



A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU signs agreement with Briercrest College

Minot State University and Briercrest College and Seminary in Caronport, Saskatchewan, signed partnership agreements Feb. 13 expanding concurrent degree programs between the two schools. David Fuller, MSU president, and Dwayne Uglen, Briercrest College president, represented their institutions.

“Our students have deep interest in ‘the helping professions,’ and your programs enable them to build on that.” Uglen said. “We are entrusting our students to you. Thank you for opening this door. We look forward to working with you.”

Last year, MSU and Briercrest signed an agreement that enables students to receive two degrees in five years — a Bachelor of Arts degree from Briercrest and a Bachelor of Science in Education from Minot State. Students are accepted into both programs with the first three years spent at

Briercrest and the remaining two at Minot State. Under the initial agreement, students could earn an education degree with a focus in elementary education, music, physical education, English or history.

This year’s signing ceremony commemorates the expansion of the program to include addiction studies, communication disorders and social work, expanding the accessibility to more students. Participants will receive two degrees in five years — a Bachelor of Arts degree from Briercrest and a Bachelor of Science in addiction studies or communication disorders or a Bachelor of Science in Social Work from Minot State. Earning a degree from both Briercrest and Minot State will allow a student to teach or work in either the U.S. or Canada.

Traditionally the university attracts about 6 to 8 percent of its student body from its neighbor to the north. Approximately 300 Canadians are currently enrolled at Minot State.

Caronport is 20 minutes west of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, which is Minot’s sister city 265 miles to the north.



MSU President David Fuller, left, and Briercrest College President Dwayne Uglen, right, signed partnership agreements.



Left to right, Fuller, Uglen and Wes Olmstead, Briercrest VPAA.

Feb. 22, 2012

PIO update

I left North Dakota over a decade ago to forge a career out of state. I returned in 2010 to a city bustling with opportunities for new comers and returning natives, like myself.

Recently, an old friend returned home to manage the family business after being away for over two decades. Was I glad to be back, he asked. What did I do on weekends for fun?

Are you kidding?

One glance at the MSU web calendar shows a thriving, multicultural epicenter of music, theater, arts, athletics and education. It’s like dinner at Thanksgiving: more than you can consume in one sitting, with no room left for dessert.

Tonight, enjoy the MSU Bands concert at 7:30 p.m. Tomorrow (Thursday) through Sunday, Feb. 26, delight in “Jake’s Women,” by the MSU theatre department. Saturday (Feb. 25), join the Black History Month Jubilation in Nelson Hall. Sunday through Wednesday (Feb. 26-29), you can attend a Minot Chamber Chorale concert, a MSU small ensembles concert, a MSU percussion concert and a lecture on Paris. All in one week!

This is the dessert carte, without the calories, so indulge!

Visit www.minotstateu.edu and click on calendar of events to discover all there is for you at MSU.

NEXT ISSUE

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MSU awards Great Plains Exceptional Scholarships

Minot State University today awarded 19 incoming first-year students with Great Plains Exceptional Scholar Awards. These students have earned a full-tuition scholarship awarded for four years and provided by Minot State University in support of its goal to become one of the premier public, regional universities in the Great Plains of North America.

"I am very proud of the number and quality of students in this group," said Kevin Harmon, assistant vice president for enrollment management. "This is our fourth class since the inception of the award, and one of the most talented groups of recipients."

The 2012 Great Plains Exceptional Scholars, listed by their hometowns and declared majors, are:

Bowbells — Marie Jepsen, elementary education.

Bowman — Brady Roemmich, mathematics education.

Carson — Kayla Scholes, elementary education.

Grand Forks — Nina Coster, music education.

Hampden — Gabrielle Damschen, music education.

Hazen — Braeton Traiser, music education.

Minot — Alexander Buchholz, accounting; Alex Malnaa, undeclared; Kelli Sem, chemistry; Katherine Talley, undeclared; Nicholas Theis, mathematics education; and Lindsay Williams, English.

Velva — Jedidiah Jespersion, management.

Williston — Lindsey Eliassen, music education.

Colorado Springs, Colo. — Elisa Wilson, biology.

Monroe, La. — Tiffany Kiok, English education.

Belt, Mont. — Katie McKinney, undeclared.

Renton, Wash. — Natalie Kelly, athletic training.

Kandern, Baden-Wurtemberg, Germany — Kathryn Harrop, an United States citizen, nursing.

Incoming freshmen from states and provinces within the Great Plains were invited to apply. A 3.65 or above grade-point average in high school and a composite ACT score of 30-36 or a combined SAT score of 1340-1600 is needed to qualify. The selection process also required students to submit an essay that demonstrated their civic engagement or their contribution to a sense of place.

Damschen cited her experience with civic engagement in her essay.

"I've grown up with it. Because of my dad's (elected) position, I've learned a lot about government and how it works," Damschen wrote. "The importance of citizenship has been ingrained in me — I know it's important to be active and engaged in civic events because they both affect us, and they are affected by us."

"Growing up, my family, friends and faith have always taught me to put others first. I will continue on my journey of giving back; it will be in new capacities, and I look forward to each and every rewarding challenge," Theis succinctly wrote in his essay.

To be eligible for the initial award and subsequent renewals, students must be enrolled in 12 credit hours and maintain a GPA of 3.3 or above. The scholarship will be paid in increments of \$3,500 per year, in equal installments each semester, for four consecutive undergraduate years provided all renewal criteria are met.

For questions, contact Harmon at 858-3140 or kevin.harmon@minotstateu.edu.



Running the bases.

Catching a dream

Minot State University baseball and the Minot Dream Catchers played the sixth annual Dream Catchers "Day at the Dome" Feb. 20 at the MSU Dome.

The event has grown each year to this season's 125-player game. The Dream Catchers, a team comprised of special-needs children organized by MSU alumna Michelle Bliven, had 55 members present.

"This is annually one of the biggest nights of the year for our guys," said MSU head baseball coach Brock Wepler. "Both sides have a lot of fun — sometimes it's tough to tell which group has the most fun."

Each batter, who is paired with a MSU student-athlete, is allowed two at-bats. In the field, each position was filled by a child and his or her MSU buddy. No score is taken, and at the end of the each inning, the final batter gets to run the bases.

The "Day at the Dome," originally a class project by former MSU baseball player Justin Beahm, embodies the spirit and camaraderie of team sports. There was no admission charge, and fans came to watch and cheer for both teams.

After each game, all four teams shared a traditional handshake and finished the day with pizza.

MSU Theatre Program presents 'Jake's Women'

Neil Simon's comedy "Jake's Women" will hit the stage of Minot State University's Aleshire Theater Thursday (Feb. 23.) This play focuses on Jake, a writer with a struggling marriage. Jake flirts and argues with many of the women in his life and imagination, as he attempts to save his marriage. Jake, suffering from psychosis, is dealing with the inability to write productively and must resolve many issues.

Performances for "Jake's Women" are from Thursday through Saturday (Feb. 23-25) at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday (Feb. 26) at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students, and free with MSU ID for students, faculty and staff.

Welcome new staff

Minot State University welcomes new employee Kelly Prellwitz.

Prellwitz is an early interventionist with the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities. Before joining MSU, she worked for Minot's Head Start. She completed a bachelor's degree in early childhood education at Ashford University, Clinton, Iowa. She has a daughter, Jada.



Prellwitz

'Be in the Know' sessions enlighten

"Be in the Know" sessions answer questions about various Minot State University departments or procedures. Representatives of degree programs and student services will present short and concise information. All sessions will be held in Aleshire Theater, 10-10:30 a.m.

•Tuesday (Feb. 28) — "New Bachelor's Degree Programs," learn about MSU's newest academic programs, bioinformatics (Paul Lepp), energy economics and finance (Frank Moseley) and early childhood education (Clarine Sandstrom), and how to educate students about these new options.

•March 7 — "International Programs: How We Recruit and Support Our International Students," learn about new international recruiter Janan Thom's travels, how she is assisting in making MSU's campus more diverse and what services are available to international students.

For questions, contact Teresa Loftesnes, director of marketing, at 858-3062 or teresa.loftesnes@minotstateu.edu.

Furusth revisits Paris

Eric Furusth, associate professor of English and humanities, will present "Midnight and Noon in Paris: Brother Eric Returns to the City of Light," Feb. 29 as part of the Northwest Art Center lecture series. The lecture begins at 7 p.m. in Aleshire Theater.

Furusth traveled to Paris in spring 2011 to rediscover "the art-obsessed youth he was," when he last visited in 1972. Having found the art and himself changed, he will share a scholarly and humorous chronicle of his travels.

Furusth joined the Minot State University faculty in 1993. He has taught humanities as well as composition and literature courses. He holds a doctorate in English and bachelor's and master's degrees in history. As a humanities professor, he traveled to the great museums of the world to study the art treasures of Western history.

All lectures are free and open to the public.

Markovic to discuss Niall Ferguson's 'Civilization'

Draza Markovic, assistant professor of physics, will discuss the book "Civilization: The West and the Rest" by Niall Ferguson Friday (Feb. 24) at the next Brown Bag Book Talk.

People need not read the featured book ahead of time and are encouraged to bring a sack lunch. The book talks, sponsored by the Gordon B. Olson Library, begin at noon and conclude in time for 1 p.m. classes. All are held in the lower level of the library in Group Study Room 2.

MSO hosts 'Masquerade Ball' March 3

Maestro Dennis Simons, professor of music, will direct the Minot Symphony Orchestra in its spring concert, "Masquerade Ball" March 3 in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m. Pianist Nadejda Vlaeva of New York City is the guest soloist.

The remaining concert of "The Dance: Celebration of 10 Years!" is the "Pops Concert: Can I Have This Dance?" April 21.

All concerts are held in the Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Minot State University students, faculty and students are admitted free with a current ID. Additional tickets for adults are \$20 per concert or \$65 for a season ticket. The price for senior citizens is \$15 single, \$50 season; students 12-18, \$10 single, \$30 season; children, ages under 12, \$5 single, \$15 season.

For more information, visit www.minotstateu.edu/symphony/.



Save the date

- March 6 — Spring 2012 Assessment Day
- April 27 — MSU Alumni Association Gala at the Holiday Inn-Riverside, 5:30 p.m.
- April 27-28 — Native American Spring Honor Dance and Powwow Celebration in the Dome
- May 11 — Commencement in the Dome, 10 a.m.

MSU alumna wins award

Ellen (Slaamod) Simmons, a counselor for Glenburn Public Schools, was named North Dakota Middle School Counselor of the Year through the North Dakota Schools Counseling Association at its midwinter conference Feb. 6. Simmons graduated from Minot State University with a bachelor's degree in business education.

Later, she completed a master's degree in education from North Dakota State University.

"I'm so proud to be a part of this profession and to receive this award," Simmons said.

Candidates for this award must demonstrate leadership in their schools, their communities and profession at the local, regional, state or national level.

Simmons is a Gala 2012 co-chair and a member of the MSU Alumni Association board of directors.



Simmons, center, is congratulated for her award by Janna McKechnie and Marv Semrau.



IRET employees assisted DECA students in collecting over 400 pounds of food in their food drive.

MSU Collegiate DECA donates food to area pantry

After weeks of promotion and coordination, Minot State University Collegiate DECA wrapped up a successful food drive Feb. 8 for the food pantry at Our Lady of Grace Church. The business-marketing student organization collaborated with students, faculty and staff throughout the MSU campus, the Center for Family Medicine, First International Bank and Investor's Real Estate Trust to collect over 400 pounds of food to donate to OLG.

MSU senior Ben Berg, North Dakota and MSU Collegiate DECA president, said the food drive was proposed at the DECA mid-winter meeting and became a project for all N.D. chapters.

"We thought the timing of the food drive was good, as most pantries get pretty picked over after the holidays," Berg said.

An enthusiastic contributor to this year's effort was the IRET staff in Minot.

"As a business, you want to make a profit," said Justin Fisk, IRET marketing and communications director. "But service to the community also plays a huge part in being a successful business. It was an honor to participate in the food drive this year and meet some of the future community leaders."

For more information, contact Berg at benjamin.berg@my.minotstateu.edu.



DECA students and Justin Fisk, IRET, second from left, collect food for the Our Lady of Grace food pantry.

MSU students prompt preservation of city records

Minot State University's "Public History and Preservation" class, students Ashley Coffin, Alexandra Fancher, Ross Hartley and Karen Opp, visited Bobbi Ripplinger, retired Minot city clerk and human resource director, wanting information about archival material storage and management. The class told Ripplinger of an ongoing effort by the State Historical Society of North Dakota archives to microfilm important city and county records for prosperity. The class emphasized the value of the City of Minot Commission, predecessor to the Minot City Council, whose proceedings document the community and region's history. The commission's ledgers contain stories of the birth of city utilities, roads, plant, structures and buildings; early struggles involving prohibition and prostitution; and evolution of the city police force.

City clerks successfully preserved original records, beginning in 1887; however, the gall ink used at the turn of the 20th century was beginning to fade, and several ledgers were deteriorating. Ripplinger wanted the documents preserved on microfilm. In response, the class approached Ann Jenks, director of the State Historical Society of North Dakota archives, and by late summer, the state archives completed the project. The city commission proceedings (1887-2000) are now available on microfilm at the state archives in Bismarck and the Office of the Minot City Clerk.

As the flood proved, infrastructure will be destroyed despite humans' best efforts to prevent it. Mark Timbrook, history adjunct, noted his appreciation for Ripplinger's motivation and foresight in protecting the city's history.

"As Minot and Ward County begin the rebuilding process, I hope that Ward County and communities along the Mouse River will pursue a similar course and preserve their historical documents with the state for future generations," Timbrook said. "There is still much more to do in record preservation in our community and at other sites along the river."

The microfilming of the documents gives the public and academia access to an important historical resource and ensures its long-term preservation. Microfilm also reduces damage associated with the handling of the original source materials.

"Now is the time to act, while this last disaster is fresh in our minds and hearts," Timbrook said. "Tomorrow may be too late."

For questions, contact Timbrook at 858-3832 or mark.timbrook@minotstateu.edu.

Wellness works

Beth Garber, a senior nursing student from Minot, wrote the following article:

Protection against HPV

The most common sexually transmitted disease in the United States is Human Papillomavirus. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in 2011, one in every two sexually active individuals will acquire genital HPV at some time in their lives. Risky behaviors can place individuals at greater risk for becoming infected with HPV by sexual skin-to-skin contact.

The HPV infection is easily transmitted because people can have it without knowing it. HPV infections can cause genital warts in both partners, cervical cancer or other cancers including that of the vagina, penis, anus, oropharynx and throat.

Prevention and protection are essential for protection from the virus, and vaccines help achieve this. With the Gardasil vaccine, females can be protected from most forms of genital warts and cervical cancer; males can be protected from most genital warts and anal cancers. Gardasil is given in three different shots. After the initial treatment, the second dose is given two months later, and the third dose follows six months after the initial treatment.

It only takes one time for someone to put themselves at risk for a life-long disease caused by HPV. It is important to remember that this disease will not only affect the individual, but also the person that individual may want to spend life with. Minot State University students who are North Dakota residents may receive Gardasil at the Student Health Center. For more information, contact SHC at 858-3371.

Announcements

Black History Month activities slated

February is national Black History month and in recognition of the history and contributions of Americans of African descent, Minot State University students, faculty and staff are encouraged to join the celebration at the following events:

- Saturday (Feb. 25) — Music and poetry reading at Main Street Books, 2–4 p.m.

- Saturday (Feb. 25) — Black History Month Jubilation, Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, 6 p.m. Celebrate Black History Month by attending energizing performances in music, dance, poetry and storytelling.

- Monday (Feb. 27) — Movie “Precious,” shown at Pangea House, 7 p.m.

All events are planned and organized by the MSU Black Student Association, in collaboration with the Office of International Programs, and supported by the MSU Multicultural Fund.

For more information, contact Joe Davis, BSA president, at joseph.davis@my.minotstateu.edu, or Bethany Stai Keusch, global education coordinator, at bethany.stai@minotstateu.edu or 858-4645.

— *Bethany Stai Keusch, global education coordinator*

Reflection about ‘faith and life’

All Minot State University students, faculty and staff are invited for a mid-week time of reflection and conversation around the theme of “faith and life” during the Lent season. These times of reflection and conversation will be Feb. 29, March 7, March 21 and March 28 in Administration 159 at 12:15 p.m. This study is in partnership with Minot’s First Lutheran Church.

For questions, contact 833-2221 or kari.williamson@minot-stateu.edu.

— *Kari Williamson, campus pastor*

MSU goes to the mall March 31

The sixth annual MSU at the Mall is March 31 from noon until 3 p.m. This interactive venue provides a great opportunity for Minot State University to feature its academic programs, services, faculty, staff, students and student organizations. Displays, tables, and activities will be in the Scheels/Sears Court. The deadline for reserving a table is Leap Day, Feb. 29.

Booths may have information on its programs as well as fun activities for children. Past activities included a pottery sale by the art department, speech and hearing tests, musical performances, blood-pressure checks, research projects and academic showcases. Be creative with activities — make them hands-on to draw the public.

To participate, reply with the requested information (name of academic department or group, a short description of activity, the number of tables needed and if electricity is required).

For questions, contact Kara Dietz, marketing student intern, at 858-4159 or marketing.intern@minotstateu.edu or Teresa Loftesnes, marketing director, at 858-3062 or teresa.loftesnes@minotstateu.edu.

— *Kara Dietz, marketing student intern*

CETL coordinators MSU Engagement Fair

The Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning will host the third annual MSU Engagement Fair April 17 in the Student Center Atrium, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. This fair will showcase a variety of projects specific to student engagement. Community programs and organizations, as well as Minot State University students, faculty and staff will present information specific to community and campus engagement.

Anyone interested in participating in this year's Engagement Fair should contact 858-4040 or julie.keller@minotstateu.edu with name of presenter(s), department or organization, type of engagement activity (research, service-learning, community engagement, campus engagement, internship or specified other activity), format of presentation (poster, information table or 20 to 30-minute presentation) and a short description of the presentation (500 words or less).

— *Julie Keller, CETL administrative assistant*

Share the study-abroad experience

Live vicariously through the international study experience of Jordan Lakoduk, Brendan Bertrand and Kara Bohan as they blog about cultural intrigue and host countries while studying abroad. Visit www.minotstateu.edu/ and click on the story link to access individual blog sites.

— *Susan Ness, director of public information*

In the galleries

Feb. 22-March 15 — “Mis Tres Verdades (Three Truths),” ceramic by Guillermo Guardia, Grand Forks, Library Gallery.

March 1-April 4 — Exhibit of various media by MSU art faculty, Hartnett Gallery.

The public reception for these exhibits is March 1 in the respective galleries, 6:30-8 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.

Andrea Donovan, assistant professor of art history, was a moderator at the Modern Language Association conference in Seattle, Jan. 4-8. Donovan will also be a panelist at the American Association of Colleges and Universities conferences in New Orleans, Feb. 23-26. She and representatives from other North Dakota colleges and universities will facilitate a workshop regarding North Dakota's statewide discussions on general education curriculum.

Bill Harbort, professor of graphic arts, served as a juror for a North Dakota State University student art exhibit Feb. 2-10.

Linda Olson, chair and art professor within the Division of Humanities, represented the Minot Area Council for International Visitors, a partner of MSU, at the National Council for International Visitors conference in Washington, D.C., Feb. 15-19. As a member of the Arts North Dakota board of directors, Olson is assisting in the search for a new director, and she served as a panelist on the North Dakota Council on the Arts incentive grant reviews.

Holly Pedersen, special education instructor, and **Tiffany Miller**, special education graduate student, presented at the annual Association of College Educators of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Conference in Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 16-18. The two presented Miller's thesis study, "University Deaf/Hard of Hearing Education Programs' Literacy Curriculums: Alignment with the National Reading Panel?" Pedersen is a member of the ACE-D/HH, an organization consisting of university and college faculty who prepare future educators to serve children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

NarayanThapa, assistant professor of mathematics, recently had "Optimal parameters for damped sine-Gordon equation with Neumann boundary conditions" published in the International journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics, Volume 75, No. 1, 2012, pages 69-91.

Rick Watson, humanities instructor, presented "A Desert of Snow," an evening of songs, readings and improvisations, with Larry Woide, Jamestown College writer in residence, Jan. 19 at the private college. Woiwode is North Dakota poet laureate, and Watson is associate poet laureate.

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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