

FYI **Campus Newsletter**

Bismarck State College – November 15, 2007

BSC ChoirFest concert set for 4 p.m. Saturday

More than 100 singers from Bismarck State College and 12 area high schools unite for the 13th annual ChoirFest concert at 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, in Belle Mehus Auditorium. The festival concert concludes two days of intense rehearsals with choral students and guest conductor, Bradley Logan, Bemidji State University professor, choral director, and music department chair.

Overflow crowds at BSC moved the festival concert to the city auditorium this year to avoid turning people away, said **Dr. Tom Porter**, BSC professor of music and director of the choral program and ChoirFest.

“The past several years we have packed the BSC auditorium with standing-room-only crowds. Moving the concert to the Belle Mehus opens seating and provides a wonderful performance facility for our musicians,” Porter said. Read news release at.....

DOE official cites Bismarck State in U.S. Senate committee hearing

Bismarck State College’s reputation as a leading provider of education for the energy industry was noted by a U.S. Department of Energy official last week during a U.S. Senate committee hearing.

The college was cited as an example of a successful public-private partnership working to ensure training and education opportunities for the energy industry during testimony Nov. 6 at a U.S. Senate Committee Hearing of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

BSC President Larry C. Skogen and BSC Vice President of Energy Technology Programs Kari L. Knudson were present at the hearing during testimony by Patricia A. Hoffman, a deputy director within DOE.

Dr. Skogen says, “BSC has uniquely positioned itself as the leading source of education for the energy industry. The fact that we were used as the example in her testimony is another indicator that we are poised to help solve the nation’s need for highly skilled energy industry workers now and in the future.”

Hoffman is Deputy Director of R&D and Acting Chief Operating Officer of the DOE’s Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability. Her testimony concerned the nation’s domestic energy sector workforce and the strong need for the U.S. to invest in a vibrant workforce because of looming retirements in the industry, among other related issues.

In her testimony about BSC, Hoffman said: “One example of a successful public-private partnership ... is the Department’s designation of Bismarck State College in North Dakota as a National Power Plant Operations Technology and Educational Center. Bismarck State’s programs in power plant, process plant, electric power, electrical transmission systems, and nuclear power technologies will

educate and train many of our future energy sector workers. It also uses the latest technologies via the internet and training simulations to speed up the knowledge transfer process.”

Dr. Skogen and Knudson were in Washington to meet with the DOE, the National Science Foundation, North Dakota’s congressional delegation and other agencies. He says BSC is seeking the means to be the lead college in a national consortium of energy workforce educators.

Link to the full testimony: http://energy.senate.gov/public/_files/HoffmanTestimony110607.pdf

BSC radio ad wins ‘Teddy’ Award

“How do I pay for college?” “What is financial aid all about?” “How can I transfer to other colleges?” “Did you know there are thousands of dollars in scholarships available at BSC?” “How can I become a BSC student?”

These questions and more were the focus of the Explore BSC Day held October 19, 2006. Bismarck State College’s radio ad to promote the day received a “Teddy” award in the radio category at the North Dakota Broadcasting Association awards banquet in Fargo in September. Cumulus Broadcasting of Bismarck-Mandan produced the ad, and also won two other “Teddy” awards for radio commercials. The BSC ads were run for a concentrated two-week period to drive prospects to attend the Explore BSC Day.

BSC welcomes new employee

Joshua Mertz, assistant professor of energy technology programs, worked nine years for Xcel Energy as a control room operator at the Stillwater, Minn., plant. He holds a Minnesota Chief-A Boiler license. A native of Bismarck, Mertz graduated from BSC in 1998 with a certificate in power plant technology. He coached youth basketball in Roberts, Wis., and enjoys sports, fishing, and the outdoors. He and his wife, Jessica, have a 5-month-old daughter.

Dr. Carter elected president of NDCTEA

Dr. Drake Carter, associate vice president for academic affairs, was recently elected president of the N.D. Career and Technical Education Administrators. Among the purposes of the NDCTEA are to promote and develop Career & Technical education in secondary and post secondary schools of North Dakota.

BSC Foundation/Alumni staff members hold national positions

Julie Erickson, director of resource development, will serve as an at-large director of the 2008 Council for Resource Development (CRD) Board of Directors as editor of Dispatch, the CRD national news magazine. In this role she is responsible for editing three editions of Dispatch.

Jason Matthews, alumni coordinator, was elected in November to serve as the CRD Region VIII director-elect. He will assume the role of the Region VIII director on the Council for Resource Development Board of Directors in 2009. CRD is comprised of ten regions inclusive of all US States and Territories and Canadian Provinces and Territories. Region VIII consists of Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota, North Dakota, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba.

Art Rude presents at national math conference

Art Rude, assistant professor of mathematics, gave a presentation at the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) 33rd Annual Conference. His presentation, “The Three-Pound Universe,” focuses on how the brain works in mathematics.

Also attending the conference in Minneapolis Oct.31-Nov. 4 were **Linda Tonolli**, associate professor of mathematics, **Kathy Swetich**, mathematics instructor, and **Don Bigwood**, mathematics adjunct. **Tonolli** continues to serve on the editorial panel for one of the organization’s publications, the AMATYC Review.

The theme of this year’s conference was “Building a Better Tomorrow.” Topics discussed ranged from the latest developments in instructional technology and pedagogy to sessions addressing course content and assessment.

Companies earn safety and health status from ND OSHA

Jeld-Wen Millwork Distribution, Fargo, earned OSHA’s SHARP status on Oct. 11. It was the 10th company in ND to receive the SHARP (Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program) status. **Al Koch**, manager of the ND OSHA consultation program at BSC, presented the recognition to Cal Jarabek, manager of Jeld-Wen.

Timber Roots of Williston, manufacturer of trusses, recently had its SHARP status renewed for two years.

These companies began the voluntary SHARP designation process with a comprehensive site audit. In addition to the audit, companies must correct all identified hazards, demonstrate effective safety and health programs, and maintain injury rates below the national average for their industry for three years.

The ND OSHA program consultants work for BSC through an OSHA grant, which was established to help small businesses with fewer than 250 employees with high hazards. The safety and health consultations are free, non-punitive and confidential.

Faculty and Staff News

Bill Walz, energy technology program manager, and **Bruce Emmil**, associate vice president for energy technology programs, attended the National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education Conference-Nuclear Power in Washington, D.C., Oct. 17-19.

Dr. John Darling, assistant professor of music, presented two lectures at the North Dakota Educators Association (NDEA) Conference on Oct. 18 in Minot. One lecture focused on choosing music that works for smaller Class B schools; the second was a saxophone clinic designed especially for non-saxophone teachers to help them teach this instrument to their students.

Dan Schmidt, energy technology programs manager, and **Alicia Berger**, energy technology programs training manager, attended the ETST Advisory Committee Meeting in St. Louis Oct. 17-18.

Joan Kleven, energy technology programs advisor, and **Kevin Holmstrom**, energy technology programs manager, traveled to Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 22-24 for the 2007 Center for Energy Workforce Development Summit.

Jeff Jacobs, financial aid director, attended the Rocky Mountain Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Board Meeting and Conference in Breckenridge, Colo., Oct. 19-24.

Mike Kubisiak, institutional research analyst, traveled to Bloomington, Minn., Oct. 24-28 for the Association of Institutional Research in the Upper Midwest (AIRUM) 2007 Conference.

Pat Gross, AV/IVN coordinator, attended the Council of State Employees (COSE) meeting in Fargo, Oct. 25.

Dr. Wayne Boekes, provost and vice president for academic and student affairs, and **Lori Heinsohn**, director of continuing education, training and innovation, traveled to Savannah, Ga., Oct. 27-30 for the National Council for Workforce Education Annual Fall Conference.

Richard Malsam, assistant professor of automotive collision technology, attended the National Auto Collision Expo and Instructional Educational Seminars in Las Vegas Oct. 30-Nov. 4.

Tom Stein, associate professor of English, attended the College Reading and Learning Association Annual Conference in Support of ASC 082 Effective Reading Classes Oct. 31-Nov. 4 in Portland.

Bill Walz, energy technology programs manager, traveled to Niagara On The Lake, Ontario, Canada, Nov. 4-7 for the Integrated Energy Workforce Development Initiative-Partnership of Community Colleges Conference.