NDSU leads the way with Research Technology Park

University and technology park officials from all over the country want to follow the successful example of NDSU and Fargo's Research and Technology Park.

The Association of University Research Parks invited NDSU President Joseph A. Chapman to give the keynote address at its summit in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 25.

Chapman focused on the importance of collaboration.

"We met with legislators, our congressional delegation, the governor, business leaders – all agreed to establish the park with the needed flexibility. Our success has depended on bipartisan and nonpartisan work by leaders who understand what’s at stake for North Dakota’s economic future," Chapman said.

U.S. Department of Commerce official William Kittredge opened the summit commending NDSU’s park as a premier example of how to make research and technology parks thrive. Kittredge is the director of national programs and performance evaluations.

"I have been talking about what’s been going on at NDSU for a year. NDSU is setting the standard," Kittredge said.

The Research Technology Park and the Technology Incubator are home to fast-paced, high-growth companies that promote economic development in North Dakota. Each of them either has the potential to compete globally or is already doing so effectively.

To operate within the Research Technology Park, a company should be involved in the advancement and development of new technology, be willing to establish a working relationship with NDSU and work in one or more of the following technology fields: material sciences, biosciences and life science technology, information technology, nanotechnology, advanced manufacturing and sensors/micro-electronics.

NDSU creating change in Ghana’s emergency management system

When Ghana needed help to develop its higher education disaster management capability, the country got it in the form of Carol Cwiak, faculty and internship coordinator for the emergency management program housed in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Emergency Management.

Cwiak’s mission was through the North Dakota National Guard’s State Partnership Program, which has been working specifically with Ghana since 2004. In Ghana, the National Disaster Management Organization asked for assistance in building a higher education program in emergency management. The State Partnership Program turned to NDSU, a leader in the field of emergency management education.

"It allows us to take the collective brain power that has been built and apply it in this type of global outreach in a way that we can really create some change," Cwiak said. “There is no other emergency management higher education program in the U.S. doing what we’re doing right now with the State Partnership Program Model. We’re it.”

Pictured from left to right are Doug Friez, North Dakota National Guard's State Partnership Program; Kofi Portuphy of Ghana’s National Disaster Management Organization; Carol Cwiak, NDSU emergency management program; Eunice Osae and Diana Bokkye of the National Disaster Management Organization; and Mike Holly, North Dakota National Guard State Partnership Program in-country representative.

Employee spring break hours
During the week of spring break, hours for NDSU employees will be 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a 30-minute lunch break. Spring break is March 16-20.

Development Foundation accepting grant applications
The Grants and Awards Committee is accepting applications from faculty and staff. The deadline is April 1 and forms for all awards are available at www.ndsfoundation.com/grants.htm.

New e-mail address for "It’s Happening at State"
When sending submissions for “It’s Happening at State,” e-mail ndsu.itshappening@ndsu.edu.

Office closure
Customer Account Services will be closed on Wednesday, March 18.
Cwiak worked with the National Disaster Management Organization and the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration, a university located in the country’s capital, Accra. In February, she spent a week in Ghana reviewing their existing disaster plans and building what she believes will be an enduring relationship with Ghana’s higher education system.

“They were invested in producing the highest quality product with the limited number of resources they have,” Cwiak said.

While the United States pushes citizen preparedness as a large part of emergency management, Ghana’s primary focus is on response and recovery. People in Ghana cannot wait a week for needed supplies after a disaster. Most can only buy enough food for the day and don’t have supplies to make it through much more than that.

The link between Ghana and NDSU will continue to be facilitated by the State Partnership Program. The goal is to start week-long courses in September with members from NDSU, the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration and the National Disaster Management Organization. During the next five to seven years, Ghana will move toward providing a higher education degree. NDSU faculty in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Emergency Management with other focus areas also may help expand the courses in the future.

“The university’s commitment and support for our outreach efforts has been very good and evidences the fact that they value contributions from the community by way of service,” Cwiak said. “That contribution piece is what will keep us going out to do this type of work. The point is to use our program’s collective expertise to create the change that needs to occur in the larger community – be it local or global.”

Staff Senate nominations sought

The NDSU Staff Senate is seeking nominations for its upcoming spring election. Nominations will be accepted until March 27, while voting is scheduled for April 13-20.

The NDSU Staff Senate is comprised of approximately 5 percent of regular benefited employees elected at large from the job categories. There will be 20 senate positions elected in the 1000/3000 band – Administrative, Managerial and Professional; six senate seats for the 4000 band – Technical and Paraprofessional; 12 senate seats for the 5000 band – Office Support; and eight senate positions for the 6000/7000 band – Crafts, Trades and Services. Senators are normally elected for terms of two years, with approximately half of the senators elected each year.

All broadbanded staff members are encouraged to nominate themselves and others for Staff Senate. Nominators are asked to check with the person they are nominating before sending in the nomination. Nominees are encouraged to discuss with their supervisors the opportunity of serving before being nominated.

Nominate staff members at www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate. At this page, a link will provide all eligible classified staff members and the nomination form.

Nominations will be accepted through Friday, March 27, at 5 p.m. For more information, contact Barb Geeslin, election committee chair, at 1-8805 or Heather Heger, membership officer, at 1-8293.

**NDSU forms regional partnership with Montana research center**

The advisory boards of Montana State University’s Eastern Agricultural Research Center in Sidney and NDSU’s Williston Research Extension Center have merged. Combined, the research centers serve more than 30 million acres in the two states and will provide applied research on any crop grown in the region.

“The joint advisory board can provide input on research priorities that will improve returns, reduce input costs and protect the environment,” says Wayne Berry, advisory board chair. “The reorganization recognizes the similarities in research at the two facilities and that agriculture growth and development of the region does not stop at state boundaries. This is another step in furthering the partnership between the two centers.”

Researchers at the both centers have collaborated on projects for many years and have shared a single director (Jerry Bergman) since 1994.

“The partnership has proven beneficial for all parties, not the least of which is the savings associated with shared technology,” says Butch Andresen, board vice chairman. “Research equipment is expensive and can be beyond the reach of many branch research facilities. However, through collaboration, our collection of sophisticated technology and irrigation research capabilities grew rapidly.”

“The partnership has provided the added bonus of increased leverage for grant dollars,” says Berry. “In fact, the effort has been so successful that it is being viewed as a model for similar multi-state and multiagency associations.”

The area the two research facilities operate in, known as the MonDak region, is one of the last areas in the country poised for large-scale irrigation development. Researchers are collaborating to provide additional value-added, high-value crop options for area producers and keep the region’s boom-and-bust dryland agriculture-based economy on a more even keel.

The joint board has 12 Montana and North Dakota producers, two members affiliated with the agribusiness industry and two county Extension Service agents. The North Dakota State Board of Agricultural Research and Extension also has been invited to appoint a member to the advisory board.

**NDSU offers help with flooding**

The NDSU Extension Service has information online at www.ag.ndsu.edu/disaster/flood.html that can help people prepare their farms, ranches and homes for a flood. It also will help with the effects of flooding.

“This flood information Web page provides up-to-date, research-based information for homeowners, farmers, ranchers and anyone else who wants help in protecting themselves, their families and their property,” says Ken Hellevang, NDSU Extension agricultural engineer.

The site also has links to information from other universities and organizations such as the Extension Disaster Education Network.
Gunkelman Award nominations sought

Nominations for the 2009 Mary McCannel Gunkelman Recognition Award are being sought. The award annually recognizes one NDSU student or employee who has made the most significant and unselfish contribution to creating a happy environment for NDSU students.

NDSU students and employees are invited to nominate one student, faculty or staff member. Nominators are asked to provide specific examples of how their nominee has had a direct impact on making NDSU a pleasant, cheerful campus during the 2008-09 academic year. Multiple nominations from one individual will not be accepted.

“In past years, we’ve received anywhere between 20 and 50 nominations. The recipient of this award has been recognized every year since 1987,” said Nancy Mueller, chair of the Gunkelman Award Selection Committee and Orientation and Student Success student service coordinator. “The award is important to our campus as each year we recognize a special individual who has gone above and beyond their job duties. The comments on the nomination forms show true appreciation for that individual.”

Nomination forms have been distributed through campus mail and are available at www.ndsu.edu/smile-ndsu. The nomination forms will be shared with the nominee.

Previous award recipients are not eligible. A list of previous awardees is available at www.ndsu.edu/smile-ndsu. For more information, contact Mueller at nancy.mueller@ndsu.edu.

FORWARD announces Leap Research Grant Award winners

Three women faculty in the College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources will receive the first FORWARD Leap Research Grant awards. The recipients are Carrie Hammer, assistant professor in the Department of Animal Sciences; Birgit Pruess, assistant professor in the Department of Veterinary and Microbiological Sciences; and Kim Vonnahme, assistant professor in the Department of Animal Sciences.

Fundied by the National Science Foundation Advance grant, the awards are designed to support the advancement of tenure-track and tenured faculty women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines by providing research grants to seed proposals with strong potential to lead to greater funding opportunities from federal sources such as National Science Foundation or National Institutes of Health.

External reviewers with well-established careers in STEM research reviewed the proposals submitted in the first round of funding. After receiving the external reviewers comments, the final decisions for awards were made by an internal review committee.

An information session about the Leap Research Grant program and the next round of proposal submissions will be Wednesday, March 25, at 3:30 p.m. in Memorial Union Arikara room.

The new call for proposals will be posted at www.ndsu.edu/forward beginning March 25. Go to the “Funding Opportunities and the Leap Research Grants” link on the Web site for more information about submitting proposals.

Woodlands and High Plains Powwow planned

Tri-College University is sponsoring the 20th annual Woodlands and High Plains Powwow, scheduled for Saturday, April 18, at the North Dakota State University Bison Sports Arena.

Grand Entries are planned for 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Attendees will see traditional dancing, singing, drumming, regalia and arts and crafts. Organizers hope the traditional powwow atmosphere will give the Fargo-Moorhead community a glimpse of the American Indian culture. An estimated 1,500 people are expected to attend.

Also scheduled to attend is special guest Miss Indian Nations, Alyssa Alberts, from New Town, N.D. She is the 16th person to hold the title.

The powwow is held each year at one of the three Tri-College campuses – Concordia College, Minnesota State University Moorhead and NDSU.

Admission prices are ages 6-18, $2; and ages 19-54, $3. There is no charge for children age 5 and younger and persons 55 and older.

For information, contact NDSU Multicultural Student Services at 231-1029. Information also is available at www.ndsu.edu/multi-cultural/whp.html or www.ndsu.nodak.edu/ndsu/nasa.

V-Day NDSU presents ‘The Vagina Monologues’

To raise funds and awareness to end violence against women and girls, V-Day NDSU is presenting Eve Ensler’s “The Vagina Monologues.” Performances will be March 27-28 at 7:30 p.m. and March 29 at 2 p.m. in Askanase Hall. General admission tickets are $8 for faculty, staff and general public and $5 for students. Tickets will be available at the door or by calling (701) 238-7010.

V-Day is a global movement to end violence against women and girls. It was inspired by “The Vagina Monologues.” After seeing the play, women would line up to tell Ensler their personal experiences, most often of sexual violence.

V-Day NDSU, the group that has organized this event, invites the NDSU community and public to experience “The Vagina Monologues” mystery, humor, pain, power, wisdom, outrage and excitement buried in women’s experiences. A portion of the profits will be donated to the North Dakota Council on Abused Women’s Services.

Campus Attractions, Women’s Studies and the Office for Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach are sponsoring the event.
Harris and Pearson receive Leadership Development Awards

Marion Harris, professor of entomology, and Judy Pearson, professor of communication, have been awarded the first FORWARD Leadership Development grants. The Leadership Development program promotes the advancement of talented, tenured women faculty by providing financial support to attend leadership training. The Leadership Development program is open to tenured women faculty with the rank of associate professor or professor.

Harris will use the funds to attend LEAD21, a training program that develops leaders in land-grant institutions and their strategic partners who link research, academics and Extension in order to lead more effectively in an increasingly complex environment.

Pearson will use the funds to attend Greenleaf Center’s annual Conference on Servant Leadership.

Horse show team successful at regional competition

Seven members of the NDSU horse show team competed at the regional competition in River Falls, Wis., on Feb. 28. Janelle Lanoue, a sophomore from Alexandria, Minn.; Shannon Voges, a sophomore from Courtland, Minn.; and Jackie Eldredge, a freshman from Casselton, N.D., took first place in their divisions. Jordan Schultz, a freshman from Eckerty, Ind., and Chelsea Szazama, a freshman from Perham, Minn., received second in their divisions.

Other team members who competed in the regional competition include Carley Eddy, a sophomore from Garfield, Minn., and Catie Vieths, a sophomore from Miesville, Minn.
The five members receiving first and second place will travel to Findlay, Ohio, to compete in the semifinals March 21-22. They will compete against schools from throughout the United States.

Competitors must place in the top four of their divisions at semifinals to qualify for the national competition in Murfreesboro, Tenn., April 23-26.

Publications Services honored at Addy Awards

Work produced by the NDSU Publications Services office won seven Gold Addy Awards and nine Silver Addy Awards at the Advertising Federation of Fargo-Moorhead’s annual Addy Awards, held Feb. 27.

Three advertising professionals - from Wisconsin, Michigan and Arizona - judged more than 470 entries covering all aspects of advertising, including print, television, radio and interactive. The judges awarded 76 gold and 108 silver Addys.

Addy Awards is the first part of a three-tier national competition conducted annually by the American Advertising Federation. Local gold award winners move on to a district competition against other local contest winners from North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Gold winners at the district level then move on to a national competition.

Gold Addy Awards
President’s Annual Report, Office of the President
NDSU Magazine, Office of the President
NDSU Cares campaign, Counseling Center
NDSU Report to Investors, Development Foundation
Welcome Week brochure, Office of Orientation and Student Success
Pterodactyls poster, Little Country Theatre
Wild About Wilderness campaign, Faculty Lectureship

Silver Addy Awards
NDSU Facts mini brochure, Office of the President
Winter Commencement book, Office of Registration and Records
Phlush the Phish poster, Information Technology Services
Wearing the Hijab photo series, NDSU Magazine
Governor’s School poster, North Dakota Governor’s School
Wild Nights CD, Division of Fine Arts
International Week campaign, Office of International Programs
NDSU Opera illustration, Division of Fine Arts
Iphigenia at Aulis campaign, Little Country Theatre

Publications Services staff recognized for their work include Brad Clemenson, Janelle Kistner, Rebekka DeVries, Beth Hagemeister, Melissa Hintermeister, Dan Koeck, Laurie Baker, Joel Hagen and Kathy Laid.

Johnson adjudicates Optimist Band Festival

Sigurd Johnson, associate professor of music, recently was an adjudicator for the 31st annual Optimist Band Festival in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

During the event, held Feb. 17-20, Johnson listened to and worked with nearly 60 concert bands. The festival features school bands from Manitoba, Ontario, Saskatchewan and, this year, one band from Mandan High School in Mandan N.D. There are also a small number of community bands that participate.

According to Johnson, the bands present a short program for a panel of three judges, who rate the band on such things as quality of sound, musicality and correct notes. Each band then gets a short clinic with one of the judges.

“Some bands compete in this festival for awards and trophies, while other bands use the opportunity to perform for comments and the ensuing clinic alone,” Johnson said. “There is a very wide range of band size and quality at the festival – from very advanced and accomplished groups to younger and much smaller bands.”

Music faculty to judge contests

Several NDSU Department of Music faculty members will adjudicate high school music contests throughout the region during March.

They include Sigurd Johnson, percussion; Matthew Patnode, saxophone; Jeremy Brekke, trumpet; Charlette Moe, soprano; Robert Jones, baritone; Kyle Mack, trombone; and Michael Thrasher, clarinet.

The faculty will judge large musical groups, such as band, jazz ensembles and choirs, as well as solo and small ensemble performances. They will provide ratings and critiques for the students.

According to Johnson, the faculty members collectively will listen to hundreds of students in North Dakota and Minnesota. He said many of the contests are regional events, with the top musicians moving to the state contests.
Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences names new ambassadors

The College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences has named the members of the Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences Ambassadors class of 2009. The organization welcomes 17 new members, with representation from pre-professional to graduate students from each department in the college.

More than 50 written applications were received throughout the two-week recruitment period. Faculty members from each area of study nominated the ambassadors, who were required to complete an interview process.

The students will join the current class of ambassadors who promote the college through a variety of events serving past, present and prospective students.

New ambassadors from the pharmacy department include Kailee Donner, Lexi Hoefs, Amanda Jorgenson, Jason Lind, Rupa Patel, Natasha Petry, Haylee Preabt and Mckaya Schmit. New ambassadors from the pharmaceutical sciences department include Namrata Bhatnagar and Praveen Shukla. New ambassadors from the nursing department include Amanda Booke, Anne Dunham, Brett Halvorson, Danielle Haslinger and Ashlie Seifert. New ambassadors from allied sciences include Lindsey Bruner and Tania Peters.

The Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences Ambassadors are co-advised by Dana Davis, director of recruitment, and Sara Tanke, director of advancement for the College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences.

Handel’s ‘Messiah’ performance rescheduled

Gate City Bank and the NDSU Baroque Festival have announced a special performance of Handel’s “Messiah,” rescheduled for Sunday, March 29, due to the weather cancellation of a December performance.

Tickets for the Dec. 14 performance will be honored on March 29, and no ticket exchange is required. Additional tickets can be arranged by calling the NDSU Fine Arts Box Office at 1-7969.

Jo Ann Miller, professor and director of choral activities, is the artistic director and conductor of the Baroque Festival with Michael Weber, associate professor, conducting as well. Featured soloists include Virginia Sublett, Clara Presser, Robert Jones and David Hamilton.

Tickets are $15 for adults, $12 for seniors, $5 for students and are available through the NDSU Division of Fine Arts Box Office at 1-7969. Additional information can be found online at www.ndsu.edu/finearts.

‘Gear Up for Grants’ seminars planned for March

The Office of Research, Creative Activities and Technology Transfer has planned two “Gear Up for Grants” seminars for March. The seminars are open to all faculty, students and staff (particularly those involved with research and grants.)

“Managing Effort Reporting and Other Grant Issues” is planned for Thursday, March 12, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Memorial Union Hidatsa room. The NDSU Grant and Contract Accounting Office staff will present the event.

In this seminar, presenters will focus on why effort reporting is an extremely important and often overlooked component of sponsored research. Specific discussion points include NDSU’s effort reporting system/process, the effort certification form, the need for timeliness of certification, some do’s and don’ts relating to effort reporting, voluntary cost share and real-world examples of some compliance issues and costs. The seminar is relevant to faculty with grants, faculty and staff hoping to receive grants soon and office staff and students who are in the position of helping to manage grant projects and funds.

“Research and Intellectual Property at NDSU” is planned for Thursday, March 24, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Memorial Union Hidatsa room. The Technology Transfer Office and NDSU Research Foundation staff will present the seminar, which focuses on issues with intellectual property and addresses issues relevant to developing intellectual property as part of a research project at NDSU. The seminar is relevant to NDSU community members who are involved with doing research and making discoveries and innovations.

To register for a presentation, contact Kay Sizer as soon as possible at kaysizer@ndsu.edu.

‘Accommodating Students’ seminar planned

Whether teaching online or in a traditional college classroom, chances are you will encounter students with disabilities who require accommodations. The Office of Disability Services and Distance and Continuing Education are sponsoring the seminar “Accommodating Students: What Every College Instructor Needs to Know.” The event is planned for Thursday, March 19, at 1 p.m. at SGC 104 and Thursday, April 16, at 10 a.m. at SGC 104.

The seminar will explain the instructor’s responsibilities in providing the accommodations and how to facilitate them. It covers ethical and legal implications for college instructors. Participants also will learn tips for a proactive approach to preparing and delivering course curriculum, information and materials.

There is no cost, but registration is required. Contact Lyn DeLorme, Distance and Continuing Education instructional designer, at 1-6371 or lyn.delorme@ndsu.edu to register or for more information.
NDSU to host conference and Steel Bridge Competition

NDSU will host the annual American Society of Civil Engineers student chapter conference and Steel Bridge Competition on March 20-21. The conference will be held on Friday, and the Steel Bridge Competition will begin on Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Fargodome.

Students and steel bridge competitors from NDSU, University of Minnesota, Minnesota State University Mankato, Iowa State, University of Iowa, South Dakota State University, University of North Dakota, University of Wisconsin-Plattville and Lakehead University will attend the conference and competition.

Several speakers and a banquet are scheduled for the conference. Competition events include aesthetics judging, timed construction and load testing. For more information, contact Jan Lofberg, academic assistant at 1-7244 or jan.lofberg@ndsu.edu.

Discover U Home landscaping workshop scheduled

“Basic Tips for Home Landscaping,” a workshop sponsored by the NDSU Staff Senate, is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, at 10 a.m. in the Memorial Union Century Theater.

Martin Shervey, arboretum coordinator, and Will Ferguson, landscape specialist, will discuss site preparation, designing a plan, plant selection, edging, planting and mulching.

The workshop is part of the “Discover U” series, organized by the NDSU Staff Senate Development Committee.

SHORTS & REMINDERS

Positions Available
Positions open and screening dates through the Office of Human Resources, SGC, 1919 N. University Drive. Position openings also are available through the NDSU Web site at www.ndsu.edu/jobs.

Plumber
Facilities Management
$38,000+/year
March 17

Academic Adviser
Open internally to NDSU employees only
Architecture and Landscape Architecture
$35,000+/year
March 12

Adviser/Lecturer
10-month, half-time position
Computer Science
$17,000+/year
March 15

Assistant Director for Service Learning and Civic Engagement
Memorial Union
$38,000+/year
April 1

Veterinary Technologist
Animal Science
$35,000+/year
Open until filled

Nursery Manager/#00020162
North Dakota Forest Service
Salary commensurate with experience
Open until filled

Internal Auditor
Budget Office
$50,000+/year
Open until filled

Graphic Designer/#00019654
Publications Services
Salary commensurate with experience
Open until filled

Hall Director
Residence Life
$31,500/year
Open until filled

Software Engineer (EduTech)
Information Technology Services
$42,000+/year
Open until filled

Correction:
A Safe Zone training session is planned for Monday, March 23, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Memorial Union Room of Nations. In the March 4 issue of “It’s Happening at State,” the date was incorrectly listed as Thursday, March 26.

CALENDAR

MARCH

11 YMCA of NDSU Brown Bag – “Women’s Voices in the Legislative Season,” Renee Stromme, executive director of the North Dakota Women’s Network, noon, Memorial Union Arikara room

11 Live at the Wall, 2 p.m., Wallman Wellness Center

11 Entomology, Range Science and Soil Science seminar – “Investigating Insect Resistance in Poplar Using Forward Genetics,” Steven Ralph, assistant professor of biology at University of North Dakota, 3 p.m., Walster Hall 220


13 Animal Sciences graduate seminar – “Pork Science: Conception to Consumption,” Erin Harris, NDSU graduate student, 3 p.m., Hultz Hall room 104

16-20 Spring Break – hours for NDSU employees will be 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a 30-minute lunch break.

17 Defensive Driving Course, 8 a.m. to noon, EML, room 183

18 Customer Account Services is closed.