Shirley named Minot State University president

The State Board of Higher Education named Steven Shirley, Ph.D., as the next president of Minot State University.

Shirley currently serves as president of Valley City State University, where he leads a campus of more than 1,300 students, 111 faculty members and 110 staff members.

“The board is pleased to appoint such a passionate leader as Dr. Shirley to serve as Minot State University president,” said SBHE Chair Kirsten Diederich. “His strong understanding of what’s important to students, especially in North Dakota, clearly demonstrates that he is someone who can continue to drive the growth of this university.”

“Dr. Shirley has already shown himself to be a strong leader and a great partner in higher education in North Dakota. I look forward to continuing to work with him as the president of Minot State,” Interim Chancellor Larry C. Skogen added.

SBHE Vice Chair Terry Hjelmstad chaired the campus committee that screened applicants, interviewed semifinalists and forwarded its recommended finalists for the position to the board.

“The MSU Presidential Search Committee deserves credit for its thorough work,” Hjelmstad said. “The committee was impressed by Dr. Shirley’s passion for and understanding of Minot State University, and I expect he will do an excellent job leading the university.”

Shirley previously served as vice president and dean of student affairs at Dakota State University, Madison, S.D., and an assistant professor and director of study abroad at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is a Fargo native with strong ties to the Minot community.

Shirley earned a doctorate in teaching and learning: higher education from the University of North Dakota. He also holds a Master of Business Administration with emphasis on marketing and global business and a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the same university.

Shirley will take over as president by July 2014. He will succeed David Fuller, Ph.D., who announced he will retire after 10 years.

Shirley and his wife, Jennifer, have a daughter, Anna.

Minot State hosting Science Olympiad

The Division of Science is hosting a regional Science Olympiad Tuesday (March 18) on the Minot State University campus from
8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. Teams of junior and senior high students will compete in various science-based events. The top teams advance to state competition. For questions, contact Bob Crackel, associate professor of chemistry, at 858-3852 or robert.crackel@minotstateu.edu.

**Mrozik appointed College of Business dean**

Jacek Mrozik has accepted the position as dean of Minot State University's College of Business. He will continue to serve as interim through this contract period and assume full appointment July 1.

"I believe Dr. Mrozik brings the skills needed to the position to lead the College of Business, including his willingness to put the needs of the students, faculty and staff first and to work collaboratively with all of us on moving the college forward," said Lenore Koczon, vice president for academic affairs.

"The College of Business has the tradition of providing our students with quality education and is concerned about meeting the present and future educational needs of North Dakota residents," Mrozik said. "I believe MSU and the College of Business have a positive future, and I am happy to be a part of it."

Mrozik joined MSU as an assistant professor of business administration in 2011, after being a visiting professor at Clemson University, S.C. Before entering academia, he worked in the telecom industry for 19 years as a marketing manager. He possesses a bachelor’s degree from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom, a master’s degree from Clemson University and a doctorate from the University of Warsaw, Poland. For questions, contact Koczon at lenore.koczon@minotstateu.edu or Mrozik at jacek.mrozik@minotstateu.edu.

**Guest pianist to present master class and recital**

Brooklyn-based pianist Karl Larson will present a master class and recital March 27 and 28. The March 27 master class will feature current Minot State University piano students as well as a presentation focusing on the unique visual-art inspired piano music of Morton Feldman, an American composer.

The March 28 recital, in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall at 7:30 p.m., is the second concert of the Minot Modern Project, a concert series focusing on music composed within the last 100 years. In addition to performing selections of solo piano music by Olivier Messiaen, Claude Debussy, Maurice Ravel and David Smooke, Larson will collaborate with James Fusik, assistant professor of woodwinds, on two major works for saxophone and piano by William Albright and Eric Wubbels. These events are funded by a Center For Engaged Teaching and Learning grant.

**MSU students on Who’s Who list**

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges selected 25 juniors and seniors from Minot State University for inclusion in the 2014 edition. A campus nomination committee and editors of the annual directory chose the students based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success. They will be honored at a luncheon April 9 at noon in the Conference Center, third floor of the Student Center.

The honorees, listed by hometown and major, are Courtney Albertson, Minot, business education; Katelyn "Katie" Backes, Minot, accounting and finance; Anna Barlet, Barnwell, S.C., marketing and international business; Nicole Behm, Beulah, elementary education and special education; Brooklyn Bender, Minot, nursing; Breanna Benson, Minot, elementary education and special education; Jorden Brown, Mohall, communication disorders; Rachelle Brown, Reynoldsburg, Ohio, nursing; Callie Cook, Minot, management; Jamie Council, Atascadero, Calif., broadcasting (production); Kaitlyn Dahlberg, Froid, Mont., management; Tyler Flatland, Watford City, biology education; Taylor Grijorash, Stanley, art (graphic design); Mara Hintz, Glen Ullin, broadcasting (public relations); Alan Jermiason, Minot, music education; Matthew Jermiason, Minot, music education; Sarah Johnston, Ellendale, history; McKenzie Kemper, Minot, nursing; Lindsey Nelson, Bainville, Mont., communication disorders; Kowan O’Keefe, Creston, British Columbia, chemistry and mathematics; Samuel Olson, Minot, biology, chemistry and mathematics; Joshua Sandy, Velva, broadcasting (public relations); Jared Schumaier, Minot, chemistry and psychology; Danielle Smith, Bismarck, elementary education; and Jenessa Whitmore, Bismarck, German education.

To make a reservation for the luncheon, contact the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs by April 4 at 858-3299 or 1-800-777-0750, ext. 3299.

**New faculty and staff aboard**

Minot State University welcomes Gary Huwe, Kimberly Johnson, Codie Miller, Kylie Mundt and Daiane de Domingos Rodivojevic.
Huwe, a security officer with the Office of Facilities Management, medically retired from the U.S. Army in 2006 due to wounds received in action in Iraq. He attended Ambassador Baptist College, Lattimore, N.C., and completed a bachelor’s degree in history at MSU. In addition to his MSU duties, he serves as assistant to the pastor at Dakota Baptist Church.

Johnson is the administrative assistant to the registrar and previously worked for Minot’s MLT Vacations. She is married to Brent, and they have three sons. She likes to read, write, fish and travel.

Miller is an enrollment specialist with the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities. She completed a Bachelor of Social Work and Master of Science in management at MSU. Before returning to her alma mater, she was employed by Minot’s Easter Seals Goodwill ND Inc. She and her husband, Austin, have two sons, Tucker and Carter.

Mundt, an NDCPD housing resource specialist, previously worked for West Central Human Service Center in Bismarck. She earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, S.D. She has a daughter, Lainey, and she enjoys volleyball, hunting, fishing and spending time with family and her two dogs, Phoenix and Remmy.

Rodivojevic, an NDCPD research associate, is originally from Sao Paula City, Brazil. She holds a bachelor’s degree in public relations and a master’s degree from Arkansas Tech University, Russell. A former ATU basketball player, she loves to read, play sports, watch movies and spend time with her dog, Dash. Her husband, Dusan, is a graduate student and assistant basketball coach at MSU.

In the galleries
March 12-April 1 — “She Left for Good One Time but Came Back” by Shelly Bunde, Bozeman, Mont., Library Gallery.
March 12-April 17 — Art Faculty Biennial Exhibit, which this year celebrates the university’s Centennial, Hartnett 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.

Chuck Barney, Severson Entrepreneurship Academy director, met with Williston civic leaders Jan. 29 to discuss the business climate and the upcoming legislative session. Feb. 5, he presented an overview of SEA to high school teachers who attended Tech Day. Feb. 11, he spoke about the MAGIC Fund’s history and guidelines to the local SCORE chapter. Feb. 14, Barney participated in the SEA press conference announcing the Challenge grant and expansion of SEA, which includes a $500,000 gift from alumnus Clint Severson and Conni Ahart. He also spoke at the Feb. 20 retired MSU faculty luncheon.

Kelly Buettner-Schmidt, nursing assistant professor, testified on behalf of the Minot STAMP Coalition before Minot’s Public Works and Safety Committee Feb 26. She expressed her concern that some electronic cigarettes on the market still contain nicotine and carcinogens.


Tom Seymour, business information technology professor, recently had a manuscript, “How To Create An App,” accepted for publication in the International Journal of Management & Information Systems.

ShaunAnne Tangney’s article, “Heed hard the cosmos cues: The Ecosophy of Paul Zarsyski,” was published in Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment, vol. 20, is. 4. Tangney is an associate professor of English.

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.