



Public Information Office

A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU to host public screening of Piehl documentary

Minot State University, in conjunction with Prairie Public Broadcasting and the North Dakota Council on the Arts is presenting the public documentary screening of "Walter Piehl: Sweetheart of the Rodeo." The event is being held Tuesday (Oct. 11) at 7:30 p.m. in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall. It is free and open to the public.

"Walter Piehl: Sweetheart of the Rodeo" documents how this North Dakota visual artist and MSU art professor combines an expressionistic painting style with visual investigations of many facets of Western Americana.

"When first filming Walter in 2008 for a seven-minute segment of "Prairie Profile," we realized we had only touched on the edge of his process and that we were only able to show a small glimpse of Walter," said Bob Dambach, director of PP Television. "We also had great material on him as a teacher, with all sorts of wonderful happenings in the classroom."

"There's no doubt that the example he offers as an artist and teacher is second to none," said David Fuller, MSU president. "Everyone at Minot State University is proud of Walter's accomplishments, his life-long devotion to his students, and his distinguished reputation as an artist, deserving of our high regard for him as a professional."

Piehl was raised near Marion, N.D.

"It wasn't until I was in the first grade that we got electricity and indoor plumbing on the farm," Piehl said. "I liked to draw, so my parents gave me tablets, and I filled them up."

After graduating from Marion High School, Piehl left the farm to attend Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., to study art. He quickly realized he lacked a formal art background and was at a disadvantage compared to many of his classmates. He described his early years in college as a "terrifying experience."

"I thought art was about drawing; classes in college were over my head," Piehl confessed. "The only reason I stayed was 'fear of the haystack.'"

He graduated in 1964 with an art major and teaching certificate. Unsure about his abilities to make or teach art, Piehl enrolled in graduate school at the University of North Dakota (Grand Forks) and received a Master of Arts in painting and drawing two years later.

"I didn't feel confident about my work until I got to grad school at UND," Piehl said. "One of my instructors encouraged me to use Western Americana as subject in my artwork. That piqued my interest, and I have never looked back."

Early in his career, Piehl taught in Dickinson, Valley City, Ellendale and Mayville. In 1969, he entered the University of Minnesota Fine Art Department to pursue an MFA. Fall semester 1971, he began teaching drawing, painting and art education methods at MSU.



Oct. 5, 2011

PIO update

What defines great?

Not grand, as in great-aunt. Or extremely large, like a great big pizza. Or one generation removed, as in great-grandfather.

The great I mean is twofold.

One is remarkable or outstanding in magnitude.

This week's illustration is NOTSTOCK, held Oct. 6-8 in the Beaver Dam. Billed as a live, participatory arts and music festival, NOTSTOCK celebrates the many facets of art in pop culture that creep into our everyday lives and capture audiences of all ages. What started five years ago with one artist and a small group of participants has grown in magnitude to include several multimedia artists and musicians communing with hundreds of visitors.

The other "great" means eminent, distinguished.

Tuesday (Oct. 11) at 7:30 p.m. in Ann Nelson Hall, MSU is hosting the Prairie Public premier screening of the documentary "Walter Piehl: Sweetheart of the Rodeo." This production documents how this visual artist and MSU art professor investigates Western Americana through his expressionistic style of art.

The best thing about both is that they are free and open to the public. For more information about the events, visit www.minotstateu.edu.

How great is that?

— Susan Ness,
public information director

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Voice: 858-3298 • Fax: 858-4481

linda.benson@minotstateu.edu

www.minotstateu.edu/inside/

Piehl has exhibited his work regionally, nationally and internationally. True to the roots he tried to escape, Piehl describes his art as expressionistic Western Americana, but with a modern, contemporary influence.

Dambach said that “Walter Piehl: Sweetheart of the Rodeo” gives viewers a glimpse of the method Piehl uses in creating his art and illustrates that what may appear chaotic or confusing to the casual observer, is actually visually stunning and full of activity, when one knows what to look for.

“Once you have that knowledge,” Dambach said, “his paintings become a different experience. We wanted people to understand what a treasure Minot has in Walter and where he fits in the art world.”

“I like the act of painting,” Piehl said. “The first stages of my paint application are chaotic, out of control. The exciting part is to bring chaos under control and direct it toward an image I feel good about. For me, it’s the solving of the problems in the painting that’s exciting. I never know what the end product is going to be like.”

Among his many honors and awards is the 2008 Enduring Visions Award for his creativity, connection to community and impressive body of work from the Bush Foundation, a private foundation serving Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. Piehl was one of three people selected for the prestigious \$100,000 award and described it as the highlight of his art career.

In spite of more than 40 years in the classroom, museums and galleries across the country, Piehl’s ambitions are much more humble than most with his talent. Long after he is gone, Piehl said he hopes people look at his work and think, “He made some good stuff.”

“Walter Piehl: Sweetheart of the Rodeo” is scheduled to run on Prairie Public’s television service Oct. 17 at 9 p.m. (CDT).

State-of-the-art Slaaten Learning Center to be dedicated Oct. 12

To meet rapid changes in business professions, Doris Slaaten, professor emerita, has funded renovations of the Slaaten Learning Center for the third time. Minot State University and its College of Business will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony Oct. 12 at the center on third floor of Old Main at 4 p.m. The public is invited to join in the festivities.

“Through Dr. Slaaten’s generosity and foresight, we have been able to transform two classrooms into an amazing learning and study center. As a long-time faculty member and dear friend to the College of Business, she truly understands education and holds students’ learning close to her heart. We are extremely grateful for her thoughtfulness,” said JoAnn Linrud, dean of the College of Business.



“This renovated facility will enable us to better engage students with each other, with the faculty, and also with the community.”

With this latest transformation, the Slaaten Learning Center features formal and informal learning spaces, including a trading lab with a stock ticker board, immediate access to financial data and reports, a board room with complete video conferencing, space for student organizations to meet and space for students to learn and team together in a casual environment.

The Charlson, N.D., native initiated the innovative Slaaten Office Learning Center in 1979, providing the inspiration, design and funding. As technology advanced into the 1990s and computers became the business tool of the future, the Slaaten Learning Center was transformed into a computer lab.

After teaching 27 years at Minot State, Slaaten retired in 1984. Retirement, however, did not slow her down. She immediately established two scholarships in her name. One is presented to an outstanding member of Phi Beta Lambda, a business organization that she advised for many years. The other is open to all College of Business majors.

In 2008, Slaaten was the founding supporter of APEX (Aspirations for Professional Excellence), a personal and professional development program for seniors in business disciplines. She serves on the MSU Board of Regents, the MSU Development Foundation and the College of Business Dean’s Advisory Board. Slaaten also stays current through a retired faculty group.

Although Slaaten has served on numerous state and local boards and committees, her deepest commitment remains to MSU. She is the largest single donor to MSU in its 98-year history.

For questions, contact Linrud at 858-3110 or joann.linrud@minotstateu.edu

MSU NOTSTOCK 2011 arts festival celebrates words and pictures

Like a wheel rolling downhill, Minot State University’s live arts and music festival, NOTSTOCK, continues to gain momentum. What started five years ago with one artist at one table for one day, has grown into an annual event that features multimedia artists communing with hundreds of new and returning visitors.

NOTSTOCK 2011 runs Thursday through Saturday (Oct. 6-8) and will celebrate the relationship between words and pictures in comics, poster art, books, zines and any medium where words and pictures collide to create meaning in culture. This year’s family-friendly event includes rock poster and comic artists, a bookseller, publisher, writer, local musicians, a self-publishing educator and an artist who brings to life children’s drawings of monsters.

“It’s a hands-on, participatory event, all the way through,” said Bill Harbort, professor of art and NOTSTOCK co-organizer.

“The event offers something for everyone, from elementary students to college students to community members. It brings together award-winning professionals who share their expertise, experiences, and talents with the area community in an up-close and personal manner. Guests become participants in the arts, not simply observers,” said Laurie Geller, associate professor of math and NOTSTOCK co-organizer.

“Fantastic,” a traveling exhibit from the North Dakota Museum of Art, brings together the work of a dozen artists from the United States, Canada, England, Iceland and Argentina. Many works echo earlier paintings of DaVinci, Edward Hopper, Franz Kline and others. Joyful and colorful, the exhibition poses as a collection of old masterpieces and a rollicking excursion of fun. “Fantastic” is open to the public Thursday through Saturday (Oct. 6-8), and Monday (Oct. 10), from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Conference Center.

Chloe Eudaly, publisher, writer, self-publishing educator and owner of Portland’s legendary bookstore, Reading Frenzy, will lead zine workshops Thursday (Oct. 6) and Friday (Oct. 7) in the Conference Center at 11 a.m. A self-described “print devotee,” she will also speak about “Print(ed) Matters” Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Conference Center. An installation of zines, fliers and photographs will be on display and available for purchase.

A tandem reception for Eudaly and the “Fantastic” exhibit will follow Eudaly’s 7 p.m. presentation on the third floor of the Student Center.

Minneapolis duo, Landland, will screen print live in the Beaver Dam, second floor of the Student Center. Returning guest, DWITT, whose art is featured in the hit video game “Guitar Hero II,” will also screen print, draw comics and give a presentation of his work Thursday (Oct. 6) at 9 a.m. and Friday (Oct. 7) at 11 a.m. in Aleshire Theater. The work of Landland and DWITT will be for sale at the event and displayed at the Northwest Arts Center and at 62 Doors Gallery & Studios, downtown.

Illustrator, painter, comic artist, educator and author Dave DeVries will bring to life children’s drawings of a “Monster Beaver” and a “beaver rebuilding Minot.” DeVries will paint the “Monster Beaver” during the event. The painting will be included in his work, “The Monster Engine” and sold at auction with proceeds to support a family affected by the flood. DeVries will turn the “beaver rebuilding Minot” into a line drawing that can be screen printed onto T-shirts for a free-will offering. DeVries will give a presentation, including his work for Marvel and DC Comics, Thursday (Oct. 6) at 11 a.m. and Friday (Oct. 7) at 9 a.m. in Aleshire Theater.

POTSTOCK opens its second year with guest ceramicist Ned Krouse of Haslet, Mich., who specializes in colorful raku pottery. Krouse, MSU faculty and students will give ceramics demonstrations and raku firings daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. outside the north entrance to the Student Center.

A favorite NOTSTOCK activity will continue again this year. Daily (Oct. 6-8) do-it-yourself screen printing will be

available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Beaver Dam, allowing visitors to choose a NOTSTOCK design and “pull” their own screen print. Participants are encouraged to bring their own T-shirt, hoodie, tote bag or other item to be printed.

Area bands will play daily in the Beaver Dam from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Barley Pop Bar, Friday (Oct. 7), 9 p.m. and at the NOTSTOCK closing reception at 62 Doors Gallery and Studios Saturday (Oct. 8), 7 p.m.

All events and performances are free and open to the public. For a complete list of times and events, go to www.msunotstock.org.

MSU and community unite in Homecoming 2011 to ‘Red! Rock It!’

Minot State University Homecoming 2011 centered on the theme “Red! Rock It!” Although inclement weather forced the MSU Community Block Party indoors, favorable weather graced the Homecoming Parade and game. The MSU Beavers lost the game against the University of Sioux Falls 38-23.



Three individuals and one team inducted into Athletic Hall of Fame

The Minot State University Athletic Department officially inducted three individuals and one athletic team into its Athletic Hall of Fame during a ceremony at halftime of the Homecoming football game Sept. 24. The inductees included Hank Hettwer, wrestling, football and tennis coach, 1964-1967; Steve Holen, basketball, 1993-1997; Darrik Trudell, football, 1999-2002; and the 2002 Men’s Cross Country Team.



Three of Hank Hettwer’s daughters

Members of the 2002 team are Gene Benacourt, Jesse Bergstedt, Zach Burdick, Dennis Eaton, Nick Glimsdahl,

Eric Hanson, Steve Kirby, Brian Knowles, Josh Lane, Justin Marsette, A.J. Pederson, Nolan Taylor, Brad Tighe, Mike Tighe, Juro Trubiroha, Chad Wallin and John Wetsit. Head coach of the 2002 team was Scott Simmons.

Members of wrestling teams were also introduced during the halftime ceremony.



MSU wrestling teams members

New faculty and staff aboard

Minot State University welcomes four new employees, Ashley Dhuyvetter, Stacey Johnston, Michael Roanhorse and Cassie Tofteland, to the campus.

Dhuyvetter is an administrative secretary for the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities. She was previously employed by Minot's Trinity Medical Group. She received a bachelor's degree in marketing and management from North Dakota State University. An active person, she enjoys running, going to the lake and spending time with family.



Dhuyvetter

Johnston is a NDCPD project coordinator. Before moving to Minot from California, she worked for the Santa Barbara School Districts. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in education from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Randolph Patrick Anderson, her husband, is a member of the United State Air Force.



Johnston

Roanhorse is a facilities custodian in the Student Center. Prior to joining MSU, he worked for the Minot Daily News. He and his wife, Della, have two sons, Lawrence and Michael Jr. Roanhorse enjoys fishing and relaxing.



Roanhorse

Tofteland, an early interventionist for NDCPD, previously worked for Early Explorers Head Start in Minot. She completed a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Mayville State College. The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce recently honored Tofteland with an Eagle Award. She and her husband, Jeremy, have been married for two years, and they love spend time with their nieces and nephews.



Tofteland

NDCPD and Harstad University College hosted intellectual disabilities conference

The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities and Harstad University College, Norway, hosted the "U.S.-Nordic International Conference on Intellectual Disabilities" at the Minot State University's Conference Center, Oct. 2-4.

"It was exciting to have 25 colleagues from Norway here to collaborate and exchange research on intellectual disabilities," said Brent Askvig, NDCPD executive director. "It was an unbelievable opportunity for MSU faculty, staff and students to visit with international colleagues, listen to their presentations and discuss themes and topics."

The conference themes included: inclusive schools and education; employment opportunities and strategies; health care systems and services; and community living and supports. There were four plenary sessions at which a Norwegian and American speaker discussed the same topic.

In addition to the plenary sessions, there were eight break-out sessions, as well as poster sessions. The conference was co-sponsored by NDCPD, MSU, Harstad University College, the National Competence Center on Intellectual Disabilities and the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

The collaboration between the two schools will continue. Brenden Bertrand, an MSU student from Brandon, Manitoba, will attend Harstad University College this spring and complete his social work practicum.



Beaver Lodge, University Heights open house held

Minot State University hosted an open house of Beaver Lodge and University Heights residential housing for students, staff and faculty Sept. 30.

The 10 housing units that comprise Beaver Lodge are located on the northwest side of campus, along Eighth Street and 11th Avenue. They were purchased this summer to accommodate unprecedented student housing demands as a result of a city-wide housing shortage due to the Souris River flood. Filled to capacity, Beaver Lodge can accommodate 100 residents. Students moved in Oct. 3.

MSU also purchased University Heights, an efficiency-unit eight-plex, to accommodate displaced faculty or staff. University Heights is located north of campus on Seventh Street NW and was also scheduled for occupancy Oct. 3.

Academic Hall of Fame inducts four Announcements

Minot State University honored its first four Academic Hall of Fame inductees Sept. 18 at a banquet. The inductees included Carrie Forshner Evans, sociology; Lisa Feldner, business information technology; Delane Kritsky, biology; and Rosanne Olson, humanities/art.

“We knew they would be intelligent, creative and engaging, but their talks also showcased the incredible perseverance and hard work necessary for such outstanding career achievements,” said AHF Committee chair Deb Jensen. “We were delighted to be in the company of such personable, conscientious people who care so deeply about making a difference for others.”

The inductees also interacted with MSU students in classes, and with MSU students, faculty, and staff and community members at the Northwest Art Center’s evening lecture series.

Selected from nominations, these MSU alumni represent the best in their academic domains and have touched lives across the state, nationally and internationally during their careers. Full biographies are available on the AHF webpage, www.minotstateu.edu/ahof/index.shtml.

The 2010-2011 Academic Hall of Fame Committee members were Jensen, Mike Duffy and Ernst Pjining.



Left to right: Harry Hoffman, sociology; Carrie Evans, inductee; Lori Willoughby, business information technology; Lisa Feldner, inductee; Linda Olson, art; Rosanne Olson, inductee; Delane Kritsky, inductee; and Chris Keller, biology.

Wellness works

Take a relaxation break

When faced with numerous responsibilities and tasks or the demands of illness, relaxation techniques may take a back seat in people’s lives — but that means they might miss out on the health benefits of relaxation. Come join Nancy Mickelson, campus counselor, for 30 minutes of relaxation exercise every Monday and Wednesday in Swain 112 at noon.

According to the Mayo Clinic, practicing relaxation techniques can reduce stress symptoms by slowing the heart rate, lowering blood pressure, slowing breathing rate, increasing blood flow to major muscles, reducing muscle tension and chronic pain, improving concentration, reducing anger and frustration and boosting confidence to handle problems. To get the most benefit, people should use relaxation techniques along with other positive coping methods, such as exercising, getting enough sleep and reaching out to supportive family and friends.

For each session, participants should bring yoga mats or towels to lie on. For questions, contact Mickelson at 858-3371 or nancy.mickelson@minotstateu.edu.

Faculty mini-research grant proposals sought

The call for faculty mini-research grants is posted on the RSP website, www.minotstateu.edu/rsp/small_r_grants.shtml. The submission deadline for is Friday (Oct. 7). For further information, contact Jyennette Larshus, Faculty Research Committee chair, at 858-4324 or Linda Cresap, dean of the Graduate School and Research and Sponsored Programs, at 858-3316.

—Linda Cresap, dean of the Graduate School and Research and Sponsored Programs

New fitness classes available for faculty and staff

Two evening fitness classes are now available to faculty and staff. Body Attack, held Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m., is a high-intensity, total-body fitness class that combines strength, agility and cardio moves. Zumba, held Thursday evenings at 7 p.m., is a cardio intense class, featuring Latin dance. Come join the fun and get your groove on! Both classes are held in the Swain Hall pedagogy lab. Participants are required to bring an MSU ID, clean shoes and water. For questions, contact 858-3485 or paul.brekke@minotstateu.edu.

—Paul Brekke, Fitness Center director

Get your flu shot now!

The Student Health Center is taking appointments for flu shots. The cost is \$20 for faculty and staff and \$10 for students. Participants will receive an insurance form to submit to Blue Cross/Blue Shield for reimbursement. Call Student Health at 858-3371 to schedule an appointment.

—Caren Barnett, Student Health Center director

Global Sights Photography Competition

In celebration of International Education Week, the Minot State University Office of International Programs organizes the “Global Sights Photography Competition” for MSU students, faculty, staff, retirees and alumni. The 2011 submission deadline is Oct. 31 at 4 p.m.

First, second and third-place winners and honorable mentions will have their work enlarged and displayed in the Multicultural Center during International Education Week, Nov. 14-18. An electronic photo gallery is also available on the MSU website to display winning entries.

For questions, call 858-4645 or bethany.stai@minotstateu.edu.

—Bethany Stai, global educational coordinator

Advanced Study Grant Program for full-time staff or faculty

Minot State University's support for advanced study is available through the Advanced Study Grant Program. This program provides financial assistance to full-time faculty or staff pursuing course work for degree programs or in skill areas deemed critical to the university. The deadline for applications is Oct. 31.

Applications are reviewed and determined by Presidents Staff. Awards will be announced by the end of November. An official application form can be found on the website at <http://www.minotstateu.edu/academic/> and must be completed by the deadline for consideration. Applicants may include up to three pages of supporting documentation with the application. Please return three copies of the application and supporting documents to the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

For questions, contact 858-3310 or celeste.simmons@minotstateu.edu.

—*Celeste Simmons, administrative assistant to the vice president for academic affairs*

IRB information

Research proposals to the Institutional Review Board should go to Vicki Michels, IRB chair, Department of Addiction Studies, Psychology and Social Work. For proposals needing full IRB approval, completed applications should be submitted to the chair two weeks prior to the IRB meetings. Meeting times for the fall semester are Oct. 17, Nov. 21 and Dec. 5 at noon in Memorial 236. For questions, contact 858-3594 or vicki.michels@minotstateu.edu.

—*Vicki Michels, IRB chair and associate professor of addiction studies*

In the galleries

Oct. 5-26 — Ceramics, drawings and paintings by MSU student Alexandra Jelleberg, Library Gallery. The public reception is Oct. 21 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 17-Nov. 23 — “Walk as a Woman: The Resurrected Treasures,” ceramics, drawings and paintings by MSU student Michele McKamy, Hartnett Gallery. The public reception is Oct. 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

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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500 UNIVERSITY AVE W
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