Student Activities

URBAN STUDIES

Afton Anger’s Undergraduate Research Conference paper, “Comparative Analysis of Urban Design & Criminal Behavior,” published in our online Journal of Undergraduate Research, was cited in the Citizen Comments on the Northside Pedestrian Mobility Plan for the City of Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

WHO’S WHO

This month’s excerpts from the faculty nominations statements for Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities, are below.

Greg Boubel (History and Political Science) is a member of the Gold Key International Honor Society, Phi Alpha Theta, and is on the Dean’s Student Advisory Committee for SBS. He gave research presentations at the 2006 Undergraduate Research Conference and the Midwest Political Science Association Undergraduate.

Nathan Bruss (Geography and Spanish) spent time on a student exchange program in Mexico where he studied the culture and politics as well as polishing his language skills. He was the SBS student speaker at the fall MSU commencement ceremony.

Josh Colvin (Social Studies) tutors Hispanic students at Waseca Junior High School and is preparing to teach secondary social studies. His students will benefit from his love of learning and his commitment to excellence.

Joni Forstner, (Social Work) works as a Direct Support Professional at the Harry Meyering Center in Mankato and has volunteered with VINE, the Salvation Army, and an elementary school in her hometown. She is Vice President of the campus chapter of Phi Alpha National Social Work Honor Society, member of the Social Work Club, and was named a Department of Social Work Social Welfare Scholar.

Andrew Schons (Ethnic Studies) has developed a strong international experience through MSU-sponsored tours.

Nicholas Thunker (Economics) has served as an infantryman in Marine Corps until 2004. He was awarded a MSU Presidential Scholarship and the Economics Department Peterson Scholarship. He is a member of the Finance, Accounting, and Economics Clubs.

Jacquelyn Wright (Psychology) presented her own research project at the MSU Undergraduate Research Conference, where she received an award for the best project in her session. She is an officer in the local chapter of Psi Chi, the national honor society for psychology.

MINNESOTA INTERNATIONAL CENTER

MSU competed for the first time in the Minnesota International Center’s WorldQuest Trivia Contest held Feb. 2, in Minneapolis. The Mavs placed fourth in the 48-team field behind squads from the Norwegian Consulate, the Alliance Française and SIT Investments, beating out all of the teams from institutes of higher education. The Mav team consisted of graduate students: Takehito Kamata, James Livermont, Bryan Stempka and Honey Stempka, as well as Professors Don Friend, Cindy Miller and Jackie Vieceli, and IPO Director Caryn Lindsay.
Faculty and Department Activities

POLITICAL SCIENCE/LAW ENFORCEMENT


Jim Bailey co-presented, “International Forensic Science Center: An Innovative Approach to Forensic Science Education for Students and Practitioners,” with Nannepaga Zachariah and Nizam Peerwani, Medical Examiners Office, Fort Worth, TX, at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Conference, February 24, San Antonio, TX.

Jim Bailey’s article, “Reproduction Remington Rider Derringer Pistol: Calculation of Kinetic Energy and Evaluation of Gunshot Residue Patterns,” co-authored with Piotr Trojanowski, Central Crime Laboratory, Poland, has been accepted for publication in Problemy Kryminalistyki, a Polish criminalistics journal, Summer 2007.

Colleen Clarke’s article, “Anti-Terrorism and the Relationship of Police to Their Communities,” was published in Law Enforcement Executive FORUM, February 2007.

Colleen Clarke and Tami Wilkins brought 28 students to Europe on an international studies program. A presentation was made to the London Metropolitan Police. Captain Didier Moreno of the Bureau Amériques under the direction of Générale de la Police Nationale organized a lesson on policing in Paris followed by a tour of the facility. The group had an opportunity to meet and speak with a New York police officer working in Paris.

PSYCHOLOGY

Kim O’Farrell presented a poster, “Perceptions of Relational Devaluation in Personal & Professional Relationships Lead to Different Patterns of Affect & Cognition,” with Julie Moran (a former graduate student in Industrial/Organizational Psychology who currently works for Accenture) at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference in Memphis, TN. She also co-organized a pre-conference for the Relationships Researchers Interest Group on Close Relationships.

Andrea Lassiter, Kim O’Farrell, Lisa Perez, and Dan Sachau accompanied twenty I-O graduate students to the Meeting of the Minnesota Professionals for Psychology Applied to Work on February 15. They heard a lecture by Dr. Jose Cortina entitled "Developing Trust in Newly Formed Groups."

Andrea Lassiter was contacted by Gary Johnsen, Director of Operations at Creative Metrics in Minneapolis, who offered to help develop and administer a 360 Degree Feedback program for students in the graduate program. Gary came to MSU on Feb. 13 to help students create professional development plans, and to train the faculty in how to coach the students in terms of these plans and their future development.

Jonathan Page, Lisa Perez, Dan Sachau and I-O graduate students Pari Becker, Janette Donovan, and Jeremy Jones traveled to Andrews Air Force Base in Washington DC on February 9. They met with Major David Englert, Ph.D. and Mr. Thomas, Executive Director of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations to discuss collaborative efforts on research projects related to training evaluation, work-life balance, recruitment and retention, and work stress.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Clark Johnson received a “Character-in-Action Award” from the Mankato YMCA in recognition of his 21 years of volunteer service to the YMCA Youth in Government Program.

SOCIAL WORK

Nancy Fitzsimons and two Social Work students are accepting the Advocacy Award from National Association of Social Work, Minnesota for their “excellence in preparation for lobbying visits” attending Social Work Day at the Capitol on April 2, 2006.

SOCIOLOGY & CORRECTIONS


URBAN STUDIES

Tony Filipovitch’s article, “A bridge not too far,” was published in Centered, 1(1) p.34, February 2007.


WOMEN’S STUDIES

Maria Bevacqua was interviewed on February 28 by Nikki Ayanna Stewart of Ms. Magazine for a story entitled “What Can You Do With a Women’s Studies Degree?”
Maria Bevacqua was interviewed February 27 by Amanda Dyslin of the Mankato Free Press for a story on the activities of South Central Minnesota Pride, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit community organization of which Bevacqua is co-chair. Susan Freeman was interviewed on February 22 by Michele St. Martin from the Minnesota Women’s Press for a story about International Women’s Day.

College Activities

KESSEL PEACE INSTITUTE

The Kessel Peace Institute organized, “American Black-out,” a documentary film showing the current disenfranchisement of African-American voters through electronic and other means. The film was shown on February 13, 2007.


PAN AFRICAN CONFERENCE

SBS faculty and students participated in the MSU Pan African Student Leadership Conference.

February 21, 2007, Pre-Conference, “Somali Cultural Day”

Panelists Dr. Kebba Darboe, Dr. Wayne Allen, Dr. Raymond Asomani-Boateng, Dr. Patrick Akuffo, Ms. Lul-Ahmed, and Mr. Okony Cham presented, “Sub-Sahara Africa: Social, Political and Economic challenges in the 21st Century.”

Dr. Wayne Allen was panel chair for, “Leadership Practices and Issues in the Somali Diaspora.”

February 22, 2007

During the Opening Ceremony James Burnett made the Opening Remarks and introduced Mahmoud El Kati.

Panelists Okony Cham, Ismail Mohamud, James Burnett, Tyshia Riddley, and Dr. Patrick Akuffo presented, “African/African American Pan African Relationships,”

Panelists Dr. Kebba Darboe, Dr. Wayne Allen, Dr. Raymond Asomani-Boateng, Dr. Patrick Akuffo, and Mr. Okony Cham presented, “Conflicts in Maintaining Sub-Sahara Cultures and Traditions Living in the Western World,”

February 23rd, 2007

Dr. Annelies Hagemeister and Sagal Hussein facilitated, “Affirmative Action,” panel.

James Burnett, Dennis Gaddy, and Frankie Roberts presented, “Understanding Kwanzaa: Applying the 7 Principles to the Community.”

February 24 2007

Dr. Jon Yasin, Dr. Sherrise Truesdale, and David Ellis presented, “The Impact of Hip Hop on the Pan African Community.”

James Burnett, Dennis Gaddy, and Frankie Roberts presented, “Understanding the Principal and Significance of Kwanzaa.”

James Burnett and the High School of Recording Arts presented, “Homelessness in Urban American Project.”