Test for heparin contaminants wins NDSU’s Innovation Challenge ’13

Erin Nyren-Erickson, a graduate student in pharmaceutical sciences, took top honors in Innovation Challenge ’13, the second annual student innovation competition sponsored by NDSU and the NDSU Research and Technology Park. The winners were announced at an awards ceremony Feb. 28.

The competition was part of the fourth annual Innovation Week, Feb. 26-28, to showcase and encourage student ingenuity at NDSU. It included three tracks: tangible innovations; intangible innovations such as services, processes or methods; and corn-based innovations.

“In just two short years, NDSU students have taken the Innovation Challenge competition to a new level,” said Brenda Wyland, interim executive director of the NDSU Research and Technology Park. “The innovation taking place on campus is astounding, and we can’t wait to see these new ideas in the marketplace.”

Nyren-Erickson, one of 22 finalists, won the $5,000 tangible innovations track and the $5,000 best in show prize for a new kind of test for contaminants in heparin, a blood-thinning drug that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration requires to be screened. Nyren-Erickson is from Fargo. Her innovation adviser is Sanku Mallik, professor in pharmaceutical sciences.

Team Improving Osteointegration won the $5,000 intangible innovations track for their method of determining the ideal pore size for growing cells that will allow a novel dental implant, also being developed by NDSU students, to integrate into a patient’s jaw bone.

Team members are:
- Emily Steil, a senior majoring in zoology from St. Cloud, Minn.
- Shelby Schields, a junior majoring in zoology from Beulah, N.D.
- Sarah Lindblom, a junior majoring in zoology from Fergus Falls, Minn.
- Hannah Green, a junior majoring in music from Iowa City, Iowa

Their adviser is David Wells, professor in industrial and manufacturing engineering.

Team Corn Oncologists won the $5,000 corn-based innovations track sponsored by the North Dakota Corn Council. Their project is corn resistant starch nanoparticles as encapsulation material for colon cancer drug delivery. The encapsulation material has the potential to deliver anti-cancer drugs directly to the colon while minimizing the side effects of chemotherapy.

Team members are:
- Dusan Petrovic, a senior majoring in chemistry from Smederevo, Serbia
- Nilushni Sivapragasam, a graduate student in chemistry from Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Darshika Amarakoon, a Dec. 2012 cereal science graduate from Gampaha, Sri Lanka
- Su Hyeon Hwang, a junior majoring in food science and technology from Seoul, South Korea

Their innovation adviser is Pushparajah Thavarajah, assistant professor in the School of Food Systems.

Team Midwest Best won the $1,000 People’s Choice Award for their software program that uses cameras to record video to help determine fault when car accidents occur. The video also can help identify perpetrators when a vehicle is broken into.

Team members are:
- Bryce Heustis, a sophomore majoring in finance from Devils Lake, N.D.
- Drew Spooner, a sophomore majoring in marketing and management from Fargo
- Anna Haugen, a sophomore majoring in accounting from West Fargo

Their innovation adviser is Kay Hopkins, academic adviser in the College of Business.
Researchers develop method to imbed RFID chips in paper

An NDSU research team has developed a method for embedding ultrathin and ultra-small passive radio frequency identification (RFID) chips in paper or other flexible substrates. The technology, called “Laser-Enabled Advanced Packaging (LEAP),” has been developed at NDSU’s Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering.

According to team leader Val Marinov, associate professor of industrial and manufacturing engineering, LEAP has the potential to enable a new class of ultra-low-cost, disposable and green electronic products packaged on flexible, biodegradable substrates and augmented with RFID technology. Great potential exists for products such as RFID-enabled banknotes, smart tickets, smart forms, financial and security paper, and others.

In addition to Marinov, the research team includes Orven Swenson, associate professor of physics, graduate research assistant Yurii Atanasyov, CNSE research engineer Nathan Schneck and undergraduate research assistant Nikushi Yatigala.

The principles of LEAP were published in a series of research papers in 2012. The latest, “chip-in-paper,” application of the technology is described in a paper, titled “Laser-assisted ultrathin bare die packaging: a route to a new class of microelectronic devices,” which will appear in the Proceedings of SPIE in March 2013. The work was featured in the RFID Journal, a respected trade magazine considered the world’s leading source of RFID news. The story is The story is available at www.rfidjournal.com/article/view/10472.

The research was sponsored by Defense Microelectronics Activity under agreement numbers H94003-08-2-0805, H94003-09-2-0905 and H94003-11-2-1102.

For more information, contact Marinov at 1-8073 or val.marinov@ndsu.edu.

First-year students using online tool to reduce risky drinking

Individual interventions that are brief, provide feedback regarding students’ drinking behaviors in comparison with their peers and motivate them to change have shown effectiveness in reducing drinking rates and alcohol-related harm among students, according to research by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

One such intervention, eCHECKUP TO GO, has been required for all NDSU first-year students since fall 2009 as part of the NDSU President’s Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs’ “Strategic Plan to Address High-Risk Alcohol and Other Drug Use.” Students are notified of the requirement by the dean of student life at the beginning of their first semester at NDSU and are given six weeks to complete the personalized tool.

In fall 2009, the requirement was piloted with a goal of a 50 percent completion rate for first-year students during their first semester at NDSU. Since then, the goal was to increase the completion rate to 95 percent of all first-year students. The goal was achieved in 2012-13, with more than 95 percent of NDSU first-year students completing eCHECKUP TO GO in the fall and spring semesters.

“We know that eCHECKUP TO GO has been shown to be effective at reducing risky drinking among college students. That’s why we are so pleased that the vast majority of our students complete this requirement during their first semester at NDSU,” said Janna Stoskopf, dean of student life.

eCHECKUP TO GO is an online intervention and personalized feedback tool designed to motivate students to reduce their alcohol consumption using personalized information about their own drinking and risk factors. eCHECKUP TO GO was selected for use with NDSU first-year students because of its research-based efficacy, ease of administration and affordability. Students also are encouraged to take the assessment on multiple occasions throughout their college career in order to reflect on their drinking behavior and track changes from previous assessments.

eCHECKUP TO GO is available online at www.ndsu.edu/alcoholinfo/alcohol_echeckup_to_go.

NDSU earns second Tree Campus USA title

NDSU is a Tree Campus USA for the second consecutive year, the Arbor Day Foundation announced in February. The award recognizes colleges and universities for effective campus forest management and engaging staff and students in conservation goals.

NDSU achieved the title by meeting five standards, which include maintaining a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures toward trees, an Arbor Day observance and student service-learning projects.

“It’s great to have NDSU nominated again to be a Tree Campus USA,” said Michael Ellingson, director of Facilities Management at NDSU, noting that NDSU was the first campus in North Dakota to receive the honor. “It just shows the dedication and hard work that staff, faculty and students have given to make this happen.”

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit conservation and education organization that aims to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees. It created the Tree Campus USA national program with Toyota Motor North America, Inc. in 2008.

For more information about the Tree Campus USA program, visit www.arborday.org/programs/treecampususa/index.cfm.
New program helps market agritourism

The NDSU Extension Service and University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Service have teamed up to release a new program, “Marketing Agritourism Online,” to help agritourism enterprises attract business. The program is available at http://go.unl.edu/agritourism.

Agritourism is defined as any agriculture-based operation or activity that brings visitors to a farm or ranch. Examples are U-pick fruit farms, farm stands or shops, farm stays, tours, on-farm classes, fairs, festivals, pumpkin patches and Christmas tree farms.

“Many individuals today are looking to experience some part of the rural life,” said Glenn Muske, the NDSU Extension Service’s rural and agribusiness enterprise development specialist. “Whether going out to pick berries or getting lost in a corn maze, consumers are turning to rural attractions as tourist destinations.”

Marketing Agritourism Online offers agritourism businesses a tool to reach a targeted audience with a focused message about what they have to offer.

The self-directed course and resource guide focuses on helping the agribusiness owner understand and plan for:

• Being online: Agritourism business owners will gain an understanding of direct online marketing, the associated technology and the “experience” economy (that’s when the business owner and his or her activities become part of the actual event).

• Getting found: Just being online does little to create awareness that a business exists. The program shows agritourism businesses how to develop and communicate their brand and get found when someone does a search.

• Being customer focused: Agritourism businesses get help in determining their marketing effectiveness, understanding what information they need to include on their website and developing online marketing tools.

• Telling others: Agritourism business owners learn how to encourage customers to help spread their story, along with how to remain engaged with people as a returning customer, a brand advocate or an ongoing buyer/user of the products and services offered. Business owners also receive information on using customer testimonials and tips on making short video clips of customers talking about their experiences.

Learning from others who have promoted their business online successfully makes this program especially helpful to the business owner, according to Muske. The program includes several video clips of agritourism owners providing examples of effective online marketing.

“The goal of the program is to help the business owners effectively use this tool, online marketing, to reach, engage and eventually bring in new customers while encouraging previous customers to return,” Muske said. “Today an effective marketing strategy must be integrated using all possible tools, including social media.”

Three North Dakota businesses – Papa’s Pumpkin Patch, Bismarck; Red Trail Vineyard, Buffalo; and Rolling Plains Adventures, McKenzie – are highlighted in the program.

Agritourism businesses and other small-business owners also can keep up with changes in online marketing tools and trends by subscribing to a free weekly newsletter, Direct Marketing, at http://paper.li/UNLeShip/1319999929.

The program was made possible through the support of NDSU and UNL Extension, and funding from the Southern Rural Development Center’s National eCommerce Initiative.

For more ideas and assistance on marketing for your small business, contact your local Extension Service office or go to NDSU’s Small Business Support website at www.ag.ndsu.edu/small-business or UNL Extension’s website at http://e.ship.unl.edu.

College Ambassadors raise funds for Madison School snacks

The Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Ambassadors held a bake sale March 5 to help out a local school with snacks for milk breaks. The service project raised more than $200 to purchase appropriate snacks.

The Ambassadors decided on the service project after they participated in an AHSS Learning Community during fall semester. Twenty members of the AHSS Learning Community made three trips to teacher Erika Peterson’s first grade class at Madison Elementary School. The NDSU students identified their favorite book when they were in first grade, and those books were purchased. The NDSU students read the book to a first grade buddy and then gave the book to the youngster.

During the second trip to the school, the NDSU students collected information from their buddies about their favorite book. Photographs of the buddies were taken during the first two trips. Those pictures and information about each participant’s favorite book were published in a booklet called “We Are Readers and Writers 2012.” Buddies were given a copy of the booklet when the NDSU students visited Madison School for the third time.

Members of the AHSS Community who did not participate in the trips collected several boxes of fruit snacks and other milk break snacks that were presented to Peterson to distribute to students as needed.

NDSU’s Department of Residence Life provided funding for the books and booklets.
Heritage collection director to film documentary in southern Brazil

Michael M. Miller, director of the NDSU Libraries’ Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, is scheduled to travel to southern Brazil for final filming and interviews for a new documentary on Germans from Russia in South America.

The film will be produced in partnership with Prairie Public Broadcasting. Miller will travel with Bob Dambach, director of television, and two videographers, Dave Geck and Ben Stommes.

Miller will be involved with interviews conducted in English and German. He and Dambach traveled to southern Brazil and Argentina in February 2012 for site visits to identify individuals willing to be interviewed, including families of Bessarabian, Black Sea, Mennonite, Volga and Volhynian German ancestry.

In the late 19th century and early 20th century, many Germans from Russia immigrated to South America, especially to southern Brazil and Argentina. At the same time, many other German-Russian families were immigrating to North and South Dakota and the Northern Plains. As a result, many of these Germans from Russia in Argentina and Brazil have relatives in Canada and the United States.

“Our travel to Brazil will truly be a memorable experience after the warm reception we received in 2012. The story of the Germans from Russia community in South America will unfold in this documentary project,” Miller said.

This will be the eighth documentary of Prairie Public’s award-winning Germans from Russia Series, and is expected to premiere in 2014. Prairie Public videographers and Miller also plan to travel to Argentina in September to continue filming.

NDSU professor mentors Afghanistan woman

Mentoring and advising agribusiness students is not unusual for Cheryl Wachenheim, a professor in NDSU’s agribusiness and applied economics department.

However, it is new territory for her to mentor someone who lives thousands of miles away.

Wachenheim, who also is a major in the Minnesota National Guard, was deployed to Afghanistan, where she was a member of the Guard’s Agribusiness Development Team. The team’s mission was improving the Afghan government’s ability to provide for its people and promote economic growth.

Her responsibilities included mentoring women to help them develop or expand businesses. She mentored one woman in particular, Zuhra, on her agricultural enterprises (Zuhra’s last name will not be used to protect her identity).

Wachenheim saw great potential for Zuhra and encouraged her to apply for Project Artemis. Together, in a conservative province in southeastern Afghanistan, they worked on Zuhra’s application.

Project Artemis is a two-week business education program in Glendale, Ariz., that helps promising Afghan businesswomen build entrepreneurial skills.

Mentors assigned to each participant provide additional support as the women return home to establish or expand their companies.

Zuhra was accepted into the program and Wachenheim became her mentor. Zuhra has completed her training in Arizona, but she will be working with Wachenheim for at least two years through calls, emails or online.

“I was pretty excited about Zuhra coming to the U.S. because the last time I saw her, I had on 70 pounds of body armor and other gear, plus I was carrying two weapons,” Wachenheim said. “She taught me a lot while I was in Afghanistan, but when she came to the U.S., I was able to show her what it is like to be truly free. She went through the classes but also did some cultural activities, such as bowling, which was truly amazing.”

“We learned about marketing, finance, management and leadership and then about how we are the center of these in our business,” Zuhra said. “More so than anything, we learned about hope and to forgive ourselves if we make mistakes along the way. We also learned that we are not alone.”
Zuhra says her biggest problem was pricing her products she sells in Afghanistan, which are beaded items that have been sewn on to purses, clothing and other goods. However, her larger goal is to expand her involvement in agriculture, such as through producing yogurt from goat’s milk.

“We learned about different strategies, and Ms. Cheryl liked my ideas of surveying customers about quality and prices for my products,” Zuhra said. “It was fun because we practiced the survey with her being a customer.”

Zuhra plans to sell her products in Kabul, where there is more freedom for women. However, she has concerns about safety, so she wasn’t in the photo of the Project Artemis graduating class and hasn’t allowed anyone to take frontal photos of her.

“We are always afraid there will be more problems for women, but Ms. Cheryl says I can’t take care of this, so I should focus on improving and growing my business and be ready to respond if the Taliban make it hard to do my business,” Zuhra says.

Wachenheim says there still are many things she would like to show and teach Zuhra.

“I hope I can do this in the coming years as we communicate by telephone and email,” Wachenheim said. “The challenges with inconsistent or not available Internet and that we speak different languages will make mentoring interesting, but we can do this. I have such hope for her. She has so much passion for her work and, through it, for the women of Afghanistan.”

Wachenheim also says she has received a great deal of encouragement and help from NDSU and colleagues to continue her work with Zuhra.

While stationed in Afghanistan, Wachenheim was able to contact various colleagues at NDSU to seek help with any sort of agricultural problem she or the team encountered.

“Everyone at NDSU has been so helpful in providing solutions,” Wachenheim said.

**ND EPSCoR awards $400,000 for infrastructure improvement**

Four proposals for the Infrastructure Improvement Program were awarded through North Dakota Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research. The awards, totaling $397,810, will expand research capabilities in cross-disciplines, departments and colleges. A total of 29 proposals were received.

The program addresses infrastructure research needs for multi-scale state-of-the-art equipment. Competing criteria included the potential to contribute to the quality of existing research and to the education of students and postdoctoral students; potential to expand research opportunities and increase proposal submissions; and a sustainability plan, including maintaining shared use and maintenance of the equipment.

Awardees, their departments, equipment awarded, and major users of the multi-scale equipment awards include:

- Mukund Sibi, distinguished professor of chemistry and biochemistry, a fluorescence activated cell sorter – Major users will be at least eight multidisciplinary, early career researchers and their trainees in the fields of veterinary and micro science, biological science, engineering and pharmaceutical science, as well as researchers in the chemistry and biochemistry department. The equipment will be housed at the Core Biology Facility.

- Fardad Azarmi, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, a high velocity oxygen fuel spraying system – The equipment offers an economical and technically viable method to deposit thin layers on complex components that cannot otherwise be easily fabricated. Researchers and students in physics, coatings and polymeric materials, Center for Nanoscale Science Engineering, materials and nanoscale technology and engineering will be able to improve and expand their research capabilities.

- Clayton Hilmert, associate professor of psychology, comprehensive psychophysiological recording suite – Eight major users and students in six areas of three campus colleges and departments will benefit from the award. Researchers in neuroscience and cardiovascular engineering, animal science-equine therapy studies will conduct advanced studies in cardiac diseases, post-traumatic stress disorder and other neurological disorders.

- Gregory Cook, professor and chair of chemistry and biochemistry, a 400 MHz nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer – The equipment will be located in the NMR Spectroscopy Core Facility, a resource with registered users from agriculture, pharmacy, engineering, and science and mathematics.

North Dakota EPSCoR is a federally and state funded program designed to help university researchers compete more effectively for federal, regional and private research grants in the sciences, engineering and mathematics. For more information, visit www.ndepscor.nodak.edu.

**Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory hires pathologist**

Pathologist Brett Webb joined NDSU’s Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory Feb. 1.

Webb graduated from Colorado State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine where he also completed his doctoral degree studying in utero infections with bovine viral diarrhea virus. In September 2012, he became board certified in the specialty of veterinary pathology.

Webb’s office is in Van Es room 161.
German-Russians to recall music traditions in radio program

A new radio program will feature 16 narrators sharing memories of music among the German-Russians living on the northern Great Plains in the early and mid-20th century. “We Always had to Sing: German-Russian Music in the Old Days” is scheduled to air Tuesday, March 19, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. NDSU Libraries’ Germans from Russia Heritage Collection provided funding for the program.

All the narrators grew up on the northern Plains regions of South Dakota, North Dakota and Saskatchewan. They will give personal accounts regarding church music, lullabies, accordions, playing for dances and playing for fun. They also will sing a few verses of old songs and discuss how they always sang and made music.

The commentary is by Robert Erbele, a state senator who grew up in a German-Russian family, living on the homestead near Lehr, N.D. Erbele has a lifelong interest in music and is featured in Prairie Public’s award-winning 2005 documentary, “A Soulful Sound: Music of the Germans from Russia.”

Louis Helfrich, born in Glen Ullin, N.D., is one of the narrators. He said, “At Christmas time we always sang. When we were doing dishes we’d sing. Or if we were driving to town to go to church we’d sing. We’d sing on the way home from church.”

His family was not unusual, judging from what the other narrators say.

Mona Leippi, from Regina, Saskatchewan, talked about her father, and how he “…went to no ends to find used instruments … and we had a little band with maybe 30 children … we played mostly hymns and simple marching kind of music.”

Ruben Richard Wolf remembers at threshing time “… my dad said, ‘If you work real hard I will buy you an accordion.’ Then he proceeded to play the accordion for us.”

Organizers of the Dakota Memories Oral History Project, in cooperation with Prairie Public Broadcasting, will air the program.

The Oral History Project started in 2005. It was inspired by public interest in documenting and preserving German-Russian ethnic identity. For four years, organizers traveled the northern Plains, gathering stories and documenting family relationships and childhood memories of second and third-generation Germans from Russia.

The NDSU Libraries’ Germans from Russia Heritage Collection and Prairie Public provided major funding for the program. A CD of the radio program will be available for $20. To pre-order the CD, contact Jeremy Kopp, special collections associate, at 1-6596 or jkopp@ndsu.edu.

The program can be heard on North Dakota stations 90.5 FM in Bismarck, 89.9 FM in Dickinson, 91.7 FM in Devils Lake, 91.9 FM in Fargo, 89.3 FM in Grand Forks, 91.5 FM in Jamestown, 88.9 FM in Minot and 88.7 FM in Williston.

Department award to recruit, retain and advance women faculty

The Commission on the Status of Women Faculty invites nominations/self-nominations of departments for the 2013 Advance FORWARD Award. The $5,000 award is given to the academic department that makes the greatest progress in supporting and advancing the five core FORWARD goals:

- Improve climate: Strategies to improve climate in the department and narrow the gap between men’s and women’s perceptions of the campus climate.
- Enhance recruitment: Strategies to recruit women, women of color and women with disabilities.
- Increase retention: Strategies to retain women in the department through the probationary period and the promotion/tenure process.
- Promote and advance women: Strategies to support women associate professors as they move to full professor and to hire women at advanced ranks.
- Create leadership opportunities: Strategies to promote women faculty to academic leadership positions.

For each nominee, the committee requests a brief statement, no more than two pages, as to what makes the nominee an exemplar department in terms of improvement of conditions, policies and practices at NDSU. Additionally, nominators should include the following information for each nominated department:

- How the department has worked toward one or more of the five goals established in the National Science Foundation Advance Grant, listed above. For each of the five goals, highlight three demonstrable areas: evidence of productive strategies, evidence of the effectiveness of each strategy and the sustainability of efforts – often through regularized policies and procedures.
- A copy of the department’s most recent annual report, 2011-12.
- Any other pertinent supporting documents.

All departments are eligible for nomination. The review committee will be composed of individuals not affiliated with nominated departments to avoid conflicts of interest.

The Commission on the Status of Women Faculty was created as part of NDSU’s National Science Foundation-funded Advance FORWARD program to improve campus climate; to enhance recruitment, retention and advancement of women faculty; and to open academic leadership opportunities.

Nominations are due by April 22. Nominations should be emailed to ndsu.forward@ndsu.edu. Questions can be directed to Commission on the Status of Women Faculty chair Karen Froelich.
Water Resources Research Institute names research fellows

The North Dakota Water Resources Research Institute announced its Graduate Research Fellowship recipients for 2013-14. Fellowships ranging from $3,000 to $11,500 were awarded to five doctoral students and nine master’s degree students conducting research in water resources topics at NDSU and the University of North Dakota.

A panel of state water resource professionals reviewed the applications and selected the fellows and award amounts. Students prepare the proposals with the guidance of their advisers. Regional, state or local collaboration or co-funding are encouraged. The general criteria used for proposal evaluation include qualifications of the students, scientific merit, originality of research, research related to state or region, and extent of regional, state or local collaboration and/or co-funding.

Funding for the Fellowship program comes primarily from the annual base grant provided to the institute by the U.S. Geological Survey, and an additional support of 15 percent of the base grant comes from the North Dakota State Water Commission. The institute is one of 54 located in a land-grant institution of each state and territory under the umbrella of National Institutes for Water Resources.

Fellows, their advisers and Fellowship research projects include:

- Amanda Kreiger, geology and geologic engineering, UND; Scott Korom, “Electron Donor Contributions to Denitrification in the Elk Valley Aquifer, ND”
- Brian Mager, civil engineering, UND; Howe Lim, “Physical model evaluations of scour holes below a singular and multiple step rock weirs”
- Jieqia Wu, earth system science and policy, UND; Xiaodong Zhang, “Drought monitoring and prediction using NOAA land surface model and GRACE satellite observation”
- Jun Yang, civil engineering, NDSU; Xuefeng Chu, “Improved Overland Flow Modeling for Hydrologic Connectivity Analysis of Potholes”
- Kelsey Kolars, agricultural and biosystems engineering, NDSU; Xinhua Jia, “Development of a Model for Subsurface Drainage and Subirrigation Water Management”
- Kyle Horntvedt, agricultural and biosystems engineering, NDSU; Xinhua Jia, “Measurement and modeling of soil moisture changes for subsurface drained and sub irrigated fields in the Red River Valley”
- Melissa Wygant, geography, UND; Paul Todhunter, “A Place Vulnerability Analysis of Flood Hazard Risk at Grand Forks: 1990-2010”
- Prosper Gbolo, geology and geologic engineering, UND; Phillip Gerla, “The Cycling and Fate of Phosphorus at an Abandoned Feedlot”
- Rick Thalacker, geography, UND; Gregory Vandeveer, “Mapping Techniques for Soil Erosion using Digital Camera LiDAR and GIS”
- Ruchi Joshi, environmental and conservation sciences, NDSU; Eakalak Khan and John McEvoy, “Understanding the Survival of Cryptosporidium Oocysts in North Dakota Under Winter Conditions”
- Tanush Wadhawan, civil engineering, NDSU; Eakalak Khan and John McEvoy, “Investigation of Cryptosporidium oocysts in Influent and Effluent of the Fargo Water Treatment Plant”
- Veselina Valkov, environmental and conservation sciences, NDSU; Wei Lin, “Temporal-spatial distribution (dynamics) of phytoplankton and diversity in relation to lake physical and chemical condition”
- Yangbo He, soil science, NDSU; Thomas Desutter, “Sodic soil characterization and management on subsurface drainage”

For more information, contact G. Padmanabhan, institute director and professor of civil engineering, at 1-7043, or g.padmanabhan@ndsu.edu or visit www.ndsu.edu/wrri.

Residence Hall Association receives awards

The NDSU Residence Hall Association received four awards at the Midwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls conference in February. NDSU competed against 41 affiliated schools in the Midwest and now moves on to compete against more than 300 schools at the annual National Association of College and University Residence Halls conference in June at the University of Pittsburgh, according to Becky Bahe, assistant director for leadership and community development.

The awards include:

- Nicholas Conner for First-Year Experience Award – The award recognizes outstanding contributions of a first-year student and encourages students to remain active in leadership positions on campus.
- Erianne Bright for National Residence Hall Honorary Member of the Year – The award recognizes outstanding service to National Residence Hall Honorary and Midwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls by an individual who has been directly affiliated with both organizations.
- National Residence Hall Honorary Outstanding Chapter of the Year – The award recognizes outstanding achievements of the chapter in regard to service, leadership, recognition and scholarship on the campus, regional and national levels. It is the highest honor a National Residence Hall Honorary chapter can attain.
- School of the Year Award – The award recognizes outstanding achievements on the campus level by a residence hall organization and all associated groups, as well as regional and national contributions.

More information on the NDSU Residence Hall Association is available at www.ndsu.edu/reslife/rha.
Information Technology announces organizational changes

NDSU’s Information Technology Division announced organizational changes in Enterprise Computing and Infrastructure, Information Technology Services and the Office of the Vice President.

Steve Sobiech, IT help desk manager, has been named acting executive director of computing and infrastructure for the Enterprise Computing and Infrastructure department. Sobiech will serve in this capacity on an interim basis in the absence of former acting assistant vice president for the department, Galen Mayfield, who resigned in March. As acting executive director, Sobiech will provide leadership, planning, implementation and support for a range of IT services and resources, including networks, servers, applications, databases and storage, to effectively meet the overall research and business needs of the university. He will continue to manage the division’s IT Help Desk during this interim period.

The advanced applications and outreach unit, including coordinator Kim Owen and consultant statistician Curt Doetkott, has moved into the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology. The unit was formerly part of Information Technology Services, but has been transferred to address strategic partnerships among the unit, the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology and partner institutions in activities related to advanced research and education networks, including Internet2 and the Northern Tier Network. As a member of the NDSU Research Data Working Group, Owen also provides the university’s research community with support related to data lifecycle management and cyberinfrastructure needs. Doetkott provides statistical consulting services available to faculty, staff and students across the North Dakota University System.

Janet Stringer has been named IT asset management coordinator in the division’s IT security unit. Stringer, formerly the division’s budget coordinator, is the campus contact for software product licensing, technical and pricing information, and issue resolution. She also manages processes and related documentation for asset management, inventory and administration in the IT Division. The software licensing program has moved from ITS to the IT security unit, as the licensing process involves asset management, reporting, auditing and legal issues.

Sharon Brinker has been named senior account technician in ITS. Brinker, formerly a records specialist in the division, provides assistance with financial records management, including coordinating ImageNow processing and records retention in the division.

Cindy Lura, former account technician, retired March 1.

IT Division hires help desk consultant, system administrator

NDSU’s Information Technology Division has hired Neil Brock as a help desk consultant in the Information Technology Services department and Jason Eide as a system administrator in the Enterprise and Computing Infrastructure department.

Brock has extensive experience providing information technology support in the education field. He was a member of the help desk team at the University of Minnesota for more than 10 years. He also worked for the non-profit organization eMINTS National Center at the University of Missouri. At eMINTS – enhancing Missouri’s Instructional Networked Teaching Strategies – Brock provided technical support for teachers, students and staff in the Missouri Virtual Instruction Program, a virtual K-12 public school.

Before coming to NDSU, he was a computer support specialist for Clay County, Minn. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Montana State University.

Eide has more than 20 years of experience in the information technology field. Before coming to NDSU, he was employed by PRACS Institute in Fargo as application team lead and later as information technologies manager. He also worked in the banking industry, providing support for hardware, applications and systems at both the Bank of the West and Community First Technologies, Inc. Early in his career, Eide was director of information technology at North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton. Prior to that, he provided computer support for NDSU Extension Services. He earned a bachelor’s degree from NDSU.

NDSU Staff Senate participates in ethics workshop

NDSU Staff Senators participated in a two-hour workshop on Feb. 20 conducted by the head educator for the Legal Research Network (LRN). The free personalized workshop presented the “HOW philosophy” to the senators.

The workshop was organized through the Thought Leader Series, which is part of the College of Business’s Leadership Initiative. The invitation to NDSU Staff Senate was extended to help build strong partnerships with colleges and departments across campus. NDSU Staff Senate became a pilot program for LRN, which offered the workshop to university staff for the first time.

All attendees received a hardcover copy of the book, “HOW: Why HOW We Do Anything Means Everything,” and will be given the opportunity to complete online training to receive a certificate in the course on their own time. There is a HOW certification graduation luncheon planned in October with Dov Seidman, the author of the book.
NDSU Extension Service helps youth see citizenship in action

North Dakota 4-Hers recently visited Bismarck, N.D., for a lesson in citizenship.

They gathered in Bismarck on Feb. 17 and 18 to practice the legislative process, interact with legislators and learn how to become a change agent for the future.

Activities on Feb. 17 included workshops on political party platforms, etiquette and protocol when addressing legislators, and a mock 2013 Citizenship in Action general election. They learned about the role political parties have in shaping our government and then put their knowledge to work by creating their own party platforms and nominating candidates to run on a mock general election ballot. They campaigned for office and ran the polls for the mock election.

They spent Feb. 18 at the North Dakota Capitol and learned how bills are made, observed committee meetings, toured the Capitol, met with their local representatives and senators, and viewed the Senate or House in session. They also hosted a 4-H Showcase where legislators and guests viewed displays highlighting 4-H programming in each youth’s county.

The NDSU Extension Service’s Center for 4-H Youth Development and the North Dakota 4-H Foundation sponsored the event.

Crop protection specialist joins NDSU

Venkataramana Chapara has joined NDSU as the Extension Service’s area crop protection specialist at the North Central Research Extension Center near Minot.

He will work on integrated pest management systems for all crops grown in the region. He also will interact with Extension agents and specialists, researchers, producers, field scouts and agribusiness representatives to help solve entomology and plant pathology problems in crop production in north central North Dakota.

Chapara earned a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University in India, a master’s degree in agricultural entomology from Gujarat Agricultural University in India and his doctorate in plant pathology from NDSU.

Before joining NDSU, he was a postdoctoral research scientist in the Department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois in Urbana.

“We are pleased to have Venkat here with advanced degrees in both entomology and plant pathology to help us with all the insect and disease issues affecting our crops,” said Jay Fisher, the North Central Research Extension Center’s director.

Staff Recognition Award nominations sought by March 22

Staff Senate, in partnership with the Office of Human Resources/ Payroll, invites students, faculty and staff to submit nominations for the 2013 Staff Recognition Awards.

The awards acknowledge outstanding achievement on the job, exceptional contributions toward the effectiveness and efficiency of operations, or outstanding service to other employees, students or visitors. They also honor distinguished efforts in staff development.

Nominations of broadbanded staff members in two categories, Individual Awards and a Team/Committee Award, are being accepted until 4 p.m. on Friday, March 22.

Up to 10 Individual Awards will be given based on broadbanded percentages at NDSU. A single Team/Committee Award also will be given to a team of two to 10 members.

Individual Award winners will receive $250 cash awards. The Team/Committee Award winner will receive a $600 cash award (maximum of $250 per individual team member). Winners will be announced and recognized at the Staff Recognition Luncheon April 12.

Nominations also will be considered for Governor’s Awards. Last year, Diane Axness, College of Business, and Janine Trowbridge, TRIO Programs, were selected for the award and were recognized by the governor at the capitol building in Bismarck, N.D.

Nomination forms and guidelines are available at www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate/staff_recognition_award. Forms can be completed and submitted online. To obtain a paper nomination form, contact Trowbridge, staff senator of the Employee Recognition Committee, at janine.trowbridge@ndsu.edu or 1-7315.

Applicants sought for economic development award

Applicants are being sought for the Ozbun Economic Development Award, which was established to encourage NDSU faculty who through their scholarly expertise can assist the state in the area of economic development.

The award recognizes the presidency of Jim Ozbun. The recipient will receive up to $20,000 ($10,000 as supplemental salary and $10,000 for expenses of the project described in the application).
Applicants must be a full-time NDSU faculty member with the rank of assistant, associate or full professor, and be employed at the university when award payments are made.

Possible projects could be studying the impact of tourism relative to wildlife, fisheries and other related environment issues, water movement of the Red River or workforce evaluation of displaced farmers.

To apply, submit a one-page proposal, including a proposed budget, to the Office of the President, Old Main 102, no later than Friday, April 5.

Gunkelman Award nominations sought

Nominations are sought for the 2013 Mary McCannel Gunkelman Recognition Award, which annually recognizes one NDSU student or employee who has made the most significant and unselfish contribution to creating a happy environment for NDSU students.

NDSU students and employees are invited to nominate one student, faculty or staff member. Nominators are asked to provide specific examples of how their nominee has had a direct impact on making NDSU a pleasant, cheerful campus during the 2012-13 academic year. Multiple nominations from one individual will not be accepted.

The Mary McCannel Gunkelman Recognition Award was established in January 1987, by the late John L. Gunkelman and his family in memory of Mary, who was a 1942 graduate of the NDSU College of Home Economics.

From when she was a student on NDSU’s campus to her unselfish life as a wife, mother and active citizen in the Fargo-Moorhead community, Mary found greatest expression and satisfaction in creating an atmosphere of happiness for others. Mary was firmly dedicated to the principle that a student would be more apt to attain his or her full potential if he or she were working and living in an enjoyable environment. She further believed the more enjoyable the campus and programs of NDSU, the better university it would be in the future. It is in the firm endorsement of Mary’s belief that this award was established.

Nomination information can be found on the Staff Senate’s website at www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate. Nomination forms will be shared with the nominee. Nominations must be submitted by Friday, April 5.

Staff Senate nominations sought

NDSU Staff Senate is seeking nominations for 41 open seats. Nominations will be open to broadbanded staff March 18.

Staff Senate is comprised of up to 60 senators representing more than 1,400 NDSU staff members. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month and typically last less than 90 minutes. Senators serve on one standing committee each year, but can serve on additional committees if interested.

Staff senators needed by job band:
• 1000/3000 bands: 19 senators
• 4000 band: eight senators
• 5000 band: six senators
• 6000/7000 bands: eight senators

Any broadbanded staff may nominate himself/herself or someone else to be a senator. When nominating someone else, be sure to check with the person first. Also, before nominating yourself, gain your supervisor’s permission to serve.

To nominate yourself or a fellow co-worker, visit https://apps.ndsu.edu/staffelection. Voting for senators is scheduled from March 18 to April 1.

For more information, contact a Staff Senate Executive Committee member, www.ndsu.edu/staff_staff/committees/#c40553, or a current senator, www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate/senator_directory.

Ballroom team enjoys good showing at competition

Nathan Szurek and Sarah Schock dance at the Star of the North ballroom competition.

The NDSU Ballroom Dance Club participated in the all-amateur Star of the North ballroom competition in Minneapolis March 2-3. Hundreds of college students from Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois attended.

Don Miller, who co-coaches the team with his wife, Joan, said the highlight was the College Team Match. For the match, each team selects its top three couples to dance swing, foxtrot and rumba. NDSU’s team of Shane Gores and Megan Meyer, Charles Forward and Rachel Wotzka, and Quang Phan and Sarah Schock finished in the top six out of 20 teams. Northwestern University from Chicago won the match.

Miller, who is also head of the pharmacy practice department, said several NDSU students recorded excellent results in the individual couples events. The results are as follows:

• Newcomer Waltz (41 couples)
  Ethan Rodgers/Kate Talley – second
  Charles Forward/Katie Odland – third
  Cody Bakken/Rachel Wotzka – semi-final

• Newcomer Foxtrot (40 couples)
  Bakken/Wotzka – fourth
  Rodgers/Talley – sixth
  Forward/Odland – semi-final
- **Newcomer Tango** (41 couples)
  Bakken/Wotzka – sixth
  Forward/Odland, Rodgers/Talley – semi-final

- **Newcomer Rumba** (40 couples)
  Rodgers/Talley – semi-final

- **Newcomer Swing** (36 couples)
  Forward/Odland – fifth

- **Bronze Waltz** (72 couples)
  Gores/Meyer – fifth
  Nathan Szurek/Sarah Schock and Rodgers/Talley – semi-final

- **Bronze Foxtrot** (72 couples)
  Rodgers/Talley – fourth
  Gores/Meyer and Szurek/Schock – semi-final

- **Bronze Tango** (72 couples)
  Gores/Meyer – sixth

- **Bronze Swing** (72 couples)
  Szurek/Schock – sixth

- **Advanced Waltz/Foxtrot/Tango combined** (47 couples)
  Gores/Meyer – semi-final

- **Advanced Cha-cha/Rumba/Swing combined** (48 couples)
  Gores/Meyer – semi-final

The Ballroom Dance Club was recognized as an official NDSU student organization in January 2011. For more information on the club, contact Miller at donald.miller@ndsu.edu.

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**English and honors students enjoy Shakespeare at the Guthrie**

Students at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis for a performance of Shakespeare’s “As You Like It.”

Forty-five students from the Honors Program and the English department attended a February performance of Shakespeare’s “As You Like It” at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis.

This is the eighth year of a collaborative relationship between the Honors Program and English department to sponsor a trip to the Guthrie. The annual event began in 2003 as an initiative of the Honors Program and its student council. Paul Homan, associate professor of modern languages, has co-organized the trip since its inception, and Verena Theile, assistant professor of English, has been involved since 2008.

The chartered bus trips were underwritten with funds from the English department, Honors Program and dean of arts, humanities, and social sciences. The contributions have broadened participation by substantially reducing ticket and travel costs for each student. To make the most of the experience, arrangements are made each year so that, in addition to seeing a performance by one of the country’s most respected theater companies, students can participate in a talk-back session with the actors following the play. The students can ask the actors questions about the play, their interpretation, the director’s vision and other aspects of the performance.


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**Wahlund, Bison receive All-Academic cross country awards**

NDSU redshirt freshman Brecca Wahlund has been named a 2012 Division I All-Academic performer by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association, and the Bison received All-Academic team status with a cumulative 3.49 grade-point average for the 2012 season.

NDSU’s team GPA ranks among the top 60 in the nation according to the association’s report.

Wahlund posted a runner-up finish at the Summit League cross country championships and a 14th-place finish at the NCAA Midwest Regional. She has a 3.82 cumulative grade-point average.

To qualify for the All-Academic Track and Field Team, the student-athlete must have compiled a cumulative GPA of 3.25 and either earned All-America status or finished in the NCAA region’s top 15 in 2012.

To qualify as an All-Academic cross country team, the squad must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better and started at least five runners at the NCAA regional championship.

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**NDSU men lead Summit League Academic All-League Team**

The NDSU men’s track and field program claimed five of the 10 spots on The Summit League’s Academic All-League team. Representing the Bison were Alec Espeland, Andy Lillejord, Jesse Morrow, Casey Orgon and Matt Tetzlaff.

Espeland, a microbiology major with a 3.856 grade-point average, finished runner-up in the 800 meters and fifth in the mile at the indoor championships.

Lillejord, a zoology major with a 3.345 GPA, was named the Men’s Field Championship MVP after winning the men’s heptathlon. He also finished second in the pole vault and long jump.

Morrow has a 3.46 GPA in business administration, while Orgon is a mechanical engineering major with a 3.424 GPA who took second in the weight throw and fifth in the shot put at the league meet.

Tetzlaff claimed the league title in the 60 meter hurdles and is an exercise science major with a 3.50 GPA.
NDSU men’s cross country team earns All-Academic status

The NDSU men’s cross country team has been honored as an All-Academic squad by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association after compiling a 3.45 cumulative team grade-point average for the 2012 season.

NDSU’s cumulative team GPA tied for the 18th-best in the nation according to the association report. The Bison owned the second-highest GPA of the five Summit League schools that made the list.

To qualify as an All-Academic cross country team, it must have a cumulative team GPA of 3.00 or better and started at least five runners at the NCAA regional championship.

Pitcher selected as candidate for Senior CLASS Award

NDSU pitcher John Straka was one of 30 NCAA baseball student-athletes selected as candidates in February for the 2013 Senior CLASS Award in collegiate baseball.

To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence – community, classroom, character and competition.

Straka is president in his fourth year of service on the NDSU Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. He’s a member of the NDSU President’s Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs and serves on the Presidents’ Panel, a committee representing NDSU’s major student organizations.

His community work includes time with the Fargo-Moorhead Healthcare Equipment Recycling Organization, Salvation Army, Stacking Stuffers, TNT Kid’s Fitness and Gymnastics, and the Frontier Community Service Baseball World Series in Kenai, Alaska.

An acronym for Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School, the Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities.

The candidate class will be narrowed to 10 finalists midway through the regular season, and those names will be placed on the official ballot. Ballots will be distributed through a nationwide voting system to media, coaches and fans, who will select one finalist who best exemplifies excellence in the four Cs of community, classroom, character and competition.

The Senior CLASS Award winner will be announced during the 2013 NCAA College World Series in Omaha June 15-26.

Bison named to Summit League Academic All-League Team

NDSU’s women’s track and field team led The Summit League with four selections to Academic All-League Team for the 2013 indoor season. Katie Johnson, Brittany Page, Ashley Tingelstad and Brecca Wahlund represented NDSU.

Johnson is a public relations and advertising major with a 3.98 GPA. She was the league runner-up in the shot put and took fourth in the weight throw at the indoor championships.

Page, an exercise science major with a 4.00 GPA, finished second in the 400 meter race and fifth in the 200 meter event at the conference meet. She also led off the Bison 4x400 meter relay team that captured the league crown.

Tingelstad has a 3.57 GPA in human development and family science. She won the 400 meter title, took third in the 200 meter race and ran a leg for the winning NDSU 4x400 meter relay team.

Wahlund, an exercise science major with a 3.82 GPA, came in fourth in the 3,000 meter race at the league meet.

Group publishes article on impact of ‘Before One More’ campaign

Staff, faculty and a graduate student have published an article on the student-driven social marketing campaign, “Before One More.”

Erika Beseler Thompson, assistant director for alcohol and other drug abuse prevention; Frank Heley, graduate student in criminal justice and graduate research assistant in orientation and student success; Laura Oster-Aaland, assistant dean for enrollment management; Sherri Nordstrom Stastry, assistant professor in health, nutrition and exercise science; and Elizabeth Crisp Crawford, assistant professor in communication, had their peer-reviewed article published in the March issue of the international journal, Social Marketing Quarterly. The article is available at http://smq.sagepub.com.

The article examines the campaign’s impact on outcome measures related to college student high-risk drinking. Results of the study indicated the “Before One More” facebook page and campaign video were effective in prompting students to visit the campaign website, and students who visited the website reported greater confidence and use of strategies to lower the risk of alcohol consumption.

The campaign was created by students in an undergraduate advertising practicum course in fall 2010 to support the strategic plan of the President’s Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs. In campaign development, the students chose symbols from the college drinking experience to draw attention to the campaign and reduce student resistance to prevention-focused messages. These items included the red cup and bar stamp image, as well as the tagline, “Is it one too many?”

For more information on the campaign, visit www.ndsu.edu/alcoholinfo/students/before_one_more.
Assistant professor presents at two conferences

Saleem Shaik, assistant professor of agribusiness and applied economics, gave an invited presentation at the 13th annual Advances in Econometrics Conference, Feb. 9-10, in Baton Rouge, La. The presentation, titled "Asymmetric Information with Optional Units in Crop Insurance," will lead to a book chapter in "Advances in Econometrics: Structural Microeconometrics, Volume 32."

The conference gathers national and internationally recognized statisticians and econometricians. Shaik’s paper presentation was the second time in five years he has been invited to the conference.

“Advances in Econometrics” is a series of research annuals first published in 1982 by JAI Press. The founding co-editors of the series were Robert L. Basmann of Texas A&M University and George F. Rhodes Jr. of Colorado State University. More information is available at http://faculty.smu.edu/tfomby/aie.htm.

Shaik also presented a paper at the 45th annual meeting of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association meeting in Orlando, Fla., on Feb. 2-6. The title of the paper was “Climate Risk Adjusted Efficiency Measures of World and Regional Agricultural Sector.”

As chair of the selected paper sessions, Shaik presented the report to the executive council outlining the pros and cons of the selected paper process for the current year. Shaik compiled a 50-word abstract for all the 2013 selected papers into a publishable report to be posted on the association’s website and he moderated two sessions.

More information on the Southern Agricultural Economics Association is available at www.saea.org.

Advising Resource Center coordinator publishes book review


In her review, Weber identified ways the text’s information could be used in the advising setting, stressing the importance of being knowledgeable about available campus and community security resources.

The review can be found at www.nacada.ksu.edu/Resources/Journal/Current-Past-Book-Reviews/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/793/Campus-Crime-Legal-Social-and-Policy-Perspective-second-edition.aspx. The journal is distributed to more than 11,000 members nationally and internationally.

Weber has been an active participant in National Academic Advising Association sponsored events by serving as a workshop planning committee member and proposal reader for its annual regional conference scheduled for later this spring in Sioux Falls, S.D.

NDSU’s nanotechnology group gives workshop at Indian university

NDSU’s Environmental Nanotechnology group presented a workshop Feb. 6-9, on bio-nanotechnology at Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, India. The workshop was organized by AAU's Biotechnology Research Center and Department of Biotechnology.

Civil engineering assistant professor Achintya Bezbaruah and NDSU alumnus Talal Almeelbi traveled to India to offer the workshop and six other members of the core group participated via video link. AAU is a premier research university in India and has research collaborations with institutions in Europe and Australia.

Bezbaruah coordinated the workshop, with the goal of introducing bio- and environmental nanotechnology to AAU students and faculty and identifying areas for possible research collaborations in the future. Most of the 70 workshop participants were from AAU, but other research institutes in India were represented as well.

During the workshop, Bezbaruah presented “What do engineers know about agriculture: Should agriculture scientists even talk to engineers?” on how engineering and agricultural sciences can complement each other in nanotechnology research.

University Distinguished Professor of civil engineering Kalpana Katti introduced nanomaterials and their characterization techniques. In her presentation, Katti discussed the history and future challenges for nanotechnology research.

Almeelbi traveled from Saudi Arabia for the workshop and presented his dissertation research on nutrient removal and recovery from water, wastewater and agricultural run-off. His presentation highlighted NDSU research on bioavailability of iron, phosphate and selenium from nanoparticles.

In addition, civil engineering professors Dinesh Katti and Eakalak Khan participated via PolyCom. Katti introduced modeling in biological systems and talked about his group’s work on modeling efforts of plant-nanoparticle interactions. Khan discussed nanoparticles-microorganism interactions with special emphasis on carbon nanotubes, and he presented a number of research findings from his group.

Harjyoti Kalita, who recently completed his doctorate under Bezbaruah and Bret Chisholm, presented his dissertation research on plant-based polymer synthesis for the surface modification of nanoparticles. His soybean-based research created interest among participants, as he listed plant resins and polymers from northeast India that may have potential as nanoparticles surface modifiers and coatings.
Donna Jacob, research assistant professor of biological sciences, and Senay Simsek, assistant professor of plant sciences, participated in the workshop via video. Jacob presented an in-depth analysis of the results obtained during the research on interactions of titanium dioxide nanoparticles with wetland and dryland plants. In her presentation, Simsek explored the possibility of use of regular and modified food starches for nanoparticle dispersion in aqueous media.

Environmental nanotechnology is an emerging area and NDSU’s civil engineering department is spearheading an interdisciplinary research group, and is among the very few departments in the country offering an independent course on environmental nanotechnology at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Bezbaruah said he hopes to organize more workshops and training programs aimed at global capacity building in environmental nanotechnology research and developing collaborations with other research institutions. He and Almeelbi also visited Tezpur University in India during their February visit and presented an invited lecture on environmental nanotechnology.

Assistant professor of English publishes literary theory volume

Verena Theile, assistant professor of English, wrote the introduction and co-edited a literary theory volume, titled “New Formalisms and Literary Theory.” The volume, co-edited with Linda Tredennick of Gonzaga University, Spokane, Wash., examines the political motivations of a return to formalism.

“The collection challenges the conception of New Formalism as an extension of contextual readings and as a ‘mere’ return to aesthetic readings,” Theile wrote. “The essays instead encourage reflection upon New Formalism’s points of intersection with other theoretical approaches and demand a reinstatement of form as the critic’s central focus, form, that is, as it reflects a culture’s creative imagination and historicizes itself within and against a politically charged background.”

Palgrave Macmillan will publish the volume in May. For more information, visit www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?id=579198.

Business faculty member to publish article on US rail freight pricing

John Bitzan, associate professor of management and marketing, co-wrote the paper, “The Evolution of U.S. Rail Freight Pricing in the Post-Deregulation Era: Revenues versus Marginal Costs for Five Commodity Types.” It has been accepted for publication in the journal Transportation, which focuses the formulation of policy, preparation and evaluation of plans and day-to-day operational management of transport systems.

For more information on the journal, visit www.springer.com/economics/regional-science/journal/11116.

HD&E faculty publish and present

Several College of Human Development and Education faculty members gave presentations and had research published.

Jenny Linker, assistant professor in health, nutrition and exercise sciences, received a STAR Award from Dakota Medical Foundation for her work with the Adopt-a-School and Let’s Move in Home School Programs, which incorporate service learning into the curriculum.

Kara Gange, assistant professor in health, nutrition and exercise sciences, was involved in a study with graduate student Rahul Nahire and Sanku Mallik, professor of pharmaceutical sciences. Their article “Polymer-Coated Echogenic Lipid Nanoparticles with Dual Release Triggers” recently was accepted in the Biomacromolecules Journal.

Academic advisers Dani Kvanvig-Bohnsack, Connie Eggers and Robert Dirk have been selected to present a concurrent session at the Region Six conference of the National Academic Advising Association. The title of their session is “Cut, Copy and Paste: Helping Students Visually Explore Links between Majors and Careers.” The session will provide information about how a vision board with current job postings can help student advisees select a major that can lead to the “right” career.

Kevin Miller, assistant professor of health, nutrition and exercise sciences, was recently interviewed by Outdoor Magazine. The interview focused on myths of the causes and treatments of exercise-associated muscle cramping. Two pieces will be written from the interview. The first will appear on Outdoor Magazine’s website while the other will be published in the May 2013 issue. Outdoor magazine’s website receives more than 3.5 million page views per month and has more than 675,000 subscribers.

Denise Lajimodiere, assistant professor in the School of Education, recently presented her boarding school research at the International Expert Seminar on Access to Justice for Indigenous Peoples contributing to the work of the United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Right of Indigenous Peoples. The seminar was organized by the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights and was held at Columbia University, New York. Lajimodiere spoke as president of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition.

Ardith Brunt, associate professor of nutrition, recently presented a webinar to the Society of Nutrition Education and Behavior. She presented the results of research conducted by Nandita Bezbaruah, graduate of the wellness major that can lead to the “right” career.

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Linda Manikowske, associate professor, and Sara Sunderlin, senior lecturer, in the apparel, design and hospitality management department, have had a paper accepted for publication in the spring 2013 issue of Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin – International Journal for Professional Educators. Their article, “Clothing and Connections: A Partnership for Civic Engagement and Service Learning,” is based on a service-learning project with students in the Aesthetics and Visual Analysis class.

Julie Garden-Robinson, professor in health, nutrition and exercise sciences; Myron Eighmy, professor in the School of Education; and Angela Reule, former McNair Scholar, co-wrote the paper, “Shape Up for Spring: Comparing the Effectiveness of Social Media and Email in a Nutrition and Fitness Educational Program.” The article was published in the 2012 edition of the Journal of the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Garden-Robinson also was named to the Journal of Extension board of directors, representing the North Central Region. She will serve on the marketing and promotions committee for the group.

English undergraduate paper award

Kellam Barta, a senior majoring in English, has been awarded best undergraduate paper by the Western Social Science Association. For his paper, "The Mascot Effect 2: Social Factors Influencing Pronunciation of Coyote," Barta will receive $500 and membership to the organization. He will be honored at the association's annual conference in Denver in April.

Barta completed the paper as an extension to his English capstone project. Bruce Maylath, professor of English, was his capstone mentor.

Barta's project built on previous findings that suggest a university mascot with varying pronunciations – for example, Bi/z/on versus Bi/s/on – contribute to establishing and maintaining a sense of local identity through specific sound features.

The project is a field study in sociolinguistics. It investigates a similar phenomenon at the University of South Dakota, whose “Coyotes” may encode group identity based on whether or not similar phenomenon at the University of South Dakota, whose.

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The project is a field study in sociolinguistics. It investigates a similar phenomenon at the University of South Dakota, whose “Coyotes” may encode group identity based on whether or not the final syllable of the word representing the school mascot is pronounced. In addition to demonstrating “the mascot effect” at USD, the project explores the story of the word “coyote” and how social factors may have shaped its use.

Student-run 800 Café to serve spring-themed lunches

The 800 Café, a restaurant managed entirely by students, will serve two spring-themed lunches in upcoming weeks.

On Thursday, March 21, and Friday, March 22, dietetics students Johanna Christenson and Brooke Nell will manage their lunch themed, All-American Spring Barbeque.

The meal will begin with a berry salad accompanied by poppy seed dressing, followed by a California turkey burger served with chipotle mayo and green bean fries. The meal will finish with a modified banana split.

Then on Thursday, April 4, and Friday, April 5, dietetics students Leah Haak and Alyssa Wiegandt will manage their spring-themed lunch.

The meal will begin with a tossed salad with homemade poppy seed dressing, followed by chicken Florentine soup. Frozen chocolate mousse served with fresh strawberries drizzled in chocolate sauce will finish the meal.

The 800 Café is located in the Family Life Center room 312. Seating begins at 11 a.m. and the last seating starts at 12:15 p.m.

The dining experiences cost $8 per meal. Reservations are encouraged because seating is limited. To make a reservation, contact Ronda Klubben at ronda.klubben@ndsu.edu or 1-7487. Parking is available in the visitor’s lot on the NDSU campus.

The 800 Café will serve lunch on Thursdays and Fridays until April 26. Four-meal punch cards also are available for $30.

Café 800 allows juniors and seniors majoring in dietetics to operate their own restaurant for an entire semester, serving food with china and linen. It is part of the class, Foodservice Management I, instructed by Sherri Nordstrom Stastny, registered dietitian and assistant professor in health, nutrition, and exercise sciences.

For more information on Café 800 and other meals, visit www.ndsu.edu/hnes/program_contact_information/department_restaurant_800_cafe/#c146917.

Graduate student symposium on agricultural innovation set

NDSU plant sciences graduate students will host the 29th annual Plant Sciences Graduate Student Symposium, scheduled for March 22-23 in Fargo. Titled “Supporting Life through Agricultural Innovation,” the symposium was planned by the Graduate Student Association of the Department of Plant Sciences, and also includes students from the University of Saskatchewan and University of Manitoba. The event rotates yearly between the three universities and provides opportunities for graduate students to exchange research results and ideas.

Scheduled speakers include Wes Jackson, president of the Land Institute in Salina, Kansas, and NDSU alumni Justin Faris, a wheat geneticist at the USDA-ARS in Fargo, and John Soper, vice president of Crop Genetics Research and Development for Pioneer Hybrid.
Jackson’s keynote address, “When Ecology Comes to Agriculture,” is set for March 22 at 4:15 p.m. in the Memorial Union Prairie Rose room. He earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Kansas Wesleyan, a master’s degree in botany at the University of Kansas and a doctorate in genetics at North Carolina State University. Jackson worked as a professor of biology and environmental studies at Kansas Wesleyan and California State University, Sacramento, before founding the Land Institute in 1976. His most recent publications include “Nature as Measure” and “Consulting the Genius of the Place: An Ecological Approach to a New Agriculture.” More information on the Land Institute can be found at www.land institute.org.

Faris’ presentation, “Wheat Domestication: Unlocking the Secrets to Agricultural Revolutions in the Past and Future,” is scheduled for March 23 at 8 a.m. in Loftsgard Hall Room 114.

Soper will present the closing banquet keynote address, titled “Next Generation Agriculture,” on March 23 at 6 p.m. at the Plains Art Museum in downtown Fargo.

The symposium features research presentations by graduate students from the participating universities. Topic areas are plant breeding and genetics, plant pathology, agronomy, weed science, plant ecology and physiology.

Three sessions will run concurrently from 8:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. on March 23, and the top three presentations in each category will receive awards at the closing banquet.

Symposium sponsors include DuPont Pioneer; CHS Foundation; NDSU Department of Plant Sciences; NDSU Graduate School; NDSU Provost’s office; Monsanto; Amity Technology; the North Dakota Barley Council; and the NDSU plant sciences research projects of Phil McClean, Mohamed Mergoum and Suzie L. Thompson.

All sessions are open to the public, except for meals and the banquet. For more information, contact Samira Mafi at samira.mafi@ndsu.edu or visit www.ag.ndsu.edu/plantsciences/graduate/gsa/symposium-2013.

Women’s History Month speaker set for NDSU Main Library

The Spring Speaker Series at the NDSU Libraries continues in March with Rhonda Magel, professor and chair of statistics, speaking on issues related to women in the sciences. Her talk is scheduled for Monday, March 25, at 4 p.m. in the Weber Reading Room.

Magel will discuss the gap between male and female salaries in higher education. She will present past studies on gender inequality in higher education, as well as current research being conducted on the topic.

NDSU is a science-focused university with programs in biological, physical and health sciences, areas that historically had predominately male students. But certain programs are changing. For example, the pharmacy, nursing and allied sciences programs are now principally female. On the other hand, engineering, architecture, agriculture, science and mathematics still see primarily male enrollment. This semester, enrollment in the College of Engineering and Architecture was 85 percent male and 15 percent female.

As a member of Advance FORWARD, a group dedicated to the advancement of women faculty, Magel also will speak about women in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields.

The event is free and open to the public; refreshments will be served. For more information, contact megan richardson@ndsu.edu or alicia.kubas@ndsu.edu.

Staff Appreciation Day scheduled at NDSU

In honor of the many contributions NDSU staff make to the university, Staff Senate is sponsoring NDSU Staff Appreciation Day Wednesday, March 27.

All NDSU staff members are invited to enjoy music, refreshments and networking from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. in the Memorial Union Plains Room. A short program will follow at 9 a.m. Attendees will have a chance to meet their senators and learn about the nomination process for Staff Senate.

For more information, contact Mary Asheim at mary.asheim@ndsu.edu.

Global Awareness Month to be celebrated in April

As NDSU’s global reach expands, so does its celebration of global diversity. A series of events is designed to explore and celebrate that diversity during Global Awareness Month, which is scheduled for April.

“Diversity and globalization are such current, important and relevant topics – especially at NDSU,” said Lisa Hauck, director of international programs. “As we continue to become more of a global university, it became obvious a longer period of time was needed to celebrate and get the message out.”

NDSU has celebrated International Week for many years. However, events are now being spread throughout an entire month to give attendees the opportunity to attend more events.

New this year is a series of culture fairs featuring cultural information from various regions of the world. For the second year, a full day has been devoted to providing faculty and staff with information about the Fulbright Scholar Program.

“The month will have much of the same flavor and value of previous years, but with a few more additions and more opportunities for people to attend multiple events,” Hauck said.

Scheduled activities include:

• Parade of Nations
  Tuesday, April 2, 10 a.m.
  Memorial Union Plains room

NDSU President Dean L. Bresciani and representatives of Student Government and the International Student Association officially start Global Awareness Month. Students carrying the flags of their home countries will parade through the Memorial Union.
• **Culture Fair: Africa and the Middle East**  
  Tuesday, April 2, 2-4 p.m.  
  Memorial Union Meadow Lark room  

Visit interactive booths featuring activities and cultural information about Africa and the Middle East.

• **International Night**  
  Friday, April 5, 7 p.m.  
  Festival Concert Hall  

Talents of NDSU international students are on display at a variety show featuring songs, dances and theater skits from around the globe. Tickets will be available at the door. The event is sponsored by the International Student Association.

• **Culture Fair: The Americas**  
  Tuesday, April 9, 2-4 p.m.  
  Memorial Union Mandan room  

Visit interactive booths featuring activities and cultural information from the Americas.

• **Fulbright Presentation for Faculty and Staff**  
  Wednesday, April 10, noon-2 p.m.  
  Memorial Union Century Theater  

Andy Riess from the Council for International Exchange of Scholars will discuss the Fulbright Scholar Program that contributes to faculty development and the globalization of higher education. There will be time for questions and discussion with prospective applicants.

• **Fulbright Appointments for Prospective Faculty and Staff Applicants**  
  Wednesday, April 10, 8:30-11 a.m. and 2:30-5 p.m.  
  Dinwoodie-Bjornson room  

Sign up required. Email jennifer.krautkremer@ndsu.edu to make an appointment.

• **4th Annual Green and Golden Globe Diversity Awards**  
  Monday, April 15, 3:30 p.m.  
  Memorial Union Great Plains Ballroom  

The Division of Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach will recognize campus and community members for advancing diversity and a community of respect at NDSU.

• **Culture Fair: Europe and Eurasia**  
  Tuesday, April 16, 2-4 p.m.  
  Memorial Union Mandan room  

Visit interactive booths featuring fun activities and cultural information from Europe and Eurasia.

• **Film: “Les Misérables”**  
  Wednesday, April 17, 7 p.m.  
  Memorial Union Century Theater  

The film is co-sponsored by Campus Attractions.

• **Study Abroad Diversity Symposium**  
  Monday, April 22, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
  Memorial Union Arikara room  

Gretchen Cook-Anderson, director of diversity recruiting and advising at IES Abroad, and Andrew Gordon, president of diversity abroad, will share their knowledge about study abroad with focus on the role diversity plays in study abroad. (This event is by invitation only.)

• **Study Abroad Food for Thought: Diversity**  
  Monday, April 22, 4-5 p.m.  
  Memorial Union Arikara room  

An interactive discussion with experts who will share insights about study abroad for an increasingly diverse group of students and how it opens doors to current workforce skills, a more global perspective and enhanced self-realization. Diversity includes first-generation college students, LGBTQ, students with disabilities, veterans and more.

• **Culture Fair: Asia and Oceania**  
  Tuesday, April 23, 2-4 p.m.  
  Memorial Union Mandan room  

Visit interactive booths featuring activities and cultural information from Asia and Oceania.

• **World iView De-Modernization? The Case of Girls’ Education in Tajikistan**  
  Thursday, April 25, noon  
  Memorial Union Prairie room  

Christopher Whitsel, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, will discuss how sociologists have long been interested in the connection between modernization, industrialization and social changes. With the collapse of the Soviet Union 20 years ago, Tajikistan economic output dropped, school enrollment declined and the country experienced a civil war. There have been lasting effects on education, especially girls’ education.

• **Compass Program Foundation Brown Bag Seminar**  
  “Encouraging and Facilitating Study Abroad for your Students: A Guide for Faculty and Advisers”  
  Tuesday, April 30, noon  
  Memorial Union Century Theater  

An interactive session providing information on how to foster a culture of study abroad on campus, encouraging your advisees to study abroad and how to assist students as they move through the process. This presentation will be beneficial for faculty advisers and staff who work with students.

More information can be found at [www.ndsu.edu/international/programming/global_awareness_month](http://www.ndsu.edu/international/programming/global_awareness_month).

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**Film festival, storyteller aim to spur discussion on disability topics**

The NDSU Disability/Accessibility Initiatives Committee invites students, faculty and staff to participate in a variety of events planned for Disability Awareness Month this April.

“REEL Life,” an on-campus film festival, is planned for Wednesday, April 3. It will feature four films and a presentation, all aimed at spurring discussion regarding topics in disability.

Films include “Read Me Differently” at 10 a.m., “When Billy Broke His Head … And Other Tales of Wonder” at 1 p.m., “Fly Away” at 2:30 p.m. and “Reign Over Me” at 7 p.m. – all in the Memorial Union Century Theater. Throughout the day, discussions...
will consider misconceptions surrounding disability and examine how disability is portrayed in the media.

At noon, Carrie Anne Platt, assistant professor of communication, will present “Disability Discourses in Popular Culture: What’s Glee got to do with it?” in Century Theater.

To access the full schedule of events and list of participating sponsors for “REEL Life,” visit www.ndsu.edu/hr/news/article/16632.

On Wednesday, April 17, American Sign Language storyteller and performer, Trix Bruce, will present “The Hearing World Around Me” at 6:30 p.m. in Beckwith Recital Hall. In this performance, Bruce expresses how deaf culture has colored her life as she shares her most embarrassing moments, learning experiences, greatest challenges and growing sense of pride.

Individuals with disabilities are invited to request reasonable accommodations by emailing ndsu.edcenter@ndsu.edu or calling 1-5263 at least one week prior to the event.

All events are free and open to the public; participants of each event are invited to bring a donation of non-perishable food items for the Equity and Diversity Center Food Pantry.

Middle East security panel to feature two renowned experts

Two internationally known policy specialists on the Middle East and security issues in the region will conduct a panel discussion and question and answer session on U.S.-Iran relations and the ongoing nuclear crisis with Iran. The discussion, “Diplomacy and War: Prospects for U.S.-Iran Relations and the Nuclear Issue in the Coming Year,” is scheduled for Thursday, April 4, at 6:30 p.m. in Minard room 222. NDSU’s Northern Plains Ethics Institute is hosting the event.

Panel members include Allen Keiswetter, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East Affairs and now senior consultant at the international law firm SNR Denton, and Roby C. Barrett, a former Foreign Service officer and a senior fellow for strategic studies and applied intelligence at the Joint Special Operations University of U.S. Special Operations Command. Both Keiswetter and Barrett are scholars at the Public Policy Center of the Middle East Institute in Washington, D.C.

The panel discussion will focus on the questions of Iran and its nuclear program, and address broader regional security issues including Syria, Lebanon, Yemen, Iraq, Gulf and Israel within the context of the current crisis between Iran, its Arab neighbors, the European Union and the United States. The topics of war and diplomacy will be central to the discussion.

Keiswetter is a former Senior Foreign Service officer and Minister Counselor at the Department of State. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland and the senior consultant at the international law firm SNR Denton. In his 36 years in the State Department, he also was senior adviser to the U.S. delegation to the United Nations General Assembly on Middle East Issues, director of Arabian Peninsula Affairs, director of the Office of Intelligence Liaison and NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs.

He has taught courses on global security and the Middle East at the National War College and National Defense Intelligence College. Keiswetter earned a bachelor’s degree from Dartmouth College, certificate from the Johns Hopkins School of International Studies in Bologna, Italy, and Master of Public Administration from Harvard University.

Barrett is a senior fellow with the Strategic Studies Department and an instructor of applied intelligence in irregular warfare at Joint Special Operations University of U.S. Special Operations Command. Barrett also supports the Bureau of Intelligence and Research at the Department of State, the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations and the Office of Secretary of Defense. Barrett also is president of a consulting firm specializing in the operational integration of technology applications and systems for national defense and security. He is an authority on security issues in the Persian/Arabian Gulf, including Iran and the Arabian Peninsula.

Barrett earned a bachelor’s degree from East Texas State University and a master’s degree in political science and Russian history from Baylor University. He has a doctorate in Middle Eastern and South Asian History from the University of Texas-Austin.

Public parking is available in the visitor’s lot to the north of the Construction Management Engineering building. Special needs requests or questions can be directed to Dennis Cooley at dennis.cooley@ndsu.edu or 1-7038.

Food Safety Modernization Act seminars set

NDSU, the North Dakota Trade Office and the North Dakota Department of Agriculture are hosting two half-day seminars to help people in the food industry learn about the Food Safety Modernization Act and how it will impact their company or organization.

One seminar is scheduled for Monday, April 8, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center, 663 U.S. Highway 281 N. The other seminar is scheduled for Friday, April 12, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds, 1805 Main Ave. W., West Fargo.

To register for Navigating the Food Safety Modernization Act seminar, go to the North Dakota Trade Office website at http://tinyurl.com/foodsaftyseminar.

The seminar is free. No meals or refreshments will be provided. The registration deadline is April 5.

The act is intended to ensure the U.S. food supply is safe by shifting the focus from responding to contamination to preventing it. The act gives the Food and Drug Administration new and enhanced mandates and authorities to protect consumers and promote public health.
The seminar will include a review of the act and expected business practices, a discussion of industry expectations and information on documenting business practices, plus other training resources available on this topic in North Dakota.

The seminar also will include a detailed discussion on two rules the Food and Drug Administration is proposing for the Food Safety Modernization Act. One rule is on current good manufacturing practices, hazard analysis and risk-based preventive controls for human food. The other is on standards for growing, harvesting, packing and holding produce for human consumption. The administration is seeking public comment on these proposed rules.

For more information about the act and the two proposed rules, visit www.fda.gov/food/foodsafety/fsma/default.htm.

To learn more about the seminar, contact David Saxowsky, NDSU, at 1-7470 or david.saxowsky@ndsu.edu; Stephanie Sinner, North Dakota Department of Agriculture, at 701-239-7211 or ssinner@nd.gov; or Lindsey Warner, North Dakota Trade Office, at 1-1154 or lindsey@ndto.com.

Green and Golden Globe Diversity Awards scheduled

The fourth annual Green and Golden Globe Diversity Awards Ceremony is scheduled for Monday, April 15, in the Memorial Union Great Plains Ballroom. A donor’s reception will begin at 3 p.m. and the program and awards ceremony will follow at 3:30 p.m.

The NDSU Division of Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach created the ceremony to acknowledge the efforts of faculty, staff and students who create a welcoming, safe and inclusive environment where all people can learn and work.

For more information, visit www.ndsu.edu/diversity.

Administrative Professionals Day program planned

NDSU Distance and Continuing Education is sponsoring an Administrative Professionals Day educational event, scheduled for Wednesday, April 24, from 10 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. in the SGC room D104.

“The Truth about Food Waste in America,” presented by Abby Gold, assistant professor and Extension nutrition wellness specialist, is set for 10:30 a.m. Gold will discuss the impact of food waste on the nation and the environment. Attendees will learn ways to reduce food waste in their daily lives.

“The Success Mindset,” by mindset coach, speaker and facilitator Teresa Lewis of Get Inspired, Fargo, is scheduled for 12:15 p.m. Lewis will present critical mindsets that keep a person on the right track. Participants will learn about a framework for their life plan, what success means to them and values to live by.

“Meditation and Mindfulness,” by Ronni Arensberg, counselor at the NDSU Counseling Center, is set for 1:25 p.m. Arensberg will describe practical steps to help focus on what really matters and how to produce better results. Attendees will be energized as they learn to align their actions with priorities and identify pitfalls.

Cost of the program is $30, including lunch. Register at http://ndsu.me/dcem1303a.

NDSU Bookstore to host Grad Finale

The NDSU Bookstore and Herff Jones will sponsor Grad Finale on Wednesday, March 20, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursday, March 21, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Memorial Union. Prizes will be given away throughout the day.

Grad Finale assists graduating seniors with preparation for commencement. Students can purchase a cap and gown, diploma frame, commencement announcements and order a class ring. A selection of graduation gifts also will be for sale in the NDSU Bookstore. Following Grad Finale, all items will be available in the bookstore.

The Office of Registration and Records, Customer Account Services, Career Center, Student Financial Services, Grad School and the Alumni Association also are supporting Grad Finale.

Passport photos available through Bison Card Center

The Bison Card Center takes United States formatted passport photos. The cost is $10 for two prints. Additional prints are $5 for two prints.

Office hours are Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

University hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. will be observed during Spring Break week through March 15.

Wellness Center announces spring/Easter recess hours

The NDSU Wellness Center will be open the following hours during spring recess.

Thursday, March 28: 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday, March 29: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday, March 30: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, March 31: Closed (Easter holiday)
Monday, April 1: 5:30 a.m. to midnight
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.

**Positions Available**

**Manager Enterprise Systems**
Enterprise Computing and Infrastructure
$78,000/year
March 18

**Lead Caterer**
Dining Services
$10.50+/hour
Open until filled

**Forest Stewardship Specialist**
North Dakota Forest Service
$34,974+/depends on experience
Open until filled

**Irrigation Technician**
Facilities Management
$26,000+/year
Open until filled

**Medical Records and Technology Support Assistant**
Student Health Services
$22,230+/year
Open until filled

**Agricultural Research Technician**
Agricultural Experiment Station
Plant Science
$35,000+/year
March 25

**Positions Available**

**Director, Division of Student Affairs Assessment**
Student Wellness
$70,000+/year
Open until filled

**Nutritional Research Specialist**
Agricultural Experiment Station
Animal Science
$20,000+/year
April 1

**Assistant Pulse Crop Breeder**
Agricultural Experiment Station North Central Research Extension Center
Commensurate with qualifications and experience
Open until filled

**Forest Stewardship Specialist**
North Dakota Forest Service
$34,974+/depends on experience
Open until filled

**Medical Records and Technology Support Assistant**
Student Health Services
$22,230+/year
Open until filled

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