

Minnesota
STATE COLLEGES
& UNIVERSITIES

MnSCU ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

An Electronic Communication
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<http://www.academicaffairs.mnscu.edu>

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Center for Teaching and Learning Presents at International MERLOT Conference

In a well-attended session for faculty development, Zala Fashant, Martin Springborg, and Yvonne Shafer presented “Online Conference Saves the Day--and Changes Faculty Development Programs!” Participants learned of last summer’s RSP/iTeach Online Conference attended by 150 faculty system wide and how this experience led to CTL’s interactive Web Workshops which draw 30-50 faculty per session and are recorded for future viewings. Session topics are based on those identified by faculty on the bi-annual faculty development survey. Archived sessions can be found at: www.ctl.mnscu.edu/programs/educ_opp/webworkshops.html

The MERLOT Conference was co-sponsored by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Deborah Proctor from Minnesota Online served as chair for this very successful and highly-rated event.



6th Annual DARS/u.select Users Conference

Seventy-two campus participants spent time learning and sharing information with MnSCU colleagues September 30 through October 2, 2008 at our best attended conference yet. Thirty four of thirty seven institutions were represented.

This annual gathering, led by the Office of the Chancellor DARS/u.select team, featured presentations by DARS encoders from Riverland Community College, MSU Moorhead, Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Northwest Technical College, Century College and Ridgewater Community and Technical College. One of the areas covered in these presentations was the use of DARS to produce ‘designer’ audits to accomplish functions like determining admissions into specialized programs like Nursing or Dental Hygiene. The DARS/u.select team members gave presentations on topics such as Advanced Encoding Topics, Tips and Tricks, DARS queries and project news and updates. Evaluation comments included:

- “Thanks for the info, humor, your helpfulness and support.”
- “I really enjoyed myself and think the networking is key to what we do. Thank you!”
- “The Designer Audits presentation was very exciting, useful information.”
- “You should be proud of how some colleges are utilizing DARS.”

Hopefully all attendees left with new information and new connections to make them more effective in the work that they do to assist advisors and students at their colleges and universities.

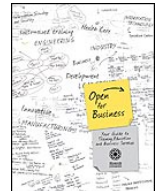
Guide for Business Services – October, 2008

It is with great excitement that the Office of the Chancellor announces the publication of “Open for Business: Your Guide to Training, Education and Business Services.” This new resource is designed to be a handy reference for business executives, human resource directors, training directors and others. For the first time, the wide array of services of value to employers is described in one publication.

We will be using the publication at conferences, professional and trade association meetings and other business-oriented channels. We are also looking forward to using “Open for Business” in the 300-plus visits to businesses our presidents, system vice chancellors and Chancellor James H. McCormick will be making over the next several months. The purpose of the visits is to listen to employers’ thoughts on how we design our programs for the future and to familiarize them with the business-related services we offer.

This was a tremendous effort on the part of many individuals. We look forward to “Open for Business” being used as a part of our system’s message that opinions shared by employers will assist in making our public higher education system better serve Minnesota.

A PDF of the brochure is available at <http://www.mnscu.edu/media/publications/index.html> or to obtain a hard copy, please contact Sandy Loney at sandy.loney@so.mnscu.edu.



Disaster Recovery Services Web site

In response to the workforce impact of recent hurricanes, CareerOneStop has updated the Disaster Recovery Services Web site.

www.CareerOneStop.org/DisasterRecoveryServices

Disaster Recovery Services provides one-stop access to resources, services and Web-based tools for victims of natural disasters. The site features links to both workforce and general disaster recovery information such as how to file for disaster unemployment insurance, where to find emergency housing and healthcare assistance, and how to replace damaged or lost documents like drivers or marriage licenses. It includes national resources as well as ones specific to the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and Wisconsin.

STEM Project Specialist

Brenda Lyseng is serving as the STEM Project Specialist at the Office of the Chancellor for this academic year. She is on loan from Century College where she is the Dean of Science, Behavioral Science, Physical Education/Health, and Communication. Brenda previously worked at the Office of the Chancellor as a Faculty Development Coordinator for the Center for Teaching & Learning and started at Inver Hills as a biology faculty member.

Brenda's overall duty is to assume lead responsibility to coordinate the initiatives and ongoing work of multiple Office of the Chancellor units, and across the system, related to STEM. These initiatives include the implementation of MentorNet across the system and our ongoing relationship with Project Kaleidoscope (PKAL) to build networks of STEM faculty and administrators. Brenda will be working closely with Lynda Milne, System Director for Faculty Development and CTL Director, Gail O'Kane, System Director for Education-Industry Partnerships, and Cyndy Crist, System Director for P-12 Education.

Contact Brenda at Brenda.lyseng@so.mnscu.edu, 649-5773, cube 7011, or www.stem.project.mnscu.edu.

MentorNet Offering Pairs STEM Students with Leaders



MentorNet is a nonprofit e-mentoring organization that offers a network of science and technology professionals who mentor undergraduate and graduate students, postdocs and early career faculty members. Protégés are matched with a mentor and communicate via email.

A systemwide one-year subscription was purchased so institutions may participate at no cost (a savings \$1000 - \$4000). Students at participating institutions can sign up for a mentor. The subscription began August 1. For more information go to www.mentornet.org or contact Brenda Lyseng at 651-649-5773.

As of late August, 22 institutions, representing all institutions types, have signed up to participate.

2008-2009 Academic Calendar

[Academic calendar](#) (PDF)

Calendar includes semester start, semester breaks, commencement, faculty duty, in-service and professional development, and observed holidays. <http://www.mnscu.edu/students/admissions/calendars.html>

North Hennepin Community College News

Student Success Day

On September 9, 2008 North Hennepin Community College had its first Student Success Day led by Carlos Baez, Spanish faculty and Shelley Grevillius, Director of Counseling and Advising. Over 2000 students attended workshops related to Developing College Success Skills, College Resources, Healthy Lifestyle Changes, Using Technology, Navigation Skills, College Life, and Other topics such as "The Daily Green Life", and "Break Dancing Competition"; visited Information Tables; enjoyed lunch; and C. Willi Myles comedian and motivational speaker. Student response has been overwhelmingly positive.

Paralegal Program Celebrates 30th Anniversary

On Saturday, September 27, 2008 NHCC's Paralegal Program will be celebrating its 30th Anniversary. The day will include a Resource Fair, Luncheon featuring Minnesota Supreme Court Chief Justice Eric Magnuson, and Breakout sessions in the afternoon on current topics relevant to Paralegals. Join us in celebrating their 30 years of serving the legal community.

North Hennepin Community College observed the events of 9/11. A collaboration among Veterans Affairs, Safety/Security, & Diversity/Multiculturalism, the 9/11 Observance featured a morning Campus-wide Moment of Silence across all courses, in accordance with the times of the attacks. In addition, 4 Reflection Stations around campus featured 3-D architectural models of the towers and memory books. Students wrote "in

memoriam" messages and how the events impacted and continue to impact their lives and thinking. A Feedback Session in the afternoon featured all 3-D models and memory books, for students to read and react to.

3rd Annual Assessment Conversation Day

Please mark your calendar for the 3rd annual Assessment Conversation Day, to be held at Wells Fargo Place, Board Room A & B, November 24th from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. The theme of the sessions will be Tethering Assessment to Analytics. For more information contact Lynette Olson or you may register at <http://eassessment.project.mnscu.edu>

MnSCU Student Affairs Conference

Save the date! The 2009 MnSCU Student Affairs Conference will be held on February 5 and 6, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis North, in Brooklyn Center. This year, we are partnering with the Office of Diversity and Multiculturalism to extend the conference to two full days. Lunch will be provided each day of the conference. A strand specifically focusing on Diversity and Multiculturalism will be built into the agenda. Please consider this an early call for conference presentation proposals. If you are interested in doing a presentation, please send me an e-mail or give me a call. Mike.lopez@so.mnscu.edu

Realizing Student Potential Conference / iTeach 2009

February 27-28, 2009

Minneapolis Community and Technical College

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Realizing Student Potential/iTeach 2009 will focus on Communities in Higher Education. **This** theme captures many of the "buzz" words of day-to-day work: Collaboration, Change, Partnerships, Networks, Connections, Colleagues, People. More importantly, this theme gets to the truth of our work: that we experience success in teaching today's students-tomorrow's workforce and leaders-only when we come together toward common goals.

Two keynote speakers will address the conference theme. On Friday, George Kuh, Director of the Center for Postsecondary Research at Indiana University, Bloomington, will speak about "The Classroom as the Foundation for Building Community and Fostering Student Success." On Saturday, George Kuh will join Sally Johnstone, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Winona State University, in a discussion about the technology that supports collaborative cultures and how these tools can help faculty and students.

RSP/iTeach Call for Proposals is open through November 23, 2008! You are invited to complete your conference proposal online at: <http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/events/rspconf/2009/proposal.html>

October Academic Innovations Newsletter

Check out the October issue of the Academic Innovations Newsletter. In this issue, you will find the following:

What is a Branded Hippocampus?

Minnesota Online Subscribes to Quality Matters

Internet Archive

October MERLOT News

The TLT Group Subscription

Follow the link below to the October 2008 edition of the Online newsletter.

<https://mnscuservices.custhelp.com/rd?l=AvcE~wqKBP8SZxr~Gpge~yL~Jvkq~7f~&2=1025>

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Please send your news items to Shelly Heller, Academic Innovations, at shelly.heller@so.mnscu.edu for the monthly electronic newsletter shared with Chief Academic and Student Affairs Officers, Deans, Minnesota Online Contacts, and Academic and Student Affairs.