

FYI Campus Newsletter

Bismarck State College ~ May 15, 2009

Faculty and staff honored

Six recipients were chosen from 42 nominations for this year's Faculty and Staff Award for Excellence. They were honored at the annual Recognition Ceremony April 22. The awards recognize significant or meritorious performance in professional roles. Representatives of the BSC Foundation Programs committee, student Board of Governors, faculty, staff and the NDUS office, selected recipients. Below are excerpts from the nominations:

FACULTY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Jane Schreck, associate professor of English, "is a teacher, mentor, administrator and planner, dedicated to advancing the English program. Jane is the go-to person, a hands-on mechanic who never burns out. She gets things done, keeps people informed and constantly churns out ideas to help the department run smoothly. No detail is too small for her to handle well. Her love for students and teaching makes us all look good and reflects well on BSC."

"As for connection, Jane is a master, engaging students with her enthusiastic teaching style. Students also benefit from the community she creates in the classroom."

Deb Shipman, assistant professor of microbiology, is an inspiration and mentor to her students. She has gone beyond her duties to help them decide careers, transfer schools and to tour local healthcare facilities.

Additional comments: "She really cares about her students and is passionate about what she teaches. She is fun, outgoing, and makes her class and her labs as enjoyable as possible. She is a wonderful teacher!"

"Deb has a way of teaching that makes you want to learn. I have never gotten so much out of course until I took her microbiology class. She is a teacher I will remember for the rest of my life."

STAFF AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Mary Friesz, director of marketing, was involved in at least three major objectives of BSC's Strategic Plan (enrollment management plan, marketing/communications plan, employee retention). "All three have taken considerable time in research, meetings and communication with many people. Mary led the search to choose an advertising agency and to develop a new brand, ongoing work that involves much effort and skill. Through all this, she has continued to handle marketing for the college, which has resulted in several recent awards. Her expertise and perspectives have been very beneficial to BSC."

Rita Nodland, alumni coordinator, “carries the mission of BSC. She is ready to engage, connect and deliver excellent customer service to all BSC stakeholders. Rita does this without any thought of what’s in it for her but always . . . how BSC can benefit, whether it is recruiting a new student, engaging the alumni, or encouraging community involvement in BSC’s events. Rita has continued to grow in her work and to accept increased responsibility while upholding the values of BSC. She actively promotes BSC on and off campus and participates in many campus activities from athletic events to the Creative Campus.”

ADJUNCT FACULTY AWARD

Jason Matthews, political science instructor, “brings an exceptional level of quality to the classes he teaches and strives to make sure we as students fully understand whatever subject he teaches. It is the teachers who make up a college, who are the face of BSC. Mr. Matthews brings a wealth of knowledge and patience to the college and is an excellent example of the quality of the education received from Bismarck State College.”

Jeanette Rehberg, music instructor, “has a positive personality, works well with students and is brilliant when it comes to music and instruction. In and outside the classroom, she embodies all that is positive and great at BSC. Jeanette is not only an active member of the BSC Music faculty; she also participates in many local events including the symphony and other collaborative music events. Her presence at BSC and in the community is a positive reflection on both our Music program and the college.”

The Award for Excellence Committee coordinates the nomination and selection process. Recipients receive cash gifts from the BSC Foundation of \$1,000 for full-time employees and \$250 for part-time employees.

Carpentry program uses ‘green’ building methods

BSC’s carpentry students have completed building a single-family home and are ready to show it off. An open house is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, May 15, for the public to view the home at 307 Baker Place south of Bismarck.

Earl Torgerson, assistant professor of carpentry, said the project’s emphasis this year was on “green” building methods and new products for healthy air quality. New features this year:

- Low VOC paint (Low volatile organic compounds in the paint)
- Formaldehyde-free particle board
- Air-to-air heat pump for heating/cooling
- Home design is handicap and wheelchair friendly

Features continued from previous BSC home building projects:

- Passive solar design
- Energy efficient design and appliances

BSC welcomes new employee

Joshua Jeffers, financial aid associate, has a BBA in business administration from the University of North Dakota. He was a sales support associate for Ecolab in Grand Forks before moving to Bismarck three years ago to work for Aetna in customer service. Last fall, he began a job in the oil fields near Watford City until being laid off. Other work includes managing a video store in Grand Forks. Jeffers grew up in Rhame and enjoys golf and volunteering for the N.D. American Legion Boys State program. He is married to Jennifer and they have three children: Anna, 7, Zachery, 4, and Addyson, 1.

BSC receives humanities grant

BSC has received a \$10,000 grant from the North Dakota Humanities Council to support BSC's Distinguished Scholar of the Humanities Lecture Series.

"Conversations with Clay Jenkinson" will take place on selected Sunday afternoons during the fall and spring semesters. The first of six programs will be Oct. 11 at 3 p.m. in Sidney J. Lee Auditorium. Program dates and topics can be found in the [Calendar of Events](#).

This is the second year of BSC's public lecture series anchored by Clay Jenkinson, one of the leading humanities scholars in the United States. A published author and public radio host of "The Thomas Jefferson Hour," he works as a speaker, consultant and facilitator.

BSC is part of 'Discovering Opportunities' tour

High school counselors, teachers and administrators on the "Discovering Opportunities" bus tour of North Dakota's two-year colleges will be on the BSC campus Wednesday, June 17. Sponsored in part by ND Career and Technical Education, the three-day tour is free and begins and ends at Lake Region State College in Devils Lake. Other stops are MSU-Bottineau, Williston State College, North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton and the Skills and Technology Center in Fargo.

Faculty and Staff News

Daniel Schmidt, energy technology programs manager, traveled to Norfolk, Va., April 26-May 1 for the 9th Annual Hampton Roads Navy College Program Distance Education Partnership Education Fair.

Alicia Berger, energy technology training and partnership manager, traveled to Belvoir, Va., April 30-May 1 for a meeting/briefing with Prime Power School students at Fort Belvoir.

Rita Lindgren, chief human resources officer, and **Angie Friez**, human resources specialist, attended the Society for HR Management-Staffing Management Conference in Las Vegas April 27-May 1.

Albert Koch, OSHA program manager, attended the Annual Consultation Program Manager's Meeting in San Diego April 27-May 1.

Martin Nielsen, OSHA safety and health consultant, traveled to Wilmington, Ill., May 4-8 for the Cranes and Rigging Seminar.

Bruce Emmil, associate vice president for energy technology programs, attended the Windpower 2009 Conference in Chicago May 5-7.

Melinda Landis, energy technology programs advisor, and **Ryan Caya**, assistant professor of energy technology programs, traveled to Chicago May 11-14 for the Electric Power Conference.

Chancellor sends message regarding H1N1 flu

Students, Faculty and Staff,

The North Dakota University System and the 11 state colleges and universities are carefully monitoring the H1N1 (or swine flu) situation. We have strong working relationships with state and local health officials, and we will follow the guidance of the North Dakota Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention if a local response becomes necessary. If needed, campus officials will provide you more information about a local response plan.

It's important to remember that, if a Phase 6 Pandemic Alert is declared, this term describes how widespread H1N1 has become around the world, not the severity of the disease.

Basic prevention guidelines provided by the North Dakota Department of Health include:

- If you are sick, stay home from work or school to avoid spreading the infection to others.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid close contact with people who are coughing or otherwise appear ill.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.
- Wash your hands frequently.

Sincerely,
Bill Goetz, Chancellor
North Dakota University System