

FYI Campus Newsletter

Bismarck State College ~ December 14, 2006

BSC Agribusiness program seeks marketing strategy

Faculty of the Bismarck State College Agribusiness program met recently with industry leaders to create strategies for recruiting students, marketing agriculture careers, and exploring the potential of online classes.

The Vision 20/20 Planning Institute attracted 40 participants from west-central North Dakota, including bankers, agronomists, farmers, livestock producers, high school counselors, administrators, agribusiness teachers, and others related to the agriculture industry.

Ideas from the focus group will be finalized and implemented after BSC faculty members meet in January with the program's advisory council. Some early themes have already emerged, such as improving the Agribusiness Web page, doing more one-on-one recruiting in high schools, educating counselors about modern agriculture and new job opportunities in the industry, determining primary users of online classes, and increasing marketing of the Agribusiness program.

Faculty members have already started working on one-on-one recruitment in high schools.

“There are thousands of challenging careers in the high-skill world of agriculture, food, and natural resources,” says **Carmel Miller**, assistant professor of agribusiness. “The public primarily perceives agriculture as traditional farming, but agriculture today uses technology in every aspect of its operations.”

Last year, BSC became an associate partner of AgrowKnowledge, a national consortium of community colleges that focuses on technology in agriculture and provided a \$3,000 grant for Vision 20/20.

As one of six associate partners nationwide, BSC is among the top colleges incorporating the newest agriculture technology into its curriculum. Associate partners have committed to becoming model schools in agriculture education by integrating mathematics, science, and technology into their programs.

“We're networked with other community colleges in sharing curriculum with cutting edge technology and training options for faculty development,” says **Craig Kleven**, assistant professor of agribusiness.

For more information about Vision 20/20, contact Carmel Miller at 701-224-5557, Carmel.Miller@bsc.nodak.edu.

BSC welcomes new employee

Bethany Windjue, financial aid office assistant, graduated from Dickinson State University in 2005 with a degree in equine science and agricultural business. She also has an AS in general studies from Lake Region State College. Windjue was employed as pet care manager for PetSmart in Fargo and Bismarck the past year a half. A native of Devils Lake, Windjue is engaged to Chris Dumont and enjoys her dog Walter, working with horses, figure skating, and helping her parents on their farm.

Mechanical Maintenance Technology is new name of program

BSC received approval Dec. 11 from N.D. University System Chancellor Eddie Dunn to change the name of the Industrial Maintenance Technology program to Mechanical Maintenance Technology, according to **Dr. Wayne Boekes**, provost and vice president for academic and student affairs. Dr. Boekes said the new title more accurately reflects current industry terminology.

Fourteen students are currently enrolled in the program, which begins in January. **Dr. Jane Schulz**, dean of instruction, said that the new building for the program should be completed by mid-February. Until then, classes will be held on the east side of the Technical Center in Room 234. The new building, at 1901 Twin City Dr. S.E., Mandan, will be called Bismarck State College – Mandan Campus.

Process Plant Technology grads featured in article

Graduates of BSC's Process Plant Technology program are featured in an article about the Red Trail Ethanol Plant at Richardton in the Nov. 24 issue of the Farm & Ranch Guide. The article focuses on how the ethanol industry provides good-paying jobs, and thus, plays a role in retaining North Dakota's young people.

Anthony Kalvoda of Mandan was interviewed for the article. A BSC graduate, he said that many of the 18-20 people under age 30 graduated with him or in the class ahead of him. Mick Miller, plant president, is also a BSC graduate, and said in the article that BSC's program is one of the best around.

Read the article:

http://www.farmandranchguide.com/articles/2006/11/24/special_section/special%20ethanol_/trail04.txt.

Warner family receives sheep producer award

Lyle Warner, associate professor of agriculture, and his wife, Pat Warner, received the 2006 Master Sheep Producer Award at the annual N.D. Lamb and Wool Producers Association Convention in Mandan Dec. 1-2. This award recognizes individuals or families for their innovativeness, leadership and contributions to the sheep industry in North Dakota. Lyle Warner also was elected president of the NDLWPA. In November, one of the Warners' Rambouillet rams was named National Champion at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky.

Borjeson Painter assists in writing standards for business education

Lynette Borjeson Painter, assistant professor of computer information systems, participated in

the Business and Office Technology Standards Writing Meeting in Bismarck, Nov. 15-16. The purpose of the committee is to update the North Dakota Business and Office Technology Standards for secondary and postsecondary business education. Representatives from 11 secondary schools and four postsecondary institutions were in attendance.

BSC choirs perform for senior citizens

The BSC Concert Choir, Madrigal Choir and Jazz Choir presented three concerts for senior citizens in late November and early December. BSC's third CEO, Ralph Werner, attended the performance at the Waterford where he lives in Bismarck. The choirs also sang at the Burleigh County Senior Center and for BSC's neighbors at the Primrose.

Auto Tech program at Correctional Center wins award

The Automotive Technology program at the Missouri River Correctional Center received the 2006 Automotive Industry Planning Council Award for Excellence in December. This is the 10th time the program received the state-level award. **Bill Cossette**, program instructor, said students are educated in automotive electrical systems, tune-up, brakes, suspension and steering, air conditioning, engine repair and engine performance.

The program is certified by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) in automotive electrical/electronic systems, brakes, engine repair and air conditioning, and meets standards set by education and industry. The program is offered through BSC and the N.D. Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Faculty and Staff News

Michael Lenhardt, associate vice president for student affairs, attended the NASPA Student Affairs Law and Policy Conference in Las Vegas Dec. 2-6.

Rick Wilke, ETO course developer/instructor, and **Carla Braun Hixson**, associate vice president for corporate and continuing education, traveled to St. Paul Dec. 5-6 for the Education Fair at Xcel Energy's Minnesota office.

Dave Clark, executive vice president, attended the Central Association of Colleges and University Business Officers Board Meeting in Chicago Dec. 7-9.