



IT DIVISION MISSION: As an enabler of NDSU's success, the Information Technology Division is a talented team of professionals who strive to provide reliable systems and services, and to encourage the adoption of innovative technologies.

A message from our Interim Vice President



Marc Wallman

Colleagues,

After two months of meeting with students, faculty, and staff, I'm happy to report that President Bresciani and the University System Chancellor have approved an increase to the Student Technology Fee of \$29.76/year.

This will result in about \$375,000 in additional revenue each year. While this amount is less than what we had asked for, it will still be very helpful.

The increase follows recommendations by the Student Fee Advisory Board--a student-run advisory group that reviews all requested changes to student fees at NDSU. As we work on our budgets for FY13, the AVPs will meet to discuss how we will allocate this additional funding.

I am honored to serve as your Interim VP and look forward to working with you all in this capacity. As always, we have a lot of work in the months ahead, and I will welcome your input and ideas on how our division can best meet the needs of our constituents.

Staff birthdays

Birthdays listed from the 15th thru the 15th of the following month

- Joan Chapek Feb. 18
- Bryan Mesich March 2
- Val Nordsletten March 2
- Janet Stringer March 2
- Jerry Ranum March 4
- Jeff Gimbel March 10
- Cj Johnson March 13

Student employee birthdays

- Max Blom Feb. 15



Tidbits for the month

- Feb. 20: Presidents' Day Holiday
- Feb. 23: IT Time, 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 24: Estonia National Day (1920)
- Feb. 25: Kuwait National Day
- Feb. 28: Finland Kalevala Day (1835)
- March: Women's History Month
- March 2: Burma Peasant's Day
- March 7: Deadline for March *InTouch*
- March 8: Coffee with the Interim VP, 10 a.m.
- March 10: Laos Teachers' Day
- March 11: Daylight Savings Time begins
- March 12-16: Spring Break
- March 12-16: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. work hours
- March 13: Liberia Decoration Day
- March 14: 24th Annual IT Chili Contest, noon
- April 3: Carol Tschakert's Retirement Event

Gartner resources available

You are invited to take advantage of free opportunities to learn about today's critical IT initiatives and engage directly with a Gartner Analyst. Gartner, the world's leading information technology research and advisory company, offers one-hour webinars (live and archived) that you can attend from the comfort of your desk. There is no charge to participate, but you do need to register as early as possible because space is limited.

Upcoming webinars include:

- Feb. 16: "How Cloud Sourcing Is Changing the IT Services Market"
- Feb. 29: "Best Practices in Data Center and Server Consolidation"
- March 13: "The Impact of 4G CSPs Mobile Networks and Beyond"

For more information on these and other webinars and to register, go to www.gartner.com/technology/about.jsp. Click on "Upcoming Webinars" or access a list of archived webinars by clicking on "Replay Archives" near the top of the left menu. While you're in the Gartner website, you'll find a great many other resources that may be of interest.

Payroll/Timeslip Dates

February:	1-15 pay period (payday February 29) – Due February 21 16-29 pay period (payday March 15) – Due March 5
March:	1-15 pay period (payday March 30) – Due March 20 16-31 pay period (payday April 13) – Due April 3



A new addition for the Reimers

Coulter Robert Reimer was born to Matt and Tara on Jan. 25 at 1:22 p.m. He was 20" long and 7 lbs. 6 oz. He joins siblings Bergen, 9, and Greyson, 3. What a wonderful way to start a new year!

Fargo is No. 1!

In her article, "The 10 Best Cities for Finding a Job," published in the Jan. 12, 2012, issue of *US News*, Danielle Kurtzleben asks job seekers to put on their parka and snowboots, because the jobs are in metropolitan areas in northern states like the Dakotas, Vermont, Michigan, and Minnesota, with Fargo sitting at the top of the list!

Along with diversity and a strong presence in regional healthcare, education is a factor in job stability; Kent Costin, Fargo's director of finance, notes that NDSU and Concordia College are "two key employers in the Fargo metropolitan area."

To view the original article, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/7gzsxk3>

Guiding Principle for February

Each month, *InTouch* focuses on one of the IT Division Guiding Principles. This month, we highlight **GUIDING PRINCIPLE #1, "It's About People"**: "To become a model information technology service provider, whose success is measured by the quality of support provided to those we serve by... recognizing that it's about people. The Information Technology Division remains committed to the idea that technology is never an end in itself, but is only a tool to support the success of individuals in the NDSU community."

The IT Division Mission, Vision, Values and Guiding Principles are posted at www.ndsu.edu/vpit/mission.

Spotlight on departments: the Technology Learning and Media Center, then and now

The Technology Learning & Media Center (TLMC), now located in IACC 150C and REN HALL 420, has undergone many changes since it was formed in 1997 to provide technology training for students. For the first three years, the student training group taught short technology classes for students. In fall 2000, what had become the Technology Learning Center (TLC) acquired a small lab (IACC 150G) for staff to provide students with just-in-time learning assistance with specific coursework and projects. Walk-in services have grown from around 800 contacts the first year the lab was open to more than 6,000 in 2010-11.

An important part of TLMC services is assisting instructors who assign technology-intensive projects like Web sites, PowerPoint presentations, videos, electronic portfolios, and spreadsheets. Instructors have access to help with project planning, in-class training, and individual student support. As of spring 2011, the TLMC has provided more than 1,000 classes for instructors in support of class projects.

In fall 2005, as part of an ITS reorganization, the TLC moved to IACC 150C and acquired responsibility for multimedia services. In 2008, "Media" was added to the name to reflect the growing emphasis on media services, and a full-time staff person was added to address the need for multimedia expertise. Luke Prather was the first media technologies consultant. He was instrumental in setting up the media studio in IACC 150G and updating the TLMC lab with multimedia equipment and software. When Luke moved to Instructional Services, Steve Beckermann filled that position, beginning in January 2010.

During the past two years, Steve has made great strides in enhancing TLMC media services. The TLMC media studio continues to grow as students, faculty, and staff recognize the importance of visual and media literacy skills in our highly visual and media-saturated culture. These skills are essential in all fields of study, and the TLMC has supported media projects by departments ranging from pharmacy to fine arts to equine studies and many in between. While the tools for creating high quality video, audio, and graphic work have become accessible to anyone willing to learn, they can also be a little overwhelming. The TLMC provides a controlled environment for creating high quality work as well as receiving the help needed to identify the best solution for individual needs and the guidance to get started in the right direction.

The TLMC and Media Studio support a range of media projects including:

- Video recording/editing
- Audio recording/editing
- Motion graphics
- Screen capture
- Digital photography
- Advanced graphics work

For more information about the studio or TLMC media services please contact stephen.beckermann@ndsu.edu.

While the TLMC student employees (called learning assistants) are the underlying strength of the organization, online learning resources (called Learning Links) have also always been a part of TLMC services. Recently, the TLMC purchased a Lynda.com kiosk license, which enables anyone to access more than 70,000 video tutorials on a multitude of technology subjects. (Lynda.com can only be accessed from one computer in the TLMC lab.)

The spring workshop schedule is posted on the Web. All staff, faculty, and students are invited to attend. Read workshop descriptions and register at www.ndsu.edu/its/tlmc ("Workshops" link). New workshops this spring include AutoCAD, MS OneNote, and Social Networking (by Jeff Gimbel).



"If students aren't taught the language of sound and images, shouldn't they be considered as illiterate as if they left college without being able to read or write?"

Film maker George Lucas, quoted in Edutopia

"The importance of images and visual media in contemporary culture is changing what it means to be literate in the 21st century..." (Source: Introduction, ACRL Visual Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education)

Bruce Curtis attends Internet2 meetings

--By Bruce Curtis



The conference I attended Jan. 22-26, in Baton Rouge, LA, was the Internet2 Joint Techs meeting collocated with three peer meetings: ESCC, GLIF and a NetGuru meeting.

Eduroam was available on the wireless for the conference, so I just turned on my laptop and it connected to the wireless-no musing or fussing with configs or passwords required. Check out www.eduroamus.org

However, for the first time in many Joint Techs meetings, IPv6 was not enabled on the wireless. This was a topic of discussion in the IPv6 Working Group meeting; Internet2 apologized in the closing remarks, and IPv6 connectivity will be added to the list of check marks that sites must meet to be able to host a Joint Techs meeting. The other main topic of discussion at the IPv6 working group meeting was the recent announcement of World IPv6 launch on June 6, 2012; see www.worldipv6launch.org

There were quite a few sessions on Software Defined Networks and OpenFlow.

Internet2 provided more details on the new Internet2 Net+ Services such as box.com and HP Cloud services; for more details go to www.internet2.edu/netplus

A key bit of info is that IP traffic on ESnet grows at 72% per year rather than the 40% per year that IP traffic is growing on the commodity internet.

One of the lightning talks was a demo and info about the problems using AppleTV to display an iPad screen in a classroom.

Internet2 is changing the format and structure of the Joint Techs meetings and so far the changes seem to be OK.

Video of most of the sessions are available at <http://events.internet2.edu/2012/jt-loni/agenda.cfm>

Equity & Diversity Liaisons update

--By CeCe Rohwedder

NDSU's Equity and Diversity Liaisons is one of two initiatives launched to support the work of the Division of Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach in addressing concerns about campus climate for diverse faculty, staff and students.

The group last met on Jan. 27, with the program being a Community of Respect presentation. Members were asked to encourage staff in their departments to attend the April 16 Green & Golden Globe Diversity Awards event, to be held at 3 p.m. in the Great Plains Ballroom of the Memorial Union. Announcements included the addition of a "LGBT Information" link in the Employee Toolbox of the Human Resources/Payroll Web site, and the progress underway in the development of a Web site and a Blackboard site for the Liaisons' group.

As stated in the Jan. 31 issue of *It's Happening at State*, the Equity and Diversity Liaisons include 24 faculty and staff representing every division and college at the university. Characterized as an operational working group, the liaisons will assist with efforts to conduct trainings and will serve as a resource for university employees who have concerns regarding harassment or discrimination. While the liaisons will not be involved with any investigations or official mediation work on behalf of the university, they will be available to help individuals identify resources available to them, review policies regarding the university's non-discrimination statement, and help individuals understand their options when faced with a potentially discriminating situation.

Representing our division as Equity and Diversity Liaisons are Cathy Hanson and CeCe Rohwedder; they will gladly receive your questions, concerns, requests and suggestions.

The chili contest is coming!

-By Brian Kennedy



Tried a great new chili recipe lately, or saw one you thought would be fun to try? Here's your opportunity to join your coworkers in a fun event at the 24th Annual IT Chili Contest. The chili feed has been a spring

break tradition that brings folks together for a little fun and lots of good eating.

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 14, at noon, to share a batch of chili and taste other spicy concoctions made by your fellow colleagues. If making chili isn't your specialty, there will be a sign up to bring other complimentary food items—cheese, sour cream, onions, chips, pop—and of course, dessert!

Carol Tschakert has been the pro at organizing this event for all these years, but this year she is handing over the honor to Brian Kennedy. Brian also happens to be the five-year winner of this contest and says he's retired so others can make their debut.

So here's to cooking! See you at the chili feed, and be sure to thank Carol for all her work on the past 23 chili cook-offs!

Congratulations to Nathan Huff (but we'll miss you!)



As some of you may have already heard, Nathan Huff, System Administrator with ECI, is moving to the Minneapolis area. His last day with our organization is Wednesday, Feb. 29.

Nathan has been employed full time with ECI for six years and has worked for NDSU in various student roles since 1999. He has been very instrumental in the implementation and support of many projects for the organization during his employment with us. He is highly regarded by the ECI team, and his knowledge and skills will certainly be missed.

He has accepted a position with University of Minnesota's Academic Health Center. It is one of the most comprehensive health education and research centers in the United States, encompassing the Schools of Dentistry, Medical, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health, and the College of Veterinary Medicine. We are grateful for Nathan's contributions to our organization and wish him well in his new adventures at the U of M.

Nathan has indicated he prefers to not have an IT farewell event, and we will respect his wishes. However, you can feel free to either stop by or send him e-mail well wishes.

Congratulations Nathan, on a new career opportunity.

IT Division new projects completed in January

As you know, members of the Project Management Team review requests for new IT services and projects. The status and progress of these projects are recorded in tracking spreadsheets which are made available to all IT Division staff to ensure that everyone can see what projects are in process, how close specific projects are to completion, which projects have been recently completed, and which requests for new services are pending review.

These spreadsheets are available in Excel form at S:\VPIT\Division_Shared\New Requests for Service, Projects.

Projects completed during January are:

- **Document ECI Feeds (2011-146).** This process documents information sources, destinations, process locations, departments and individuals involved with data processing in, through, and around ECI. Project Lead: Richard Frovarp
- **Install CI Systems (2011-156).** Deployment of a continuous integration server was made to support software development in ECI. Part of this project was making a final determination between Jenkins and CruiseControl. Project Lead: Richard Frovarp
- **Unplugged cc Server Hardware Replacement (#E-2011-123).** unplugged.cc.ndsu runs the Cisco Wireless Control System used by NEO to manage the wireless access points for the campus wireless network. The hardware was replaced with new hardware as part of the standard server replacement cycle, and the operating system was upgraded. In addition, Bob Viou from NEO updated the Cisco software to the latest version. Project Lead: Timothy Mooney
- **Local Active Directory-(#E-2011-100).** An active directory was set up in preparation to migrate Novell file services. This project included the design and setup of the new AD tree as well as its population with user identities. Project Lead: Jon Bronken.
- **Police Weapon Drop-Off Video Surveillance (#T-2010-103).** This project added video surveillance cameras to the Police Communications Center in support of a new policy to provide a safe location for students to store weapons. Project Lead: Joan Chapek.

If you would like to request a new IT service, please download the "New Request for Service" form at www.ndsu.edu/vpit/service-request and submit your request as directed.

In the meantime, please congratulate the project leaders mentioned above, and their teams, for a job well done!



Northern Tier Steering Committee meets

—By Kim Owen

The Steering Committee for the Northern Tier Network Consortium met Jan. 30-31 in Bozeman, MT, with Marc Wallman and Kim Owen among the North Dakota representatives.

Agenda highlights included status reports on three major ARRA stimulus-funded grant awards developed to further improve and expand the capacity of the NTN span.

These projects include:

1. **the North Dakota and South Dakota interconnect**, which will enable South Dakota to use a shorter and dual path to connect directly to the NTNC in Fargo;
2. **the Northern Wave initiative**, featuring a partnership between NDSU and the Pacific Northwest Gigapop (PNWGP) based in Seattle. This project provides funds for equipment to build a shared 10 Gbps network among participating research and education institutions. Partners in this project include the NTNC member organizations, including the PNWGP, NT-Montana (MSU and UM, NT-North Dakota-NDSU and UND-and BOREAS—a collaboration among the Universities of Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin). This initiative creates a state-of-the-art national and international peering exchange facility designed to serve researchers throughout this region by connecting them to research and education networks throughout the U.S., the Pacific Rim and the world; and
3. **the U.S. Unified Community Anchor Network**, U.S. UCAN, <http://www.usucan.org> Scheduled for completion in 2013, this initiative includes partnerships between Internet2, NTNC and other research and education networks across the country, and several private vendors. As plans move forward to launch the final phase of the project, Internet2 and NTNC are in negotiations to finalize details needed to complete the build across the NTNC span.

Also on the agenda were updates from each of the NTNC partner states, and work by EPSCoR states to build and support a robust research network for our research activities and planning to meet escalating research data needs.

Recycling reminder

—By Marty Hoag

There are several options for recycling that will not only save space in the landfill but also provide materials that can be recycled or reused for new purposes. Here are a few ways you can help.

- **Office Paper:** Place in the cardboard or other marked recycling containers and it will be recycled by the custodians. The acceptable and unacceptable items are listed on the office containers. If you would like a container or have questions please talk to your custodian.
- **Corrugated Cardboard:** Remove all the other materials (packing Styrofoam, non-corrugated cardboard, plastic bags, or packing peanuts). It is very helpful if you can break down the boxes so they are flat, especially if you have more than one. Mark for recycling and put by your waste basket or place in a designated location to be picked up by the custodian. On the 2nd floor you may place them in the alcove under the bulletin board across from the rest rooms. If you have a lot of cardboard you can put it in a cardboard recycling dumpster by the IACC loading dock or west of the Thorson utility buildings. Check with your custodian for more information.
- **Plastic and Glass Bottles and Metal Beverage Cans:** Self-recycled. You can drop these in the appropriate containers on the west side of the Thorson utility buildings (the east side of the main FM lot). On the IACC 2nd floor there are boxes under the sinks and in some of the larger rooms with multiple cubicles where you can deposit your bottles and cans to be recycled. Please rinse them first and remove the caps and rings (but you can leave the labels on).
- **Magazines, Newspapers and Phone Books:** Self-recycled. You may drop these in the appropriate marked bins inside the Thorson Maintenance Center main garage. Use the NE door into the garage and the bins are around the corner to the right near the center of the garage.





Voicemail system to be updated

-By Vance Gerchak

The Audix voicemail system used at NDSU for more than 15 years will be updated to Avaya's new, more robust Aura messaging system at 5 p.m. on Feb. 17.

The new Aura system will allow users to manage their voicemail with the same simplified commands used in most cellular voicemail systems (e.g., press 1 to get messages, 7 to delete, 9 to save). The system will also now have unified

communications options to automatically forward voicemail to an email account in audio format, send notifications via text messaging when voicemail has been received, and forward calls on to up to three additional phone numbers. The option to translate voicemail into text emails will be added to the system in the near future.

Departmental telephone administrators have received training and documentation to assist with setup and help users become familiar with the new system. Current voicemail users should check for unheard voicemail messages prior to 5 p.m. on Feb. 17, as these messages will not be moved to the new system.

For more information please contact our telephone administrator, Sharon Brinker, at 231-7961.

March is Women's History Month

From President Obama's Proclamation, <http://nwHP.org/whm/presidential.php>

"During Women's History Month, we reflect on the extraordinary accomplishments of women and honor their role in shaping the course of our Nation's history. Today, women have reached heights their mothers and grandmothers might only have imagined. Women now comprise nearly half of our workforce and the majority of students in our colleges and universities. They scale the skies as astronauts, expand our economy as entrepreneurs and business leaders, and serve our country at the highest levels of government and our Armed Forces. In honor of the pioneering women who came before us, and in recognition of those who will come after us, this month, we recommit to erasing the remaining inequities facing women in our day.

This year, we commemorate the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, a global celebration of the economic, political, and social achievements of women past, present, and future."

For more information and resources to commemorate multicultural women's history and to celebrate Women's Education - Women's Empowerment, visit <http://nwHP.org>

Island hopping

-By Cathy Hanson

It's always awesome to catch a sunset at the end of a day. My husband and I were fortunate to view many clear sunsets this year while vacationing in Hawaii. The weather was perfect--no rain, or even passing showers, just warm days and cool nights. Our stay this year included three islands: Oahu, Kauai and the Big Island. Each is slightly different. We especially enjoyed seeing the volcano area on the Big Island. It had been at least eight years since we'd gone there, and surprisingly little has changed, just more traffic, some improved roads, and more people.

What was unusual about this trip was the couple from Minneapolis, who we went with us and were married on Kauai. We helped them plan the event, pick out "the spot," and find a local pastor, and we participated in the ceremony. It was just the four of us, on a quiet beach area up on a short cliff overlooking a bay, sharing in the joy of our friends' marriage. Pretty cool--no fuss, little expense, beautiful surroundings, casual dress... even the minister wore an Aloha shirt and sandals! It was a pretty memorable experience.



NDSU Global Council Report

-By CeCe Rohwedder

The initial meeting of the new NDSU Global Council was held Feb. 8, with a welcome from Evie Myers, VP of Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach. Led by co-chairs Virginia Clark Johnson, Dean of the College of Human Development and Education, and Gary Smith, Dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture, this group is comprised of NDSU faculty and staff, business community representatives, Cam Knutson, NDSU Student Body President, and Michael Haugen, member of the NDUS Board of Higher Education. Our division is represented by Theresa Semmens and CeCe Rohwedder.

The group participated in a Webinar offered by NAFSA, the world's largest nonprofit professional association dedicated to international education. Titled, "Comprehensive Internationalization: From Concept to Action," the Webinar defined comprehensive internationalization as "a commitment, confirmed through action, to infuse international and comparative perspectives throughout the teaching, research, and service missions of higher education." The presenters pointed out that "the global reconfiguration of economies, systems of trade, research, and communication, and the impact of global forces on local life, dramatically expand the need for comprehensive internationalization and the motivations and purposes driving it."

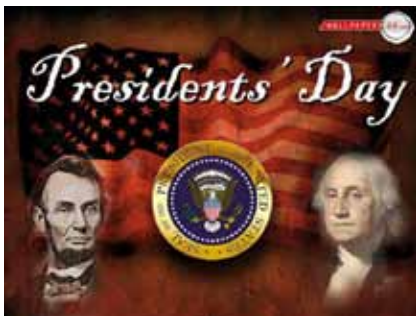
Key actions to move forward include:

- establishing a shared understanding of comprehensive internationalization (CI);
- building a shared rationale for it;
- developing a vision and getting it underway;
- identifying key collaborators who will be needed; and
- inspiring a shared commitment

NDSU Global Council members will begin their work with the determination of:

- what NDSU has done so far for CI implementation;
- what NDSU is currently doing for it;
- what best practices exist, both locally and globally, in terms of implementing CI in our campus; and
- the development of a strategic plan for item #3.

As the Global Council embarks on its mission, your suggestions, comments and questions will be most welcome—please contact either Theresa or CeCe. For more information on NAFSA visit www.nafsa.org



"Some day, following the example of the United States of America, there will be a United States of Europe."
George Washington

First made official to celebrate George Washington's birthday, President's Day is officially called "Washington's Birthday." In the late 1970s, it was unofficially adapted to celebrate all presidents. Pres. Nixon declared that the holiday should take place on the third Monday in February. As a result, many people call the holiday "President's Day." George Washington's actual birthday is Feb. 22.

How well do you know George Washington? Find out at <http://tinyurl.com/73mm7vg>

Student employees serve as GO Ambassadors

-By Shivanthy Balaretnaraja

Global Outreach Ambassadors are current international students selected to share their experiences as students at NDSU and promote NDSU on a global level. They answer questions about campus life, classes, activities on and off campus, how to choose an academic program, the American culture and how to adjust to life in the U.S.

GO Ambassadors visit schools and universities abroad, if and when they travel back home or abroad, to give presentations, share their experience, and meet prospective students. GO Ambassadors are also responsible for translating application and promotional materials from English into another language that they know.

The STS GO Ambassadors for 2011/2012 are Suhan Vethanayagam, Shivanthy Balaretnaraja and Gabriela Baierle.

Cruising!

-By Cindy Lura

On Jan. 15 I flew with my grandchildren Gillian and Ian to Santa Ana, CA, to meet my husband, Dale, and go on a five-day, four-night Carnival cruise to Catalina Island and Ensenada, Mexico. We had a great time—inexpensive, no cooking, no cleaning, and lots of other families with kids for company. We made our grandchildren get off the ship with us in Ensenada just so they could say they had been there, and then it was back to the ship and their new friends.



Applications for Tech. Fee funds now being accepted

Action plan proposals for campus projects that will improve the quality of education and campus life for students at NDSU through information technology are currently being received for review by the Technology Fee Advisory Committee (TFAC). The deadline for submissions for the spring semester is 5 p.m. March 9, 2012, and I invite NDSU students, faculty and staff to consider this funding opportunity.

NDSU's student technology fees fund a broad range of projects designed to improve the IT capabilities and services for our campus community. Proposals specifically addressing innovative uses of IT to improve instruction and student learning are encouraged. TFAC seeks proposals that introduce new, innovative tools for instruction and learning or provides a broad educational appeal to students at NDSU.

A copy of application guidelines, the action plan template, and copies of past funded proposals and reports can be found at www.ndsu.edu/tfac. The action plan form has just been revised, so please make sure you link to the template on this Web site.

To receive consideration, deliver a paper copy of the action plan to the TFAC, c/o Marc Wallman, Interim Vice President for Information Technology, IACC 204; you'll want to first make sure that all the required signatures have been obtained. Additionally, by March 9, 2012, please submit an electronic copy of your action plan to Rian.Nostrum@ndsu.edu.

Cruising, too!

-By Pam Nielsen

The Nielsen family vacation started at Coco Beach, Florida; then we took a four-night cruise to The Bahamas. This was Hailey, Conner and Caden's first time seeing the ocean, and they were pretty amazed. The kids instantly made friends on the ship, and Peter and I got to relax. No cooking, cleaning, or running errands for a whole week! We had the "best" family vacation ever, and the kids made memories to last them a lifetime.

I am glad to report that our ship did not sink, nor did we get seasick or food poisoning!



College roommates fulfill a promise made 25 years ago

--By Jean Ostrom-Blonigen



This past month, my college roommate and I fulfilled a promise we made to each other 25 years ago. Together with our husbands, Brenda Mazour and I vacationed in Hawaii to celebrate our 25-year anniversaries. Brenda and Craig were married in September 1986, and Mark and I were married in June 1987. On our wedding days, we each served as the primary bridesmaid for the other. We each also serve as godmother to the other's firstborn child. As we planned our weddings, we vowed that as a 25th wedding anniversary celebration we would vacation together in Hawaii with our husbands.

On Jan. 26, we began our weeklong stay in Maui. Needless to say, the camaraderie of a 30-year friendship, the 80° weather, the scenery, the daily snorkeling, the local farmers' market of fresh fruits and vegetables, the whales jumping, the sea turtles coming ashore, the narrow Road to Hana (<http://tinyurl.com/857lfjy>) and the decreased oxygen levels at the Haleakala Crater (<http://tinyurl.com/6t7s55s>) combined for a spectacular vacation.

Yet it was my side trip to Oahu that was the most poignant. At Pearl Harbor, I visited the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial, the final resting place of Orville J. Langenwaller, my mom's cousin, one of the 1,177 Navy sailors who died (<http://tinyurl.com/74cskar>) during the Dec. 7, 1941, bombing of the Arizona. Cousin Orville, a member of the Navy, was just 19 when he died.

I then visited the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/nmcp.asp) which is also called the "PunchBowl." There, in gravesite E-241, lies Jack W. Ostrom, my dad's brother, a Marine who was killed on Iwo Jima on March 15, 1945. Uncle Jack was also just 19 when he died.

I did not expect to feel so connected to these two young men who each died years before I was born; perhaps the fact that my own sons are currently 19 and 20 added to that connection. I will admit that when I read the Langenwaller and Ostrom names, I experienced a surge of great pride in the knowledge that my family members played such an important role in the history of our country. It has been said that those who served in WWII "were asked to save that nation and the world and they did" (Source: Poster of G. Wyatt's Price of Freedom sculpture).

President Obama visited the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial in December 2011, and paid tribute to Cousin Langenwaller and the other Navy sailors!

See his name, visible above the right shoulder of the Navy sailor on the left.

Source:
<http://tinyurl.com/6ny9yt7>





Staff Senate February meeting update

-By Vince Anderson

The meeting promptly came to order and proceeded at a snappy pace. Tom Wittrock was unable to attend so the program for this month was not presented. This shortened the meeting somewhat.

Tom Carlson was able to attend and introduced himself as President Elect from the Faculty Senate. Last semester he had a class scheduled during our meeting times. They are looking into establishing communication channels for expressing budgeting ideas to the University's administration. They are also concentrating on ideas that help with student retention and a four- year graduation achievement.

Matthew Chaussee reported that Staff Senate scholarship application forms are available. We approved payment for expenses to advertise the scholarship on the Memorial Union screen. An effort to get them on the Richard Barry Hall screens will be made as well.

Reports came from several of the standing committees; Kris Mickelson mentioned that there are five openings for Staff Senators currently. I would make a call out here as well, for those that would like to get involved in the Staff Senate. Staff Senate provides its members a chance to be involved in a rewarding organization that not only helps improve the NDSU experience for students, faculty and staff, but also helps improve the Senators' own personal and professional development.

Staff Development reminded us of the Discover U event planned for Feb. 15 and also reminded us that comfortable clothing is suggested. Victoria Miller discussed the 2012 Valentine Ball-that's happening on Saturday, Feb. 25 in the Memorial Union Ballroom.

La Donna De Geldere introduced topics of discussion from the President's Cabinet. Those included a Student Success credit cap moving from 12 credit hours to 15 credit hours. This should allow a freshman to plan an education that ensures graduating in four years instead of five. Also discussed was a differential tuition model that combines activity fees and program/class fees into one single cost for each course. She invited President Bresciani, who had joined the meeting, to elaborate on his directions in these areas.

Janis Bork presented results from the University Avenue Pedestrian Crossing Committee. President Dallmann decided to call this group the "Traffic Committee." Janis said a commitment has been made by Fargo's City Engineer to put out bids for a flashing pedestrian crossing sign. It will be at the intersection of Administration Avenue and University Avenue. Janis also mentioned that 10th Street North will be closed this summer, putting two-way traffic onto University Avenue for the duration.

Look who's cooking!

We recently began sharing our division's culinary secrets (as folks, whose names will be drawn at random, are willing to divulge them) for your cooking and dining pleasure. Enjoy!

John Underwood's French Fried Potato Salad

Here is an interesting and good recipe that I like, found on www.foodnetwork.com

3 cups of crisp, hot french fries, roughly chopped--preferably homemade, but Fast Food take-out fries or frozen fries baked in your oven will do

3 hard-boiled eggs, chopped

1 cup finely chopped celery

1/2 cup chopped chilled bread and butter (sweet) pickle chips

1/2 cup minced fresh chives

1/2 cup fat-free mayonnaise

1 Tbsp Dijon mustard

1 tsp. garlic powder

1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper

Set french fries aside; keep warm. In a large bowl, combine all remaining ingredients until well blended. Add french fries to mixture; blend in with spatula, using folding motion, being careful not to break fries. Serve immediately.



STUDENTS IN IT!



M. Khan is February student employee of the month

—By Shivanthy Balaretnaraja, STS Manager



Student Technology Services congratulates M. Khan on becoming the STS Employee of the Month for February. Khan was nominated by Pavan Chevuri, fellow TLMC Learning Assistant, and TLMC Manager, Sheree Kornkven.

"I recall talking with Khan recently and telling him he is one of the most self-motivated people I have ever met," Sheree said. "I have never seen Khan idle. He is constantly searching for ways to improve his existing skills and to learn new skills. Besides being a self-starter and an avid learner, Khan is dependable and willingly accepts new responsibilities. He teaches several classes as part of the general TLMC workshop offerings, including InDesign, Illustrator, and Podcasting in Garageband."

Khan is from Dhaka, Bangladesh, and has been working a TLMC Learning Assistant since December 2010. He will graduate this spring with a master's degree in Software Engineering. He has already been offered

a full-time position with Strata Decision Technologies Inc., an IT company located in downtown Chicago, as a Software Developer. Khan also owns and manages his own consulting firm called "Eclectic" in Bangladesh. He continues to provide support and make executive decisions for the company.

Khan is actively involved in many campus organizations and programs. He is the current secretary of the Graduate Student Association, past president of the Bangladeshi Student Association, and an active member of the Association for Computing Machines. He has taken part in the Master of Success program, a leadership program offered by the Memorial Union and the Speakers' Fair and organized by the Office of International Programs.

When asked what he likes about working at the TLMC, Khan said, "learning and access to new technology and software. Part of my job is to keep myself up to date with the latest technology and software. The TLMC facilitates learning and provides opportunity for hands-on experience with various types of software." Khan also appreciates the professional experience he has gained working as a TLMC Learning Assistant. "I enjoy interacting and serving customers. It has helped me improve my customer service and communication skills." One of the challenges Khan faces is keeping himself up to date with certain software: "I diligently try to keep up with learning, but sometimes I find myself not knowing certain software, which can be frustrating if you are the only person working at that time." Khan enjoys programming and likes to plan and organize cultural events.

Khan says his current (near future) position at Strata Decision Technologies is pretty close to his dream job. But his dream job would be to work for Google or Amazon. One of Khan's major achievements was graduating within one year after switching from Industrial Engineering to Software Engineering in Spring 2011. "In the summer of 2011 I was also able to get an internship in the Software Engineering field even though I was relatively new to the program and did not have much experience. I consider that a major achievement."

"Khan is very energetic and a hardworking employee at TLMC. Since he joined the TLMC he has contributed a lot toward media development tools and tutorials," said Pavan. "Khan goes above and beyond the call of duty to help out students and fellow learning assistants. He has spent numerous hours helping students. Apart from his busy academic schedule, he spends time volunteering whenever he gets a chance to do so."

Khan's desire and enthusiasm for learning, his commitment to customer service, and his well-developed leadership skills are attributes that will serve him well in all his future endeavors. Khan has given his notice and will be moving to Chicago very soon. Even though we are sad to lose such a valuable employee, we wish him all the very best!

Congratulations, Khan, and keep up the good work!