Causes for Celebration  
(For March 2014)


Allison Dhuyvetter, student in the dietetics program, and student coordinator for the NDSU volunteer network is chair of the BIG EVENT this year. This event is put on by the Volunteer Network and will be held on April 24, 2014. The goal is to get as many students, staff, and faculty as possible out serving the community on this date. The Big Event is NDSU’s largest single day of service. Volunteers will be assigned to various locations the day of the event to help out non-profit organization in the FM area, as well as residents in the community who need assistant with tasks like raking, painting, cleaning, picking up trash, and other projects.

Krystal Kalliokoski, a student in Teacher Education-Chemistry Education won one of the Chemistry Ambassadors “Speak Simply” Undergraduate Research Poster contest awards at the ACS National Conference in March.

Stacy Duffield, Associate Professor, School of Education, along with colleagues from the Teacher Effectiveness Initiative (Linda Distad, St. Catherine University; Emerson Elliott, CAEP; Daria Paul-Dona, Minnesota State University, Mankato; Linda Reetz, University of South Dakota; & Robin White, FHI360) presented “Common Metrics: The Use of Data for Program Improvement” at the annual conference for the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education in Indianapolis, February 28-March 3, 2014. The objective of this session was to illustrate how data are being used to improve university-based teacher preparation programs across 14 higher education institutions in three states. Presenters introduced the audience to the common metrics framework along with program-specific measures.

Abby Gold, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences, attended the Pew Charitable Trusts National Gathering Supporting School Nutrition on March 31-April 1 in Washington, DC. The Gathering was by invitation only and focused on the national school health movement’s efforts toward serving and selling healthier meals, snacks, and drinks to students. All expenses were covered by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Kwangsoo Park, Assistant Professor, Apparel, Design, and Hospitality Management, and Brent Hill, Assistant Professor, School of Education, coauthored an abstract titled “The impact of smoke-free policies on casino gambling revenues”. It has been accepted to be presented at the Annual Korea America Hospitality & Tourism Educators Conference, April 25-26, 2014 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The abstract was highly recommended for a best paper award by reviewers. Kwangsoo Park also had an abstract titled “Thematic coding of event management research: Intercoder reliability indices perspectives”. It has been accepted for the conference. This abstract was coauthored with a colleague from Kansas State University.
Bob Nielse, Professor, School of Education, attended the American Counseling Association Conference in Honolulu. While in Hawaii, Dr. Michael B. Salzman, Chair & Professor of Psychology at the University of Hawaii, Manoa Campus, invited him to present on “Stress and the Ph.D. Student” for the psychology doctoral students.

Jenny M. Linker, Assistant Professor in Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences and Kristen M. Hetland, assistant professor and chair, Physical Education and Health Pedagogy at Concordia College were awarded Year Two Breakthrough Idea Challenge funding in the amount of $38,960 by Dakota Medical Foundation to support their SchoolsAlive! initiative. SchoolsAlive! supports local school districts and youth organizations in their implementation of all components of the national “Let’s Move! Active Schools” program set forth by the Society of Health and Physical Educators America. SchoolsAlive! aims to increase the quantity and quality of youth physical activity opportunities through a variety of strategies such as active recess, brain breaks, interdisciplinary lessons, and active before/after school programming at the elementary level. The grant will also fund tri-college undergraduate physical education service-learning projects in local schools. During the 2013-2104 school year, SchoolsAlive! was implemented by all West Fargo public elementary schools. The program will take place in all Fargo Public elementary schools during the 2014-2015 school year.

Ten members of the NDSU Collegiate FFA Chapter and chapter advisor, Brent Young, Associate Professor, School of Education, attended the National Postsecondary Agriculture Students Convention in St. Cloud, MN March 12-15th. The following undergraduate students majoring in Agricultural and Extension Education were recognized at the event:

- Kayla Crooker - elected National Vice President
- Quincy Carter, Kayla Crooker, Stephen Kessler - First Place Team Overall Livestock Specialist
- Quincy Carter – High Individual Overall Livestock Specialist
- Kayla Crooker – 2nd Place Individual Overall Livestock Specialist
- Stephen Kessler – 3rd Place Ag Ed Interview
- Kristine Keller - 3rd Place Ag Ed Specialist

Abby Gold, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences, along with Sue Sing Lim and Marla Reicks from the University of Minnesota Department of Food Science and Nutrition will attend the Society for Nutrition Education’s annual conference in Milwaukee to show their poster, “Validation of Two Measures of Fruit and Vegetable Intake in Third-Grade Students.”

On March 10th, Anita Welch, Assistant Professor, School of Education, gave a presentation at the 8th International Technology, Education and Development Conference (INTED 2014) in Valencia, Spain. The presentation, “Assessment of Professional Teaching Dispositions in the Virtual Classroom: The Virtual Teaching Dispositions Scale (VTDS)” was co-authored by Brent Hill, Larry Napoleon, and Brian Rook (doctoral student). The purpose of this study was to discuss the use of Q methodology to validate a multidimensional instrument to assess the professional teaching dispositions of educators in the virtual classroom- the Virtual Teaching Dispositions Scale (VTDS).
Anita Welch has also been invited to give a keynote speech at the 5th International Conference on Education & Educational Psychology (ICEEPSY 2014) which will be held on October 22-25, 2014 in Kyrenia, Cyprus. In her keynote address titled “Teaching Dispositions of Online Instructors: Why They Matter” she will explore the assumptions that good Internet connectivity, high quality equipment, and solid content knowledge are all that is needed for instructors to be effective in the online classroom, yet research has shown that instructors must also possess strong professional teaching dispositions to truly be effective educators.

Frances Liu, a senior in Dietetics, received the Junior/Senior International Student Scholarship for 2014-2015. The criteria include merit, community service, NDSU involvement, and leadership.

Julie Garden-Robinson, Professor and Extension Specialist, Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences, was selected to participate in the Dairy Ambassadors communication training in Kansas City, MO in February which was sponsored by the Midwest Dairy Association. Julie Garden-Robinson has also been named the marketing chair for the Journal of Extension. Julie is the North Central Region representative on the Extension Journal, Inc. Board of Directors. She was named the marketing chair at the board meeting in Wilmington, DE, in March.

Kelly Sassi’s, Assistant Professor, English/School of Education, new book, Writing on Demand for the Common Core State Assessments, was published by Heinemann on March 13, 2014. Kelly Sassi is the first author, and her co-author is Anne Gere, Director of the Sweetland Writing Center at the University of Michigan. Here is a link to the book: http://www.heinemann.com/products/E05085.aspx

Writing on Demand for the Common Core State Standard Assessments provides teachers with the principles of effective writing and then shows how to apply those principles to the Common Core assessments. Samples of performance tasks with student responses illustrate the importance of helping writers:
- analyze prompts, including those of Smarter Balanced and PARCC
- build reading skills that support text-dependent writing
- transfer writing strategies to science and social studies
- manage time in a digital space.
Several local teachers of the Red River Valley Writing Project and NDSU's English education program contributed to the book.