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**A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**Oct. 23, 2013**

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Administration, second floor

Voice: 858-3298 - Fax: 858-4481

[linda.benson@minotstateu.edu](mailto:linda.benson@minotstateu.edu)

**Humanities professor shares Eastern Europe adventure**

Eric Furuseth, associate humanities professor, chronicles his summer travels in "Brother Eric's Eastern Europe Adventure: Browsing through Bavaria, Bohemia and Bulgaria" Wednesday (Oct. 23) in Aleshire Theater at 7 p.m. His presentation is part of the Northwest Art Center lecture series.

Last June, Furuseth traveled to Munich, Prague and Sofia, Bulgaria. He will share photos, personal encounters with the culture and songs from the regions he visited — all with humor, through the eyes of "Brother Eric," his fictitious traveling alter ego.

Furuseth joined Minot State University's faculty in 1993 and has taught humanities, composition and literature courses. He holds a doctorate in English from Washington State University, and bachelor's and master's degrees in history from the University of North Dakota.



The next NAC lecture is Nov. 5. Erik Anderson, associate music professor, will present "Schubert's Erikonig: The Story Behind the Story" in Aleshire Theater, 7 p.m. All lectures are free and open to the public. For questions, contact [nac@minotstateu.edu](mailto:nac@minotstateu.edu).

**Ondracek to present at national math conference**

Chloe Ondracek, Minot State University mathematics major and member of the undergraduate research group advised by Narayan Thapa, assistant mathematics professor, was selected by the Council on Undergraduate Research to present "Identification Problem in Parabolic Partial Differential Equation" at the Conference of Research Experiences for Undergraduates Student Scholarship in Arlington, Va., Sunday (Oct. 28). The conference will feature keynote speakers and presentations by students, faculty and administrators in all disciplines, and it offers opportunities to meet with representatives from the National Science Foundation, other government agencies and faculty recruiters for graduate programs.



Researchers, faculty and students from institutions across the United States will attend the conference. The 218 attendees include participants from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, Rutgers University, Purdue University, Texas A & M University, Georgia Institute of Technology, University of Southern California, University of Michigan and the Smithsonian Institution.

In September, Ondracek presented her research at the North Dakota Undergraduate Mathematics Conference at MSU, as well as

at MSU Department of Mathematics and Computer Science Monthly Talk Series. She presented at the Mathematical Association of America North Central Section meeting at South Dakota State University Oct. 18-19, along with Johannah Miller and Nicholas Taylor, fellow members of Thapa's undergraduate research group. For questions, contact Thapa at 858-3087 or [narayan.thapa@minotstateu.edu](mailto:narayan.thapa@minotstateu.edu).

### **Democracy Café dialogue to address Bakken boom**

Tuesday (Oct. 29) Democracy Café hosts Todd Melby, reporter and lead producer of "Black Gold Boom: How Oil Changed North Dakota." Melby will facilitate discussion and share his experiences about covering the oil boom for public media. The event is from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. at the Beaver Brew Café in the Beaver Suites Plaza on North Broadway.

Melby is a reporter and radio journalist originally from Hettinger. His stories have aired on BBC Radio 4, NPR's Day to Day, The World, Marketplace and Chicago Public Radio among others.

Democracy Café is open to the public, and is funded in part by Minot State University's Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning. It is also part of MSU's commitment to the Democracy Project in conjunction with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

For more information, contact Larshus at [jynette.larshus@minotstateu.edu](mailto:jynette.larshus@minotstateu.edu) or 858-4324.

### **Reclaiming the night**

Take Back the Night, which aims to rally the community toward ending violence, will begin Tuesday (Oct. 29) in McFarland Gallery, outside Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, at 6:30 p.m. This event, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by the Domestic Violence Crisis Center and coordinated by the Student Social Work Organization.

The evening will encompass guest speakers, a march, displays and information about community resources and refreshments.

Take Back the Night, a domestic violence awareness initiative, was born in San Francisco in 1978, when women advocates marched together in solidarity, holding candles, to protest rape and violence against women. It has grown into an international tradition with marches, programs, and rallies occurring around the world in October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Take Back the Night is free and open to the public. For questions, contact Angela Lawson, SSWO member, at [angela.lawson@my.minotstateu.edu](mailto:angela.lawson@my.minotstateu.edu) or Dionne Spooner, SSWO advisor, at 858-3142 or [dionne.l.spooner@minotstateu.edu](mailto:dionne.l.spooner@minotstateu.edu).



### **MSU STEM grant to assist N.D. teachers**

Minot State University has been awarded \$531,000 for two years for its project, "Learning STEMs from Experience." This grant is part of a Title II, Part B, Math and Science Partnership Grant from the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

MSU will provide professional development to K-12 STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) teachers throughout North Dakota, including numerous districts that partnered with MSU on this project. Over the grant's two-year period, the project will offer 35 graduate courses for K-12 STEM teachers (20 per year), including 19 mathematics courses, 10 science courses and six STEM courses.

Courses will be taught through various venues: two-week or five-week summer sessions, online 16-week sessions, as well as follow-up activities. There is no cost to participating North Dakota teachers. The grant provides 100 percent tuition-and-fee scholarships, books/materials, mileage and room on campus. Coursework can be used toward MSU master degree programs.

For more information, contact the project directors, Crackel of the Division of Science at [robert.crackel@minotstateu.edu](mailto:robert.crackel@minotstateu.edu) or Laurie Geller of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at [laurie.geller@minotstateu.edu](mailto:laurie.geller@minotstateu.edu).

### **MSU to host percussion workshop and concert**

The Division of Music will host Maraca2, an internationally noted percussion duo from Birmingham, United Kingdom, for a daylong percussion workshop and evening percussion concert Nov. 1. The percussion workshop runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with morning sessions in the Gordon B. Olson Library and afternoon sessions in Old Main. The activities will conclude with a concert in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m. The event is in conjunction with the Northwest International Festival of Music. The public is invited to attend.

Co-sponsored by the music division, the Center for Engaged



Teaching and Learning and Minot's Sunnyside School DrumKidz, the workshops and evening concert are free and open to the public.



Minot State University is Maraca2's first stop on a U.S. concert tour that includes a performance at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Indianapolis in mid-November. Previously, Maraca2 toured extensively throughout the U.S., South America and Europe. The duo is heavily involved in music education and frequently performs in schools, universities and other institutes of learning. To learn more or register for the workshop, contact Avis Veikley, percussion instructor, at 858-3264 or [avis.veikley@minotstateu.edu](mailto:avis.veikley@minotstateu.edu).

### **MSU Wellness Fair**

Minot State University's Wellness Fair will be Nov. 7 in the Student Center Atrium, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Students, faculty and staff are invited. Come meet with and learn from local businesses and school groups that excel in one or more of the 8 Dimensions of Wellness. For questions, contact Karina Stander, wellness specialist, at 858-4078 or [karina.stander@minotstateu.edu](mailto:karina.stander@minotstateu.edu).

### **New staff aboard**

Minot State University welcomes Angela Shaw, a Minot Infant Development Program early interventionist. She completed a bachelor's degree in social work from MSU and previously worked for PATH.



The Minot native and her husband, Eric, have three daughters, Aunnah, Laine and Mylah. She loves to read and travel.

### **In the galleries**

Oct. 23-31 — "Classic Years of Aluminum Kitchen Ware: 1922-1952" from the collection of Duane Halvorson, Minot, Library Gallery.

Oct. 23-30 — "From the Quiet," exhibit by Sherry Lee Short, Fargo, Hartnett Gallery.

The public receptions with Short and Halvorson will be Oct. 30 in the respective galleries, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Short will present a gallery talk at 7 p.m. in the Hartnett Hall Gallery. Halvorson will discuss his collection at 7:45 p.m. in the library gallery.

### **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.*

**Caren Barnett**, Student Health Center director, has been selected as the 2013 NCCHA Gail Proffitt Award recipient. This award is given annually to acknowledge the contributions of a special university or college health professional in the North Central College Health Association affiliate. Barnett will receive recognition for this award at the NCCHA annual meeting Nov 13-15 in Minneapolis.

**ShaunAnne Tangney**, associate English professor, presented "From 'The Day of the Locust' to 'Tropic of Orange': Why the Calipocalypse Never Ends," at the Western Literature Association Conference in Berkeley, Calif., Oct. 12-13.

### **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.**