Sanford Health to be NDSU’s first Campus Community Partner

NDSU President Dean L. Bresciani has established a program to recognize private sector collaborations with the university that benefit the community. NDSU’s first Campus Community Partner is Sanford Health.

NDSU and Sanford’s most recent collaboration is the new Center for Life Sciences Research and Applications that will conduct research on human genomics and bioinformatics. Initial focus is expected to include research on breast cancer research and certain rare diseases in children.

“NDSU is fortunate to work with Sanford Health on a number of projects that make a difference in the lives of people in our community, state and beyond,” Bresciani said. “The potential to strengthen our collaborations and subsequent contributions is limited only by the imagination.”

Sanford Health will be recognized as a Campus Community Partner Wednesday, April 25, with a 9 a.m. flag raising ceremony at the NDSU flag pavilion. The NDSU and Sanford flags will be raised on the same pole, symbolically demonstrating the partnership the organizations share in the best interests of the communities they serve.

Sanford Health also will be recognized at the 5:30 p.m. baseball game where the Bison take on the Minnesota Gophers at Newman Outdoor Field.

The NDSU flag pavilion is located near the southwest corner of campus on 12th Avenue.

‘Power of One’ campaign under way

The 2012 NDSU faculty and staff campaign is under way. Titled “The Power of One,” the fund drive focuses on participation by faculty and staff to provide gifts to enhance student success.

Co-chairs for the 2012 campaign are Jane Schuh from the College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources and Linda Wiedmann from the College of Human Development and Education.

“It doesn’t matter how much you give, but that you give,” the chairs wrote in a recent campaign newsletter. “It takes the power of just one person, one commitment, one gift to give the very best for one student’s academic experience at NDSU.”

The chairs said during the past seven years, a total of 4,425 donors from the campus community have committed 9,262 gifts totaling more than $2.6 million.

“Please join us in making a gift to the 2012 Faculty and Staff Campaign to a college, department, scholarship or fund of your choice by April 30,” the chair wrote. “As a donor, you not only provide much-needed financial support, you express belief in the value of our mission.”

For additional information or to make a contribution, visit www.ndsufoundation.com/annualfund/FacultyStaff-Campaign.html.
College of Business maintains accreditation

The College of Business has maintained its business accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Founded in 1916, the association is the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools that offer bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in business and accounting.

Less than 5 percent of business schools worldwide have earned this distinguished hallmark of excellence in management education. To maintain accreditation, a business program must undergo a rigorous internal review every five years, at which time the program must demonstrate its continued commitment to the 21 quality standards relating to faculty qualification, strategic management of resources, interactions of faculty and students, as well as a commitment to continuous improvement and achievement of learning goals in degree programs.

“It takes a great deal of self-evaluation and determination to earn and maintain AACSB Accreditation,” said Jerry Trapnell, vice president and chief accreditation officer of The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International. “Schools not only must meet specific standards of excellence, but their deans, faculty and staff must make a commitment to ongoing improvement to ensure continued delivery of high-quality education to students.”

Ron Johnson, dean of the College of Business, said, “Maintaining AACSB accredited status communicates to the public that the faculty and staff of the college are not only committed to continuous improvement, but that they have demonstrated that commitment through their teaching, scholarship and attention to the curriculum. Having earned the right to be in a group made up of less than five percent of business schools in the world is a pretty significant achievement. I am very proud of the work done by our faculty and staff. We are in very select company, and we are committed to earn the right to stay there.”

The achievement will be recognized this month at the 2012 The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International Conference and Annual Meeting in San Diego.

For more information, contact Wendy Baumann, assistant to the dean’s office, at 1-7006 or wendy.baumann@nds.edu.

NDSU entities collect toys for children undergoing chemotherapy

The NDSU Center for Child Development and Human Development and Family Science Club are partnering with Fargo State Bank and Trust to collect new toys and comfort items for children undergoing chemotherapy.

The effort is part of the Sanford-Pediatric Oncology Spring 2012 Caring and Sharing Project taking place throughout April.

The children and their families who attend the child development center and members of the Human Development and Family Science Club were each given $10 by Jeremy Neuharth, project manager of State Bank and Trust, to purchase the items. The children at the center also decorated bags for the items and created get-well cards.

In addition, families, teachers and club members then matched the $10 gift to purchase items for the center’s collection container. The children will give their donations to a Sanford oncology nurse who will bring the donations to the hospital on Tuesday, April 24.

Debra Habedank, director of the Center for Child Development, said the project also helped the children and their families who attend the center learn valuable lessons, such as doctors and nurses are our helpers when we are sick and giving is more gratifying than receiving.

She said the idea to partner with Sanford-Pediatric Oncology as part of the Caring and Sharing Project arose during a Parent Advisory Committee meeting. The group was brainstorming how to provide a valuable learning experience for the children, while helping them make a difference in the community. A parent suggested the Sanford partnership.

Around the same time, Habedank also met with Dana Davis, director of recruitment for the College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences. Davis suggested bringing the college's program, "The Great Healthcare Adventure," which was created to help young students learn about healthcare professions, to the center. The program also helps children understand things like what it is like to go to the doctor or dentist and how doctors know when patients are sick.

The center then used the “The Great Healthcare Adventure” curriculum to lead up to the Caring and Sharing Project.

"The center staff believe that even young children can make a difference in the community by helping others. The children are experiencing firsthand that service, giving and kindness to others has greater benefits than receiving," Habedank said. "Our ultimate goal is to help develop caring adult citizens who give back to their community.”

Civic Education Month engages NDSU

Every April the NDSU Memorial Union sponsors multiple programs designed to educate students, faculty and staff on the importance of being civically engaged. The Memorial Union recognizes the importance of having civically engaged citizens and works diligently to foster dialogue and positive action that reflect the meaning of social change.

This year’s Civic Education Month started April 4 with a presentation on accessibility at NDSU. Other topics to be presented throughout the month include service-learning advocacy projects, sustainability at NDSU and around Fargo, a discussion about gender theory from author Kate Bernstein and the “Big Event,” where NDSU students volunteer for a day around the community. The events will conclude on May 4 with the Tapestry of Diverse Talents induction ceremony.

For a complete list of the Civic Education Month programs, visit www.ndsu.edu/mu/programs/civic_engagement/civic_engagement_programs.
Executive-in-Residence shares knowledge with NDSU community

Business students should discover entrepreneurial interests and talents that separate them from the crowd. That is the advice of an NDSU alumnus who is recognized as a global leader in social marketing communication. Dana Farbo, director of new media for Vanguard Direct, a marketing company based in New York, was welcomed to campus April 1-7 as the latest College of Business Executive-in-Residence.

Farbo, who graduated from NDSU in 1981 with a bachelor’s degree in economics, has been an industry leader in online, mobile and social marketing space since he launched his first website in 1995. Farbo is a recognized pioneer in establishing new ways to reach audiences and customers. His latest efforts revolve around the development of education apps and platforms for iPhone, iPad, Android and Windows 7.

Farbo, who says he personally likes to stretch and grow while trying different things, advised students to find their niche. “I urge students to look at their careers and learn to set themselves up for long-term opportunities,” he said. “Look at how you can get differentiated. Find your own brand.”

Farbo, a native of Cando, N.D., met with students, faculty and business representatives during his visit. He spoke to several classes and presented an open forum, titled “The Power of Mobile and Tablet Apps.”

“Everyone has uniqueness,” Farbo said. “Students should ask how they can find a differentiated position, and they should focus on their passion.”

Prior to joining Vanguard Direct, Farbo ran the United States operation of Imano Inc. as a founding member and was chair of Cowboy International, a recognized digital agency in New York. Before that, he was vice president of client services for Method LLC, a Euro RSCG company, and also spent more than 15 years in sales and marketing for American Cyanamid Co.

Farbo also serves on the board of directors for MyGoodDeed, an organization with the goal of establishing 9/11 as an official national day of service and remembrance.

“The students at NDSU are incredible,” Farbo said of his campus visit. “All who I met have been very professional. They seem to want to grow in a positive direction.”

Tim Peterson, associate dean of the College of Business, said Farbo had important messages for students, and his visit provided a great learning opportunity. “The executive-in-residence provides a synergy between thinking (theory) and doing (application),” said Peterson. “The executive can assist students in seeing the importance of a specific theory they are learning by linking the theory directly to an application. In addition, the executive through discussing his or her experience assists the professor in emphasizing how a specific theory might apply. Over the week, we certainly saw both thinking and doing with Dana Farbo here as our executive-in-residence.”

Lift’n Buddy selected as a Top 10 Innovator of 2012

Ergologistics, a start-up company at the NDSU Research and Technology Park’s Technology Incubator and creators of the electric hand truck Lift’n Buddy, has been named a Top 10 Innovator of 2012 by Food Logistics Magazine. Commenting on their annual list of forward thinking companies, editor Lara Sowinski said, “It’s a bold statement to describe your product as the ‘Future of Hand Trucks,’ but Ergologistics, the manufacturer of the Lift’n Buddy, is living up to the claim.” Lift’n Buddy is a mobile lifting device that combines the best of a standard two-wheeler’s durability and functionality, with automatic lifting and lowering capabilities.

“We’re targeting the manufacturing, warehousing, distribution, supermarkets and route-based delivery sectors,” said James Dravitz, BS ’09, MBA ’11, director of operations. “However, there’s a catch-all ‘miscellaneous’ category that’s also generating a lot of interest in the product. This category is largely made up of the hospitality industry,” said Dravitz, “in particular, hotels, restaurants, and bars – workplaces that are associated with a lot of heavy lifting but that can’t accommodate a larger piece of equipment.”

“Think of the range of employees who work in hotel bars and banquet departments, lifting beer kegs, boxes of beef and beverages to refill the vending machine, and you can get an idea of how valuable the Lift’n Buddy is in this setting alone,” said Aaron Lamb, the company’s president and founder. According to Lamb, the ongoing improvement in worker safety standards, especially in Canada and the European Union, and to a lesser extent in the U.S., are helping drive interest in the product, which can reduce worker injuries and a company’s liability.

Ergologistics manufactures innovative products for the health and welfare of material handling workers. Lift’n Buddy is designed and distributed by Ergologistics, LLC, manufactured in Fargo, the company is a member of Material Handling Industry of America, as well as the National Safety Council.

The Lift’n Buddy has been designed with proper ergonomics and safety in mind for any person and any moving and lifting job. These mobile lifting devices, fabricated of durable, lightweight, extruded aluminum, help companies avoid the financial exposure of employee injury, litigation and workers’ compensation claims.
‘Eat Smart. Play Hard.’ poster contest winners named

Lyndsey Scheurer of Bismarck won first place in the preteen category of the 2012 “Eat Smart. Play Hard.” poster contest.

North Dakota youth displayed their creativity and health and nutrition knowledge this spring at the sixth annual North Dakota “Eat Smart. Play Hard.” poster contest.

The NDSU Extension Service, North Dakota Dietetic Association and NDSU Center for 4-H Youth Development co-sponsored the poster contest, which was open to youths ages 8 to 19. Entrants competed in two categories: preteen and teen.

Besides promoting healthful eating and regular physical activity, this year’s contest entrants were encouraged to include messages about sun safety and outdoor play.

The winners in the preteen category were:

- First place – Lyndsey Scheurer, Bismarck, N.D.
- Second place – Megan Tichy, Tower City, N.D.
- Third place – Scout Wheeler, Bismarck, N.D.

The winners in the teen category were:

- First place – Laci Hiatt, Langdon, N.D.
- Second place – Kaitlyn Grossman, Bismarck, N.D.
- Third place – Alyssa Langaas, Fargo

Leadership program takes students to the next level

The Masters of Success Advanced Leadership Development Program is back for another year of helping students increase their ability to lead teams, speak in front of groups with confidence, learn how to get the job they want and work through conflict in teams.

Masters of Success is an advanced leadership program for juniors and seniors who have a desire to take their leadership skills to the next level. The program is redesigned each year around the specific needs of the final 24 participants selected for the program.

Masters of Success uses a student-based learning model along with current corporate leadership strategies to analyze what will help students succeed in various types of corporate environments. Using methodologies such as brain based learning, reality based learning and problem based learning, the program builds each of its workshops around the needs of the student and his or her peer team to create a one-of-a-kind learning experience.

Masters of Success is based on selective admission, where only the first 75 students to apply are chosen for an interviewing process and 24 students are ultimately chosen for the program.

The program is sponsored by the NDSU Memorial Union. Read more about the program at www.ndsu.edu/mu/programs/leadership_programs/masters_of_success.

Freeze mob at NDSU raises awareness about sexual assault

Approximately 50 student, faculty and staff volunteers conducted a freeze mob on April 3 in the Memorial Union to raise awareness about sexual assault and provide violence prevention information.

The volunteers, wearing T-shirts with sexual assault prevention tips on the back, stopped what they were doing for two minutes because every two minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted. There were nine different T-shirt designs and messages.

“We always enjoy seeing their creative promotion of healthful foods and fitness,” said NDSU Extension food and nutrition specialist Julie Garden-Robinson, who helped organize the contest.

“We hope that their messages and pictures inspire other children to eat smart and play hard.”

“Eat Smart. Play Hard.” is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Service. It aims to make America’s children healthier by providing practical suggestions to motivate kids and their caregivers to eat a healthful diet and be physically active. The NDSU Extension Service and Bison Athletics launched a statewide campaign with the same name in 2005.

Visit www.ndsu.edu/eatsmart for more information about “Eat Smart. Play Hard.” The site has resources for families, singles, teens and children.
NDSU Distance and Continuing Education mobile app wins award

NDSU Distance and Continuing Education’s recently released mobile application won a 2012 Gold ADDY Award in the mobile apps category at the annual American Advertising Federation of North Dakota awards banquet held Feb. 24.

The app was created from the ground up through collaboration between a Distance and Continuing Education staff member and a student employee. Ludvik Herrera, new media coordinator, led the project with significant contributions from Saumya Singh, a student employee. This is the first app in North Dakota created by university staff and students for a university or college in the state.

This iOS device app suite is a useful tool for individuals who work with and take classes from NDSU Distance and Continuing Education. However, it is intended to be a useful tool for anyone who interacts with NDSU. Students, staff and faculty who are new to campus, as well as potential students, parents and community members can use the interactive campus maps to navigate around campus.

“The app was created with detailed user experience strategic design in mind and covers all aspects of user-centered design principles,” Herrera said. “It provides rich interaction design patterns that make every app within the suite very intuitive and easy to use. It stands out in many design aspects as well as technology and utility implementation.”

Highlights of the mobile app include:

- List of NDSU DCE workshops, events and important dates to remember
- List of NDSU DCE classes and bookmark feature to organize classes
- Interactive campus maps and bus routes.
- QR decoder or reader

The app is available for the iPhone and iPod Touch devices and can be downloaded for free at [http://ndsu.me/dceapp](http://ndsu.me/dceapp).

Advance FORWARD project seeks advocates

The NDSU Advance FORWARD Allies and Advocates Program is seeking male faculty to serve as advocates for the 2012-13 school year. Advocates are male faculty interested in supporting women faculty members in departments, colleges and the university. Advocates are expected to be active proponents of gender diversity and equality, specifically working to increase the number of women faculty, encourage the hiring and promotion of women faculty to administrative positions, and ensuring the fair and equitable treatment of women within their units.

Advocates must be open to expanding their knowledge and understanding of unconscious bias, institutional bias and institutional climate and to being mentored about these issues by women faculty. Advocates meet monthly to discuss readings, offer ally workshops and support and attend FORWARD events.

Advocate applications are due by May 3. Application information and additional information about the advocates can be found at [www.ndsu.edu/forward](http://www.ndsu.edu/forward).

For more information, contact Tom Stone Carlson at 1-7147 or tom.carlson@ndsu.edu or Canan Bilen-Green at 1-7040 or canan.bilen.green@ndsu.edu.

SU Impact grant applications sought

The NDSU Development Foundation is again seeking grant proposals for projects that have an immediate and positive impact on the educational experience of NDSU students.

The foundation is offering major grants of $20,000 to $75,000 through the SU Impact Fund Grant Program. Available to faculty, staff and recognized student groups, the program is funded by unrestricted contributions received from alumni, parents and friends, and proceeds from the annual Bison Bidders Bowl.

According to program criteria, successful proposals will receive funding one time. However, the actual expenditure of grant funds may take up to three years. Programs or a proposed project should not be a portion of a larger program, unless the grant is requesting matching funds. In addition, successful grant requests should clearly recognize the Development Foundation SU Impact Fund as the source of funding.

Applications are due to the Development Foundation by Aug. 10. The completed form may be submitted to joann@ndsualumni.com.

The Grants and Awards Committee will select a group of finalists for additional consideration who will be invited to make 10-minute presentations to the committee during its Homecoming meeting on Oct. 4. Notification of awards is scheduled for Oct. 8.

For more information about the program and an application form, visit [www.ndsufoundation.com](http://www.ndsufoundation.com) and access the campus resources section of the website.
18th Journey to the Homeland Tour to Ukraine and Germany set

Journey to the Homeland Tour members visited the former St. Michael's Catholic Church in the village of Kandel (Kutschurgan District) in May 2011.

Michael M. Miller, director and bibliographer of the NDSU Libraries’ Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, will lead the 18th Journey to the Homeland Tour group to Ukraine and Germany May 17-27. The tour will include stops at Odessa, Ukraine; the former Bessarabian and Black Sea German villages; Stuttgart, Germany; and Alsace, France.

Several people have already signed up for the tour. Each of them has a personal connection to the planned stops.

“I developed an interest in family history in 1970 when I interviewed my paternal grandfather who had immigrated from Russia as a boy with his parents,” said Vern Mathern of Mesa, Ariz., a 1962 graduate of NDSU and native of Edgeley, N.D. “This Journey to the Homeland will visit the same places of my great grandparents who immigrated from the Kutschurgan villages near Odessa, Ukraine, and their ancestors who migrated from the Baden region in Germany and Alsace in France.”

Eileen (Klein) Krenzel of Castle Rock, Colo., a native of Rugby, N.D., said, “I look forward to traveling with others whose family histories are so much like mine. North Dakota has remained ‘home’ to me. It is a gift to me to have a state university that values this important heritage and provides the opportunity for such a trip.”

“This trip is an opportunity to ground myself with the hopes, dreams and hard work of all those who came before me. It is a humble, symbolic ‘thank you’ for all of us descendants to our ancestors for their daring to venture where their dreams took them,” said Mark Mathern of Casper, Wyo., who grew up on a farm near Edgeley, N.D., with 12 siblings.

Mark’s brother, Timothy Mathern of Fargo, a 1971 NDSU graduate and N.D. state senator, said, “I am going on the tour to get in touch with my roots and to learn about what legacy remains of my ancestors 100 years of wandering between Germany and the United States. Mom and Dad would be proud of their kids figuring out how to make the Homeland Tour a source of understanding for all of us.”

“The trip will help me understand the journey of my grandparents from Strassburg, near Odessa to Dodge, N.D., in 1907 with their family,” said Marlene (Schumacher) Lindquist of Bismarck, N.D., and a native of Dodge.

Diane (Schumacher) Weber of Bismarck, a native of Halliday, N.D., grew up in a family of 12 children, said, “I am looking forward to visiting the Catholic villages where my grandparents were born, Selz and Strassburg, near Odessa, Ukraine. This is a dream of mine.”

While in Stuttgart, Germany, the tour group will visit the Germans from Russia museums and libraries. Following the tour, Miller will stay additional days in Germany to meet with colleagues for German-Russian projects.

The 19th Journey to the Homeland Tour is scheduled for May 16-26, 2013. For more information, contact Miller at 1-8416, michael.miller@ndsu.edu or visit www.ndsu.edu/grhc.

NDSU Libraries debuts new publication

Author Patsy Knalson Ramberg, White Bear Lake, Minn., will debut NDSU Libraries’ Germans from Russia Heritage Collections’ latest book, “The Farm at Pony Gulch,” May 4-6. The following events have been planned to promote the new publication:

- Friday, May 4, 3 p.m. – Prairie Public Radio will interview Knalson Ramberg on “Hear it Now”
- Saturday, May 5, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – Book signing at the Harvey, N.D., public library
- Sunday, May 6 – Knalson Ramberg will be featured on Prairie Public’s “Dakota Air: The Radio Show,” which will be recorded live at First Lutheran Church in Harvey at 7 p.m. The recorded program will be replayed on Prairie Public on May 18, 19 and 26.

“The Farm at Pony Gulch” tells the story of Michael and Anna Sophia (Witt) Baier who came to America in 1883 from Arzis, Bessarabia. As German-Russian immigrants, they became disillusioned with promises made to them by Catherine the Great and her grandson, Czar Alexander I. The Baiers first settled at Scotland, S.D., and in 1896, homesteaded in Pony Gulch Township near Harvey, N.D.

For the most part, “The Farm at Pony Gulch” is the memoir of their grandson, Eddie Knalson, who helped on the Baier farm when he was young. He included oral history told to him by his Aunt Bertha. Patsy Knalson Ramberg, Eddie’s daughter, adds insight into the family and areas where they lived.

Knalson tells how the family with 10 children moved from South Dakota to Pony Gulch which was a six-week walk with four wagons full of “chickens, pigs and whatnot.” They built a sod house and later a gastatz (Batsa) summer kitchen, a mud and brick construction unique to Germans from Russia.

The oral history from Aunt Bertha, recorded in 1970, tells how the Pony Gulch site was chosen, how the family lived in the sod house with its big Russian oven and her remedy for frozen fingers in the winter.

Knalson (1909-1995) wrote the tale of Pony Gulch in his retirement. After her retirement, Patsy Knalson Ramberg decided to share his story, and “The Farm at Pony Gulch” is the result.

For more information or to order the book, visit www.ndsu.edu/grhc or call Acacia Stuckle at 1-6596. For more information about Knalson Ramberg’s appearances on Prairie Public Radio, visit www.prairiepublic.org.
Bush Fellowship leadership resources available

Resources are available through the Bush Fellowship program for individuals who want to build leadership skills and help tackle their communities’ toughest problems.

The NDSU Extension Service has teamed up with the Bush Foundation to provide these resources. Funding ranges from $25,000 to $75,000. Application deadlines will be staggered from May 4 and July 9.

"NDSU Extension is partnering with the Bush Foundation because the fellowship program is a great fit with our efforts to help individuals develop leadership skills and solve problems in their communities," said Jodi Bruns, Extension community economic development and leadership agent.

A Bush Fellowship is a four-year commitment. The program provides funding during the first two years of the program. During the last two years, the Bush Fellows join the foundation in advancing its goal of building leadership capacity throughout Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and the 23 nations that share geography with the states.

The Bush Fellowship program is based on four core principles:

- Knowing yourself first: Effective leadership builds effective relationships that improve a community. Without clarity about your values and beliefs, working with others effectively is impossible.
- Knowing your community deeply: This involves actively listening and learning to access the community’s knowledge and resources.
- Fostering community action to solve a difficult public problem.
- Managing conflict: This is searching for answers in the differences among people.

“We believe each of these principles needs to be present if solutions to the many tough problems that exist in our communities are to be solved," Bruns says.

The Bush Fellowship program is for anyone who:

- Cares deeply about his or her community and is committed to making it a better place for everyone
- Has a desire to work with others in the community, including those with whom they disagree, to find solutions to a difficult problem affecting their community
- Understands change needs to happen if communities are going to find solutions to problems and that the change needs to start with him or her
- Is passionate about learning and committed to improving his or her leadership to work with others to solve a tough problem
- Understands that risk, failure and conflict are not to be feared when working to find solutions to problems but are necessary to make progress
- Understands that the solutions to his or her community’s most difficult problems are to be found in the community’s collective wisdom


Admission office requests student referrals

The Office of Admission invites faculty and staff to share the names of prospective NDSU students. Faculty and staff can submit the student referral form found at www.ndsu.edu/admission/forms/studentreferall.

The referral form can be completed at any time, and names are continually added to our prospective student database. Referrals can include family, friends or neighbors. Ideally, the Office of Admission would like to identify prospective students at the beginning of the junior year of high school.

Referrals should include the student’s name, date of birth, graduation year and contact information.

Once students are added to the prospective student database, they can expect to receive information by mail, email and phone from the university several times throughout their junior and senior years. Contact Merideth Sherlin at 1-9653 or merideth.sherlin@ndsu.edu with questions or for additional information.

Presentation discusses impact of sexual violence

Students, faculty and staff heard firsthand accounts of how sexual violence has impacted individuals in the NDSU community. A survivor of sexual assault, her close friend and her parent shared their personal story on April 12 as part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The presentation, "Three stories. One night. Sexual violence impacts all of us," was intended to spread support and understanding of sexual violence and how to support survivors and their loved ones.

The presentation was one of the events sponsored by NDSU’s Sexual Assault Prevention Program for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Contact Sarah Dodd at 1-5733 or sarah.dodd@ndsu.edu for more information.

Safety training sessions scheduled

Supervisor and Baseline Safety Training sessions have been scheduled for April and May. Both courses are mandatory and must be completed on an annual basis.

Supervisor Safety Training is scheduled for Monday, April 23, and Monday, May 21, at 3 p.m. in the Memorial Union Arikara room.

Baseline Safety Training is scheduled for Tuesday, April 24, at 3 p.m.; Wednesday, April 25, at 9 a.m.; Tuesday, May 22, at 3 p.m.; and Wednesday, May 23, at 9 a.m. All sessions will be held in the Family Life Center Room of Nations.

For more information, contact Jennifer Baker, loss control and claims specialist, at jennifer.baker@ndsu.edu.
Recipients of science and mathematics awards announced

The College of Science and Mathematics announced the recipients of prestigious annual awards. The college’s Nominations and Awards Committee made the selections.

Verlin Hinsz, professor of psychology, was selected to receive the Paul Juell Mentoring Award. Guodong Liu, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry, and Clay Routledge, assistant professor of psychology, will share the 2012 Research Award. Will Bleier, professor of biological sciences, was chosen to receive the Service Award. Maria Alfonseca, assistant professor of mathematics, will receive the Teaching Award.

“We had an amazing group of nominees for every one of our awards this year, so the committee had a very difficult task. I’m very proud of all our award winners,” said Kevin McCaul, dean of science and mathematics.

Nominators said Hinsz excels in the role of mentor. “Mentoring students is one of Professor Hinsz’s passions. He engages students in the research process from inception to publication,” wrote faculty colleagues James Council, Mark McCourt, Michael Robinson and Paul Rokke. “He has over 180 presentations at national and international professional conferences, and the vast majority of them involve student authors, often as first author.”

The nomination packet for Hinsz also included numerous testimonials from undergraduate students, graduate students and developing professionals.

Hinsz earned his bachelor’s degree at NDSU, his master’s degree and doctorate in social psychology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His teaching interests include such topics as group processes and productivity, cognitive psychology of groups and teams, groups at work and motivation and morale.

In a nomination letter, Liu was praised for his research efforts since joining NDSU in 2007. A nomination from faculty members D.K. Srivastava, Gregory Cook, Wenfang Sun and Sivaguru Jayaraman said Liu has “established a vibrant and innovative research program” that uses “a combination of gold nanoparticles/quantum dots, electrochemistry microfluidics approach to detect DNA, RNA and proteins during a single experimental setup.”

Liu earned his bachelor’s degree, master’s degree and doctorate in chemistry from Hunan University in China. He also held postdoctoral research scientist positions at New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Wash.

Routledge was nominated by fellow psychology department faculty Mark McCourt, Michael Robinson and Paul Rokke. They wrote he “studies the psychological and physical health consequences of defenses against self-related threats and the social consequences of human efforts to perceive the world as full of meaning and purpose.” The nominators noted Routledge has accumulated 47 publications and one edited book, and has eight papers under review and another 16 in preparation.

“Dr. Routledge is the quintessential researcher,” they wrote. “His work is prolific and impactful.”

Routledge earned his bachelor’s degree at Missouri Southern State University and his master’s degree and doctorate at the University of Missouri, Columbia.

Bleier was nominated by the faculty of the Department of Biological Sciences. They said Bleier recently stepped down as department chair/head after serving for more than 17 years. The nomination said he annually hosts 50 to 100 high school-age students from the Future Farmers of America Region III semi-final competition in wildlife biology. They said he often serves as a judge for the State Science Fair.

“The impact of Will’s service has extended well beyond our department to the entire NDSU campus,” they wrote.

Bleier earned his bachelor’s degree at the University of Texas at Austin, and his master’s degree and doctorate at Texas Tech University.

Alfonseca was nominated by Jim Coykendall, James A. Meier Professor of Mathematics. He wrote that Alfonseca is “a tough teacher, with high, but not unattainable standards” and is “approachable, personable, friendly and willing to go the extra mile to help her students.”

Coykendall also included six testimonials from former students of Alfonseca. Coykendall wrote, “One student described her as a role model and another pointed to her as a reason that he is still a mathematics and computer science double major.”

Alfonseca earned her bachelor’s degree, master’s degree and doctorate in mathematics at Universidad Autonoma de Madrid in Spain. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Missouri, Columbia.

Myers serves as panelist at national meeting

Evie Myers, vice president for equity, diversity and global outreach, recently served as one of three panelists at the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education’s sixth annual meeting, titled “Achieving Academic Excellence Through Diversity and Inclusion.”

Panel members discussed their role in promoting multicultural/international synergies and the challenges and rewards involved.

The conference was part of the 94th annual American Council on Education meeting held March 10-13 in Los Angeles.
IT Division staff honored with individual and team awards

The Information Technology Division hosted its fourth annual IT Awards recognition March 29.

“The power of recognition in our lives and at work is phenomenal,” said Cathy Hanson, IT Awards committee member and staff development coordinator. “Recognition can build a stronger workplace environment where people come, stay and are committed to the values and goals of an organization.”

This year, four individuals were nominated for the Innovation Collaboration and Excellence Award, and four groups were nominated for the IT Team Award.

Luke Prather, instructional services consultant, received the Innovation Collaboration and Excellence Award. Adnan Akyuz, Angela Hodgson and Nancy Lilleberg nominated Prather for his leadership and collaboration with NDSU faculty and staff to implement a new student response (“clicker”) system on campus and for his innovative implementation of a “flipped” classroom, which included captured lecture for use outside of the classroom and student clickers for increased interaction in the classroom.

After receiving the award, Prather recognized the efforts of his colleagues. “I’m very appreciative to have received this award,” he said. “However, I have to acknowledge the work of my colleagues within the IT Division and across campus for helping to accomplish the student-focused goals of these two projects. Everything we do in IT is truly about collaboration.”

Other I.C.E. Award nominees included:

Lincoln Bathie, desktop support manager, for his efforts to help Student Support Services, the Center for Writers and Academic Collegiate Enhancement adopt TutorTrac, a program that makes scheduling and tracking student services easier. Bathie also was recognized for going the extra mile to find solutions. Aida Martinez-Freeman, Enrico Sass and Kelli Layman nominated Bathie.

Nancy Lilleberg, instructional services manager, was nominated for her work on the Web Design Program Steering Committee to envision and help set the direction for a new media and web design major. She was nominated by Ross Collins.

Jill Peterson, database applications developer, was nominated for her work in developing a template for NDSU’s content management system that would allow NDSU to make every CMS page mobile. She received a joint nomination from Galen Mayfield and Laura McDaniel.

The NDSU Central Authentication Service team, comprised of team leader Eric Christeson and members Richard Frovarp, Jill Peterson, Nathan Huff and Nate Olson, received the IT Team Award. James Ross nominated the group for their successful implementation of a central solution for multiple authentication and authorization sources, which also improved the security of NDSU users’ credentials.

During the ceremony, team leader Eric Christeson expressed his gratitude to his team members. “This was a top-notch group,” Christeson said. “We were able to come together as team, determine what needed to be done, and step up and complete the tasks at hand. No one person could have achieved the goals of this project alone; the project required input from all of the individuals involved.”

Other IT Team Award nominees included:

Blackboard Support Group, including Nancy Lilleberg, Cj Johnson, Lorna Olson and Tammy Cummings. Paul Nelson nominated the group for their service, which he described as “Rapid responses and exceedingly useful advice and counsel. They frequently save my tail.”

Media Support Staff, comprised of Micah McGown, Steve Beckerman and Luke Prather, was nominated by Nancy Lilleberg. Lilleberg described the group as a truly cross-functional IT team and emphasized the synergy of these team members in collaboratively sharing their knowledge and expertise to serve users. Together this team tackles many projects by putting their heads together to achieve solutions.

Clickers Team, which was led by Luke Prather and Nancy Lilleberg, involved the support of the instructional services team and many faculty and student participants across campus. Larry Peterson, who nominated the team, indicated the team did a superb job in organizing and obtaining feedback on the advantages and disadvantages of two clicker systems and making a recommendation for the campus.

More information about the IT Awards, past recipients and nominees, is available at www.ndsu.edu/vpit/award.

Dean named president of graduate school association

College of Graduate and Interdisciplinary Studies Dean David Wittrock has been named president of the Western Association of Graduate Schools. He will serve a one-year term as president.

“Dean Wittrock is an excellent representative for the state of North Dakota,” said NDSU Provost Bruce Rafert. “His experience, vision and commitment to the research enterprise and graduate education make him an excellent leader for the association, which is dedicated to advanced education.”

The Western Association of Graduate Schools is an organization of university leaders whose purpose is to share information relating to graduate studies and research. Its mission is to improve education standards, encourage research and assist institutions embarking on graduate programs.

Members of the association are accredited institutions of higher education in the western United States, Canada and Pacific Rim that offer master’s and doctoral degrees. Western Association of Graduate Schools is a regional association affiliated with the U.S. Council of Graduate Schools and boasts 89 member institutions from 13 states and three Canadian provinces.
Professor to attend anti-terrorism studies program in Israel

Thomas Ambrosio, professor of criminal justice and political science, was named an “academic fellow” for 2012-13 by the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, a non-partisan policy institute headquartered in Washington, D.C. Ambrosio will travel to Israel the end of May for an intensive course in terrorism studies, and in particular, how democracies can defeat the worldwide terrorist threat.

“Terrorism is the greatest threat today to the world’s democracies, including the United States and our allies around the globe,” said Clifford May, president of the foundation. “To win the war against terrorism, we must win the war of ideas by promoting democracy and defeating the totalitarian ideologies that drive and justify terrorism.”

The Academic Fellows program provides a 10-day learning experience to U.S.-based teaching and research professionals to provide them with the latest information about defeating terrorist groups. The 2012 program, which will be conducted at Tel Aviv University from May 27 to June 6, includes lectures by academics, military and intelligence officials, as well as diplomats from Israel, Jordan, India and the United States. It also includes visits to police, customs and immigration facilities, military bases and border zones to learn the practical side of deterring and defeating terrorists.

“I am very much looking forward to the opportunity to listen and participate in the exchanges and interactions which we will all have in Israel,” Ambrosio said. “It should be useful experience for a course I plan to teach on international terrorism next year and other related academic activities.”

For more information on the foundation, contact Dana Murphy, campus programs coordinator, at 202-207-0190.

Students receive vaccinology program scholarships

The Tri-College University vaccinology program has awarded the first vaccinology scholarships to eight students enrolled in the newly established program. This past fall, Tri-College University partners Concordia College, Minnesota State University Moorhead and NDSU, in collaboration with the Greater Fargo Moorhead Economic Development Corporation and Sanford Health, launched a first-in-the-nation undergraduate academic minor in vaccinology. The following NDSU students were selected for the scholarship based on their potential contributions to the field of vaccine research, production or in the biological and medical industries:

- Alyssa Kelsch, a first-year pharmacy student from Beulah, N.D., who is earning a minor in vaccinology
- Kayla Kortan, a second-year pharmacy student from Sauk Centre, Minn., who is earning a minor in vaccinology
- Molly Slaby, a first-year pharmacy student from Jamestown, N.D., who is earning a minor in vaccinology

The program and scholarships are made possible by many contributors including: Sanford Medical Center Fargo, Forum Communications, Greater Fargo Moorhead Economic Development Corporation, US Bank, Xcel Energy Corporation and the Tri-College University collaborative grant program.

The NDSU vaccinology program coordinator is Charles Peterson, dean of the College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences.

Assistant professor teaches FEMA course

Carol Cwiak, assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Management, taught a Federal Emergency Management Agency course titled “Integrating Emergency Management into Your Institution” to a group of Hispanic Serving Institutions at the Emergency Management Institute March 26 and 27.

The course seeks to build institutional capital in minority-serving higher education institutions by facilitating the development and growth of emergency management course work and degree offerings at historically black colleges and universities, Hispanic serving institutions, tribal colleges and universities and other higher education minority-serving institutions. The course is intended to help build greater diversity in the emergency management professional community. College and university administrators and faculty members attending the course are provided information on the market for emergency management graduates, the needs assessment process, resources available, research opportunities, faculty and staffing considerations and unique issues facing minority-serving institutions.

Cwiak also served as a subject matter expert for the course development stage, helped craft and review final course materials, and has taught the course in past offerings to historically black colleges and universities and tribal colleges and universities.

Animal sciences staff member retires

Bev Liebelt, animal sciences budget and accounting coordinator, retired on March 30 after 33 years of service to the university.

She and her husband, Mel, plan to spend more time enjoying the outdoors hunting and fishing. They also hope to spend more time with their family – children, Jess and Aron; Aron’s wife, Jill; and their four-year-old grandson, Magnus.
Tri-college provost named to global affairs task force

Tri-College University Provost Tim Flakoll has been selected to represent North Dakota on the Chicago Council on Global Affairs’ Task Force on Immigration and U.S. Economic Competitiveness. The goal of the group is to forge consensus around and build support for, sensible immigration policy at the state and national levels and to align it to the region’s economic future.

The effort involves dialogue, outreach and communication between Midwestern leadership and the grassroots community in the region, as well as among Midwestern leaders who will communicate the project’s findings and recommendations to policy makers in Washington, D.C. This two-pronged approach will ensure that local/state leaders, the public and the highest levels of Midwestern leadership are involved and committed to the final outcomes.

The effort is designed to build bridges between contending points of view in a search for common ground on immigration policy. Co-chairs of the council include: Michael Rounds, former governor of South Dakota; Chet Culver, former governor of Iowa; Richard M. Daley, former mayor of Chicago; and Joe Loughrey, former president and COO of Cummins, Inc.

Discover NDSU scheduled

The Office of Admission has scheduled spring 2012 Discover NDSU sessions. Junior Day is set for Friday, April 20, and Senior Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 21. One morning session will be held each day.

Discover NDSU is a comprehensive overview of NDSU for high school students. All sessions of Discover NDSU include an activity fair, admission presentation, student panel, academic interest session and general campus tour. Sessions are followed by specialty tour options of Renaissance Hall, the Engineering Complex, Residence Life Showcase, Richard H. Barry Hall and Sudro Hall.

For more information on Discover NDSU, contact Elizabeth Worth at elizabeth.worth@ndsu.edu or Brad Jones at bradley.jones@ndsu.edu.

Lecture to discuss pervasive computing in smart environments

Sajal K. Das, a noted wireless mobility and networking researcher, will present “Pervasive Computing and Cyber-Physical Systems: A Perspective From Smart Environments” as part of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering’s Distinguished Lecture Series. The lecture is scheduled for Monday, April 23, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Construction Management and Engineering Auditorium and is open to the public.

Rapid advancements in smartphones, wireless sensors and mobile communications have led to the development of cyber-physical systems, pervasive computing and smart environments with important applications in environmental, civilian, military, industrial and government sectors. Das’ lecture will focus on the implications of these advancements, including uncertainty-driven unique challenges, opportunities in cyber-physical and pervasive computer systems, and inter-winding relationships with smart environments.

Das is a university distinguished scholar, professor of computer science and engineering and the founding director of the Center for Research in Wireless Mobility and Networking at the University of Texas at Arlington. He previously was program director of the National Science Foundation’s Division of Computer Networks and Systems.

For more information on the lecture, contact Samee Khan at 1-7615 or samee.khan@ndsu.edu.

National family and career expert to present at NDSU

Mary Ann Mason, professor and co-director for the Center for Health, Economics and Family Security at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law will be at NDSU on Monday, April 23, to discuss the impact of family on the careers of women and men in academia. Mason’s visit is hosted by NDSU FORWARD.

Mason will lead a session for graduate students titled “A Conversation: Should Graduate Students Become Parents?” from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Memorial Union Arikara room. This session is co-sponsored by the NDSU School of Graduate and Interdisciplinary Studies.

A faculty pedagogical luncheon titled “Do Babies Matter in Academia?” will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Memorial Union Prairie Rose room. Provost Bruce Rafert will give the introduction. Register for the pedagogical luncheon at www.ndsu.edu/forward.

“Best Practices to Change the Culture,” a workshop for academic administrators, chairs, heads and graduate program directors, will be held from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Alumni Center Reimers room. Register for the workshop at www.ndsu.edu/forward.

As dean of the graduate division at Berkeley from 2000 to 2007, Mason has had responsibility for nearly 10,000 doctoral and professional graduate students. She has been in a unique position to evaluate the unprecedented admission of women, now nearing equal numbers, into advanced fields during the past 30 years. Her data-driven advocacy has fostered major new family-friendly initiatives for faculty and graduate students in the 10-campus University of California system, as was recognized in 2006 by an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation achievement award.

NDSU Spring Cleanup scheduled

Faculty, staff and other interested individuals are invited to participate in NDSU Spring Cleanup on Tuesday, April 24, in the afternoon. The event will be held in conjunction with the student day of service known as the Big Event.

Participants are encouraged to clean outside their respective departments to help beautify campus. Volunteers are asked to bring work gloves, rakes and brooms. Facilities Management will provide some light equipment, trash bags and pickup of collected material.

For more information, contact Wayne Larson at 1-7753 or wayne.larson@ndsu.edu or Shauna Pederson Dubuque at 1-8056 or shauna.pederson@ndsu.edu.

Advanced Imaging and Microscopy Core Laboratory hosts workshop

NDSU’s Advanced Imaging and Microscopy Core Lab will host a workshop Friday, April 27, to showcase the latest developments in microscopy and imaging. Robert Burghardt, professor and director of the Image Analysis Lab core at Texas A&M University, College Station, will present two seminars on the development and use of vital analytical cellular imaging and fluorescence probe technologies. The tools provide sensitive approaches to analyze the molecular aspects of cellular function. The time and place for the presentations are yet to be determined.

During his visit, Burghardt will consult with the leadership group of the NDSU Advanced Imaging and Microscopy Core Laboratory on recently acquired high-end microscopes.

He also will share his experience working at the Texas A&M University Image Analysis Lab core, where some of the most advanced equipment in microscopy and imaging is used. Established in 1987 to serve the needs of the investigators in the College of Veterinary Medicine, the laboratory was later expanded to serve a broad cross section of the university and researchers outside the university. It is now a facility core for microscopy for various interdisciplinary faculties that involve both faculty and students.

The goal of NDSU’s Advanced Imaging and Microscopy Core Laboratory is to enrich the institution’s research and teaching environment through making available high-end microscopy and imaging equipment that most investigators would not normally be able to afford in their individual research and teaching programs.

Open house farewell event planned for Char Maas

An open house farewell reception has been planned in honor of Char Maas on Tuesday, May 1, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the second floor lobby of IACC. Maas, an account technician in the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology, will retire on May 3 after a 16-year career at NDSU.

Light refreshments will be served. Individuals who cannot attend are welcome to send best wishes to Maas at char.maas@ndsu.edu.

Rheology of Wheat and Flour Quality Short Course offered

Northern Crops Institute is scheduled to offer the Rheology of Wheat and Flour Quality Short Course June 12-14 at the institute.

The course will focus on wheat and flour quality and how to analyze, interpret and apply rheological results effectively. All aspects of quality analysis, including kernel quality, milling, rheology analysis and baking evaluation, will be presented.

For more information and to register, visit www.northerncrops.com and follow the Educational Courses link, or call 1-7736. Register early; classroom space is limited to 15 participants. The registration deadline is Tuesday, May 22.

History, philosophy and religious studies colloquium set

Tracy Barrett, assistant professor of history, will present “Strangers in a Strange Land: The Overseas Chinese and Colonial Patterns of Control in French Madagascar” as part of the Department of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies colloquium series. The colloquium is set for Friday, April 27, at 3 p.m. in Putnam Hall 101.

Barrett seeks to compare overseas Chinese communities in French Indochina and in the French colony of Madagascar. In particular, she examines the ways in which French colonial authorities in Madagascar used their Indochinese experience to create an institutional model for registering, monitoring and tracking Madagascar’s overseas Chinese.

Barrett is completing a manuscript examining the structure and function of overseas Chinese societies and institutions in French Indochina during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

For more information or special needs requests, contact Dennis Cooley at 1-7038 or dennis.cooley@ndsu.edu.
**PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**Communication researchers’ work published**

Amy O’Connor, associate professor and director of graduate studies in the Department of Communication, and Laura Beauchamp, a former communication graduate student, will have their article, “America’s Most Admired Companies: A Descriptive Analysis of CEO Corporate Social Responsibility Statements,” published in an upcoming issue of Public Relations Review. The article is based on Beauchamp’s master’s thesis, directed by O’Connor, and the publication will list Beauchamp as the first author. Beauchamp is a senior account executive for Cause Branding at Cone Communications in Boston.

Also, O’Connor and former NDSU faculty member Michelle Shumate, who is now an associate professor at the University of Illinois, had their 2010 article (that appeared in Management Communication Quarterly) republished by The Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. The edited-for-business-audience publication is titled “The communication patterns of corporate social responsibility within and across industries.” It will appear in the April 2012 edition. The Conference Board engages experts from several disciplines of business leadership, including corporate governance, risk oversight and sustainability, in an open dialogue about issues of concern to member companies.

**Chief IT security officer to present at national conferences**

Theresa Semmens, NDSU chief information technology security officer, will present at two national conferences this spring on topics related to IT security practices in higher education.

Semmens will present at the Treasury Institute for Higher Education’s Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards workshop on April 24 in Indianapolis. During the interactive session, Semmens will facilitate a discussion of the security implications of using smart phones, tablets and other wireless mobile devices for processing financial transactions on campus.

“I'm looking forward to interacting with IT security professionals and those who come from other areas in higher education, including finance and business offices,” Semmens said. “These attendees will have diverse perspectives and varying question sets that will make this interactive presentation much more rewarding for all.”

More information about the workshop is available at [www.treasuryinstitute.org](http://www.treasuryinstitute.org). Semmens has presented on payment card industry compliance at workshops and conferences across North Dakota, including the 2011 North Dakota University System chief information officer retreat.

Semmens also will present at the 2012 Security Professionals Conference on May 16 in Indianapolis. Her topic, “Ensuring Electronic Data Records Integrity Through a Simple Audit Process,” will provide attendees with a simple and effective security audit plan they can implement at their home institutions to identify security issues and implement recommendations for departments.


Semmens has served as an IT security officer at NDSU since 2003, and has been a member of the EDUCAUSE Technologies, Operations and Practices Working Group since 2004.

**Center for Writers associate director presents at conference**

Karen P. Peirce, associate director for the Center for Writers, presented at the 43rd annual College English Association conference March 29-31 in Richmond, Va.

This year’s conference centered on the theme of “Borders,” with presenters from literature, languages, film, composition, pedagogy, creative writing and professional writing. Plenary speakers at the conference included noted essayist Scott Russell Sanders and former United States poet laureate Rita Dove.

In her presentation, Peirce outlined the history of the Center for Writers at NDSU and described the center’s current initiatives, including the development of campuswide writing workshops, dissertation writing groups and consulting services for faculty interested in integrating writing into their courses. In keeping with the conference theme, her paper outlined the challenges and opportunities of providing writing support services designed to cross-disciplinary borders.

**Business faculty research to be published**

Yongtao Hong, assistant professor of accounting and information systems; Margaret Andersen, associate professor of accounting; and Lori Olsen had their manuscript, “Accruals Quality and Corporate Social Responsibility: The Role of Industry,” accepted for publication in the Journal of Accounting and Finance. The manuscript is expected to be published in the spring 2012 issue.

Also, David Herda, assistant professor of accounting, co-wrote “The Auditor-Audit Firm Relationship and its Effect on Burnout and Turnover Intention” accepted for publication in Accounting Horizons. It is scheduled for publication in the December 2012 issue. His co-author is James J. Lavelle from the University of Texas at Arlington.
Communication researchers earn top paper honors at conference

Department of Communication faculty and doctoral students presented their award-winning research at the 81st annual meeting of the Central States Communication Association held March 28-31 in Cleveland. The convention theme, “Connecting in Cleveland: Exploring Intersections that Unite the Discipline,” brought together nearly 900 communication faculty, students and practitioners to present their research and conduct business meetings for their respective groups within the association.

Robert S. Littlefield, professor of communication, and current doctoral graduate students Kimberly A. Beauchamp, Michael Burns, Laura C. Farrell, Julie L. Fudge and Derek Jorgenson, presented at the annual conference.

Farrell and Fudge presented their manuscript, “An Exploration of Quasi-Stable Online Social Networks: A Longitudinal Perspective,” receiving the Nancy Burrell Award for the Top Student Paper and Top Debut Paper from the Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group.

Farrell, Littlefield and co-author Stella Opendi Sasanya received the Dan Millar Top Paper Award for their manuscript, “Menu Foods Pet Food Recall: Social Media at the Intersection of Emotion in Crisis,” presented at the Top Papers Panel sponsored by the Public Relations Interest Group.

Burns presented his manuscript as part of the top student papers panel to the Communication Theory Interest Group: “Recruiting Prospective Students with Stories: How Personal Stories Influence the Process of Choosing a University.”


Beauchamp and Littlefield presented their paper, “Communication Infrastructure, Capacity Building, and Development: Uniting Theory and Practice with a Culture-Centered Approach,” on a competitive panel sponsored by the Intercultural Communication Interest Group, titled “Connecting’ across Culture: Workplace, School and Relational Contexts.”

It was announced at the business meeting that Littlefield was beginning his three-year term as incoming editor of the association’s journal, Communication Studies.

NDSU researchers to publish paper in ‘Neuroscience’

Erxi Wu, assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences, and Shuang Zhou, a doctoral student in Wu’s lab, co-wrote the article, “Smilagenin Attenuates Beta Amyloid (25-35)-Induced Degeneration of Neuronal Cells via Stimulating the Gene Expression of Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor,” which will be published by “Neuroscience.” They collaborated with Yaer Hu lab at Shanghai Jiaotong University, China, for the publication.

According to the authors, the development of drugs that weaken neurodegeneration is important for the treatment of Alzheimer’s disease. They previously found that smilagenin, a steroidal sapogenin from traditional Chinese medicinal herbs that improves memory in animal models, is neither a cholinesterase inhibitor nor a glutamate receptor antagonist, but can significantly elevate the declined muscarinic receptor (M receptor density). In this paper, to clarify whether smilagenin represents a new approach for treating neurodegeneration disease, they first demonstrate that smilagenin pretreatment significantly attenuates the neurodegenerative changes induced by beta amyloid 25-35 (AB25-35) in cultured rat cortical neurons, including decreased cholinergic neuron number, shortened neurite outgrowth length and declined muscarinic receptor density. Brain-derived neurotrophic factor protein in the culture medium was also decreased by AB25-35 and significantly elevated by smilagenin.

Parallel experiments revealed that when the trk receptors were inhibited by K252a or the action of brain-derived neurotrophic factor was inhibited by a neutralizing anti-brain-derived neurotrophic factor antibody, the effects of smilagenin on the AB25-35 induced neurodegeneration in rat cortical neurons were almost completely abolished. In the all-trans retinoic acid-differentiated SH-SY5Y neuroblastoma cells, the brain-derived neurotrophic factor transcription rate measured by a nuclear run-on assay was significantly suppressed by AB25-35 and elevated by SMI, but the brain-derived neurotrophic factor degradation rate measured by half-life determination was unchanged by AB25-35 and smilagenin. Transcript analysis of the SH-SY5Y cells using quantitative RT-PCR showed that the IV and VI transcripts of brain-derived neurotrophic factor mRNA were significantly decreased by AB25-35 and elevated by smilagenin.

"Taken together, this study concludes that smilagenin attenuates AB25-35-induced neurodegeneration in cultured rat cortical neurons and SH-SY5Y cells mainly through stimulating brain-derived neurotrophic factor mRNA transcription implicating that SMI may represent a novel therapeutic strategy for Alzheimer’s disease,” Wu said. “Collaborating with Dr. Hu at Shanghai Jiaotong University, China, we together would like to find better therapeutics and elucidate the mechanisms of the potential novel therapy for Alzheimer’s disease,” Wu said.

"Neuroscience" publishes papers describing results of original research on any aspect of the scientific study of the nervous system.
Faculty and students publish, present research

Several faculty members and students from the College of Human Development and Education received awards, published research-related articles or gave presentations at conferences. Several students also received awards or obtained an internship.

Yeong Rhee, associate professor of health, nutrition and exercise sciences, will receive the Outstanding Dietetic Educator in a Coordinated Program Award for the Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors Area 2. The award, which annually recognizes a dietetics educator with exceptional achievements in dietetics education, will be presented at the NDEP’s Area 2 and Area 5 spring meeting in Indianapolis in mid-April.

Rhee also received the 2012 North Dakota Dietetic Association’s Outstanding Educator Award.

The BBC recently interviewed Kevin Miller, associate professor of health, nutrition and exercise sciences, for an article on the myth that increasing one’s salt intake can prevent cramping. The article references several of Miller’s research studies and will appear on BBC.com in April. The site receives more than 60 million unique users each month.

Anita Welch, Claudette Peterson and Chris Ray, assistant professors of education, and their Turkish colleague Mustafa Çakir conducted a study, titled “A Cross-Cultural Validation of the Technology-Rich Outcomes-Focused Learning Environment Inventory in Turkey and the USA,” that will be published in the journal, Research in Science and Technological Education.

Welch presented “Creativity, Communication, Collaboration and Critical Thinking: Building the Four Cs by Building Robots” at the National Science Teachers Association’s 2012 National Conference on Science Education in Indianapolis March 29-April 1. She also was named to the editorial board for The Turkish Online Journal of Educational Technology.

Brandy Randall, associate professor of human development and family science, attended the Society for Research on Adolescence conference in early March where she presented research on two different studies. The first presentation was titled “An Under-Represented Group? Prevalence of Research on Rural Adolescents in Empirical Literature.” The second presentation, which was part of the conference’s roundtable discussion, was titled “Teaching About Adolescence: Similarities and Differences Across Disciplines and Audiences.” Randall also presented “Personal Problems Reported by a Sample of Rural Youth and Their Relation to Psychosocial Well-Being” at the Society for Research in Human Development biennial conference in late March.

Randall is slated to present “Factor Structure of the Brief Comprehensive Effects of Alcohol Sale in Adolescents” at the annual meeting of the Research Society on Alcoholism in San Francisco in late June.

The 2011 pass rate for graduates of the coordinated undergraduate dietetics program was 100 percent, compared to the national average of 82 percent. Graduates of the didactic program in dietetics had an 86 percent pass rate. One graduate was in the 99th percentile among test takers.

Taylor Heck, a junior in the coordinated dietetics program and a McNair scholar, is one of 56 students selected to take part in a 10-week summer internship at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine’s Institute for Basic Biomedical Sciences. Heck also received offers from the University of Arizona and the University of Colorado Denver’s Anschutz Medical Campus.

Jared Tucker, assistant professor of health, nutrition and exercise sciences, co-wrote an article, titled “Insulin Resistance Projects Against Gains in Body Fat in Non-Diabetic Women: A Prospective Study,” that was accepted for publication in the journal, Obesity.

Students from Kellie Hamre’s large-scale contract design course competed at the Interior Design Educators Council’s Midwest Regional Student Design Competition. Cassandra Gullickson and Stephanie Hulet, seniors majoring in interior design, received an honorable mention award for their project. Twenty-five entries from 10 programs were judged.

Justin Wageman and Stacy Duffield, associate professors of education, presented their paper, “Examining How Professional Development Impacted Teachers and Students of U.S. History Courses,” at the Association for Teacher Educators’ annual conference in mid-February.

Kim Overton, assistant professor of education, and Lisa Staiger, assistant director of field experiences at Minnesota State University Moorhead, presented “Improving Field Experiences Through Collaboration” at the conference.

Duffield and Al Olson, associate professor at Valley City State University, presented a paper, titled “Crossing Borders, Breaking Boundaries: Collaboration Among Higher Education Institutions,” at the American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education conference in mid-February. The presentation described the collaboration efforts on teacher effectiveness initiative work between NDSU, VCSU and MSUM. The collaboration was sponsored by a Bush Foundation grant.

Duffield and Overton presented “Getting to the Heart of the Matter: A Holistic Approach to Teacher Preparation” at the national Professional Development Conference in March. The presentation featured recent initiatives in teacher education, including co-teaching, the Support and Remediation Committee and candidate dispositions.

Student publication to receive award

NDSU communication students will receive a North Dakota Professional Communicators award at the association’s banquet on April 27 in Bismarck, N.D.

The award recognizes the excellent student work in creation, design and publication of Fuel, a magazine devoted to biofuel and renewable energy issues in the Northern Plains. The 44-page magazine was created by journalism students with supervision of Communication faculty members Ross Collins and Elizabeth Crawford. The free publication is available both in hard-copy (by contacting Collins) and online by visiting http://tinyurl.com/cgg5pgm.

The contributing students include Danielle Boldenow, Carley Bishoff, Isaac Bolin, Jenna Currie, Jill Falk, Katie Johnson, Brittany Negaard, Austin Ressler, Tyler Ressler, Levi Satterlee, Liz Sienkaniecz, Shelby Sorenson, Toni Tollefson and Jessie Topp.
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 website at www.ndsu.edu/jobs.

Custodian/#00028178
Residence Life
$19,760+/year
Open until filled

Lead Food Service Worker (5:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.)
Dining Services
$10.50+/hour
April 13

Custodian (Two positions – 5 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)
Facilities Management
$19,760+/year
April 17

Campus Visit Assistant/Admission Officer/#00026824
Admission
$25,000+/year
April 18

Recruiting and Events Assistant/#00021408
Career Center
$23,400+/year
April 20

Nutrition Education Assistant, FNP – Sioux County
Extension Food and Nutrition
$25,900+/year
Open until filled

Nutrition Education Assistant, FNP – Fort Berthold
Extension Food and Nutrition
$25,900+/year
Open until filled

Wildlife and Range Research Technician
Hettinger Research Extension Center
Open until filled
$30,000+/year

Histology and Bioassay Laboratory Coordinator/#00027420
Animal Science
$42,000+/year
April 30

Health Promotion Specialist/#00018539
Wellness Center
$35,000+/year
Open until filled

Disquisition Processor/#00019010
Graduate School
$45,000+/year
April 20

Programmer/Analyst
Registration and Records
$45,000+/year
April 20

CALENDAR

APRIL
13 Surplus sale: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 3601 7th Ave. N.

13 Multicultural Affinity Group Meeting: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Memorial Union Hidatsa room. Contact angela.skaff@ndsu.edu or call 1-7267 for more information.

13 Julia Murney Performance and Master Class: Performance with question and answer session, 2 p.m.; master class, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Askanase Auditorium. Free and open to the public.

13 BFA Exhibition Opening Reception: “Plants for Patients,” Meg Roberts, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Renaissance Hall. Free and open to the public.

14 Nepalese Food Festival: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church (1011 12th Ave. N.). Sponsored by the Nepalese Student Association-Chautaree. $10 for general admission ticket.

14 Student recital: Missy Haas, trombone, 7:30 p.m., Beckwith Recital Hall. Free and open to the public.

15 Student recital: Antoine Poitras, saxophone, 5:30 p.m., Beckwith Recital Hall. Free and open to the public.

15 Graduate conducting recital: Christina Armendarez and Eric Saari, 6 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church. Free and open to the public.

16 Green and Golden Globe Diversity Awards: 3 p.m., meet and greet and light refreshments, 3:30 p.m. program, Memorial Union Great Plains Ballroom

16 Plant Sciences Graduate Seminar: “Mesotrione: Allelopathy Turned Bioherbicide,” Andrew Fillmore, 3:30 p.m., Loftsgard Hall room 114

17 Science, Religion and Lunch Seminar: “Neither Inherently Guilty Nor Secular: Eastern Christian Anthropology in Dialogue with Christian and Post-Christian West,” Father Oliver Herbel, noon, Memorial Union Meadow Lark room

18 Brown Bag: “Honors Public Speaking Advocacy Projects,” noon to 1 p.m., Memorial Union Arikara room

18 TRiO Day awards banquet: Social begins at 5:30 p.m., Memorial Union Great Plains Ballroom

19 World iView: “A Student Journey Back to Somalia After 20 Years: A Country Crippled by Civil War, Famine, Terrorists and Warlords,” Ilhan Omar, NDSU graduate, noon to 1 p.m., Memorial Union Meadow Lark room

14, 21, 28, 29 RAD, Rape Aggression Defense: Free Self-Defense Class for Women, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Space is limited, email sarah.dodd@ndsu.edu for more information or to register.
19 Training: “Responding to Disclosure of Sexual Assault: A Training for Faculty, Staff and Students,” noon, Memorial Union Hidatsa room, RSVP required, contact sarah.dodd@ndsu.edu

19 Intellectual Property Seminar: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Skills and Technology Center auditorium. RSVP to emily@ndsuresearchpark.com or 499-3600 by April 17.

19 Film and Presentation: “When Billy Broke his Head and Other Tales of Wonder,” 1 p.m., Memorial Union Century Theater. Discussion with filmmaker, Billy Golfs, to follow the screening.

19 Chemistry and Biochemistry Seminar: “Chelation-Assisted, Copper(II) Acetate-Accelerated Azide-Alkyne Cycloaddition,” Lei Zhu, associate professor, Florida State University, Tallahassee, 4 p.m., Ladd room 107

20 Discover NDSU Junior Day

20 Plant Science Graduate Farewell Reception and Exit Seminar: “Early-Season Weed Control in Direct-Seeded Onion (Allium cepa L.), James Loken, 3 p.m., Loftsgard Hall room 380

21 Discover NDSU Senior Day

22-28 Spring Blast week

22 Guest author/activist Kate Bornstein: “Gender Outlaw: On Men, Women and the Rest of Us,” 7 p.m., Memorial Union Great Plains Ballroom

23 Electrical and Computer Engineering Distinguished Lecture Series: “Fervasive Computing and Cyber-Physical Systems: A Perspective From Smart Environments,” Saül K. Das, University of Texas at Arlington, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., Construction Management and Engineering Auditorium

23 FORWARDED Event: “A Conversation: Should Graduate Students Become Parents?” 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., Memorial Union Arika room

23 FORWARDED Pedagogical Luncheon: “Do Babies Matter in Academia?” 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Memorial Union Prairie Rose room. Register at www.ndsu.edu/forward.

23 Film: “Pidgin: The Voice of Hawai’i,” noon to 1 p.m., Memorial Union Century Theater

23, 24, 25 1,000 Wishes for Japan: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Memorial Union contact table

23 Plant Sciences Graduate Seminar: “Comparison among Miscanthus spp. for Biofuel Production,” Andrew Aipperspach, 3:30 p.m., Loftsgard Hall room 114

23 Student Presentation: “The Original Pakistan, by a Proud Pakistani!” Tayyaba Mohsin, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Equity and Diversity Center

24 The Big Event: 9 a.m. start. For more information, email ndsu.volunteernetwork@ndsu.edu

25 Brown Bag: “Honors Public Speaking Advocacy Projects,” noon to 1 p.m., Memorial Union Meadow Lark room

25 Senior Day: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., NDSU Alumni Center, student ID required

25 LIVE REAL Mentor Training Session: 4 p.m., Family Life Center Room of Nations

25 Movie: “The Last Samurai,” 7 p.m., Memorial Union Century Theater

26 Asian Culture Fair: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Family Life Center Room of Nations

26 2012 Alumni Awards Celebration: 11:30 a.m., Fargodome. Tickets are $30. For more information or to register, call 1-6807.

27 Documentary Film: “It Was Rape,” by Jennifer Baumgardner, 3:30 p.m., Beckwith Recital Hall

27 Graduate Student Farewell Reception and Exit Seminar: “Identification of Molecular Markers Linked to X-disease Resistance in Chokecherry (Prunus virginiana L.), Hongxia Wang, 3 p.m., Loftsgard Hall room 380

27 Band Day: 4:30 p.m. to 12 a.m., Memorial Union Great Plains Ballroom

27 Pride Network monthly meeting: Email NDSU.PrideNetwork@ndsu.edu for more information.

27-28 Musical Theatre Troupe: “The New Broadway,” 7:30 p.m., Askanase Auditorium. Adults: $5; students and seniors: $2

30 Technology LunchByte: “iPad Apps You Can Use: Get More Than ‘Angry Birds!’” 12:10 p.m. to 12:50 p.m., Memorial Union Hidatsa room

30 Plant Sciences Graduate Seminar: “Leaf Rust Resistance in Small Grains: A Case of Host-Pathogen Interaction,” Angela Linares, 3:30 p.m., Loftsgard Hall room 114

30 Plant Sciences Graduate Seminar: “Ionizing Radiation and Plant Breeding,” Nailuay Dong, 4 p.m., Loftsgard Hall room 114