



### Public Information Office

A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY

## ACHIEVEMENT EDITION OF INSIDE

### Vision 2013

*Minot State University will achieve national distinction as one of the premier public, regional universities in the "great" Great Plains.*

### Faculty, staff and student achievements

Three faculty members from the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, **Kodwo Annan**, **Stephen Hayton** and **Timothy Morris**, presented sessions at the North Dakota Council of Teachers of Mathematics spring conference April 1-2 in Jamestown.

Annan, assistant professor of mathematics, presented "Mathematical Modeling as a Pedagogical Tool for Teaching Mathematics Concepts." The sectional focused on ways teachers can represent mathematics concepts that apply to real-life problem situations and scientific inquiries.

Hayton, assistant professor of computer science, and Morris, instructor of mathematics, presented "Base Basics," a workshop on working with numbers in various bases, and "North Dakota STEM Project," a sectional designed to introduce mathematics teachers of all levels to a new website developed under a STEM grant in which the presenters are principal investigators.

**Cheryl Nilsen**, associate professor of mathematics and computer science, was program chair for this NDCTM spring conference. At the NDCTM annual meeting, Nilsen assumed the presidency of NDCTM, after serving a year as president-elect.

Nilsen has also managed high school competitive speech meets at Underwood High School and at Minot State University. She will manage the upcoming Region 8 meet at MSU. In addition to managing, Nilsen has been an adjudicator at meets in Washburn, Bowbells, Glenburn, Harvey and Stanley.

**Tawnya Bernsdorf**, director of alumni relations and annual giving, and **Beth Odahlen**, director of the Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning, as Team MSU won first place in the second annual Minot Young Professionals Network Supermarket Sweep March 15 at Marketplace Foods Dakota Square. Ten teams, of two people dressed in themed attire, answered questions about advertising slogans, product costs, Marketplace Foods and the Our Family brand; then they raced through the store filling their shopping carts. The teams used game-entry fees and money donated by businesses, co-workers, organizations, family and friends to compete. Under the direction of the Minot Area Homeless Coalition, all of the \$2,100 worth of non-perishable food and toiletry items (approximately 1,800 pounds) went to Community Action, the Salvation Army and Faith United Methodist Church to stock local food pantries and soup kitchens.

The University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, accepted an abstract by **Becky Brodell**, assistant professor of nursing, as a poster presentation for its upcoming 2011 Summer Institute on Evidence-Based Practice, "Transforming Care: Friction, Heat, & Light." The title of Brodell's research is "Group Caring Environment in Nursing."

**Shawn Carraher**, director of the Severson Entrepreneurship Academy, presented a paper concerning the world's environment at Harris Manchester College, Oxford University, England, for the Oxford Roundtable on the Environment in March. He received a postgraduate certificate from Harris Manchester College. Carraher also lectured to doctoral students at the Said Business School at Oxford University and at Brooks Oxford University.

In April, Carraher received the Larry R. Watts Distinguished Service Award from the Allied Academies. The award is bestowed only upon Academy Fellows who make outstanding contributions to the organization above and beyond the normal call of duty.

Twenty-two papers, which SEA personnel coauthored with 22 students, were also accepted for presentation domestically in April.

### April 13, 2011

#### MSU CORE VALUES AND PURPOSE

*MSU cares deeply about its students, their learning and their growth. The university is proud of its values and long-term commitment to teaching and learning with excellence, integrity and engagement; serving students and others respectfully and responsibly; following high ethical and moral principles; and supporting the values of community and place, where all community members are valued and respected for their work, contributions and freedom of expression. MSU helps people appreciate life and learning and contribute meaningfully to the lives of others.*

To highlight and recognize the many accomplishments and achievements of Minot State University students, faculty and staff, the Office of Public Information established a special, monthly edition of Minot State University Inside devoted to these achievements. This special, monthly edition includes professional or civic achievements or successes accomplished in recent months. MSU wants to highlight the many distinguished achievements realized by our campus.

#### NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date: Wednesday, May 11  
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**Jordan Crawford** of Deloraine, Manitoba, presented “Differential Equations on Action while Modeling Tumor Growth” at the Pi Mu Epsilon Conference, hosted by the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University in Collegetown, Minn. The presentation covered Crawford’s joint work with students **Dallas Fry**, **Josh Beaudoin** and **Brett Schott**, all of Minot. **Narayan Thapa**, assistant professor of mathematics, and **Kodwo Annan** accompanied seven undergraduate students to this conference.

MSU senior **Caroline Folven**, Byron, Ill., was named to the 2011 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Women’s Basketball All-American team. Folven earned an Honorable Mention All-American selection, marking the sixth straight season the Beavers have at least one player named to the All-American team. She was also named to the 2011 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete team for the second straight season.

**Mary Huston**, who completed a bachelor’s degree in communication disorders in 2007 and a master’s degree in speech-language pathology in 2009 from MSU, co-authored an iPad app designed as a clinical tool for speech-language pathologists.

Members of the Town & Country Credit Union elected **Gordon Olson**, lecturer in mathematics, to its board of directors. Olson represents the Minot region.

At the Minot Association of Teacher Educators and Minot State University Spring Banquet on March 28, two Minot State University students, **Samantha Johnson** and **Jacey Peterson**, received recognition. The students received ATE Outstanding Student in Teacher Education awards. The elementary education award went to Johnson of Minot, and the secondary award went to Peterson, a business-education major from Berthold.

In addition, the group presented the Linda Feldner Outstanding Cooperating Teacher award to Apryl Davenport. Davenport teaches at Dakota Elementary at Minot Air Force Base, and she has mentored many student teachers from MSU.

The local awards look for potential as a successful teacher and professional person, interest in teaching as a career, outstanding personal

qualities and character, exceptional accomplishments during college training and high academic ranking.

**Walter Piehl**, professor of art, is giving a painting workshop at Dawson Community College, Glendive, Mont., April 16-17. An artist reception is scheduled for April 16, 5-7 p.m. “Western Americana,” an exhibit of Piehl’s artwork, will be on display.

**Sally Podrebarac**, a senior music performance major, has advanced to the finals for the International Horn Society Premier Soloist Competition June 19-25 in San Francisco. The Bismarck native is one of five horn players who advanced from applications submitted from all over the world.

**Tom Seymour**, professor of business information technology, has had his most recent manuscript, “History of Wireless Communication,” published in the Review of Business Information Systems Journal, second quarter 2011 issue.

**Mark Timbrook**, Office of Instructional Technology design specialist, history adjunct and author, and his wife, Eunice, completed the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training seminar on cemetery monument conservation. The training, held at Tolomato Cemetery in St. Augustine, Fla., included stone condition assessment and cleaning, lime wash techniques, headstone repair, resetting, patching and fill materials. Tolomato is the oldest extant planned cemetery in the United States, with burials starting during the First Spanish Period (1565-1763). NCPTT is a division of the National Park System.

**Bill Triplett**, head softball coach, reached 100 career wins. Triplett, a 1980 MSU graduate, is 100-47 in his fourth season as the Beavers’ head coach. The Beavers have won at least 25 games in each of his first four seasons and went 34-14 last season, qualifying for the NAIA National Softball Tournament.

**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.

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