Talking Points: Welcome back! Edition
September 15, 2014

The AHSS Deans Office


Linda Fricker, director of advising and student support, led a variety of activities with our AHSS learning community:

- On August 21-22, the College of AHSS Living-Learning Community in Thompson Hall participated in Launch, an early move-in program for NDSU's Living-Learning Communities. Twenty-seven students moved into our Living-Learning community on Thursday. On Friday the College of AHSS students were welcomed by Dean Kent Sandstrom and Associate Dean Betsy Birmingham. Students then interacted with faculty including Rich Lodewyk, lecturer communication and BIN advisor; Pam Lutgen-Sandvik, associate professor of communication; Hardy Koenig, associate professor of theater; and Angela Smith, assistant professor of history. The College of AHSS Launch events were coordinated by Linda Fricker, the College's Director of Advising and Student Support.

- Approximately 35 students attended "Benevolent Disruption," a presentation by Michael Strand, head of visual arts, on Tuesday, September 2. This was the first presentation in the Bliss Speaker Series organized by Linda Fricker for attendance by students in the College's UNIV 189 classes. Students in these classes have a common read, The Geography of Bliss by Eric Weiner.

- Chelsey Pace, assistant professor, theater; Cindy Urness, associate professor architecture; Stacy Jordet, ARCH/LA advisor; Angela Smith, assistant professor, history; Linda Quigley, lecturer, communication; Jessica Piek, graduate coordinator the College of AHSS Living-Learning Community; and Linda Fricker (Dean's Office) all attended the college's kick-off event on Wednesday, August 27 with approximately 30 students. Following dinner at the West Dining Center there were intense competitions including 6-word short stories and balloon art.

Architecture and Landscape Architecture

Darryl Booker, associate professor of architecture, worked with a local collaborative design team of artists, scientists and designers to build the NEST (Nature Experience, Shelter Transformer), a mobile "transformer." It was designed to be a mobile cocoon-like structure that "unfolded" into a small nature experience center and a stage for nature-based, multi-cultural art, music, dance and poetry. Its first appearance was at the new Pollinator garden at the Plains Art Museum on July 18, 2014. The Design Build team was assembled under lead artist Dwight Mikkelson of Moorhead, Minnesota.

In addition, Booker was awarded a residential commission to design a "green"(as in sustainable) residence, in Duluth, MN. The project is currently in design phase with anticipated construction beginning May 2015-more to come on this later as the project develops.

Mike Christenson, associate professor of architecture, received an American Institute of Architects (North Dakota) Honor Award for the design of the Horizon House (private residence) in Moorhead, MN. Christenson designed the house with Malini Srivastava. The Horizon House was commissioned in 2012 by a small family as a primary residence on a suburban lot. Budget was a major concern, and every design decision was made with the goal of reducing cost while maintaining a simple, straightforward design aesthetic. The clients expressed a desire to achieve a high-performance, energy-efficient house, with significant use of salvaged or repurposed materials throughout the project. In-floor radiant heating, combined with passive solar gains, heavily insulated walls and high-performance windows combine to keep the house warm throughout winter.
Joan Vorderbruggen, assistant professor of architecture, has recently contributed a guest blog entry to the Therapeutic Landscapes Network. Incorporating quotes from Lisa Overby-Blosser, the article relates how the integration of Biophilic Design elements can assist in the healing process.


Center for Social Research
The Center and its director, Rick Axelson, have had a number of publications and reports this month:
- North Dakota KIDS COUNT, in collaboration with North Dakota Compass is producing a one-page profile for each of the 47 state legislative districts in North Dakota. The goal of these publications is to provide legislators and residents in North Dakota with a brief demographic and socio-economic snapshot of their district – to inform, educate, create awareness, and generate discussion - all in preparation for the upcoming election and legislative session. The profiles will be available in late September at: http://www.ndkidscount.org/publications.php and at http://www.ndcompass.org/.

Center for Writers
The Center for Writers now provides evening writing consultations in the Academic College Enhancement (ACE) space in the West Dining Center from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Encourage your students to use this resource!

The Undergraduate Center for Writers is presenting a workshop “Passive vs. Active Voice” on Thursday, September 25, 12:30-1:45pm, in the Rose Room, Memorial Union. Do you want to know how to change passive sentences into active ones? Would you like to know when it’s best to write in passive voice? Join us as we explore these questions and more. Please encourage students to attend this and future Center for Writers workshops. Registration is required: [http://www.ndsu.edu/cfwriters/workshops](http://www.ndsu.edu/cfwriters/workshops)

Communication
Associate professor **Stephenson Beck** has won an award and had a book chapter accepted for publication this month. The co-authored book chapter, with doctoral student **Emily Paskewitz**, “Toward a theory of strategic meeting interaction” is a chapter in Allen, Lehmann-Willenbrock, & Rogelberg’s *The Science of Team Meetings at Work* published by Cambridge University Press.

In addition, **Beck** won the National Communication Association’s 2014 Applied Research Award with two European colleagues. The Stanley L. Saxton Applied Research Award is given to the top study that focuses on "how theory, research, and/or practice contribute to addressing real, pragmatic, social problems." The research study investigated the functionality of various team roles within German industrial organizations. The winning article was titled, “Emergent discussion roles: Identifying patterns of meeting behavior via cluster analysis.”

**Ross Collins**, professor of communication, has submitted several black-and-white photographs to the Memorial Union Gallery’s “Makers” program. The program encourages students and staff to submit their art for gallery sale. Collins’s photos are made on silver-gelatin paper using traditional wet darkroom techniques.

**Derek Jorgenson**, NDSU Department of Communication doctoral student and lecturer at Penn State University, has been named the Scholar of the Year by the Communication, Speech, and Theatre Association of North Dakota (CSTAND). Derek received his award at the annual awards banquet in Mandan on September 12, 2014.
Robert Littlefield, professor of communication, has had several articles accepted for publication or recently published:

- He also collaborated with two current and one former graduate student to produce a reader designed specifically for COMM 216: Intercultural Communication. Any proceeds from the on-campus sale of the book will be used to support undergraduate and graduate student research and teaching: Littlefield, R. S., Currie-Mueller, J., Ghazal-Awad, N., & Vevea, N. N. (Eds.). (2014) *Intercultural competency: Learning, communicating, and serving.* San Diego, CA: Cognella Inc.


Professor Charles Okigbo is coordinating the Department of Communication’s Global Media Project, an undergraduate student research engagement initiative. The Global Media Project involves the coding and analysis of selected newspapers from different world regions. There are 32 newspapers that are being coded by 12 research teams all comprised of NDSU undergraduate students. Okigbo is also leading the Department’s participation efforts in the National News Engagement Day a national awareness program sponsored by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC). Colleges, universities, and academic departments across the country, including NDSU and the Department of Communication will sponsor many news engagement activities that promote civic engagement, media literacy, and democratic ideals.

David Westerman, assistant professor, is the lead author of the new textbook, *Introduction to Computer Mediated Communication: A Functional Approach* published by Kendall Hunt. According to the publishers website, “Rather than focus on the nature of the medium itself and what sets it apart from more “traditional” media, *Introduction to Computer Mediated Communication* focuses on what functions people use technology for, and how people use technology to accomplish their multiple communication goals. By focusing on functions rather than channels, the publication provides instruction into the reason people use media, rather than simply checking channels off the list.”

Criminal Justice and Political Science

Kjersten Nelson, assistant professor of political science, had an article, “Individual Scrutiny or Politics as Usual? Senatorial Assessment of U.S. District Court Nominees,” published in the most recent issue of *American Politics Research.* She wrote the article with Logan Dancey (Wesleyan University) and Eve Ringsmuth (Oklahoma State).

Assistant professor of political science, Dan Pemstein, has been awarded a National Science Foundation grant funding his research project: *Institutions and Development: A Disaggregated Historical Analysis.*
collaborative project, pursued with researchers from Boston University and the University of Notre Dame, totals $275,929, and provides NDSU with $98,529 in research support, distributed over two years.

**English**

**Betsy Birmingham**, professor of English, contributed an article and expertise to an NEA (National Endowment for the Arts) funded project titled *Making a Place for Women*. This digital archive chronicles the contributions of women to architectural practice, and includes film, historical photographs, sound files, and links to archival resources in addition to biographical material on hundreds of women architects. The project will go live in early 2015.


Professor **Amy Rupiper Taggart** will present “When Feedback Goes Right: Understanding Positive Student Experiences of Instructional Comments” at the International Writing Studies Colloquium in Malmo, Sweden. Nov. 2014.

**Gary Totten**, professor of English, has been invited to speak on a panel on journal publishing at the Western Literature Association Conference in Victoria, British Columbia, Nov. 5-8, 2014.

**Red River Valley Writing Project** (A National Writing Project Site housed in the English Department)

**Events:**
- On August 12 in downtown Fargo, 37 teachers and community members participated in a writing crawl that culminated in an open mic reading at Red Raven Espresso parlor. The event was organized by RRVWP summer fellows **Sara Miller** (M.A. student, English), Kim Rensch, and Andrea Noonan.
- RRVWP teachers Vickie Conner, Olivia Edwardson, Kaylie Young and Kelly Sassi presented on best practices in teaching writing at a roundtable session at NDCTE in Mandan on July 29, 2014.
- Fargo Public Schools teacher Kim Rensch became the new Writing Group coordinator for the Red River Valley Writing Project in August 2014. Moorhead Middle School Teacher Dan Dooher will lead a Young Adult Book Group for the Red River Valley Writing Project during the 2014-2015 school year.

**Grant funded outreach:**
- Summer fellow Lori Koenig will be leading a series of six Saturday workshops called "Warrior Words," aimed at supporting veterans of any U.S. war in writing monologues about their experiences. Warrior Words is sponsored by a grant from the North Dakota Humanities Council.
- The Red River Valley Writing Project held its inaugural Writing Intensive Workshop for teachers at Circle of Nations School in Wahpeton, ND. The workshop will run throughout the 2014-2015 school year and is funded by a SEED (Supporting Effective Educator Development) grant for High-Needs Schools from the National Writing Project.
- The Red River Valley Writing Project received a grant in September that will fund 2010 summer fellow and Moorhead Middle School teacher Karen Taylor to participate in training with other National Writing Project teachers in Washington, DC over the next two years on how to design writing prompts.

**Corporate partners/sponsorships:**
- **Kelly Sassi**, the director of the Red River Valley Writing Project and associate professor of English, and Becky Dunham, curator at the Plains Art Museum, collaborated on a successful bid to become the North Dakota Affiliate of the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, which means the two organizations will be promoting North Dakota’s participation in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, judging the entries at the state level, and holding a state awards ceremony in Fargo this winter. RRVWP Summer
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- Fellow Olivia Edwardson became the new statewide coordinator for the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.
- **Kelly Sassi**, associate professor, received an award from the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers in honor of 1948 Scholastic winner Kay Walking-Stick to hold a writing workshop for Native American youth on September 12th. Native American artists and writers Denise Lajimodiere, Lise Erdrich, **Caitlin Johnson** (BA English) and Laura Youngbird, in partnership with NDSU English education students and Circle of Nations teachers will lead a day-long workshop to support Native American Youth participation in the competition.

**History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies:**

**Mark Harvey**, professor of history, lectured this summer at various venues regarding the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, which President Lyndon Johnson signed on September 3, 1964. This act established the national wilderness preservation system, which now embraces 110 million acres of public land in the United States. Harvey has spoken at four commemorative events spearheaded by the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Land Management:

- University of Nevada, Las Vegas in May
- Sheridan, Wyoming in June
- Hood River and Portland, Oregon in August
- "Visions of the Wild" Festival in Vallejo, California in September

Howard Zahniser, a leader of The Wilderness Society from 1945 to 1964, was a key person in drafting the wilderness bill and lobbying for it in Congress. Harvey’s recent book, *The Wilderness Writings of Howard Zahniser*, was published in June of this year by University of Washington Press.

**Performing Arts: Music and Theater**

**Jo Ann Miller**, professor and Director of Choral Activities, has been invited to guest conduct three Minnesota high school choirs and orchestras in excerpts from Handel’s Messiah in addition to three choral orchestral works by composer Gwyneth Walker. The concert will take place on Tuesday, November 4 at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis.

**Jess Jung**, assistant professor of directing with NDSU Theatre Arts, directed a series of radio plays titled Walking The City of Silence and Stone by Steven Spostwood, that will be featured on Metro Connection, a Washington, D.C.-based radio production of National Public Radio. The play is made up of nine episodes in which the listener helps to solve the mysterious death of Natalie Washington. Episodes will be released for download every month beginning in November.

**Jocelyn Hagen**, composer and visiting lecturer, premiered her dance opera titled Test Pilot, September 12-13 at the O'Shaughnessy on the college of St. Katherine’s in St. Paul, MN. Working with choreographer Penelope Freeh, Hagen composed the music for this intimate chamber dance opera that explores the power of creativity and invention through the birth of flight and the story of Katherine Wright, the sister of the famous Wright Brothers. More information can be found at [http://www.testpilotdanceopera.com/](http://www.testpilotdanceopera.com/).

**Sociology and Anthropology**

**Kristen R. Fellows**, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, co-authored an article stemming from an aboveground archaeological study of a cemetery at Marshall’s Pen, a pre- and post-emancipation coffee plantation in Jamaica for publication this month. She wrote “Death and Burial at Marshall’s Pen, a Jamaican Coffee Plantation, 1814-1839: Examining the End of Life at the End of Slavery” with collaborator James Delle; it is published in *Slavery & Abolition: A Journal of Slave and Post-Slave Studies*, 35(3):474-492.

**Visual Arts**

**Kim Bromley**, professor of visual arts, has been active in both juried creative activity and outreach this month.

- The Northwest Art Center on the Minot State University campus, invited Bromley to juror the
exhibition, “Americas 2014: All Media.” Exhibited in the Harnett Hall Gallery, 26 artist’s work from the U.S. and Canada will be on display through Sept. 26. On the evening of the reception, Bromley will present a gallery talk at 7:00 on Sept. 11th discussing works chosen for the exhibition. While at Minot State University he will also hold a workshop for a watercolor class and lecture about his work for a seminar class.

- The Spirit Room Galleries at the Avalon in downtown Fargo presents the exhibition of paintings, "Portraits" by Bromley. Portraits include those of family members and friends. Exhibition runs from July 3, 2014–July 4, 2015. Reception is on September 18th, 5:00 to 7:00 at the Avalon Events Center, Galahad Galleries at 613 1st Avenue North, Fargo, ND.

**Kent Kapplinger**, professor of visual arts, has been involved in a number of research and teaching projects this month:

- The Visual Arts/PEARS’s print residency program was represented at the Second International Mokuhanga Conference in Tokyo, Japan from Sept 11-14. Promotional materials and a group print exhibition was part of the “Inter-Nation & Interpretation” program whose aim was to encourage dialogue on printmaking studios and residencies across the world. Studio work by NDSU alumni Eric A. Johnson (1997) and Jason Moore (2000) was exhibited in the “American Representative Studios for Satellite Exposition” in The Main Gallery at 3331 Arts Chiyoda.
- **Kapplinger** and advanced printmaking students participated in a touring exhibition titled “Oil and Water,” a themed portfolio where students and faculty from seven institutions of higher learning tackled issues concerning the use or misuse of natural resources. Work was recently shown at Northwest Art Center in Minot and will be on display through September 30 in Bismarck at the University of Mary and will arrive at NDSU’s Memorial Union Gallery on Oct 15. http://www.ndsu.edu/mu/programs/gallery/upcoming_exhibitions_and_programs/
- “Trace + Gestures,” an international exchange portfolio is on display in Renaissance Hall through October 4. This exhibition features nineteen artists, including a serigraph by **Kapplinger**, who created a print around the theme of traces that cause variation and how they can influence cultural, political, or personal change. Student research of exhibition artists was presented in the gallery on September 10 and a closing reception will be held from 6-7 p.m. on October 4.
- **Kapplinger** is participating in “Under the Dakota Sky: An Exhibition Celebrating 125 Years of Statehood,” an invitational art exhibition at the Heritage Center in Bismarck from August 15-Oct 19. http://history.nd.gov/northdakota125.html

**Kris Groberg**, associate professor of art history, has a number of presentations and publications forthcoming:

- She will curate the 11th Annual NDSU Art Cinema at the Fargo Theatre, beginning its 2014-2015 academic season on October 6th with Martin Scorsese’s documentary *Picasso and Braque Go to the Movies*. This film focuses on the two artists' mutual love of the cinema and how it affected their Cubist art. Open to the public, tickets are $5, 7 PM.
- **Groberg** will present "The Male Role in Images of Crucified Women in the Fin-de-Siecle" at the Midwestern Russian Historians Workshop at Macalester College, St. Paul, MN for the program Superfluous Men and Necessary Women, October 22-24, 2014.
- She will also present "We Are Children of Evil": Valerii Briusov and the Decadent Magus Image" at the annual Central Slavic Conference at St. Louis University in St. Louis, MO, November 6-10, 2014.
- Her article, "Valerii Briusov, Black Magician: The Body as Text," will be published in Russkaia Literatura in 2015. In Russian.

**Su Legatt**, assistant professor of practice, is working on numerous outreach and research projects: She presented at the Central Time Centric symposium (September 6/7) at the Plains Art Museum on effectively working artistically with a new community.

- **Legatt** is the featured artist giving a gallery talk to kick off Concordia College’s Faith, Reason, and World Affairs Symposium this year. This lecture will be at 4:30 on September 16th. The topic of this talk is stewardship as a method of sustainability.
- In addition, she is working with the city of Moorhead on the downtown development committee and Mayor William’s new Art Task Force.
- With her students she started a project with residents of Eventide in Moorhead. They will be recording
- the resident's personal stories and creating a text graphic poster. These posters might be on display for the month of October at the Moorhead Center Mall.
- She is working with artists Rob Fisher and Kevin Johnson to create the Heritage Garden and Amphitheater for Moorhead. This is one of the Defiant Garden projects with the Plains Art Museum. They will be breaking ground next month to begin the construction. A new development of this project is the partnering with NDSU Landscape Architecture students to design details of the garden. More information on this can be found at: http://plainsart.org/learn/defiant-gardens/heritage-garden-and-amphitheater-for-moorhead-2/

**Women and Gender Studies Program**

Professor of Communication and Director of Women and Gender Studies, **Ann Burnett**, was recently the guest expert on In Forum’s online program “The Current.” Ann provided insight and research on gender and social expectations associated with apologies.

The WGS program will be hosting the Red River Women’s Studies conference on Friday, October 24. Submissions are due October 7. For more information: [www.ndsu.edu/wgs/rrwsc](http://www.ndsu.edu/wgs/rrwsc)