

**Public Information Office**

**A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**Alumni Association plans Centennial Gala**

The 31st annual Gala Dinner and Auction will commemorate Minot State University's Centennial Friday (April 25) at Minot's Holiday Inn-Riverside. The social and auction preview begin at 5:30 p.m., and the gourmet dinner is served at 6:45 p.m. Attire for this sold-out event is semi-formal.

Jan and Chuck Repnow, MSU alumni, have donated several items, most of which they handcrafted from vintage McFarland fabric: a gold moiré purse, a chair upholstered in burgundy velvet, a mahogany jewelry box with a purple violet, the flower of the Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority and an accent table topper featuring four of the McFarland fabrics. Their daughter, Lydia, donated a McFarland keepsake with a grand piano embroidered upon it.

*Gala*  
*Dinner and Auction*

**Honor Dance: accomplishments and reconnecting**

Native American dancers and drum groups will compete during the 25th annual Native American Spring Honor Dance and Powwow Celebration Friday and Saturday (April 25-26). One of the largest student activities on campus, the powwow includes the acknowledgement of achievements, competitive dancing, vendor and information booths and food.

This event, sponsored by the Native American Cultural Awareness Club and the university, will honor all 2014 graduates. Seventeen Native American students are graduating from MSU this year.

"We want Minot State's many Native American alumni from all parts of the country to join us in celebrating the university's 100 Birthday, the Native American Cultural Awareness Club's 25th annual powwow and the 2014 graduates and to say farewell to President David Fuller, a strong supporter of Native students," said Annette Mennem, Native American Center director and NACAC advisor. "Alumni, come out Saturday for the 7 p.m. Grand Entry and honoring. We have a gift for you, so be sure to check in at the information table."

The Yellow Bird Indian Dancers, internationally renowned champion dancers, will perform Friday (April 25) at 10:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. To learn more about them, visit [www.yellowbirdproductions.com](http://www.yellowbirdproductions.com).

To further honor the graduates and their families, a free buffalo meal will be served that evening in the Student Center at 5 p.m. The Standing Rock Sioux Game and Fish Department donated the buffalo.



Both days feature performances, dance competitions and the sale of Native American arts, crafts and food. Registration begins at 10 a.m. and food booths open at 11 a.m. each day. Grand Entries, the time when all of the dancers enter the arena, are scheduled for 1 and 7 p.m. each day.



A Crow special honoring for MSU President Fuller and his wife, Nancy, follows the 7 p.m. Grand Entry on Saturday (April 26). Doreen Lyons, Irene Stevenson and their family are hosting the special honoring. There will be men's and women's Crow style dance contest. President and Mrs. Fuller will take lead to start off the MSU diversity leaders roundance.

The Honor Parade, in which all 2014 MSU graduates are invited to participate, follows the honoring of the Fullers at 8 p.m.

Dance competitions will be held for adults, men, women, teens, juniors and tiny tots. The competition for men includes traditional, grass and fancy dancing. Women's dance competitions include traditional, fancy and jingle styles. Cash prizes will be awarded.

Admission to the Spring Honor Dance and Powwow Celebration is \$3 for ages 12-55; it is free to children under 12, senior citizens and MSU students, faculty and staff.

In addition to MSU and the Standing Rock Game and Fish Department, the Three Affiliated Tribes' business council, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, Four Bears Casino, Prairie Knights Casino, Spirit Lake Casino, families of club members and Visit Minot provided support for the event. For more information, contact Mennem, at 858-3365 or [annette.mennem@minotstateu.edu](mailto:annette.mennem@minotstateu.edu).

### **SSWO symposium advocates for creating just and inclusive community services**

Minot State University's Student Social Work Organization will sponsor "Beyond Cultural Competence: Skills for Creating More Just and Inclusive Community Services" Friday (April 25) in the Conference Center (Student Center, third floor), 8 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Phyllis May-Machunda and Amy Phillips will be presenters.

"SSWO is proud to present its annual spring symposium. Amy Phillips and Phyllis May-Machunda will discuss the issue of overcoming oppression by using a multicultural framework for helping professionals," said Kelly Knudson, SSWO president.



*May-Machunda*

May-Machunda is a professor and former chair of the American Multicultural Studies Department at Minnesota State University Moorhead. Trained as a folklorist and public humanities scholar of African-American studies, American multicultural studies and social justice, she has over 25 years of professional experience in areas of multicultural and anti-oppressive education. She seeks to infuse anti-oppressive multicultural knowledge and practices into the curricula of schools, human services and workplaces to provide practitioners in those areas skills and tools to create and support socially just and fully inclusive environments.

Phillips, associate professor of social work at MSU's Fargo site, has been a social worker for 24 years. She started her career in children and family services as a home-based crisis intervention worker and moved into program development and administration. She has an interest in the use of social work knowledge, values and skills to make change at the organizational and community levels, particularly as that change relates to dismantling institutional and systemic forms of oppression.

Conference participants will look at oppression from a multicultural framework of how it impacts practice and how participants can transform their practice and move beyond just awareness. They will also engage in active learning to increase cultural competence and move beyond understanding to integration.

The conference is recommended for social workers, educators, case managers, medical staff, law enforcement officers, counselors, psychologists and nurses. MSU students, faculty and staff can attend at no cost.

For more information about the symposium, go to [www.minotstateu.edu/socialwork/pdf/SpringSymposium2014.pdf](http://www.minotstateu.edu/socialwork/pdf/SpringSymposium2014.pdf). For questions, contact Dionne Spooner, SSWO advisor, at [dionne.l.spooner@minotstateu.edu](mailto:dionne.l.spooner@minotstateu.edu).

### **MSO ends season with 'Evening at the Movies'**

The Minot Symphony Orchestra wraps up its 88th season, "Symphonic Colors," Saturday (April 26) with the pops concert, "Evening at the Movies." The concert, directed by Maestro Scott Seaton, will begin in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall at 7:30 p.m.

MSO will pay tribute to members of the Armed Forces, followed by a solo by Abbie Naze, MSU concerto competition winner. To conclude this season, MSO will then take the audience on a tour of great movie themes.



Ticket prices for adults are \$20 main floor and \$25 balcony; senior citizen is \$15 main floor and \$20

balcony; students 12-18, \$10; children, \$5. Symphony patrons are invited to join Erik Anderson, music associate professor, for a 6:30 p.m. preconcert lecture for an inside look at the symphony program. For more information about MSO, visit [www.minotstateu.edu/symphony/](http://www.minotstateu.edu/symphony/).

### **Conquest of Mexico revisited in 'Indian Conquistadors'**

Bradley Benton, assistant professor of history at North Dakota State University, will re-examine the conquest of Mexico Monday (April 28) in Aleshire Theater at 7 p.m., as part of the Northwest Art Center lecture series. His presentation, "Indian Conquistadors: Native Peoples' Participation in the Conquest of Mexico," offers new interpretations.



"Historians long believed — and popular representations continue to suggest — that the Spaniards conquered Mexico with brilliant military strategy, skill in fighting and superior technology," Benton said in a summary of his presentation. "We now know, however, that the story of the fall of Tenochtitlan is much more complicated, and that it could not have happened without the aid of native peoples themselves."

A question-and-answer period and informal reception will follow Benton's presentation. All lectures are free and open to the public. For questions, contact [nac@minotstateu.edu](mailto:nac@minotstateu.edu).

### **Minot State names Vision 2013 Merit Award recipients**

Minot State University announced Vision 2013 Award recipients. Award winners, who are faculty and staff members, demonstrated a strong commitment to advancing the university toward its Vision 2013 goals and specific objectives.

The recipients are Sarah Aleshire, English and humanities; Bethany Andreasen, social science; Lindsey Benson, financial aid; William Chew, facilities management; Terry Eckmann, teacher education and human performance; Heather Golly, teacher education and human performance; Kevin Harmon, enrollment services; Tim Healy, athletics; Pam Hopkins, Veterans Center; David Iversen, library; Jynette Larshus, social sciences; Lesley Magnus, communication disorders; Devin McCall, student affairs; Scott Seaton, music; Ryan Stander, art; Narayan Thapa, mathematics; Jonathan Wagner, history; Robin Wagner, Business Office; Doreen Wald, publication and design services; and George Withus, information technology.

The selection committee, made up of four vice presidents and the athletic director, reviewed 40 nominations.

### **Maypole Celebration revived**

To commemorate Minot State University's Centennial, the "Les Salute," "Maypole" and "Mix It Up" dances will be performed by Minot State students in colorful Maypole style May 1 in the Old Main ellipse at 2 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the event will move to the Dome.



The first Maypole celebration was held in May of 1915. Arthur Crane, MSU's first president, presided over the festival which welcomed spring. A Centennial tree planting ceremony will follow the dances.

### **Minot State has Women of Distinction**

At the YWCA Women of Distinction Banquet April 11, the honorees included Minot State University alumnae, a student, a retired faculty member and the campus pastor.

This year's Women of Distinction winners are MSU alumnae Sue Hendrickson for rural, McLean County; Linda Johnson for businesswoman; and Jacqueline Thomas, professional; student Elizabeth Ryan for young woman of today and tomorrow; retired faculty member Sandra Starr for the Yvonne Schultz lifetime achievement award; and campus pastor Pastor Kari Williamson for faith community.

Annually, this banquet honors women for their achievements and contributions to the community, as well as businesses and agencies committed to the empowerment of women. The Minot YWCA provides a safe environment to women and children in crisis.

### **New faculty and staff aboard**

Minot State University welcomes Kent "Doug" McHenry and Thomas Pearson.

McHenry is a business analyst in the Business Office. He joins MSU after working for Workforce Safety and Insurance in Bismarck. He holds a bachelor's degree in accounting and business administration from Dickinson State University. He and his wife, Michelle, have two children, Kaitlin and Kale.



*McHenry*

Pearson, a custodian for the Office of Facilities Management, was previously employed at Minot's Sleep Inn and Suites. A past military member, he enjoys the sports of baseball, football and bowling.

#### **In the galleries**

April 23-30 — "White Rabbit Memories and More" by Lydia Richez-Bowman, Bismarck, Library Gallery.

April 24-May 8 — MSU Juried Student Art Show with juror Jim Park, Moorhead, Minn., Hartnett Gallery.

The MSU Juried Student Art Show public reception will be Friday (April 25), 6:30-8 p.m. Juror comments and awards will be made at 7 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.*

**Stephen Banister**, library director, was recently elected incoming North Dakota Library Association president at its annual conference in Sioux Falls, S.D. His term starts in fall 2014 and runs to fall 2015. Active since 1906, NDLA offers continuing education opportunities and supports education and professional development. It also advocates for literacy and promotes intellectual freedom, responding to incidents, where reading and information access are threatened.

**Kathy Hintz**, education assistant professor, had her article, "A Better Vision of What Social Studies Can Be: How Elementary Teachers' Philosophies Influence their Use of the 'History Alive!' Textbook," published in Theory and Research in Social Education in the March 2014 issue.

Hintz, teacher education assistant professor, and **Holly Pedersen**, special education assistant professor, attended the Conference for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation Spring Conference March 20-21 in Nashville, Tenn., as part of MSU's teacher education unit's CAEP accreditation process.

Pedersen and Cory Maclver, a local parent, presented "The Power of a Story" at the annual Pathfinders Family Involvement Conference in Minot, April 10-12. **Jennifer Hefter** and **Barb Johnson**, special education, presented "Capturing the Positive," and **Kristina Thunberg**, graduate student in special education and in communication disorders, presented "Shared Book Reading: Parents Promoting Language & Literacy Development" with **Ann Beste-Guldborg**, communication disorders.

**Frank Renick**, MSU special education graduate student, was awarded a \$500 grant from the Georgia Council for Exceptional Children to investigate the use of technology to improve the expressive language of students who are deaf/hard of hearing in the classroom.

#### **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.**