

NDSU students to assist 'Extreme Makeover' program

About 110 students from the NDSU Department of Architecture and Landscape Architecture were scheduled to participate in an upcoming episode of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" television program.

Each episode of the ABC series begins with the design team surprising a deserving, but unsuspecting family with the news that their home has been chosen to receive a makeover. The program features a race against time on a project that would ordinarily take at least four months to achieve. A team of designers, contractors and hundreds of workers are given seven days to rebuild a house and complete the landscaping.

According to Paul Gleye, professor and chair of architecture and landscape architecture, the show's producers have been secretive about their plans and the site of the project. The students expected to be told what type of work they would do at a meeting Aug. 21, at the plaza of NDSU Downtown. Then at 8 a.m. Aug. 22, they were scheduled to travel to the work site. No other information was provided, Gleye said.

"Participating in 'Extreme Makeover' can be an important experience for our students," said Gleye. "In addition to putting their professional skills to good use in helping to build a house and to landscape the site, they will also learn how a television program is put together."

The program, produced by Endemol USA, has been nominated for an Emmy, and it has received a People's Choice Award and a Family Television Award.

Friendship Family Program hosts sought

The NDSU Friendship Family Program seeks Fargo-Moorhead area families and individuals to serve as hosts to international students for one academic year, beginning this fall. The program is sponsored by the Office of International Programs.

The Friendship Family Program is intended to provide local residents with the opportunity to learn about other cultures by developing friendships while helping international students adjust to and learn about American culture.

Students do not live with the host, and volunteers have no financial obligation. Suggested activities may include inviting students to dinner, sightseeing, birthday celebrations, picnics, sporting events, school programs, holiday observances or other local events and activities that may be helpful for the student to adjust to life in the United States.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Samudra Weeratunge-Kugel at samudra.weeratunge-kugel@ndsu.edu.

Business Office closed Sept. 6-8

The Business Office will be closed Wednesday, Sept. 6-Friday, Sept. 8, for the NDSU charges: payment event at the Memorial Union Ballroom. Departments are asked to hold their deposits and bring them to the Business Office after 4 p.m. Friday.

IHAS deadline change reminder

Due to the Labor Day holiday, the deadline for submitting information for the Sept. 6 issue of "It's Happening at State" is noon Wednesday, Aug. 30.

'It's Happening' subscription name, address change instructions

Changes in subscription information for "It's Happening at State," including name and/or address changes, and additions and deletions of faculty and staff to the subscription list should be sent to char.goodyear@ndsu.edu.

Next Issue

Publication date: Wednesday, Aug. 30
Submissions due: noon Aug. 24
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NDSU surplus sales draw bargain hunters

If you love garage sales, NDSU has just what you are looking for. Each month, the university conducts a silent auction for surplus items. The types and quantities change each month, but there is usually something for everyone among the 150 or so available items.

"You name it, we've had it," explained Stacey Winter, director of purchasing, who organizes the sales. "We get everything from welders to refrigerators, cabinets to pianos. We have chairs, desks, washers, dryers and stainless steel kitchen counters.

"One time, we had a 1949 Farmall tractor. We've had animal cages. Another time, we had 15 blenders. We get a lot of TVs," Winter continued. "You never know what is going to show up."

The sales are held at noon on the second Friday of each month at the NDSU Libraries Annex, 3601 7th Ave. N. Held in the warehouse portion of the building, there is plenty of room for people to browse, as they write down their bids.

Between 60 and 75 people attend each two-hour event. According to Winter, many are NDSU employees and students, but a growing number of folks from the community are now participating. "It's so much fun. The public really has a blast at these sales," she said.

For many of the sale items, there is a minimum bid of only \$1. That draws out self-described "bargain hunters" like Gary Hanson. The retired Job Service North Dakota employee rarely misses a surplus sale.

"You'd be amazed at what you can find," said Hanson, as he looked through some counters and cabinets during the Aug. 11 sale. "This is absolutely great. I just put in some bids on lawnmowers—I love stuff like that."

Hanson said he particularly likes the school's policy about being upfront with bidders on what items work properly, and which ones need repairs. "That way I know there will be no surprises when I go home with my stash," Hanson said with a laugh.

Another regular bidder is Fargo businessman Gayle Hager. "I like that you get to pick your own price here," he said. "I've seen everything from dentist tools to food preparation equipment. You'll find everything and anything you might ever need for a business."

Proceeds from the auctions are used to help defer the university's cost for disposing of light bulbs and computer monitors. Since fall 2005, the sales have provided NDSU with more than \$11,600 for those recycling efforts.

The next surplus sale is scheduled for Sept. 8.

AIT students to study at NDSU

The exchange program between NDSU and Ansal Institute of Technology (AIT), Gurgaon, India, is booming. Only two years after the "twinning" exchange partnership began, NDSU is welcoming about 60 AIT students for fall semester, compared to six last year.

The exchange partnership allows students to study from one to three years at AIT and then transfer to NDSU to complete their degrees. In addition to computer and electrical engineering, computer science, business administration, biotechnology and a Master of Business Administration, students also may pursue mass communication, retail management and a master's degree in computer science. NDSU students also have the chance to study at AIT.

"The collaboration is a win-win arrangement for students at both AIT and NDSU," said program organizer Sudhir Mehta, associate vice president for academic affairs and professor of mechanical engineering. "AIT students like NDSU in terms of program quality and cost."

"This program design provides an excellent opportunity for the AIT students. They are able to transfer to NDSU and many of these students can earn their degree from here in one year," said Kerri Spiering, director of international programs.

Each participating NDSU academic program can accommodate a specific number of AIT students. Overall, the agreement provides for up to 170 AIT students per year to study at NDSU.

"I've heard a lot about NDSU—that it is a very good university," said Anirudm Gautam, who will study for his bachelor's degree in biotechnology.

This is Gautam's first visit to the United States, and he said it's nice to be part of a group of AIT students. "We have a lot of company, so we don't feel lonely. We don't feel homesickness over here," he said. A native of New Delhi, India, Gautam said he'd like to have an internship in the United States following graduation and then, perhaps, pursue a master's degree before returning to India.

Meantime, computer science student Vikas Gupta said AIT students value the scholarship opportunities available here that support travel, lodging and tuition.

He said he looks forward to receiving his bachelor's degree from NDSU. "This university is one of the best, considering everything," said Gupta, who may stay in this county after commencement to earn a master's degree. "NDSU is a very good university."

Libraries institute overdue fines

NDSU Libraries has instituted a processing fee for overdue items, effective Aug. 21.

The \$5 per item fee will be assessed items not returned within 30 days after the due date, and library patrons will receive a bill from the Business Office. The fee is non-refundable.

Patrons will be billed for the cost of materials not returned within 60 days of the due date. Patrons must return or pay a replacement fee for the overdue items in order to receive credit.

For more information or questions, contact the circulation department at 1-8888.

NCI attracts international pasta makers

Interest in the production of higher quality Italian-style pasta brought nine international pasta manufacturers to Northern Crops Institute (NCI) for the "Pasta: Raw Materials and Processing Technology" short course Aug. 14-18. Participants came from Brazil, Costa Rica, Peru, Spain and Venezuela.

"For our durum producers, this course represents a marketing opportunity," said Patricia Berglund, NCI director. "The participants came from countries that are interested in a higher quality, more Italian-style pasta, like we produce in this country. This requires durum wheat or at least a blend of high protein wheats. There is a lot of opportunity for growth in the sale of U.S. durum and hard red spring wheat."

The course focused on traditional Italian-style dry pasta production, featuring lectures, hands-on laboratory experience, pilot-scale pasta processing and a tour of Dakota Growers Pasta Co., Carrington, N.D.

NCI supports regional agriculture and value-added processing by conducting educational and technical programs that expand and maintain domestic and international markets for north-grown crops.

North Central REC breaks ground for lab, greenhouse

Staff at NDSU's North Central Research Extension Center, Minot, N.D., helped break ground earlier this summer for a new agronomy research laboratory and greenhouse. The one-story, 10,000-square-foot structure is scheduled to be completed in summer 2007.

The building will create a more efficient flow of materials from seed preparation through harvesting, seed cleaning and sample analyses, according to Jay Fisher, center director. In addition, staff will have more room for crop production research, such as pest diagnoses and work with seed.

Fisher says the lab and greenhouse will enhance the center's educational activities, fill a critical void in research capabilities and complement field research, giving scientists the ability to conduct studies under controlled conditions.

Researchers have been working in the grain storage area and the center's old seed house, which lacks adequate space and is hard to heat or cool.

D.C. Coston, vice president for agriculture and university extension, says the new lab and greenhouse will allow North Central scientists to collaborate with colleagues in Fargo and NDSU's seven other research extension centers to conduct studies that have not been possible.

The North Central REC, established in 1945, specializes in crop research, Extension Service educational activities and foundation seed production.

The 2005 North Dakota Legislature approved the expenditure of up to \$1.69 million for the lab and greenhouse. The Legislature specified \$440,000 would come from the sale of bonds. A local capital campaign raised another \$1.1 million.

People

Gerst named ITS director

Craig Schnell, provost/vice president for academic affairs, has announced that Jeffery Gerst, professor of zoology and associate vice president for academic affairs-academics, has been named director of Information Technology Services (ITS). The one-year appointment was effective July 15.

"Dr. Gerst is a respected member of the campus community, and he has the experience to provide outstanding leadership for ITS," Schnell said. "In his duties as an associate vice president, he helped develop programs to enhance the quality of undergraduate, graduate and outreach education. He also led computer technologies projects such as formative assessment and the wireless personal response systems."

As director, Gerst is responsible for providing leadership, management, marketing and long-range planning for ITS and HECN-S. He chairs the Information Technology Council and serves as a member of Tri-College University Technology Committee, North Dakota Information Network (NDIN) Executive Committee, HECN Committee and various NDUS committees.

Gerst came to NDSU in 1973, and served as presiding officer of the University Senate during 1998-99. He was a Faculty Institute for Excellence in Learning (FIEL) fellow in 2000 and served as a FIEL group coordinator in 2001. The recipient of the 1996 Excellence in Teaching Award from the College of Science and Mathematics, Gerst earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at the California State University at Chico and his doctorate in zoology at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

Schnell said David Wittrock, dean of graduate and interdisciplinary studies, will chair a search committee to find a permanent ITS director. Members of that committee have yet to be selected.

TCU program adds faculty

Thomas E. Hall and Denise K. Lajimodiere are set to join the Tri-College University's Educational Leadership Program during the 2006-07 academic year. The program provides professional and academic education for individuals preparing for administrative positions in education.

Hall previously was an instructor in NDSU's School of Education. He also has served as a director of community relations and managing director of investments. He has a bachelor's degree from Winona State College, Winona, Minn.; a master's degree in education from the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minn.; and a doctorate from the University of South Dakota.

Lajimodiere previously was an elementary school teacher, and assistant principal and principal in the Turtle Mountain, N.D., school system. She has bachelor's and master's degrees in education from the University of North Dakota, and is completing her doctoral degree.

Perrizo wins medical data mining award

William Perrizo, professor of computer science, has been awarded the prestigious Association of Computing Machinery "2006 Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining Cup." He was scheduled to be recognized at the 12th annual International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining Aug. 20-23 in Philadelphia.

This year's KDD Cup competition was a difficult contest involving data mining for medical diagnosis, according to Terran Lane, competition chair and associate professor of computer science at the University of New Mexico.

"The problems were particularly challenging because they were characterized by a number of unusual and strenuous conditions: small training and test data, highly nonlinear evaluation criteria and multiple instance learning," Lane said in an e-mail announcing the winners. "The competition was very tough, with a number of extremely strong solutions submitted. I would like to congratulate everybody who competed. It's clear that all the teams put in a great amount of effort."

A total of 68 teams competed in the event, representing 18 countries.

"This award is definitely an honor. It will give NDSU and my group great recognition and visibility," said Perrizo, who received the top score in "task 3" of the competition, which was characterized as the "Holy Grail" of Computer Aided Detection (CAD) of pulmonary embolism.

"This year's contest was for CAD programs that could identify pulmonary embolisms, or blood clots, in the lung through examinations of the features from CT images," Perrizo explained. "It's important to know whether they're actually blood clots because treatment is expensive and dangerous. Pulmonary embolisms kill 650,000 people per year in this country."

Siemens Medical Solutions provided data for the contest, and Perrizo said he is hopeful to build a relationship with the company for further research.

For more information on the KDD conference, visit www.kdd2006.com.

Events

Recreation and Outing Center fall programs announced

The Recreation and Outing Center has announced its programs for fall semester. Located in the Memorial Union lower level, it operates the Recreation Center, Outing Center, MU Breaks and TeamQuest. Complete information is provided on the Web sites listed. For additional information or to register for an event, contact Philip Sarnoff, coordinator of leisure and outdoor programs, at 1-7392 or philip.sarnoff@ndsu.edu.

The Outing Center has planned several trips during fall and winter. Visit www.ndsu.edu/outingcenter for information.

A camping and hiking weekend trip to Theodore Roosevelt National Park is set for Friday, Sept. 29-Sunday, Oct. 1. Cost is \$85 for students, and \$100 for staff and faculty.

An indoor rock climbing class is scheduled for 4:30-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21. Cost is \$15 for students, and \$20 for staff and faculty. Participants will meet in the lower level of the Memorial Union.

A cross-country ski clinic is planned for 5:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4, and participants will meet in the lower level of the Memorial Union. Costs are available with or without ski rental. The public is welcome to participate.

A ski trip to Big Sky and Moonlight Basin, Mont., is scheduled for Jan. 2-7, 2007. Cost is \$575 for students, and \$600 for staff and faculty.

MU Breaks has scheduled an introduction to canoeing for Saturday, Sept. 16; ballroom and Latin dancing for Saturday, Sept. 23; car care 101 for Tuesday, Sept. 26; Indian cooking for Tuesday, Oct. 17; a Mall of America trip for Saturday, Nov. 4; and do-it-yourself pedicure for Tuesday, Nov. 7. See www.ndsu.edu/mubreaks for more information.

TeamQuest is a team-based adventure challenge designed to provide teams of students, faculty and staff with the opportunity to engage in a variety of non-traditional physical and mental competitions. Teams of four will compete in weekly events in an effort to be the sole survivor of TeamQuest. There is a limit of 15 teams. An informational meeting is set for 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6, in the Memorial Union Peace Garden Room. The team registration fee is \$80. See www.ndsu.edu/teamquest for details.

The Recreation Center also offers bowling league night on Wednesday, red pin bowling on Thursday and MU Live on Friday. Bowling and billiards passes for the semester are available for \$35. Visit www.ndsu.edu/reccenter for more information.

Radiation safety short courses scheduled

Two separate classes of "Laboratory Use of Radioactive Material" are scheduled for 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, in FLC 319, and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27, in FLC 320. There will be a one-hour break for lunch, and attendees are responsible for their own lunch.

The course is designed for new or potential users of radioactive materials in the laboratory or field applications. It also serves as a refresher course for anyone currently using radioactive materials. Topics include basic theory of radioactivity, biological interactions with radiation, radiation protection, minimizing exposure level, rules and regulations, safe handling, decontamination and laboratory procedures. The instructor is Gary Stolzenberg, lecturer and teaching laboratory coordinator in chemistry and molecular biology.

Course fee is \$25 for NDSU and cooperative agreement institutions, and \$50 for all others. Participants should bring a scientific calculator.

To register for any of the courses, contact stephanie.wegner@ndsu.edu or call 1-7759.

Blood drive scheduled

A blood drive is scheduled for 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, at the United Blood Services Mobile Unit, which will be parked outside the south entrance of Ehly Hall. Donors must bring identification.

Call Annette Graves at 1-8961 to schedule an appointment.

Shorts and Reminders

Positions Available

Positions open and screening dates through the Office of Human Resources, Room 205, Old Main:

Account/Grants Technician
Part-time; 20 hours/week
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute (UGPTI)
\$15,000+/year
Open until filled

A.M. Catering Supervisor/#00019714; P.M. Catering Supervisor/#00019444
Two positions
12 months; 40 hours/week
M-F; with weekends
Dining Services-Memorial Union
\$10.05+/hour
Aug. 23

Lead Food Service Worker/#00020578
12 months; 40 hours/week
M-F; 11:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; weekend and summer hours may vary
Dining Services-Residence Dining Center
\$8.75/hour
Open until filled

Custodian/#00020733
12 months; 40 hours/week
M-F; 6:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; summer hours may vary; occasional weekends
Dining Services-West Dining Center
\$8.75+/hour
Aug. 28

Research Technician
Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE)
\$32,000+/year
Aug. 23

Research Specialist (three positions available)
Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE)
\$42,000+/year
Aug. 23

Forest Genetics Technician
Two-year position
Plant Sciences
Mandan, N.D.
\$30,000+/year
Open until filled

Engineer Apprentice
One-year, temporary benefited position
Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE)
\$36,000+/year
Open until filled

Research Engineer/#00021664
Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE)
Salary commensurate with experience
Open until filled

Computer Programmer/#00023316
 Psychology
 \$40,000+/year
 Aug. 23

Instructional Designer
 Distance and Continuing Education
 \$38,000+/year
 Aug. 24

Classroom Technologies Specialist/#00019343
 Information Technology Services (ITS)
 \$32,000+/year
 Sept. 1

Desktop Support Specialist/#00020728
 Information Technology Services (ITS)
 Salary commensurate with experience
 Open until filled

Application Development Manager/#00024674
 Information Technology Services
 Salary commensurate with experience
 Open until filled

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

Calendar

August

- 24 Career Center—"Part-Time Jobs Fair," 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Memorial Union Ballroom
- 25 Women's soccer vs. University of Mary, 4 p.m., Ellig Sports Complex
- 31 Football vs. Concordia University, St. Paul, 7 p.m., Fargodome

September

- 1 Men's and women's cross country Bison Open, Rose Creek Golf Course, Fargo, time to be determined
- 3 Women's soccer vs. Minnesota State University, Mankato, noon, Ellig Sports Complex
- 4 Labor Day holiday—university closed
- 8 Women's soccer vs. Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, 2 p.m., Ellig Sports Complex
- 10 Women's soccer vs. Weber State University (Bison Invitational), 1:30 p.m., Ellig Sports Complex
- 13 Career Center—"Meet the Firms" career fair for accounting, accountancy and finance fields, 4-7 p.m., Memorial Union Ballroom
- 16 Football vs. Northeastern University (Trees Bowl/Family Weekend), 6 p.m., Fargodome
- 17 Women's soccer vs. Drake University, noon, Ellig Sports Complex
- 21 Pharmacy, nursing and allied sciences career fair, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Fargodome. Honors program, 3-5 p.m., Fargodome.
- 27 Career Center—"Engineering and Tech Expo" career fair for engineering, MIS and computer science fields, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Fargodome

October

- 4 Career Center—"Graduate and Professional School Day," 1-5 p.m., Concordia College Knutson Center Spectrum
- 14 Football vs. Mississippi Valley State University (Homecoming), 1 p.m., Fargodome
- 14 Volleyball vs. Utah Valley State University, 5 p.m., Bentson Bunker Fieldhouse
- 15 Women's soccer vs. Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, noon, Ellig Sports Complex
- 15 Volleyball vs. University of South Dakota, 5 p.m., Bentson Bunker Fieldhouse
- 17 Career Center—"Agriculture Career Fair," 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Memorial Union Ballroom

- 21 Volleyball vs. University of Texas-Pan American,
7 p.m., Bentson Bunker Fieldhouse

November

- 10 Veteran's Day holiday—university closed
- 10 Volleyball—National Independent Tournament,
9 a.m.-8 p.m., Bison Sports Arena
- 11 Volleyball—National Independent Tournament,
2-8 p.m., Bison Sports Arena
- 11 Football vs. California Polytechnic State University
(Harvest Bowl), 1 p.m., Fargodome
- 14 Career Center—"Tri-College Career and Internship
Fair," noon-4 p.m., Ramada Plaza Suites, Fargo
- 18 Football vs. South Dakota State University (Dakota
Marker), 6 p.m., Fargodome
- 23 Thanksgiving holiday—university closed

December

- 8 Last day of classes
- 15 Commencement—5 p.m., Fargodome

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