MSU commemorates 95th commencement

Minot State University is proud of its Class of 2008 undergraduates and graduates who earned degrees May 9. Approximately 700 undergraduate and graduate degrees were conferred, with about 600 to 650 students participating in the ceremony.

The 95th commencement ceremony honored the university’s traditions and set some new precedents as well.

In a nod to its past, this year’s graduates honored Gordon B. Olson, president emeritus. Olson was the longest-serving present of Minot State University, having been in office from 1967 to 1992. As its sixth president, Olson led the university through a period of significant growth and change. When Olson arrived at MSU, enrollment stood slightly more than 2,000, but by the 1991-92 academic year, enrollment topped 3,700. He spearheaded efforts to obtain new construction on campus; during his tenure, the Gordon B. Olson Library, the Dome, Hartnett Hall, and Lura Manor were built. He was also the driving force behind the effort to obtain university status, a goal finally achieved in 1987.

In looking ahead to Minot State University’s centennial in 2013, the ceremony recognized the institution’s strategic plan “Vision 2013.” The 2008 commencement speakers, senior Jacqueline Prellwitz of Willow City, and MSU alumnus David Marquart of Boise, Idaho, addressed the theme “Fostering Engaged Learning,” which corresponds to the strategic plan’s second strategy, “Fostering Engaged Learning and Place for the Benefit of Students.”

David Marquart, a 1965 MSU graduate, earned a Bachelor of Science in Education degree, with a major in business education and minor in mathematics. He went on to receive a Master of Education degree from the College of Idaho in 1973.

He retired in 2005 after teaching in the profession for 40 years. He was selected among the top-10 as a national finalist for the first NASA-sponsored “Teacher in Space” program in 1985. For the next three years Marquart worked with NASA at the AMES Research Center in Mountain View, Calif., where he implemented educational space programs for teachers and students in the western states.

Marquart told the graduating students that Minot State holds the distinction of having three alumni who were finalists in NASA’s Teacher in Space program. It was the only university in the country that had more than one alumni represented in the program. Marquart told the graduates that “failure was not an option” in the NASA space program and that Minot State has also practiced that philosophy. Years after he graduated from MSU, he said he received help from former professors when he needed it, including when he was about to teach a new computer class for the first time.

Prellwitz completed a Bachelor of Science in Education degree with a middle school and reading endorsement while earning a 3.897 cumulative grade point average. She was recently recognized as the ATE Outstanding Student in Teacher Education in elementary education. Recipients of the award are selected by the Minot Association of Teacher Educators and MSU faculty members. The award is based on potential as a

May 21, 2008

DCM marks 12th season

The Dakota Chamber Music Institute and competition for strings and piano will celebrate its 12th season June 9-15. The festival brings professional artists together with talented and motivated students and adults for intensive performance and study. Luminus, Minot State University’s resident trio of Erik Anderson, Jon Rumney, and Dianna Anderson, forms the core of the 2008 festival faculty.

The Dakota Chamber Music faculty recital will be in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall on June 12, 7:30 p.m. The student ensembles will give a preview of their program on June 13 in the Gordon B. Olson Library, 11 a.m. The adult ensembles, followed by the high school ensembles, will perform in Nelson Hall on June 15 at 1 p.m. For further information call Anderson at 858-3576 or e-mail erik.anderson@minotstateu.edu.

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successful teacher and professional, interest in teaching as a career, personal qualities and character, accomplishments during college training, and academic ranking.

Prellwitz recalled racing back from a state track meet to attend her high school graduation, still wearing red tennis shoes. She wore a pair of new red high heels for her graduation from Minot State University. She used the analogy that she was like Dorothy in “The Wizard of Oz” and the years in between those graduations resembled the yellow brick road. Along the way, she armed herself with courage, heart and a premiere education, with the help of her instructors. Prellwitz told her fellow graduates that having a college degree does not mean they have all the answers. It means they are better equipped to seek them out along the way.

While Minot State University will be striving to achieve all seven strategies of “Vision 2013,” each commencement ceremony for the next five years will carry a theme related to one specific strategy. In this way, each of the following graduation ceremonies will build upon the strategic plan and culminate in the 2013 ceremony, which celebrates Minot State’s centennial.

Other features at this year’s commencement were the presentation of flags representing the countries of MSU’s international students and the performance of a Native American flag song. In this way, the university not only honors the cultures of international and Native American students but also demonstrates its goal to develop and support a diverse and multicultural campus in the near future.

**MSU president announces streamlining of appropriated budget**

In a May 12 communication President David Fuller updated the campus on efforts to adjust the appropriated budget in anticipation of a projected enrollment decline and deficit in the fall.

Following an April 17 letter to campus and meetings with each senate, University Cabinet and academic college, budget supervisors and vice presidents reviewed and revised recommendations and shared a draft with the departments. As a campus, savings of $1,316,581 were identified and all recommendations were approved by an Ad-Hoc Budget Review Committee. These approved changes will be reflected in the final budget which must be submitted to the North Dakota University System office by May 30.

The budget number being submitted does not change the Compensation Task Force recommendation for an average 5 percent salary increase, including a 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase for employees with completed and satisfactory evaluations. The budget number is, however, $183,419 less than the campus target, meaning that budget review will continue following the official enrollment numbers at the fall census date in September.

Fuller emphasized that these efforts are being undertaken in anticipation of continued enrollment and demographic challenges and increased expenses. The streamlining work this year and next is focused on keeping Minot State University viable, competitive and strong as it continues to focus on the bright future, goal and strategies envisioned in Vision 2013.

**Minot State hosts friend-raising golf tour in area communities**

Minot State University alumni and friends are invited to participate in the third annual “Summer Friend-Raising Golf Tour.” The summer tour will stop in eight cities: Velva on June 4, The Links of North Dakota at Red Mike Resort near Ray on June 12, Rugby on June 19, Stanley on June 25, Bottineau on July 8, Beulah on July 10, Washburn on July 15, and Kenmare on August 7.

The motto for the tour is “Golf One or Golf Them All.” The format for each tour stop will be a four-person, 9-hole scramble. Registration will begin at 4:30 p.m., with a shotgun start at 5 p.m. A social will immediately follow completion of golf, estimated at about 7 p.m. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Golfers are responsible for their own green fees and cart rentals. Meals and refreshments will be provided by the course and purchase is optional.

Transportation from Minot State University to each course will be available at no charge. Reservations for transportation and meals are requested one week before the date of each outing. It is recommended that golfers interested in carts make reservations as soon as possible because the number of carts available is limited.

Prizes will be awarded at each event. The “Friend-Raising Golf Tour” is being sponsored by Minot State University and Dacotah Bank. Call the MSU Office of Advancement with questions or to register at 858-3890 or 701-800-777-0750, ext. 3890, or visit the Web site www.minotstateu.edu/alumni.

**Mind/Brain Myth-busters seminar returns by popular demand**

Educators from the region have been invited June 12-13 to examine popular myths and realities regarding “brain-based” teaching and learning. Last fall’s Mind/Brain Myth-busters seminar was so well-received that some sessions are being repeated and new ones added. Consider whether the following are fact or fiction: Does the brain grow more neurons when we learn? Does exercise make you smarter? Are male and female brains different? What does synaptic pruning really mean for middle school students? So, what is an amygdale anyway? The Mind/Brain Myth-busters seminar in the Student Center Conference Center will help those attending understand what is myth and what is real.

Minot State University’s Center for Applied Study of Cognition and Learning Sciences was approved by the North Dakota University System in September 2007 and has been
developing seminars and applied research studies designed to connect findings in research to classroom practice. Eighteen faculty members attended the Learning and the Brain Conferences sponsored by the Harvard Mind, Brain and Education program and others during 2006-2007. MSU faculty members, along with P-12 educators and experts from the community will provide information and interactive discussion on topics such as perception, attention, memory, motivation, emotion, reading, math, substance use/abuse, gender differences, sleep, exercise, left/right, nature/nurture and the like.

If there are any questions, contact Deb Jensen, chair of the Department of Teacher Education and Human Performance at deb.jensen@minotstateu.edu, 858-3043 or cell phone 701-471-7012.

Mentors and peer mentors wanted

Faculty and staff: The MSU Mentor Program is in need of more mentors for the 2008-09 academic year. If you are interested, please visit www.minotstateu.edu/mentoring to find out more about the program. To apply to be a mentor, click on “Be A Mentor” on the Web site and complete the necessary information.

We are also expanding the number of peer mentors in the program for 2008-09 and need your suggestions as to which upperclass MSU students would represent our campus well and help our incoming students make a smooth transition. Peer mentors need to be high-achieving students who are engaged in campus life and have a few hours each week to spend with a new student.

For any questions contact Debra Chandler at 858-3144 or debra.chandler@minotstateu.edu. Thank you for your assistance!

— Debra Chandler, student services advisor

Kids are at college again

Once again, Minot State’s Center for Extended Learning is undertaking its perennially popular “College for Kids.” Fourteen summer camps will be offered throughout May, June and July. The 2008 camps include: Illustrate and Write Your Own Children’s Book, Tennis for Beginners, Printmaking Possibilities, Making Stories Come Alive, Salamanders, Frogs and their Homes, Business of Babysitting, Young Writers Workshop, and Exploring Robotics 1, 2, and 3. Schedules, age groups and prices vary.

For additional information, contact CEL at 858-3989 or on the Web at www.minotstateu.edu/cel/ced_kids.shtml.

MSU personnel receive a $10 discount for each child for each enrollment.

Athletic camps build skills

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.

- Basketball Teams: Girls Teams – Grades 9-12, July 18-19; Boys Teams – Grades 9-12, July 19-20.
- Girls Basketball: Mini-Camp – Grades K-6, July 21-24; Perimeter Players Camp – Grades 5-12, May 30-June 1; Post Players Camp – Grades 5-12, May 30-June 1; Individual Camp – Grades 5-12, June 1-5.
- Football: Linebackers and Defensive backs – Grades 7-12, July 21; Offensive and Defensive Line – Grades 7-12, July 22; Quarterbacks, Running Backs, and Wide Receivers – Grades 7-12, July 23.

Summer Theatre starts June 10

“City of Angels,” the first of four plays to be performed by Minot State University Summer Theatre, will run from June 10 to 15. The other scheduled productions are: “Shakespeare in Hollywood,” June 24-28, “Side by Side by Sondheim,” July 8-12, and “Kiss Me Kate,” July 19-20 and 22-26.

Summer Theatre has been a tradition at MSU for more than 43 years. The company is made up of a variety of people including community members, MSU students, faculty and staff. Approximately, 8,000 -10,000 theatergoers attend the productions every summer.

All shows are in the MSU Amphitheater at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults, $7 for senior citizens and children over 12, $5 for children 12 and under, and $3 for MSU personnel and summer students with current MSU ID. Reservations may be made by calling the Summer Theatre box office at 858-3228.

Anderson heads Staff Senate

Nathan Anderson, accreditation technology coordinator for the College of Education and Health Sciences, is the new Staff Senate president. Other officers are Matt Schaefer, Rural Crime and Justice Center, vice president, and Mindy Rudnick, Business Office, secretary.

Minot State University Staff Senate elections were held May 8. Listed below, according to their constituencies, are the newly elected representatives, along with their areas of employment if different from their constituencies:

- Bookstore, food service, advancement, publications and design services (47 percent voter turnout)—Karla Bredahl and Pam Hopkins, both bookstore.
- Business Office, ITC and human resources (50 percent voter turnout)—Marlene Hargrave and Mindy Rudnick, both Business Office.
- College of Business and library (56 percent voter turnout)—Amanda Bibow, College of Business, and Renae Yale, library.
- College of Arts and Sciences (31 percent voter turnout)—Rosie Winczewski, math and computer science.
- RCJC (40 percent voter turnout)—Matthew Schaefer.
• NDCPD (27 percent voter turnout)—Lisa Johnson, Marcia Johnson and Kylene Drevecky.
• Plant services custodial (21 percent voter turnout)—T.J. Lipsey and Scott Peterson.
• Plant services maintenance (4 percent voter turnout)—Tim Healy and Tammy Pons.
• College of Education and Health Sciences and athletics (38 percent voter turnout)—Nathan Anderson, accreditation technology support coordinator.
• Student affairs, Student Health and Development Center, housing, multicultural services, public information (55 percent voter turnout)—Linda Benson, public information.

Announcements

Today celebrate health and fitness day

To celebrate health and fitness day, the Minot State University Walking Club is sponsoring a treasure hunt walk today. Meet at the front steps of Old Main at 4:45 p.m., with your walking shoes and a smile. For more information, call Karen at 858-4490.

— Karen Pocha-Melby, administrative assistant for INBRE

Thompson leaving MSU

Kimberlee Thompson, director of public information at Minot State University, has resigned her position effective June 1, 2008.

Thompson joined MSU in 1999. She has been an excellent supporter of MSU through her involvement with numerous activities including the MSU Gala, representation of MSU in the community, and her involvement in on-campus events.

Kim’s dedication to her work has resulted in notable and positive changes within the public information office. She has established outstanding relationships with the many media providers in the region and is well respected by her colleagues throughout the North Dakota University System.

I have appreciated working with Kim and value her many outstanding contributions to Minot State University. Her sound advice and commonsense approach in addressing concerns will be very much missed. We wish Kim the best in her future endeavors.

— David Fuller, president of Minot State University

Chartwells food service summer hours announced

Effective immediately, Chartwells summer hours are as follows:
Java Lodge, 7:30 a.m.–noon
Symbols Convenience Store, noon–3 p.m.
Buckshots (Student Center, first floor), 7:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Thank you.

— Brad Damm, director of Chartwells dining services

Acknowledgments from University Cabinet on May 21, 2008

Teacher Education Faculty Members

The following faculty members were recognized by the N.D. Education Standards and Practices Board for their work in completing recent teacher education program reviews at the University of North Dakota and Mayville State University: Sharon Reynolds, business administration, Cheryl Nilsen, mathematics, Neil Nordquist, chairman of the College of Education and Health Sciences.

Plant Services Employees

The Department of Nursing acknowledges the following plant services individuals for their assistance in preparing the Sister Mabel Meng Conference Room for its dedication: Terry Wald, Brian Otto, Brad Brentrup, Gretchen Ingeldue, Jerry Smith and Scott Shorb.

News from Minot State University-Bottineau

The education coordinator position on the Minot campus is open and will be posted shortly. Patsy Reike’s last day is June 13.

MSU-Bottineau has met with David Brunkow from GFB Consulting to set up a fundraising campaign through our foundation. The goal is to add $100,000 yearly to the organizations general fund.

Gov. John Hoeven was very well received at our graduation on May 9. We were very pleased in that he stayed to socialize with graduates, friends and relatives until the building was nearly empty.

We recently received $200,000 from the Center of North American Coalition for our Entrepreneurial Center for Horticulture (ECH) project. It will go toward the match we are working to secure for the $1,500,000 grant we have on the priority list with the federal government’s economic development administration. The grant funding can be used for building construction and the center will attempt to put a structure(s) in place before the end of fall. The type of structure will depend on cost and priority. The master plan for the ECH is to use the northwest quadrant of the campus; a focus of the ECH is organic production.

MSU-B is also submitting a $250,000 request to the state for a Center of Excellence grant for the same project.

A $100,000 grant application has been submitted to the North Dakota Parks Department for a walking trail on campus. We have titled it the Forestry Walking Trail and it will focus on our Nature, Technology, and Beyond theme.

A new marketing instructor and a new librarian have been hired. We need to fill a coaching position and a director of residential life/activities position.

Enrollment of new students for next fall is up 25 percent from last year at this same time.

**In the galleries**

May 21–June 11—“One Voice, One Message,” senior show by Michele Borkhuis, Melissa Ditalo and Mary Wagar, Hartnett Hall Gallery.


June 4–July 8—Student show: Graphic Design I and II, Library Gallery.

June 17–July 18—“Light and Life,” senior show by Ashley Wells and Maureen Williams, Hartnett Hall Gallery.

The public reception for “Light and Life,” senior show by Wells and Williams is July 18, Hartnett Hall Gallery, 6:30–8 p.m.

**Calendar**

**May 21–July 4, 2008**

**May**


21 Walking Club treasure hunt, Old Main, 4:45 p.m.

22 Old Main Society recognition, Conference Center, 5:30–9 p.m.

22–24 Outdoor Track & Field NAIA championships, St. Louis, Mo.

26 Memorial Day, university closed.

28 Summer classes begin.

29 Applied Behavior Analysis-Based Treatments for Autism, sponsored by NDCPD, Memorial 236, 2–4 p.m.

29–30 CONNECT: orientation and registration by invitation, call 858-3350, Nelson Hall.

30–June 1 Girls post/perimeter basketball camp, Dome.

30 American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Old Main front lawn, 7 p.m.

**June**

1 Last day to drop and not receive a grade of “W.”

1–5 Girls individual basketball camp, Dome.

3 Last day to add a summer course.

4 Excess financial aid disbursement, Business Office, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

4 Summer Friend-Raising golf tour, Velva Golf Course, Velva, N.D., 4:30 p.m.

4–July 8 NAC exhibit: Student show: Graphic Design I & II, Library Gallery.

5 Tuition and fees for Summer 2008 are due.

9–11 Volleyball skills camp, Dome.

9–15 Dakota Chamber Music high school program and adult workshop, Old Main.

10–15 Summer Theatre: “City of Angels,” Amphitheater, 8:30 p.m.

12 Summer Friend-Raising golf tour, Links of North Dakota at Red Mike Resort, Ray, N.D., 4:30 p.m.

12 Dakota Chamber Music faculty recital, Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m.

12–13 Mind/Brain Myth-Busters Seminar, Conference Center, 8 a.m.

12–13 Volleyball team camp, Dome.

13 Dakota Chamber Music student recital, Olson Library, 11 a.m.

15 Dakota Chamber Music concert, Nelson Hall, 1 p.m.

15–19 Boys individual basketball camp, Dome.

17 Staff Senate, Jones room, 9 a.m.

17–July 18 NAC exhibit: “Light and Life,” senior show by Ashley Wells and Maureen Williams, Hartnett Hall Gallery.

18 NAC public reception for “Light and Life,” senior show by Ashley Wells and Maureen Williams, Hartnett Hall Gallery, 6:30–8 p.m.

19 Summer Friend-Raising golf tour, Rugby Golf Course, Rugby, N.D., 4:30 p.m.

23–26 Boys and girls individual basketball instruction, Dome.

24–28 Summer Theatre: “Shakespeare in Hollywood,” Amphitheater, 8:30 p.m.

25 Summer Friend-Raising golf tour, Stanley Prairie Rose Golf Course, Stanley, N.D., 4:30 p.m.

26–27 CONNECT: orientation and registration by invitation, call 858-3350, Nelson Hall.

**July**

2 Last day to drop a summer course.

4 Independence Day holiday, university closed.

**Minot State University Mission**

Minot State University is first and foremost dedicated to the success of all students: their growth and development as educated citizens, their confidence, and their life-long devotion to the common good and the welfare of others.