

# *FYI* **Campus Newsletter**

**Bismarck State College – September 17, 2004**

## **BSC reaches record enrollment for 6<sup>th</sup> year**

BSC's official enrollment of 3,570 students marks the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of record enrollments for BSC. The number reflects an additional 140 students, a four percent increase, over last fall's total enrollment of 3,430.

BSC has experienced record-breaking enrollments since 1999, when enrollment was 2,743 students. Of the total enrollment this fall, 2,370 are full-time students. This is a 3.6 percent increase over last fall. The part-time number is 1,200 students.

Dr. Wayne Boekes, provost and vice president for academic and student affairs, says these record-breaking enrollments indicate BSC is providing the education and services that students want.

He said factors influencing the college's growth are the college's online classes, new programs, strong student services and outreach that lead to increased retention, and collaborative initiatives with other N.D. University System institutions, including the addition of baccalaureate programs.

"People are learning that they can stay in Bismarck with a variety of choices of a low-cost public baccalaureate education," Boekes said.

"This also mirrors a growing national trend of students beginning at community colleges to forestall the high costs of four-year colleges and universities," he said.

"One of the main reasons for our success is our employees who are committed to providing quality instruction and services," he said. "Without them and their commitment, BSC would not continue to grow."

## **Power Plant Technology earns high profile endorsement**

Constellation Power Generation, a subsidiary of Constellation Energy Group Inc., gave BSC a thumbs-up in its newsletter CPGConnections. A full-page story in the September issue features BSC Power Plant Technology Online program graduates, who say their training deserves an "A." CPG began a partnership with BSC four years ago to train its employees online. The company uses BSC as a source for core power plant operator skills and recommends enrollment to new operators as well as paid tuition incentive to all employees.

"Having people in the industry vouch for us is a feather in our cap and shows that what we're doing is worthwhile and beneficial to the industry," says Dan Schmidt, BSC Energy Technology Online program manager/instructor.

The story listed 11 company employees with either AAS degrees or diplomas from BSC, including George Prince, named outstanding student in Power Plant Technology Online in 2003.

Schmidt said the CPG/BSC partnership began after training instructor Darren Marvin visited the campus and went through the program himself to assess the quality and access of online learning. Marvin later advocated his experience throughout the company.

CPG is a subsidiary of Constellation Energy Group Inc, a Fortune 500 company based in Baltimore. It operates 35 power plants in 12 states, mostly in the eastern United States, and deals in power generation, competitive energy supply, energy delivery, and energy consulting and services. More company information is available at [www.constellation.com](http://www.constellation.com).

## Dawn Halle hired for new administrative assistant position

**Dawn Halle** began her job in the new position of administrative assistant for Executive Vice President Dave Clark on Sept. 2. She works on second floor of the Horizon Building. Halle graduated from Lake Region State College in 2000 with an AAS from the medical administrative assistant program. She was administrative assistant in loans at Western State Bank in Devils Lake for nearly four years and a customer service manager at Wal-Mart. Originally from Rock Lake, N.D., Halle and her husband Dustin have three children.

## BSC music faculty perform Sunday

Fresh from a summer of preparation, BSC's music faculty will open the performance season at BSC with a vocal and instrumental program Sunday, Sept. 19, at 7:30 p.m. in Sidney J. Lee Auditorium.

Selections range from the classical guitar music of 16th century Spanish composer Luis Milan to the songs of Schubert, excerpts from Italian and French opera, a Russian-style "Hopak," jazz combo, and a song from the Broadway musical, "Jekyll and Hyde."

Baritone Thomas Porter and sopranos Dawn Hagerott and Kathryn Ring perform vocal selections, along with BSC's new adjunct vocal instructor, Clyde Bauman, tenor, who presents "La fleur" from Bizet's "Carmen."

Hagerott interprets pieces by Schubert and from Verdi's "La Traviata" (Violetta's "Ah, fors e' lui"). Porter performs a Figaro aria ("Largo al factotum") from Rossini's "The Barber of Seville." Ring sings from Donizetti's "Linda Di Chamounix" and "Jekyll and Hyde." All are assisted by Bismarck piano accompanist Julie Schwartz.

BSC piano instructors Arlene Gray and Diane Eichhorst play, respectively, Mussorgsky's "Hopak" and a Brahms' character piece, "Intermezzi Op. 118." Percussion instructor Adam Halverson resonates with a tympani solo by German composer Murray Houllif, and Doug Klein entertains on guitar with Milan's "Pavana No. 3."

John Darling adds flair with a French-inspired piece on soprano saxophone and joins Klein and Halverson for a jazzy Miles Davis interpretation of "So What."

Audience members will also enjoy an art display by BSC visual art instructors, Michelle Lindblom and Brian Hushagen. The recital is presented at no charge.

## Chancellor Robert L. Potts to visit campus Sept. 22

N.D. University System Chancellor Robert L. Potts will visit BSC Wednesday, Sept. 22. In addition to a meeting with the President's Cabinet, Dr. Potts will be available to visit with employees and students between 1:15 and 2:15 p.m. in the Prairie Room. Leading discussion will be Wendy Pank, Faculty Senate president; Chris Abbott, Staff Senate president; and Pat Jund, Board of Governors advisor.

President Thigpen and other members of the Cabinet will spend part of the morning taking Dr. Potts on a tour of the Vocational-Technical Center, Jack Science Center, Sykes Student Success Center, Schafer Hall, Werner Hall, Library and Armory. A number of community leaders will have the chance to meet with Dr. Potts during a luncheon.

Chancellor Potts has been making the rounds to tour all 11 campuses in the University System this fall. He was president of the University of North Alabama before assuming the top leadership position in the University System in July.

## Holidays and holiday party

Wouldn't you know it – we just barely get the semester started, and people want to know about Christmas vacation!! Here's the scoop: The college will be closed Friday, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31, because Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Saturday this year.

While we're discussing December, the employee Christmas party is scheduled Friday, Dec. 10, at the Ramkota Hotel.

## Faculty & Staff News

**Bill Wahlman**, director of online energy programs, traveled to Charlotte, N.C., August 25 for a meeting with York Technical College and Duke Energy.

**Bruce Emmil**, ELPW and NUPT program manager, attended the National Lineman's Rodeo to promote the ELPW program Sept. 9-10 in Kansas City, Mo.