



Public Information Office

A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY

Special edition of Inside

Vision 2013

Minot State University will achieve national distinction as one of the premier public, regional universities in the "great" Great Plains.

Faculty, staff and student achievements

Kari Arrayan and **Brenda Munson**, North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities Disability Health Project, recently received certification from the Oregon Institute on Disability to teach the "Healthy Lifestyles for People with Disabilities" curriculum. The curriculum defines five areas of a healthy lifestyle and uses a self-determination model to give participants the tools they need to evaluate their current life situations, identify areas they would like to improve and then make positive changes in those areas. Project staff plan to offer the curriculum as a wellness workshop in North Dakota, initially in Minot and its surrounding area. Arrayan and Munson presented "10 Tips for Healthier Eating — Start Today!" at the North Dakota Association of Community Providers conference in Bismarck. They highlighted tips for healthy eating that are practical and easy.

Brent Askvig, NDCPD executive director and professor of special education, served as a field grant reviewer for the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. He reviewed and paneled grant proposals in the Stepping Stones to Innovation competition, which focused on new technology approaches to serving children and youth with disabilities.

The YWCA recently elected **Caren Barnett**, Student Health Center director, to its board of directors. The mission of the YWCA is "eliminating racism, empowering women."

Five Minot State University students, **Ben Berg**, **Danielle Cook**, **Jordon Lakoduk**, **Stetson Sannes** and **Trey Welstad**, competed admirably at the Collegiate DECA International Career and Development Conference in Louisville, Ky., April 17-20. All five are Minot natives. **Lyndsi Johnson**, MSU Collegiate DECA advisor, accompanied the students. ICDC hosts 20 competitive events including individual, team and prepared events.

Lakoduk's first-place finish in the Web site Development Prepared Project category is only the second in MSU Collegiate DECA history. Welstad took third place in the same event. Additionally, Berg was a top 10 finalist in the Tourism and Travel Business Simulation event. Cook and Sannes united to score in the top 30 percent of competitors in the Sports and Entertainment Case Study event. Berg and Lakoduk also teamed with Justin Welk of North Dakota State University to compete in the Entrepreneurship Challenge and finished as top 10 finalists.

Student Government Association selected **Lisa Brule**, a sophomore, as its April/May Senator of the Month. She is majoring in elementary education. Brule, a native of Spiritwood, Saskatchewan, received this honor because of her commitment to SGA and her dedication to representing the students of Minot State University.

May 19, 2010

MSU core values and purpose

MSU cares deeply about its students, their learning and their growth. The university is proud of its values and long-term commitment to teaching and learning with excellence, integrity and engagement; serving students and others respectfully and responsibly; following high ethical and moral principles; and supporting the values of community and place, where all community members are valued and respected for their work, contributions and freedom of expression. MSU helps people appreciate life and learning and contribute meaningfully to the lives of others.

To highlight and recognize the many accomplishments and achievements of Minot State University students, faculty and staff, the Office of Public Information established a special, monthly edition of Minot State University Inside devoted to these achievements. This special, monthly edition includes professional or civic achievements or successes accomplished in recent months. MSU wants to highlight the many distinguished achievements realized by our campus.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date: Wednesday, Sept. 15

(The monthly special editions of Inside will resume in the fall.)

Submissions Due: noon Sept. 8
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Johnny Coomansingh, assistant professor of geography, and **Daniel Ngugi**, assistant professor of economics, spoke about “Urbanization: Economic Implications for Carbon Sequestrations and Green House Emissions” on Earth Day, April 22, at Dakota College at Bottineau.

Lacey Cose, an art major, had a photograph accepted into “Photography Vibes,” a book featuring student photography from around the United States. Cose is a native of Egeland.

“Interview Triptych,” a play by College of Arts and Sciences Dean **Conrad Davidson**, is scheduled for production by Love Creek Productions, New York, as part of a directors’ festival during May. In May 2008, Love Creek Productions produced another of Davidson’s one-act plays, “One Dead Woman’s Memory.”

Members of the Minot State University Computer Science Club attended the 2010 Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium April 16-17. Four students, **Brandon Devine**, Minot, **Ramsey Leonard**, Minot, **Darren Seifert**, Fargo, and **Chris Schaefer**, Bottineau, competed in the robotics contest. The Computer Science Club entered two robots, Little Red and The Box. Little Red, built by **Chris Grey**, Minot, won the competition. The Box, built by Devine, Seifert and other Club members, took second place. Seventeen robots competed in the contest. The MSU Computer Science Club faculty advisors, **Scott Kast** and **Larry Atwood**, also attended. For more information, visit the 2010 MICS site www.cs.uwec.edu/MICS/.

The National Collegiate Honors Council selected three Honors Program students, **Kelsey Eaton**, **Jesica Sanders** and **Teddy Thorsgaard**, to present their research at its national conference next October in Kansas City, Mo.

Eaton, an addiction studies and psychology major, will present her poster presentation project “Sex Education in America: Abstinence-only or Comprehensive?” She is from Minot.

Sanders, an art education major, will present “A for Average: Grade Inflation in Higher Education,” her poster presentation project. She is also from Minot.

Thorsgaard, a Bottineau native majoring in mathematics, will present his student interdisciplinary research panel project, “The Use of Cost-Effectiveness Analyses in Health Care Rationing Decisions.” This will be the third time that the NCHC has chosen a Minot State University student to participate on a student interdisciplinary research panel; only about 16 students are chosen nationally for this honor each year. **Lynne Rumney**, director of the Honors Program and instructor of humanities, advises the Honors Program students.

John Girard, associate professor of business administration and business information technology, spoke at two state-level conferences on how organizations can achieve a competitive advantage through using social media. On April 27 at the North Dakota Tourism annual conference, Girard presented “Maximizing Sales through Electronic Marketing.” He gave “Social Media: Are you Ready for the Future?” at the North Dakota Professional Insurance Agents annual conference May 4.

Preservation North Dakota named history major **Ross Hartley** as the recipient of the 2010 Rurik Ekstrom Historic Preservation Scholarship to attend the annual North Dakota Historic Preservation Conference. This year’s conference, “Partners in Preservation,” was in Dickinson from May 7 to 9.

Patti Kurtz, associate professor of English, won first prize in the Abilene Writer’s Guild 2009 fiction contest for her detective novel “The Disappearance of Amy Martinez,” a mystery novel involving Erin McRae. McRae, a newly licensed private investigator, has psychic abilities, which she cannot control.

Also, Kurtz’s young adult novel, “Worth the Risk,” won first prize in the young adult category of the 2010 Paul Gillette Fiction Award, sponsored by the Pikes Peak Writers. This novel centers around a 16-year-old auto racer who is involved in a crash that kills a fellow driver. The VIP judge for this contest, a literary agent, is also considering this manuscript for representation.

Kurtz is working to revise and submit both manuscripts to various publishers this year.

Mary Mercer, NDCPD community training core coordinator, served as conference director for the 24th annual North Dakota Association of Community Providers conference, “Creating Inclusive Communities.” More than 425 participants from across North Dakota attended the three-day event in Bismarck May 5-7.

Cheryl Nilsen, associate professor of mathematics and computer science, co-chaired the North Dakota Council of Teachers of Mathematics Spring Conference on March 26-27 in Minot. Conference participants elected her president-elect for NDCTM.

Nilsen managed the Region 8 Speech Meet held at MSU on April 10. She served as a judge at the Region 7 Speech Meet in Washburn on April 8 and at the Region 9 Speech Meet in Ray on April 9. On April 17, she judged at the State Class A Speech Meet in Jamestown.

MSU awarded a faculty research grant to Nilsen and **Rebecca Anhorn**, associate professor of education, to do research concerning the collaboration of special educators and mathematics teachers and its impact on student learning of mathematics.

Nancy Pearson, instructor of communication arts, has had her submission to the National Communication Association convention in November in San Francisco chosen for presentation for the Great Ideas For Teaching Speech session.

Faculty and staff acknowledgements from the April 21 University Cabinet meeting

Members of the University Cabinet are asked to let the Minot State University community know about the students, faculty and staff in their areas who perform extraordinary work and who make a significant contribution or accomplish an achievement.

The Employee Recognition Committee and Chartwells staff put on another very successful Employee Appreciation Banquet. Members of the Employee Appreciation Banquet Committee are **Conrad Davidson**, College of Arts and Sciences, **Karen Holmen**, student publications and public information, **Pamela Hopkins**, MSU Bookstore, **Wes Matthews**, human resources, **Leon Perzinski**, Student Center, **Darla Weigel**, student affairs, and **Deb Wentz**, Office of the President.

Hopkins, bookstore, also volunteered as a parking lot attendant for the Beaver Boosters during the North Dakota Class B Girls Basketball Tournament.

Darren Olson and **Tyler Schmaltz**, Information Technology Central, assisted a local high school when the school experienced equipment failure resulting in loss of network/Internet connectivity. The school's technology person was on vacation; Olson and Schmaltz resolved the issue satisfactorily.

Terry Wald, plant services, repaired a leak in the lower level of the library on a recent Sunday.

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.

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