Causes for Celebration
(For December 2014)

Kelly Sassi, Associate Professor of English and English Education, presented with Alana Benoit of the Alliance for Young Writers and Artists and Samuel Reed of the Philadelphia Writing Project at the National Writing Project Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The title of the presentation was: “Writing Project Site Partnership Opportunities with the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.” Moorhead 8th grade teacher Karen Taylor was the other attendee from the Red River Valley Writing Project (RRVWP). She attended to receive training in "Assignments Matter," a $2,000 grant awarded to the RRVWP and will be sharing what she learned with the local site.

Kelly Sassi also presented with Anne Gere (University of Michigan) and Leila Christenbury (Virginia Commonwealth University) on a panel titled, “Creating Stories on Demand: Time and the Common Core Assessments” at the National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) Annual Conference in National Harbor, Maryland. November 21, 2014.

Kelly Sassi and Moorhead 8th grade teacher Dan Dooher attended the 2014 ALAN (Adolescent Literature Assembly of NCTE) Workshop in Washington, DC on November 24-25. Dan Dooher was one of two teachers nationwide to receive the Don Gallo grant from ALAN.

Heather Fuller-Iglesias, Assistant Professor, Human Development and Family Science (HDFS), had a manuscript titled “The Complex Nature of Family Support across the Life Span: Implications for Psychological Well-being” accepted for publication in the journal Developmental Psychology. She was lead author along with two colleagues from the University of Michigan, Noah Webster and Toni Antonucci.

Heather Fuller-Iglesias also had a manuscript titled “Development of a Multi-dimensional Scale of Social Integration in Late-Life” accepted for publication in the journal Research on Aging. Samjhana Rajbhandari, recent M.S. graduate in HDFS, was her co-author on the paper.

Brad Strand, Professor, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences, delivered two invited presentations at the Ohio Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance convention held in Sandusky, OH. Titles of the presentations were “Emotional Intelligence: An Essential Trait for All Leaders” (Keynote address) and “Coaching Youth Sports with Emotional Intelligence”.

Christi McGeorge, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Science; Tom Carlson, Professor, Human Development and Family Science; and Kristen Benson, Assistant Professor, Human Development and Family Science were notified that they received the following grant: The equal opportunity therapy project III, phase two: Providing Affirmative Services to LGBT Individuals in Rural Communities. Otto Bremer Foundation. $51,321.

Ann Braaten, Curator, Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection and Assistant Professor of Practice, Apparel, Design and Hospitality Management, has been invited to present “Changing up the social order from 1912 to 1924: Fashion from Downton Abbey” the afternoon of Saturday, January 10, 2015, at the Fargo Public Library, downtown Fargo.

Susan Ray-Degges, Associate Professor, Apparel, Design, and Hospitality Management and Mary Jane Damme, HDFS M.S. graduate had an article accepted for publication titled “A Qualitative Study on Home Modification of Rural Caregivers for People with Dementia” in the Journal of Housing for the Elderly.
Matthew McCarty, senior interior design student, was the recipient of the Hospitality Industry Network Scholarship. Students who compete for this competitive regional scholarship must be planning a career in the hospitality industry.

Heather Fuller, Assistant Professor in Human Development and Family Science, had an invited article on the NDCompass website in January 2015. The article appeared as the feature for the Ask a Researcher section and was titled, "The Importance of Recognizing the Role of Social Support in Human Development Across the Lifespan" (http://www.ndcompass.org/trends/ask-a-researcher/index.php#.VKrQTnumrzg).

Virginia Clark Johnson, Dean and Professor, and colleagues (Wepner, Henk and Lovell) had a manuscript published in Perspectives: Policy and Practice in Higher Education. The manuscript was titled, “The importance of academic deans’ interpersonal/negotiating skills as leaders.”