New staff

Minot State University would like to welcome one new employee, Christy Jackson Carroll, and introduce her to the campus. Carroll is the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities’ associate director of development and an associate professor of special education. Previously, she was a reviewer of programs and grants for the state of Alabama.

College of Education and Health Sciences dean travels to Ghana

About one year ago, personnel from the North Dakota National Guard and the United States Agency for International Development approached Minot State University administrators to gauge the university’s interest in collaborating with a university in the Republic of Ghana to provide for the educational needs of that West African country’s children. Neil Nordquist, dean of Minot State University’s College of Education and Health Sciences, leaves for Ghana on Jan. 18. In face-to-face planning sessions, he will team with key personnel at the University of Education, Winneba to write a grant proposal.

The recommendation of MSU to NDNG and USAID as a partner for such a project came from William Goetz, chancellor of the North Dakota University System. MSU’s College of Education and Health Sciences expressed interest in this opportunity; this resulted in MSU’s request to work with the University of Education, Winneba to secure a planning grant from Higher Education for Development.

The planning grant award is $50,000, and the application submission deadline is Feb. 1. The Higher Education for Development Request for Application stipulates that an American university must partner with an African university to develop a proposal to build additional capacity in some area of importance to the latter’s nation. Bismarck State College is another NDUS school cooperating with an African university to submit a grant proposal for energy development.

“I’m really excited about this—about the possibilities. We feel that a partnership between our two universities in obtaining a HED planning grant could be successful, as the identified needs are areas in which our university has substantial expertise,” Nordquist said. “Minot State’s nationally accredited teacher education program possesses a strong reputation.”

In 2006, Montana State University developed a nationwide curriculum assessment system for Ghana. Some Ghanaian teachers remain distrustful of the test scores. MSU wants to collaborate with the African university, write a grant proposal to secure funding and train teachers to use testing data properly. By receiving training, Ghanaian teachers will increase their knowledge and skills. Consequently, they will feel confident and know how to utilize assessment data effectively. The University of Education, Winneba also wants assistance in strengthening distance education for teachers.

Jan. 14, 2009

PIO update

As the calendar has officially turned to 2009, I want to wish all of you a Happy New Year—and since it is an odd-numbered year, I want to wish all of us a Happy Legislative Session Year.

The 61st Legislative Assembly convened earlier this month, as politicians statewide are hard at work doing their public duty in serving the great state of North Dakota.

On the plate for Minot State University this biennium are some important projects and budget increases that will keep us on top of maintenance and construction on campus. As well, they will help us maintain a quality education at an affordable price for our students and their parents.

I hope you take the time to study the needs-based budget proposed by the North Dakota University System and the requests Minot State has put forward.

Ask questions if you do not understand something or simply want to know more. Moreover, most important, show your local legislator that you support higher education and the Beavers, through a letter, e-mail message or phone call.

Happy Legislative Session!

— Mark Lyman, director of public information

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date: Wednesday, Jan. 28
Submissions Due: noon Jan. 21
Administration, second floor
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Ghana has 22.4 million people and is about the size of Oregon. In the last decade, Ghana has dramatically increased the number of children attending school, and the country directs a large percentage of its gross national product to education. Some schools are modern while others are primitive: 98 percent of the schools do not have adequate computer or audio-visual equipment, while 55 to 78 percent have insufficient math and English textbooks. In Ghana, the school days are shorter than in the U.S. Often, the students are late because they lack transportation.

Knowing that such partnerships enhance educational opportunities for students and faculty, Minot State is looking to expand its international partnerships and activities. Six Ghanaian students are currently graduate students at MSU. Four of them attended the University of Education, Winneba.

“A partnership like this also relates strongly to our Vision 2013. It provides ideal opportunities for our faculty and students to foster engagement,” Nordquist said. “It could also lead into increased enrollment for Minot State.”

Nordquist plans to return to Minot on Jan. 24.

**MSU students ‘Tough Enough to Wear Pink’ in fight against breast cancer**

On Thursday evening (Jan. 15), the Minot State University community will show their support in eradicating breast cancer with a “Tough Enough to Wear Pink” event. The event will take place during the women’s and men’s basketball games against Jamestown College, starting with the women’s game at 5:30 p.m.

“The ‘Tough Enough to Wear Pink’ event is a great way to make MSU students aware about breast cancer and at the same time get them involved in a nationwide campaign,” said Amber Jensen, student coordinator. “We appreciate that the athletic department is allowing us to hold this event during their activities.”

The athletic department is hosting the event in conjunction with the Student Activities Committee. The event will raise awareness about the disease and provide opportunities to celebrate those who have won the battle against breast cancer. The Student Activities Committee is under the Student Government Association, MSU’s student governing body. The committee puts on activities for students and provides fun entertainment throughout the year.

Throughout the night, there will be numerous activities for MSU students, along with a booth set up by Curves of Minot. Curves will display Livaid, the latest product which helps with breast self examinations; Livaid will be available for purchase. There will be lots of drawings and prizes given away for students and fans. One lucky contestant, who is sitting in the “lucky seat,” will win $150 if they are wearing MSU apparel.

In conjunction with “Tough Enough to Wear Pink,” the MSU basketball coaches are promoting a “Coaches vs. Cancer Night,” where both the Beaver and Jimmies teams will wear pink. The teams’ coaches will be wearing pink as well. Donation buckets will be placed at each of the gate entrances.

The money raised during the evening will go entirely to the American Cancer Society. Prior to the event, “Tough Enough to Wear Pink” T-shirts can be purchased for $10 in the Student Government Association office (Student Center, second floor) or from the Minot Y’s Men’s Rodeo the night of the game, if still in stock.

For more information on the event, contact Jensen at 701-848-6158 or amber.jensen@my.minotstateu.edu or visit the event’s Web site at www.msupink.com.

**Awards presented to geography poster-session winners Friday**

On Friday (Jan. 16) at 12:30 p.m., Minot State University students and employees, as well as the public, are invited to an award presentation in the Gordon B. Olson Library for a first-time geography poster session. The work of more than 60 students in Principles of Geography (GEOG 110) and World Regional Geography (GEOG 161) were judged by Linda Olson, chair of humanities department, Ron Royer, professor of science, Marilyn Weiser, director of the North Dakota Geographic Alliance, and Ben Bruton, reference librarian. Johnny Coomansingh, assistant professor of geography, teaches the two general education geography courses.

The judges chose the top three poster presentations from each class, as well as projects that earned honorable mention. The first, second and third-place winners from each course will receive geography-related awards. The posters will be on display in the library until Jan. 23, the second week of 2009 spring classes.

**Financial aid office conducts information session Saturday**

The Minot State University Office of Financial Aid and the North Dakota Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators are sponsoring a financial aid information session for high school seniors and their parents in the Student Center Conference Center on Saturday (Jan. 17), 10 a.m.-noon.

“The MSU financial aid office is pleased to be working with the NDASFAA to sponsor this session,” said Laurie Weber, assistant financial aid director. “Our mission is to provide college-bound students and their parents with accurate information on the financial aid process.”

Topics covered will include the application process, financial aid programs, scholarship deadlines, how to avoid scams and financial-aid myths. This session is open to students planning to attend any college or university, and attendees will be eligible to register for a $250 scholarship drawing.
Timbrook discusses ‘The Last Hurrah’ Saturday

Mark Timbrook, the Office of Instructional Technology’s technology support specialist and a past president of the Ward County Historical Society, will give a historical presentation Saturday (Jan. 17) at Main Street Books (17 South Main Street), 2 p.m. His book, “The Last Hurrah: An Account of the Mouse River Valley, Bone Town, Little Chicago, and the Magic City,” was recently published. Admission is free and open to the public; refreshments will follow the lecture.

“Minot was one of those towns that shared the ‘last hurrah’ of the passing age. It was as if a collision had occurred between the old and the new and given birth to an unexpected child, of rebellious nature. To make matters worse, Minot was born in a territory that likewise had an attitude,” wrote Timbrook in his book. “But unfortunately, its behavior would not be appreciated by its progressive thinking parent, in fact, the town’s raucous behavior and bravado was most likely perceived as an embarrassment.”

In “The Last Hurrah,” Timbrook illuminates the history of the area, from the arrival of the settlers in the Souris River Valley, to the founding of Minot as a western boomtown with its share of vice and lawlessness. He discusses James J. Hill’s selection of Minot as a railhead community, the development of Minot, the founding of the state in 1889 and the prohibition era. He also touches on the history of socialism in the area.

The book is available at the Gordon B. Olson Library, the Minot Public Library and the North Dakota Historical Society. It is also being sold locally at Main Street Books and Home Sweet Home.

Martin Luther King Jr. remembered

Join in celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday (Jan. 19) at Aleshire Theater, 7 p.m. The night will feature gospel music, dancers, monologue, Minot’s response to Martin Luther King Jr. Day and refreshments. Sponsors include Minot State University, YWCA, Minot Air Force Base, Minot Public Schools, the Minot Air Force Base Gospel Choir, Minot Air Force Base Public Affairs, Minot Area Homeless Coalition and the Retired Seniors and Volunteer Program.

DeWitz discusses ‘Lies My Teacher Told Me’ in Brown Bag Book Talk

Deb DeWitz, assistant professor of social work, will begin spring semester’s Brown Bag Book Talks with “Lies My Teacher Told Me. Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong” on Jan. 29. This book was written after its author, James W. Loewen, spent two years at the Smithsonian Institution studying and comparing 12 American history textbooks widely used throughout the United States.

You need not read the featured book ahead of time and are encouraged to bring a sack lunch. 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.

Symphony performs ‘Out of This World’ family concert Jan. 31

At the Minot Symphony Orchestra’s “Out of This World” family concert Jan. 31, the theme is outer space. The music featured will symbolize space, including the memorable theme from “E.T.” and the raw power of Mars from Gustav Holst’s “Planets Suite.” Maestro Dennis Simons, professor of music, is the orchestra’s conductor.

For the concert, MSU faculty, staff and students will be admitted free with a current ID. Additional tickets for adults are $15 per concert or $50 for a season ticket. The price for senior citizens is $13 single, $45 season; students 12-18, $8 single,
$24 season; children, ages under 12, $4 single, $12 season. All concerts are held in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The remainder of “Music from Around the World” include “American in Paris (Spring Concert),” March 7 and “Search for Treasure (Pops Concert),” Apr. 25.

‘Messiah’ performance raises funds for Joseph Hegstad Music Scholarship

On Dec. 7, the Heritage Singers men’s chorus, the Voices of Note women’s chorus, area high school students and MSU Concert Choir combined to present Handel’s “Messiah.” Ken Bowles, professor of music, was their director.

Admission was by free-will offering, and proceeds from the event were $4,700. These funds were added to the Joseph Hegstad Music Scholarship. Hegstad, a retired Minot State University music instructor and founding member of The Heritage Singers, now lives in Arizona.

![Photo](image)

Dave Jensen, left, president of the Heritage Singers, and Karen Brunner-Wright, president of the Voices of Note, present a $4,700 check to Marv Semrau, right, vice president for advancement.

Weight Management Club holds first meeting Jan. 20

The Weight Management Club, which is supported by the Wellness Committee, will hold its first meeting on Jan. 20 at 2 p.m. in the Jones Room. This is for anyone interested in managing their weight by developing everyday healthy habits. For more information, call Caren Barnett at 858-3371 or Sherie Saltveit at 858-3280.

— Caren Barnett, director of the Student Health Center

Enrollment services needs volunteers

The Office of Enrollment Services has several events arranged for January, but currently no volunteers to present to potential students at those events!

One event will be in Billings, Mont. on Jan. 21, one in Bismarck on Jan. 28 and one in Glasgow, Mont. on January 29. These are evening events with set-up at 6:30 p.m. and presentations and visiting from 7 to 9 p.m. Hotel and per diem costs will be covered by enrollment services.

Unfortunately, space is limited with room for only six people for each event! Please contact Rebecca Porter in enrollment services at rebecca.porter@minotstateu.edu or 858-4348, as soon as possible, if you are interested in presenting at an event.

Keep an eye out for the other events in February and March that you might be interested in attending!

— Rebecca Porter, recruitment coordinator

Distinguished Lifetime Educator Award nominations due Jan. 28

Faculty: For the Distinguished Lifetime Educator Award, the president of the Minot State University Faculty Senate must receive the nomination letter and letters of support no later than Jan. 28. For questions, contact Kristi Berg, Faculty Senate president, at 858-4337 or kristi.berg@minotstateu.edu.

— Kristi Berg, Faculty Senate president

Compensation Task Force open forum slated for Jan. 29

On Jan. 29 at 12:30 p.m., the Compensation Task Force will present the results of the merit-pay survey and provide updates as to the progress made to date. The open forum will meet in the Conference Center, and discussion is welcome. Please make plans to attend. For questions, contact 858-3352 or wes.matthews@minotstateu.edu.

— Wes Matthews, director of human resources

Announcements

Retirement open house in honor of Dick Debertin tomorrow

Please join the Center for Extended Learning on Thursday (Jan.15) for a retirement open house to show appreciation to Dick Debertin, IVN and video conferencing coordinator, for his years of service to the CEL. The open house will be in the Conference Center, 2-3:30 p.m. For questions, contact 858-3822 or julie.keller@minotstateu.edu.

— Kris Warmoth, dean for the Center for Extended Learning
Finance Committee seeks proposals

The Finance Committee, which is the institutional committee charged with overseeing the allocation and distribution of student activity fees, is interested in fielding proposals on how best to distribute current fees and if there is interest in funding new initiatives for the benefit of students. The committee would like to receive any proposed changes to the current fee structure and/or new initiatives, in writing, no later than Jan. 30 at the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs (Administration 164). For questions, contact 858-3489 or darla.weigel@minotstateu.edu.

— Dick Jenkins, vice president for student affairs

President’s Annual Report on Web site

The President’s Annual Report (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008) has been posted to the Office of the President’s Web site. The link is http://www.minotstateu.edu/president/pdf/pres_report_2007_2008.pdf

— Deb Wentz, executive assistant to the president

Work orders procedure updated

The work orders procedure has been updated. Soon, it will be posted on the Office of Plant Services’ Web site along with forms for Options II and III. For questions, contact 858-3210 or tammy.pons@minotstateu.edu.

— Roger Kluck, director of facilities

Housing survey participants wanted

Potential faculty or staff participant: You are invited to participate in a survey conducted by the residence life coordinator at Minot State University. By giving your opinion on the one-page questionnaire at this link, http://vovici.com/ wsb.dll/s/6dabg39772, you can help determine the future of on-campus housing at Minot State. With the results from this questionnaire, Amber O’Brien, residence life coordinator, and the Office of Student Life and Housing will assess whether or not to implement living and learning communities in some or all of the residence halls on campus.

If you choose to complete the survey, please know that there are no potential benefits or risks associated with participating in this study. The information you provide is anonymous. Your participation in this survey is voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time from completing the survey by choosing not to submit it online.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact O’Brien in the student life and housing office at 858-3584. This survey has been approved by MSU’s Institutional Review Board. If you have any questions about your rights as a human research subject, please contact Margi Coxwell, IRB chair, at 858-3125.

— Amber O’Brien, residence life coordinator

Bookstore discount cards available

The MSU Bookstore, in conjunction with Barnes & Noble Inc., has arranged for faculty and staff to receive a Faculty/Staff Discount Card that can be used at the Barnes & Noble Store in Dakota Square Shopping Mall.

This card entitles the holder to:
• 10 percent off the everyday prices of all general books.
• 10 percent off the everyday prices of maps, greeting cards and everything else in the store except magazines, newspapers, textbooks, gift cards, café purchases, Barnes & Noble bestsellers, DVDs, music, special orders, ship-to-home orders, Barnes & Noble membership fees or other special discount offers.

To pick up a card for the year 2009, stop by the Minot State University Bookstore with an MSU ID and ask for me or other staff workers.

— Sandy Foley, bookstore manager

Spring Assessment Day is March 25

Faculty: Please remember to put the spring Assessment Day activities on your calendar. Assessment Day is March 25. We will be holding general sessions in the morning with two speakers presenting a session on information literacy. The speakers are highly regarded in their fields; they will provide some valuable insights that will guide us as we define the learning outcomes we expect our graduates to meet. More information will be forthcoming about afternoon sessions. For questions, contact 858-3106 or cheryl.nilsen@minotstateu.edu.

— Cheryl Nilsen, Academic Assessment Committee chair

A MSU license plate is now possible

As some of you may know, we had tried getting an MSU license plate about five years ago. At that time, we needed 400 participants to get the license plate going. Recently, that was changed to 50 people! We know we can meet this goal and are excited to give everyone an opportunity to order one.

You can also get an application from the alumni office on the third floor of the Student Center, from the marketing office on the second floor of the Student Center and in the athletic office in the Dome. Please call 858-3234 with any questions. Let’s show North Dakota, and the world, some MSU school spirit!

— Tawnya Bernsdorf, director of alumni relations and annual giving
In the galleries


The public reception for “Americas 2009: Paperworks” and Janet Gorzegno exhibits is this evening (Jan. 14), Hartnett Hall, 6:30-8 p.m.

Calendar

Jan. 14-Feb. 25, 2009

Jan.
14 SAC: movie, Beaver Dam 3 p.m., Aleshire Theater, 9 p.m.
14 NAC reception for “Americas 2009: Paperworks” and Janet Gorzegno exhibits, Hartnett Hall, 6:30-8 p.m.
15 Last day to add first 8-week class.
15 Welcome Back Week: food for students and music by Mitchell Nelson, Beaver Dam, 11 a.m.
15 Retirement open house for Dick Debertin, IVN coordinator, Conference Center, 2–3:30 p.m.
15 Faculty Senate, Library, 3:30 p.m.
15 SAC: “Tough Enough to Wear Pink” at MSU basketball games, Dome, 5:30 p.m.
15 Women’s and Men’s Basketball vs. Jamestown College, Dome, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.
15 Welcome Back Week: Dance, Grand International Inn, 10 p.m.–1 a.m.
16 Fall 2009 student teaching applications due to field placement office.
16 MSU Brass and Percussion Day.
16 Welcome Back Week: food for students and music by True Soul Brothaz, Beaver Dam, 11 a.m.
16 Geography poster-session award presentation, Olson Library, 12:30 p.m.
17 Financial aid information session, Conference Center, 10 a.m.
17 SAC: Club Hockey spirit night, All Seasons Arena, 7:30 p.m.
17 Men’s Club Hockey vs. MSU-Bottineau, All Seasons Arena, 7:30 p.m.
18 Women’s and Men’s Basketball at Valley City State U.
19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day, university closed
20 Staff Senate, Jones Room, 9 a.m.
20 Graduate School: last day for spring graduates to file thesis proposal, due noon in Graduate School.
20 Weight Management Club, Jones Room, 2 p.m.
22 Last day to add 16-week class.

Feb.
1 SAC: Super Bowl party, Beaver Dam, 5 p.m.
1 Women’s Basketball at U. of North Dakota (exhibition).
3 Men’s Club Hockey at U. of Michigan-Dearborn.
4 SAC: lunch and music by Traces, Beaver Dam, 11 a.m.
4 SAC: movie, Beaver Dam 3 p.m., Aleshire Theater 9 p.m.
5 General Education Ad Hoc Committee Bok Book Talk, Olson Library, 12:30 p.m.
5 NAC lecture: “Duality in Nature, Thought and Spirit” by Paul Markel, psychology, Aleshire Theater, 7 p.m.
6 Women’s and Men’s Basketball at Black Hills State U.
6-7 Men’s Club Hockey at Oakland University.
7 Domestic Violence Prevention Walk, Dome, 8 a.m.
7 Women’s and Men’s Basketball at South Dakota Mines.
8 Luminus recital, Nelson Hall, 3 p.m.
9 Student Government Association meeting, Westlie Room, 7 p.m.
10 Last day to drop first 8-week class.
10 Curriculum Committee, Jones Room, 12:30 p.m.
11 Women’s and Men’s Basketball at Jamestown College.
11 SAC: Christopher Carter, mentalist, Beaver Dam, 8 p.m.
12 Brown Bag Book Talk: Jim Bailey, art, will discuss poetry by Charles Bukowski, Olson Library, noon.
12 Faculty Senate, Old Main 308, 3:30 p.m.
13 Athletic Luncheon, Sevens Restaurant, noon.
13 Admission to teacher education seminar, Main 106, 3–4 p.m.
13 Magic City Jazz Festival, Nelson Hall.
14 Women’s and Men’s Basketball vs. Valley City State U., Dome, 4 and 6 p.m.
14 Men’s Club Hockey vs. St. Cloud State U., All Seasons Arena, 7:30 p.m.
15 Men’s Club Hockey vs. St. Cloud State U., All Seasons Arena, 2 p.m.
15 Brass Band of Minot, Nelson Hall, 4 p.m.
16 Presidents Day, university closed.
17 Men’s Club Hockey at MSU-Bottineau.
17 Staff Senate, Jones Room, 9 a.m.
17 International Artist Series: Claremont Trio, Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m.
18 University Cabinet, Westlie Room, 9 a.m.
18 Women’s and Men’s Basketball at Dakota State U.
19 Women’s and Men’s Basketball at Mayville State U.
19 SAC: guest speaker, Beaver Dam, 7 p.m.
20 Men’s Club Hockey vs. Selkirk Rivermen, All Seasons Arena, 7:30 p.m.
20 Craft and Create Day, sponsored by Club Hockey, Dome, 9 a.m.–8 p.m.
20 Men’s Club Hockey vs. Selkirk Rivermen, All Seasons Arena, 2 p.m.
20 College Goal Sunday, FAFSA online help, McFarland Lobby, Old Main, 1–3 p.m.
23 SAC: Winter Week 2009, lunch, Beaver Dam, 11 a.m.
23 Student Government Association meeting, Westlie Room, 7 p.m.
23 SAC: Winter Week 2009, Casino night, Beaver Dam, 8 p.m.
23 SAC: Winter Week 2009, lunch, Beaver Dam, 11 a.m.
24 Small Ensembles concert, Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m.
24 SAC: Winter Week 2009, Mardi Gras dance, Grand International Inn, 10 p.m.
25 Incomplete grades of “I” from fall roll to “F.”
25 SAC: Winter Week 2009, lunch, Beaver Dam, 11 a.m.
25 SAC: Winter Week 2009, music by Jaryd Lane, Beaver Dam, noon.
25 SAC: movie, Beaver Dam 3 p.m., Aleshire Theater 9 p.m.

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.