STUDENT ACTIVITIES

SBS CAREER DAY
Hundreds of students majoring in fields associated with the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences attended SBS Career Day activities, February 1. Students had the opportunity to visit with 25 potential employers and to attend one or more of fourteen career panels involving many College faculty, alumni, and members of the community.

POLITICAL SCIENCE/LAW ENFORCEMENT
Melissa Andersen, Melissa Chenevert, Robin Fries, Michael Looft, Abbie Raymond, Andy Wilke and Shannon Woods participated in Phase III of the MSU Information Technology Services Survey. The survey was in conjunction with Dr. Fred Slocum’s Public Opinion and Polling Methods course.

Fall semester 2005 initiates into Pi Sigma Alpha political science honorary society are December 2005 graduate, Christina Prehall; and students Melissa Andersen, Andrew Ansel, Abbie Raymond, Dave Sanchez, Trinity Sol and Shannon Woods.

MSU’s Upsilon Alpha chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honorary society (Dr. Fred Slocum, Chapter Advisor), was awarded a $1,750 Chapter Activity Grant from the Pi Sigma Alpha national office, to host an undergraduate political science research conference.

PSYCHOLOGY
Nine I/O Psychology students attended and presented at the annual Industrial-Organizational Psychology / Organizational Behavior Graduate Student Conference in Fairfax, VA. The conference is for graduate students in I/O Psychology, Organizational Behavior, and Human Resource Management.


WALTER
Joshua Jans and Scott Winter (graduate students) and James McGrath (undergraduate) presented papers at the American Meteorological Society Meeting, Atlanta, GA, February 2.

Joshua Jans is one of 26 persons selected from over 150 international applications, for fully-financed participation in two 1-week long workshops by Weather and Society Integrated Studies, Boulder, CO. Josh is incorporating this into his Master’s degree, for direct outcome and implementation of his work.
Elizabeth Sedgwick, a graduate student in WALTER gave a talk to the Rotary Club of Mankato on the findings and implications of Radon in the local environment. The talk prompted such interest that she was invited to address two other Clubs in the city over the next few months.

WALTER will be starting up its KMSU ‘Weather on the Radio’ segment on Tuesday mornings where graduate students debate and talk about weather with Karen Wright on her morning show.

**FACULTY AND DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES**

**ECONOMICS**


*Michael Spencer*’s co-authored article (with B.F. Rodriguez, R. B. Weisberg, M. E. Pagano, S. E. Bruce, L. Culpepper, and M. B. Keller), “Characteristics and Predictors of Full and Partial Recovery from Generalized Anxiety Disorder in Primary Care Patients,” was published in the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease, vol. 194, no. 2, February 2006*.


*Michael Spencer* presented a seminar, “Providing and Valuing Threshold Public Goods with Alternative Rebate Rules,” at the Department of Geography at National Changhua University of Education, Changhua, Taiwan, January 5.

**GEOGRAPHY**

*Fei Yuan* received a MSU Faculty Improvement Grant for Spring 2006.

*Forrest Wilkerson* presented “Hurricane Katrina and the Impact on New Orleans” at the SBS Frontier Forum Lecture. A dinner was held in his honor prior to the presentation in the CSU Heritage Room.

**HISTORY**

*Melodie Andrews*’ Public History class honored Black History Month by assembling an exhibit in the History Department’s display case on the history of African-Americans in Minnesota.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE/LAW ENFORCEMENT**

*Colleen Clarke* spoke on terrorism policy at the federal government level and the disconnectedness between expectations and reality, at the Canadian-United States Justice Issues Cross-Border & Global Contexts Conference, Warrensburg, MO, Feb 21.

*Colleen Clarke* attended a conference for crisis intervention training for law enforcement officers handling mental health crisis issues, Bloomington, MN, February 28.

*Colleen Clarke* attended the Academy of Criminal Justice conference, Baltimore, MD., March 1-4. As a member of the Information and Public Policy Section of ACJS, she assisted in organizing a luncheon and preparing for the guest speaker, Aaron Houston, a Washington drug policy lobbyist.

*Joseph Kunkel* was interviewed by Karen Wright, live on KMSU, February 1. Dr. Kunkel discussed President Bush's State of the Union address and John Brady's victory in the Mankato special election for mayor.


*Fred Slocum* was interviewed by the Minneapolis Star-Tribune for a February 4 story on prospects for Minnesota’s Independence Party in the 2006 elections.

MSU will host the Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference, March 23 - 25. Students and faculty members from 15 or more Midwestern colleges and universities are expected to attend, present research papers, and get suggestions on how to improve their research. The conference is being hosted by MSU’s chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha political science honorary society (*Fred Slocum, Chapter Advisor*), with funding from Pi Sigma Alpha’s national office, the Department of Political
Science/Law Enforcement, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Minnesota Political Science Association.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students preparing to teach secondary social studies take two professional tests prior to earning licensure. Last year, all 29 MSU social studies students who took the tests passed both exams.

SOCIAL WORK

*Marilyn Frank* was selected as one of eight Minnesotans to go to Tiberias, Israel as a volunteer English tutor for two weeks this summer.

*Annelies Hagemeister* presented, “Domestic Violence Research and Resources: Accessing Information to Promote Safety,” at the Baccalaureate Social Work Programs meeting, Austin, TX, November, 2005.

*Annelies Hagemeister* chaired a session of the Violence against Women and their Children Symposium, at the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education, February 2006, Chicago, IL. She also participated in an invited symposium on the Responsible Conduct of Research at CSWE Conferences, and was nominated to continue the work of this Symposium in June in Alexandria, VA.

*Paul Mackie* presented, "Job Satisfaction and Burnout among Rural and Urban Social Workers," at the annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education, Chicago, IL, February 19.

*Paul Mackie* served as Session Chair over several presentations at the Annual Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education, February 17-19, Chicago, IL.

SOCIOLOGY & CORRECTIONS

*Thomas Schmid* received a MSU Faculty Improvement Grant for Spring 2006.

URSI

*Tony Filipovitch* published an editorial, “Maybe It Could Be a Mini-Merger,” in the *Mankato Free Press*, February 11. The “My View” piece was a discussion of the various options that are possible for combining units of local government in the region.

WOMEN’S STUDIES

*Susan Freeman* received a MSU Faculty Improvement Grant for Summer 2006.

Writer, lecturer and feminist activist *Gloria Steinem* was the guest speaker for the second annual *Carol Ortman Perkins Lectureship*, “An Evening with Gloria Steinem,” February 14. This lectureship was also a Women’s History Month event.

COLLEGE AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

MANKATO AND BEYOND LECTURESHP

The third annual Mankato and Beyond Lecture, “The Triumph of Human Spirit: Roseville Police Officers Respond to Hurricane Katrina,” was held February 2. Roseville Police Chief *Carol Sletner*, a Minnesota State Mankato alumna and chair of the SBS Advisory Board, spoke along with *Officer Alan Stefani and Sgt. Rick Wahtera* about their response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina.
**SBS FRONTIER FORM DINNER**

Dr. Forrest Wilkerson was honored and SBS research celebrated at the 27th Annual Frontier Forum Dinner. Pictured are Dr. Wilkerson, President Richard Davenport, Vice President Scott Olson, Shari Wagner, and Dr. Ginger Schmid.

**SBS ADMITTED STUDENTS OPEN HOUSE**

More than 40 SBS faculty joined Dean Bill Wagner in hosting about 80 prospective students along with about 120 parents during four Admitted Students Open Houses in early February. Dean Wagner and college faculty talked with our guests about academic programs offered by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.