions may be directed to the Advancement Office, Student Union 308. All are welcome at the memorial service for Jenna Saturday (Sept. 9) at 2 p.m. in Aleshire Theater. Thank you for your consideration and the concern expressed for the Sims family.

—Gary Rabe, vice president for academic affairs

### Updates on Beaver Dam and library food service provided

Due to a contractor error on ordering carpet, the new Beaver Dam student activity center was not completed by the beginning of our school year. As best we can determine, the carpet may be delayed as long as late October. With the importance of this center to the life of our campus, we are now planning to open the Beaver Dam without carpet on the floor. We will plan for this "soft" opening of the Beaver Dam on Sept. 12. In view of the flooring problem and the need for Chartwells to ramp up their personnel on a new food service option, we will make this the opening date without promotional activity. Once the carpet is in place we will have our official grand opening with appropriate promotions and fun.

The Beaver Dam will now serve as a hub for student activities. Student Association offices have been relocated to this area from their former location on the third floor of the Student Union. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this inconvenience of opening without flooring.

We are also awaiting word on another important food service option planned for the Gordon B. Olson Library. A food cart will be installed in the lower level of the library. It's a unit being custom built for us at a cost of over \$18,000 with the funds provided by Chartwells as a part of our contractual agreement. We've been told to expect shipment by the end of the month. I'll keep you posted as new information comes in.

—Dick Jenkins, vice president for student affairs

## Graduation deadlines announced

Faculty should be aware that students are to turn in their fall semester applications for graduation to their advisors by Friday (Sept. 8). Advisors are to submit the graduation applications to the Registrar's Office by Sept. 22. Please let me know if you have any questions.

—Tania Balas, registrar

## In the Galleries

Aug. 28-Sept. 27—Erin Harmon: Best of Show exhibit, Gordon B. Olson Library Gallery

Aug. 28-Sept. 27—Americas 2000: All Media, Hartnett Hall Gallery.

The public reception for both exhibits is Sept. 12, Hartnett Hall Gallery, 6:30-8 p.m.

## Calendar

### Sept. 6-Sept. 30, 2006

- 6 Pancake Breakfast hosted by Men's Club Hockey, quad, 7:30-9:30 a.m.
- 6 Volleyball at Dickinson State U.
- 6 SAC: movie night, Aleshire Theater, 9 p.m.
- 7-14 University Diversity Week.
- 7 President's open forums, Conference Center, 8 & 10 a.m.
- 7 Diversity Week: panel "Sharing Diversity Stories—Then and Now," Aleshire Theater, 12:30 p.m.
- 7 Faculty Senate, Westlie Room, 3:30 p.m.
- 7 Alumni Board, Westlie Room, 4 p.m.
- 8 Fall semester applications for graduation due to advisor.
- 8 Beaver Boosters luncheon, Grand International Inn, noon.
- 8 Cross Country hosts Minot State Invite, Souris Valley Golf Course, 3:30 p.m.
- 9 Football vs. Bemidji State U., Parker Stadium, 1:30 p.m.
- 10-11 Golf at Dickinson.
- 11 Diversity Week: lectures by Avra Johnson on civil rights experiences as an African woman and on new directions of civil rights, Aleshire Theater, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- 11 Diversity Week: open forum on human harmony, peace and diverse beliefs, Aleshire Theater, noon.
- 11 Student Association, Westlie Room, 6 p.m.
- 12 Diversity Week: panel "The Right to Be: American Indian Perspective in the Dakotas," Aleshire Theater, 12:30 p.m.
- 12 Northwest Art Center: opening reception for Americas 2000 and Best of Show, Hartnett Hall Gallery, 6:30-8 p.m.
- 13 Voting for Homecoming royalty nominations, pizza and music, Beaver Dam or quad, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 13 Diversity Week: multicultural and international social, Multicultural Center, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

- 13 Mentor meeting, Missouri Room, noon.
- 13 Brown Bag Book Talk: Margaret Sherve, English, on "Service-Learning Across Cultures: Promise and Achievement," Olson Library lower level, noon.
- 14 Dual credit student orientation for high school students, Conference Center, 1 p.m.
- 14 Diversity Week: lecture by S.B. Woo, former lieutenant governor of Delaware, "Equal Opportunities and Diversity," Aleshire Theater, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Beaver Boosters luncheon, Grand International Inn, noon.
- 15 Admission to teacher education seminar, Old Main 106, 3-4 p.m.
- 15 Volleyball at Jamestown College.
- 15 Cross Country at U. of North Dakota Ron Pynn Invite.
- 16 Football vs. Black Hills State U., Parker Stadium, 1:30 p.m.
- 16 SAC: "Red Out" at the football game, wear your red and win prizes.
- 16 Theatre: "24 Hour Play Festival," Aleshire Theater, performance at 7:30 p.m.
- 16 Volleyball at Dakota State U.
- 17-23 Homecoming 2006: "Get Your Beav On."
- 17 Homecoming: free movie, pop and popcorn, Oak Park Theater, 9 p.m.
- 17-18 Golf at Jamestown.
- 18 Homecoming: king and queen voting, barbeque and KMSU music, quad, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 18 Homecoming: intramural beach volleyball tourney, west of Lura Manor, 4 p.m.
- 19 Last day to drop a first eight-week class.
- 19 Staff Senate, Jones Room, 9 a.m.
- 19 Homecoming: "Get in Your Face" caricatures and free taco in a bag, quad, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 19 Homecoming: coronation with entertainment by Nick Motil, Nelson Hall, 7 p.m.
- 19 Homecoming: dance with band "October Road," Holiday Inn, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m.
- 20 University Cabinet, Westlie Room, 9 a.m.
- 20 Homecoming: casino games and free nachos, Beaver Dam, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 20 Homecoming: comedian Lee Camp, Nelson Hall, 9 p.m.
- 21 Homecoming: billiards tournament, Beaver Dam, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 21 NAC lecture: "Horizons Unlimited: Experience and Learning across Borders and Cultures," Robert Kibler, English, and international travels, Michelle Sauer, English, Aleshire Theater, 7 p.m.
- 21 Homecoming: "Battle of the Sexes" game show, Beaver Dam, 7:30 p.m.
- 22 Fall semester applications for graduation due in Registrar's Office.
- 22 Beaver Boosters luncheon, Grand International Inn, noon.
- 22 Homecoming: Beaver Golf Scramble sponsored by Delta Epsilon Chi, Souris Valley Golf Course, 1:30 p.m.
- 22 Volleyball vs. Valley City State U., Dome, 7 p.m.
- 22 Greek reunion, Holiday Inn, 7 p.m.
- 22 Concert: MSU Concert Band and alumni, Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- 22-23 Homecoming: Family Weekend.
- 23 Homecoming: parade, route from Minot Civic Auditorium through downtown and north on Broadway to Dome, 10:30 a.m.
- 23 Homecoming: tailgating, east parking lot of Dome, 11:30 a.m.
- 23 Homecoming: football vs. South Dakota Tech, introduction of Homecoming royalty and Athletics Hall of Fame inductees at halftime, Parker Stadium, 1:30 p.m.
- 23 Volleyball vs. Mayville State U., Dome, 7 p.m.
- 23 Cross Country at Roy Griak Invite, Minneapolis.
- 24 Faculty recital: Dianna Anderson, piano, Nelson Hall, 3 p.m.
- 24-25 Golf home, Sunday, Souris Valley Golf Course, 1 p.m., and Monday, Minot Country Club, 9 a.m.
- 25 Nursing Student Association, Memorial Hall 304, 12:15 p.m.
- 25 Student Association, Westlie Room, 6 p.m.
- 26 International Artists Series: "Bay Street Brassworks," Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- 27 SAC: movie, Aleshire Theater, 9 p.m.
- 27-30 Theatre: "The Drawer Boy," Black Box Theater, 7:30 p.m.
- 28 Seminar for student teaching spring 2007, Missouri Room, 8 a.m.-noon.
- 28 MSU Alumni Association Golden Awards, Conference Center, 6 p.m.
- 28 NAC lecture: "If Knowledge is Power...Why Am I Always in the Dark?" by John Girard, business, Aleshire Theater, 7 p.m.
- 29 Deadline to submit proposals to the Intellectual Climate Committee.
- 29 Board of Regents, Conference Center.
- 29 Seminar for student teaching spring 2007, Missouri Room, 8 a.m.-noon.
- 29 Volleyball at Black Hills State U.
- 29 Guest alumni recital: Barry Wenger, organ, Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- 29 Men's Club Hockey vs. Colorado College, MAYSA arena, 7:30 p.m.
- 30 Football at Dickinson State U.
- 30 Volleyball at South Dakota Tech.
- 30 Men's Club Hockey vs. Bemidji State U., MAYSA arena, 7:30 p.m.