

# *FYI* Campus Newsletter

**Bismarck State College ~ August 26, 2004**

## Bismarck State College begins 65<sup>th</sup> academic year

The beginning of BSC's 65<sup>th</sup> academic year is unlike other years with the conversion to ConnectND making it difficult to estimate opening day enrollment. College officials expect BSC's third-week enrollment will be similar to last fall's record-breaking 3,430 students.

Here are some new programs and initiatives getting started this fall:

This will be the first year for the start of the new practical nursing program, approved this summer by the North Dakota Board of Nursing. The program is now a one-year certificate program that prepares students to work as practical nurses and to continue their education in nursing.

New initiatives to provide better service to students include offering three evening classes in Mandan and extending business hours on Mondays in several offices and the BSC Bookstore.

Extended hours of 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays will be observed in the Admissions, Business, Financial Aid, and Student Records/Registrar's offices, Campus Information Office in Jack Science Center, Corporate and Continuing Education, and the Bookstore.

One exception to that takes place Sept. 7-9 when the Admissions, Business, Financial Aid, and Student Records/Registrar's offices will be closed from 3-5 p.m. The closures will help employees in those offices better handle some ConnectND related work without interruption.

ConnectND is a new administrative computer system shared by all campuses in the North Dakota University System, although UND, NDSU, Minot State University and MSU-Bottineau have delayed "going live" with the system.

## New faculty positions filled and adjuncts move to full-time status

Four instructors were hired to fill new positions in theater, nursing, sociology/psychology, and power/process plant technology. Three adjunct instructors have moved into full-time positions.

### **Ryan Caya, power/process plant technology instructor**

A BSC alumnus, Caya graduated from the Power Plant Technology program in 1999. He has extensive field experience and worked for Dakota Gasification Co. in Beulah the past three years in steam generation, utility and wastewater distribution, and flue gas desulphurization. Caya also worked for

Marathon Ashland Petroleum in St. Paul Park, Minn. He holds a firefighting certificate from Texas A & M University and was a member of the volunteer fire brigades at DGC and Marathon.

**Theresa Felderman, sociology/psychology instructor**

Felderman has an MS in applied psychology from St. Cloud State University and a BS in social and behavioral science from the University of Mary. Since 2001, she has been a behavioral consultant on developmental disabilities for HIT, Inc. Last spring, she taught psychology at University of Mary as an adjunct instructor. Felderman is a member and facilitator of the Regional Behavior Support & Human Rights Committee and works as resident manager of the Ronald McDonald House in Bismarck. She has additional experience as a vocational counselor and instructor at Sitting Bull College in Fort Yates.

**Dr. Amy Juhala, assistant professor of English**

An adjunct English instructor since 2001, Juhala has pursued an extensive academic course as a researcher, working primarily in Scotland, where she earned her doctorate and MS (by research) degrees in Scottish history at the University of Edinburgh. She was a lecturer and tutor at Edinburgh and also a research assistant at the University of Leicester, England. Juhala graduated from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., with a BA in French and economics in 1991. She holds memberships in several international societies, where she has spoken on historical subjects. A violinist, she has played in the St. Olaf College and the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony orchestras.

**Craig Moxon, technical theater instructor**

Moxon has an MFA in theater from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, where he also earned a BS in English and education with secondary certification. He spent three years coaching high school forensics, teaching English, and producing plays before enrolling in graduate school to specialize in technical theater design. Moxon was lighting designer for the Creede Repertory Theater's five-show season in Colorado and sound designer for the McLeod Summer Playhouse in Illinois. He most recently traveled as lighting director for the Nebraska Theater Caravan during its 2003 East Coast tour.

**Kathy Swetich, math instructor**

Swetich has been a part-time algebra instructor at BSC since 1998. She taught physical science, earth science, and algebra for Bismarck Public Schools from 1993-98, and left that position to earn her master's degree in education from the University of Mary. Swetich volunteers as a math tutor for junior high students at Cathedral School.

**Pam Torgerson, hotel-restaurant management instructor**

Well-known to those who patronize the HR Management Department's Thursday noon meals, Torgerson became an adjunct instructor in 1998, receiving the BSC Faculty Award of Excellence in 2002 for her contributions to developing the HRM program. She has a BS in hotel-motel-restaurant management from Minnesota State University in Moorhead. Her experience includes working as kitchen manager, cook, merchandiser and in inventory control. Torgerson founded Sweeter Than Flowers in 1997, a business in which she designs candy bouquets.

**Susan Weigum, nursing instructor**

Weigum received a BA in nursing from Jamestown College in 1995 and is pursuing a master's in nursing education from the University of Mary. She most recently worked as a legal nurse consultant for Fleck, Mather & Strutz Ltd., a Bismarck law firm. Weigum taught practical nursing at United Tribes Technical College and worked for the N.D. Department of Health as a health facilities surveyor to determine compliance of long-term care and home health facilities. She was employed as a registered nurse by West River Regional Medical Center in Hettinger.

## BSC welcomes new staff members

**Alicia Berger** held a 12-week internship in BSC Human Resources and became administrative assistant to the Energy Technology Online Department Aug. 9. This is a new position. After graduating from BSC in 2003 with an AA degree, she took class overloads to earn a BS in human resources from South Dakota State University, Brookings, in August 2004. A Stanton native, Berger worked as shift supervisor for SuperValu in Washburn. She enjoys playing and watching sports.

**Brian Bernat** began his position as BSC admissions counselor Aug. 10 after working briefly in admissions counseling at the University of Minnesota-Crookston. Bernat has a BS in English from St. Cloud State University and taught two years at a middle school in Rosemount, Minn. He spent four years in sales at AAA Insurance in Minneapolis. Bernat was raised in East Grand Forks, Minn., and enjoys mountain biking, in-line skating, fishing, and movies.

**Marlo Hunte** is the new face in Dr. Drake Carter's office. She took over Jackie Hagel's position as administrative assistant to the associate vice president for academic affairs on Aug. 16. (Hagel is now administrative assistant to Dr. Janelle Masters and Dr. Jane Schulz.) Hunte graduated from the University of Mary in 2003 with a BA in business management and is pursuing a master's degree in that field. She grew up in Cannon Ball, has worked as an office manager at Sitting Bull College and filled a six-month vacancy as Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Court Administrator. Hunte enjoys reading and writing children's literature. She has a 9-year-old daughter.

**Heidi Brunko**, women's volleyball coach/assistant women's basketball coach, started her job last spring to recruit student athletes. She received a BS in elementary education from Mayville State University in 2002 and will complete an MS in special education from University of Mary in 2005. She also has an AA degree from Fergus Falls Community College. Raised and educated in Bertha, Minn., Brunko played on volleyball teams from junior high school through college and was graduate assistant volleyball coach at University of Mary the past two years. She works as a substitute elementary teacher in Bismarck and Mandan.

## Employees tour facilities to help plan CTI

To assist in development of the architectural plans for the Career and Technology Institute, several employees recently visited colleges or other facilities that have components similar to the three centers of the CTI.

**Dr. Drake Carter**, associate vice president for academic affairs, and **Dave Clark**, executive vice president, visited the Center of Excellence in Process Manufacturing at Lambton College in Sarnia, Ontario. BSC's National Energy Technology Training and Education Center may have some of the labs they toured, such as a simulator lab, chromatography lab, programmable logic control lab, robotics lab, distillation lab and mechanical maintenance lab.

**Carla Braun Hixson**, associate vice president for Corporate & Continuing Education, and **Lori Heinsohn**, director of CCE, visited three community colleges in Maryland to learn how they manage their workforce training and conference centers. They also toured the Q Center in Chicago, a corporate conference facility.

**Dr. Wayne Boekes**, provost and vice president for student and academic affairs, and **Dr. Jane Schulz**,

dean of instruction, toured the higher education centers at Northeast Community College in Norfolk, Neb., and Central Community College in Grand Island, Neb. **President Donna S. Thigpen** toured the higher education center at Rochester Community & Technical College in Minnesota earlier this year.

## Faculty & Staff news

**Lane Huber**, director of distance education, has been selected as a participant in this year's Bismarck-Mandan Chamber Leadership Program. He will join other local employees of Chamber members in the program that prepares them to be effective, progressive leaders by strengthening their skills and broadening their awareness.

**Bill Wahlman**, director of energy projects, traveled to Denver Aug. 17 for a meeting to discuss a partnership between BSC and the Electric Power Training Center.

**Ken Paulus**, welding professor, and **Steve Petron**, adjunct apprenticeship instructor, attended the 51st Annual United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters Instructor Training Program in Ann Arbor, Mich., Aug. 7-14. Petron attended classes in gas and oil burner service, related science, and planning presentations. Paulus attended the Center to Protect Worker's Rights and the National Resource Center for OSHA Training Course for Confined and Permit-Required Confined Space Train-the-Trainer Program. Their training was sponsored by Local 300 Plumbers and Steamfitters.

**Julie Erickson**, resource development coordinator, and **Gordy Binek**, vice president for college advancement and federal relations, attended the Council for Resource Development Region 8 Conference in Sheridan, Wyo., Aug. 12-14. Erickson conducted a workshop on conducting grant development research. Binek led a session on developing board relationships with foundation trustees at community colleges.