

COLLEGE HAPPENINGS

September 17, 2024

FROM THE INTERIM DEAN

A Time to Celebrate

As we enjoy NDSU Homecoming events this week, we will take special pride in celebrating the groundbreaking of Offerdahl Hall and the Richard Offerdahl '65 Engineering Complex on Friday. This facility, made possible through the tremendous support of our legislators, governor, alumni, friends, and industry partners, will transform the College of Engineering and provide our students, faculty, and staff with a state-of-the-art facility for meeting the future educational and research needs of the college. I hope you will be able to join us on Friday at 2:00 p.m., on Centennial Boulevard just north of Sugihara Hall, to celebrate the start of construction on this building and thank our donors who made it possible.

In addition, I would like to invite all of you to attend our Scholarship and Awards Reception on Thursday, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m., in the Memorial Union Oceti-Sakowin Ballroom. At this event, we will recognize our student scholarship award recipients, as well as the donors who have made these scholarships possible through their incredible generosity and support. We will also celebrate the accomplishments of our outstanding faculty, staff, and graduate students who were selected as this year's recipients of the college awards for excellence in teaching, research, and service to the college. You can find a full list of this year's honorees below. Please join me in congratulating all of our colleagues for their tremendous achievements over the past year.

Homecoming Week at NDSU is always a fun time to show your Bison pride and reconnect with alumni and friends. This year, we have even more to celebrate thanks to the generosity of our supporters. Because of them, we have a very bright future!

Go Bison!

Alan R. Kallmeyer, Ph.D.
Interim Dean | College of Engineering

IN THE NEWS

[NDSU grows annual awards to all-time high \\$142.5 million](#)

CONGRATULATIONS

2024 College Award Winners

The 2024 College of Engineering award winners have been announced.

Teaching

- Excellence in Teaching Award – Pratap Kotala
- Early Career Teaching Award – Syeed Iskander
- Graduate Teaching Assistant of the Year – Tofatun Jannat

Research

- Excellence in Research Award – Dinesh Katti
- Early Career Research Award – Trung Le
- Graduate Research Assistant of the Year – Sharad Jaswandkar

Staff

- Outstanding Staff Award Professional – Guy Hokanson
- Outstanding Staff Award Paraprofessional – Francisco Valenzuela

The winners will be recognized at the Scholarship and Awards Reception on Thursday, September 19.

Please let [College Happenings](#) know about honors, awards, new grants and other announcements so we can share them with other faculty and staff.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, September 19, **College of Engineering Scholarship and Awards Reception**. Join the College of Engineering as we acknowledge our scholarship recipients and donors, and recognize the accomplishments of outstanding faculty and staff. 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. in the Memorial Union Oćefi Őakōwiŋ Ballroom.

Friday, September 20, **Richard Offerdahl '65 Engineering Complex Groundbreaking**. Join us for a transformational day for NDSU and the College of Engineering! The ceremony is set to start at 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 25, **Fall Career Expo**. The Fall Career Expo is a great opportunity to connect with employers both locally and from around the country. Whether you are looking for an internship, full-time employment, or want to learn from leaders in your industry, the Expo has opportunities for you. 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Fargodome.

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

Investing in the well-being of the people across the NDSU community continues to be one of President Cook's five strategic priorities. One way to improve well-being is by identifying and addressing barriers to employee engagement. When employees are engaged, they feel positive about their work, connected to colleagues, and valued for their contributions.

The President's Council for Campus Well-being is working with Gallup, a nationally recognized workplace survey and action firm, to help unit leaders understand and improve engagement by surveying NDSU staff, faculty and administration.

This brief 17-question survey will open on October 14 and is completely confidential, with no individual data being shared with NDSU personnel or leadership. Survey results will inform conversations and action planning across units on ways to strengthen employee engagement for our campus well-being.

Learn more about the Employee Engagement Initiative [here](#) and look for an email about this effort in October.

CAMPUS KUDOS

The nomination link for Campus Kudos is open for the academic year. Campus Kudos is a certificate of appreciation for NDSU employees (to include staff, faculty, and student workers), issued as a heart-felt thanks for contributions to campus and the people on campus.

*Recipients will receive a \$10 gift card to the NDSU Bookstore and a \$5 Caribou Coffee gift card, along with an award plaque.

Anyone at NDSU (students, staff and faculty) who exhibits one or more of the following valued behaviors can be nominated:

- Customer Service
- Continuous Improvement
- Teamwork
- Integrity
- Quality

Follow the link to the campus kudos nomination form: [Campus Kudos Nomination Form | NDSU Staff Senate | NDSU](#)

NDSU LOST AND FOUND

To help alleviate the frustration of losing personal items, [a new website has been created](#) to direct students, staff, and faculty on how to report a lost or found item on campus.

Please utilize this email account ndsulostandfound@ndsuedu if you need guidance on reporting or would like to provide feedback on the system.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The NDSU Office of Research and Creative Activity has several internal funding opportunities available for researchers in 2024-25.

RCA BIG IDEAS RESEARCH SEED PROJECTS – STEM FIELDS

Application Deadline: Monday, November 4, 2024

These seed projects will provide up to \$100,000 to support ideas that pursue innovative, ambitious solutions to impactful research questions that fit within NDSU's [strategic priorities](#) and/or the [ND Science and Technology Plan](#). The purpose of the program is to support activities such as pilot studies or gathering preliminary data that will allow teams to advance ideas for the development of competitive proposals in pursuit of significant external funding, including NSF EPSCoR and EPSCoR-like programs (e.g. NIH COBRE). For this call, proposals must be for projects within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields as defined by the National Science Foundation and/or the National Institutes of Health. This includes the social, behavioral, economic and science of STEM education fields. PIs must be at the Associate Professor rank or above and have a prior funding track record as a PI from the agency where submission is intended. [Learn more and apply>>](#)

EDRF INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

Application Deadline: Monday, November 4, 2024

The Infrastructure Program will provide up to \$50,000 for improvement of infrastructure in support of research and economic development goals that fit within NDSU's [strategic priorities](#) or align with prior and/or existing research investments at NDSU. This program can be used for acquisition of research instrumentation, equipment, and related installation services. Full-time faculty and research staff at NDSU are eligible to apply. [Learn more and apply>>](#)

NASA EPSCOR PILOT GRANTS

Application Deadline: Monday, November 4, 2024

NASA Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) establishes partnerships with government, higher education, and industry that are designed to effect lasting improvements in a state or region's research infrastructure, research and development capacity, and its national research and development competitiveness. This grant program awards up to \$58,000 to develop pilot projects that are in line with NASA's overall mission. Each proposed NASA EPSCoR pilot project shall perform scientific and/or technical research in areas that support NASA's strategic research and technology development priorities with the goal of ensuring a competitive submission to a NASA funding opportunity. All proposals should emphasize and clearly articulate how the pilot project develops capabilities to compete for funds from NASA. [Learn more and apply >>](#)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

For 2024, 101 publications by authors with the College of Engineering affiliation have appeared in various journals, according to the ISI Web of Science and submissions from faculty. Here are some of the most recent publications:

- Baidhe, Emmanuel, Clairmont L. Clementson, Juan M. Osorno, and Carlos Urrea. "Use of Thermophysical Properties to Characterize Cooking Trends of Slow- and Regular-Darkening Pinto Beans (*Phaseolus Vulgaris* L.)." *CYTA-JOURNAL OF FOOD* 22, no. 1 (December 31, 2024): 2399157. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19476337.2024.2399157>.
- Hasan, Md Rakibul, Qingrui Li, Utsha Saha, and Juan Li. "Decentralized and Secure Collaborative Framework for Personalized Diabetes Prediction." *BIOMEDICINES* 12, no. 8 (August 2024): 1916. <https://doi.org/10.3390/biomedicines12081916>.
- Hussain, Zahoor, Wajahat Samar Ansari, Muhammad Akbar, Abdelhalim Azam, Zhibin Lin, Ahmed M. Yosri, and Walaa Mahmoud Shaaban. "Microstructural and Mechanical Assessment of Sulfate-Resisting Cement Concrete over Portland Cement Incorporating Sea Water and Sea Sand." *CASE STUDIES IN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS* 21 (December 2024): e03689. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cscm.2024.e03689>.
- Javed, Muhammad Shanawar, Syed Muhammad Sajjad, Danish Mehmood, Khawaja Mansoor, Zafar Iqbal, Muhammad Kazim, and Zia Muhammad. "Analyzing Tor Browser Artifacts for Enhanced Web Forensics, Anonymity, Cybersecurity, and Privacy in Windows-Based Systems." *INFORMATION* 15, no. 8 (August 2024): 495. <https://doi.org/10.3390/info15080495>.
- Matetich, Christopher, and Jessica Vold. "A Comparison of Additive Manufactured to Injection Molded Martian Regolith Based Polymer Matrix Composites." *ADVANCES IN SPACE RESEARCH* 74, no. 8 (October 15, 2024): 3997–4008. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2024.07.003>.
- Saha, Biraj, Mohamed Ateia, Thabet Tolaymat, Sujun Fernando, Juby R. Varghese, Debasis Golui, Achintya N. Bezbaruah, et al. "The Unique Distribution Pattern of PFAS in Landfill Organics." *JOURNAL OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS* 479 (November 5, 2024): 135678. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2024.135678>.
- Sunil, G. C., Arjun Upadhyay, Yu Zhang, Kirk Howatt, Thomas Peters, Michael Ostlie, William Aderholdt, and Xin Sun. "Field-Based Multispecies Weed and Crop Detection Using Ground Robots and Advanced YOLO Models: A Data and Model-Centric Approach." *SMART AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY* 9 (December 2024): 100538. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atech.2024.100538>.

See your name on this list? Help us get the word out about your amazing work by submitting it as a **Breakthrough Alert**. [This online form](#) is an easy, step-by-step guide for summarizing published research for the general public.

College Happenings is distributed to the NDSU College of Engineering staff and faculty every other Tuesday.

Read past issues of *College Happenings* [here](#).

Deadline for submissions to *College Happenings* is 12:00 p.m. Fridays.

Contact kyle.bosch@ndsu.edu to submit items for *College Happenings*.

Follow the College of Engineering on social media.

