

NDSU first day enrollment numbers appear positive

NDSU officials are pleased with the first day enrollment count. The official enrollment number will be announced Sept. 23.

As of the first day of classes on Aug. 25, NDSU has 12,871 students enrolled in its undergraduate, professional and graduate programs compared to fall 2007 first day count of 12,217. This represents an increase of 654 students.

These numbers will go up and down during the next several weeks. The official count for the university system is based on the fourth week of each semester. The official fall 2007 enrollment was 12,527 students, which was released on Sept. 12, 2007. NDSU President Joseph A. Chapman said, "We are certainly proud that students are making North Dakota State University their institution of choice. Our focus remains on providing them with a quality education and college experience."

"Naturally, we are extremely pleased with what we are seeing at this point," said Prakash Mathew, vice president for student affairs. "When the final numbers come in we may be looking at an all-time enrollment record for our freshman class. Once again, the largest percentage of incoming students is from Minnesota (53.5 percent) and our North Dakota student population continues to be very strong (40 percent). We are also seeing an increase in our international student population."

According to Michael Harwood, director of residence life, overflow arrangements are being made to meet the need for student housing. He said 104 additional beds have been arranged on campus.

"Nine hotels in Fargo will be utilized for overflow housing, more than enough to accommodate our students needing housing. We expect some walk-ons, which should increase the number at the hotel," Harwood said. "These numbers are an increase to what we had in overflow housing last year."

Harwood said bus transportation and laundry service will be provided for the students at the hotels.

NDSU fans can own a piece of Bison History

A framed plaque with a section of the artificial turf that covered Dacotah Field during the NCAA Division II glory years of Bison football along with a black-and-white photo from a game at the historic structure is newly available for purchase.

Proceeds will be used to help offset the cost of the playing surface that will cover the proposed NDSU practice facility adjacent to the Bison Sports Arena.

Cost of the plaque is \$100, plus \$10 for shipping and handling. The limited edition 18-inch by 9.5-inch plaque with a 5-inch by 7-inch section of turf will include a certificate of authenticity. Bulk orders are available. However, with bulk orders of turf, no plaques will be provided.

Order forms will be available at the first three football games in the Fargodome and also at *GoBison.com*. The order deadline is Monday, Oct. 6, at 5 p.m. with delivery scheduled to begin on Monday, Dec. 15.

For more information, contact Brian Gordon, NDSU director of equipment operations, at 1-7820.

NEXT ISSUE

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NDSU Pride Network to help ensure safe and inclusive campus community

Last spring, the NDSU Pride Network was formed by and for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender faculty, staff and graduate students. Because NDSU fosters the personal growth of individuals by creating an environment which nurtures intellectual, social and cultural development, it is natural this group augments that mission by striving to be inclusive and professional with respect to sexual orientation, gender expression and gender identity.

The newly drafted mission statement says:

We aspire by our presence, visibility and efforts to advocate for and foster a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees of NDSU by:

- Providing a safe and confidential forum for the discussion of issues important to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and members;
- Promoting solidarity and professionalism among lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender and NDSU personnel;
- Fostering moral support for other underrepresented groups;
- Improving communication with university, college and community leaders;
- Developing the interests of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and other sexual minorities;
- Sponsoring and supporting a greater understanding of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people through outreach, education and mentoring;
- Advocating for non-discriminatory and diverse working, living and academic environment at NDSU;
- Educating and reaching out to allies through partnerships with The Office of Equity and Diversity, Safe Zone, Ten Percent Society and other NDSU ally groups.

The NDSU Pride Network is in collaboration with the NDSU Strategic Plan for Diversity, Equity and Community. Go to the new Web site at pridenetwork.ndsu.nodak.edu or send an e-mail to NDSU.PrideNetwork@ndsu.edu for more information.

The meetings for this semester are set for 3 p.m. on Sept. 24, Oct. 29 and Dec. 4. If you want to attend a meeting, send an e-mail to NDSU.PrideNetwork@ndsu.edu and someone will respond with a location. This is being done to ensure privacy.

PowerPoint template and photo gallery available for NDSU faculty and staff

A variety of professionally designed NDSU PowerPoint templates have been posted online for faculty and staff use. A gallery of NDSU photographs also is available. The links to the templates and gallery are available for download on the Web site of the Vice President for University Relations at www.ndsu.edu/vpur.

“A high quality image is a critical part of delivering our message that NDSU’s impact is felt across the state, nation and globe,” said Laura McDaniel, assistant vice president for university relations. “As the university steps up to another level, attending to our image is one key to communicating our success.”

Thundar makes seventh annual All-America Mascot Team



Thundar, NDSU’s mascot, has been named to the seventh annual Capital One All-America Mascot Team, made up of 12 oversized and often under-appreciated characters including three birds, three cats (that could be trouble), one bison, one horse, one wolf, one turtle, one bear and a dog. Each mascot will put their best claw, paw, hoof and talon forward while attempting to claim the proverbial mountain of mascot fame and fortune – the title of “Capital One National Mascot of the Year.”

Starting Sept. 8, fans can vote online at www.capitalonebowl.com, for their favorite All-American Mascot, who will be announced during the Capital One Bowl on Jan. 1.

“It’s a great opportunity for Bison fans and Thundar to take on great mascots from across the country,” said Stephon Thomas, assistant director of marketing and promotions. “With the support of Bison fans, Thundar plans to stampede the competition.”

Walk North Dakota Challenge to begin

The NDSU Extension Service’s Walk North Dakota challenge is set to begin Sept. 7 and go until Nov. 1. The program challenges people to work up to walking at least 10,000 steps a day. That’s the equivalent of five miles a day, five days a week or 200 miles during the eight-week session. In comparison, people usually take an average of 2,000 to 4,000 steps a day.

You can sign up as an individual or part of a group. Anyone who wants to form a group should contact Linda Hauge, project coordinator, at linda.hauge@ndsu.edu. You don’t need to live in North Dakota to participate.

All you need to do is register and keep track of your steps each day, then report those steps by the designated dates every two weeks. You can report your steps online or on a mail-in card.

To keep track of your progress, put on a pedometer the first thing in the morning and record the number of steps you’ve taken at the end of the day. If you don’t own a pedometer, record one mile or 2,000 steps for every 20 minutes you walk.

If you report your steps the required four times, you’ll receive incentive prizes. You’ll also have your name placed in a drawing for a Walk North Dakota jacket. The registration fee is \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth age 18 and younger. 4-H club members and leaders can participate free of charge. To register, go to www.walknd.com or send a check payable to the NDSU Extension Service to WALK ND, Box 5016, Fargo, ND 58105-5016. You also can pay online by credit or debit card.

PEOPLE

NDSU student discovers clue to Antarctica's past

An NDSU student's discovery shows that the frozen polar ice sheet of Antarctica was once a much warmer place.

Richard Thomasson is an undergraduate research team member in the laboratory of Allan Ashworth, university distinguished professor of geosciences. He discovered an exceptionally well-preserved fossil of an ostracod, a type of small crustacean, among samples that Ashworth and Adam Lewis, NDSU assistant professor, had collected in the Dry Valleys region of Antarctica's Transantarctic Mountains.

The fossils, which date back about 14 million years, indicate Antarctica's temperatures were warmer because ostracods could not survive the current frigid conditions on the icy continent. Researchers estimate that summer temperatures in Antarctica would have been about 20 degrees warmer than they are today.

Thomasson, a senior from Cavalier, N.D., who is majoring in geology and visual arts, made his discovery on July 4, 2006. Searching through the sediments, he had found an ostracod fossil with its shell partially open and something on the inside.

"When I first started working in Dr. Ashworth's lab, I said that I wanted to find something in the sediments that would be good enough to get into National Geographic magazine. I repeated this sentiment to many of the people who came to work with me in the lab as well as many of the visitors because I was positive that there was going to be exciting finds. Because of this excitement, an otherwise tedious and monotonous job was quite the opposite of boring, it was mentally exhilarating knowing how rare of an opportunity I had," Thomasson said. "Every Petri dish of sediment I would analyze under the microscope was another opportunity to see something that nobody knew existed."

According to Ashworth, undergraduate students who work in his lab either like or intensely dislike the concentration it takes to slowly sift through literally tons of sediment. He calls Thomasson "one of the good ones."

"He called me in one day to let me know that he thought he could see something between the valves – possibly an eye," Ashworth recalled. "We talked about the unlikelihood of that and I thought it was probably something washed into the open valves. Now you have to know that the entire specimen is only a millimeter long, so what we were looking at was something very small and we didn't have the resolution to really see it."

The specimen was shipped to Mark Williams, an ostracod specialist at the University of Leicester, England, and two weeks later Williams telephoned to say that he could see most of the soft anatomy of the individual organism from the head to the tail.

"He was very excited," Ashworth said. "What Rich thought might have been an eye was a broken segment of a walking leg. I never dreamed that the soft-anatomy would be preserved. In fact, this is a very rare circumstance and the specimen is now one of only four other specimens of ostracods known for all time in which the soft anatomy is preserved."

Funded by the National Science Foundation, the research project involved scientists from NDSU, the University

of Leicester, the British Geological Survey, Queen Mary University of London and Boston University.

The report gained immediate attention from news organizations around the world, appearing in a wide range of media outlets, including *DiscoveryChannel.com*, *CNN.com*, *BBC.com*, *National Geographic.com*, Science Daily, Economic Times, India Times and China Daily.

"To see pictures of the ostracod, the same one that I stared at under a scope, now all over the world press is a bit unfathomable but undeniably exciting," Thomasson said of his discovery.

The scientific journal article can be found at <http://journals.royalsociety.org/content/v7v883l458l65967/?p=0c2ae63eb5e0417d8dfe0c155d87583a&pi=0>.

Former NASA astronaut to visit NDSU

Former NASA astronaut Al M. Worden is scheduled to visit NDSU on Sept. 11 to recognize NDSU junior Matthew Wold, who is the recipient of the Astronaut Scholarship from the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation. Worden is chairman of the foundation.

During his time at NDSU, Worden is expected to give a public presentation, meet with President Joseph A. Chapman and the university administrative team, and visit students in a classroom setting. The time and place of his public presentation will be announced.

Worden was the command module pilot on the Apollo 15 moon mission in 1971. As he orbited the moon, fellow astronauts David Scott and Jim Irwin explored the lunar surface. During the mission, he took a space walk 200,000 miles from Earth to retrieve film cassettes from cameras on the outside of the "Endeavour" command ship. He retired from NASA in 1975, and later held executive positions with Jet Electronics and Technology Inc. and BF Goodrich Corp. Worden was elected into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame in 1997.

Wold, who received the \$10,000 scholarship, is an agricultural and biosystems engineering major from Thief River Falls, Minn. His research interests focus on cellulosic ethanol, with sensor calibration and reactor testing and modification his major responsibilities. "One of my interests is working with electronics. I enjoy working with programmable logic controllers and data acquisition systems," Wold wrote in his scholarship nomination packet, noting that he plans to go on to graduate school.

Wold was nominated by Leslie Backer, chair and associate professor of agricultural and biosystems engineering. "The nominee for this scholarship has demonstrated each on the basis of the award: innovation, creativity, exceptional performance and unusual drive," Backer wrote. "He is one of five top students in his class in the College of Engineering and Architecture."

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation was established in 1984 by the six surviving members of America's original Mercury Seven astronauts, Betty Grissom (the widow of astronaut Virgil "Gus" Grissom), flight surgeon Dr. William Douglas and Orlando, Fla., businessman Henri Landwirth. The foundation annually awards 19 scholarships to aid the United States in retaining its world leadership in the areas of science, mathematics and engineering. It has presented in excess of \$2.5 million in scholarships to more than 225 deserving students across the country.

Stockwell paper deemed one of the most-cited papers in its field

A paper published by Craig A. Stockwell, associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, was recently identified by Thomas Reuters Essential Science Indicators as the highest cited paper in the research area of rapid climate change. The paper, "Contemporary evolution meets conservation biology," which was co-written with Michael Kinnison (University of Maine) and Andrew P. Hendry (McGill University), was published in the February 2003 issue of the journal *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*.

Essential Science Indicators, which covers a multidisciplinary selection of more than 11,000 journals from around the world, offers data for ranking scientists, institutions, countries and journals. Stockwell and his colleagues' paper also was selected as Essential Science Indicators Fast Moving Front Article for July.

According to the authors' interviews on www.sciencewatch.com, the paper was highly successful because it synthesized two issues of contemporary interest to biologists and society at large in applying an emerging paradigm shift in evolutionary biology to the field of conservation biology. Recent analyses have shown that evolution over contemporary time scales (years to decades) to be rather common. Further, many such cases of "contemporary evolution" are associated with the same human activities driving the current extinction crisis. For instance, contemporary evolution is often associated with non-native species, the overharvest of fisheries as well as climate change. Thus, the goal of the paper was to look beyond simple demonstrations of contemporary evolution and illustrate its importance in the current biodiversity crisis.

For more information, go to www.sciencewatch.com or contact Stockwell at 1-8449 or craig.stockwell@ndsu.edu.

Five NDSU faculty and staff named Fargo-Moorhead Feminists



Pearson

Five members of NDSU's faculty and staff were named 2009 Fargo-Moorhead Feminists by the Women's Network of the Red River Valley.

Judy Pearson, associate dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; Christi McGeorge, assistant professor of child development and family science; Elizabeth Birmingham, associate professor of English; Kara Gravley-Stack, assistant director for service learning and civic engagement; and Laurie Baker, public relations director in the Office of Vice President for University Relations, were recognized as this year's Fargo-Moorhead feminists.



McGeorge



Gravley-Stack

The women are featured in the organization's 2009 Fargo-Moorhead Feminists Calendar, along with seven other area women. They all were honored at a Women's Equality Day event on Aug. 26.



Baker

For more information or to purchase a calendar, contact the Women's Network of the Red River Valley at (218) 233-2737, www.wnrrv.org or via e-mail at wnrrv@wnrrv.org.

Birmingham is not pictured.

Kavasseri receives award from National Science Foundation



Kavasseri

Rajesh Kavasseri, associate professor and graduate coordinator in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been awarded a grant of \$75,357 from the National Science Foundation's Division of Electrical, Communications and Cyber Systems. He will use the grant to research static voltage stability in bulk electric power systems using Grobner basis techniques.

According to Kavasseri, the phenomenon of voltage stability has been identified as a significant threat to power system security and reliability. The project, in addition to advancing knowledge and understanding in the area of GB reduction techniques for multiple power flow solutions, would also provide a theoretical foundation to facilitate analytical (static) voltage stability studies in larger power systems. The proposed algebraic-geometric techniques can be applied to obtain analytical and theoretical insights in networks arising from other contexts, for example, wireless communication and sensor networks. "If successful, the effort will contribute to improved security and reliability of one of the nation's most critical infrastructures, the electric power grid," as stated in his award abstract. The educational plan is to absorb the proposed research techniques into a graduate course in power systems analysis at NDSU.

Kavasseri earned his bachelor's degree at Visvesvaraya Regional College of Engineering at Nagpur, India; his master's degree at the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore, India; and his doctorate from Washington State University at Pullman, Wash. His research interests are focused on the dynamics, stability and control of electric power systems.

Contact Kavasseri at 1-7614 or rajesh.kavasseri@ndsu.edu for more information.

Volleyball team earns academic award

NDSU's women's volleyball team earned its fifth straight American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award from the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

With a team grade-point average of 3.35, NDSU was one of a record 70 NCAA Division I women's volleyball teams honored for the 2007-08 academic year. It was NDSU's 10th team academic award in 13 years.

"I am really proud of all of our student-athletes for their academic achievements this year," said NDSU head coach Erich Hintersocker. "This is a great example of the quality of student-athletes we have in our volleyball program and demonstrates their tremendous work ethic and commitment to being successful both on and off the court."

Initiated in 1992-93, the award honors collegiate and high school teams that maintained at least a 3.30 cumulative team grade-point average on a four-point scale. A record 353 teams were honored this year.

NDSU returns five starters from a team that finished 20-8 overall and placed second in The Summit League with a 12-4 record.

Women's track and field team earns academic honors

The NDSU women's track and field team's grade-point average ranked ninth in the nation last spring and three Bison runners made the Division I All-Academic Team. The U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association made the announcement Aug. 6.

NDSU and Dartmouth each had a combined team grade-point average of 3.43 to tie for ninth place, and West Virginia topped the list with a 3.58 average.

Individually, NDSU middle-distance runners Christine Bruins, Cody Halsey and Laura Hermanson were three of a record 468 student-athletes to make the All-Academic Team.

Bruins, a redshirt freshman from Watford City, N.D., has a 3.48 cumulative grade-point average in business administration. Halsey, a senior from Martinsdale, Mont., has a 3.58 grade-point average in zoology and art. Hermanson, a junior from Burnsville, Minn., has a 3.93 grade-point average in business administration.

To qualify for the All-Academic Team, student athletes must have a 3.25 cumulative grade-point average and have reached an NCAA Division I indoor or outdoor qualifying standard in their event.

There were 117 Division I women's track and field programs recognized as All-Academic teams. To be nominated, teams must have at least a 3.00 cumulative grade-point average.

Francis, NDSU men's track and field team earn academic awards

Pole vaulter Shawn Francis and the men's track and field team earned All-Academic awards from the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Francis, a junior from Hastings, Minn., was one of a record 266 student-athletes on the Division I All-Academic Team. He has a 3.53 cumulative grade-point average in community sports and coaching.

To qualify for the All-Academic Team, student-athletes must have a 3.25 cumulative grade-point average and have reached an NCAA Division I indoor or outdoor qualifying standard in their event.

NDSU was one of 48 Division I men's track and field programs recognized as All-Academic teams. To be nominated, teams must have at least a 3.00 cumulative grade-point average.

The Bison, with a 3.12 team grade-point average, finished 22nd overall, but just two-tenths of a point behind national co-leaders Lipscomb and Yale, who each kept a 3.32.

EVENTS

Former NDSU athletic participants to reunite at 'Hail the Bison'

Former NDSU student-athletes, coaches and others are making their way from locations across the country to "Hail the Bison." The once-in-a-lifetime all-athletic reunion is set for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 5 and 6, with events ranging from a "Memories and Moments Celebration Dinner" to a pep rally to a halftime commemoration ceremony.

Hail the Bison events

To register for the reunion, go to www.ndsualumni.com, and follow the "Hail the Bison Athletic Reunion" link. The lineup of events includes:

Friday, Sept. 5

- Registration at the Ramada Plaza and Suites at 4:30 p.m.
- Social at the Ramada at 6:30 p.m.
- NDSU Volleyball vs. University of Illinois-Chicago at 7 p.m.
- Memories and Moments Celebration at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at the Ramada. Register early because seating is limited. The dress is casual attire, but remember to wear green and gold.

Saturday, Sept. 6

- NDSU Volleyball vs. University of Texas-El Paso at 10 a.m.
- Pep Rally at Scheels, 1551 45th Street S., Fargo, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Tradition of Excellence Pre-Game Party hosted by President Joseph A. Chapman and First Lady Gale Chapman at the Fargodome north parking lot under the big tent at 3:30 p.m.
- NDSU Volleyball vs. Northern Colorado at 4 p.m.
- "Herd Up" for the football game. Enter the Fargodome and enjoy the pre-game festivities at 5:30 p.m.
- Football Kickoff at 6 p.m.: Bison vs. Central Connecticut State. Former athletic participants are invited to be part of the halftime ceremony on the field to commemorate the move from Division II to Division I athletics. Registration is required to secure a halftime credentials packet.

Radiation safety course is scheduled

A "Laboratory Use of Radioactive Material" course has been scheduled for Monday, Sept. 15, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Memorial Union, Meadow Lark room.

The course is designed for requested new or potential users of radioactive materials in the laboratory or field application. It also serves as a refresher course for those currently using radioactive materials. Successful completion of the course is required in order to use radioactive materials on campus and will be verified by a passing quiz score.

Topics include basic theory of radioactivity, biological interactions with radiation, radiation protection, minimizing exposure level, rules and regulations, safe handling and decontamination and lab procedures. The instructor is Mike Borr, radiation safety officer.

The fee is \$25 for NDSU and cooperative agreement institutions and \$50 for all others. Participants should bring a scientific calculator. To register for the radiation safety short course, contact Stephanie Wegner at stephanie.wegner@ndsu.edu or 1-7759.

Carrington Research Extension Center hosting fruit showcase

The Carrington Research Extension Center will host the Evening Fruit Production Showcase on Thursday, Sept. 11, at 6 p.m.

The event focuses on the center's northern hardy fruit project. The project goal is to identify new fruits that are hardy in northern latitudes and desired in current or emerging fresh or processed food markets to help diversify the state's agricultural economy.

Center researchers are studying plant cultivars that are adapted to North Dakota's growing conditions, require minimal maintenance and possess few pest problems. The fruit crops they are studying include black, red and white currants; University of Saskatchewan tart cherries and haskaps (blue honeysuckle); Juneberries; aronia (chokeberry); elderberry; gooseberry; seaberry; apples; plums; and grapes. Researchers planted the cultivars in 2006 and 2007.

Bob and Tom Nowatzki of Langdon are the featured speakers for the showcase. They will discuss Juneberry production. Nowatzki and his brothers began market gardening in 1985. Their effort evolved and their father, Bob, runs Nowatzki Farm Produce. They raise Juneberries and have a "you-pick" operation 12 miles north of Langdon. They also raise other fruits and vegetables.

People attending the showcase should meet at the Carrington center's main office. The center is 3.5 miles north of Carrington on U.S. Highway 281.

2008 White Coat Ceremony scheduled

On Saturday, Sept. 6, at 1 p.m., students will take the oath of a pharmacist during the White Coat Ceremony in the NDSU Festival Concert Hall. Each student will receive a white coat symbolizing his or her duty to patients and colleagues as they enter the pharmacy profession.

The White Coat Ceremony is an opportunity to officially welcome students into the profession of pharmacy and instill in their minds and hearts an attitude of professionalism including honesty, integrity and good moral character.

North Dakota EPSCoR conference set

The North Dakota EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) 2008 State Conference is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 19, at the University of North Dakota Memorial Union in Grand Forks.

The theme of the conference is "The Dimensions of North Dakota EPSCoR." Topics include presentations on the EPSCoR/IDeA (Institute Development Awards) programs and opportunities for funding, progress on the research climate in North Dakota and a student EPSCoR-supported poster session.

Registration is free. Deadline for registering for the conference is Wednesday, Sept. 10. Details and registration are available at www.ndepscor.nodak.edu. Questions regarding the conference or poster abstract session may be directed to the North Dakota EPSCoR office at UND at (701) 777-2492.

Freeman to be honored at reception



Freeman

Thomas P. Freeman, professor in the Department of Plant Pathology and director of the NDSU Electron Microscopy Center since 1968, is retiring on Sept. 12.

The department is hosting a reception for Freeman on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Memorial Union Prairie Rose Room. Refreshments will be served. You are invited to attend the reception to honor Freeman's 40 years of service to NDSU and wish him well in his retirement.

NDSU to host Northern Plains Biomass Economy conference

NDSU is hosting a daylong conference in Fargo on Sept. 29 to explore how the northern Great Plains fits into the national energy vision. "Northern Plains Biomass Economy: What Makes Sense?" will be held at the Ramada Plaza Suites and Conference Center, 1635 42nd St. S.

Attendees will examine issues related to production of fuels and materials from cellulosic biomass, and potential impact on North Dakota and the surrounding region.

One of those issues is the federal goals for bioenergy. In the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, Congress set a goal of producing 36 billion gallons of renewable fuels annually by 2022 and implied that as much as 21 billion gallons would be derived from sources such as cellulosic feedstock.

"The conference is an excellent opportunity for participants to hear about federal and state programs and policies related to bioenergy, the technology and economics of various aspects of biofuels and bioproducts, and the impacts on communities and to participate in discussions of how the northern Plains can benefit," says Ken Hellevang, co-director of the NDSU Bio-Energy and Product Innovation Center.

Registration for the conference begins at 7:45 a.m. and members of North Dakota's congressional delegation will give the keynote address at 8:45 a.m. They will share the effects of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 on the Northern Plains energy economy.

The first session, on national energy policy implications, begins at 9:30 a.m. At noon, state officials will share highlights of the comprehensive state energy policy recommendations developed by the Empower ND Commission.

Other conference speakers include faculty from NDSU and Oklahoma State University, and representatives from biofuels, engineering and agricultural financial management industries.

NDSU's Office of Vice President for Agriculture and University Extension, Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies, NDSU/MBI Biomaterials Initiative and BioEPIC organized the event. The cost of the conference is \$75 if you register before Sept. 15 and \$90 beginning Sept. 16. For more information about registration, contact Judy Normann at 1-7334 or ndsucapt@ndsuh.edu. Additional information and online registration are available at www.ndsu.nodak.edu/ndsuh/bioopportunities/conference/index.html.

Johnson to lead foreign policy discussion

The Rev. Darin Johnson, NDSU campus pastor at the University Lutheran Center, will facilitate a session of "Great Decisions: Foreign Policy Issues Discussion," on Tuesday, Oct. 14, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., at the NDSU University Lutheran Center Coffee House, 1201 13th Ave. N., Fargo. The four-part series is part of the 2008 fall courses of F/M Communiversity.

Each session begins with a 30-minute video featuring foreign policy experts and global thinkers. Then participants can share ideas, opinions and learn other perspectives.

The first discussion, titled "Defense and Security," will be held Saturday, Sept. 20, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., at the NDSU Memorial Union. Rebecca R. Moore, associate professor of political science at Concordia College, will facilitate the discussion of how the U.S. military is adopting new policies and methods for defending the United States and its interests abroad.

Johnson's topic, titled "Diplomacy," explores how the United States deals with international challenges and how it often depends on the way it engages with allies, as well as enemies.

The third session, titled "Russia," will be held Thursday, Oct. 30, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., in the Probstfield Board Room at 2410 14th St. S., Moorhead. Ron Hagemann is the facilitator and has taught American history, politics and government in high school and as a college adjunct for more than 30 years. The discussion will cover Vladimir Putin's two terms as president and his attempt to remake Russia into a major, independent world power.

All events are free and open to the public, but registration is appreciated. Other sponsors include Moorhead Community Education, NDSU and the Minnesota International Center. For more information and to find out how to register, go to www.fmcommuniversity.org.

National advocate for transportation for the disabled to present seminar Sept. 8

Alan Abeson, a national advocate for rights for the disabled, will present a seminar on transportation, disability and public policy Monday, Sept. 8, at 3 p.m. in IACC 422.

Abeson's presentation will include some of the evolutionary developments in public policy with an emphasis on the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Recently retired, Abeson has served as the director of the Easter Sales Project ACTION and as the principal investigator for the National Center on Senior Transportation in Washington, D.C. During his career, he has worked extensively with many national disability organizations, human service organizations and transportation groups. Through his work, he was involved in the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the initial version of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The seminar is the first in a series of presentations sponsored by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute focusing on transportation and mobility issues and research. This semester the seminars will be held each Monday at 3 p.m. in IACC 422. For a list of presenters and topics, visit www.ugpti.org/training/seminar.php.

SHORTS AND REMINDERS

Positions Available

Positions open and screening dates through the Office of Human Resources, Suite H102, Stop N Go Center, 1919 North University Drive:

Administrative Secretary/#00023818
Nursing
\$30,000/year
Open until filled

Office Assistant
Vice President for Finance and Administration
\$27,000+/year
Sept. 3

Medical Records and Computer Support Assistant/#00021427
Student Health Services
\$23,000+/year
Sept. 10

Custodian/#00020733
Dining Services – West Dining Center
12 months, Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
\$9.50+/hour
Sept. 5

Lead Caterer/#00023314
Dining Services – Memorial Union
12 months, Monday through Friday, with weekends
\$9+/hour
Open until filled

Crop Quality Specialist/#00023981
Northern Crops Institute
\$45,000+/year
Oct. 3

Research Specialist
North Central Research Extension Center
5400 Highway 83 South, Minot, N.D.
Salary commensurate with experience

Learning Technology Specialist
Academic Research and Learning Technology
\$40,000+/year
Sept. 8

Web Application Developer
Academic Research and Learning Technology
\$48,000+/year
Sept. 8

Desktop Support Specialist/#00018950
Information Technology Services
\$36,000+/year
Sept. 12

Equity and Diversity Center Outreach
Coordinator/#00026193
Office for Equity and Diversity
Commensurate with experience
Sept. 18

Web Specialist
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
\$32,000+/year
Open until filled

Web Technology Specialist/#00021062
 Ag Communications
 \$43,000+/year
 Open until filled

Programmer Analyst
 NDUS ConnectND
 Fargo
 \$50,000+/year
 Open until filled

Position openings also are available through the NDSU Web site at www.ndsu.edu/jobs.

CALENDAR

September

- 3 Student Organization Fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Babbling Brook
- 3 Soil science seminar – “Global Climate Change and its Local Implications in North Dakota,” Adnan Akyuz, NDSU assistant professor of climatology and state climatologist, 3 p.m., Loftsgard 114
- 4 Career Center – Part-time Jobs Fair, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Memorial Union, Great Plains Ballroom

- 4 Chemistry and Molecular Biology seminar – “Role of Engineered Sendai Virus in Gene Transfer to Liver Cells: From Basic Science to a Pre-Clinical Experience,” D.P. Sarkar, professor and head of the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Delhi South Campus, India, 3:45 p.m., Dunbar 152
- 4 Wallman Wellness Center – Annual 5K Run and One-Mile Fun Walk/Run, registration begins at 5 p.m., events begin at 6:30 p.m.
- 5-6 Hail the Bison: NDSU athletic participant reunion
- 5 Psychology Colloquium – “Combinations of Contributions Theory and Team Performance: A Simulated UAV Task Environment,” Verlin Hinsz, NDSU professor of psychology, 3:30 p.m., Minard Annex 138
- 5 Men and Women’s Cross Country Bison Invitational
- 5 Volleyball vs. Illinois-Chicago, 7 p.m., Bentson Bunker Fieldhouse
- 6 Volleyball vs. University of Texas El Paso, 10 a.m., Bentson Bunker Fieldhouse
- 6 Volleyball vs. Northern Colorado, 4 p.m., Bentson Bunker Fieldhouse
- 6 Football vs. Central Connecticut State University, 6 p.m., Fargodome

Non-discrimination Policy

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