

NORTHERN NETWORK NEWS

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern

April 29, 2016

This Past Week

Last NNN until September

Another school year is coming to an end, so this will be the last issue of the Northern Network News for the 2015-2016 academic year. I want to express special thanks to everyone who contributed information, articles, and photos to the NNN. I especially want to acknowledge contributors Bill Lanier, Kimmi Boyce, Mary Heller, Cristina Estrada-Underwood, Vicki Gist, and Caleb Hutchins. I also want to thank Pam Hillery, Amber Spring, Lindsey Brown, Belinda Potter, and Rachel Dean for helping proofread the weekly issues. And thank you Marianne Hoppe for working diligently on the NNN archives. Have a great summer break. The Northern Network News will return in the fall.

- Jim Potter, Director of University Relations and Editor of NNN

Knife River Corporation Donates \$50,000 to MSUN Diesel Technology Center



Yesterday, Knife River Corporation presented Montana State University-Northern with a \$50,000 gift for the new Diesel Technology Center. The gift was presented during the 8th annual TekNoXpo. Dave Zinke, Region President for Knife River Corporation's Montana and Wyoming operations, and Gary Forrester, Montana government affairs lobbyist for MDU Resources Group, were on site for the presentation.

Knife River Corporation mines aggregates and markets crushed stone, sand, gravel and related construction materials, including ready-mix concrete, cement, asphalt, liquid asphalt and other value-added products. It also performs integrated contracting services. Knife River is a Top 10 producer of aggregates in America, employs nearly 5,000 people during peak construction season, and has physical locations in 15 states and

operates in 19 states. Knife River is a subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc. headquartered in Bismarck, North Dakota.

"Diesel mechanical expertise is critical to our operations, and we appreciate the graduates of MSU-Northern's diesel technology program - those who have worked with us in the past and those who will work with us in the future," said Zinke. "We are happy to support programs that are critical to our industry and to the communities where we do business."

"We are very grateful to Knife River Corporation and MDU Resources Group for their support of our new Diesel Technology Center," said MSU-Northern Chancellor, Greg Kegel. "We are pleased that everything is moving forward on the new building and we plan on doing a ground breaking ceremony on Friday, May the 20th, during the Board of Regents meeting which will take place on our campus," said Kegel.

Little River Institute Indigenous Education Conference



In 2015, Montana State University-Northern's Extended University received a five-year, \$1.9 million grant through the Native American Serving Nontribal Institutions (NASNTI) Program of the U.S. Department of Education. The grant is intended to improve the retention and completion rates of American Indian students in higher education. As part of this grant, the Little River Institute was created to serve as a center of tutoring, mentoring, and support for American Indian students at MSU-Northern, as well as a source of culturally responsive professional development for MSU-Northern faculty and staff.

MSU-Northern is proud to be hosting the First Annual Little River Institute Indigenous Education Conference. This is a chance for faculty, staff, and students from across Montana to come together for a conversation about the experiences, triumphs, and struggles of American Indian students in higher education.

Yesterday marked the beginning of the First Annual Little River Institute Indigenous Education Conference, which will continue until Saturday. So far the conference has featured presenters and keynote speakers such as: Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction, Denise Juneau; President of Antioch University Seattle, Dr. Cassandra Manuelito-Kerkvliet; Mike Jetty of OPI; Cheryl and Manuel Morales of Aaniiih Nakoda College; Julie Brown, an MSU graduate student; and Greg Drummer of Aaniiih Nakoda College.

The remainder of the conference promises to be enlightening, including presentations by: Director of Indian Education, OPI, Mandy Smoker Broaddus; Dr. Pearl Yellowman; Allesandro Foursouls; Dr. Donna Miller of

Aaniiih Nakoda College; Brad Hall an MSU doctoral student; Dan Kinsey of Aaniiih Nakoda College; Dr. Sue King; Angela McLean, Director of American Indian/Minority Achievement, OCHE

Another honored guest of the conference is Christian "Supaman" Takes the Gun Parrish. Christian is a Crow hip-hop artist and fancy dancer. Christian Takes the Gun Parrish, aka "Supaman," is a dancer and hip hop artist who has dedicated his life to empowering youth and educating listeners with a message of hope through culture and music.

8th Annual TekNoXpo



MSU-Northern's 8th annual Technology-Knowledge-Exposition (TekNoXpo) took place this Thursday. The event affords high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to explore their educational and career opportunities through MSU-Northern's College of Technical Sciences. This year the programs highlighted were agriculture, automotive technology, construction careers technology, diesel technology and nursing.

Every year, students have a blast learning more about the COTS through creative and unique ways. The Equipment Rodeo is always a favorite for the students, including skid steer racing, backhoe basketball, and the excavator simulator event. At the end of the event, the college awarded door prizes, as well as, \$1,500 in scholarships.

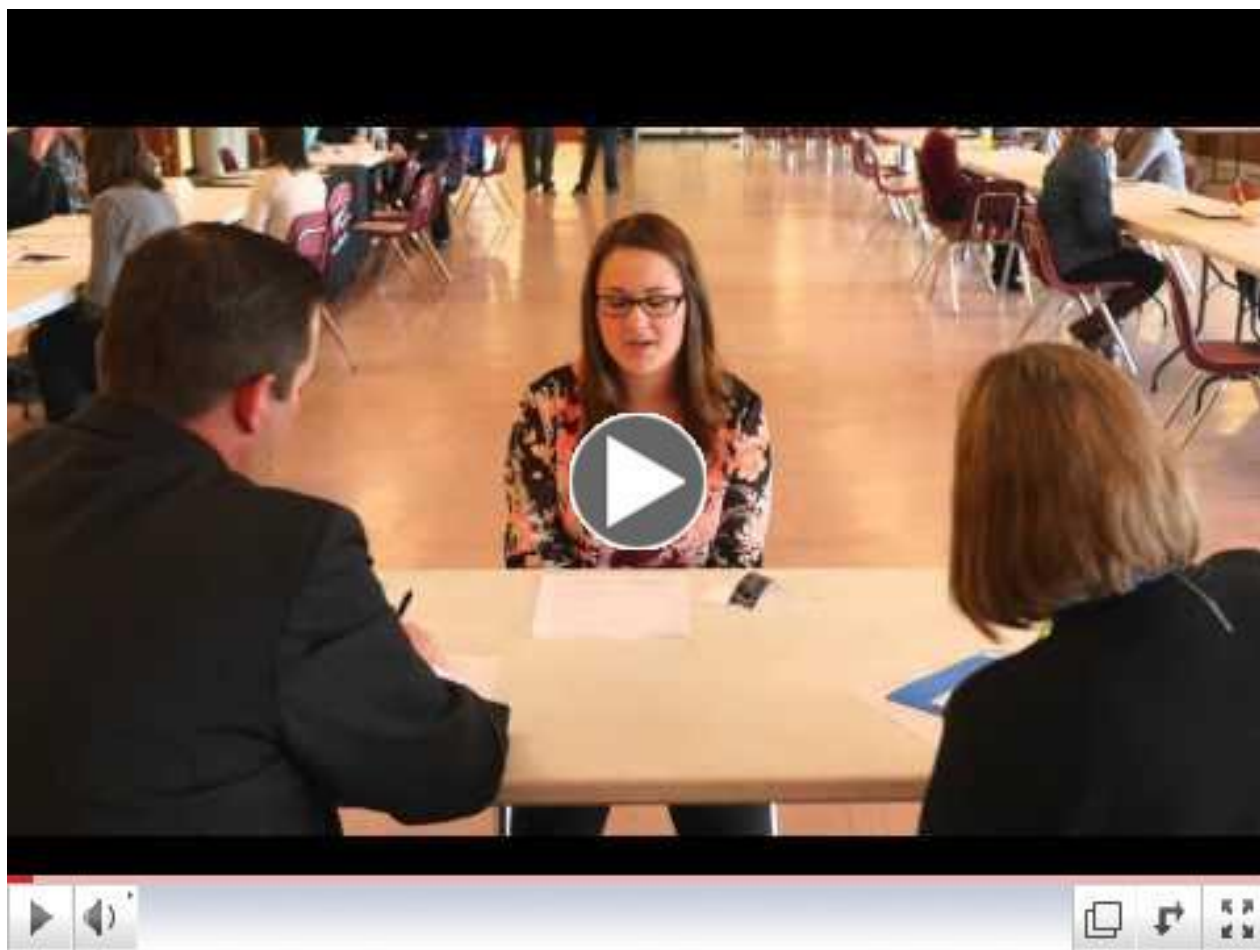
Student Senate Inauguration



Following a week of online voting, Chancellor Kegel swore in the new Student Senate that will serve for the 2016-2017 school year. The senate lineup includes:

- President: Randy Roeber
- Vice-President: Collin Miller
- Business Manager: Tayla Farar
- Administrative Assistance: Ethan Parch
- Program Council: Trent Noel
- Recreation Council: Alicia Mason
- Sustainability Coordinator: Brendon Heims
- Senators at Large: Rachel Glavin, Eric Tibbetts, Christopher Brekke-George, Amber Greene, Connor Schnicke.

Student Teaching Mock Interviews



At the end of each school year, Northern's student teachers attend exit interviews wherein they present what they have learned over the course of their training. They're also afforded the opportunity to practice their interview skills with a panel interviewing for mock open teaching positions.

Teacher of the Year Promotes Creativity and Innovation



Ms. Jessica Anderson, the 2016 Montana Teacher of the Year, is on a mission to share how educators empower, elevate and exceed in the education profession. Last Thursday she shared her insights with students, educators and community members with a talk entitled, "Promoting Creativity and Innovation in the Classroom".

Campus Improvement Day



Last Friday, the Northern family rallied all across campus to beautify the grounds and keep our lovely university looking grand for the upcoming summer months. Teams of students, faculty, and staff picked up trash, honoring both Earth Day and Campus Improvement Day.

Shots 'n' Brats



Dakota Westman readies himself to fling clay pigeons while Jedrick Shatz takes aim.

Last weekend Chi Alpha held their bi-annual Shots 'n' Brats event out at the shooting range. Northern students gathered for two things Northern students typically love, shooting guns and free food. The club provided the bratwurst lunch, as well as, the clay pigeons and ammunition.

COTS Taco Feed



As a yearly tradition, faculty and staff in the College of Technical Sciences treat their students to a delicious lunch from a local taco cart, and this year was no different. Free tacos flowed in Brockmann and students and staff enjoyed the meal and time to relax.

Student Bridge Helps With Recruiting Videos



Chris Showalter and Chris Kimling from Student Bridge, of Atlanta, Georgia have been on campus this week shooting a series of recruiting videos for Northern's diesel program. Their primary role is to interview faculty and students. Once they return to Atlanta they will edit the interviews and combine their footage with the footage shot during the year, by the university relations office, to create a series of short recruiting videos.

Northern Renovates Lab for National Coalition Certification



Monumental updates have taken place in Northern's Electronics Building. Rooms ELEC 102 and 103 have gotten a facelift like you wouldn't believe, and more murals and signage are on the way to liven up the hall and classroom walls. Beyond the obvious additions of new flooring, countertops and seating, many technical updates have made these rooms an official NC3 (National Coalition of Certification Centers) Member School. Some of the main upgrades include five torque Snap-on tool carts, three Skidmore-Wilhelm bolt tension sets, two advanced diagnostic two scan tools carts, one multi-meter cart, one precision measurement cart, and three tools at height carts. Soon, the faculty will install a new short throw projector that can display a 60-inch by 100-inch screen which functions as a smartboard on the wall from only twelve inches away.

The additions to these labs open a wide array of opportunities for Northern students to receive Industry Recognized credentials. Through these labs, qualified instructors can teach courses to help students gain credentials in digital multi-meter, mechanical and electronic torque, precision measurement instruments, scan

tools, and working safely with tools at height. Northern will be imbedding the NC3 credentials into the coursework of the appropriate degree programs. Once the transformation is complete, the faculty hopes to be able to offer this credentialing to the industry partners' employees, as interest and need arise. Diesel Technology Faculty Trainer, Aaron Riggin has been working to condense various multi-day trainings into 1-day trainings in order to offer employed workers who want or need new certifications.

These upgrades have been made possible in part by the TAACCCT (Trade Adjustment Assistance and Community College and Career Training) III Grant dispersed among 13 campuses for a total of \$25 million dollars. Northern is honored to have received a portion of this grant and looks forward to all of the amazing opportunities that will arise through the establishment of these new labs.

Science at Northern - Really Big Laboratories



MSU-Northern students have had an exciting spring semester as participants in numerous outdoor field labs that provided opportunities to learn more about the region. Beginning the first week in April, students in the Rocky Mountain flora course began field trips to the surrounding Bear Paw Mountains and badlands north of the Milk River to collect plant specimens. Although an upper division elective (BIOB 335/336), this course required no pre-requisites and its objective is to increase plant awareness and appreciation in non-biology and biology students alike. As part of the course, students gathered and pressed specimens that were added to the MSU-Northern Herbarium (HSC 204), a natural history collection that represents regional plant diversity. Sometimes, distractions during a field lab occur, for example, the discovery of a horned toad that was closely examined by all.

The ornithology course (BIOB 470/471) included several local field excursions that begin with early bird migration the first week of April. In addition to visiting local areas (Sands Waterfowl Protection Area, Fresno Wildlife Refuge, and Kremlin Bay, Fresno Reservoir) to observe birds, an all-day field trip on April 16 took place at Bowdoin National Wildlife Refuge, just east of Malta, Montana. Students observed nearly 40 different birds including a bald eagle, double-crested cormorants, pelicans, and a short-ear owl hunting for its breakfast. One of the highlights of the refuge is Swan Island, where students viewed hundreds of tundra swans.

Photo Information

1. Early field trip for the Rocky Mountain flora students to a side slope in the Bear Paw Mountains, Beaver Creek Park. Students shown are (L to R) James Carden, Sadie Overlie, Chazley Hulett, Kent Nelson, and TJ Allderdice.

2. Rocky Mountain flora students investigating a horned toad discovered during a field trip to the badland area lying just north of the Milk River near Havre. Students shown are (L to R) TJ Allderdice, Kent Nelson, James Carden, Sadie Overlie, Heather Hinkley, and Will Cochran.

3. Field labs can become a family affair where family members are encouraged to attend and participate. For example, the birding trip to Lake Bowdoin National Wildlife Refuge, became a learning experience for all ages. Students shown are (L to R) Jacob Smith (& family), Jase Kato, Brandy Lambourne, Will Cochran, Kent Nelson, and Sadie Overlie.

Important Announcements

Library Finals Week Hours

As everyone gears up for finals week, the library is offering extended hours. They are as follows:

Sunday, May the 1st: 1 p.m.-11 p.m.

Monday-Wednesday, May the 2nd-4th: 8 a.m.-11 p.m.

Thursday, May the 5th: 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

Commencement Rehearsal- May 5

A rehearsal for Commencement will be held for graduates on Thursday, May 5 at 5 p.m. in the Gym. This rehearsal should take no more than one hour. Prospective graduates are expected to attend this rehearsal when possible.

Diploma Information

Diploma covers will be issued at commencement. Diploma inserts will be mailed approximately 6-8 weeks following final degree posting. Please note that official documentation of your degree is your official transcript.

Commencement Attendance

All graduates and faculty are expected to participate in the commencement exercises. Please notify the registrar, in writing, if you are unable to attend either by letter or email.

Summer Session Begins

May and full summer session courses begin on May 16, 2016.

Graduation Garb- a Reminder for Spring 2016 Graduates

Do not forget to reserve your graduation cap, gown, and tassel for the upcoming graduation ceremony to be held on May 7, 2016. To place your order, please visit the MSU-Northern Bookstore (8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday), you can also download and email the order form to bookstore@msun.edu, or you can place a phone order by calling 406-265-3728. Since the March 6 deadline has passed, orders will now incur an additional \$5.00 charge.

Upcoming Activities

40th MSUN Sweetgrass Society Powwow- Apr. 29-30

This weekend, the Sweetgrass Society will hold its annual Powwow in the Armory Gymnasium. This is the 40th annual celebration of this cultural tradition. The Powwow begins today, Friday, April 28 from 7 p.m. - midnight with Grand Entry at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 30 from 1 p.m. - 11 p.m. with Grand Entries at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Winners will be announced at 11 p.m. on Saturday night. This family event is open to the entire Hi-Line and surrounding communities with no admission charge. Dancers and singers will be coming from all across Montana, as well as neighboring states and Canada. The vendors will offer art, crafts, beading supplies, beadwork, and jewelry. Enjoy a snack or a meal from the concessions while you are there.

For more information about the Powwow or Sweetgrass Society or please contact Sweetgrass Society Advisors: Erica McKeon-Hanson at 265-3713 or erica.mckeonhanson@msun.edu; Paul McKenzie-Jones at 945-9209 or paul.mckenziejones@msun.edu. The Sweetgrass Society would like to thank all of their generous sponsors and the Northern community for their continued support. To commemorate the 40th Annual Sweetgrass Society Powwow, a Powwow program will be available including Sweetgrass Society photos from the past 40 years. The Northern family hopes to see you there!

Autism Awareness Walk/Run- Apr. 30

The Autism Awareness Walk/Run is set to take place on Saturday, April 30. There will be two courses, one is a mile and the other is five kilometers. Everyone who wants to attend should meet at Northern Montana Hospital's Community Fitness Park. The 5K run will start at 9:30 a.m. and the one mile at 9:45 a.m. There will be prizes for the winners, activities for children, information on autism, and a free T-shirt for all who participate.

MSU-Northern's Founders' Excellence Award Dinner - May 6

The Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held in conjunction with MSU-Northern's Founders' Excellence Award presentation ceremony on May 6 in the Student Union Building Ballroom. This year's Hall of Fame inductees are Jaci Heny ('07) and Chad Edgar ('99). The Founder's Excellence Award recipients are George Bandy and family and Tom Baker. This is a special night to honor those that have helped to make Northern a great institution. Reservations are \$30 per person and include a three course meal.

To reserve your seat or for more information, please contact the Northern Alumni Foundation Office at 406.265.3711 or alumni@msun.edu.

Nurses' Pinning Ceremony- May 6

The annual nurses' pinning will take place Friday, May the 6th at 10 a.m. at the 5th Ave Christian Church. Everyone is welcome to attend. There will be a reception immediately following the ceremony.

Golden Grad Luncheon- May 6

This year's Golden Grads will be gathering for a luncheon in the Library Conference Room in the Vande Bogart Library at 12 noon on May the 6th. If you're a Golden Grad, please join many others in celebrating your achievements and those of Northern as a whole.

Founder's Day Dinner- May 6

During this year's Founder's Day Dinner, Northern will announce the Founder's Excellence Award winners as well as the Athletic Hall of Fame winners. This event will occur on May 6 at 6 p.m. in the SUB Ballroom. Tickets are available through the MSUN Foundation Office.

Commencement- May 7

This year's graduation ceremony will take place on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at 10 a.m. in the MSU-Northern Armory Gymnasium. Following commencement, there will be a reception in Vande Bogart Library. Everyone is welcome.

MAT's Final Show of the Year- *Equivocation*- May 20-21 and 26-28

Equivocation is a play by Bill Cain centered on Shakespeare (in this play "Shagspeare") and his comrades as they battle through a difficult time in history, questioning issues in artistry, politics, morality and even life and death. This is very creative piece during which six actors play more than a dozen roles.

Evening shows begin at 8 p.m. The doors and backstage lounge open 30 minutes before each show. Adult tickets cost \$15. Seniors, students, and military tickets are \$10. MSU-Northern students can attend for free with their current student I.D.s.

Weekly Columns

TidBits

By Bill Lanier

For those of you who like numbers, here are some interesting facts, figures, and numbers about Northern:

- 423 - Number of Student Excellence Awards that have been awarded since the first group in 1982.
- 301 - Number of Northern Network News issues (including this one) since the first issue on September 8, 2006.
- 207 - Number of NNN TidBits (including this one) since the first NNN TidBit on January 26, 2007.
- 109 - Total number of years that this year's retirees (Mary Pappas, Denise Brewer, John Donaldson, John Brese and Pam Hillery) have worked at Northern.
- 90.1 - The call numbers for our College Radio Station - KNMC
- 87 - Number of years Northern has been in existence.
- 77 - Number of years, total, that Bill Danley and Greg Kegel have worked at Northern.
- 72 - Number of inductees in the Northern Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame (prior to this year).
- 65 - Number of semesters in the history of Northern (including this one). Northern started using the semester system the Fall of 1992.
- 44 - Number of years Northern was in existence prior to Bill Danley teaching at Northern (1929-1973).
- 43 - Number of years Bill Danley has been teaching at Northern (1973-present).
- 40 - Number of Annual Sweetgrass Society Powwows held on the Northern campus (including this weekend's).
- 35 - Number of flags hanging in the Vande Bogart Library foyer.
- 35 - Number of years that the Student Excellence Award has been given to Northern students.
- 34 - Number of Academic All-Conference Student-Athletes this academic year (for all sports).
- 30 - Number of years (officially) that soon to be retiree, Mary Pappas, has worked at Northern.
- 27 - Number of years that recent retiree, Denise Brewer, has worked at Northern.
- 26 - Number of years that soon to be retiree, John Donaldson, has worked at Northern.
- 20 - Number of years that recent retiree, John Brese, has worked at Northern.
- 8 - Number of Academic All-American Student-Athletes this academic year (for all sports).
- 6 - Number of years that recent retiree, Pam Hillery has worked at Northern.
- 4 - Number of flags hanging inside the Vande Bogart Library.
- 2 - Number of 2016 Northern Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame inductees (congratulations Chad Edgar and Jaci Heny).
- 2 - Number of 2016 Founder's Award recipients' (congratulations George Bundy-family and Tommy Baker).
- 2 - Number of 2016 Student Senate Golden "N" recipients (congratulations Liz Leeds and Kristi Peterson).

I would like to thank the following for assisting me with information this past year; Kimmi Boyce, Alisha Schroeder, Becka Stone, Will Lorrett, Kelsey Harding, Jim Potter, and anybody else I may have missed.

I would also like to thank all who have read, commented, enjoyed, suggested and disagreed with the NNN TidBits this year. If you have any suggestions, please let me know by e-mailing at wjlanier1963@yahoo.com. Again, thank you, and see you in the fall!