NDSU provost names vice provost for advancement of faculty

Canan Bilen-Green has been named vice provost for advancement of faculty, a new part-time position in the provost’s office. She began the position June 1.

Bilen-Green, professor of industrial and manufacturing engineering, is executive director of NDSU’s National Science Foundation-funded Advance FORWARD project. Most recently, she served as interim director of the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute.

“Dr. Bilen-Green brings a wealth of experience to this position,” said Bruce Rafert, provost. “Her work with Advance FORWARD is particularly meaningful to this role, which is meant to increase accountability and foster measurable progress in faculty advancement. We will be diligently emphasizing junior and mid-career faculty, women faculty, faculty with disabilities and faculty of color at all academic ranks.”

Bilen-Green earned her doctorate at the University of Wyoming and has been with NDSU since 1998. She teaches a wide variety of industrial and manufacturing engineering, transportation and logistics, and managerial logistics courses. Her research is in quality management in higher education, statistical process control and applied operations research. Since coming to NDSU, she has twice been a summer NASA research fellow.

In addition to extensive service roles, Bilen-Green leads the NDSU Advance FORWARD grant project, a National Science Foundation-funded effort aimed at advancing women faculty in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and at transforming the climate to one that more fully supports and nurtures all people in the organization to develop to their fullest potential. As executive director, she provides daily oversight, managing programs, directing research programs, supervising personnel, monitoring budget and assisting other institutions with similar grants.

“I am deeply committed to our institution, and I look forward to strengthening and building our culture of faculty support and advancement,” Bilen-Green said.

Rafert created the vice provost for advancement of faculty position to institutionalize the work begun by the Advance FORWARD project. National Science Foundation funds will pay for the position for the coming year.

President Bresciani announces new general counsel

NDSU President Dean L. Bresciani has named a new general counsel to replace Rick Johnson, who is retiring. Chris Wilson will begin work at NDSU on July 16.

Wilson comes to NDSU from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where he was associate general counsel for the past eight years. He worked with many areas of the institution, with emphasis on business and administrative issues ranging from contracts and litigation to intellectual property and information technology issues.

Wilson earned his law degree at Cornell Law School in Ithaca, N.Y., and has an undergraduate degree from Duke University, Durham, N.C.

He also has experience in two private law firms and a corporation.

“He is expecting Chris to bring a great deal of expertise and energy to the office of general counsel,” Bresciani said. “This is an important role in the leadership team.”

Johnson had intended to retire in May, but agreed to stay in the role part time while the search was completed. “We greatly appreciate Rick’s many years of excellent service and his flexibility in the transition,” Bresciani said.
**Student technology fee funds campus projects**

Five projects were awarded student technology fee funds this spring by Interim Vice President for Information Technology Marc Wallman, acting at the recommendation of the Technology Fee Advisory Committee.

NDSU’s student technology fee funds a broad range of projects designed to improve information technology capabilities and services available for students, faculty and staff. The Technology Fee Advisory Committee particularly aims to fund innovative projects directed at improving instruction and student learning.

Technology projects awarded funds include:

- **“Broadcasting Technology Maintenance”** directed by Brad Jones, admission counselor. ThunderRadio strives to provide an accurate model of the professional radio industry for NDSU students. Operating since 2004, some of ThunderRadio’s essential equipment has become outdated and obsolete. The project will provide funds to replace the telephone system, software used to broadcast live calls on the air and studio speakers. In addition, the project will enable the radio station to meet Federal Communications Commission requirements regarding a digital emergency alert system used to broadcast and record emergency notifications. Expected outcomes of the project include improved student learning experiences in a realistic radio broadcasting environment, Federal Communications Commission regulation compliance and improved listening experiences for ThunderRadio’s faculty, staff and student audiences.

- **“Center for Writers Session Video Recordings: Enhancing Training, Expanding Service”** directed by Enrico Sassi, senior English lecturer. The Center for Writers provides one-on-one writing consulting services for NDSU students. Individualized and interactive consultations are an invaluable tool for writing instruction. Since 2004, the center has more than doubled its number of consultants and consulting sessions, resulting in the need to improve consultant training. The project will provide funds to purchase video recording equipment to record consulting sessions with students. The recordings will be used for consultant training and for the creation of online informational videos about the center. Expected outcomes of the project include better-trained writing consultants, improved writing assistance for NDSU students, increased awareness of the Center for Writers and an increase in the number of students served by the center.

- **“Renaissance Hall ‘Thinking Space’”** directed by Daniel Siverson and Michael Strand, Department of Visual Arts, and Jenny Grasto, downtown campus librarian. The Department of Visual Arts is seeking to provide an opportunity for students and faculty in the design disciplines to engage in interactive, innovative and collaborative teaching and learning. The project will fund technology — including an interactive whiteboard — needed to fulfill multiple needs of students and faculty, including sketching and writing out ideas and producing digital art interactively with design software on a connected computer. The expected outcome of the project is to enable students and faculty to experience learning and teaching about design in an innovative way.

- **“Lecture Capture Functionality in Stevens Auditorium Remodeling”** directed by Nancy Lilleberg, instructional services manager. Stevens Auditorium will be remodeled during summer 2012 with funding provided by Gate City Bank. During the remodeling, the project will fund installation of lecture capture technology in the auditorium. Lecture capture technology allows an instructor to teach a class face-to-face with students while capturing everything that is happening in class, including screen content, audio and video. Lecture capture solutions then upload captured audio/video/screen data to a server and reformat the content into Web output. Students can then easily access the stored archives of captured classes through Blackboard. The expected outcomes of the project include teaching and learning benefits demonstrated by studies on the technology, including improved student retention and grades.

- **“Blackboard Mobile”** directed by Nancy Lilleberg, instructional services manager. Blackboard Mobile is an add-on to the Blackboard system that allows mobile devices capable of 3G, 4G or wireless connectivity to be able to access Blackboard courses, content and organizations. Blackboard Mobile licensing was purchased in fall 2011 through student technology fee funding. Since then, Blackboard Mobile technology has been used extensively across campus. The project will provide funding for renewal of the license for an additional year. Expected outcomes of the project include improved student ability to access Blackboard course content and improved instructor ability to access and manipulate Blackboard course content using mobile devices.

More information about projects submitted during spring 2012 and about the proposal review process is available at www.ndsu.edu/tfac.

Questions regarding the Technology Fee Advisory Committee may be directed to committee chair Rian Nostrum at rian.nostrum@ndsu.edu or 1-7890, or to the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology at 1-5646.

**Student appointed to State Board of Higher Education**

Gov. Jack Dalrymple named NDSU student Sydney Hull as the State Board of Higher Education’s student representative June 19. Hull, who is from Fargo, will begin his one-year term July 1.

Hull is majoring in history and political science and was elected as an off-campus student senator, overseeing the student activity fees at NDSU. In addition to being a full-time student and his involvement in student government activities, Hull is a Web developer and administrative assistant at K&K Metal Recycling in Fargo.

“T am ecstatic to represent the approximately 48,000 students and 11 institutions of the North Dakota University System,” Hull said. “I have some big shoes to fill, but I’m going to do my best to hit the ground running.”

The State Board of Higher Education is the policy-setting body for the North Dakota University System. The board consists of seven citizen members who are appointed to serve four-year terms, one student appointed by the governor for a one-year term and one faculty adviser selected by the Council of College Faculties. One staff member also is selected from the North Dakota University System State Staff Senate. The student member is appointed from a list advanced to the governor by the North Dakota Student Association.
NDSU hosts national transportation conference

The American Public Transportation Association’s Public Transportation and Universities Communities Conference was held June 16-19 in Fargo, hosted by MATBUS and Small Urban and Rural Transportation Center, a part of NDSU’s Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute. NDSU students, faculty and staff were among the presenters, panelists and attendees at the conference.

NDSU President Dean L. Bresciani opened the conference with a welcome to participants. Jill Hough, Small Urban and Rural Transportation Center director, was chair of the conference, developed and moderated a panel session focusing on workforce development in public transportation and moderated a session that highlighted the partnership between NDSU and MATBUS.

Elvis Ndembe, a doctoral student in the transportation and logistics program, presented information from a survey and an exploratory study conducted by the Small Urban and Rural Transportation Center to evaluate passengers’ ridership behavior if buses were equipped with wireless Internet connectivity. He spoke about different ways to enhance the quality of service at MATBUS with recent technological developments.

Del Peterson, an associate research fellow with the Small Urban and Rural Transportation Center, discussed his research into the use of radio frequency identification technology to track and collect information from transit passengers.

Brett Korporaal, a transportation and logistics graduate student, was part of a student panel discussion that addressed partnerships between universities and public transportation and how resulting services affect students. “The university-transit partnership is critical to creating, developing and promoting a culture of public transportation in communities across America,” he said. “The partnership encourages students to think about and use alternative modes of transportation, which helps students and communities realize the benefits of a safe, convenient and reliable transit system.”

NDSU student body vice president Jace Beehler moderated the student panel, which included Luke Brodeur, NDSU student body president, and several other student leaders from around the nation. “This not only was a great way for the transit officials to learn what students were thinking about a variety of topics but also allowed student leaders to have many of our own questions answered,” Beehler said.

Rob Lynch, NDSU parking and transportation service manager, participated on a panel that discussed the development and success of the partnership between NDSU and MATBUS.

Bill Vandal, NDSU chief of police, participated on a panel that discussed safety and security related to university transportation as well as implications for university transportation in emergency response.

Hough noted that conference presentations and tours left participants favorably impressed with both Fargo-Moorhead and NDSU. She said public transportation received significant positive media attention throughout the conference, raising the profile of the topic in the Fargo-Moorhead area. The event also was a great opportunity for NDSU students to learn how other universities partner with transit providers and to see efforts directed at workforce development by both universities and transit agencies.

“Universities play a vital role in the training and development of the workforce that is going to be part of the transit industry,” said Ankush Agrawal, NDSU transportation and logistics doctoral student. “University-transit partnerships will ensure a better trained workforce with focus on the modernization of the transit industry.”

Michael Melaniphy, American Public Transportation Association president and CEO, said, “APTA is thrilled that Fargo chose to be the host city for the 2012 university conference. The people here have been great hosts. We are hearing so many great things about the community embracing them. This isn’t just the university putting on the conference, it’s the community putting on the conference, and that makes Fargo a great city to host this conference.”

NDSU Archives announces new services

As of July 1, the NDSU Archives (Institute for Regional Studies Archives and University Archives) will implement new services for researchers and promote the use of the archives’ collections.

“A researcher registration system and call slip request form will allow us to better serve students, faculty and researchers as they explore the 3,000-plus collections; 5,000-plus North Dakota-related books; The Forum, Bismarck Tribune and Grand Forks Herald newspapers on microfilm; and numerous other databases available at the NDSU Archives,” explained Michael Robinson, director of the NDSU Archives. “This system also will allow us to better track which collections are being used, which collections should be available at the Skills and Technology Training Center, potential promotion of certain collections, and which type of patron (student, faculty, staff or outside researcher) is using the collections.”

In addition, 12 lockers with locks are now available to all researchers. The lockers give patrons a secure place for backpacks, purses and laptop cases, since only paper and pencil, laptops, scanners and cameras can be brought into the NDSU Archives.

The NDSU Archives is located at the Skills and Technology Training Center, 1305 19th Ave. N., Room 117 (across from the Fargodome and next to the CVS Pharmacy). For more information about the resources and services of the NDSU Archives, call 1-8914.
Civil and workplace mediation training scheduled

The NDSU Office of Human Resources/Payroll, in conjunction with the University of North Dakota Conflict Resolution Center, is scheduled to offer civil and workplace mediation training. The training session will be held on campus Oct. 22-25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The training will give participants skills to work more effectively with conflict in organizational settings as well as in the community, neighborhood and with civil disputes. They will learn the causes of conflict, conflict management skills, the theory, practice and skills for transformative mediation and mediation ethical guidelines.

The training is approved for the North Dakota and Minnesota Alternative Dispute Resolution Neutral Rosters. The following professional continuing education credits have been applied for: Human Resources Certificate Institute and North Dakota and Minnesota social work, counseling and continuing legal education.

The cost of the training is $500 for NDSU staff and faculty, $300 for NDSU students and $750 for the general public. Space is limited, so register as soon as possible with the Conflict Resolution Center at 701-777-3664 or und.conflictresolution@email.und.edu.

Sociology professor helps compile North Dakota 2.0 report

North Dakota’s economic prosperity is providing stakeholders a chance to map the future direction of the state. Feedback from more than 600 people at 14 community meetings throughout the state has been compiled in a report recently released by North Dakota 2.0, an initiative announced in 2011 that is focused on bringing people together to capitalize on the state’s opportunities while addressing its immediate needs.

Richard Rathge, professor of sociology and director of the North Dakota State Census Data Center contributed to the report, titled “The Next Chapter.” The report offers eight recommendations for improving the state’s infrastructure, housing, transparency, leadership development, budget surpluses, health care, childcare and investing in the future.

“The goal of these recommendations is to develop a pathway toward a sustainable and successful future for people and our state,” Rathge said in the report. “I would like to thank the sponsors of North Dakota 2.0 for inviting me and my research team at NDSU to contribute to the completion of this study and the reported results.”

The initiative and report were developed in cooperation with a variety of sponsors, which included the NDSU Extension Service for Community Vitality. To view the report or find more information about North Dakota 2.0, visit www.nd20.com.

Students’ start-up named semifinalist in national event

The Cleantech Open announced its semifinalists for their internationally renowned competition, and Fargo’s start-up business, Switch is a semifinalist in the “Smart Power, Green Grid and Energy Storage” category. Teams from around the nation are traveling to Silicon Valley for the world’s largest cleantech accelerator. The Cleantech Open looks to find, fund and foster entrepreneurs with ideas to address today’s energy, environmental and economic challenges.

Switch, an energy monitoring and automation software with a free and open interface, allows users to access and monitor energy consumption at their home or business with their computer or mobile phone. Switch provides simple yet elegant reporting tools, interactive graphs, social network sharing and integration, scheduling, automation and intelligent learning capabilities to give users a clear picture on energy consumption for the past, present and future.

“Switch is committed to providing energy consumption data and letting the consumer make the decision on how to monitor their energy,” said Jake Joraanstad, creator of the company. “Everyone’s needs are different, so homes and businesses will have the ability to remotely prioritize and monitor their energy needs according to their schedules.”

After preparation, feedback from industry leaders and educational seminars later this summer, Switch will present in front of the judging committee. Winners will be announced later this fall. Semifinalist companies compete for regional prizes that include combined cash and in-kind services worth up to $20,000, with regional winners advancing to compete at the national level for a grand prize of up to $250,000 in cash and services, and an overall prize chest of nearly $1 million.

Joraanstad is a senior from Rolla, N.D., majoring in computer engineering at NDSU. The Switch product team includes two NDSU seniors in electrical engineering, Ben Whittier and Ross Eickhoff, both from Canby, Minn. Other contributors to Switch include NDSU graduates Ryan Raguse and James Dravitz.

FFA convention brought more than 1,300 students to campus

The North Dakota FFA Association held its 83rd annual state convention on campus June 4-8. This event brought more than 1,300 students from 76 North Dakota schools.

The convention is the culmination of activities and events that happen throughout the year in the state. Students participated in 21 different competitive events, including food science and technology, public speaking, dairy cattle judging and veterinary science. In addition to the competitive events, students also were recognized for excellence in 53 different award areas focusing on their supervised agriculture experience programs. These are work-based experiences the students have with various agricultural enterprises throughout the country. All students who attended the convention are enrolled in an agriculture education program at their local high school.
FFA is the largest student organization in the country with more than 540,000 members. The focus of the organization is to develop students’ potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success. FFA has expanded from its traditional roots in production agriculture to focus on working with all students no matter what their rural or urban backgrounds may be and to teach them that “agriculture is more than planting and harvesting; it’s a science, a business and an art.”

Communication course finds new way to feature students’ work

This past spring semester, Patrick Schmiedt, assistant professor of communication, showcased his students’ work from an advanced media-writing course on a blog and Twitter page. This course ordinarily requires students to hand in hard copies of their work, but Schmiedt took the class in a new direction hoping other students and community members would see what NDSU students are writing about.

Schmiedt let his class pick an “umbrella” topic at the beginning of the semester, and they chose to tackle “growth at NDSU.” Students wrote about a topic of their choice. They completed interviews and took a photograph or video to accompany the story they chose to post. To format their stories, they used knowledge learned from other media writing courses, plus skills they learned in the course.

“Students were graded on adherence to Associated Press Style, conciseness, clarity, accuracy, balance, choice of sources, attribution, ability to hit deadlines . . . all the things that editors in a newsroom look for in a story,” says Schmiedt.

Shelby Deckert, senior in public relations and advertising and political science said, “I found the critiques I received to be very helpful, and because of this class, I now feel very comfortable writing news stories and writing in AP Style. This class has even inspired me to try and get involved with the Spectrum next year.”

Schmiedt hopes the project gets students interested in their school or community. He is continuing this project in his summer classes and will try to incorporate it in all sections of this course in the fall.

“One of my biggest frustrations as an undergraduate student was that my class work was always ‘class work.’ We never took our writing and put it anywhere where people might see it. Now that I’m on the other side as a teacher, I wanted to make sure that my students had the chance to see their work published. The best way to prepare students for that is to put their work out in public,” Schmiedt said.

To view the students work, visit www.310tofargo.net or twitter.com/#!/310toFargo.

Undergraduates gain experience in summer research program

This year’s NDSU 2012 summer undergraduate research program is under way until July 13. The program’s focus is to give under-represented U.S. students the opportunity to gain valuable research experience with a faculty mentor in one of the science, technology, engineering and mathematics areas. The eight-week experience culminates with poster and oral presentations by the attendees.

Students in the program have the opportunity to work with top-notch faculty mentors on research in their respective fields. Students can learn from a variety of fields, including food systems, plant sciences, mechanical engineering, computer science, biological sciences and pharmaceutical sciences. Students learn research methodology and application, and oral and written communication skills. Making this a well-rounded experience, students also attend presentations on topics like professional development and graduate school by Evie Myers, vice president for equity, diversity and global outreach, and David Wittrock, dean of the Graduate School.

The summer research program was initiated in 2009 and gives students from across the country the opportunity to experience NDSU and to learn from NDSU faculty. A total of 55 students have been admitted to the program since it began.

Animal sciences associate professor receives award

Robert Maddock, associate professor of animal sciences, was presented the American Meat Science Association’s Distinguished Achievement Award at the Reciprocal Meat Conference awards banquet June 19 at the Fargodome. Maddock is one of three individuals nationally who received the award this year.

The award was established in 1992 by the association and is designed to recognize and foster development of young members who have demonstrated significant scientific skills in muscle foods research and technology that contribute to the animal products industry and American Meat Science Association. The award is sponsored by Burke Corp.

Maddock joined the Department of Animal Sciences in 2006. He teaches courses in meat processing, meat evaluation and food safety. Maddock also serves as co-director for the Beef Systems Center of Excellence that is designed to grow the state’s meat processing and cattle feeding industries.

Taylor receives athletic director award

Director of Athletics Gene Taylor was one of 29 winners as the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics announced the Under Armour athletic director of the year recipients.

Taylor, who received the Football Championship Subdivision Central Region honor, also won the award in 2008.

Taylor received his award during the James J. Corbett Awards Luncheon June 27 at the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics 47th annual convention in Dallas.
Agriculture communication staff receives awards

NDSU agriculture communication staff members were honored at the June 11-14 Association for Communication Excellence international meeting in Annapolis, Md.

Bob Bertsch, Web technology specialist, received the Pioneer Award for the North Central Region. The award recognizes members who demonstrate exceptional leadership and technical skills and make significant contributions to the association during their first 10 years of membership.

In the Critique and Awards contest:
- Bob Bertsch and Becky Koch, director – Gold (tie) in Best Innovative Use of New Technology for Smartphone Applications for Disaster Education
- Bob Bertsch – Silver in Technology Education for Twitter Cohort Immersive Learning Experiment
- Becky Koch – Gold in Targeted Publications for Livestock and Land Stewardship Ag Mag, includes Outstanding Professional Skill Award for Diversity Category

Bruce Sundeen, electronic media specialist – Silver in Informational or Non-Credit Educational Video Production for Eat Smart. Play Hard. Thundar’s New Game Plan Video

Becky Koch – Bronze in Educational Project/Non-credit for Family Preparedness Course for Extension Disaster Education Network

In addition, Koch began her term as president-elect of the organization.

Researcher elected to transportation board

NDSU researcher Jill Hough was elected to the executive board of the Council of University Transportation Centers at the group’s annual summer meeting June 20-22 at Michigan Tech in Houghton, Mich.

Hough is director of the Small Urban and Rural Transit Center, a part of NDSU’s Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute. In her role on the executive board, she will participate in strategic planning and policy-setting efforts for the group. In particular, Hough will oversee the communications committee. She also will participate in the group’s membership committee and workforce development task force.

The council represents more than 70 of the nation’s leading university-based transportation research and education programs and provides a forum for the universities and centers to interact collectively with government and industry.

Hough has been a transportation researcher with the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute for more than 20 years. She earned her doctorate in the transportation technology and policy program at the University of California -Davis. She also earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in agricultural economics at NDSU.

Animal sciences hires laboratory coordinator

Sheri Dorsam joined the staff of the Department of Animal Sciences on June 12 as the histology and bioassay laboratory coordinator.

Dorsam earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va. She earned her doctorate in microbiology and immunology from Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Va. After completing her postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco, Dorsam accepted an assistant professor position in the NDSU Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in 2004. From 2004 to 2008, Dorsam managed the NDSU Core Biology Facility in the Center for Protease Research. For the past four years, she has worked part-time in a chemistry and biochemistry laboratory and taught introduction to microbiology online for the Regents Online Degree Program for the state of Tennessee.

Dorsam, her husband and their two children, Joshua and Ava, live in Fargo.

Career Center hires administrative assistant

The NDSU Career Center has hired Larissa Kunde as its administrative assistant. She came to the Career Center from Bison Connection where she was an associate.

Prior to coming to NDSU, Kunde was a program assistant and Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance coordinator in the Office of Continuing and Extended Education at South Dakota State University. She also was an intern and office assistant at NDSU Distance and Continuing Education while she attended NDSU.

Kunde earned her bachelor’s degree in public relations and advertising from NDSU in 2009.

Golfer wins Dinah Shore Trophy Award

NDSU junior golfer Amy Anderson was named winner of the Dinah Shore Trophy Award at the National Golf Coaches Association banquet May 25.

Part of the Dinah Shore Scholarship Fund, the award is a cooperative effort between The LPGA Foundation, Friends of Golf and Nabisco Dinah Shore, one of the LPGA’s four major championships and largest contributor to the Dinah Shore Scholarship Fund.

Golfers must have a cumulative grade-point average of at 3.2 on a four-point scale, play in 50 percent of her team’s scheduled contests, maintain a scoring average of 78 or better, and have demonstrated leadership skills and/or extraordinary community affairs work.
Student-athletes earn conference academic honors

NDSU student-athletes earned several academic honors from the Summit League.

A total of 102 student-athletes were named to the Summit League’s 2011-12 Commissioner’s List of Academic Excellence. NDSU tied for second with South Dakota State University for the league’s Institutional Academic Achievement Award with 71 percent of its list-eligible student-athletes honored.

In addition, 111 student-athletes made the Summit League’s Winter/Spring All-Academic Team. In order to be selected to the All-Academic Team, a student-athlete must have a 3.0 or better grade-point average in the semester in which they compete.

A complete list of Commissioner’s List of Academic Excellence and Winter/Spring All-Academic Team members is available at www.gobison.com.

German author, lecturer to visit NDSU, tour North Dakota

Ute Schmidt, author of “Bessarabia: German Colonists on the Black Sea,” will visit North Dakota in July. She is a scheduled keynote speaker and workshop presenter at the 42nd Germans from Russia Heritage Society International Convention at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck, N.D., July 18-22.

Schmidt also will autograph the book, which was translated from German to English by Mercer, N.D., native James T. Gessele and published in 2011 by the NDSU Libraries’ Germans from Russia Heritage Collection. Schmidt is a university lecturer at the Institute for Political and Social Sciences at the Free University of Berlin and is project manager at the institute’s research coalition.

While in North Dakota, Schmidt will visit the NDSU Libraries’ Germans from Russia Heritage Collection and the Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection July 16. Schmidt and her husband, Ulrich Baehr, an artist in Berlin, also will travel with Michael Miller, director of the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, July 17 to visit German-Russian communities in south central North Dakota, including Kulm, Wishek and Strasburg.

Schmidt has made many research trips to visit the former Bessarabian German villages in Ukraine and Moldova.

To learn more or purchase a copy of “Bessarabia: German Colonists on the Black Sea,” visit http://library.ndsu.edu/grhc/order/general/bessarabia.html.

For further information about Schmidt’s visit, contact Miller at 1-8416 or michael.miller@ndsu.edu. For further information about the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, go to www.ndsu.edu/grhc.

Faculty, students to participate in infectious disease conference

Faculty, administrators and students from NDSU will participate in an international conference to discuss progress on the Capacity Building in Integrated Management of Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses project in Kampala, Uganda, July 11-13.

Margaret Khaitsa, associate professor of veterinary and microbiological sciences, serves as U.S. partnership director for the event, which employs the “One World, One Health” integrated health management approach to build human and institutional capacity at Makerere University in Uganda and in higher education institutions in network countries within East and Central Africa.

The meeting will provide a forum for partners in the Africa-U.S. Higher Education Initiative to: review the progress that has resulted from implementation of the first phase of the Capacity Building in Integrated Management of Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses project; share project findings with stakeholders; meet with other synergistic networks in the region; and finalize the action plan for the remainder of the first phase of the project.

The project is being implemented by NDSU and Makerere University, the lead partnering institutions in collaboration with partnering higher education institutions in the United States and East and Central Africa.

The conference was organized with the support of Higher Education and Development and the U.S. Agency for International Development. Participants will include representatives from partner institutions in the Africa-U.S. Integrated Disease Management Network. More information on the network is available at http://afrusidm.org.

Defensive driving courses scheduled

Robin Stephens, North Dakota Department of Transportation, will give defensive driving courses on Thursday, July 26, from 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

NDSU Fleet Services requires people who operate fleet vehicles on at least a monthly basis to take the National Safety Council Defensive Driving Course as soon as possible after accepting employment and every four years thereafter. Training for those who operate fleet vehicles less than monthly is at the discretion of agency trainers or risk managers.

Fleet Services also requires people who have been involved in a motor vehicle accident with a State Fleet vehicle or those who have received a traffic citation while operating a State Fleet vehicle in the past 12 months to attend the course within the calendar year of the accident or citation.

The University Police and Safety Office encourages people who operate State Fleet vehicles less than monthly to attend the course, keeping in mind that priority will be given to those who meet the above requirements.

To register, contact Tammy Aronson, safety and compliance specialist, at tammy.aronson@ndsu.edu or 1-5637.
Lab and chemical safety course scheduled

A lab and chemical safety course is scheduled for July 3 from noon to 4 p.m. in the Memorial Union Prairie room.

Ted Jirik of the Department of Construction Management and Engineering will teach the course, which is required for new laboratory workers and serves as a refresher for people currently working in laboratories. Topics will include chemicals, personal protection, fire and electrical safety, hazard communication standards, physical and chemical hazards, chemical spills and waste handling.

The course is free and limited to 15 participants. Pre-registration is required. In the event no pre-registrations are received, the class will be canceled.

Registered attendees will not pass unless the entire class is completed. To register, contact Stephanie Wegner at stephanie.wegner@ndsu.edu or 1-7759.

Northern Crops Institute course analyzes wheat, flour quality

Twelve participants from Colombia and the U.S. attended the Rheology of Wheat and Flour Quality Short Course at the Northern Crops Institute at NDSU June 12-14. The course taught participants about the importance of wheat and flour quality, and how differences in quality can affect milling and baking performance. The hands-on laboratory experiences focused on learning to operate rheological instruments that measure wheat and flour quality, and how to analyze, interpret and apply the results effectively.

John Crabtree, Northern Crops assistant director, coordinates the short courses. “We developed this course in response to feedback from the milling and baking industries that indicated a need for their personnel to have more training on the latest rheological equipment. This knowledge will help them explain to their customers the differences in quality and how to adjust for those variations,” Crabtree said.

NDSU assistant professor receives Superior Paper Award

The American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers recently selected Ganesh Bora, assistant professor in agricultural and biosystems engineering, for the 2012 Superior Paper Award. His paper, titled “Performance of a Pulse Width Modulated Single to Multifold Outlet System for Variable-Rate Anhydrous Ammonia Application,” was published in the journal, Transactions of the ASABE.

The Paper Awards are selected annually from papers of engineering merit published during the prior calendar year in publications of Applied Engineering in Agriculture, Transactions of the ASABE, Journal of Agricultural Safety and Health or Biological Engineering Transactions. American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers president, Sonia Jacobsen, will honor paper award recipients during the General Session Recognition Program at the annual international meeting to be held in Dallas July 29-Aug. 1.

Associate English professor publishes, presents at conference

Gary Totten, associate professor of English, recently published the article, “‘Objects Long Preserved’: Reading and Writing the Shop Window in Edith Wharton’s ‘Bunner Sisters,’” in the Winter 2011 issue of the journal, Studies in American Naturalism. In the article, Totten examines the influence of consumer culture on Wharton’s depiction of female characters.

Totten also presented papers at two recent conferences. He presented “Zitkala-Sa and the Material Cultures of Citizenship” at the American Literature Association conference May 24-27 in San Francisco. At the conference, Totten also chaired two panel sessions and business meetings for the Edith Wharton Society, which he currently serves as president, and the International Theodore Dreiser Society. Totten was named president of the International Theodore Dreiser Society during its business meeting.

Totten attended the “Edith Wharton in Florence” conference in Florence, Italy, June 6-8, where he presented his paper, “The Politics of Affect in Edith Wharton’s Travel Writing.”

Animal sciences professor lectures in Germany

Joel Caton, professor in animal sciences, traveled to Germany and Madagascar during April and May to provide lectures and expand study programs.

In Berlin, he provided lectures for the “Guest Lecture Series of the Graduate Programme; Hormonal Regulation of Energy Metabolism, Body Weight and Growth.” Caton presented an invited lecture in Germany titled “Impact of Maternal Nutrition and Selenium Supply on Growth, Development and Health Status in Offspring with a Focus on Vascularity of Key Nutrient Transferring Tissues.” He also presented a brief workshop on animal models of developmental programming with an emphasis on maternal nutritional models developed in sheep at NDSU.

After the invited lecture series in Germany, Caton headed to Madagascar for exploratory efforts toward joint study programs with university students.
Emergency management faculty present at FEMA conference

Four faculty from the Department of Emergency Management gave presentations at the 2012 Federal Emergency Management Agency Higher Education Conference June 3-8 in Emmitsburg, Md. Faculty offered a total of 10 presentations at the conference with an additional presentation by doctoral student Sarah Bundy.

Daniel J. Klenow, head of the emergency management department, gave three presentations: “Maintaining and Improving Bachelor’s-Level Emergency Management Programs,” “University Politics – Survival and Success!” and “How Emergency Management Research Builds the Base of the Discipline and Serves the Practitioner Community.” The latter presentation was co-written by George Youngs, professor of emergency management.

Carol Cwiak, assistant professor of emergency management, gave a plenary presentation titled “The State of Higher Education Programs 2012,” and two other presentations titled “Utilizing Curriculum Outcomes to Develop, Evaluate, Enhance and Validate Emergency Management Degree Programs” and “Emergency Management Accreditation Programs: Are Any Right for You?”


Jensen said, “Dynamic discussions like those we participated in at this year’s conference set the stage for emergency management higher education to make significant progress — not as individual institutions and programs — but as a collective building a new academic discipline. It truly is an exciting time to be involved in emergency management higher education.”

GED tests to become computer-based

GED tests will be changing to a computer-based only system, starting January 2014. Anyone who started the series in 2002 and has not completed the exams by the end of December 2013 will need to start over. The tests are available to anyone who does not have a high school diploma.

The NDSU Counseling Center will continue to offer the paper/pencil version Tuesdays and Wednesdays. In addition, the computer-based tests will be offered on several Thursdays starting in August. Call 1-7671 to register for paper/pencil tests or go online to www.gedcomputer.com to register for the computerized version of the test. For more information about GED testing, visit www.gedtesting.com.

SU Impact proposals 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 and access the campus resources section of the website.

Wellness Center Membership fee to increase

The student wellness fee will increase at the beginning of fall semester from $80 per semester to $94 per semester. Fees for all paying members of the Wellness Center also will increase beginning Aug. 1. The fee increase will affect all faculty, staff, dual and associate memberships. The new monthly rate will be $28, a $4 per month increase.
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.

Nursery Technician/00020146
North Dakota Forest Service
$28,670+/year
Open until filled

Administrative Secretary
Fort Berthold Extension Office, New Town, N.D.
$26,000 minimum/year
Open until filled

Reserves/Evening Supervisor/00018463
Library
$28,000+/year
July 5

SOFTWARE ENGINEER
Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering
Commensurate with experience
Open until filled

SYSTEMS LIBRARIAN/00027480
Library
$47,500+/year
July 5

HELP DESK CONSULTANT
Information Technology Services
$40,000/year
July 9

ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS ASSISTANT/00023719
Athletics
$38,340+/year
July 2

RESEARCH TECHNICIAN, Jamestown, N.D.
Biological Sciences
Competitive and commensurate w/exp
July 2

ADMISSION COUNSELOR/00020297
Office of Admission
$33,500+/year
July 2

PROJECT MANAGER
Veterinary and Microbiological Sciences
$37,000/year
July 10

NURSE PRACTITIONER/PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT/00027747
Student Health Services
$60,000+/year
July 6

JULY
2 Milan Knutson Retirement Reception: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Memorial Union Prairie Rose room

3 Lab and Chemical Safety Course: noon to 4 p.m., Memorial Union Prairie room. To register, contact stephanie.wegner@ndsu.edu or call 1-7759.

4 Independence Day: University closed

5 NDSU Meats: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Shepperd Arena.

9-12 Office of Orientation and Student Success: Freshman/Family Orientation

10 Hettinger Research Extension Center Field Day: Hettinger, N.D.

11 Dickinson Research Extension Center Field Day: Dickinson, N.D.

12 NDSU Meats: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Shepperd Arena.

16 Casselton Agronomy Seed Farm Field Day: Casselton, N.D.

16 Plant Sciences Graduate Student Farewell Reception and Exit Seminar: “Nitrogen Uptake and Biomass and Ethanol Yield of Biomass Crops as Feedstock for Biofuel,” Robynn Anfinrud, 3 p.m., Loftsgard Hall room 114

16 BBQ Boot Camp: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Burleigh County 4H Center. For more information, visit www.ndsu.edu/bbqbootcamp.

17 Carrington Research Extension Center Field Day: 9 a.m., Carrington, N.D.

18 North Central Research Extension Center Field Day: 9 a.m., Minot, N.D.

18 BBQ Boot Camp: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., North Central Research Extension Center. For more information, visit www.ndsu.edu/bbqbootcamp.

19 NDSU Meats: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Shepperd Arena.

19 Langdon Research Extension Center Field Day: Langdon, N.D.

24 Williston Research Extension Center Field Day: Williston, N.D.

25 New Employee Orientation Session: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Memorial Union Great room. RSVP to Christine Gauthier, benefits coordinator in the Human Resources/Payroll Office, at christine.gauthier@ndsu.edu or 1-5602.