

# NDSU Multicultural Alumni E-Newsletter

NDSU Always a Part of You

December 2011

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## Office of Multicultural Programs Welcomes New Employees!

### Angela Skaff: Outreach Program Coordinator Office of Multicultural Programs

As the Outreach Program Coordinator, I work with the Alumni, Student Organizations, Tri-College NEW Women's Leadership Institute, cultural programming and various organizations within the F-M community to bring the awareness of our office's vision and the need for equality among every individual. I am an NDSU alum, originally from Harrisburg, SD. While a student here, I helped create an Arabic Language & Cultural Student Association and through this activity I was able to get involved with other international and multicultural groups here at NDSU. I also had the opportunity to spend time abroad in Mexico and England, which provided me a new outlook on life and a better understanding of diverse cultures.



### Sheila Watson: Retention Program Coordinator Office of Multicultural Programs

As the Retention Program Coordinator, I work with multicultural students to help them achieve their academic goals by coordinating our tutoring program and serving as a resource about programs and services that can assist them. I have had the opportunity to work with diverse student groups through a variety of leadership programs and look forward to continuing to meet and work with our students as they prepare to become NDSU graduates. I am a native of North Dakota, an NDSU alum, and an Air Force Veteran. In addition to my work with NDSU multicultural students, I have recently become involved with the creation of a new NDSU veteran's affinity group to better serve our employees who are veterans.



### Deb Thomson: Administrative Secretary Office of Multicultural Programs

I joined the Office of Multicultural Programs as Administrative Secretary in late July. I love the languages, food, art and customs of many different cultures. Originally from Illinois, I have lived in many places in the US and abroad, including Germany and Alaska. Before coming to NDSU, I worked for South Dakota State University's diversity office in Brookings, SD, and for Concordia Language Villages in Bemidji, MN. I have two grown children and five grandchildren, and enjoy crafts, reading and traveling.



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## The Office of Multicultural Programs

### GOALS AND RETENTION

The Office of Multicultural Programs has recently been re-organized around three primary departmental initiatives: Retention, Recruitment, and Outreach. Within the area of retention, we are focusing student outreach efforts to engage both those who are achieving academic success and those who might benefit from the academic support resources that are available throughout the campus. We have also been working to strengthen our working relationships with those departments providing academic sup-

port such as TRIO Programs and the ACE Tutoring Center.

As of Fall 2011, there are 882 multicultural students enrolled at NDSU. We are happy to extend congratulations to the 93 students who were named to the Dean's List for Spring and Summer 2011. And, we look forward to a graduation reception co-hosted with the Alumni Center, to celebrate 37 December graduates who identify as multicultural. The Multicultural Programs staff looks forward to our continued

efforts to support all multicultural students as they achieve their ultimate academic goals of becoming NDSU Alumni!

For more Information contact:  
Kara Gravley-Stack,  
Director of Diversity Initiatives  
[Kara.Gravley-Stack@ndsu.edu](mailto:Kara.Gravley-Stack@ndsu.edu)



### THE NEW STUDY CENTER

The Office of Multicultural Programs has a new study center! Located in the back of the OMP the study center offers students a quiet place to study, use computers, and meet with tutors. Using the study center the OMP hopes to provide students with an environment where they can study independently and also have access to additional help as needed. By providing the space and tools to help students excel during their education, the OMP hopes to better each students' experience at NDSU while also helping them to grow and expand their knowledge.

The Study Center is open from 8a.m.- 5p.m. Monday thru Friday, located in the Office of Multicultural Programs.

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## NDSU Alum Scott Satermo and Rising Sun Construction receives 2011 Minority Contractor of the Year Award

Scott Satermo, an NDSU Alum, owner of Rising Sun Construction Inc., of Fargo ND has been awarded the 2011 Dallas Region Minority Contractor of the Year award from the US Dept. of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency. The Minority Contractor of the Year award is part of the Minority Business Development Agency 2011 Regional Minority Enterprise Development Week awards. The winners from five different regions will make up the pool of eligible candidates for the National Business of the Year Award!

The regional awards are designed to celebrate the top minority firms achieving success in the construction, manufacturing, retail, energy, and

global technology and supplier distribution industries. The regional award winners have achieved excellence in their industries, specifically due to their continuous innovation, strategic partnerships, and substantial growth in jobs and revenues regionally, nationally, and even globally.

"Minority businesses are a phenomenal asset to the U.S. economy in a variety of sectors, from manufacturing to hospitality services and everything in between," said the MBDA National Director David Hinson. "These firms create good paying jobs and boost economic growth in America's communities. The businesses recognized through the MED Week awards programs represent just a few of our nation's

brightest and most innovative minority enterprises."

The winners will be recognized at events in each of the five regions, and the national award winners will be honored at the 29th Annual National Minority Enterprise Development Week Conference Awards Gala in Washington, D.C.

Scott Satermo graduated with a Bachelors degree in Civil Engineering from NDSU. Prior to owning Rising Sun Construction, Scott worked as a Civil Engineer for the City of Fargo, and project engineer for Harris Contracting of St. Paul.



**Scott Satermo of  
Rising Sun  
Construction  
and NDSU Alum**

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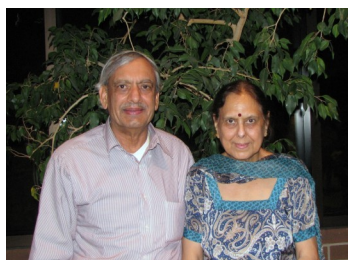
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## Thanks for Donations!

A special thank you to:

### Prem and Raj Jahur



Your donation has truly helped the NDSU campus and will continue to help create a community where students can learn and expand their education in a welcoming environment.

If you would like to donate to the NDSU Equity, Diversity, and Global Outreach department please use the following link with the designation Equity, Diversity, and Global Outreach.

### [DONATE NOW](#)

We give our sincerest thank you for all donations made. Your donations help to transform this campus into a diverse and united community where all can benefit from the numerous opportunities in higher education.

If any alumni are interested in mentoring NDSU students, providing internship or employment opportunities, or are interested in providing scholarships for NDSU students please contact:

VP Myers  
Evie.Myers@ndsu.edu

These opportunities benefit and prepare students extensively while also providing them with tools to learn and grow as individuals.

## NDSU UPCOMING EVENTS

### \*Save the Date\*

#### Black History Month

**PAN Africa Night**  
February 18th @ 7pm  
Festival Concert Hall

#### Community Gospel Concert

February 26th @ 2pm  
Beckwith Hall

### \*Save the Date\*

#### 23rd Annual Woodlands & High Plains Powwow

**Date:** March 24th, 2012

**Location:** Bison Sports Arena

**Doors Open:** 12:30pm-10pm

**Grand Entry:** 1pm & 7pm

**For more information contact:**

Marita Abe

[Marita.Abe@ndsu.edu](mailto:Marita.Abe@ndsu.edu)

### \*Save the Date\*

Alumni Arizona Trip Feb. 18 & 24-26

Meet VP Myers and other NDSU Alum

### Other Event Links:

[Diversity Community Calendar](#)

[NDSU Diversity Calendar](#)

[Bison Football Schedule](#)