

Wimba Classroom also was used to allow off-campus faculty and staff the opportunity to ask questions of the four NDSU presidential candidates in a virtual open forum. For those unable to log in, a recording allowed them to view the question-and-answer sessions and then provide feedback to the presidential search committee.

More information about Wimba is available at <http://alt.ndsu.edu>. To get started with Wimba, NDSU faculty and staff can contact Tammy Cummings at 1-1090 or [tammy.cummings@ndsu.edu](mailto:tammy.cummings@ndsu.edu). The Agriculture and University Extension contact person is Scott Swanson at 1-7086 or [s.swanson@ndsu.edu](mailto:s.swanson@ndsu.edu).

## Faculty votes for creation of NDSU Faculty Senate

Faculty have overwhelmingly voted for creation of an NDSU Faculty Senate by a tally of 287 to 11. The voting occurred May 13-20.

The State Board of Higher Education must approve the action before the body becomes official. If approved by the board, the Faculty Senate is scheduled to come into being on Aug. 1.

According to Amy Rupiper Taggart, current president of University Senate, a number of changes will occur, yet the leadership of the Senate will remain. She will be president of Faculty Senate and Gary Totten will serve as Faculty Senate president-elect. Currently elected University Senate faculty members will be members of the Faculty Senate.

Taggart said bylaws revisions will be the first item on the agenda for the Faculty Senate. The committee that helped form the group has developed a full draft of bylaws for discussion.

She said many committees will be shared committees, reporting to the Faculty Senate, Staff Senate and Student Senate.

"We tentatively envision a coordinating council as the policy routing and disagreement negotiating body for the three senates," Taggart said. "Representation on that coordinating council should be representative of the three bodies with an outside member or two for mediating, moderating and facilitating the meetings. The coordinating council will be described in the bylaws, which will be discussed, amended and voted on by the Faculty Senate."

## Chemistry and molecular biology department renamed

The North Dakota State Board of Higher Education has approved changing the name of the NDSU Department of Chemistry and Molecular Biology to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

The change was requested to better reflect the ongoing research activities, teaching focus and interests of the faculty in the department. Greg Cook, chair of the department, says this change also helps avoid confusion of the department's mission with the NDSU cellular and molecular biology interdisciplinary program's mission.

In 2003, the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology merged. At that time, the name Department of Chemistry and Molecular Biology was adopted.

## Applications being accepted for Mid-career Mentoring Program

The FORWARD project is seeking applications for the Mid-career Mentoring Program. The goal of the program is to promote the advancement of tenured women faculty through the creation of peer, mid-career mentoring teams which may be interdisciplinary and mixed gender.

A tenured woman must submit the application, be the principal investigator and serve as the main project contact. Each mentoring team must have two or more women faculty, but eligible faculty men may also be included. All tenured faculty in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and non-STEM disciplines at the associate and full professor ranks are eligible to participate in a mid-career mentoring team. Each mentoring team is expected to meet informally once a month, but the program also includes formal meetings involving mentoring teams and academic administrators.

The funds (maximum \$500 per team) are intended to encourage tenured women to seek external funding, collaborate, create networks and gain access to administrators. Funds may be used for any items needed to meet the mentoring goals of the group. No overhead or indirects are allowed.

Applications are due Aug. 30 and should include the Mid-career Mentoring Teams form (available at [www.ndsu.edu/FORWARD](http://www.ndsu.edu/FORWARD)), budget justification using the NDSU budget form ([www.ndsu.edu/research/spa/forms/excel/NDSU%20Standard%20Budget%20Form.xls](http://www.ndsu.edu/research/spa/forms/excel/NDSU%20Standard%20Budget%20Form.xls)) and a vita of no more than two pages for each team member. The application materials should be submitted as one PDF document to [ndsu.forward@ndsu.edu](mailto:ndsu.forward@ndsu.edu).

Awards will be announced in September. All funds must be expended by Aug. 31, 2011.

For more information, go to [www.ndsu.edu/FORWARD](http://www.ndsu.edu/FORWARD).

## Northern Crops Institute holds canola and flaxseed course

Northern Crops Institute held a short course, "Functionality of Canola and Flaxseed in Food Systems," on April 27-29. Food processors from companies in Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota and North Dakota attended the course. The course contained information about oilseeds, flax and canola gaining recognition with the nation's consumers due to their nutritional and health benefits.

The short course was co-sponsored by AmeriFlax, the trade organization that represents North Dakota flax producers, and the Northern Canola Growers Association, which works to promote the use of canola.

"Flaxseed and canola are both specialty oilseeds that are principally produced in North Dakota," says Mehmet Tulbek, Northern Crops Institute technical director. "North Dakota raises about 93 percent of the total U.S. flax and canola crops. Therefore, it is important to our producers that we offer this course to promote the crops."