

FYI Campus Newsletter

Bismarck State College ~ October 18, 2007

Panel to discuss ‘Into the Wild’ at noon Oct. 23

The panel discussion for BSC’s Campus Read of “Into the Wild” takes place at noon Tuesday, Oct. 23, in Sidney J. Lee Auditorium.

“Into the Wild” by Jon Krakauer is a compelling true story about a young man who renounces wealth and drops out of society to match wits with the Alaskan wilderness. Christopher McCandless, an honors graduate of Emory University in Atlanta, wandered North America for two years, working odd jobs and hitchhiking to places such as Mitchell, S.D., where he worked for custom combiner Wayne Westerberg.

Westerberg is among five panelists who will present brief remarks and answer questions from the audience during the one-hour discussion. He has McCandless’s original journals and photographs, left with him by McCandless for safekeeping until his presumed return, and is bringing them to BSC. Westerberg will also visit classes at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Library Rooms 121-123.

Other panelists are Mark Gonzalez, wilderness explorer and program manager for USDA-Forest Service Dakota Prairie Grasslands, BSC psychology faculty members Henry Riegler and Theresa Felderman, and BSC student John Edwards, an Alaskan traveler who saw the abandoned bus described in the book.

“The book is a hit among students because it’s about someone their own age, very readable, and a true story,” said Janelle Masters, BSC dean of faculty.

Westerberg worked as a consultant for the movie based on the McCandless incident. Directed by Sean Penn, “Into the Wild” was released Sept. 21. BSC students get a discount Friday, Oct. 19, at 8:15 p.m. in Bismarck’s Grand Theatres. The discount is available only to BSC students, who will be admitted for the matinee price of \$5.75 with BSC ID.

Brochure series wins regional communications award

BSC’s Marketing and Communications Department recently won a Bronze Medallion Award in the communications contest of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations, District 5.

Mary Friesz, director of marketing; **Crystal Forster**, public information assistant; and **Deidre Pugh**, admissions counselor, developed the brochures that won third place in the Brochure Series category.

The brochures were part of the Explore BSC campaign, conducted in the fall of 2006.

Explore BSC was an awareness campaign designed to engage traditional-age students, their parents and high school counselors by bringing them to the campus where they could talk with faculty and staff, and visit campus facilities.

The response to the Explore BSC events was far higher than planned and follow-up surveys indicated significantly increased awareness of the programs featured.

NCMPR is a council of the American Association of Community Colleges. District 5 comprises Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba.

Anderson honored with Librarian of the Year Award

The North Dakota Library Association chose **Marlene Anderson**, BSC director of library services, as 2007 Librarian of the Year during its annual conference Sept. 27 in Jamestown. She has been a NDLA member since 1993 and has served as president, secretary, and on the Technical Services, Legislative, and Public Relations committees. Anderson was recognized for her creativity, resourcefulness, ethics and dedication and currently leads as chair of The Good Stuff Editorial Committee, which publishes the NDLA's online quarterly magazine. The award recognizes a member who has made notable contributions to the North Dakota library profession, has furthered significant development of libraries in North Dakota or has performed exemplary statewide service for an extended period of time.

Johanna McClay, reference librarian, also attended the conference. McClay was appointed to the Executive Board as chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee. She also helped present a session on her experience as one of four North Dakota librarians selected for the 2006 Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute sponsored by the Mountain Plains Library Association.

Carolyn Twingley, serials/interlibrary loan/archives librarian, was recognized with a 20-year membership certificate.

BSC welcomes new employees

Evan Rham, carpentry lab assistant, graduated from the BSC Residential Carpentry program with an AAS degree in 2003. Before moving to Bismarck, he took two years of wildlife management classes at MSU-Bottineau. Rham works summers as a construction foreman for Integrity Homes of Bismarck. He was raised and educated in Rugby and enjoys hunting.

Sinda Cain, human resources office assistant, has held several administrative assistant positions in Grand Rapids, Mich., and most recently was a market services data specialist for Grand Valley Health Plan. She also worked in collections at Green Tree Financial. Cain served in the U.S. Air Force as an information management specialist for a mission support squadron in Alaska. Born and raised in Bismarck until age 16, Cain is a graduate of Kenowa Hills High School in Walker, Mich. She and her husband Kevin Cain have two daughters, Ceza, 16, and Heather, 13.

Darcy Roberts, admissions office assistant, graduated from BSC in May with an AAS in Information Processing Specialist. She has master's certification in Office 2003. Before BSC, she worked as a data assistant at Dakota Manufacturing Extensive Partnership in Bismarck. Roberts was raised in Lodi, Calif., and graduated from Napoleon (N.D.) High School. In

California, Roberts volunteered at an adult day care center helping elderly people. She enjoys gym workouts and is engaged to Travis Makeeff. A spring 2009 wedding is planned.

Danny Stoppler, custodian, worked 25 years for Wilhelm Inc., in the auto parts department and did car care for another local auto dealership. He has certification from the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence. Stoppler worked briefly as a janitor at University of Mary before coming to BSC. He is married to Brenda and they have two daughters, one who attends BSC. Stoppler enjoys camping, fishing, auctions, and restoring antique furniture.

BSC welcomes back **Janet Decker** as administrative assistant to Kari Knudsen, BSC's new vice president, energy technology programs and director, National Energy Center of Excellence. Decker worked at BSC eight years, first as BSC Foundation administrative assistant, then as alumni and programs coordinator and finally as research and grants coordinator. She left to enter a family business as co-owner and office manager of Coffees and Kitchens Inc. Decker has a BA in psychology from University of California-Irvine and studied management for three years at Minnesota State University-Moorhead. Decker enjoys her son, 12, and daughter, 9, reading, cooking, and walking her yellow Lab, Annie.

Alison Zarr, conference associate in Continuing Education, Training and Innovation, was an archive specialist for the Lewis and Clark Fort Mandan Foundation in Washburn for three years. She graduated from BSC with an AA in history in 2002 and earned a BA in history from Northern State University in Aberdeen, S.D. in 2004. Zarr also worked as an interpreter and tour guide at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park. She is married to Casey Zarr and enjoys golfing, traveling, scrapbooking, and volunteering for the McLean County Museum in Washburn, her hometown.

Arlie and Volk present at Beyond Boundaries Conference

Karen Arlie, assistant professor of computer science, and **Vickie Volk**, assistant professor of computer support specialist, presented the results of a research study entitled "Fostering Expertise Through Threaded Discussions: An Analysis of Online Discussion in an Introductory Graduate Course" at the 6th annual conference of Beyond Boundaries in Grand Forks, Oct. 4-5. The study was completed under the direction of Dr. Richard Van Eck, associate professor, graduate director, Instructional Design & Technology, University of North Dakota. Arlie and Volk are working on master's degrees in Instructional Design and Technology through UND.

Milakovic receives NASA training

Angie Milakovic, GIS coordinator/instructor, was one of 20 community college instructors selected nationwide to attend Integrated Geospatial Education Technology Training (iGETT), a two-week seminar funded by a National Science Foundation grant. Milakovic was trained in early August by staff from NASA, the U.S. Geological Survey, and Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) on how to integrate remote sensing satellite technology into her courses.

BSC also received a three-year grant to use GIS and remote sensing software valued at \$65,000. As a grant participant, Milakovic also will write a "Learning Unit" for inclusion in a consortium of GIS lessons on remote sensing for use in high school or college courses. Her work includes a public education component. Milakovic plans to create a GIS-based template for North Dakota counties to value land based on soil classification as set forth in HB 1303.

"It has been 40 years since this process has been updated in North Dakota," Milakovic says. "I will work with one county and develop the lesson using real data and ArcGIS software, then add the NASA Landsat satellite component for all county government officials to use as a baseline for starting their own GIS project."

Faculty and Staff News

Dr. Larry Skogen, president, and **Kari Knudson**, vice president for energy technology programs and director of NECE, attended the e-College Presidents' Roundtable in San Antonio Oct. 2-5.

Ryan Caya and **Kyren Miller**, assistant professors of power/process plant technology, and **Dan Schmidt**, energy technology program manager, traveled to Houston Oct. 2-5 for the Center for the Advancement of Process Technology Critical Issues and Best Practices Conference.

Mike McCormack, professor of history, attended and chaired a session at the Northern Great Plains History Conference in Duluth Oct. 3-6. McCormack is a member of the conference governing board.

Dave Clark, executive vice president, and **Tamara Barber**, associate vice president for finance and operations, traveled to Chicago Oct. 6-10 for the Central Association of Colleges and University Business Officers Annual Meeting.

Lane Huber, director of distance education, **Tom Leno**, director of academic records and registrar, and **Mary Eisenbraun**, business office manager, attended the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) Internet Course Exchange Steering Committee Meeting in Boulder, Colo., Oct. 7-9.

Dr. Drake Carter, associate vice president for academic affairs, traveled to Pocatello, Idaho, Oct. 8-11 for the Energy Systems Technology and Education Center (ESTEC) Advisory Council Meeting.

David Sagsveen, civil engineering technology instructor, attended the Improving Public Works Inspection Skills Workshop as part of continuing education for professional licensure in Las Vegas Oct. 8-12.

Kevin Kyes, assistant business office manager, attended "How to Get Paid by Uncle Sam" on submitting government invoices electronically in order to adhere to new regulations. The seminar was held in New Orleans Oct. 9-12.

Dr. Jane Schulz, dean of instruction, attended the National Tech Prep Network and Career Pathways Annual Conference in Louisville, Ky., Oct. 10-13. **Donna Fricke**, career resource coordinator, was in Louisville Oct. 8-14 for the same conference.