MSU commemorated Earth Day

Unusually warm temperatures and bright sunshine made April 23 the perfect day for approximately 100 Minot State University students, faculty and staff to clean up the campus in honor of Earth Day. The Sustainability Committee handed out 67 T-shirts to students, Sodexo Campus Services served 600 slush burgers and brats and volunteers collected approximately 51 pounds of recyclables and 530 pounds of garbage.

Guest speakers Heather Duchsherer and Joe Super discussed Minot’s water quality. Duchsherer is an environmental scientist from the State Department of Health, and Super is a biology teacher at Minot High School who monitors the Souris River with his students.

Minot State University to confer degrees May 11

President David Fuller will congratulate more than 790 undergraduate and graduate students during Minot State University’s commencement exercises May 11, 10 a.m., in the Dome. Commencement speakers will address Vision 2013, Strategy 6: Creating a Commitment to Civic Engagement, Service and the Common Good.

Faculty members should arrive at the south end of the second floor of the Dome dressed in academic regalia by 9 a.m.

All staff members are strongly encouraged to attend the ceremony. If student assistance is not available during the two-hour block, offices may close.

President Fuller invites all members of the MSU community to celebrate our students’ achievements and the completion of their academic programs.

May 2, 2012

PIO update

At Minot State University, May brings a frenzied sense of accolades and celebration.

Four MSU faculty and staff earned achievement awards for excellence in teaching and extraordinary dedication on and off the job. Faculty Rebecca Anhorn and Dean Frantsvog were recognized as valued mentors and advisors, deeply committed to student success. Staff Caren Barnett and Anton Huether are devoted to making MSU a better place for everyone, every day.

May 9, MSU hosts its annual retirement social for employees. The event carries feelings of nostalgic cheerfulness, as we say goodbye to beloved colleagues and friends. Their many years of hard work and dedication add to the fabric of MSU’s appeal as a great place to learn, work and play.

May 11, MSU congratulates over 790 graduates. Commencement captures a myriad of emotions: relief, accomplishment, excitement, anticipation and a perhaps a little anxiety. The success of our graduates is a team effort, shared by a proud campus.

Good luck to everyone!

— Susan Ness, public information director
Four at MSU earn achievement awards

Two faculty members, Rebecca Anhorn and Dean Frantsvog, and two staff members, Caren Barnett and Anton Huether, received MSU Board of Regents Achievement Awards during Minot State University’s annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon. The awards are as follows:

Teaching — Rebecca Anhorn, a Minot State University alumna, is an associate professor of education, who joined the Department of Special Education in 1993 and the Program of Teacher Education in 1997. She is deeply committed to student learning and demonstrates it daily in her classroom, advising and mentoring of teacher education students.

Anhorn is a leader in the teacher education program in relation to assessment at graduate and undergraduate levels. She values assessment as a means to improve the program and faculty teaching.

Advising and mentoring are critical components of teacher education. Facilitating the development of outstanding future teachers requires contact and conversation that goes far beyond planning student schedules. Anhorn devotes considerable time to mentoring advisees and other teacher education students. Students seek her advice long after graduation.

Anhorn is an outstanding teacher, a valued advisor and a model mentor for Minot State University students. She values the contributions and work of all of her students and her colleagues.

Service — Dean Frantsvog, who holds leadership roles with enormous impact, embodies the word service as it relates to Minot and Minot State University.

Frantsvog, as Minot City Council president, volunteered countless hours at the Emergency Operations Center, as the flood threat became imminent. Initially, he manned telephone hotlines to help evacuees. During the flood, he worked with the National Guard, Red Cross, Corps of Engineers, National Weather Service, city staff and other agencies. Frantsvog and Minot Mayor Curt Zimbelman were the city’s representatives to local, regional, national and global media. The Minot native later testified at the North Dakota special legislative session and traveled to Washington, D.C., to discuss funding for flood recovery.

Frantsvog began teaching at MSU in 2004, where he is an associate professor of accounting in the College of Business. He serves in many other capacities at MSU. He emcees the MSU Gala and College of Business year-end awards banquet, works at MSU CONNECT sessions, keynotes at MSU’s SMARTZ program for high school seniors, advises the PBL Business Club, serves on the Institutional Review Board and

is the MSU faculty athletic representative.

In addition, he chairs the Minot Recreation Commission and is a member of the North Dakota League of Cities and Trinity Health Foundation boards of directors and Minot High School business advisory board.

For more than 10 years, Caren Barnett has embraced MSU’s growth and served as adjunct nursing faculty, staff registered nurse and Student Health Center director. At SHC, she played a crucial role in the establishment of a student health clinic. She encourages change, individual thinking and improved care standards. Barnett demonstrates leadership, support and genuine concern. Last summer, she opened her home to flood refugees.

Barnett mentors new students and MSU women basketball players, rarely missing a game. She is visible on campus speaking to students in the residence halls, guest lecturing on health topics, offering blood-pressure clinics, administering influenza vaccines and serving on campus committees. Her commitment to promoting a healthy campus community is demonstrated by her leadership of a project, which resulted in MSU achieving the CEO Cancer Gold Standard, and the development of MSU’s initial smoke-free campus policy. She also chairs the MSU Wellness Committee.

Barnett has taught both lecture and online courses. Her background in nursing and nursing management is invaluable to faculty and students. Accessible and responsible in her role as university educator, Barnett encourages nursing students, as they demonstrate critical thinking.

Barnett serves on the YWCA and Ascentia Credit Union board of directors and Christ Lutheran Church’s Liaison to Flood of Love Committee. She offers her personal time and expertise for the betterment of all.

Barnett demonstrates Minot State University’s core values and long-term commitment to teaching and models MSU’s beliefs about excellence in service.

As Minot State University’s webmaster since 2002, Anton Huether designs, maintains and updates the more than 120 websites and plays an active behind-the-scenes role in the development of all university public-facing Web activities. He possesses a broad-based background and is a true generalist in that his expertise is basic HTML programming for all aspects of Web operations. He is also knowledgeable in PHP scripting language and Web regulations, including copyright and accessibility requirement standards. Smashing Magazine recognized MSU’s website as one of the best college or university websites online, a result of Huether’s efforts.

Huether’s campus participation is extensive. He assists with orientation sessions and serves as MSU Staff Senate vice president and a member of State Staff Senate, Information Technology Advisory Council and Marketing, Centennial
Planning, Honors Advisory and Sustainability Committees. He is the primary resource for online surveys created to obtain data in support of academic, administrative and student research projects. He is also scanning yearbooks to be published to the Web for MSU's 100th anniversary.

During the 2011 Souris River Flood, Huether was among the first to volunteer. When water overcame the dikes, and MSU closed, Huether was on site every day and at night updating the website with timely information and providing needed assistance wherever needed. He did all this while evacuated from his home and living with a fellow employee.

Huether’s quiet and focused attention in all he does is a testament to his character and genuine concern for others.

Seventy-two MSU employees, who marked five-year increments, were also saluted at the event.

Graduate and alumna to speak at commencement

On May 11, commencement speakers senior Jacey Peterson and alumna Amy Leonard will address Minot State University’s Vision 2013 Strategy 6: “Creating a Commitment to Civic Engagement, Service and the Common Good.”

MSU graduate students will participate in a hooding ceremony at 8 a.m. in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall. The commencement ceremony for graduate and undergraduate students will begin in the Dome at 10 a.m.

Peterson, a Carpio native, completed a Bachelor of Science in Education with a major in business. She is graduating summa cum laude with a 3.964 cumulative grade point average. She earned several scholarships and received the 2012 National Business Education Award of Merit. While a student, she was a Habitat for Humanity volunteer.

Leonard graduated from MSU in 1986 with a Bachelor of Arts in business administration. The Minot native is the senior vice president of product development and sourcing at Levi Strauss & Company for Levi’s® Global Men’s. She represents the company in public and educational forums speaking on sustainability and has spoken on Capitol Hill to politicians on the impact of climate change on the supply chain.

In keeping with the commencement ceremony’s theme, honored guests include representatives from Minot Air Force Base, the American Red Cross and the North Dakota National Guard. Members of those entities supported Minot and the region during the 2011 Souris River Flood.

Terry Hjelmstad, a Minot retired educator and administrator, is representing SBHE. Appointed to the board in 2011, Hjelmstad’s term on the board expires June 30, 2015.

For additional information about the commencement ceremony, contact Rebecca Porter, registrar, at 858-3126 or rebecca.porter@minotstateu.edu.

MSU to honor retirees May 9

The annual retirement social will be May 9 in the Conference Center, 2-4 p.m. Minot State University employees, who recently retired or will retire at the end of this semester, will be honored. This year’s retirees include Jeff Morsfield and Tom Thorson, facilities management; Cheryl Rystedt, North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities; Mike Duffy and Keith Witwer, College of Business; Joe Alme and Dennis Simons, College of Arts and Sciences; and Joe Ferrara and Elaine Larson, College of Education and Health Sciences. More may still be added to the list.

Faculty, staff and other MSU retirees in the area are invited to attend. The formal welcome and presentations for the current retirees will begin at 2:30 p.m.; refreshments will be served.

For questions, contact Wes Matthews, director of human resources, at 858-4610 or wes.matthews@minotstateu.edu.

MSU Music Division says goodbye to Simons, Alme

Like a beloved sonata, their music has touched the lives of too many to count. But as the finale nears for senior music faculty Dennis Simons and Joe Alme, bittersweet memories blend with anticipated adventure as they each prepare for retirement and life after MSU.

Simons, associate professor of music, also retired his baton as conductor of the Minot Symphony Orchestra April 21, after wrapping the final concert of this season’s “The Dance: Celebration of 10 Years!”

"Ten years seemed a nice, round number to be ending with," he said in a recent interview. "It’s been such a fabulous time here, with musicians who have tackled a lot of exciting repertoire and risen to the challenges.”

Simons joined the Minot State University faculty in 2002 where he taught music appreciation, creativity in music and world music. With his departure, another MSU music faculty follows: wife Penny Simons. Penny is an instructor of piano and teaches piano pedagogy. The Simons plan to return to England to be closer to family.

“I am not stressing about retirement,” Dennis said. “In the music world, some musicians’ best work was done in their eighties. I see my life as a constant growth procedure, where lifelong learning and the constant pursuit of excellence is the goal. I am excited to take all my life experiences and see what the next adventure will bring.”

Alme was an assistant professor of music and director of bands, where he taught low brass, band methods, was conductor of the MSU Concert Band, co-directed the Beaver Athletic Band and also supervised music student teachers. As MSU director of bands in the ’80s, he left to become the executive director of International Music Camp, a position he held for
“My career started at Minot State in the fall of 1964 as a college freshman. MSU gave me the tools I needed to find success and happiness,” Alme said. “I was proud and pleased to be able to give something back to Minot State during my ‘second tour’ as a faculty member. My plan is to travel with my wife, Joyce, and spend as much time as possible with my grandchildren. They all desperately need trombone lessons!”

“These two gentlemen leave some very big shoes to fill,” said Ken Bowles, Division of Music chair. “We have been indeed fortunate to benefit from their lifetime of experience and understanding, which they so willingly shared. In both their cases, the ensembles they leave for the next conductor are far more secure than the ones they inherited. What a valuable gift to MSU.”

New staff aboard
Minot State University would like to welcome two new employees, Jennifer Hutchins and Leana Leavitt.

Hutchins is the new Learning Resource Center coordinator. Previously, she worked for the North Dakota Division of Vocational Rehabilitation-Minot. For hobbies, she enjoys camping, fishing and showing dogs. She and her husband, Tim, have two daughters, Alannah and Heather.

Leavitt, an alumna, joins the Rural Crime and Justice Center as a training and research associate. She completed a bachelor’s degree in sociology at MSU. She enjoys sewing, scrapbooking and rebuilding their home. As a charitable cause, she is involved with KHRT’s Horn of Plenty. She and her husband, Roy, have a daughter, Shelby.

Summer Theatre prepares for another great season
“Lucky Stiff” is the first offour plays Minot State University Summer Theatre will perform. It will run from June 12 to 17. The other scheduled productions include “Love, Sex and the IRS,” June 23-27; “Breaking Up is Hard to Do,” July 7-11; and rounding off the season with “Crazy for You,” July 19-24.

Summer Theatre is celebrating 47 years in the Minot community. The company comprises a variety of people including community members, MSU students, faculty and staff. Approximately 10,000 theatergoers attend the productions every summer.

All shows are in the MSU Amphitheater at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults, $7 for senior citizens and children over 12, $5 for children 12 and under, and $3 for MSU personnel and summer students with current MSU ID. Reservations may be made by calling the Summer Theatre box office at 858-3228, starting June 1.

MSU hosting energy seminar for high school students
Minot State University will host “Experience in Education for North Dakota Secondary School Students,” a summer seminar for next fall’s high school juniors and seniors, June 4-8. With the North Dakota’s abundance of natural resources, such as wind, coal and oil, the students will learn from energy-industry experts.

“This unique five-day immersion into the energy industry will give high school participants insight to approach career decisions as confident candidates by providing a solid foundation in the fundamentals of the oil, gas and energy industry,” said Tolu Oni, finance instructor, one of the two MSU presenters. “They will leave motivated after gaining teamwork, presentation and writing skills. There will also be field trips and social events.”

Associate Professor Frank Moseley also brings a wealth of experience from the energy profession to the classroom. He possesses 25 years of experience in the oil fields; he holds a doctorate degree in mineral economics with a major in business strategy and finance. Moseley founded a private international oil service company. He will share his multinational energy experiences with the students.

Morning sessions will be spent with experts from the most significant companies in the energy field. In the afternoons, participants will participate in interactive trips in the oil field, wind turbines and other energy sites. Entertainment, which will follow the evening meal, will include bowling, watching movies in the Beaver Dam and sand volleyball. The tentative schedule is at www.minotstateu.edu/eeesss/schedule.shtml.

All participants are encouraged to stay in Crane Hall, a coed residence hall. Meals are included in the $100 seminar fee.

To register, complete the application form at http://www.minotstateu.edu/eeesss/pdf/eeesss_app.pdf. Seminar reservations are on a first-come, first-serve basis with only 25 seats available. The application form must be printed, completed and mailed to the address indicated on the document.

For questions about “Experience in Education for North Dakota Secondary School Students,” contact Kevin Harmon, assistant vice president for enrollment management, at 858-3140 or kevin.harmon@minotstateu.edu.
Class of 2012 honored

The Native American Spring Honor Dance and Powwow, sponsored by the Native American Cultural Awareness Club and Minot State University honored all 2012 graduates. The event also promoted understanding and appreciation of Native peoples.

Wellness works

Skin cancer is preventable

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. The two most common types of skin cancer, basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas, are highly curable.

Skin cancer begins in cells. When the orderly process goes wrong, cells develop when the skin does not need them, thus, forming a mass of tissue or tumor.

Melanoma, the third most common skin cancer, is more dangerous, especially among young people. It is much less common than other skin cancers, but it is far more serious.

Signs and symptoms to watch for include:

• Skin — any change in the skin, especially in the size or color of a mole.
• Appearance — scaliness, oozing or change in the appearance of a bump or nodule.
• Color — spread of pigmentation such as past the edge of a mole or mark.
• Change in sensation, itchiness, tenderness or pain.

People with certain risk factors are more likely to develop skin cancer. Risk factors vary for different types of skin cancer, but some general risk factors include light skin color, a family/personal history of skin cancer, excessive sun exposure (ultraviolet rays), a history of sunburns early in life and multiple or atypical moles.

Skin cancer is preventable. The best way to lower skin cancer risk is to “choose your cover” by seeking shade from UV rays (especially during the midday), covering up to protect exposed skin, wearing a hat with a wide brim, grabbing shades that block both UVA and UVB rays and applying sunscreen of at least SPF 15 or higher and with UVA and UVB protection. For the best protection, individuals should reapply sunscreen every two hours.

For questions, contact Caren Barnett, director of the Student Health Center, at 858-3371 or caren.barnett@minot-stateu.edu.

Announcements

MSU band concert scheduled May 2

The Minot State University Concert Band slated its Spring Concert for May 2. The 7:30 p.m. performance will feature senior horn soloist Sally Podrebarac performing the Mozart Concerto N. 2 for French horn and band. In addition to a variety of excellent compositions for the Concert Band, the program will also include a trumpet and trombone duet, featuring Alan and Matt Jermiason. The concert, held in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, is free and open to the public.

For questions, contact 858-3189.

— Joe Alme, director of bands

Cinco de Mayo celebration planned

The Minot State University Spanish Club and the Office of International Programs are sponsoring a celebration of Cinco de Mayo, the traditional Mexican holiday. Come celebrate in the Quad Friday (May 4) from noon to 2 p.m. and enjoy free food and music. For more information, contact 858-4645 or bethany.stai@minotstateu.edu.

— Bethany Stai Keusch, global education coordinator

2012-13 MSU parking permits

New Minot State University parking permits for fiscal year 2012-2013 will be available for sale in May. Students may purchase residence hall or unreserved permits, starting May 8. Faculty and staff may begin to purchase permits for their assigned lots May 15. Lot assignments are made by building and are designed to minimize the average walking distance for all employees. The Parking Committee will consider any requests for exception. Bona fide medical conditions will be addressed by the Parking Committee and should be documented by a current physician’s order. Please note that unreserved passes are available only to commuter students.

Permits will be available in the parking office, located in the facilities management building. Reserved permits will be sold for $45 and unreserved permits will be sold for $35. When purchasing a parking permit, individuals should bring their license plate number, student/employee ID, and driver license. Payment must be made with cash or check.

For questions, contact 858-3210.

— Roger Kluck, assistant vice president
for facilities management
In the galleries

May 2-3 — MSU juried student art show by MSU students with juror Paul Noot, Bismarck, Hartnett Gallery.


May 9-31 — “Pioneer Pixels,” senior exhibit by art student Eric Benz, Hartnett Gallery.

The opening reception for “Pioneer Pixels” is May 11, Hartnett Gallery, 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.

Charlene Bruley, assistant professor of social work, Paul Markel, professor of psychology, and Julie Hatfield, an alumna, published their research on rural court sentencing as a predictor of re-arrest rates for domestic-violence offenders in the Journal of Rural Mental Health.

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.