President Chapman thanks students, faculty and staff of NDSU

To staff and faculty, who also gave generously of their time, some fighting for their own homes, some fighting for the homes of people they’ve never met, also a very heartfelt thanks. Every person made a difference.

We have much left to do. We must remain vigilant until the second crest, predicted for April 15-22, and we need to remain strong as a community to meet the challenges of cleanup ahead. We will return to normal operations as quickly as possible. We will do so knowing we have made a difference.

Sincerely,
Joseph A. Chapman, President

Students, faculty and staff in north Fargo bucket brigade

Tyler Schwantes and his buddies dug into their first flood fight on Monday, March 23. Schwantes, an NDSU management information systems major, spent the day sandbagging in neighborhoods from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., took a short break and then filled bags at the Fargodome from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. They were back at the Fargodome at 8 a.m. Tuesday to catch a bus back to the neighborhood lines.

"It’s kind of crazy," Schwantes said from the sandbagging line at Lilac Lane in north Fargo. "Sheds are under water. But it’s really cool to see a lot of people out helping."

Joel Hagen, an NDSU staff member, also spent time at Lilac Lane. He was working at the front of a long bucket brigade passing sandbags from a driveway to the back of the houses where they were stacked up four deep and tarped against the waters rising beyond them. Finishing one section, the sandbaggers, which Hagen said also included a lot of high school students and homeowners, would walk down the street to the next pile of sandbags and re-form their human chain.

"It’s really muddy and they are using broken sandbags to put sand on the ice so people don’t slip," Hagen said. Homeowners were putting out pop, chips, water and granola bars to help the workers keep their energy up.

On campus, the sidewalks are nearly empty, but groups of students are steadily passing through the Memorial Union to volunteer, each grabbing a paper bag from a tower of bag lunches and bottled water as they head out to the bus stop on their way to a neighborhood in need. By Tuesday morning, 3,200 NDSU faculty, staff and students had signed up to volunteer through the Memorial Union flood center; another 281 students volunteered to work overnight.
**Chancellor Goetz thanks students, faculty and staff**

Dear students, faculty and staff,

It is with great pride that I extend a word of recognition and gratitude to all who responded to the needs of meeting the challenges presented from the flood situations in a number of locations across the state.

Your personal contribution, whatever form it took, did make a difference for both the personal welfare of individuals and the preservation of property. I am sure this experience was a process of education and an impacting life experience.

Thank you and the very best to you for the remainder of this semester.

Sincerely,

Bill Goetz, Chancellor

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**Provost Schnell addresses academic calendar**

NDSU is proud of the enormous response from our students, faculty and staff toward the flood-fighting effort. The time and effort they willingly offered were astonishing. Thank you for what you have done.

As the region begins the recovery process, our institution must address missed classes. Since our students and faculty have other commitments that would be difficult for them to keep otherwise, we have decided to adhere to our current academic calendar with the exception of classes Monday evening, April 13.

Commencement will be held as scheduled on May 15 and 16. Summer school will begin on Monday, May 18, as scheduled.

To assist with instructional objectives, no exams are to be given during the weeks of April 6-9 and May 4-8. Faculty will focus on instruction only. Finals week will not be used for instruction, it will remain only for examinations.

Library hours will be extended starting April 13, from 6 a.m. to midnight.

The Graduate School will give priority to helping those students completing and to process applications and admission for Fall 2009.

We believe the best way to ensure that the learning objectives are covered in class is to empower our capable instructors to develop their own plans with student input. The faculty will submit those plans in writing to their department chair/head. Faculty also will be accessible to students outside of class, including extension of office hours.

Here are some of the suggested strategies our instructors may follow:

a. Reorganize/prioritize class materials
b. Use of technology (blackBoard/WIMBA)
c. Expand take-home assignments
d. Use additional course time but check with registrar for room usage, give consideration to student perspective, videotape lectures
e. Reschedule of laboratories will be coordinated by departments

If difficulties are encountered, students and faculty should first meet with their department chair or head; then, the dean; and finally, the provost.

We all need to be flexible and reasonable, and to communicate openly with one another. With the help of our extraordinary students, faculty and staff, we anticipate a smooth finish to what has proven to be an eventful spring.

R. Craig Schnell
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

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**NDSU students help run Flood Central Call Center**

Emergency management students responded to the call for help on Monday, March 23, from Carol Cwiak, faculty and internship coordinator for the emergency management program in NDSU’s Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Emergency Management. The students got a crash course in using the skills they have learned in the classroom by helping set up Flood Central Call Center and volunteer registration sites.

Cwiak said it was a great opportunity for the students to experience the dynamics of a real event and learn how to work with many agencies to fill different flood control directives. She held back tears while talking about the students.

“They’ve stepped up. They’ve become leaders. They are basically leading these volunteer registration sites. They are leading at the call center,” she said. “I could not be prouder. They delivered.”
Phone lines stretched across the floor at Flood Central Call Center, and tables and phones filled the room. Coffee and thermoses were ready for volunteers answering the phone lines to take information on sandbag requests, determine where volunteers were most needed and provide any information needed on flood resources.

Ryan McEwan, a graduate student in emergency management, volunteered 16 to 18 hours a day as the overnight manager.

“This is like an extension of the classroom. We get to fulfill roles where the greatest need is,” he said. “It’s tiring, but because the need is so great, that alone energizes me.”

McEwan said the phones slowed down overnight, but at 7 a.m., they rang non-stop until 10 p.m. All of the emergency management students helped in some capacity either at the phone center, at volunteer sites or on the front lines at the dikes.

Large sheets of paper attached to the walls around the room provided numbers for various churches, daycare, showers, hotels, buses, storage and where to send volunteers when they called. Each volunteer also had a cheat sheet of numbers for emergency contacts, food donation sites for restaurants and evacuation information.

The room buzzed with chatter from volunteers on the 20 phones that constantly rang. Thousands of calls went through the center each day.

Natasha Conway, director of hotline operations at FirstLink, was managing Flood Central on her own from March 27-29. When the emergency management students and faculty joined the team on March 30, she said a huge weight was lifted off her shoulders.

“Words cannot describe how much they have helped,” she said. “Without their help, we would not have been able to run 24 hours a day.”

Tetanus vaccines not needed until flood cleanup begins

Officials from the NDSU Student Health Service and the State Health Department say that floodwaters will not increase your risk for tetanus, and vaccines are not necessary unless dealing with contaminated water or flood cleanup.

Barb Lonbaken, dean for student wellness, says NDSU Student Health Service will provide tetanus booster shots for students. “You don’t need to take time to get a tetanus shot right now if you are dealing with the floodwaters,” she said.

During flood cleanup, when the risk of wounds increases, workers will need to be up-to-date with their tetanus vaccination. Adults need a tetanus booster shot every 10 years.

Tetanus and diphtheria (Td) shots or tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) shots can be used. Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough) vaccinations instead of tetanus and diphtheria vaccinations are recommended for one tetanus booster during adulthood to maintain protection against pertussis.

Students can make an appointment for a tetanus booster shot by calling Student Health Service at 1-7331.

Bison basketball team helps with flood fight

Two weeks ago, the Bison men’s basketball players were battling on the court during the team’s first NCAA Division I tournament appearance. Now, they’ve joined another fight.

Team members and coaches are among the thousands of volunteers who battled the rising waters of the Red River and its tributaries. On Tuesday, March 24, the squad filled sandbags and helped build dikes in Oxbow and Briarwood, N.D.

“This is a no-brainer for us. People need help, and we’ve got able-bodied guys,” explained Saul Phillips, head basketball coach. “Anybody who has been around our program knows how well the community supported us, and they need us now. They’ve got us.”

At Matt Engen’s home in Briarwood, seven NDSU players and four coaches joined the volunteers and neighbors working to protect the property. Engen estimated about 3,000 sandbags were needed to encircle his home.

“It’s pretty amazing to have local celebrities out here helping,” an appreciative Engen said. “We’re fairly new to the neighborhood, so it means a lot to us to have these superstars help us out. It’s really nice to have the troops here.”

For the players, like center Lucas Moormann, the chance to pitch in was an opportunity not to be missed.

“This is a great way for us to give back to the community. The people of this area have done so much for us through the years,” said the senior from Dickinson, N.D., as he shoveled sand into a bag. “As we saw down at the NCAA tournament, we have a ton of fans. This is one way to give back to them and help the community.”

Moormann added, “We just want to say thanks to everyone who has supported us. From people on campus to the people that we’ve met at the grocery store, it’s been great to get to know everybody. It’s been great to become a part of this community.”

Sophomore forward Michael Tveidt took a short break from carrying sandbags to say, “It’s fun to be able to help people out. Some of these guys have been coming to our games, and we’ve been talking about that as we walk,” said the Pierre, S.D., native.

“ Their faces light up when they see people coming to help,” Tveidt said. “It feels good to help.”
Alumnus works to protect Fargo from floodwaters

NDSU alumnus Scott Satermo is in the very thick of Fargo’s battle against the Red River floodwaters. As the owner of Rising Sun Construction and North Core Corp., his crews helped to build Fargo’s temporary emergency dike system — the city’s major line of defense.

Working around the clock, Satermo’s crews are responsible for the dikes from 7th Avenue North to the Ridgewood area of the city near 19th Avenue North. Those clay dikes are holding the waters back from the Oak Grove neighborhood, Mickelson Park and the El Zagel golf course.

The Corps of Engineers informed Satermo at 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 19, his crews needed to be on site by 7 a.m. the next morning. That gave him less than 12 hours to get equipment in place and notify his staff.

“We had to scramble,” Satermo said, as he took a short break on Wednesday afternoon. “We’ve been going 24 hours a day, running four to five crews constantly since we got the call. We’ve got four bulldozers, two backhoes, three loaders and three skid steers, and there are 15 to 20 people going all the time.”

Employees of both of his companies, which have offices in Fargo and Omaha, Neb., worked at least 12-hour shifts. “We get short-handed sometimes, but the guys jump right in and run even longer shifts,” explained Satermo, who graduated from NDSU in 1996 with a major in civil engineering. “We’ve brought on all of my employees to get this job done.”

Satermo looks at this flood with an experienced eye, because he was a city engineer for the City of Fargo during the 1997 flood. “We seemed to have more time in ’97,” he said. “The southern part of the city has grown so much since then; so the city has a massive amount of work to get done. It’s pretty overwhelming.”

The dikes Satermo’s crews have built stand at 42 feet at locations south of 12th Avenue North and 41 feet on the north side of that roadway. But, there’s more work to do after the March 25 flood projection. His crews had to raise the dikes to 43 feet.

As he turned back to the flood fight, Satermo wanted to express his appreciation to the employees, volunteers and neighbors who have joined in this struggle.

“You’ve got an array of contractors working with the city, the Corps of Engineers and the schools. Everybody is working together; the communication has been great,” Satermo said. “Everybody is doing whatever they can, and that is reassuring that we can get it done.”

Akyuz compares Red River flood to past years

Adnan Akyuz, North Dakota state climatologist and assistant professor of climatology in NDSU’s soil science department, has compared the weather patterns up until today with those of 1996 through 1997 and 1896 through 1897.

The record stage level of 40.1 feet in Fargo was set on April 7, 1897. The second highest crest of 39.57 feet came 100 years later on April 17, 1897.

“Most people remember the 1997 flood because of the 117 inches of snow that fell during the winter season,” Akyuz says. “It was by far the most snowfall Fargo ever received.”

Many people are trying to compare this year with the flood of 1997. “We are 48.3 inches of snow behind the 1996 through 1997 season,” Akyuz says. “The difference is equivalent to Fargo’s annual snowfall average. However, what is troublesome about this season are the water the snow contained and the precipitation that has been locked under the soil since July. Compared by water equivalence since July, Fargo has received more than 8 inches of precipitation than it did during the 1996 through 1997 season. Since October 2008, Fargo had the wettest October through March period.”

While the highest water level in Fargo was observed in 1897, there are differences from then to today.

“It is alarming because we are now comparable to the 1896 through 1897 pattern in terms of precipitation (liquid and solid) from October through March,” Akyuz says. “However, the river’s impact may not be the same because of the different mitigation measures taken during those periods. Fargo is more prepared for this flood than any other flood in the past.”

Flood emergency response effort supported by new Internet tool

The International Water Institute, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Houston Engineering Inc. have created a new Internet tool to assist with the local emergency response effort to fight the continuing flood in the Red River of the North Basin.

Available at http://iwi.houstoneng.com/iwi_lidar/iwi.html, the tool provides access to newly acquired high resolution topographic data obtained by the water institute with financial support provided from local, state and federal partners.

The high-resolution data is based on the use of light detection and ranging technology. Elevations are available every 1.4 meters across the landscape with a vertical accuracy of better than 15 centimeters.
“The tool provides access to excellent topographic information that can be used by a variety of people to make decisions about reacting to this severe flood. This demonstrates the importance of having good information and the use of these data,” according to Charles Fritz, director of the International Water Institute. “The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has been an instrumental public partner in processing the information over the last several days.”

The tool allows emergency responders the ability to zoom in on specific areas, determine elevations based on accurate topographic data, measure distances and areas, observe on-the-ground images in select locations and print maps.

The Web site is hosted by Houston Engineering Inc., a company based in Fargo, as a service to the local community.

North Dakota NASA EPSCoR calls for proposals

The North Dakota NASA Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) has issued calls for proposals for Faculty Seed Research and Graduate Student Research Opportunities. Both proposals are at [www.ndepscor.nodak.edu](http://www.ndepscor.nodak.edu).

Graduate Student Research proposals are due by Wednesday, April 8, at noon, while the deadline for Faculty Seed Research proposals is Wednesday, April 22, at noon.

The goal of the graduate student funding is to facilitate student research in NASA-relevant research areas, foster greater quality and quantity of NASA-relevant research in North Dakota and encourage the students to enter the NASA or technical workforce.

Faculty Seed Research’s purpose is to advance researchers to compete directly at NASA mission directorates.

For more information, contact David R. Givers at 1-7516 or david.givers@ndsu.edu.

Impact Award nominations sought

Nominations are being accepted for the 2008-09 President’s Diversity Council Impact Award. The award is given annually to an individual, group or unit that has actively and positively promoted the concept of diversity by enhancing or contributing to the overall environment of the community or university.

The award will be presented at a Tapestry of Diverse Talents ceremony on May 8.

Nominations may be made by NDSU students, staff, faculty or community members. Nomination forms are available at [www.ndsu.edu/diversity/documents.html](http://www.ndsu.edu/diversity/documents.html) or can be picked up at the Office of Diversity and Equity, Old Main 205.

The deadline is April 9.

NDSU professor writes ‘Outstanding Article’

Brent Young, assistant professor in the School of Education, co-wrote an article that was named Outstanding Article for volume 58 of the Journal of the Southern Agricultural Education Research. The title of the article is “Effects of a Math-enhanced Curriculum and Instructional Approach on Students’ Achievement in Mathematics: A Year-long Experimental Study in Agricultural Power and Technology.”

The purpose of the study was to test the idea that students who participated in a mathematics-enhanced high school agricultural power and technology curriculum and aligned instructional approach that included intensive teacher professional development would develop a deeper and more sustained understanding of selected mathematics concepts than those students who participated in the traditional curriculum and instruction.

The study included teachers and students from 32 high schools in Oklahoma. Students were enrolled in an agricultural power and technology course during the 2004-05 school year. According to Young, the level of students’ achievement, measured by a traditional mathematics test, revealed results that held practical significance and supported the use of the experimental treatment.

Young joined the faculty at NDSU in 2006. This is the second time in three years that Young’s work has been named the outstanding article by the Journal of the Southern Agricultural Education Research.

Browning article to appear in October 2009 publication

Sarah Browning, assistant professor of criminal justice, and Patricia Erickson, senior scientist at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto, have published an article titled “Neighborhood Disadvantage, Alcohol Use, and Violent Victimization.” The paper will appear in the October 2009 edition of Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice.

The study examined the relative importance of neighborhood, family and school effects on the relationship between alcohol use and violent victimization among Toronto area high school students.

According to the authors, two surprising findings emerged. First, contrary to expectations, youth residing in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods were less likely to experience violent victimization relative to their more advantaged counterparts. However, if youth in these disadvantaged contexts were alcohol users, they were subject to a much higher risk of both minor and major victimization when compared to alcohol users in other neighborhoods.
**Eggers working to improve advising and student learning**

Connie Eggers, academic adviser, recently attended the 2009 Assessment of Academic Advising Institute and Advising 2.0: Utilizing Technology Effectively for Campuswide Advising, hosted by the National Academic Advising Association in Tampa, Fla. She is working to establish an assessment process focused on advising and student learning and she offered ideas for using Web 2.0 software tools for advising functions with human development and education colleagues and the campuswide advising group.

“One of my personal goals is to increase our use of technological tools for efficient and effective advising,” Eggers said. “Advising 2.0: Utilizing Technology Effectively for Campuswide Advising offered some great examples of Web 2.0 tools including wikis, blogs and social networking sites at work on campuses around the country to aid advising efforts. My hope is to build excitement and teamwork around this idea so we can develop additional methods to connect with students.”

Eggers also has been selected to present a concurrent session addressing technology uses for advising at the region six National Academic Advising Association conference in Fargo on May 6-8.

Eggers was hired as an academic adviser for the College of Human Development and Education in March 2008. Her responsibilities include advising freshmen, sophomores and early transfers in the college. She also works with prospective students and their parents who visit campus.

**Stastny wins People’s Choice award for poster presentation**

Sherri Stastny, assistant professor of health, nutrition and exercise science, won the People’s Choice award for her poster presentation “Meet the Parents: Nine Steps of Meal Planning,” during the Foodservice Educators Network annual conference poster session in Las Vegas on Feb. 14.

The presentation illustrated a study that Stastny conducted to help students memorize the nine steps of meal planning and how to plan menus using the most important food selection criteria.

The “Meet the Parents” study was an assignment depicting a newly engaged couple who needs to plan a special meal for their diverse group of parents plus vegan siblings in a limited, small kitchen with no dining room.

The results of Stastny’s study showed improvement in knowledge for using food selection criteria in meal planning. Students’ comments and data also indicated that students did improve in knowing the nine steps of meal planning.

Stastny joined the NDSU faculty full time in 2002. She previously was director of Food and Nutrition Services for Dakota Heartland Health System where she worked with NDSU dietetic interns.

**Enger publishes two articles**

Kathy Enger, assistant professor in the School of Education, had two articles published. “Minorities and the Online University” was published in the second edition of The Encyclopedia of Distance Learning. The article argues that minorities find the online learning environment to be somewhat free of racial biases and stereotypes, due to the horizontal nature of online communication. “In a traditional white college environment, minorities may not apply for admittance, or if they are admitted, may not stay to complete a degree,” Enger said. “The online environment offers an individual experience, without the pressure of typical peer norms.”

“Using Citation Analysis to Develop Core Book Collections in Academic Libraries” will appear in the next issue of Library and Information Science Research. According to Enger, the article suggests that citation analysis rests in role-set theory, a theory established by Robert K. Merton, a sociologist of knowledge. “Merton was criticized for his ethos of science, but accepted for role-set theory. The next step for citation analysis is to become a “citation” theory, and it can find a home in the sociology of knowledge set forth by Merton,” she said.

For this article, I examined books purchased for the NDSU library using citation analysis and compared them to books purchased on traditional standards, such as book reviews and the university’s curriculum,” Enger said. “It was found that in specific subject areas, books chosen by the citation analysis method circulated as much as those chosen by the traditional method. Citation analysis quantifies the number of times an author is cited in the scholarly literature. If authors publishing in the scientific literature also publish books, and they are the authors cited most frequently, it would be logical that their books might circulate more.”

Enger has worked at NDSU for nearly 12 years and was social sciences librarian until 2007, when she began teaching and advising in the education doctoral program.

**Coler Hanson attends child advocacy training session**

Emily Coler Hanson, a graduate student studying child development and family science, was selected from applicants across the country to participate in the fifth annual Young Advocate Leadership Training program.


During the training, more than 100 participants developed knowledge and skills in child advocacy. The program is a three-day, intensive training that connects students with other young leaders, community organizers and child advocates to learn new advocacy skills, models and strategies that can be implemented to help children and strengthen families.
Noland recognized by national food and nutrition program

Jean Noland, a nutrition Extension agent for Grand Forks County, has been honored as the North Dakota award recipient for her significant contributions to the success of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. Noland and several other regional and state award winners were recognized at the program’s 40th anniversary reception in Washington, D.C., on March 9.

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program operates in all 50 states and American Samoa, Guam, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. It is designed to assist people with limited resources by acquiring the knowledge, skills, attitude and changed behavior necessary for nutritionally sound diets, and to contribute to their personal development and the improvement of the total family diet and nutritional well-being.

“It is exciting and rewarding to receive this award and represent the state of North Dakota,” Noland said. “The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program is a great program and I hope it will be around for many years to come. Working in EFNEP at the NDSU Extension Service has provided me a piece of the P.I.E. – participation, involvement and empowerment. Like the target audience that I work with, you will get out of it what you put in.”

Noland’s role in the program is to provide programming that is relevant and fun. “I try to plan my programming around the question, ‘What’s the most important benefit they’ll receive from hearing me?’” Noland said. She uses games, themes and costumes to encourage learning and to enhance her programs.

Noland began working at the NDSU Extension Service in August 2001. Her responsibilities include teaching low-income audiences how to improve their dietary practices and become more effective managers of available resources.

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.

Electrical Equipment Technician/#0018753
Electrical and Computer Engineering
$38,000+/year
April 3

Agricultural Research Technician/#0002059
North Central Research Extension Center
Minot, N.D.
Salary commensurate with experience
April 10

Nursery Manager/#0002177
North Dakota Forest Service
Salary commensurate with experience
Open until filled

Systems Engineer
Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering
$70,000+/year
Open until filled

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

Career Specialist/#0021374
Career Center
$36,000+/year
April 3

Research Specialist
Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering
Salary commensurate with experience
April 7

Systems Engineer
Information Technology
Salary commensurate with experience
Open until filled

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

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

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

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

APRIL

8 Live @ Lunch – Ross Copperman, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Memorial Union lower level

8 YMCA of NDSU Brown Bag, “Safe Zone,” noon, Memorial Union Arikara room

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

8 Entomology, range science and soil science graduate seminar – “Fate and Transport of Estradiol-Sulfate Conjugates,” Xuelian Bai, NDSU graduate student in soil science, 3 p.m., Walster Hall 220

8 Saxophone Chamber Night, 7:30 p.m., Beckwith Recital Hall, free admission

9 Safezone Training, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Memorial Union Prairie room

9 Chemistry and Molecular Biology Seminar, “Cofacially-Arrayed Polybensenoid Nano Structures for Molecular Wires,” Rajendra Rathore, associate professor of chemistry at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis., 3:45 p.m., Dunbar 152.

10-13 Spring holiday, Offices closed on Friday, April 10. No classes on Friday, April 10, or Monday, April 13.