

# NDSU

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IT'S HAPPENING AT STATE

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## Bresciani redefines mission of internal audit office



*Bresciani*

NDSU President Dean L. Bresciani is redefining the mission of the university's internal audit office to place additional emphasis on a campus culture of ethical behavior and good stewardship.

In addition to assisting administration through appraisals, analysis and counsel related to risk, control and governance issues, the Office of Ethics, Compliance and Audit now has an additional mandate to more actively promote proper stewardship of public and private funds. Attention will be placed on training employees to be aware of policies and procedures. The office will be a resource for employees and will more actively seek out compliance concerns. Business processes will be reviewed and updated to further ensure compliance with laws, rules and regulations at the federal, state, local and university level. As now required by the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education, university internal auditors report to their respective presidents and the State Board's Budget, Audit and Finance Committee.

"At NDSU, all employees, students and affiliated entities are responsible for ethical behavior and making decisions as good stewards for the state of North Dakota," Bresciani said. "This reorganization helps us improve the system by which honest people do their jobs.

The university has changed rapidly in the past several years, and we can see that processes need to be updated to meet the demands of the university as it operates today."

Eric J. Miller, who came to NDSU as internal auditor in June 2009, will oversee the Office of Ethics, Compliance and Audit. He has more than 15 years of experience in internal auditing and corporate governance.

The office was previously known as Audit and Advisory Services. The name change to the Office of Ethics, Compliance and Audit is effective immediately.

The office will continue with the responsibilities of monitoring and assessing NDSU's operational and financial activities and processes to ensure compliance with contractual, federal and state obligations. This includes workplace safety and hiring practices, as well as providing independent and objective assessments of the accuracy and accountability of NDSU's financial systems. The office's expanded duties include periodic assessments of NDSU's ethical culture and promoting the highest ethical environment and standards of behavior as administered through NDSU's Code of Conduct by serving as a fair and trusted resource, and provide assessments, training and other support activities by championing NDSU's values and standards.

## Mehta remembrance event planned



*Mehta*

A remembrance event for Sudhir Mehta is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 1, at 9 a.m. in Century Theater. Mehta, associate vice president for academic affairs – international, died unexpectedly on Aug. 8 in Mumbai, India. He was 59.

Ed Deckard, professor of plant sciences, will lead the remembrance. Scheduled speakers include Craig Schnell, provost and vice president for academic affairs; Evie Myers, vice president for equity, diversity, and global outreach; Gary Smith, dean of engineering and architecture; and Allan Kallmeyer, professor and chair of mechanical engineering.

"Words cannot express the loss that NDSU has suffered with the passing of our colleague and friend," said Myers. "He will be fondly remembered for his passion for NDSU and for promoting NDSU around the world. The growth in the number of international students here at NDSU and international collaborations is due in large part to the vision and tireless efforts of this great man."

Mehta joined the NDSU mechanical engineering faculty in 1984, and was named associate vice president in 2002. In recent years, Mehta had worked extensively with exchange programs between NDSU and India.

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**NDSU** [www.ndsu.edu/itshappening](http://www.ndsu.edu/itshappening)

### **FORWARD to host fall kick-off**

A fall kick-off and celebration of awards event is planned for Thursday, Sept. 2, 2 p.m., Memorial Union Meadow Lark Room. The Departmental Impact Award will be presented at the celebration. Pre-register at [www.ndsu.edu/forward](http://www.ndsu.edu/forward).

### **News and events**

As information becomes available, news and event updates will be located on the "It's Happening at State" website at [www.ndsu.edu/itshappening](http://www.ndsu.edu/itshappening).

### **Stories available on website**

For additional stories and longer versions of many stories found in this issue, turn to the It's Happening at State website at [www.ndsu.edu/itshappening](http://www.ndsu.edu/itshappening).

### **Policy Update**

**Policy 515: Travel - Employees**  
Presidential approval must be filed in the President's Office before First Class or Business Class airline tickets are purchased. To see the complete policy, go to [www.ndsu.nodak.edu/policy](http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/policy).

“While he was a professor here, Dr. Mehta was highly innovative and helpful in looking for ways to improve teaching,” said Schnell, noting Mehta helped develop NDSU’s Personal Response System for classroom activities and the pedagogical luncheon program. “He was always helping young faculty in their teaching. His innovation went on in the international area, and our model for international projects proved to be tremendously successful.”

## Biological sciences receives FORWARD equity award

The Department of Biological Sciences has been awarded a \$5,000 Advance FORWARD Equity Award in recognition of accomplishments in supporting and advancing gender equity. In his nomination letter, Kevin McCaul, dean of science and mathematics, highlighted the department’s efforts to increase the number of women faculty to be more consistent with the proportion of women doctoral graduates in the discipline. He noted during the past four years, the biological sciences department has hired six tenure-track faculty and one professor of practice, six of whom are women. The department also recently promoted its first female faculty member to associate professor with tenure.

The Advance FORWARD Equity Award is awarded annually by the Commission on the Status of Women Faculty in conjunction with NDSU’s National Science Foundation Advance grant. The award recognizes and rewards significant efforts departments have put in place to improve campus climate and gender equity within the faculty ranks. Another \$5,000 award will be given next spring, considering department strategies to improve organizational climate and/or to enhance recruitment, retention, promotion or advancement of faculty.

## NDSU crystallographic X-ray facility becomes operational

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry has installed a state-of-the-art single crystallographic X-ray facility. The instrumentation was purchased through a \$300,000 National Science Foundation Chemical Research Instrumentation Facility grant.

Sivaguru Jayaraman, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry and principal investigator, spearheaded the grant proposal. Other co-principal investigators are Mukund Sibi, Gregory Cook, Kent Rodgers, Seth Rasmussen, Pinjing Zhao, Wenfang Sun and Angel Ugrinov.

The instrumentation, located in Dunbar Hall, will provide highly specialized equipment for faculty, graduate and undergraduate research in materials research and biochemistry. It also will be used in undergraduate and graduate courses, and is expected to benefit other colleges and departments.

## Emergency management becomes new department

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Emergency Management has been reorganized and divided into the new Department of Emergency Management and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. The State Board of Higher Education approved the change in June.

The emergency management program began 10 years ago and was added to sociology and anthropology in 2003. “We grew to 20, 30, 50 students and added the first emergency management doctoral program in the country,” explained Daniel Klenow, who heads the new department. “We began to realize we were a national program. We have or have had students from Illinois, Pennsylvania, Maine, Ohio, Minnesota, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Michigan, Wisconsin – you get the picture. This program has national attention, and we’re getting bigger.”

“When we developed emergency management, it really was a subset of sociology,” said Gary Goreham, chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. “It was a practical, pragmatic way of showing the value of sociology in another setting; that sociology could be important in dealing with disasters. But, as we look around our department, it’s quite evident that emergency management is a child ready to be on its own.”

## Alumni Association names officers

The Alumni Association announced its 2010-11 officers and new board members. The board sets policy for the association and works closely with university leadership to assist in attaining institutional goals.

2010-11 Officers include: **Barry Batcheller**, BS ’77, West Fargo, president and CEO of Appareo Systems LLC, who was elected board chair; **Mike Krueger**, BS ’71, Fargo, president of The Money Farm, who was elected president; **Wayne Schluchter**, BS ’82, St. Cloud, Minn., CEO of Schluchter Investment Advisors, who was elected vice president; and **Marcia Estee Strehlow**, BS ’78, Fargo, part owner of Strehlow Construction, who was elected secretary/treasurer.

New directors include: **Tim Brookins**, BS ’87 and MS ’90, Fargo, senior architect at Microsoft Corp; **Neal Fisher**, BS ’73 and MS ’76, Bismarck, administrator of the North Dakota Wheat Commission; **Joe Heilman**, BS ’09, Fargo, account manager with Pedigree Technologies LLC; **Thomas Johnson**, BS ’95 and PharmD ’97, Sioux Falls, S.D., professor at South Dakota State University and critical care pharmacist at McKennan Hospital; **Eric Michel**, BS ’89, Fargo, president and chief executive officer at Ulteig Engineers Inc.; **Laurie Steffes**, AD ’78, Dickinson, N.D., nurse at the Dickinson Clinic

## Bison Pride Fridays launched

Students, staff, faculty, alumni and friends are invited to show their “Bison Pride” on Fridays by wearing NDSU colors starting Aug. 27 and continuing every Friday throughout the year.

“NDSU has a proud and rich heritage and we are excited to promote who we are and what we stand for and being part of the Bison family,” said Kevin Black, student body president. “We want to show we are proud to display that sense of community.”

## NDSU Archives launches Flickr digital image site

The NDSU Archives announced the old NDAC/SU Buildings exhibit site is transitioning to the new Flickr page with expanded images and information. More than 20 buildings and aerials have

been mounted. Ultimately, most NDSU buildings and monuments will appear on the site. The site also has an exhibit on women's sports from the 1920s to the 2000s. Check the site, [www.flickr.com/photos/ndsu-university-archives/collections](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ndsu-university-archives/collections), for additional buildings and exhibits.

For more information, contact Michael Robinson, archivist, at 1-1017 or [michael.robinson@ndsu.edu](mailto:michael.robinson@ndsu.edu) or Karen Bjork, digital initiatives librarian, at 1-7288 or [karen.bjork@ndsu.edu](mailto:karen.bjork@ndsu.edu).

## Magazine wins CASE award

The NDSU Magazine received a prestigious Circle of Excellence Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). The publication received a bronze award in the category for "College and University General Interest Magazines" with a circulation of more than 75,000.

NDSU joined selective company in the universities being honored. The University of California, Berkeley, and University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom received gold awards, while Tufts University in Massachusetts was selected for the silver award. There were 41 magazines in the competition.

The magazine's editor is Laura McDaniel, assistant vice president for university relations. The editorial staff includes Char Goodyear, Joel Hagen, Dan Koeck and Kathy Laid.

## Tri-College University appoints two new citizen board members

The Tri-College University added two new directors to their board. Pamela Astrup and Ron P. Robson were elected to three-year terms that began July 1.

Astrup, Dilworth, Minn., is an NDSU graduate who earned degrees in education and Spanish. She has worked for Moorhead Area Public Schools since 1995.

Robson, Fargo, is a graduate of Augustana College, Sioux Falls, S.D. He is the US Bank regional president for southeast North Dakota and is state president for North Dakota.

Tri-College University assists Concordia College, Minnesota State University Moorhead and NDSU by promoting cooperative efforts that enrich the academic environment for students, faculty and the community.

## EVENTS

### Part-time Jobs Fair scheduled

The NDSU Career Center has scheduled the Part-time Jobs Fair for Thursday, Sept. 2, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Memorial Union Great Plains Ballroom. The event is a way for NDSU departments that hire non-work study students to publicize job openings. Last year 750 students attended the event.

Register online at [www.ndsu.edu/career/employers](http://www.ndsu.edu/career/employers) by Thursday, Aug. 26. For more information, contact Kim Teske at 1-7112. Departments can post job opportunities at [www.ndsu.edu/career](http://www.ndsu.edu/career).

## NDSU Women's Club plans fall event

The NDSU Women's Club will kick off its 90th season with the Fall Event on Monday, Sept. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at the NDSU Alumni Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Author, Forum columnist and historian Curt Eriksmoen will discuss women leaders throughout North Dakota history. He will be available for a book signing following the presentation. Also during the event, this year's scholarship recipient will be announced.

For more information about the club and its open-door membership, contact [womensclub.ndsu@gmail.com](mailto:womensclub.ndsu@gmail.com).

## Enchanted Highway tour set

RSVP ConnectsU Discover North Dakota Series will host the Enchanted Highway Tour on Sept. 8. The one-day trip will include a guided tour of the Enchanted Highway narrated by Gary Greff, a local artist who created large-scale metal sculptures along the highway. Participants also will take part in a service project cleaning up the area near the sculptures and visiting the Hettinger County Historical Museum.

The deadline to register is Aug. 27. The registration fee of \$69 will cover motorcoach transportation, tours, picnic lunch, gratuities and tax. The motorcoach will depart Sept. 8 at 10 a.m. Mountain Time from Dickinson and return at 5:45 p.m.

For more information or to register for any RSVP ConnectsU activity, visit [www.RSVPNorthDakota.org/connectsu.html](http://www.RSVPNorthDakota.org/connectsu.html) or contact Lynell Simonson Popowski at 1-5655 or [lynell.popowski@ndsu.edu](mailto:lynell.popowski@ndsu.edu).

## PEOPLE

### Gette receives Astronaut Scholarship

NDSU senior Cody Gette was selected for the prestigious Astronaut Scholarship Foundation scholarship for the 2010-11 academic year. The \$10,000 award is one of 20 presented by the foundation.

"Cody is an outstanding student and a worthy recipient of this honor," said R.S. Krishnan, associate vice president for academic affairs. "He has been on the dean's list often, and previously received NDSU's Presidential Scholarship and Freshman Textbook Scholarship."

Gette is a physics and mathematics double major who was born in Devils Lake, N.D., and graduated from Starkweather, N.D., Public School. He is an undergraduate research assistant at NDSU's Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering.

In letters of nomination, Orven Swenson, associate professor of physics wrote, "Based on my observations of hundreds of physics and engineering students, I am confident that Cody has the 'right stuff' to make significant research breakthroughs. His creativity, combined with his demonstrated ability, will ensure his success."

Alan Denton, associate professor of physics, wrote, "He is highly motivated, well organized, career oriented and seeks out new challenges – all qualities that distinguished the pioneering astronauts and that merit nurturing and special recognition."

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation was established in 1984 by the six surviving members of America's original Mercury astronauts. Its mission is to aid the United States retain leadership in science and technology by providing scholarships for college students who exhibit motivation, imagination and exceptional performance in engineering, science or mathematics. For more information, visit [www.AstronautScholarship.org](http://www.AstronautScholarship.org).

## Faculty receive FORWARD grants

Four faculty received Leap Laboratory Renovation awards through NDSU's Advance FORWARD project. The grants were funded with Office of Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research money, provided through the Vice President for Research, Creative Activities and Technology Transfer Office.

Grant recipients are Birgit Pruess, assistant professor of veterinary and microbiological sciences; Sangita Sinha, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry; Annie Tangpong, assistant professor of mechanical engineering; and Yechun Wang, assistant professor of mechanical engineering.

Sinha's award will fund lab renovations that support her plan to establish the first macromolecular crystallography lab in North Dakota. Her proposal includes renovations to one lab in IACC and two in Dunbar. The space in IACC will be changed to a "wet research" lab space with the installation of overhead lab shelving and an extra-wide countertop to accommodate a centrifuge. In Dunbar, one lab will be reconfigured to accommodate a diffractometer and an emergency power backup will be installed. In the other Dunbar lab, three cubicles with blackout curtains will be added.

The lab renovation award for Tangpong provides replacements for two air conditioners in her lab/teaching space in Dolve Hall.

Wang's award will be used to improve a lab in Dolve, including a new lab sink, fume hood, chemical resistant experimental countertop and supporting cabinets. The air makeup facility in the lab area also will be upgraded.

## Northern Crops Institute board elects officers

David Clough, Fessenden, N.D., was re-elected chair of the Northern Crops Council at its reorganizational meeting June 29. The council is the governing board of the Northern Crops Institute.

Clough represents the North Dakota Wheat Commission. He was elected to his first term as chair in November 2009, succeeding Dan Wiltse from Lisbon, N.D., after Wiltse's death in a farm accident. Clough began his first three-year term on the council in 2007. Robert Majkrzak, Red River Commodities Inc., was re-elected council vice chair. His first term began in 2007.

## Agriculture Communication staff receives awards

Staff in the agriculture communication department received multiple awards at the Association for Communication Excellence (ACE) conference in St. Louis.

Bob Bertsch received a gold award for "Technology Education for Ag Content Management System Training Project." Silver awards went to Becky Koch and Bruce Sundeen for "Educational Project/Credit for Basic Radio 101: An Emergency Responder's Guide to Effective Radio Communication," and Sundeen, Koch and Scott Swanson for "Non-credit Educational Video Production for Ready Business: Are You Ready?" Koch, Sundeen, Swanson, Ellen Crawford, Rich Mattern and Bertsch also received a bronze award for "Educational Package for North Dakota Flood Preparedness, Response and Recovery Education."

## Lardy receives award

Greg Lardy, Department of Animal Sciences head, is the 2010 recipient of the American Society of Animal Science Extension Award. The award recognizes recipients for outstanding and noteworthy contributions to Extension animal science programming. He received the award at their annual meeting in Denver.

"This award means a great deal to me and reflects the opportunities I have been given to work with a great set of colleagues in the NDSU Extension Service," Lardy said. "Without their help in carrying out these programs, I would not have received this award. This award reflects my passion for the beef industry and the producers I had the opportunity to work with on a daily basis."

## NDSU faculty women receive FORWARD awards

Four NDSU faculty women have been awarded NDSU FORWARD course releases. Peggy Biga, assistant professor of biological sciences, and Vicki Gelling, assistant professor of coatings and polymeric materials, received releases for spring 2010. Christina Popovici, assistant professor of mathematics, will have a release for fall 2010, and Kendra Greenlee, assistant professor of biological sciences, for fall 2011.

The course release funding provided by the National Science Foundation Advance grant is designed to increase research productivity of tenure-track or tenured women faculty in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines by providing a one-time, one-semester release from teaching responsibilities.

Future application opportunities will be announced in It's Happening at State and at [www.ndsu.edu/forward](http://www.ndsu.edu/forward). Contact Canan Bilen-Green at [canan.bilen.green@ndsu.edu](mailto:canan.bilen.green@ndsu.edu) or 1-7040 for more information.



## Professors attend National IDeA Symposium

Mukund Sibi, distinguished professor of chemistry and biochemistry, and several investigators from the Center for Protease Research traveled to Bethesda, Md., June 16 to attend the biennial National IDeA Symposium. The symposium is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health in support of its Institutional Development Award centers.

Sangita Sinha, professor of chemistry and biochemistry and a Center for Protease Research member, was honored with a Young Investigator Award. She also was selected for a highlighted poster presentation in the immunology and infectious diseases category.

Three other investigators were selected for poster presentations: Glenn Dorsam and Greg Cook, chemistry and biochemistry department, and Jane Schuh from veterinary and microbiology.

## Ayitou receives NSF fellowship

Anoklase Ayitou, chemistry and biochemistry graduate student, was awarded a prestigious and competitive National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. The National Science Foundation noted Anoklase's selection "was based on your outstanding abilities and accomplishments, as well as your potential to contribute to strengthening the vitality of the U.S. science and engineering enterprise." He is the third student from NDSU to receive the fellowship.

The fellowship is awarded for 2010-13 and carries an award of \$90,000 plus \$31,500 for total research related expenses. Anoklase also received a UNCF-Merck Science initiative grant earlier this year and is a Global Center of Excellence fellow at Osaka University, Osaka, Japan.

## Johnson named to board

Ron Johnson, NDSU dean of business and professor of management, was named to the board of directors for the Better Business Bureau of Minnesota and North Dakota in August. He was one of seven new members selected at the group's annual meeting in St. Paul, Minn.

Johnson also was recognized recently with a "Certificate of Contribution Award" for his contribution in organizing the International Conference on Business and Information in Kitakyushu, Japan.

## Doctoral student receives honors

The Korea-U.S. Science Cooperation Center (KUSCO) selected EunSu Lee, NDSU transportation and logistics doctoral student, as a \$1,500 scholarship recipient for 2010. KUSCO honors 15 outstanding graduate students across the nation who demonstrate talent in science and engineering fields.

Lee's research focuses on logistics and global supply chain management by using simulations and Geographic Information Systems. He earned his master's degree in industrial management and engineering from NDSU in 2006. He also holds a Master of Business Administration from Hanyang University and a bachelor's degree from Kwandong University.

## Students receive ND EPSCoR assistantship awards

Derek Stonefish, Cannon Ball, N.D., and Austin Allard, originally from Belcourt, N.D., are recipients of 2010 Native American Graduate Student Research Assistantship awards. The pilot program at NDSU, through the North Dakota Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (ND EPSCoR), has a goal to increase opportunities for American Indian students from North Dakota tribes to earn master's or doctoral degrees in science, engineering and mathematics. The research assistantships provide an \$18,000 stipend per student annually for two years.

Stonefish will work on a doctoral degree in zoology with Erin Gillam, William Bleier and George Linz through the Department of Biological Sciences and the USDA National Wildlife Research Center. Allard will work toward a master's degree in civil engineering with Yail Kim.

Visit [www.ndepscor.nodak.edu/programs](http://www.ndepscor.nodak.edu/programs) for more information.

## Doctoral students receive awards

Three transportation and logistics doctoral students recently received awards for their research papers.

EunSu Lee's paper, "Estimating trip diversion by using impedance in flooding regions," was one of the winners in the GIS-T Student Paper Contest. The paper was presented April 12 at the GIS-T Symposium in Charleston, W.Va. He won a paid registration to the symposium and a cash award.

Lei Fan presented "Optimization Model for Global Container Supply Chain: Imports to the United States," at the annual meeting of the Transportation Research Forum in March. He received a scholarship from the TRF Foundation. Fan earned a doctoral degree from NDSU in May.

Khalid Bachkar presented his paper, "A Decision Support System for Supplier Selection in a Chemical Firm Supply Chain: A Case Study Leveraging Analytic Hierarchy Process Model," at the 20th annual North American Research and Teaching Symposium sponsored by the Institute for Supply Management in March. Bachkar earned a doctoral degree from NDSU in May.

## Two hall directors hired

NDSU's Department of Residence Life hired Chas Lietaert and Stephanie Hedge as hall directors in Pavek Hall and Thompson Hall, respectively.

At Central Michigan University, Lietaert served two years as a multicultural assistant, one year as a resident assistant and two summers as a conference hall director.

Hedge earned a master's degree in counseling with an emphasis in student affairs at South Dakota State University. While at SDSU, she was assistant complex director and president of Chi Sigma Iota academic counseling fraternity. She earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

## Snyder receives Fraud Educator of the Year award

Herb Snyder, associate professor of accounting, received the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners Fraud Educator of the Year Award at the organization's annual meeting in Washington, D.C., July 26.

The award is presented to an educator who has made an outstanding contribution to anti-fraud education. "They look at the effectiveness of the program, as well as any research or community service the educator has done," Snyder said. "Our program includes a field experience for the students as well as an instructional video that we created with help from the theater department."

James Clifton, assistant professor of accounting practice, nominated Snyder. "It's nice to be acknowledged for the program, but it's more of a reflection on our department as a whole and the good work we do," Snyder said.

## Yadav to serve on international journal editorial board

Om Prakash Yadav, associate professor of industrial and manufacturing engineering, has been invited to serve on the editorial board of the International Journal of Six Sigma and Competitive Advantage. Published by Inderscience, the journal presents state-of-the-art, research developments and applied work in areas of quality engineering, six sigma, design for six sigma, quality management, lean-six sigma and other improvement efforts.

Yadav also is associate editor of the International Journal of Reliability and Safety and editorial board member of the International Journal of Quality Engineering and Technology published by Inderscience Publishers. He is a board of director's member for Quality Control and Reliability Engineering, a division of the Institute of Industrial Engineering.

### PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

## Business faculty published

James Clifton, associate professor of accounting practice, and Herb Snyder, associate professor of accounting, have an article on their innovations in fraud examination curriculum published in the July-December 2010 issue of the Journal of Forensic & Investigative Accounting.

The article can be found at [www.bus.lsu.edu/accounting/faculty/lcrumbley/jfia/Articles/v2n2.htm](http://www.bus.lsu.edu/accounting/faculty/lcrumbley/jfia/Articles/v2n2.htm).

## Majdik, Platt and Meister essay published in top journal

Communication assistant professors Zoltan Majdik and Carrie Anne Platt with associate professor Mark Meister had their article, "Calculating the Weather: Deductive Reasoning and Disciplinary Telos in Cleveland Abbe's Rhetorical Transformation

of Meteorology" accepted by the Quarterly Journal of Speech, one of the top journals of rhetoric.

The essay explores the rhetorical basis of a major paradigm change in meteorology, from a focus on inductive observation to deductive, mathematical reasoning.

## Spanier paper published

Mark Spanier's paper, "A Formal Derivation of the Aronsson Equations for Symmetrized Gradients," was accepted for publication in SIAM Undergraduate Research Online, the undergraduate research journal of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM). Spanier graduated in May with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and starts graduate studies this fall at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

The paper describes Spanier's original work done with supervision from Marian Bocea, assistant professor of mathematics. The journal's webpage is [www.siam.org/students/siuro](http://www.siam.org/students/siuro).

## Students present at conference

Six NDSU students from the civil engineering, environmental and conservation sciences program and the materials and nanotechnology program attended the fourth annual two-day International Prairie Conference at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, in June. All the students are members of the Water Environment Federation (WEF) NDSU student chapter.

The conference allows students and young professionals in the water quality field to network and share research ideas related to environmental issues. Funding for NDSU students was provided by the Department of Civil Engineering, College of Engineering and Architecture, the Graduate School, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services (AE2S) and Moore Engineering.

### RESEARCH

## Mallik receives grant

Sanku Mallik, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, and Kausik Sarkar, University of Delaware, received a three-year, \$587,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for developing liposomes to be used for enzyme inhibition and simultaneous imaging.

Mallik will prepare liposomes that are echogenic, containing gases that would reflect ultrasound and show up in ultrasound images. Ultrasound uses a pulsing high frequency sound beyond the upper limit of human hearing to peer into the body and provide images. Subsequently, the liposomes will simultaneously encapsulate enzyme inhibitors and air.

Mallik says this will enable accurate ultrasound diagnosis of the disease while, at the same time, the reaction with the enzymes would release the contained drug to only the target tissue.

## Faculty receive funding for cellulosic biofuels research

Two NDSU professors received \$309,357 from the National Science Foundation for research to improve conversion and reduce costs of making ethanol from cellulosic biomass. Andriy Voronov, assistant professor of coatings and polymeric materials, and Scott Pryor, assistant professor of agricultural and biosystems engineering, will conduct research in collaboration with Sergiy Minko, at Clarkson University, Potsdam, N.Y.

The group's research objective is to enhance conversion of cellulosic biomass into fermentable glucose to convert into ethanol or other chemicals or fuels. Their work aims to improve efficacy and reducing costs of cellulase enzymes needed for converting biomass to soluble sugars.

Voronov says six undergraduate and graduate students will be involved in the research. Faculty members also plan lectures and summer lab internship opportunities for high school students and science teachers.

Voronov joined NDSU in 2007. He previously was staff scientist in the Institute of Particle Technology, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany. He earned his master's degree and doctorate in chemical engineering and macromolecular chemistry from the Lviv Polytechnic National University of Ukraine.

Pryor came to NDSU in 2006. He earned his doctorate in biological and environmental engineering from Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. Pryor completed postdoctoral work at Cargill Acidulants, Eddyville, Iowa.

## Risk message project gets grant

Robert Littlefield, professor of communication and principal investigator, and Kimberly Beauchamp, doctoral student in communication and food safety and co-principal investigator, received a grant from the National Center for Food Protection and Defense (NCFPD), a Homeland Security Center of Excellence. The grant, renewable for three years, in total will provide more than \$400,000 for Littlefield's on-going project, "Refining and Enhancing Risk Message Testing for Use with Vulnerable Populations and the General Population."

The project draws on Littlefield's previous research suggesting learning styles and particular message variables influence how people respond to risk messages. His project will result in publica-

tions targeted at the general public, specific cultural groups, academicians, government and community leaders, decision-makers in the food industry and policy makers.

Littlefield and Beauchamp will work with members of the NCFPD Risk Communication Group and present their findings from previous projects in Chaska, Minn., Sept. 27-29.

## Microbe magazine features researchers' work

A team of researchers from NDSU and Iowa State University has been highlighted by the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) in this month's ASM Microbe magazine for investigating the relationship between *E. coli* of birds and *E. coli* strains implicated in neonatal meningitis.

In an article published in this month's *Infection and Immunity*, Catherine Logue and colleagues Kelly Tivendale and Lisa Nolan of Iowa State University found that *E. coli* strains responsible for causing human neonatal meningitis are very similar to avian pathogenic *E. coli* (APEC) using molecular techniques including multilocus sequence type analysis, phylogenetic group and pulsed field electrophoresis pattern.

## Li receives grant to study online persuasion

Jin Li, assistant professor of marketing at NDSU, and Lingjing Zhan, assistant professor of marketing at Hong Kong Polytechnic University, have received a \$59,000 grant from the Hong Kong SAR Government Research Grants Council General Research Fund for their research project titled, "Online Persuasion: What Makes a Product Review Helpful?"

The study's goal is to develop a model that captures the relationships between specific message features and perceived helpfulness of online product reviews provided by regular consumers. "The study will fill an important gap in literature by linking language styles, organizational structures and content features of word-of-mouth to its persuasive effect on consumer attitude changes," Li said. "Potentially, the results could provide practitioners with a useful tool to predict the impact of an online product review and thus offer significant managerial implications."

## SHORTS & REMINDERS

### Positions Available

Positions open and screening dates through the Office of Human Resources, SGC, 1919 N. University Drive. Position openings also are available through the NDSU website at [www.ndsu.edu/jobs](http://www.ndsu.edu/jobs).

### Senior Technical Services Librarian/

#00023136  
Library  
\$65,000+/year  
Aug. 31

### Nurse Practitioner

Student Health Services  
\$58,955+/year  
Open until filled

### Research Specialist

**Plant Sciences**  
\$35,000+/year  
Open until filled

### Custodian

**(multiple positions; various hours)**  
Facilities Management  
\$19,760+/year  
Open until filled

University Relations  
North Dakota State University  
NDSU Dept 6020, PO Box 6050  
Fargo, ND 58108-6050

## CALENDAR

### AUGUST

**25 Residence Life Welcome Celebration,**  
4:30 p.m., West Bison Court parking lot

**26 Equity and Diversity Center open house,** 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., Alba Bales House

**26 Office of Multicultural Programs –**  
Multicultural Student Welcome, 1 p.m.,  
Great Plains Room, Memorial Union

**28 NDSU Wellness Center –**  
Run Through 'SU, 8:30 a.m. Wallman  
Wellness Center

**30 Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry presentation,** "Plastic Electronics: 10+ Years of New Conjugated Organic Materials," by Seth Rasmussen – 4 p.m., Dunbar 152

**30 – Sept. 3 Poster Sale,**  
Memorial Union Gallery

**31 Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry presentation,** "Fun with Photons in the Sivagroup@NDSU Selective Light Induced Reactions in Solution and in Water Soluble Nano-containers" by J. Sivaguru – 4 p.m., Dunbar 152

### SEPTEMBER

**2 Career Center –** Part-time Jobs Fair,  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Memorial Union Great  
Plains Ballroom

**6 Labor Day holiday observed,**  
university closed

**15 Office of Human Resources/Payroll – Blood Drive,** 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., outside the west entrance of the Memorial Union. Schedule an appointment at [www.bloodhero.com](http://www.bloodhero.com) or contact Paulette Schlecht at 1-8961. Bring photo ID at time of donation.

**16 Career Center –** Meet the Firms,  
4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Memorial Union Great  
Plains Ballroom

**22 Career Center –** Engineering and  
Tech Expo, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fargodome

**24 Office of Orientation and Student Success –** Family Weekend, 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Memorial Union

**25 Office of Orientation and Student Success –** Family Weekend, all day,  
campuswide

### OCTOBER

**27 Career Center –** Agriculture Career Fair, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Memorial Union Great Plains Ballroom

### MORE CAMPUS EVENTS [www.ndsu.edu/eventcalendar](http://www.ndsu.edu/eventcalendar)

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**NDSU**

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