



MSU at the Zoo III

It is version three of "MSU at the Zoo," Aug. 14 (the evening before convocation). Join your MSU counterparts from 5 to 9 p.m. in the Roosevelt Park Zoo for FOOD, FUN, and PRIZES! The event includes admission to the zoo, a free dinner served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., and a drawing for door prizes at 7 p.m. (Registration for door prizes closes at 6:45 p.m.) MSU faculty and staff and their immediate families will be admitted free by presenting an MSU ID or the MSU at the Zoo invitation distributed through campus mail. Please use the main zoo entrance to access the event. Additional parking will be available at Corbett Field. Questions about the event can be directed to Chad Carr, Staff Senate president, at (chad.carr@minotstateu.edu) or 858-3468.

Informative mini-sessions scheduled Aug. 16

Convocation activities continue Aug. 16, with a morning of informative mini-sessions. The majority of presentations are being held in rooms in Memorial Hall and the Administration Building, and coffee and breakfast snacks will be served in the Hartnett Hall foyer, 8-8:30 a.m.

The 50-minute sessions at 8:30, 9:30, and 10:30 a.m. include: Higher Learning Commission re-accreditation review of self study; assessment committee updates and engagement; exploring new directions in general education; updates on recruiting and enrollment; examining the data survey results from employers and students; budget reporting and reconciliation; initial steps in the foundation of excellence in the first college year; assisting and advising students with financial aid; and preparing for enrollment verification and mid-term deficiencies.

A complete schedule grid has been provided to all employees via campus mail. Employees are encouraged to attend as many sessions as possible.

Put a little muscle behind placing 'students first'

Aug. 17 is Residence Hall Move-In Day. Accompanied by a picnic, the event is sponsored by the President's Office to welcome students and help them move into the residence halls. The majority of students arrive between noon and 4 p.m. and volunteers are needed during these hours. Tasks include helping students move into the halls, serving lunch, and working the information tables.

Volunteers are asked to wear a red MSU t-shirt or polo shirt. The Bookstore has red polo shirts available for purchase. The red MSU "Be Seen. Be Heard." t-shirts may be purchased through marketing.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the campus community to come together and show that we do put students first. Volunteers for any amount of time will be greatly appreciated. Please e-mail or call your availability to Deb Wentz at 858-3301 or (deb.wentz@minotstateu.edu). Further information will be distributed to volunteers prior to Aug. 17.

Aug. 8, 2007

President's Convocation starts off new year

The Aug. 15 President's Convocation kicks off a new academic year and will be held in the MSU Conference Center, Student Center. If student assistance is not available for coverage during the general session, employees are asked to close their office and attend. Refreshments will be served beginning at 8 a.m.

At 8:30, Gary Rabe, vice president for academic affairs, will provide welcoming comments. Additional remarks will be provided by the three other vice presidents. At 9:15, Rabe will give an academic briefing, followed by Ron Royer, who will provide an update on Higher Learning Commission re-accreditation efforts. New faculty will be introduced. Following the presidents of Faculty and Staff senates and Student Association will have comments. Beginning at 11:30 a.m., President David Fuller will update the campus.

Meetings of the three colleges will follow in the afternoon, starting at 1 p.m. Arts and sciences will meet in Aleshire Theater; business will meet in Old Main 308; education and health sciences will meet in Memorial 131.

NEXT ISSUE

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Submissions Due: noon Aug. 15

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MSU submits Center of Excellence proposal

Minot State University in partnership with InfoTech-Minot Technology Center, SRT Communications and Minot Area Development Corporation has submitted a Center of Excellence proposal to support the Great Plains Knowledge and Data Center. MSU is requesting approximately \$3.4 million in state support for the center. The funding will leverage \$11 million in private sector investment in the project.

The Great Plains Knowledge and Data Center will promote the development and advancement of knowledge-based business in the region through two key facilities, a production data center and a research and development center. MSU and its partners anticipate the creation of approximately 30 to 45 new high-tech knowledge-based jobs paying regionally competitive salaries over each year for the next five years if proposal is funded.

InfoTech-MTC will provide the center with client projects, technological expertise, internship and employment opportunities, and data center activities. InfoTech-MTC clients will be provided access to data and services through the production data center. SRT will provide physical infrastructure, broadband access, and professional expertise. The production data center will host InfoTech-MTC applications and provide a site for MSU student internships and future employment.

MSU will host and operate the R&D facility, which will house a replicated production data center for students and faculty to engage in testing and development of client projects and provide marketing, managerial, and data technology consulting services to partners. The center will assist private and public enterprises in software development and testing. Center staff will pursue additional work in collaboration with Minot Area Development Corporation and other regional partners in economic development for long-term sustainability.

MSU personnel involved in conceptualizing the center and preparing the proposal include Steve Hayton and Selmer Moen, faculty members in computer science, and Deanna Klein, faculty member in business information technology. Linda Cresap, dean of the Graduate School and Research and Sponsored Programs, is the principal investigator.

Involved partners expressed confidence in the proposal during the "Knowledge Powers Our Future" seminar held Monday on campus. They said the activities of the center will promote high-paying jobs, increase the area's tax base, and reduce out-migration due to high-skill employment opportunities that will diversify Minot's regional economy.

Centers of Excellence is an initiative of Gov. John Hoeven that won support from the 2005 Legislature. The state will provide up to \$50 million for Centers of Excellence, hubs of research and development on the campuses of the North Dakota University System around which related businesses expand and dynamic new businesses cluster. The dollars will be leveraged with private and federal matching funds to generate a total investment in new jobs and businesses of more than \$150 million.

The Centers of Excellence Commission meets today to give proposals preliminary review and to provide initial feedback to applicants. Final decisions on the funding will be made in mid-October.

'Knowledge Powers Our Future' seminar held at MSU

About 75 business and political leaders gathered at Minot State University Monday to learn about evolving economic opportunities for the region and state of North Dakota. Business directions explored during the afternoon seminar include technology, knowledge-based and energy.

Esther Oehlke of SEO Precision shared her experience in establishing a small-scale technology business in Crosby. Matti Kon of InfoTech in Minot provided information about the latest trends in knowledge-based industry, including the onshore vs. offshore debate and how new knowledge-based industry centers have been and are being developed. Linda Cresap, dean of the Graduate School and Research and Sponsored Programs, and Shawn Grosz, director of network technology at SRT Communications, presented the partnership that has been developed to establish the Great Plains Knowledge and Data Center in Minot as a Center of Excellence (see the related article above).

Shane Goettle, commissioner of the N.D. Department of Commerce, and Mark Nesbit, North Dakota principal manager of Xcel Energy, talked about the impact of a center of excellence. Nesbit chairs the commission that decides which COE proposals merit funding.

U.S. Sen. Byron Dorgan, who chairs the Senate appropriations panel that funds national energy projects, told attendees that North Dakota is emerging as a major force in both energy research and production. Much of Dorgan's optimism comes from studies being done on the Bakken Shale oil deposits that stretch from eastern Montana to western North Dakota.

"The most promising area to turn our state's fortunes around and begin building and keeping our young people here is in the energy area," stated Dorgan. "We've got enormously promising opportunities in oil development because of the Bakken Shale. If that's what the U. S. Geological Survey tells us in their upcoming reports, the recoverable oil in there might be massive. It would trigger substantial development in western North Dakota."

Additional estimates are that up to 200 billion barrels of oil remain in known fields that have not been brought to the surface because of a lack of procedures to do so. According to Dorgan, new oil may be recovered from existing wells through the use of carbon dioxide.

"As we use coal we have to capture carbon because of climate change issues and global warming," explained Dorgan. "By using CO₂ in existing wells, we can recover a dramatic amount of new oil. The energy area means some real job creating in the future for North Dakota."

Monday's forum was sponsored by Xcel Energy, MSU and Minot Area Development Corporation.

Announcements

Office relocations noted

Please note that several offices have relocated as we want to be certain that we are directing students to the right places. Here are the changes in a brief format:

- Leon Perzinski, Student Center director, and the MSU ID equipment have moved across from the Student Association Office, second floor of the Student Center.
- Ann Rivera, student activities coordinator, is now located with career services, second floor of the Student Center.
- Teresa Loftesnes, director of marketing, has moved into the former Student Center director's office. As of Aug. 1 marketing is reporting to the vice president for advancement.

—*Kim Thompson, director of public information*

Bookstore extends hours

Books for fall semester 2007 can be credited to financial aid beginning Aug. 15 through Aug. 29 at the Minot State University Bookstore. The bookstore will be open Saturday, Aug. 18, noon-4 p.m. Other extended hours of operation will be from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. on Aug. 20-23 and from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Aug. 24.

—*Sandy Foley, bookstore manager*

Club fair in quad Aug. 22

This year's club fair is scheduled for Aug. 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the quad (if the weather cooperates). Please let me know by Aug. 20 if you have a club or organization that would like to participate. Also, if you know of a club or organization that is no longer active, please e-mail me so that I can remove them from the list. Thank you for your help.

—*Ann Rivera, student activities coordinator*

Submit events for MSU calendar of events

The Office of Public Information is compiling information for the official fall semester calendar of events. This is the calendar that is printed and widely distributed. In order to be included, upcoming events and meetings must be received in our office by August 24.

Preferred delivery is by e-mail to (kimberlee.thompson@minotstateu.edu). The information that is needed includes: name of event/meeting, location and time.

The Office of Public Information does maintain a common campus calendar and will inform parties of scheduling conflicts. To help us provide accurate information to the public, please keep us informed of any changes as they occur or additional events as they are scheduled during the semester.

—*Kim Thompson, director of public information*

Submit Information for MSU directory

The Office of Publications and Design Services is compiling information for the official campus directory. In order to be included, information must be received in our office no later than Aug. 17. Please make your changes in red pen by doing the following:

- copy each session of your current directory pages
 - cross out any deletions in each section
 - make changes next to the current entry in each section
 - include new entries on an additional sheet of paper
- We prefer not to receive this information by telephone or e-mail.

—*Sandy Nordstrom, director of publications and design services*

In the galleries

Aug. 8-22 — "Portrait Perceptions," Kristin Olson's senior show, Library Gallery.

Aug. 8-17 — Senior exhibit by Cindi Finley Mintie, Hartnett Hall Gallery.

Calendar

Aug. 8-Aug. 30, 2007

August

13-14 New faculty orientation.

14 MSU at the Zoo III, Roosevelt Park Zoo, 5-9 p.m.

15 President's Convocation, MSU Conference Center, 8 a.m.

15 College meetings: arts and sciences, Aleshire Theater; business, Old Main 308; education and health sciences, Memorial 131; 1 p.m.

16 CONNECT: new student orientation and registration, call 858-4348 for information.

17 Residence Hall Move-In Day, noon-4 p.m.

20 16-week classes after 4 p.m. begin.

20 First eight-week classes after 4 p.m. begin.

21 16-week classes begin.

23 Last day to add a first eight-week class.

24 Spring 2008 student teaching applications due to Field Placement Office by 4 p.m.

25 Doug Lockrem Memorial Ride, Pure Honda, 11 a.m.

28 Graduate School: last day for fall graduates to file admission to candidacy and application for graduation with advisers.

28 Graduate School: noon deadline for fall graduates to file thesis proposal in Graduate School Office.

29 Last day to add a 16-week class.

30 Mandatory orientation for student teaching spring 2008, Old Main 106, 12:30 p.m.