MSU Fall Kickoff brought campus community back together
The MSU Fall Kickoff, coordinated by Staff Senate, launched the new academic year. Colleagues and their families reconnected while enjoying food, entertainment, live music and fun. Face painting, life-size Jenga and games were favorites among the children.

MSU pleased with first-day numbers
Minot State University administrators are cautiously optimistic after reviewing first-day 2013 enrollment figures. Although enrollment becomes official after the fourth full week of classes, MSU shows preliminary growth in several key areas.

Relative to the same day last year, total enrollment is up 4.5 percent. MSU continues to draw students from all corners of North Dakota, with Ward County showing a 6 percent increase. Counties with decreased enrollment fall mainly within oil communities.

“We are pleased with the initial numbers and the gains in several student populations. This indicates that we have turned a corner with declining enrollment from the 2011 Mouse River flood, which allows Minot State to get back to what it does best: provide quality education,” said David Fuller, MSU president.

Other enrollment gains include transfer and out-of-state students, up 16.5 and 18.4 percent respectively, Minot Air Force Base, online and non-U.S. citizens. Out-of-state student enrollment rose over 18 percent compared to 2012.

“We continue to see strong numbers from neighboring states Minnesota, Montana and South Dakota. But we also have numerous students from California, Florida, Michigan and Illinois,” Fuller commented. “Some of this is driven by athletics, but it also indicates our ‘Grow North Dakota’ program is working as we intended.”

MSU numbers may change, as first-day enrollment numbers are unofficial. Enrollment figures become official after the fourth full week of classes, when they are reported to the North Dakota University System.

MSU NOTSTOCK: Bursting at the seams
Two words that best describe MSU NOTSTOCK 2013: crazy busy.

Minot State University's annual live, signature arts festival,
NOTSTOCK is bigger, better and more comprehensive than ever before. Sept. 10-14, MSU NOTSTOCK 2013 celebrates poster art, poetry, music, ceramics, theatre, foreign language and communication arts and features a special art exhibit. Most events take place on MSU's campus.

“This arts event continues to grow in popularity, attracting talent locally, regionally and nationally,” said Bill Harbort, art professor and NOTSTOCK co-organizer. “Every year, we try to add something new that might appeal to a wider audience.”

NOTSTOCK 2013 kicks off with a concert by Portland Cello Project at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 at Arvel Graving Theater at Minot High School Magic City Campus, with opening act Less than Organic. PCP has toured for nearly seven years, offering a unique cross-genre delivery and extravagant performances that wow audiences and earn rave reviews.

Concert tickets can be reserved by calling 858-3185 or purchased at the door. The cost is $10 for adults, $5 for students, age 5 and under are free. MSU NOTSTOCK will offer special workshops with PCP Sept. 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For WordStock, Sam Cook, National Poetry Slam Champion and founder of Button Poetry, will help aspiring writers bring their work from the page to the stage. Cook will emcee a Poetry Slam Sept. 13 at 1 p.m. in the Beaver Dam.

For NOTSTOCK, Instant Improv Theatre workshops will take place in the Black Box Theater, Hartnett Hall, Sept. 12-13, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

New to NOTSTOCK is a foreign language writing workshop presented by Jean-Francois Mondon, foreign languages coordinator. Participants will explore the basics of Egyptian hieroglyphics, Chinese, Japanese and Russian writing systems and learn to decipher the mechanics in a fun, creative way. Mondon's workshop is Sept. 12 from 11:15 a.m.-noon in the Conference Center.

Local bands will perform in the Beaver Dam and at the NOTSTOCK closing reception at 62 Doors Gallery & Studios Sept. 14, 7 p.m.

All events are free, except for the Sept. 10 cello concert, and are open to the public. For a complete list of events, visit http://www.msunotstock.blogspot.com/.

Futurepaloosa set for Sept. 12
Futurepaloosa, an annual signature event, showcases professionals and post-secondary schools highlighting career and educational opportunities for high school students. Minot State University will host Futurepaloosa Sept. 12 in the Dome. Exciting presentations and informational booths will be free and open to students, parents and community members from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Futurepaloosa will be bigger this year with some fun additions. We expect 1,000 North Dakota high school students to attend. Grant Baldwin, a youth motivational speaker, will keynote with ‘No more excuses.’ He will encourage students to take responsibility for their own lives through a blend of comedy and storytelling,” said Derek Van Dyke, admissions counselor and Futurepaloosa organizer. "NOTSTOCK is also going on at this time; after listening to Grant, students can go to the Beaver Dam and take in some unique music and art. High school students will have the opportunity to spend the entire day experiencing what MSU has to offer!"

A round table session will have 65 presenters from 16 career clusters. These presenters will participate in three 18-minute sessions with the students. They will discuss their education backgrounds and the steps they took to achieve professional success.

Post-secondary schools from across the region will also exhibit at the event. These include 47 colleges, universities, institutes or academies from North Dakota, Minnesota, South Dakota, Manitoba, Montana, Nebraska and Wyoming. For questions, contact Van Dyke at 858-3351 or derek.vandyke@minotstateu.edu.

Community invited to join biology field trip
Alexey Shipunov, assistant biology professor, is hosting an excursion Saturday (Aug. 31) on the open prairie located off of County Road 15, near Minot. The field trip will begin at 11 a.m. and end approximately 12:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Interested participants can meet in the “J” lot near the Gordon B. Olson Library Saturday at 10:45 a.m.

Shipunov said the area is an excellent example of unaltered grassland that contains a large amount of native plants, now in bloom. His goal is to show participants the diversity of plants native to this area and their proximity to Minot.
NDCPD receives funding for diagnostic clinics
The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities, Center of Excellence on the Minot State University campus, was recently awarded funding from the Department of Health's Children's Special Health Services for the Great Plains Interdisciplinary Autism Diagnostic Clinic. This funding will allow professionals in occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, education and pediatric medicine to work as an interdisciplinary team to evaluate children, age 18 months to 21 years, who are suspected of having an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

GPIC was awarded monies to cover six diagnostic clinics over the course of two years in Minot and Williston.

"We are so pleased that we will now be able to provide diagnostic clinics in the Williston area, which has been underserved and greatly impacted by population growth," said Hilory Liccini, GPIC project director.

ASD is a complex neuro-developmental disorder with prevalence rates as high as 1 in 88 children. With this funding, more children will have access to a diagnostic evaluation in the state. Parents, educators or medical professionals can refer children suspected of having ASD. To make a referral or for more information on the clinics, contact Liccini at 858-3008 or Hilory.Liccini@minotstateu.edu.

It's a wrap
Aug. 19, Information Technology Central met its Power of 100 service project's goal. That morning, an Apple truck left with 25 pallets of e-waste from Minot State University. The truck, filled to its brim and length, also hauled away four large, free-standing printers and copiers. The e-waste, which totaled between 17,000 to 20,000 pounds, consisted of unusable, university-owned electronic and computer equipment, previously deemed scrap and beyond repair.

This is the fifth year that MSU has utilized Apple's free waste-recycling program for educational institutions. Facilities management staff assist ITC with moving, storing and loading the pallets. Apple pays for the shipping and the recycling of the e-waste, which goes to Sims Recycling, West Chicago, Ill., to be shredded and demanufactured in compliance with federal and state regulations and environmental policies. Minot State remains eco-friendly while disposing of scrap items at no cost. To read more about ITC's service project, visit www.minotstateu.edu/100/power_of_100_projects.shtml.

In the galleries

Aug. 20-Sept. 26 — "Nature and Geometry" Americas 2013: All Media, on display Aug. 20 through Sep. 26 with juror Bill Goldston, Bay Shore, N.Y., Hartnett Gallery. The public reception with Goldston will be Sept. 19 in Hartnett Gallery, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Faculty and staff achievements
The Office of Public Information proudly shares the many accomplishments of faculty and staff with the campus community in every issue.

Brent Askvig, NDCPD executive director and special education professor, will be interim chair of the Department of Special Education. Askvig will continue to lead NDCPD.

As of Aug. 15, volunteers had cleaned 93 veteran markers for the Veteran Gravestone Cleaning Project. Only seven markers remained to reach the MSU Centennial service challenge goal of 100. The last cleaning will be Sept. 2. Minot State University volunteers are Heidi Benavides, Merri Jo Connole, Richard Heit, Pam Hopkins, Jessica Hudson, Julie Keller, Evelyn Klimpel, Nicola Roed, Sherie Saltveit, Meghan Stewart, Mark Timbrook and Kris Warmoth. Community volunteers are Jared and Melissa Bembnowski, Cathy Holt, Jeanne Narum, Eunice Timbrook and Vicki Olson.

John Girard, management professor, wrote "Creating Global Thinkers," which was published Aug. 27 on Prairie Business’ website. The article is at http://www.prairiebizmag.com/event/article/id/15772/.

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.

Be seen. Be heard.