

FYI Campus Newsletter

Bismarck State College ~ January 26, 2009

Energy conference presents global warming expert

Bismarck's annual Energy Generation Conference opens its doors Jan. 27-29 to more than 2,000 energy workers, product manufacturers and service providers from 25 states.

The 30th annual event offers the latest information, technology and innovation from industry leaders and experts throughout the country.

Activities begin Tuesday, Jan. 27, when the 232 exhibitors will open their showcase from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Bismarck Civic Center Exhibit Hall – the only convention event open to the public.

During the two general sessions, conference participants will hear Dr. Roy Spencer speak on current assumptions about global warming and how new evidence may indicate the warming derives from a natural cycle rather than excess carbon dioxide caused by human activity.

Spencer, author of "Climate Confusion," will deliver two free public programs on global warming for the Visiting Scientists Series at Bismarck State College Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. in Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, Schafer Hall.

BSC's Continuing Education, Training and Innovation Division (CETI) coordinates the conference, which continues to draw record attendance and train workers in key areas of energy generation, administration, and safety.

For more info on the Energy Conference and on Spencer's presentations, see the news releases at bismarckstate.edu/news/spotlight

BSC hosts program on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

A presentation dedicated to the memory and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and leaders of the civil rights movement takes place Wednesday, Feb. 4, at Bismarck State College.

Joe Rogers, Colorado's former lieutenant governor (1999-2003) and a practicing lawyer, will deliver his "Dream Alive" program from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, Schafer Hall. A reception follows in the auditorium lobby.

The live commentary will take the audience back to the 1963 march on Washington where King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech through the final words he spoke in 1968 in Memphis, Tenn. The program has been described as "uncanny, electrifying, spellbinding," as if King is in the room.

Sponsors of the “Dream Alive” program are the BSC Multicultural Program and the Embracing Diversity Committee. For more information, contact Eric Cutler, Multicultural Program coordinator at 701-224-5798 or Eric.Cutler@bsc.nodak.edu.

Photography exhibit open house set Jan. 28

An exhibit of photographic collage by Cindi Finley Mintie of Minot runs through Feb. 4 in the Bismarck State College Gannon Gallery.

Viewers can meet the artist Jan. 28 during a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. in the BSC Library. Mintie will discuss her work at 6 p.m.

Mintie focuses on portraiture and computerized digital prints arranged in layers from images of the past. Many images come from her family’s stored memorabilia. Mintie says she became interested in her current work after discovering mysterious letters from Norway written at the turn of the century.

A graduate of Minot State University, Mintie has a bachelor of fine arts degree in photography. She received a Gold Addy from Advertising Federation of Bismarck-Mandan in 2003 and has been featured in the Photographer’s Forum magazine’s “Best of College Photography 2007” and the MSU “Coup,” an art and literary magazine.

BSC to honor Harold Schafer during building rededication

BSC will rededicate Schafer Hall during a brief ceremony at 3 p.m. Feb. 19 in the Sidney J. Lee Auditorium. Present at the program will be Sheila Schafer, wife of the late Harold Schafer, and his son Ed Schafer, former North Dakota governor and former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Schafer Hall was named in honor of Harold Schafer, a local entrepreneur and founder of the Gold Seal Company and Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation. He donated the land for the Bismarck Junior College site in 1959, when college and city leaders were searching for a new location. Schafer Hall was the first building on the current site, but it was not initially named for Schafer.

BSC President Larry C. Skogen said now that the three-phase renovation of Schafer Hall has been completed, this is an appropriate time for rededication of the building.

The ceremony will include an unveiling of a portrait of Harold Schafer that will hang in the Schafer Hall foyer. The public is invited to the ceremony.

Tschaekofske has morning TV spot

Scott Tschaekofske, assistant professor of chemistry, is the new “Mr. Wizard” on KFYZ-TV. He began a series of once-a-month TV spots demonstrating scientific concepts on Jan. 15. They air around 6:15 a.m. on selected Thursdays and continue on Feb. 19, March 12, April 16 and May 21. KFYZ-TV initiated the feature after Tschaekofske appeared on the morning show in October to promote a speaker. His topics will be based on what he has been demonstrating or covering in class during that week.

State, national publications feature NECE

BSC's new National Energy Center of Excellence continues to be a topic of interest to a variety of publications. The upcoming February issue of ND Living magazine will include a story on the building and BSC's energy technology programs. The publication of the national Council for Resource Development, titled Dispatch, also published a story on the NECE in its Winter 2009 issue. The story focused on partnerships that helped make possible the construction of the building five years after the capital campaign began.

Others include the Bismarck Tribune's recent edition of Business Watch, and the N.D. Lignite Council featured the NECE as its November Energy Success Story. (View pdf here.)

BSC welcomes new employees

Tyler Schau replaces Lyle Warner as assistant professor of agriculture, technology and natural resources. Schau has a BS with double majors in agricultural business and economics from Iowa State University, Ames, where he will soon complete a master's degree in agriculture education. The past five years, Schau held positions as agriculture lecturer at Iowa State University and agriculture instructor and head rodeo coach at Iowa Central Community College, Fort Dodge. He traveled the country making a living in rodeo for a while and is a member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. Schau grew up in Clemons, Iowa. He and his wife Jackie live near Almont with their 2-year-old daughter, Sidney, and ranch and raise horses.

Vance Vesey, instrumentation and control technology instructor, was an instrumentation and valve buyer for Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Bismarck. He worked 5 ½ years at Dakota Gasification Co. in Beulah as an electrical and instrumentation technician and did electrician apprentice training with Riviera Electric in Fort Collins, Colo. Vesey has an AAS degree in electrical technology from N.D. State College of Science and BS in management from University of Mary. A native of Stanley, Vesey enjoys hobby stockcar racing, horseback riding and hunting. He and his wife Jennifer have twin boys, 20 months old.

Michael Gayette, technology support specialist, has 12 years experience in computer services. He started at Sykes Enterprises and Medcenter One doing phone support and installation and worked seven years at Connecting Point doing installations and repair on Macs, PCs and printers. During this time Gayette earned an AAS degree from BSC ('07) in computer support specialist. The past two years he did contract work from Bismarck for Western Area Power Administration through Information Technology Experts, Inc. in Fort Collins, Colo. A native of Lemmon, S.D., Gayette studied music at University of Mary for two years and enjoys reading and music. He and his wife Michelle have a daughter and son, ages 7 and 9.

Custodian **Robert Canter** is assigned to the NECE. He worked 20 years as an electrician for Electric Construction, Inc. in Madison, Wis., his hometown, and taught electrical design and master classes at the union hall. Canter was maintenance supervisor at the University of Wisconsin Memorial Union for seven years and held other related jobs. After high school, he studied history for three years at Illinois State University, Normal, then completed a four-year electrical apprenticeship and was certified a master electrician in 1989. Six years ago, he took a position with the N.D. Forest Service as a wild land firefighter engine boss and instructor. Canter was involved in township government in Madison and did prairie restoration as a volunteer ecologist.

Christina Burns, College Advancement programs coordinator, is a BSC graduate with AS and AA degrees. She has a BS in business and a master's in management from University of Mary.

The past four years, Burns worked for the NDSU Extension Service in Bismarck assisting 4-H clubs and the Bismarck Parks and Recreation as a customer service supervisor. She was a merchandising assistant at SuperValu, Inc. in Bismarck for 11 years. Burns grew up in Bismarck and enjoys the family's lake cabin and hockey activities. She and husband Ken have four children: Kellie, 8, Kyle, 7, Kari, 5, and Kale, 1.

Jay Crawford, OSHA safety and health consultant, worked for Health Care Insurance Services in Bismarck the past 12 years in the workers compensation field. He was a risk manager for the ND Insurance Reserve Fund, where he developed the risk management department. Crawford also directed the Division of Waste Management at the ND Department of Health and did OSHA consulting there. He has an MS in environmental sciences from North Dakota State University and a BS in natural sciences from University of North Dakota. Crawford is certified in risk management through the Insurance Institute of America. Raised in Mandan, Jay and his wife Pamela have two sons, Con, 26, a BSC graduate, and Scott, 20, a current BSC student. He enjoys reading and was involved in the local hockey and Little League programs.

Faculty and Staff News

Todd Reidman, assistant professor of automotive technology, traveled to Las Vegas for the Automotive Transmission Rebuilders Association Conference Oct. 29-Nov. 2.

Bill Cossette, automotive technology instructor, attended the Association for Career and Technical Education Convention in Charlotte, N.C., Dec. 3-7.

Kim Christianson, director, Great Plains Energy Corridor, attended the 2009 Midwest Energy Solutions – Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance Conference in Chicago Jan. 6-9.

Alicia Berger, energy technology training and partnership manager, traveled to Dallas Jan. 13-15 for the Department of Labor – Partnering with Registered Apprenticeships Conference.

Dan Rogers, associate professor of theatre/speech, and **Dean Bellin**, technical theatre instructor, accompanied students to the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival in Lawrence, Kan., Jan. 18-24.

Attending the Council of College and Military Educators Annual Meeting in Honolulu Jan. 24-29 are **Lane Huber**, director of distance education, **Dr. Drake Carter**, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and **Wade Vogel**, energy technology programs manager.

In Orlando for the Community College Futures Assembly Jan. 24-27 are **Dr. Larry C. Skogen**, president, **Carla Braun Hixson**, associate vice president CETI, and **Dr. Donna Fishbeck**, associate vice president for student affairs.