

Staff Senate Mission Statement: NDSU Staff Senate addresses the needs and aspirations of university staff by promoting a progressive campus environment.

A message from NDSU President Dean Bresciani



North Dakota State University is inarguably one of the single largest economic engines for our state and region. A new external, comprehensive report clearly demonstrates that our university has a tremendous and far-reaching impact on North Dakota's prosperity, and our graduates receive a terrific rate of return.

The analysis by Economic Modeling Specialists International of Moscow, Idaho, finds NDSU has an \$884 million economic impact annually, which is about 1.9 percent of the regional economy.

NDSU's economic contributions are the result of a number of factors. Through its operations (salary, operating and capital expenditures), NDSU contributes about \$201.2 million to the region's economy each year. Of that amount, about \$74.8 million come from research activities conducted at this university.

NDSU students from outside the region spend about \$25.1 million on housing, transportation, entertainment and personal expenses. In addition,

NDSU draws more than 350,000 visitors each year who spend money on lodging, food and other items. The study estimates visitors add \$2.9 million to the region's economy.

Our graduates provide a skilled workforce with higher incomes. The report showed the average income of a person who earned a bachelor's degree at NDSU is \$58,200, compared with \$30,000 for someone with a high school diploma. This element adds \$655.4 million to the region's economy. Also, the higher earnings and associated increases in state income expand the tax base in North Dakota by about \$83.6 million each year.

The study also said NDSU graduates have a 14.4 percent average rate of return on their educational investments. A graduate recovers all tuition costs, fees and forgone wages in an average of 10.6 years. During their career, the average NDSU student's inflation-adjusted lifetime income increases by \$5.23 for every \$1 invested in their NDSU education.

If you'd like to learn more about this exciting report, I urge you to visit

www.ndsu.edu/legislators/economic_impact

NDSU is truly a student-focused, land-grant research university that enriches our state. As I often say – at NDSU, we excel, empower and ignite positive change. The numbers prove it.

2013 Staff Appreciation Day

Plans are currently underway for a special recognition event for all NDSU staff members on Wednesday, March 27, at 8 a.m., in the Plains Room of the Memorial Union.

Mark your calendars and watch for more information to come in the following weeks!





A message from Staff Senate President LaDonna DeGeldere

Spring is right around the corner, and with that comes an exciting time of year for Staff Senate!

Nominations and elections take place in the spring, and I hope you will take a participatory role in Staff Senate.

The employees who serve on Staff Senate are elected by their peers and are dedicated to serving the needs of our University. Staff Senators volunteer their time and energy to ensure that NDSU is the best that it can be, for all of us.

You do not have to be a senator to make a difference! Attend a meeting or event, and let the Senate know what is on your mind. People like you make a difference at NDSU every day. I thank you for your commitment and dedication to the University, and I look forward to hearing from you!

Staff Recognition Luncheon scheduled for April 12

By Sheila Boyda

The Office of Human Resources/Payroll is sponsoring the 25th annual NDSU Staff Recognition Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, April 12, in the Memorial Union Great Plains Room.

Staff retirees and employees with 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 years of service will be recognized at the luncheon. All NDSU employees are invited to attend in support and recognition of their colleagues. Honorees will receive invitation letters.

The meal cost is \$13 per person and is payable at the Office of Human Resources/Payroll, SGC, 1919 N. University Dr., Ste. 102. Tickets for the meal may be purchased through Friday, April 6. If you have special dietary needs, or request accommodations related to a disability, please contact the Office of Human Resources at 231-8961 by Friday, April 6.

Staff Senate Scholarships

By Matthew Chaussee

A successful fall raffle event, combined with annual endowment funds, have provided the Staff Senate Scholarship Committee with nearly \$4,000 to award as student scholarships. The committee would like to express a huge thank-you to all the dedicated raffle ticket sellers, business sponsors and ticket purchasers for making this such a great success.

Applications for next year's scholarships will be opened in mid-February. For more information and instructions on how to apply for a scholarship, please check www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate



Sign up for Staff Senate's Relay for Life Team

By Laura Dallmann

In May of 1985, Dr. Gordy Klatt used his passion for marathon running to create one of the biggest fundraising events for the American Cancer Society. Relay for Life was merely a vision for Dr. Klatt, who wanted to help raise money by running 24 hours on a track. By donating \$25 to run or walk 30 minutes with him, he was able to raise over \$27,000 in the fight against cancer. More than 25 years later, Relay for Life annually holds 5,200+ events around the USA.

Staff Senate is proud to sponsor a Relay for Life team for the event being held at NDSU from 6 p.m. Saturday, April 27, to 6 a.m. Sunday, April 28, 2013, at the Bison Sports Arena. We welcome more team members, donations, or both!

To sign up, donate, and/or join us, please go to <http://tinyurl.com/av4ofad>. Come help us celebrate life, hope, and survivorship for those who have faced cancer or honor those who have lost their battle.

If you have questions or want more information, please feel free to contact me at 701-231-7607 or laura.dallmann@ndsu.edu

Gunkelman Award nominations now open

By Angela Backman

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

The purpose of this award is to honor the late Mary McCannel Gunkelman. From the time she was a student on the campus of NDSU and throughout her unselfish life as a wife, mother, and active citizen in the Fargo-Moorhead community, Mary found great expression and satisfaction in her contributions to creating an atmosphere of happiness for others to enjoy. She was firmly dedicated to the principle that students would be more apt to attain their full potential if they were working and living in an enjoyable environment. She further believed that 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 beliefs that this award was established.

You are invited to nominate one student or employee of NDSU who you believe has made significant and unselfish contributions to creating a happy environment for the enjoyment of NDSU students.

Nomination information can be accessed on the Staff Senate Website, www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate. Please provide specific examples of how this individual has had direct impact on making NDSU a pleasant, cheerful campus for students during the current academic year. Nomination forms will be shared with the nominee.

Watch for more information coming soon about the nomination deadline.

The recipient will be announced at a reception open to the campus community at the NDSU Memorial Union's Great Room on Wednesday, May 1, 2013.

Nominees must be present at the reception in order to receive the award.

National Walking Day is April 3 -- or every day!

By Jerie Little

Let's walk! Walking is an excellent way to exercise. The more people walk each day, the more energetic they feel and the better their mood. It's efficient... it's free... it's simple... it's easy to fit in your schedule... and it's easy to start.

If you are already on a walking regiment, kudos to you and keep it up! If you are not, now is a great time to start. What better way to energize yourself then to take a walk during a break at work. There is an abundance of information available about the benefits of walking on the websites listed below. So, let's start walking!

American Heart Association:

<http://tinyurl.com/coqwhz>

City of Fargo Walk This Way (a community wide planned walking program starting each spring):

<http://tinyurl.com/aauyayd>

NDSU Wellness Center (outdoor running loops are listed for good walking routes on campus):

www.ndsu.edu/wellness/running_loops/



2012 NDSU at the RedHawks -- having a ball!

Let's go to a baseball game!

Last summer, NDSU Staff Senate sponsored a "Welcome Back Event" for NDSU staff and their families. Forty-four staff members and their families enjoyed an evening at Newman Outdoor Field watching the FM Redhawks defeat the Laredo LeMurs 11-1.

Plans are underway for another RedHawks outing again this coming year. Watch for details coming soon!

VUB and EDGO coordinate support for ND troops

By Jeri Vaudrin

Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) and Equity and Diversity began a letter drive for the members of the 818th Engineer Company of the ND National Guard. This unit is based in Williston, but many of its members are NDSU graduates. They call themselves, "The Bison."

VUB was informed that some troops were not receiving mail, and being stationed in Afghanistan, support is vital to their mental health. Through the generosity of NDSU, Residence Life, NDSU's Center for Child Development, Kobber Kids from Concordia, and many other individuals and departments, we were able to send out 215 cards, 116 letters, 10 postcards and 35 hand-drawn pictures to the troops. In addition, we sent 10 care packages, each weighing approximately 30-50 lbs.

Immediately following shipment, we were informed that two troops had been killed in an IED explosion and a third member was badly injured and airlifted to Germany. Because of that loss, it was decided to continue collecting items and letters for these soldiers to keep their spirits up until they return to country sometime in April.

The new deadline to gather letters and items is Feb. 8, and they can be sent or delivered to Ceres 338 for packing.

Ideas for items to be donated include toiletries (non-aerosol, since these will be flown in depressurized cargo planes), toothbrushes and toothpaste, shaving gel, shampoo, deodorant, mouthwash, baby wipes, hard candy, gum, treats, granola bars, licorice, non-pork jerky, coffee packets, crackers, chicken noodle soup, Crystal Light, Gatorade, hot chocolate packets, DVDs, reading material about hunting, automotive, or fitness, paperback novels, board games, playing cards, frisbees, nerf balls, sketch pads, and colored pencils.

The letters, however, are vital to lift their spirits. These can be addressed, "Dear Soldier." If you are interested in a pen pal, feel free to give your address, though this is not necessary. Let the soldiers know what is happening on campus or around the community.

Our thanks to all who have already contributed, and our thanks for those who will continue to give. It is very much appreciated by the soldiers in Afghanistan. If you have questions please contact me at 231-9706 or jeri.vaudrin@ndsu.edu.



NDSU United Way 2012 campaign update

Char Goodyear, assistant to the vice president for University Relations, served as campus campaign coordinator again this year. NDSU's 2012 campaign wrapped up early this year, with the following results:

Pledges: \$105,369.20
Special Fundraising Events: \$4,285.62
Total Campaign: \$109,654.82
(an increase of 1.57% from 2011)
Donors: 396
Participation: 17%
Leaders in Giving (Key Club): 83
(an increase of 2.47% from 2011)

United Way donations fund 75 programs of 43 local agencies. United Way programs with direct connections to NDSU include Gearing Up for Kindergarten and RSVP+, which are both directed and coordinated by university personnel.

For more information on the NDSU United Way campaign, please contact Char at char.goodyear@ndsu.edu

For more information on United Way, see their Website at, www.unitedwaycassclay.org

Your support of the United Way is very much appreciated.

Campus Kudos presented at Nov. 7, 2012 Staff Senate meeting

Issued as a heart-felt thanks for contributions to campus and the people on campus, Campus Kudos is a certificate of appreciation for anyone, including students, staff, and faculty.

Staff Senate sponsors this program to encourage NDSU employees to recognize co-workers when they exhibit one or more of the valued behaviors of customer service, continuous improvement, teamwork, integrity and quality.

Campus Kudos were presented at the Nov. 7 Staff Senate meeting to the following staff :

Eric Exner. Sara Schuchard, who nominated Eric, wrote, *"Eric is great to work with. He is always friendly and has a positive attitude. He's dependable, always going above and beyond to help me even when he's busy. He has so much knowledge with PeopleSoft and our accounting system and is willing to share it. He enables me to be better at my job and understand NDSU's accounting system. I don't feel "thank you" is sufficient for all he's taught me."*

Vicki Miller. Jeanine Trowbridge's nomination read, *"Leadership is about vision and being able to lead a group of people to achieve a specific outcome or goal. Excellent leadership recognizes the talents of the team members and maximizes their outcome by allowing the members to grow in their talent and recognize them for their efforts unselfishly. Vicki's leadership with the Homecoming Float committee exemplifies this leadership and together they exhibit the best form of synergy. Congratulations!"*

Adam Christiansen, Bill Lenarz and Deven Styczynski. Vicki Miller's nomination read, *"Bill, Devin and Adam went above and beyond to bring an idea for the Homecoming float to a reality. They took the lead in getting the materials, cutting out letters and Bison, stenciling and painting the wood for the float, and assembling it on parade day. The teamwork shown by these three exemplifies the wonderful senators we have and truly defines teamwork."*

Each recipient was presented with a gift certificate, which may be redeemed at either the Minard Hall or Memorial Union Coffee Cart, and a \$10 gift certificate to the NDSU Bookstore.

You can submit your nomination online at www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate . Nominations may also be made during any regularly scheduled Staff Senate meeting.



Pictured from left: Dave Ruhland, Eric Exner's supervisor, Eric Exner, Janine Trowbridge



Pictured from left: Deven Styczynski, Bill Lenarz, Vicki Miller, Adam Christiansen

New pedestrian-activated lighted crossing installed near Alumni Center By Mary Asheim

Out of concern for the pedestrians crossing University Avenue near the Alumni Center, a committee was formed at the Dec. 7, 2011, Staff Senate meeting, comprised of Janis Bork, Janine Trowbridge, Angela Bachman and Wendy Clarin.

When the committee met with City of Fargo Traffic Engineer Jeremy Gordon, they first discussed how pedestrians can use the crossing at 12th Avenue and 13th Avenue during periods of heavy traffic. Jeremy shared that the city was looking at a new product for crossings, a pedestrian-activated lighted crossing sign, which would be ideal for the pedestrian crossing on University Avenue near the Alumni Center.

On Oct. 19, 2012, the committee was informed the crossing sign would be installed by Dec. 1, 2012. The committee's work was officially completed at the Nov. 7, 2012 Staff Senate meeting.

Financial and stress management advice at Feb. 13 DiscoverU

The spring Discover U is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 13, 7:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the Memorial Union Great Room. All NDSU staff are invited and encouraged to attend this staff development workshop organized by NDSU's Staff Senate.

This is the second of two Discover U events to be offered this academic year, each lasting half a day, in an effort to provide opportunities for more staff to participate without being away from their work for an entire day.

The Feb. 13 program is titled, "Managing and Balancing your Finances and Stress Management" and includes the following presentations:

- Juan Guerrero and Paul Fuller, Senior Financial Consultants from TIAA-CREF, will discuss strategic ways to save and invest your dollars;
- Lori Scharmer, NDSU Extension, will speak about building a budget and ways to stay on track as you work toward your financial goals;
- James Clifton, NDSU Accounting professor, will share advice on the most effective ways to handle your taxes, including preparation tips; and
- Elizabeth Gjerde, Deer Oaks EAP Services, will provide helpful ways for facing stress and creating a healthy balance between work and life outside work

The cost is \$20, which includes a light breakfast and a lunch buffet.

You may access the registration form at

www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate and either register online or by sending the completed registration form and a check or IDB to Christina Exner, Dept. 7620, ABEN #103. The registration deadline is Friday, Feb. 8.



Gennifer Baker participating in the fall 2012 DiscoverU, "The HoopWoman's Guide to Living Freely & Fully"



Valentine Ball scheduled for Feb. 23

NDSU Staff Senate is sponsoring the annual Valentine Ball on Saturday, Feb. 23, from 7:30 p.m. to midnight in the Memorial Union Great Plains Ballroom. Students, staff, faculty and alumni are invited to this festive evening of socializing, dining and dancing.



DJ Nola, Corey Mack of Platinum Mixing Productions, will provide a variety of music, to include big band era and recorded music requests.

Attendees also can take advantage of free dance

lessons provided by the NDSU Ballroom Dance Club instructed by Donald Miller. The event will also feature dancing exhibitions, as well as beverages, hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

Tickets will be sold in advance of the event for \$10 per person for staff, faculty and alumni, and \$5 per person for students. All profits will be donated to the Staff Senate Student Scholarship Fund. Tickets will be available for purchase from Staff Senators and Valentine Ball Committee members. Tickets will also be available from Feb. 12 - 22 at a Memorial Union contact table and at the Student Government Office.

If you are interested in helping plan this event, please contact Vicki Miller at 1-9447 or via email at victoria.miller@ndsu.edu.

Staff Senate service opportunities

By Laura Dallmann

We invite you to consider joining NDSU's Staff Senate. There are many benefits to being a part of Staff Senate, including the opportunity to meet people from across campus, service to others, and being a voice for the future of staff at NDSU.

If you would like to join and start serving now, we have openings available. Also, general senator nominations will take place in March; you may self-nominate or nominate someone you know who is interested in serving as a senator.

We also have a proxy list that would allow you to attend in place of a senator that is absent and have full rights of a senator at a meeting. This opportunity would allow you to get to know Staff Senate. To learn more about Staff Senate, visit our Website at www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate or feel free to contact me (231-7607, laura.dallmann@ndsu.edu) or any other senator.



A sample of upcoming special days

- Feb. 11: National Investors' Day
- Feb. 20: Love Your Pet Day
- Feb. 23: Tennis Day
- March 1: Employee Appreciation Day
- March 8: International Women's Day
- March 14-20: National Agriculture Week
- March 30: Doctors' Day
- April 24: Administrative Professionals Day
- April 25: Take Our Daughters & Sons to Work Day
- April 30: Hairstylist Day
- May 1: Law Day
- May 6: Nurses' Appreciation Day
- May 7: National Teachers' Day
- May 12-18: Police Week
- June 3: National Cancer Survivors' Day
- June 5: World Environment Day
- June 9: Worldwide Knit in Public Day
- June 26: Columnists' Day
- July 1: Praise a Postal Worker Day
- July 16: International Juggling Day
- July 26: Sysadmin Appreciation Day
- July 28: Accountants' Day
- Aug. 5: International Forgiveness Day
- Aug. 8: Senior Citizens' Day
- Aug. 13: Left Handers' Day

Quarter Century Club to welcome new members

The Office of Human Resources and Payroll will sponsor the annual Quarter Century Club new members recognition dinner scheduled for Wednesday, May 8, in the Alumni Center.

The event honors employees who have been employed at NDSU for 25 years.



2013 New Employee Orientation sessions planned

New employee orientation sessions for the calendar year have been scheduled for March 20, July 23 and Nov. 19. All sessions will be held in the Memorial Union's Plains Ballroom from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

For more information please contact Chris Gauthier, Benefits Assistant in the Human Resources/Payroll office, at 231-5602 or via email at Christine.Gauthier@ndsu.edu.

THE MESSENGER

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Editor: CeCe Rohwedder

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NDSU STAFF SENATE MEETINGS 9:30 - 11 A.M., Memorial Union All staff are welcome!

October 3, 2012, Plains Room
November 7, 2012, Plains Room
December 5, 2012, Plains Room
January 2, 2013, Great Room
February 6, 2013, Plains Room
March 6, 2013, Plains Room
April 3, 2013, Great Room
May 1, 2013, Plains Room
June 12, 2013, Plains Room

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