

FYI Campus Newsletter

Bismarck State College ~ June 2, 2009

BSC among ‘Top 10 Best Places to Work for Young Professionals’

The Bismarck-Mandan Chamber Young Professionals Network presented BSC with a plaque denoting the college as one of the “Top 10 Best Places to Work for Young Professionals.”

President **Larry C. Skogen** accepted the award on May 15. BSC also made this list two years ago.

Rita Lindgren, chief human resources officer, said HR is really pleased with the award. “This is a great way to enhance BSC’s visibility in the community and help attract future employees,” Lindgren said. “This recognition demonstrates our goals of the Recruitment and Retention Plan.”

Comments from the nominator(s) were included in the YPN news release: “Young professionals are encouraged to become involved with the many committees on campus. Young professionals have the opportunity to voice their opinions to a campus-wide audience and have prominent roles on both our Staff Senate and Faculty Senate.”

The other businesses receiving the recognition this year: Aetna, American Bank Center, Applied Engineering Inc., Barr Engineering Co., Capital Credit Union, Kadrmars, Lee & Jackson, National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC), N.D. Department of Transportation, and Odney Communications Group.

They were selected from more than 30 nominations through anonymous evaluation by a committee of six individuals from diverse backgrounds, according to the YPN news release.

BSC Archives receives grant to digitize images and documents

Documents related to BSC’s history will soon be part of Digital Horizons – A Plains Media Resource, through the efforts of librarian **Carolyn Twingley**, who manages the BSC Archives.

Twingley was successful in her grant application for a state digitization project, which is underway this summer. BSC’s Archives is the only college archives in the group of 10 grant recipients. The reason for this, says Twingley, is that North Dakota’s colleges, other than the research universities, likely don’t have an archives as extensive as BSC’s.

Included in 100 BSC items that were digitized are photos, printed pieces and sound recordings. Some of the images are ground breaking at the Boulevard campus, the first graduates, the bagpipe band, scenes from musicals, and students and employees gathered for a photo from the top of Schafer Hall for the college’s 50th anniversary celebration. An interview with former president Dr. Kermit Lidstrom with anecdotes of BSC’s history recorded for National Public Radio’s Story Corps is also included. Among

the printed pieces are some pages from BSC annuals and a receipt for college tuition the first year of classes in 1939-40.

“This is a beginning for the BSC Library Archives to share some of our treasures with the public who are not able to visit our library,” said Twingley. “I am hoping that we can continue to add images at some point in the future to keep our college connected to our students, faculty, staff and our community.”

She said digital project archivists hired by the State Historical Society completed their work at BSC in late May, and BSC’s images will be the first to be uploaded and viewable by the middle of June.

The other institutions whose resources will be added during the current project are historical societies of Barnes, Billings, Cass, McLean, Mercer and Pembina counties; Manfred Heritage Museum; Stutsman County Memorial Museum; and Three Affiliated Tribes Museum.

Digital Horizons was established in 2007 by a consortium of colleges, Prairie Public Broadcasting, and the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Digital Horizons is dedicated to creating a digital collection of the region’s unique and historical resources. It supports education, scholarship, and enrichment through Internet access to these collections at digitalhorizonsonline.org

Madison Gas & Electric hires BSC interns and grads

When it comes to hiring new power plant workers, companies want experience. For Madison Gas & Electric, the first source has been Bismarck State College. The relationship between the Wisconsin utility and BSC goes back to 1981.

“BSC is *THE* main source for our employees and really the only school that trains boiler and turbine operators,” says Debra Loeks, senior employment consultant for Madison Gas & Electric (MG&E). “Hiring BSC grads takes some of the guesswork out of who’s interested and saves training time.”

The company has employed at least 80 graduates and student interns over the years, including **Holly Burch**, now an assistant professor of Energy Technology Programs at BSC. Burch earned an AAS in Power Plant Technology from BSC in 1988 and worked for MG&E through the early 1990s. She left to teach when the company began indicating it would cut back energy production at its Blount station.

“It meant BSC was getting a good instructor and we had someone who knew our plant – a plus for all of us,” Loeks said.

[Read the full story in News Releases.](#)

BSC Foundation approves grants

The Bismarck State College Foundation Programs Committee recently awarded \$21,547 in grants for projects headed by faculty, staff, and student organizations in 2009. Fourteen projects were funded with distributions between \$382 and \$4,500.

- English program/Literary Publications Class – \$4,500, publication of “Figments of Imagination” Vol. 17.
- Music program – \$3,000, ChoirFest guest conductor/educator and other expenses.

- Phi Beta Lambda – \$3,000, student costs for National Leadership Conference, June 20-23, Anaheim, Calif.
- English program – \$2,000, Visiting Writers Series 2009-10, author fees.
- Chemistry program - \$1,600, National Chemistry Week student activities, October 2009.
- Music program - \$1,200, acoustic upright studio piano for Room 184.
- Theatre program – \$1,100, collaborative production with Capitol Shakespeare, July 22-26.
- Music program – \$1,000, master classes 2009-10, Joanne Holt Grant request.
- Chemistry program – \$1,000, National Chemistry Week, Joanne Holt Grant request.
- Music faculty – \$850, National Piano Pedagogy Conference, July 29, Chicago.
- Mathematics program – \$765, faculty attendance at N.D. Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges, Carrington, fall 2009.
- Continuing Education, Training and Innovation – \$600, BSC Music Institute, Aug. 10-13.
- Staff Senate - \$550, Focus on Finance Presentation Series.
- Surgical Technology Club – \$382, student attendance at Association of Surgical Technologists national conference in May.

The BSC Foundation emphasizes proposals that involve innovative teaching and learning projects. For more information, call 224-5730.

Professional development grants awarded

The Programs Committee of the BSC Foundation Board of Trustees has awarded four professional development grants to faculty and staff totaling \$4,000. Recipients are **Theresa Felderman**, assistant professor of psychology, to pay for tuition and dissertation expenses related to obtaining a doctorate degree in psychology from Northcentral University; **Tamara Barber**, associate vice president of finance and operations, to pay for tuition, fees and books for an MBA class at UND; **Jodi Rathjen**, admissions office assistant, to help with expenses for a BA in psychology through Minot State University; and **Carla Sivesind**, payroll account technician, for tuition toward a BAS degree in business information technology from Minot State University.

The award may be used for but not limited to conference attendance such as professional and creative workshops, tuition and fees for educational coursework not covered by BSC employee tuition wavers, or purchase of software or books required for a conference or training seminar. Professional development funds are awarded twice a year. Closing dates for proposals are the first Wednesday in October and last Wednesday in March.

Marlene Anderson's article published nationally

Marlene Anderson, director of library services, wrote an article that was published nationally on the American Library Association's "I Love Libraries" Web site. Anderson wrote "Challenge at Beulah," a story about the Beulah School Board removing a book from the library on Jan. 15, 2009, after parents of a student complained about its content. Four days later, the board rescinded its decision to ban

“Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil” by John Berendt following community action in favor of the book.

Anderson’s story was a lead-in to address the question: “Could You Handle a Challenge at Your Library?” The article was first published in the March 2009 issue of The Good Stuff, the official magazine of the North Dakota Library Association. “Challenge at Beulah” is the second piece by Anderson selected by the ALA for its Web site at www.ilovelibraries.org/news/topstories/beulah.cfm.

Karen Selensky completes Leadership program

Karen Selensky, CETI training manager, was among the 13 professionals in this year’s class of Leadership Bismarck-Mandan, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Selensky plans to stay involved with the Arthritis Foundation, which was the group’s field project. Purpose of the Leadership program is to develop local leaders who actively participate in and support community progress.

Faculty and Staff News

Jay Crawford, OSHA safety and health consultant, attended the Introduction of Safety Standards for Safety Officers – OSHA Training Institute May 11-22 in Arlington Heights, Ill.

Janet Decker, grant development coordinator, attended the Compression Planning Workshop for Grant Developers in Pittsburgh May 12-15.

Daniel Schmidt, energy technology programs manager, attended the GPiLearn Users Conference in Denver May 13-14.

Attending the Collegiate Management Institute in Oxford, Ohio, May 16-22 were **Carla Sivesind**, payroll account technician, **Greg Ross**, controller, **Tamara Barber**, associate vice president for finance and operations, and **Tanya Fuher**, bookstore manager.

Earl Torgerson, assistant professor of carpentry, traveled to Antigua, Guatemala, as part of the God’s Child Project May 17-28. He trained trainers and developed curriculum for a service learning opportunity for BSC students.

Angie Milakovic, GIS coordinator/instructor, traveled to Lino Lakes, Minn., May 17-19 for the Intelligence-Led Policing: GIS Technology Conference.

Dave Clark, executive vice president, attended the Central Association of Colleges and University Business Officers (CACUBO) Meeting in Cincinnati May 21-23.

Jean Hinton, associate professor of surgical technology, and **Trudy Riehl**, assistant professor of surgical technology, attended the Association of Surgical Technologists Annual National Conference and Instructor’s Workshop Mandatory Continuing Education in Las Vegas May 24-30.