



Minnesota
STATE COLLEGES
& UNIVERSITIES

MnSCU ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

An Electronic Communication

February 2009

<http://www.academicaffairs.mnscu.edu>

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On Jan. 22, 2009 ISEEK celebrated 10 years of service with an open house and a preview of its soon-to-launch, web re-design.



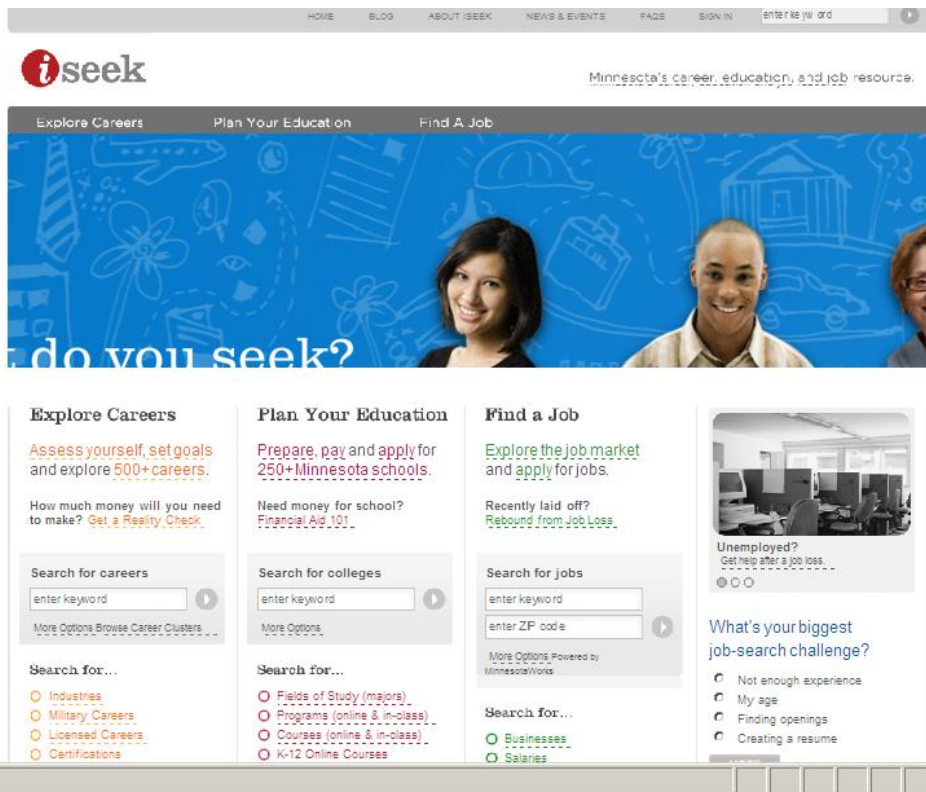
ISEEK Open House

For more than 10 years, ISEEK has been helping Minnesotans explore careers, find schools or training programs, and search for jobs. To mark this occasion, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Office of the Chancellor hosted an open house with more than 200 guests in attendance.

Unveiling of Web Re-design

Guests at the open house were invited to sit down at computers and explore the new features of the ISEEK website.

In addition to a fresh new look and feel, website enhancements include social networking tools, videos, blogs, quizzes, and mini-polls.



ISEEK Features

The new ISEEK website emphasizes high demand careers; a new skills assessment; and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) related occupations.

Seven regional websites were also developed in partnership with DEED. These sites encourage job seekers to explore education, industries, and high-demand jobs within their region of the state.

Governor Pawlenty Proclaims ISEEK Awareness Month

At the open house, Karen Klinzing, MN Department of Education, read a proclamation by Governor Tim Pawlenty announcing February as ISEEK Awareness Month. The proclamation commemorates ISEEK's outstanding contribution to the state of Minnesota in the areas of career, education, and job information.



ISEEK Contributors

[Pictured from left to right. Front row: Nancy Jacobsen, Executive Director iSeek Solutions ; Dr. Linda Baer, Senior Vice Chancellor of Academic & Student Affairs and Chair, iSeek Solutions Executive Board; second row: Shirley Fenlason, Shelia McComb, Amy Yerkes, Nancy SooHoo, Teri Fritzma, Jacqueline Wear, Marcia Bay; back row: Kathy Kirchoff, Bobby Ehrenkrook, Mark Thalacker, Patrick McGarrah, Tricia Dahlman, Jeremy Hall, Marc Breton and Linda Ellison.]

ISEEK is governed by the iSeek Solutions Executive Board. This Board is comprised of six state agencies and four affiliate agencies: Minnesota State Colleges & Universities, the University of Minnesota, Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development, Minnesota Department of Education, the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, Minnesota Office of Enterprise Technology, Minnesota Governor's Workforce Development Council, Minnesota Private College Council, Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry, and the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

ISEEK SUPPORTS PARENT ENGAGEMENT AS A PART OF MINNESOTA PARENTS KNOW

The [Minnesota ParentsKnow Web site](#) recently added substantial content for parents of school-age children. Eleven topics have been posted for grades 6 to 12 on careers, higher education and jobs. These articles were supplied by ISEEK staff under a Perkins grant to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. These articles can be found in the "Parenting Topics A-Z" section. Minnesota ParentsKnow is a source for convenient and trusted child development, learning, health and parenting information. The Web site is hosted by Minnesota Department of Education.

"Action Analytics," an article authored by **Linda Baer**, senior vice chancellor for academic and student affairs, and others was ranked in the "Top 10 Most Popular EDUCAUSE Review Articles of 2008" by [EDUCAUSE Review](#). The 10 most

widely read articles from last year's online edition focused on open education, Web 2.0, virtual worlds, e-books, digital libraries, analytics and the top issues facing higher education IT.

[View Baer's article](#)

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS – AKA LAKE SUPERIOR COLLEGE

Lake Superior College will be welcoming Dr. Mark Magnuson as the new Vice President of Academic Affairs and CAO beginning January 22, 2009. He can be reached at m.magnuson@lsc.edu or 218-733-7628.

Dr. Magnuson is drawing closer to his Canadian home in Saskatchewan as he moves from his Dean of Liberal Arts and General Education position at Ivy Tech in Indianapolis to his new leadership position in Duluth. Mark has also served as the developmental education dean and the executive director of community campuses at Ivy Tech.

Mark's academic background includes Baccalaureate degrees in secondary education, English, and history, a Master of Education degree in K-12 educational administration and a Ph.D. in higher education leadership from the University of North Dakota.

ACADEMIC INNOVATIONS ONLINE NEWSLETTER

Please check out the January Academic Innovations Newsletter. The continued goal of this newsletter is to keep you updated and informed about the delivery and support of online education in the system.

In this issue, you will find the following: Collaborative Online Program Grant Opportunity, Friday Live From TLT, PC Magazine Rates the 157 Best Free Software
PedagogyOnline.com, January MERLOT News: Proposals Sought for MIC09

Follow the link below to the January 2009 edition.

https://mnscuserVICES.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/mnscuserVICES.cfg/php/enduser/doc_serve.php?2=Volume3_Issue1

DARS/U.SELECT

DARS/u.select monthly News attached and posted at: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/news/monthly_news.html

NEW TRANSFER WEB SITE

Check out the new Transfer Web site <http://www.mntransfer.org>

WINTER CAO MEETING CANCELLED

In light of the legislative session and current budget planning occurring at the campuses, the Chief Academic Affairs winter meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 19, 2009 has been canceled. We will continue to assess the nature and scope of future meetings in May and October, 2009: May 28-29, 2009, October 21-23, 2009.

If there are urgent issues that arise, we will discuss as appropriate, with the Academic and Student Affairs Advisory Council. Tim Price is working with a smaller group to gain a sense of alternate approaches to these meetings (smaller groups, less number of days, alternate sites). If you have suggestions, please send them to Tim at Tim.Price@so.mnscu.edu

SUMMIT PROMOTES EDUCATION, CAREERS IN MATH, SCIENCES, AND CELEBRATES 2009 YEAR OF SCIENCE

Tuesday, January 20, 2009 St. Cloud State University hosted students in grades 7-12 from across Minnesota on Thursday, January 29, when they visited campus for a day of activities and information designed to drive their interest in pursuing studies and careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) according to organizer and science educator Associate Dean for Multicultural Affairs and STEM Initiatives Dr. Carolyn R. Williams.

The were joined by parents, educators, and business and higher education leaders at the STEM Summit from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Atwood Memorial Center on campus.

The summit, free and open to all, is designed to celebrate 2009 Year of Science, promote STEM education and fuel the pipeline for the science and technology workforce of the future.

Students attending the summit will have access to interactive exhibits to help them experience opportunities in STEM coursework and their careers. Speakers include Les Engel, president of the Central Minnesota Manufacturing Association, Bruce Peterson, dean of trades and industry at St. Cloud Technical College, David DeGroot and Kurt Helgeson, dean and associate dean of the St. Cloud State College of Science and Engineering, and Carolyn Williams, associate dean for multicultural affairs and STEM initiatives, Michael Spitzer, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

For additional information contact Dr. Carolyn R. Williams crwilliams@stcloudstate.edu



Pictured left: Jarred Engelking of Fargo, N.D., who will earn his bachelor's degree in chemistry this spring, demonstrated how to make a slime putty for the benefit of students at the STEM Summit held in Rochester in November.



Pictured right: Dr. Carolyn R. Williams Associate Dean for Multicultural Affairs and STEM Initiatives and Jarred Engelking, of Fargo, N.D., at the STEM Summit held in Rochester in November.

UNDERGRADUATE STEM LEARNING ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOP

Registration is now open for "Planning Facilities that Serve the Undergraduate STEM Learning Environment." Click here for registration, agenda and hotel information:

www.ctl.mnscu.edu/facdev/user_event-list.php?eventtype=workshop&eid=721

This workshop is a great opportunity to discuss how academic pedagogy relates to facilities and is open to all institutions in early stages of planning and/or moving forward in the planning process. Institutions are encouraged to send a team of planners that includes STEM faculty and administrative colleagues. The workshop is sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Facilities Unit and Project Kaleidoscope.

PKAL Workshop: Integrating Technology, Strengthening Communities

Registration is open for a Project Kaleidoscope workshop being held in conjunction with the Realizing Student Potential/ITeach Conference on Feb. 27 - 28.

<http://serc.carleton.edu/sp/pkal/mnscu>

Teams of STEM faculty and administrators are encouraged to attend and newcomers are especially welcome!

Grants are available!

Deadline: February 23, 2009

CTL and P-16 Collaborations in the Office of the Chancellor are jointly seeking applications to fund faculty-led projects that can be demonstratively effective in increasing student enrollments, engagement, and success in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) courses; and/or preparing "more and better" P-12 teachers of science and mathematics.

For more information and to read the grant guidelines, visit

<http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/programs/grants/funds.html>

REALIZING STUDENT POTENTIAL • ITeach 2009: A LEARN AND GREEN CONFERENCE

Due to the economic challenges the State of Minnesota faces, the annual Realizing Student Potential ITeach Conference is scaling back on costs while maintaining quality. More than 1000 metropolitan area faculty participate in this Metro Alliance duty day. The Center for Teaching and Learning is sensitive to our state and system budget challenges, and is planning this “Great Minnesota Teaching and Learning Get-Together” on a lean, back-to-basics budget. We are cutting or scaling back considerably in several areas, including catering, lodging and print program production.

In addition, this conference can be called the “The **GREEN** Minnesota Teaching and Learning Get-Together”. Faculty and CTL staff planners are proposing several initiatives to make this conference leave less of a carbon footprint. The following steps are being taken to make this conference sustainable.

Travel planning:

- Car or van pool.
- Sharing hotel rooms.

Catering:

- Using paper and recyclable plastic products. Bringing personal mugs for water and coffee to reduce waste from plastic bottles.
- Three-Legged Frog, an environmental student club at MCTC will be available to help with recycling food and container wastes.
- MCTC has recycling bins that are trash compactors as well. Special recycling containers for all for paper, plastic, and metal products will be available.
- Food waste containers are sent to farms so scraps will feed pigs!

Facilities:

- Use the stairs if you are able. Walk up one floor and down two floors to get to sessions.

Conference Materials:

- No folders of materials, programs only!
- Articles online prior to the conference.
- Reducing the number of handout copies by placing on a resource table.
- Evaluation forms online only.
- Continue to recycle name badges and name tags.

NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE’S PROFESSOR IS PUBLISHED

Dr. Deanna Forsman, a History professor at North Hennepin Community College was recently published in Early Peoples of Britain and Ireland, an encyclopedia edited by Christopher Snyder, Oxford: Greenwood World Publishing. She authored eighteen articles in the publication.

NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE’S COLLEGE PREP PROGRAM RECEIVES FASTTRAC CAREER PREPARATION GRANT

BROOKLYN PARK – For the last three years, North Hennepin Community College’s (NHCC) College Prep Program has prepared students for college by enhancing reading, writing, and math skills. With additional funding of \$45,000 provided through a recent FastTRAC grant, NHCC students will be able to continue to prepare for college, as well as take career development courses through the Adult Education and Training Department.

The FastTRAC (Training, Resources, and Credentialing) Initiative funded seven incubator programs in Minnesota. Minnesota is one of the five Midwestern states to receive funding, which ranged from \$30,000 to \$45,000 for each incubator. The incubators will pilot programs offering curriculum and support services to students, aged 25-44, helping them move into high-demand and skilled professions.

The incubators demonstrated that they already had a high-quality education program, which could be used as a foundation for FastTRAC training. The foundation piece for NHCC was their College Prep Program that began in the winter of 2006. Mary Diedrich, NHCC's Dean of Student Success Services, started the College Prep Program in collaboration with Osseo Adult and Family Learning. This partnership allowed NHCC to offer free College Prep classes. Diedrich then worked with Jaime Simonsen, NHCC's Dean of Adult Education and Training, to add career training – the other element required for the FastTRAC grant.

The Department of Employment and Economic Development, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and Adult Basic Education, along with a variety of other government and community agencies are sponsors of the incubator programs. The sponsors will bring the incubators together several times during the academic year to share ideas for program improvements. The hope is to find long-term and cost-effective solutions to fill the demand for high-skilled workers in Minnesota.

NHCC's College Prep, Student Success Services, and Adult Education and Training have begun implementing their FastTRAC grant and should be running at capacity by January 2009. They will collect statistics through May 2009, so the sponsors can determine whether FastTRAC programs should be applied across the state.

SAVE THE DATE: DIVERSITY DRIVE – IN CONFERENCE MARCH 23, 2009

The Diversity and Multiculturalism division of the Office of the Chancellor and Minnesota State Community and Technical College is pleased to invite you to the diversity drive-in conference, "Serving the Changing Populations in Greater Minnesota: Access, Opportunity and Success for American Indian, Somali and Latino Students."

The purpose of this conference is to provide Minnesota State Colleges & Universities staff, faculty and students with an opportunity to learn skills and information regarding the recruitment, retention and success of American Indian, Somali and Latino students in greater Minnesota. Through speakers, guided discussions and a panel composed of parents and students, participants will learn skills to help better serve American Indian, Somali and Latino students in greater Minnesota.

Date: Monday, March 23, 2009

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Place: Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Detroit Lakes Campus

Title of Event: Serving the Changing Populations in Greater Minnesota: Access, Opportunity and Success for American Indian, Somali and Latino Students.

Registration fee: FREE

This conference is open to all Minnesota State Colleges and Universities students, staff and faculty, and may be of special interest to those working in the areas of diversity, admissions, recruitment, retention and student support and success.

The one-day session will have a drive-in format. A drive-in session is a midday conference scheduled to allow participants to have time to travel to the conference and return home without requiring an overnight stay.

For registration information and if you have questions, please contact Ka Vang, Diversity Programs Director with the Office of the Chancellor's Diversity and Multiculturalism division, at ka.vang@so.mnscu.edu or 651.201.1599.

MnSCU TUTORING WORKGROUP

Over the last twelve months the MnSCU Tutoring Work Group has taken upon itself of the challenge of attempting to construct a picture of tutoring "system" within MnSCU. One might think this would be a simple task BUT the reality is that tutoring services/functions are often scattered throughout an institution. One of our two-year institutions identified at least seven areas at their school that students could receive tutoring services. Hence the Work Group identified the need to establish a baseline understanding for tutoring within the System and that this effort should not only involve tutoring center directors but also deans within the various institutions.

The survey that the Work group constructed is found at: www.tutoring.project.mnscu.edu/inventory (this is one of those eFolio project sites). The survey will probably take at least five minutes (depending on the information you have available). The survey results will be discussed at the upcoming meeting(s) of the Tutoring Work Group (feel free to join our group). If you have nothing to do with tutoring on your campus please do not worrying about completing the survey.

If you have questions or an interest in this area, please contact Paul Wasko at paul.wasko@so.mnscu.edu

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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.