

**Public Information Office**

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

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**July 16, 2014**

Next Issue: Wednesday, Aug. 13  
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**'Big River' closes Summer Theatre's 49th season**

Based on Mark Twain's timeless classic, "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," "Big River" will run on stage at Minot State University's Summer Theatre July 18-23 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets go on sale at 7:30 p.m. Kevin Neuharth, associate professor of communication arts, directs this production.



"Big River" will sweep the audience down the mighty Mississippi as the irrepressible Huck Finn helps his friend Jim, a slave, escape to freedom at the mouth of the Ohio River. Their adventures along the way are hilarious, suspenseful and heartwarming. Propelled by Roger Miller's award-winning score in bluegrass and country styles, the journey celebrates Americana.

For tickets or questions about "Big River," contact the Summer Theatre box office at 858-3228. Ticket prices are \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and students under 18, \$5 for children 12 and under and MSU summer students, faculty and staff \$3 with current ID. Military Appreciation Night is July 18; all active duty members and their immediate family will receive \$2 off adult prices, \$1.50 off students, \$1 off children 12 years and under with military ID. Reservations are encouraged.

**Columbians explored environmental regulation and protection and biodiversity**

The Minot Area Council for International Visitors hosted four Columbian government officials traveling with two interpreters July 9 to 13. The international visitors were investigating American governmental and non-governmental programs and cooperative efforts which involve environmental regulation and promote environmental protection and biodiversity. The group traveled under the International Visitor Leadership Program of the U.S. State Department.

The international visitors (listed by name and title) were Wilington Angarita Angarita, technical administrator, corporasantander, Regional Environmental Agency - Santander Region; Jose Alain Hoyos Hernandez, deputy director, environmental regulation at Cormagdalena, Regional Environmental Agency, High Magdalena Region; Juliana Hoyos Moncayo, coordinator, designing and implementing product marketing strategies, Natural Parks; and Juan Carlos Sanchez Medina, environmental and sanitary engineer, Cormacarena, Regional Environmental Agency, Meta Department. The interpreters were Natasha Bonilla and Nancy Hand.



"MACIV was excited to host this delegation," said Joseph Jastrzembki, MACIV president. "North Dakota's unique combination of resources, including coal, oil, gas and wind, allowed us to craft a program that highlighted the issues involved in balancing energy and environmental concerns."

The delegation visited Falkirk Mine, a coal mine; Coal Creek Station, North Dakota's largest power plant; and the Custer Mine Overlook. The Custer Mine Overlook is the former location of the Truax-Taer Mine, an old strip mining area. On the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, they discussed oil and gas development and regulation with representatives from the Three Affiliated Tribes. They also visited the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site. They learned what effect oil and gas development has had on the historic site. Knife River Indian Villages offered the visitors a glimpse of the lives of the ancestors of the Northern Plains Indians, particularly the Hidatsa people, on the Upper Missouri.

A nonprofit, community- and university-based organization, MACIV has been headquartered at Minot State University since 1992. MACIV designs and implements professional programs and provides cultural activities and home-hospitality opportunities for foreign leaders, specialists and international scholars. Individuals from the local council include Minot State University students, faculty and staff, as well as members from Minot and surrounding communities.

For questions, contact Jastrzembki at [joseph.jastrzembki@minotstateu.edu](mailto:joseph.jastrzembki@minotstateu.edu) or 858-3322.

### Minot State hosting annual luau at NDSF

Minot State University invites alumni and friends to reconnect at a luau party at the North Dakota State Fair on July 23, 5-8 p.m. The event will be in the outdoor area of the Flickertail Gardens, and admission is free.

The MSU luau provides the venue for Minot State supporters to rekindle old friendships and create new memories. Slamabama, a cover band that plays selections from country to rock, will begin performing at 6 p.m. There will also be drink specials and prizes.

"The luau is a perfect occasion for MSU alumni and friends to get together and have a great time," said Janna McKechnie, director of alumni relations and annual giving. "We hope everyone comes to enjoy the summer evening with us."



For questions, contact McKechnie at 858-3234 or [janna.mckechnie@minotstateu.edu](mailto:janna.mckechnie@minotstateu.edu).

### Bottineau and Kenmare remain on Friend-raising Golf Tour

There are two stops left on Minot State University's ninth annual Friend-raising Golf Tour: Bottineau on July 29 and Kenmare on July 31. MSU will recognize area students receiving 2014-15 scholarships at each event.

The format for each tour stop will be a four-person, 9-hole scramble. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m., with a shotgun start at 5 p.m. A social will immediately follow completion of golf. Non-golfers are welcome to attend.

Golfers are responsible for their own green fees and cart rentals. Meals and refreshments will be provided by the course, and purchase is optional. It is recommended that golfers interested in carts make early reservations because of limited availability.

Prizes and T-shirts will be awarded at each event. The Friend-raising Golf Tour is sponsored by Alumni Association, Advancement Office, Athletic Department and the Marketing Office. Call the MSU Advancement Office with questions or to register at 858-3234 or 701-800-777-0750, ext. 3234, or visit the website, [www.minotstateu.edu/alumni](http://www.minotstateu.edu/alumni).



*Left to right: Dwight Ormiston, Terry Auch, Joel Lawson and Lori Lawson*

### New staff aboard

Minot State University welcomes new employee, Linda Conn, who is the help desk coordinator for Information Technology Central. She was previously the library director for the Fleming Community/School Library in Fleming, Colo. Conn loves to garden, cook and spend time with her family. She and her husband, Daniel, have a daughter, Virginia, and a son, Miles.



### Mark your calendars

- Aug. 18-19 — New faculty orientation
- Aug. 20 — President's Convocation.

- Aug. 20 — MSU Fall Kickoff.
- Aug. 21 — Move-In Day.
- Sept. 27 — Homecoming parade and football game. Additional details will be forthcoming.

### **In the galleries**

July 16-30 — "Oil and Water," a collective effort of 37 regional artists, addresses the use or misuse of natural resources, Hartnett Gallery.

July 16-Aug. 15 — "Fragile Walls: Fallacy by Design," an exhibit of paintings and ceramics that explore the lies and fallacies of the human persona by Minot State University senior art students Amanda Fimreite and Elizabeth Stockman, Library Gallery.

The public reception for "Fragile Walls: Fallacy by Design" will be Friday (July 18) at the Library Gallery, 6-8 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**, North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities executive director, was recognized for his work on the National Planning Committee of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities at its 138th annual meeting in Orlando, Fla., June 23-26. AAIDD, the world's oldest intellectual and developmental disabilities professional organization, promotes policy, research, effective practices and universal human rights for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Lisa Eriksmoen**, director of student wellness and development, became certified as a mental health first aid trainer in Portland, Ore., June 9-13. She can now assist with training on North Dakota University System campuses.

**Cheryl Gilson**, communication disorders professor, presented "Playing for Life: What Transitions Students Taught to Communication Disorders Clinicians" and **Leisa Harmon**, Department of Communication Disorders chair, presented "Lunch on Thursday: A Book Club for Faculty Development" at the Teaching Professor Conference in Boston, May 30-June 1.

**Cheryl Nilsen**, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science chair, served as a member of the NDUS Task Force on Best Practices in Remediation and Developmental Coursework. On June 26 she was one of two task force members who presented the group's findings to the State Board of Higher Education at its meeting in Grand Forks.

**Tom Seymour**, business information technology professor, has been appointed to the following City of Minot positions and committees for 2014-2016: chair of the Liquor and Gambling Control Committee, vice chair of the Airport Committee and member of the Community Development Committee, Souris Basin Planning Committee and the City/County Liaison Committee. Seymour is the city alderman for Minot's Ward 5.

Seymour and **Sara Hussein**, a graduate student, have been notified that their article, "The History of Project Management," has been accepted for publication in the International Journal of Management & Information Systems, Fourth Quarter 2014 issue. Hussein was a graduate assistant this past semester in the Department of Business Information Technology.

**Narayan Thapa**, assistant professor of mathematics, received a Preparation for Industrial Careers in Mathematical Sciences grant from National Science Foundation, along with the Mathematical Association of America and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics for academic year 2014-2015.

Thapa was recently appointed as a chief editor for Journal of Scientific Research and Reports. More information can be found at <http://www.sciencedomain.org/editorial-board-members.php?id=22>. As a chief editor, he will review and edit manuscripts submitted by mathematicians and scientists around the world. His term of service is three years.

### **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.**