

Public Information Office

A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY

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Alysia Huck chosen as MSU director of public information

Alysia Huck was named director of public information at Minot State University in December.

"Ms. Huck has an impressive background in communications, broadcasting and civic involvement and possesses a genuine commitment and understanding of the people in our community," said David Fuller, Minot State University president. "Alysia brings those abilities to our university to publicize its critical role in Minot and the region."

A Velda native, Huck received her bachelor's degree in music with a minor in speech, communication and theatre arts from Valley City State University in 2000. While living in Fairbanks, Alaska, she completed coursework toward a Master of Music degree and was a teaching assistant, teaching vocal class. She earned a professional arts certificate in broadcasting from Broadcast Center in St. Louis and worked as a regional sales manager at IMC from 2004 to 2009 and was an on-air personality for iChannel.fm, Bonneville St. Louis Radio Group, 2007-2008. In 2009, Huck returned to North Dakota, and she started as the evening weekday news anchor and producer for KXMC Television in Minot. She and her husband, Aaron, have one daughter, Ayla.



"So many great things are happening at MSU, and I am grateful and excited to be a part of it all," Huck said. "The interaction between students, staff, faculty and the community is amazing and I look forward to strengthening that communication."

For question, contact Huck at 858-3065 or alysia.huck@minotstateu.edu.

Appreciation Night slated for Friday

Special events are planned for the Alumni, Beaver Boosters and Friends Appreciation Night on Friday (Jan. 17), when MSU basketball hosts University of Minnesota-Duluth.

Since it's a "Red Out," attendees are encouraged to wear red clothing. The women's game starts at 6 p.m. in the MSU Dome, with the men's game at 8 p.m.

Postcards will admit two adults to the game; extra cards are available from the MSU alumni office, located on the third floor of the Student Center or by calling 858-3234. The special events begin at 5:30 p.m. with free food and refreshments provided until gone. Prizes will also be awarded with the chance to win \$10,000 during halftime of the men's game.

The MSU Alumni Association, the MSU Athletic Department and the Beaver Boosters sponsor the event. More information can be obtained from the alumni office.



Warrior Words: Writing workshop for veterans of any U.S. war

The Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre was recently awarded a North Dakota



Humanities Council grant to fund "Warrior Words," a monologue-writing workshop for veterans in four North Dakota cities. Conrad Davidson, College of Arts and Sciences dean, will teach the Minot workshop with the first session Feb. 4 in Hartnett Hall from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tentatively, the workshop will consist of six to eight sessions.



The workshop is open to veterans of any American war or conflict who have an interest in creating work based on their experiences as soldiers. The three other workshops will be taught by college and university professors in Grand Forks, Bismarck and Dickinson.

"We anticipate that there will be stories about sacrifice, but we also expect to see a blend of humor as well, as veterans of different generations share stories about their experiences on topics such as drill sergeants and food rations," said Kathy Coudle-King, The Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre executive director. "The workshop is a way to collect and archive the experiences of veterans living in North Dakota and to bring together service men and women from various generations to share their stories."

Each participant who creates a polished monologue will receive a stipend. They will also have the opportunity to read it aloud before an audience in their workshop city and see it performed in Grand Forks during the run of the Community Theatre's production of "The Last of the Boys," a Stephen Dietz' play about two Vietnam veterans. To enroll in the Minot workshop, veterans can contact Davidson at 858-3159 or conrad.davidson@minotstateu.edu.

MSO performs family concert Jan. 25

Scott Seaton, assistant music professor, will conduct the Minot Symphony Orchestra Jan. 25 in its family concert, "Exploring the Orchestra," in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m. The performance features Benjamin Britten's "Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra," narrated by David Fuller, Minot State University president. Minot High student Hannah Veazey is the MSO High School Soloist Competition winner and will be the featured soloist.



Fuller



Veazey

Children can arrive early for the instrument petting zoo. A lecture precedes the concert at 6:30 p.m.

MSU students, faculty and staff are admitted free with a current ID to MSO concerts. Additional tickets range from \$5 to \$25 by age and seating choice, with season ticket prices available. For more information about MSO, visit www.minotstateu.edu/symphony.

North Dakota-born author discusses 'Prairie Silence'

Wyndmere native Melanie Hoffert will read from and discuss her newly published book, "Prairie Silence: A Rural Expatriate's Journey to Reconcile Love, Home, and Faith," Jan. 27 in Aleshire Theater at 7 p.m. Her presentation is part of the Northwest Art Center lecture series.

"In North Dakota many people grow up surrounded by fields, small town churches and people they know their entire lives," Hoffert said. "Connections run as deep. This unique closeness is often complicated when one has a secret that does not seem to fit into the archetype of small town goodness."

When she realized a collection of personal reflections and journal entries had the potential to coalesce into a book, Hoffert journeyed home to spend harvest time on the family farm, revisiting the people and places of her rural upbringing. The book details this journey, and its sometimes unexpected revelation that she is gay.



Hoffert's book was published in 2013 by Beacon Press. She holds a Master of Fine Arts in creative writing from Hamline University, St. Paul, Minn. She lives in Minneapolis and is employed by Teach for America.

A question-and-answer period and informal reception will follow Hoffert's presentation. All lectures are free and open to the public. For questions, contact nac@minotstateu.edu.

Pennies for Patients underway

To combat blood cancer, Minot State University Residence Life will host Pennies for Patients, its annual fundraiser for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. As part of the fundraiser, a Penny Carnival, open to the public, is Jan. 28 in the Dome from 6 to 8 p.m.



"Last year, MSU raised \$3,852.53, but this year, we hope to raise \$5000! So, campus departments should display those buckets because the competition runs through March 8," said Camila Van Dyke, residence life coordinator. "The office raising the most money will win a pizza party!"



MSU students, faculty and staff and community members are encouraged to enjoy and participate in the Penny Carnival. Campus organizations and departments host booths, games or activities for any age. Festivities include bounce houses, face painting, ring toss and cake walks. All games will range from 25 cents to \$1. All parking lots are free and open to the public.

"Through participating in Pennies for Patients, our school joins 25,000 schools in combating blood cancer, both today by serving patients and for the future by funding research," Van Dyke said.

If an MSU office, department or organization wishes to support Pennies for Patients by displaying a poster and jar, making a donation or by hosting a booth at the Penny Carnival, contact Van Dyke at camila.vandyke@minotstateu.edu or 858-3584. Donations of pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, bills and checks (made payable to LLS) are gratefully accepted. To learn more about The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, visit its website at www.schoolandyouth.org.

15th annual KMSU Auction: a success for students

The Minot State University broadcasting program's 15th annual auction successfully raised \$14,450. This unique Dec. 5 fundraising event was organized, produced and promoted entirely by MSU students with guidance from Audra Myerchin, assistant broadcasting professor, Neil Roberts, associate communication arts professor, and Janna McKechnie and Candace Brekke, broadcasting advisors.



"The biggest challenge is always time," Myerchin confessed. "We work with students who have little or no experience with event planning, teach them the fundamentals and then watch them put it into practice. I am very proud of their work, and I am very grateful to such a supportive community who helped them realize their goals."

Ten percent of funds raised are donated to a charitable cause selected by students. This year that amount was presented to Mike Bunce to help defray medical expenses associated with his cancer treatment. Bunce, an MSU broadcasting graduate, works within the department in addition to his full-time roles at WGO and The Zoo radio stations.

"Mike's dedication and hard work within the department and his connection with the students really strengthens our commitment to him in his fight with cancer," Myerchin said. "He really makes an impact in their lives, and they really wanted to do something to make a difference for him."

New faculty and staff aboard

Minot State University welcomes Melody Brown, Jordan Dash, Minh Doan, Aundrey Livingston Sr. and Tricia Tessendorf.

Brown, a Minot Infant Development Program early interventionist, completed a bachelor's degree in education from MSU and a master's degree in administration from Central Michigan University. Previously, she worked for Minot's MLT Vacations.

Dash, who recently moved from Oklahoma to Minot, is a security guard. He holds an associate degree from Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla., and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Northern State University, Tahlequah, Okla. Before MSU, he worked at the Muskogee Juvenile Detention Center. He is a mixed martial arts trainer.

Doan is a visiting professor in the Department of Business Administration. She received her master's degree and doctorate in marketing from Dauphine University in Paris. As hobbies, she likes reading and traveling. She and her husband have two children.

Livingston, campus security guard, received his associate degree in criminal justice from the Community College of the Air Force. His previous employer was Chenega Integrated Systems on Minot Air Force Base. He and his wife, Yolanda, have four children. Two are MSU alumnae, and one attends MSU.

Tessendorf is the student accounts manager in the Business Office. Previously employed by Ward County, she completed her bachelor's degree in accounting at Minot State. She has two daughters, and one attends MSU.



Dash Doan



Livingston Tessendorf

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.

Ann Beste-Guldborg, assistant communication disorders professor, recently presented findings from her research on public attitudes toward stuttering, "Attitudes of Teachers toward Stuttering" at the American Speech Language Hearing Association Schools Conference in Long Beach, Calif., and "Attitudes of Selected Helping Professions toward Stuttering" at the International Stuttering Research Symposium in Morgantown, W.Va. She was invited to contribute these research findings to a book in publication, "Research on Public Attitudes toward Stuttering," edited by Kenneth St. Louis, speech-language pathology professor, at the University of West Virginia.

Beste-Guldborg and **Kristina Mader**, a communication disorders student, also presented a session, "Shared Book Reading: Helping Parents Promote Children's Language and Literacy Development," at the ASHA Schools Conference in Long Beach, Calif.

Beste-Guldborg recently presented three poster sessions at the ASHA annual convention in Chicago. The presentations were "What is a Language Disorder? Perceptions of the General Public," "The Grammatical Skills of Communication Disorders Students" and "A First Look at Perceptions of Pacific Northwest and Southwestern Indians toward Stuttering."

Beste-Guldborg and several colleagues across the world recently published an article in the Journal of Fluency Disorders titled "Stuttering attitudes of students: Professional, intracultural, and international comparisons."

John Girard, management professor, is a monthly columnist with Prairie Business magazine. His monthly segment, Management Matters, will provide words of advice specifically for regional business leaders. His first column, "Thinking beyond the next quarter," appeared in Prairie Business Magazine's January issue and is also available online at www.prairiebizmag.com/event/article/id/17225/.

Girard delivered the keynote address, "Social Knowledge: Are you ready for the future?" Jan. 3 at The Clute Institute International Academic Conference, Orlando, Fla. He delivered a talk titled "Empowering Knowledge Workers in the Arab World" Dec. 26 at Dubai Courts. He also facilitated a workshop, "The Professional Manager: Tools, Tactics and Techniques for Success," in Muscat, Oman, Dec. 29-31. Girard also co-authored a book with his wife, JoAnn, "Tips for Two: Tales of a Globetrotting Couple."

Guy Hanley, assistant science professor, and Robert Gordon, professor emeritus, Smithsonian Institution, completed a revision of the Scarab beetle genus *Glaresis*, which was published Jan. 10 in the international insect systematics journal *Insecta Mundi*. Their paper revises 35 species, 19 of which are newly named and described, and covers the entire Western Hemisphere fauna. The paper is at http://centerforsystematicentomology.org/default.asp?action=show_pubs&id=insecta_new.

Kathy Hintz, assistant education professor, published "Lessons from a disaster on the Great Plains" in the December/January issue of *Phi Delta Kappan*, a journal for teachers and administrators. The article describes how schools dealt with temporary quarters for two years in the aftermath of the 2011 Mouse River flood.

Mehmet Koseoglu, visiting professor in the College of Business, published a paper, "How does the Pattern of Business Ethics Develop in Strategic Management Literature? A Study on Academic Research in Turkey," in the May 2013 *Turkish Journal of Business Ethics*.

Cheryl Nilsen, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science chair, was the state chair for the North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board teacher education program approval team at the University of Mary in November. **Warren Gamas**, Department of Teacher Education and Human Performance chair, also participated on the team. **Neil Nordquist**, College of Education and Health Sciences dean, served as the state consultant representing ESPB.

Minot State University's **North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities** and the Institute on Community Integration at the University of Minnesota hosted a Midwest regional meeting of University Centers of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities and Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disorders programs in Minneapolis, Dec. 12-13. **Brent Askvig**, NDCPD executive director, and **Lori Garnes**, NDCPD associate director, represented MSU.

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.

Be seen. Be heard.