

FYI Campus Newsletter

Bismarck State College ~ January 9, 2006

Bismarck State College becomes tobacco-free campus

Students returning for spring semester on Jan. 10 will be reminded that as of Jan. 1, BSC is a tobacco-free campus. Students and employees were informed about the new policy during the fall semester, but new signs were put up around campus during the Christmas break.

The new policy states that smoking and the use of chewing tobacco are prohibited anywhere in BSC buildings, on BSC property and/or BSC rented property by employees, students and visitors.

BSC President Donna S. Thigpen says she and her cabinet discussed this policy at length before making the final decision in October.

“Smoking indoors has not been allowed for years on the campus, and signs that smokers were to stay at least 100 feet away from entrances were put up several years ago,” said President Thigpen. “Because smokers did not always heed that rule, we continued to receive complaints from people who had to breathe second-hand smoke as they entered our buildings.”

“We want to provide a healthy atmosphere for students, employees and visitors,” she said. “We think this policy will help us do that.”

The policy includes Web sites that provide information on tobacco cessation and wellness programs for those who wish to stop smoking.

To view the Tobacco Free Campus Policy, go to BSC’s Web site: www.bismarckstate.edu/hr/policies.asp. Click on General Policies and then Tobacco Free Campus.

Complimentary tickets available for bluegrass concert

Blue Moon Rising, a nationally acclaimed bluegrass group, performs Saturday, Jan. 14, at Bismarck State College with guest fiddler Megan Lynch of 3 Fox Drive. Set for 7:30 p.m., the concert takes place in the Sidney J. Lee Auditorium following a day of bluegrass workshops by Lynch and Blue Moon Rising, a Tennessee-based band known for its fresh, original sound and topnotch musicianship and songwriting.

BSC students and employees can obtain a complimentary ticket for the concert from Michelle Lindblom, assistant professor of art. General admission concert tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at Eckroth Music, the String Bean in Bismarck, or at the door.

The event was organized by Jill Wiese of Cottonwood Bluegrass Band of Washburn, and is co-sponsored by BSC. BSC assisted with the successful application for a \$600 special project grant from the N.D. Council on the Arts. Read the news release at www.bismarckstate.edu/news/spotlight

Foundation awards more than \$35,000 in grants

The BSC Foundation Programs Committee approved \$35,318 in grants for campus events, equipment, and conference registrations for students and faculty.

An application from the ArtsQuest Committee and its Auditorium Subcommittee yielded a \$5,500 grant to make Sidney J. Lee Auditorium a “smart classroom.” The technology upgrade includes a data projector and DVD/VHS player for presenting ArtsQuest’s first film festival and other campus and community events.

The Foundation committee approved \$3,000 to Counseling and Career Services for funding BSC Students on Tour, a project to provide opportunities for students to tour businesses and industries related to their program area, and to reinforce relationships between industry and the Counseling and Careers office.

Another \$2,400 was awarded to Counseling and Career Services for a recruitment initiative to bring 275 high school juniors and seniors to campus to learn about 13 different technical programs through information sessions, demonstrations, and hands-on experiences.

These equipment requests were funded: \$2,500 to Nursing for a chest drain simulator; \$2,500 to BSC Theater for shop tools; \$2,500 to the Music program toward purchase of a Kawai baby grand piano; \$800 to Music for instrument procurement/equipment; and \$500 to BSC Housing Department for a digital camera/equipment to document student activities.

Grants tied to event programming ranged from \$650 to \$1,500. Receiving funds were BSC BookTalk, Commercial Art Show, Chemistry Week, ArtsQuest guest artist Jim Bonney, student master classes with professional musicians, and the North Dakota Intercollegiate Honor Band concert at BSC.

Grants for student conference registrations and field trips went to the Agribusiness, Hospitality, Drama Club, Energy Optimist Club, and BSC’s new Phi Beta Lambda organization.

Post-Christmas kudos and thanks

If you helped spread the Christmas spirit by decorating in your building or office, then envision your name on a “You Make a Difference” certificate.

President Thigpen said at the Learning First Council meeting in December that it would be nice to recognize employees whose efforts contributed to a cheery atmosphere during the Christmas season. Since that would be difficult, she asked that the recognition be done through the campus newsletter. Kudos to all you decorators!

Building Community Team co-leaders **Jocey Deutsch** and **Francis Miller** also want to thank the employees who purchased clothing and toys for children through the Salvation Army’s Angel Tree program. Deutsch reported at the team meeting that BSC employees gave items for 50 children. She said the volunteers who wrapped the items were very appreciative of the gifts from college employees.

McCormack and Porter to be granted full professor rank

President Donna S. Thigpen recently notified **Michael McCormack**, associate professor of history, and **Dr. Tom Porter**, associate professor of music, that she has approved their request for the faculty rank of full professor. The Faculty Rank Committee of the Faculty Senate initially reviewed the request, and then made a recommendation to the president. Their rank changes from associate professor to professor and will be conferred at the BSC Recognition Ceremony.

BSC welcomes JoAnna Smith

JoAnna Smith moved to Bismarck from Montana on Jan. 1 and began her job as admissions office assistant Jan. 3. She is a May 2005 graduate of Miles Community College, where she earned an AAS degree in small business management. Smith, a native of Fallon, Montana, was a lifeguard for three years and worked for a San Juan Islands resort in Washington last summer. She enjoys travel, the outdoors, and anything to do with water.

Recognition Ceremony rescheduled for May 3

The date of the Recognition Ceremony has been changed from April 19 to Wednesday, May 3. **Rita Nodland**, programs coordinator for the BSC Foundation, said the change was made because some student award recipients will be attending a Phi Theta Kappa convention during the week of April 19. Some department chairs also will be at a convention that week.

Consider making this change in your BSC Planner. During the ceremony, scheduled at 7 p.m. in the Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, these awards are presented: Outstanding Students, Who's Who in American Junior Colleges, Board of Governors, Chemical Rubber Chemistry Award, Phi Theta Kappa, Jack Fellowship, Faculty and Staff Awards for Excellence and Full Professor Rank.

MRCC wins award 9th time

The Missouri River Correctional Center Automotive Technology program received the 2005 Automotive Industry Planning Council Award for Excellence in December. **Bill Cossette**, instructor, said this is the ninth time the program has received this state-level award. The program is offered through the N.D. Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and BSC.

Faculty and Staff News

Mark Haugen, program director for the BSC-St. Alexius Medical Center Paramedic Program, has been appointed to the board of directors of HealthCare Education Accreditation Services Corporation (HCEAS) in Bedford, Texas. Newly incorporated, HCEAS serves as the parent corporation for the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) and the Committee on Accreditation of Education Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP). The merger of the two committees will help in streamlining accreditation services for CoARC, CoAEMSP, and Cardiovascular Technology (CVT).

Vickie Wyant, assistant professor of computer support specialist, recently passed certification tests (Word 2003 Expert, Excel 2003 Expert, PowerPoint, and previously Access) to become a Microsoft Office Specialist Master.

Eric Exner, grants accountant/compliance officer, traveled to Washington, D.C., Nov. 30-Dec. 3 for the Council for Resource Development Annual National Conference and Grants Management Workshop.

Dave Clark, executive vice president, traveled to Chicago Dec. 4-5 for the Central Association of Colleges and University Business Officers (CACUBO) board meeting. He also attended the Student Access Advisory Committee meeting of the MHEC-Midwestern Higher Education Compact in Minneapolis Dec. 16.

Zachery Allen, ETO research and development coordinator, traveled to Golden, Colo., Dec. 5-9 to meet with Electric Power Training Center on the BSC partnership, to guest lecture, and to consult on Web Lab.

Melinda Landis, energy placement coordinator, and **John Holtan**, assistant professor of power and process plant technology, accompanied students on the Energy Club tour of plants, and meetings with HR reps in Minneapolis Dec. 7-9.

Lyle Warner, associate professor of agribusiness, attended the Vision 2020 Articulation Planning Institute in Janesville, Wis., Dec. 14-15.

Bill Wahlman, ETO programs director, and **Bruce Emmil**, ETO program manager/instructor, attended a meeting with Lake Area Technical College about a potential partnership in Watertown, S.D., Dec. 14-15.

Chad Wetzel, power and process plant technology instructor, traveled to Goldfield, Iowa, Dec. 26-Jan. 9 to give ethanol plant startup assistance to the I.C.M. Engineering firm.