

# *FYI* Campus Newsletter

Bismarck State College ~ December 1, 2005

## Work progressing on AQIP Action Projects

If you are not one of the 22 employees currently working on one of BSC's three AQIP Action Projects, you may wonder "What's happening with AQIP?" Here's an update on each project and names of the team members.

AQIP is the Academic Quality Improvement Program, an alternative accreditation process based on quality principles. Dr. Drake Carter, associate vice president for academic affairs, is charged with overseeing BSC's AQIP initiative. He has been meeting with these teams when possible.

The three teams are facing a Dec. 19 deadline to declare the action projects publicly. The Action Project Declaration form consists of about 12 questions that include describing the project's goals, the college's reasons for taking on the project, the processes it will change or improve, overall outcomes, and performance targets.

### **Employee Training in Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Principles**

Team members: Co-leaders Jane Schreck and Mike Kubisiak, Lori Heinsohn, Rita Lindgren, Karla Buzick, Tanya Fuher, Jean Hinton, Jordis Conrad (Dr. Drake Carter - ex officio)

This team is developing the scope of CQI training for employees, and trying to determine what kind of training will be provided, what groups should be trained and in what order, and other details. The group has researched and discussed how other campuses have handled similar training, and whether their methods/processes fit our campus.

A conference call between the BSC team and employees involved in CQI training at Washington State Community College in Marietta, Ohio, is scheduled for Dec. 5.

### **Finding Your Way with CampusConnection**

Team members: Co-leaders Marlene Anderson and Donna Fishbeck, Chris Abbott, Karla Gabriel, Lonna Meier (Dr. Drake Carter - ex officio)

The ConnectND student administration system via the CampusConnection portal gives students the ability to manage and find personal and campus information. To maximize this benefit, we need to educate users. Many do not know how to use the system or what is available online. Those who are less fluent with computers express frustration, and staff find it difficult to give detailed explanations in addition to meeting other workplace demands.

The primary goals of this AQIP project are to develop ways to reach and educate users of CampusConnection to effectively use this tool and to increase customer satisfaction with CampusConnection.

The project team is working on the declaration form, discussing outcome measures and how to gather baseline data, and exploring ways to reach and teach users of CampusConnection.

### **Investigate and Improve the Advising Process**

Team members: Co-leaders Kris Larson, Julie Schroer and Dr. Janelle Masters, Kitty Netzer, Mike McCormack, Lee Friese, Sandy Fried, and Andrene Krein (Dr. Drake Carter - ex officio)

This team is gathering campus opinions from students and faculty regarding the current advising process. They have compiled results from a Campus Development Day student survey, which included 571 students, and are currently compiling the results of a faculty survey. These surveys will be used as baseline data in measuring campus satisfaction with the advising system.

The team is also planning to conduct student focus groups in the near future to gather additional student opinions.

Advising models at comparable community colleges across the nation are being investigated to determine the success of advising centers, departmental advising and required academic advising.

Additionally, the Advising Team has been discussing the logistics of required advising for new students beginning in the Fall of 2006.

## **Clinical Lab Tech program awarded continuing accreditation**

BSC recently received notification that the Clinical Laboratory Technician/Medical Laboratory Technician program has received continuing accreditation from the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences. The continuing accreditation award is based on the review process that included a site visit in April 2005. Accreditation continues until Oct. 31, 2012. Angela Uhlich is the program director.

## **BSC welcomes new employee**

**Jennifer Weisgerber** recently was hired as textbook coordinator in the BSC Bookstore. She is already known to many around campus for her student roles as editor of the Mystician student newspaper and Figments of Imagination, the student literary publication. She began her education at BSC in 2002 and is a collaborative student, pursuing a BA degree in English/writing and minor in journalism from Dickinson State University. A Century High School graduate, Weisgerber launched an entertainment publication in July called The Uncouth, a free, 24-page magazine published monthly by the New Salem Journal. She serves as co-editor and page designer.

## Wind Ensemble presents winter concert

A concert of holiday music that concludes with themes from Bach's chorale masterwork, "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," features the BSC Wind Ensemble at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6. Conductor Dr. John Darling leads the Wind Ensemble in his own arrangement of themes from that work.

The 35-piece ensemble enlivens the Sidney J. Lee Auditorium stage with Fanfare Prelude on "Joy to the World" by American composer James Curnow, the European-style "March of the Belgian Paratroopers," and "Dramatic Prelude" by Claude Smith.

The concert, presented at no charge, includes an international mix of carols and melodies ranging from the 13th to 20th centuries. A reception follows the concert.

## Security officer will provide escort service

BSC Security Officer Fred Gunn will provide escort service to students, employees and visitors between 3:30 p.m. and midnight Mondays-Fridays to vehicles or to other buildings on campus.

For escort service during those hours, call the security cell number, 527-1972. To arrange for escort service outside of those hours, call ahead to schedule an escort with the security office, 224-5789.

Gunn asks employees to contact him by phone or e-mail if they have any security issues or concerns. His e-mail address is [Fred.Gunn@bsc.nodak.edu](mailto:Fred.Gunn@bsc.nodak.edu)

## BSC program presents second safety and health designation

St. Luke's Home in Dickinson has the distinction of being the second company in North Dakota, but the first nursing home, to receive from OSHA the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) award.

On Nov. 28, **Al Koch**, manager of the NDOSH Consultation Program at BSC, presented a certificate recognizing the SHARP status to Todd Otto, St. Luke's board president, and Lyle Brudvig, St. Luke's administrator. Dickinson Mayor Dennis Johnson presented them with a SHARP worksite plaque.

To become a SHARP company St. Luke's had to go through a comprehensive site safety and health audit, correct all identified hazards, demonstrate effective safety and health programs, and maintain injury rates below the national average for their industry.

NDOSH program consultants work for BSC through an OSHA grant, which was established to help small businesses with fewer than 250 employees with high safety hazards. The safety and health consultations are free, non-punitive and confidential.

## Faculty and Staff News

Attending the annual conference of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges were **Linda Tonolli**, associate professor of mathematics; **Art Rude** and **Kathy Swetich**, mathematics instructors; and **Don Bigwood**, mathematics lecturer. The conference was held Nov. 10-13 in San Diego, where more the 1,400 instructors from the U.S. and Canada took part in workshops on how to improve mathematics education in two-year colleges.

Four members of the Learning First Embracing Diversity Team participated in a conference titled “Diversity Here and Now: Holistic and Sustainable Approaches to Multicultural Learning” Nov. 18 in Bloomington, Minn. In attendance from BSC were **Erik Cutler**, multicultural program coordinator; **Natasha Petry**, biology laboratory coordinator; **Dan Rogers**, associate professor of theatre/speech; and **Lynn Severson**, associate professor of English. The conference was sponsored by the Collaboration for the Advancement of College Teaching and Learning.

**Travis Chrest**, ETO instructor, met with Omaha Public Power District in Omaha Nov. 15-16.

**Lonna Meier**, coordinator of Academic Support Services, and **Tom Stein**, assistant professor of English, attended the 38th annual College Reading and Learning Association Conference Nov. 2-5 in Long Beach, Calif.

**Ryan Pitcher**, assistant professor of Spanish, attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages 2005 Annual Meeting and Exposition in Baltimore, Md., Nov. 17-20.

**Chad Wetzel** and **Ryan Caya**, power and process plant technology instructors, attended North Country Ethanol Leak Detection Training in Rosholt, S.D., Nov. 17. **Wetzel** spent the week of Nov. 21-28 in Sterling, Colo., consulting with ICM on the start-up of their ethanol plant.