



Minot State
UNIVERSITY

Be seen. Be heard.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

VISION



Core values are deeply imbedded in the minds of the people who serve and sustain the institution and are readily recognized and appreciated by those served by the institution. Planning for the future depends on the affirmation of Minot State University's core values and core purpose. Minot State University is built upon a commitment to students, learning, service, cooperation and upon a respect for people and place.

Core Values

MSU cares deeply about its students, their learning and their growth. The university is proud of its values and long-term commitment to:

- Teaching and learning with excellence, integrity and engagement
- Serving students and others respectfully and responsibly
- Following high ethical and moral principles
- Supporting the values of community and place, where all community members are valued and respected for their work, contributions and freedom of expression.

Core Purpose

Minot State University helps people appreciate life and learning and contribute meaningfully to the lives of others.

Pride...

I am proud to share with you a copy of the President's Report and to highlight examples of the fine work and achievements of our faculty, staff and students at our university.

Vision 2013 makes clear our commitment to our students, to effective learning, responsible and meaningful service to our campus and community and finally to our role contributing to the welfare of the common good, the people and our place. What you will read in the following pages is not a list of lofty goals but proof that we are meeting our goals and continuing to raise the bar in our classrooms, across campus and throughout our community. Take a look, and I'm sure you'll be as proud as I am about the work of your university.

A campus is only as strong as its teaching and learning. A university should be measured by the extent to which its students learn and its graduates succeed. The measure of this success depends on the quality and rigor of its academic programs, the quality of its faculty training and their continued learning and research and the quality of the support and care provided to the students. Take a look at the story on our new major in bioinformatics, our new master's programs in developmental disabilities and our innovative interdisciplinary major, Studies in the Community and the Environment. You'll see a record of developing responsive academic programs for the 21st Century. Our new Great Plains Center for Community Research and Service coordinates the work of faculty, staff and students to address rural problems and development. Just recently the Great Plains center provided the research and service support to the Minot Area Community Foundation to conduct research into the extent of the flood damage in Minot. The GPCCRS also created and distributed a survey to seek information for the Minot Public Schools on the public's views on repairing and replacing schools destroyed in the 2011 flood.

Our faculty research as well demonstrates this commitment to excellence and learning. The work of our computer science faculty has guided our student Robotics Club to earn first place in the Penn State Abington robot



contest. Our biology professor Alexey Shipunov is another faculty member who is active in cutting-edge research. He has conducted field-based research in Honduras, where he discovered a plant thought to be nearly extinct. He is now working on a plan to collect and study plants in our own Ward County. He involves students in his research and field studies.

Our athletic programs have stepped up to meet the challenges of our move to NCAA Division II. The DII theme of "Life in a Balance" is well reflected by the balance of our fine academic and athletic programs. This is a big move for us, and we are positioned well to participate in this premier league.

With all that was going on at our campus, a devastating flood hit the city of Minot and the surrounding areas this summer. The faculty, staff and students rallied in big ways to help others impacted by the flood. We have been particularly concerned about the 120 faculty and staff and their families who experienced flood losses, as well as the displaced students. We have demonstrated in big ways our commitment to helping others. For the selfless work to help with the flood and with the countless achievements our campus continues to realize, all of us can be exceptionally proud of Minot State University. I certainly am.

— DAVID FULLER
President

ACADEMICS

Bioinformatics and computational biology will blend several disciplines

Minot State is offering a new major in the burgeoning fields of bioinformatics and computational biology.

Bioinformatics combines biology, computer science and information technology in order to handle the deluge of new biological information produced in recent decades.

Bioinformatics creates huge databases to store biological information, while computational biology analyzes the material in those databases.

Jobs in bioinformatics have grown at a double-digit rate over the past decade with the trend expected to continue. MSU will be the only school in a five-state region to offer a degree in the field.

MSU possesses the faculty expertise and state-of-the-art facilities needed to launch the new program.

Biology professors Paul Lepp and Bryan Schmidt and computer science professor Stephen Hayton all have done research in the field.

The presence of a real-time thermocycler and a DNA microarrayer places MSU's Biology Department on the cutting edge of bioinformatics research.

The new major will require 62 credits of core courses in the fields of biology, chemistry, mathematics and computer science. The degree will be offered on campus, with some courses available online.

The new program has the potential to foster a bioinformatics industry within the state.



Studies in Community and Environment will focus on issues

Employing an interdisciplinary approach, Studies in Community and Environment will address community and environmental problems. A new major at MSU, its experiential learning projects will involve students, faculty and community members.

The program will prepare students for careers in the environmental sciences, law, public health, public policy, public administration, corporate management, nonprofit organizations, journalism and fine arts. It also will prepare students for graduate studies in such fields as environmental policy, social science, science and fine arts.

John Lemons is the director of the SCE program. He was most recently professor emeritus of biology and environmental science at the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine, where he taught from 1987 to 2009. He served as editor-in-chief of the official journal of the National Association of Environmental Professionals from 1990 to 1995.

The SCE program is the only one of its kind in North Dakota.

Graduate education offers new degree in Developmental Disabilities and Autism

The Special Education Department is offering a new master's degree in developmental disabilities and autism spectrum disorders.

Degree recipients serve people with autism spectrum disorders, intellectual impairments and physical disabilities. The program is suited for allied health professionals, human service professionals, teachers and medical professionals.

Courses are delivered online with web-based interactive options. The program includes a summer residency, consisting of hands-on assessment practices and interagency collaborations for people with DD/ASD.

The program includes coursework in assessment, behavior management, program development, program implementation, provisions of physical care, rehabilitative techniques, assistive technology, alternative systems of communication, social skills training, team collaboration and various planning models for people with the disabilities throughout their lifespan.

Students may choose an oral or written examination in place of a thesis. The program accommodates students with different undergraduate backgrounds.

MSU think tank is off to a fast start

The Great Plains Center for Community Research and Service has shifted into high gear in its first year. Established in 2010, the center's goal is to strengthen the quality of life in rural North Dakota.

The GPCCRS combines research and community development functions. Local communities first identify critical problems. Then center staff, MSU students and faculty research the issues, identify solutions and implement action plans.

GPCCRS co-directors are Paul Markel, MSU psychology professor, and Neil Scharpe, North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities, research associate.

GPCCRS is currently involved in several projects.

The center completed the first-ever study on wages and benefits among nonprofit organizations in the state. It surveyed 133 nonprofits in the spring of 2011 in cooperation with the North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations.

The center also hosted the Northwest Rural Consortium in September. Community leaders from 14 counties in northwest North Dakota came to MSU to listen to experts on a variety of rural topics, such as land use planning and zoning, tourism and marketing, youth development, community development and beautification.

GPCCRS partnered with the Minot Area Community Foundation to gather information from victims of the Mouse River flood. They created a map using geographic information system technology to display the data on flood-affected residences. The information will be used to distribute monies from the foundation's flood recovery fund.

The center also sponsored Flora of N.D., a summer research program designed to identify and catalogue indigenous and invasive plant species in the state. MSU biology professor Alexey Shipunov supervised the project. Two students made 25 excursions to collect flora in the state.

In the Digital Minot project, students in Professor Bethany Andreasen's history class are researching the history of Minot and Minot State University. They are constructing web-based presentations that will be permanently accessible to the wider community.

The Dakota Chamber Music Scholars project encourages student musicians to share their love of chamber music in informative outreach performances in the state's rural communities. MSU music professors Erik Anderson and Jon Rumney are overseeing the project.

GPCCRS is located in Memorial Hall on the Minot State University campus.

MSU students to receive POWER infusion

TRiO Student Support Services changed its name to the POWER Center. POWER stands for Providing Opportunities With Enhanced Resources.

To qualify for POWER Center support, a student must be a United States citizen, full-time student and candidate for a first undergraduate degree. In addition, a student must meet at least one of the following three criteria: be a first-generation college student, be income eligible or have a disability.

Students enrolled in the POWER Center benefit from priority registration, tutoring, mentoring, supplemental instruction and behind-the-scenes tours.

The center offered a POWER Week for the first time this summer. Nineteen students moved into residence halls and spent five days on campus prior to the start of the fall semester. They learned firsthand what MSU and the city of Minot had to offer.

“It diminishes students’ fears and anxieties that accompany their first weeks of college,” said Tiffany Fylling, the POWER Center’s learning skills specialist.

The center is also planning a Spring Break adventure for 10 to 15 upper-level students. The POWER trip will explore graduate school options, career opportunities and cultural programs in the state and region. Students will also participate in a service project.

The POWER Center and MSU’s Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning are piloting a supplemental instruction program this fall. Supplemental instruction targets high-risk courses rather than high-risk students. These courses have historically had high failure and withdrawal rates for large numbers of students.

The program utilizes peer-assisted study sessions. Students in targeted courses compare notes, discuss readings, develop organizational tools and predict test items. They learn how to integrate study skills with course content. The sessions are facilitated by students who have previously done well in the course. Classes currently offering supplemental instruction are math and psychology.

Research shows that students who participate in the program earn higher grades, withdraw at a lower rate and persist at a higher rate than students who do not participate.

The TRiO program was established under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. More than 1,000 schools offer TRiO programs in the United States. The POWER Center is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

The POWER Center is located on the second floor of the MSU Student Center.



North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities at MSU

MISSION — *To provide leadership and innovation that advances the state of the art and empowers people with disabilities to challenge expectations, achieve personal goals and be included in all aspects of community life.*

This year marked the 20th anniversary of the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities. Located at Minot State University, NDCPD is a federally recognized center of excellence in developmental disabilities education, training, research and service. Nearly 100 NDCPD staff worked with federal, regional, state and local programs to assure that its mission was accomplished. This work allowed NDCPD to obtain over \$8 million in grants, contracts and fee-for-service funds during the 2010-11 fiscal period. A few of these sponsored programs include:

Community Training

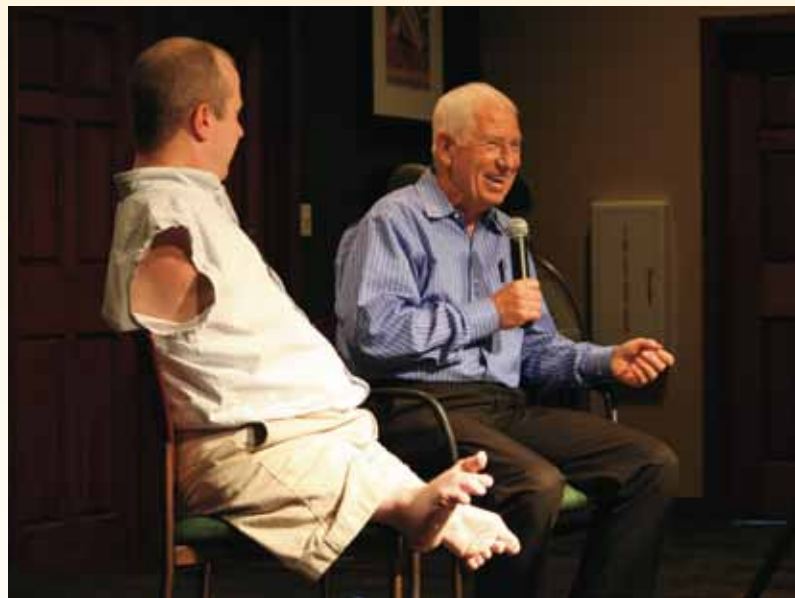
NDCPD provided over 38,000 hours of community education to over 17,000 participants. Topics included education, child care, health, employment, transportation and assistive technology for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Research

NDCPD staff conducted research to improve the lives of people with disabilities. One study focused on development techniques to assist individuals with intellectual disabilities in learning to use a cell phone. Data shows that the individuals did learn to use a cell phone and that they increased their social contacts, sense of empowerment and attendance at social events.

Community Service

Early intervention programs and supports for children with autism spectrum disorders were the key points in community service at NDCPD. Staff provided assessment and early intervention services to nearly 150 families of infants and toddlers with disabilities. This was accomplished through a network of home visitors in the Minot Infant Development Program. Also, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention program supported all North Dakota birthing hospitals, so that nearly every baby in the state had a hearing-screening test before leaving the hospital. In addition, NDCPD staff provided six statewide diagnostic clinics and numerous follow-up home and school visits that supported families and children with ASD.



RESEARCH

MSU Robotics Club wins East Coast competition

They left with trepidation and doubt, but they returned as champions.

The Minot State University Robotics Club won first place in the Penn State Abington Mini Grand Challenge robot contest, held in April in Abington, Pa.

MSU professors Larry Atwood and Scott Kast, four students and robot contestants Einstein and Navigator drove 1,700 miles over two days to participate in the competition, which entailed a half-mile journey across a suburban campus.

The journey didn't start there, though; it actually began in January.

"We began preparing for this competition around Jan. 15," Atwood said, "but we really could have used another month. That would have allowed us time to practice outside and on grass."

Started in 2005, the contest challenges robots to navigate paths through the campus of Penn State Abington College, avoiding obstacles and tackling off-road detours, all without communication or remote control. The robots must also transport a gallon of water to display payload capabilities as well as "entertain" spectators. Only one robot to date has successfully completed the entire course.

"The Penn State path was asphalt, and there was no snow on the ground, unlike here, which made it hard to prepare for," Kast said.

The path also had green grass, wood chips, rocks, cones, a lake, a bridge and people periodically jumping out in front of the robots, testing their ability to recognize unanticipated obstacles.

"They also used shorter cones than what we used in practice," Atwood added.

The objective of the contest is to promote advances in engineering design, computer technologies, artificial intelligence and robotics education. This year, six schools and a team of engineers competed.



"I was feeling confident until two days before our park trial," Kast said. "Up until then, we had practiced inside on carpet and cardboard trails and thought our (software) code for the path was doing great."

After the first outdoor trial, Kast realized they had a lot of adjusting to do. In addition to coded computer software, the team utilized cameras, compass, sonar and GPS to determine the final destination. They also used online pictures to analyze the campus path.

"This is very much a team effort," Atwood said.

The advanced robotics class at MSU includes building robots and writing computer code to interpret images and ground surface, detect objects, avoid obstacles, travel an intended path and stop at the end. Atwood and Kast have taught the class for five years.

"Larry suggested we go early to practice on the course, which was a good idea," Kast said. "The second-place robot made it down a hill, but when someone jumped in front of it, it turned to face a building and then never moved again. We were able to change our code to avoid that."

When MSU took its turn on the course, Navigator had technical difficulties with its sonar and shut off, which eliminated it from the competition. That left Einstein to win the day, securing first place, a trophy and a \$500 prize.

Even though MSU won, Atwood was disappointed because the team wanted to complete the course during the competition. Ironically, Navigator traversed the entire course over its next two unofficial runs.

Kast said it would be fun to attend again next year.

"We had the most sophisticated robots there," Atwood said.



Seeds of discovery in an unlikely place

When one thinks of Moscow, images of cathedrals with onion-like cupolas, large factories bellowing smoke, crowded railway stations, freight yards and 10 million people come to mind. And yet as a young boy growing up there, Alexey Shipunov nurtured a love of plants.

“I have been interested in plants since the sixth grade,” the MSU biology professor said. “I have always been amazed by the different classifications and aesthetics of plants and how beautiful they are.”

As a biology student at Moscow State University, Shipunov learned the intricacies of botanical work, and it landed him a fellowship at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in London. Shipunov worked under Mark Chase, a leading botanist in plant DNA research. The Russian explored, documented and studied orchid diversity.

To date, representatives of almost all families of flowering plants have been studied and classified according to their molecular structure. There remained an exception: *Haptanthus hazlettii*, a Central American tree. It was discovered, nearly by accident, in 1980 and described as a new genus and species in 1989. Only two specimens of *H. hazlettii* existed, but attempts to extract DNA failed. Five expeditions were organized to collect the plant, but they brought no results. Consequently, the plant was considered “likely extinct.” This was the stuff of a botanical Sherlock Holmes novel.

Reading about the *H. hazlettii* mystery 30 years ago piqued Shipunov’s curiosity. In February 2010, he decided to do something about it.

“Why not go to Honduras?” he thought.

It was a bold idea, since Shipunov’s field experience included only arctic and temperate climates. With only two months to prepare, he consulted with experts about supplies he’d need, researched tropical diseases, endured a multitude of inoculations and viewed aerial maps to determine where the remains of the tropical forest were located. In April 2010, he organized a small expedition and traveled to northern Honduras in search of *H. hazlettii*.

For five days, the group stayed in tents by a river, without electricity or running water, and spent their days in the rain forest scouting through binoculars for “something unusual.” It was difficult trying to differentiate between many plants with similar foliage. However, on their last day in the forest, on a steep slope across the river, they spotted their prize: the branch of an *H. hazlettii*.

“It was the most exciting thing in my life,” Shipunov said. “I hoped but did not expect to find the *Haptanthus*. At best, I thought I might be able to provide exploration information for future expeditions.”

Shipunov’s work was recently published in the *American Journal of Botany*. With the help of his GPS coordinates, six additional *H. hazlettii* plants have been discovered, and it is no longer considered extinct. DNA analysis shows it is related to the present-day boxwood shrub family, which originated in the Cretaceous era, 120 million years ago. It was also discovered that *H. hazlettii* contains several bioactive compounds that could prove useful in pharmaceutical research.



More research is still needed to clarify flower structure, insect pollination and fruit production. But as questions unfold, the answers are within reach.

Shipunov’s next adventure is to collect and catalog plants in Ward County and the Turtle Mountains. This time his accommodations will include modern amenities, such as electricity and indoor plumbing.

Student researchers visit Harvard

MSU students presented a research paper at an interdisciplinary conference at Harvard University in May.

Anthony Anderson, finance, Ethan Fritel, energy economics and finance, and Aaron Cummings, international business, wrote “The Meaning of Working in China, Russia, the United States and the United Kingdom” over the spring semester.

The topic involves a field of industrial organization psychology called “the meaning of working.” It studies the underlying motives that drive people to seek employment.

The paper dealt with these socioeconomic forces and their impact in four culturally different nations. The team conducted a meta-analysis using data from the United States, United Kingdom, Russia and China.

The paper was accepted for presentation at the annual conference of the *International Journal of Arts & Sciences*, held at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass.

Anderson and Fritel traveled there to present their work. They were the only undergraduate students in attendance. Students, researchers and educators from around the globe attended the conference.

“It was just a stellar experience,” Anderson said. “We were so thrilled to get to visit with others about our work and see what others were working on.”

SERVICE

MSU responds to Mouse River flood

Minot State University supported flood recovery

This summer witnessed hundreds of people working selflessly toward Minot's recovery and Minot State supporting them in the remarkable endeavor. The Dome housed a Red Cross emergency center, while the Administration Building hosted the Small Business Administration and Federal Emergency Management Agency. More than 600 National Guard troops and other emergency workers stayed in residence halls. Approximately 120 MSU faculty and staff had houses affected by flooding, and continue to face immense personal challenges.

MSU Flood Families Fund established

The MSU Development Foundation instituted a fund to help the 120 MSU faculty and staff displaced by flooding. Gifts, large or small, to help these members of the MSU family during this trying time can be mailed to: MSU Flood Families, Minot State University, 500 University Avenue W., Minot, N.D. 58707, or given online at www.minotstateu.edu/alumni.shtml.

Minot State in good shape

Due to the dedication and vigilance of facilities management staff, MSU's campus, buildings and classrooms survived the flood. Faculty and staff worked hard to prepare for the start of classes in August and the many activities scheduled for fall semester. More than 100 beds for on-campus housing were added, and the freshman on-campus housing policy was suspended to allow Minot-area first-year students to live at home. The new Beaver Lodge, located on the west side of campus, offered living space for an additional 100 students.

Anderson hired as ombudsman

Rob Anderson started July 25 as special assistant to the president to resolve issues arising from the 2011 Mouse River flood. Anderson assumes various roles, such as representative, liaison and advocate to resolve matters affecting faculty, staff and students. The New Rockford native is a retired Minot Public Schools art teacher and is currently an adjunct art professor at MSU. He is also a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Anderson's role will continue as long as the need remains.

Veterans Center director's daughter organizes clothing drive for displaced military and veterans

When David Klassy, MSU Veterans Center director, and his wife, Donita, returned from visiting their daughter Misty Lundgren in Auburndale, Wis., they brought back a 6-by-12-foot trailer packed with clothes and blankets. Through St. John's Lutheran Church, Lundgren organized a clothing drive for the families of military members and veterans displaced by the Minot flood. In July, Klassy delivered the donated items to the Airmen and Family Readiness Center at Minot Air Force Base.



Youngest Little Rock Nine member speaks at MSU

In February, the Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning along with the MSU Diversity Committee sponsored an evening of education and awareness, presented by Congressional Gold Medal recipient Carlotta Walls LaNier.

In 1957, at age 14, LaNier was the youngest Little Rock Nine member to integrate Little Rock (Ark.) Central High School. This act of courage and defiance became the catalyst for change within the American education system. Inspired by Rosa Parks, a civil rights activist, and possessed of a desire to get the best education available, LaNier enrolled in the high school.

Anger and violence threatened the Nine's safety and motivated President Dwight D. Eisenhower to dispatch the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division to protect their constitutional rights. LaNier graduated from Central High in 1960, the first African-American female to do so. She later graduated from Colorado State College, now the University of Northern Colorado, in Greeley.

LaNier serves as president of the Little Rock Nine Foundation, a scholarship organization dedicated to ensuring equal access to education. President Bill Clinton awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the nation's highest civilian award, to The Little Rock Nine in 1999.

A sought-after lecturer, LaNier visited MSU during a promotional tour for her first book, "A Mighty Long Way: My Journey to Justice of Little Rock Central High School." This gripping memoir offers an inside look at the most famous school integration case in American history and the courage and faith required for the Nine to survive it all.



NSSLHA spring conference focuses on cultural competence

Minot State University's chapter of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association held its 2011 spring conference in March. Keynote speaker Li-Rong Lilly Cheng presented "A Quest for Cultural Competence."

"All speech-language-hearing professionals work in a culturally diverse environment," Cheng said. "Some work in bilingual settings, and others work with individuals with diverse linguistic and cultural background. There is an increasing need for us to gain cultural competence. The purpose of my presentation is to provide the necessary steps to acquire cultural competence and the strategies to conduct culturally appropriate assessment and intervention."

The conference was intended for speech-language pathologists, educators, university faculty, students and others interested in cultural competence. Over 150 people attended the event.

Testing the Value of Touch

In 2005, Paul Markel, professor of psychology, gave a presentation at the American Speech Language and Hearing Association conference about an alternative form of communication he had created called "Tap Talk." Tap Talk assigns letters of the alphabet to points on one's fingers, and, much like sign language or Braille, words are spelled using the letters. But unlike sign language, Tap Talk uses touch, not sight, to communicate and unlike Braille, two people can carry on conversations using it in situations where sight or hearing is hampered. In addition, a basic proficiency in Tap Talk can be gained with about an hour of practice.

As far as presentations go, Markel felt his was solid. But on his way back to the hotel, he overheard two women on the shuttle practicing the alphabet on their hands, as they discussed a unique presentation they had attended. Markel knew then he had created something extraordinary.

Markel, with Minot State University students Samantha Gores and Kelsey Eaton, have been conducting a year-long cognitive psychology study on memory for tactile-spatial patterns. The research is designed to understand how much practice is necessary to learn patterns of communication. In addition, Markel, Gores and other students volunteered at the Community Learning Center at Roosevelt Elementary School, teaching Tap Talk to students.

"What we are discovering at CLC is that learning Tap Talk piqued students' interests and gives them an appreciation for alternative forms of communication. Children love codes, and Tap Talk lends itself to a variety of language-related activities. Our hope is to see whether Tap Talk can improve classroom performance," Markel said.

Markel is collaborating with Deb Olson, associate professor of psychology, in the investigation of touch memory. His research also measures the amount of practice necessary to use Tap Talk full time and the importance of visual exposure to accommodate patterns of touch.

Markel anticipates his research will be the spring board for other areas of cognitive research.

INTERNATIONAL

MSU displays keen international vision

Faculty and students return from studies abroad

Four Minot State University nursing students and two nursing instructors participated in a service-learning study tour in May that provided hands-on knowledge of health care services in Peru.

Instructors Dawn Frederich and Pamela Singleton joined students Jessica Stevens, Elizabeth Eckert, Juan Quesada and Laurie Dimler in field experiences at local hospitals, clinics and community health service facilities.



Passport drive serves campus and community

MSU's Office of International Programs and the Minot office of the U.S. Postal Service sponsored an annual drive for students, faculty, staff and community members to apply for passport books and new passport cards.

Global Sights Photography Competition

In celebration of International Education Week each fall, the Office of International Programs organizes the Global Sights Photography Competition for MSU students, faculty, staff, retirees and alumni. The first-place winners in 2010 were Andrew Aken, a College of Business faculty member, and Josh Collins, a student in the College of Arts and Sciences. Photos and names of other winners are available at www.minotstateu.edu/international.

MSU's partner institutions abroad listed

Minot State developed partnerships with institutions around the world, offering MSU students and faculty the opportunity to participate in faculty and student exchanges, collaborate on research and develop joint-education programs. Current partner institutions include:

- China: SIAS International University
- Denmark: Aalborg University
- India: Punjabi University
- Norway: Harstad University College
- Norway: Telemark University College
- Sweden: Kristianstad University
- South Korea: Pai Chai University
- Turkey: Kadir Has University
- Vietnam: National Economics University

During the 2010-11 academic year, MSU assisted students in study-abroad experiences in London, Paris and Rome. MSU also hosted two Fulbright foreign language teaching assistants: Khalifa Khalfan Al Badi (Oman) and Yacin Abdessaied (France).

ATHLETICS

Athletics is changing levels and conferences

MSU athletics ended one era and got the news it would begin another.

The university learned in January it would begin play in the prestigious NCAA Division II Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference beginning in the 2012-13 academic season.

While officials at Minot State were positive the school had taken the necessary steps to ensure its future in the NSIC, there were tense moments leading up to one of the most important calls in school history, when MSU President David Fuller was told the Beavers were selected by the NSIC.

MSU will join the conference with the University of Sioux Falls, as the NSIC expands from 14 to 16 institutions. The schools are located in North Dakota, Minnesota, South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska. MSU will play in the North Division, joining the University of Mary, Northern State University, Minnesota State Moorhead, Minnesota Crookston, Bemidji State, Minnesota Duluth and St. Cloud State.

The Beavers were also informed in July that the institution was granted NCAA Division II Year 3 Provisional membership. Minot State is confident that it will become a full member in July 2012.

While the Beavers gained acceptance into the Northern Sun, there was still some unfinished business in the Dakota Athletic Conference and the NAIA. MSU had two spring teams advance to their respective national tournaments.

MSU's women's golf and softball programs both made it two years in a row. The golf team finished 24th at the NAIA National Championships in Tennessee, while the softball team



qualified for the national tournament with a win over rival Dickinson State in the DAC tournament title game. The team went 0-3 in pool play at nationals, ending the season 30-11.

While there were plenty of highs in 2011-12, MSU's Athletics Department was hit hard by flooding in Minot. MSU had nine coaches and numerous athletes displaced by flooding, and many athletic buildings on campus were used as shelters and relief facilities.

MSU has partnered with multiple agencies, including Midcontinent Communications, Bemidji State University and the University of North Dakota, in flood-relief efforts.



RECOGNITION

Board of Regents recognizes faculty and staff

Three faculty members and two staff members received MSU Board of Regents achievement awards for 2010-11.



Heather Golly, a faculty member of the Department of Teacher Education and Human Performance, was recognized for teaching. She teaches human performance courses to students in the athletic training, corporate fitness and physical education programs. She believes students learn best when they apply newly acquired knowledge in practical situations. Golly developed the athletic training education program and the sports medicine concentration at MSU. She also helped design the Swain Hall sports medicine center and exercise science laboratory.

The board honored Paul Lepp of the Biology Department for his scholarship. He currently teaches microbiology, evolution and ecology. He closely links his research to his teaching, inviting students to become intimately involved in his cutting-edge studies. He also serves as director of the department's bioinformatics program. Lepp possesses an impressive publication record, with his publications often cited in peer-reviewed journals.



Lynne Rumney, former director of the MSU Honors Program, was acclaimed for service. Under her direction, the Honors Program has tripled in size in recent years. She teaches honors literature, humanities and English composition classes. Rumney also performs solo and chamber ensemble recitals. Her husband, Jon Rumney, is a professor of music.



Shanette "Shan" Haarsager, a Sherwood native, takes MSU's mission statement to heart. She always puts students first as the administrative assistant in the College of Arts and Sciences. The MSU graduate compiled a distinguished career as a teacher and administrator before joining the MSU staff in 2005. She received an MSU Vision 2013 Merit Award this past year.



Jonelle Watson, assistant vice president for business services/controller, serves as a model of excellence in service. Her duties include preparation of annual and biennial budgets and yearly financial statements, supervision of employees in seven areas and responsibility for MSU Development Foundation accounting. The MSU alumna is a certified public accountant. Recently, she taught fundamentals of accounting at MSU.



Sustainability Committee earns statewide award

The MSU Sustainability Committee has received the Greener North Dakota Award for its efforts in cleaning up the environment.



The North Dakota Solid Waste and Recycling Association presented the award to MSU President David Fuller at the South Dakota/North Dakota Solid Waste & Recycling Symposium in October 2010. MSU edged out three other nominees for the award.

In 2008, the Xcel Energy Foundation awarded a \$20,000 environmental grant to MSU to start a recycling program. By 2009, green and blue recycling bins began appearing in campus facilities. The Sustainability Committee also sponsored Earth Day events to raise awareness of recycling.

In 2010, MSU picked up 39,299 pounds of recycled items, which were taken to the Minot Vocational Workshop Recycling Center.

"One thing I noticed this year is that there was much less garbage on the campus grounds," said Paul Lepp, Sustainability Committee president. "We are doing a better job of keeping the campus clean year round."

In 2010, Lepp and committee member Heidi Super conducted a carbon inventory of the campus. They tracked its carbon footprint in the use of natural gas, electricity, coal, fertilizer and refrigerant. The data will provide a baseline, from which the committee will create an action plan designed to achieve a zero-carbon footprint.

In August of this year, Apple Computer collected 27 pallets of e-waste from the campus. Last year, the company collected 15 pallets. The e-waste consisted of university-owned electronic and computer equipment deemed beyond repair.

The committee's next goal is to incorporate recycling into the city of Minot's trash collection. According to 2008 data from the North Dakota Department of Health and Waste Management, 16 communities offer curbside pickup for recyclable waste, and 18 communities offer drop-off programs. Minot is not on either list.

MSU is also installing a geothermal heating and cooling system on campus. When completed, the system will reduce utility costs, dependence on fossil fuels and emission of greenhouse gases.

MSU music student wins Toronto competition



Sally Podrebarac, a junior music performance major, won first prize in the horn division at the 2010 International Women's Brass Conference Solo Competition in Toronto.

The Bismarck native is a student of Mark Boren, coordinator of brass studies.

"Sally is a shining example to young, aspiring musicians everywhere," Boren said.

Podrebarac was also invited to perform in the finals at the National Young Artist Competition in Odessa, Texas, in 2010.

The young musician is principal horn in both the Minot Symphony Orchestra and the MSU Concert Band.

For the past two years, Podrebarac earned first chair in the North Dakota Intercollegiate Concert Band, which comprises the best musicians from seven campuses in the state.

She has represented Minot State at such summer music festivals as the San Francisco Brass Institute, International Horn Symposium, Barry Tuckwell Institute, Hot Springs Music Festival and Eastern Music Festival.

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CAMPUS NEWS

FUTUREPALOOZA. Each fall, MSU hosts Futurepalooza for area high school juniors and seniors in the Dome. Representatives from colleges and universities set up booths to highlight their offerings. Round table sessions feature business professionals from 16 career clusters who provide business-specific information to students and talk about their educational background. The professionals also share the steps they have taken to achieve success in their profession.

RESULTS IN FOR “PENNIES FOR PATIENTS”. Minot State University’s goal for the first-ever “Pennies for Patients” fundraiser for The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society was \$1,200. The university not only achieved that goal but also surpassed it, with a total of \$1,350.04.



NURSING PROGRAM RECEIVES FULL PROGRAM APPROVAL. Minot State University’s bachelor of nursing program received full approval from the North Dakota Board of Nursing in May. Full approval does not require interim reports. The program was fully compliant with the rules and regulations governing nursing education in the N.D. Administrative Code and N.D. Century Code. The next survey by the board will be in May 2016.

The NDBON praised MSU’s BSN program because 100 percent of its regular faculty are fully qualified to teach nursing, both educationally and professionally. This is uncommon in the state, due to the shortage of nursing faculty.

DAKOTA CHAMBER MUSIC MARKS 15TH SEASON. Dakota Chamber Music celebrated its 15th season in June. The institute brings professional artists together with talented students and adults for intensive performance and study. Minot State University’s resident trio, Luminus, formed the core of the 2011 DCM faculty. Erik Anderson, Jon Rumney and Dianna Anderson comprise the trio.

Chamber music includes any music performed by a small number of performers with one performer to a part. It usually does not include solo instrument performances.

Each year, DCM draws 40 to 50 musicians, high school through adult, from the region to study and perform chamber music. It is by audition only and is coordinated by the MSU Division of Music.



KOCZON APPOINTED VPAA. Lenore Koczon, Ph.D., of Rosemont, Pa., was named vice president for academic affairs at Minot State University June 1. Previously, Koczon was the academic dean, undergraduate college, at Rosemont College.



Koczon joined Rosemont College in 2005. Under her leadership, all academic majors were reviewed, and the education major was revised to meet 2013 requirements mandated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Koczon has been a member of Rosemont College’s senior staff since 2008 and has served on numerous university committees, including strategic planning, governance and leadership, academic affairs, curriculum, academic standing and first-year connection seminar.

She earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry in 1981 from the University of Notre Dame and a doctorate in chemistry from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

MSU HOSTS ENERGY IMPACT SYMPOSIA. In March, Minot State University hosted “Growing with Energy: Economic and Infrastructure Impacts,” the third in a four-part Western North Dakota Energy Impact Symposia series.

MSU and Dickinson State University sponsored the symposia series in cooperation with the Great Plains Energy Corridor, funded by a U.S. Department of Energy grant.

BIOLOGY RAISES CANCER FUNDS VIA DODGEBALL TOURNAY. Students, faculty and staff dodged, ducked, dipped and dove in an effort to raise money for cancer-care patients. Students in a cancer biology course taught by Heidi Super, professor of biology, held a dodgeball cancer benefit tournament in November. All proceeds from the benefit went to defray expenses for Minot-area cancer patients. The tournament, which raised nearly \$1,000, was sponsored by the MSU Biology Department and Biology Club, Trinity Health Cancer Care Center and Minot-area businesses.





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MSU president participates in national round table

President David Fuller participated in a national round table on civic learning and democratic engagement in February. The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U), a longtime proponent of liberal education, sponsored the round table at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C.

"I am honored to be participating in a conversation that will have a nationwide impact on the education of our university and college students," Fuller said. "This is a topic that aligns well with Minot State University's Vision 2013 and our commitment to civic engagement and community support."

International education and retention were two major topics discussed at the round table. Fuller led a breakfast discussion on the economic case for liberal education.

AAC&U is partnering with the Global Perspective Institute to encourage a national dialogue on civic learning that will influence future actions by the U.S. Department of Education.

AAC&U was founded in 1915 to advance liberal education. GPI was established in 2008 to promote holistic human development, especially among college students.

AAC&U and GPI are formulating a national action plan to encourage democratic engagement at colleges and universities. The groups are convening five national round tables to discuss the plan. They will present it to the Department of Education in late 2011.

