

FYI Campus Newsletter

Bismarck State College – June 29, 2004

National Science Foundation awards two grants to BSC

BSC recently received two grants from the National Science Foundation to support curriculum development in its energy technology programs.

A three-year grant of \$750,000 is for continuing development of the Nuclear Power Technology online program. Through its partnership with EPCE, BSC began the Nuclear Power Tech program in November with a pilot group of 26 students. Principle investigator for the grant is **Bruce Emmil**, energy technology online program manager, and co-principle investigator is **Carla Braun Hixson**, associate vice president for corporate & continuing education.

The second grant of \$70,487 is for development of a WebLab Power Grid. The WebLab product is a system that allows online students to access laboratory equipment normally available only to classroom students. **Zak Allen**, energy technology online instructor and multimedia coordinator, is the principle investigator.

BSC students are national winners at SkillsUSA

BSC electronics/telecommunications technology students won first and second place awards in postsecondary sections at the SkillsUSA National Competition June 22-25 in Kansas City, Mo.

Zach Deslauriers of Bismarck received the first place Gold Award in the Electronics Technology Contest. He will have the opportunity to compete for one spot on the international competition team representing all of the USA. **Josh Horner, Bismarck**, received the second place Silver Award in the Electronics Applications Contest.

The contests involved one-on-one interview competition, written exam, and an eight-hour, hands-on skills testing. Both categories had students competing from all 50 states. Dan Wahlman, air conditioning, heating and refrigeration instructor and lead advisor for BSC's SkillsUSA Team, said the students represented BSC in a fashion that would make any instructor proud.

Enrollment of 1,188 breaks record for summer

BSC's summer enrollment of 1,188 students is another record-breaker, with 29 more students than last summer's total enrollment of 1,159. The numbers reflect a .025 percent increase.

Tom Leno, director of academic records and registrar, said summer enrollment is often boosted by Bismarck-Mandan students who attend other colleges, but who are back home for the summer and enroll at BSC to complete general education credits.

Commercial art students offered internship

BSC Commercial Art and the State Historical Society of North Dakota have collaborated on a graphic design internship for paid work on a new transportation-related exhibit at the Former Governor's Mansion State Historical Site in Bismarck. About eight commercial art students applied, says **Sean Thorenson**, commercial art instructor. **Catherine Dalzell** and **Rob Phillips** of Bismarck were selected for the June 1 to July 30 internship. Dalzell is a 2004 graduate and Phillips will be a sophomore.

"This will be a good opportunity for them to earn money in their training field, plus receive exposure," Thorenson says. Students' names will be credited within the carriage house exhibit.

Interns will design panels using photographs, documents, and illustrations to interpret the transition from horse and buggy to the automobile age. The carriage house exhibit also will trace the evolution of Bismarck from a settlement town of dirt roads to a city of paved streets. Students will compose the panels, labels, and captions in the Commercial Art computer labs using color schemes and typography of the 1920s and work with a design house on panel specifications and production.

BSC featured in Platt's Power magazine

BSC received prominent mention in the June 2004 issue of Platt's Power magazine. An article titled "Technical education in a virtual world" includes a 3/4 page "breakout" article on BSC's four programs for students interested in the energy industry: power plant technology, electric power technology, electrical transmission systems technology, and nuclear power technology.

Mike Holman, department chairperson of the Industrial Technology Department, is quoted in the story. The main article mentions BSC as one of the exceptions to most distance-learning classes being non-technical programs.

BSC welcomes new employees

Bonnie Weisz has moved from part-time learning assistant in Student Services to a full-time job as testing and assessment coordinator. She replaces Sandy Fried, who was promoted to associate registrar in April. Weisz began working in Admissions and the Registrar's office through Kelly Services in 1999. She has taught at Bismarck and Mandan elementary schools the past 10 years and has three children. A BSC graduate, she holds a BS in elementary and early childhood education from the University of Mary and is pursuing a master's degree in education from the University of North Dakota.

On June 14, **Wendy Niemann** added network administrator in Computer Services to her jobs at BSC. Niemann has taught Windows server classes for three years as an adjunct in Computer Information Systems, where she obtained Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer certification. A 1996 graduate in psychology from the University of North Dakota, Niemann previously worked at Sykes Enterprises and

Fireside Office Plus as a computer consultant and network engineer. She replaces Ron Zarr, who left BSC in May for a position with the state Information Technology Department.

Two employees leaving college

BSC is losing two employees at the end of this month. **Tom Berube**, admissions counselor, says he plans to stay in Bismarck and to stay in touch with his friends here. He came to BSC in 1999 after working for 12 years as admissions counselor at Minot State University-Bottineau. Berube says he has enjoyed working with prospective students, their parents, and with the Admissions staff. "We've had some great enrollments over the past several years, and the admissions team has been very helpful," he said.

Becky Heinsen, registrar clerk, started working here last August, and may have stayed longer if her husband, Lyle, hadn't accepted a new job in Fargo. She's heading to Fargo tonight, and hopes her experience at BSC will help her find employment at NDSU.

Faculty/Staff News

Jean Hinton, surgical technology instructor and program coordinator, was a pre-conference instructor at the Association of Surgical Technologists National Conference in Washington, D.C., May 24-29. Her presentation was titled "Continuing Your Education - Online." She discussed hardware, software, personal computer skills needed, time commitment, reasons for getting an advanced degree, and doing it online.

Amy Helgeson, computer information systems instructor, passed another Certified Internet Webmaster (CIW) exam in May for CIW E-Commerce Designer. Passing this exam gives her the title of Master CIW Designer (or MCIWD). BSC is the only institution in the state that offers CIW training.

Albert Koch, OSHA consultation program manager, attended the OSHA Regional Conference in Denver June 1-3.

Jean Hushagen, associate professor of biology, attended the International Marine Aquarium Conference in Chicago June 3-6.

Carla Braun Hixson, associate vice president for CCE, attended the Region IV Discretionary Grant Management Roundtable June 8-10 in Dallas.

Wes Braun, energy technology online program manager/instructor, traveled to Phoenix June 13-18 for the Honeywell Users Group Americas Symposium.

April Hall, practical nursing instructor/coordinator, attended the 10th Biennial North American Learning Resource Center Conference in Spokane June 16-20.

Dan Wahlman, air conditioning, heating and refrigeration instructor, accompanied two students to the National Skills USA Competition in Kansas City, Mo., June 22-25.