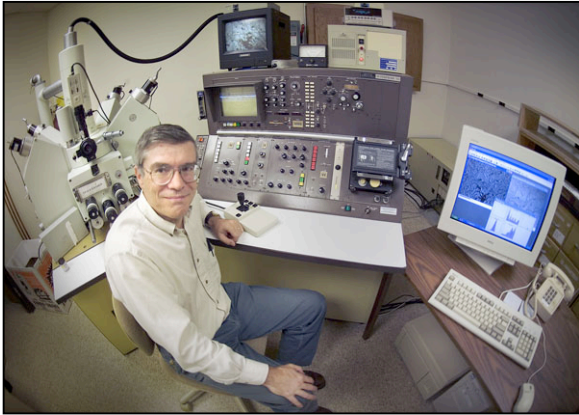


MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD NEWSLETTER

CONTINUES



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Russ Colson with the new electronic microprobe
Worth \$1 million new...

CORNING INC. DONATES VALUABLE ELECTRONIC MICROPROBE TO MSUM

An electronic microprobe used to analyze chemical properties of microscopic areas of solid materials ranging from rocks and fossil bones to human hairs and pottery shards has been donated to MSUM by Corning Incorporated of New York.

The one-ton piece of laboratory equipment is worth about \$1 million new, says Russ Colson, an MSUM Anthropology and Earth Sciences professor who arranged the transaction. "The instrument we acquired is 20 years old, but comes with modern software. It's worth about a quarter million dollars."

The only one in the region, Colson said, the instrument is a high-powered microscope that uses electrons rather than light to analyze materials.

In the process, the microprobe accelerates electrons with 15,000 volts of electricity, emitting a narrow beam that knocks electrons off the atoms of the material being analyzed. When the electrons fall back into the atoms, they give off an x-ray. The wavelength of that x-ray, and the energy released, can be matched with every element on the periodic table, from boron to uranium.

Similar to a scanning electronic microscope, he said, the microprobe also scans and has the unique ability to focus down to a billionth of a meter, but it's capable of detecting and analyzing elements in concentrations as small as 10 parts per million.

The software that comes with the microprobe then produces a chemical map of the analyzed materials.

"With the microprobe, an archeologist, for example, could examine the chemical composition of an arrowhead to

determine if the material it's made from was imported or came from a specific region, indicating some sort of commerce or trade," Colson said. "A biologist forensic anthropologist could look for small concentrations of lead in a human hair, checking for lead poisoning."

Equally important, he said, the entire process is non-destructive to the material being examined.

Colson said the electronic microprobe will be used for undergraduate and faculty research at the university and will be made available to other scientists in fields ranging from archeology and geology to microbiology, fiber optics, nanotechnology, forensic science and metallurgy.

Colson will use it as a major research tool in experiments simulating environments on other planets.

Electronic microprobes have been workhorses in scientific laboratories for a couple decades, he said. But he said it's rare to find one at an undergraduate institution such as MSUM.

Colson heard about Corning's willingness to donate the instrument from a friend he met while he was a postdoctoral fellow at the Johnson Space Center. He arranged to have it trucked to MSUM and fork lifted into a King Hall geology lab, where he assembled and prepared it for use this fall.

MSUM HOSTS 9/11 PRESENTATION ON MALL

MSUM will host the presentation "9/11 After Effects: Our Neighbor's Perspective" at 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 9

featuring a presentation by George MacLean, associate director of the Center for Defense and Security Studies at the University of Manitoba. The title of his talk: "Assessing Canada-United States Relations: Rhetoric and Reality." The presentation will be held outside Livingston Lord Library on the campus mall. In case of rain, it will be moved into the library porch.



MacLean

In conjunction with this presentation, representatives from area educational, religious and governmental organizations are being asked to submit their thoughts and comments on the following question:

"How can we (individuals, organizations and/or government) use the tragic experience of 9/11 to make our world a better place for everyone?"

The collected reflections are expected to be published on campus. Send your reflections to: Andrew Conteh, MSUM, MacLean Hall 371, 1104 7th Ave S. Moorhead MN 56563, or e-mailed to seimma@mnstate.edu.

ALI SIMMONS NAMED TO MSUM ALUMNI FOUNDATION STAFF

Ali Simmons has joined the MSUM Alumni Foundation office as director of the alumni phonathon and the alumni activities assistant.

A Moorhead High School graduate who earned a degree in speech/communications from MSUM in 2001, she worked as a young adult director for Trinity Lutheran Church and as a research assistant for PRACS Institute before joining the staff here.



Her primary responsibilities in the Alumni Foundation office will be to conduct the annual alumni phonathon, a key position because it typically raises more than \$250,000 in annual gifts. She'll also work with other office staffers in planning and conducting alumni reunions, gatherings and activities.

She is the daughter of Dr. Lee and Peggy Simmons of Moorhead.

ENGLISH PROF'S BOOK FINALIST FOR 2005 MYTHOPOEIC AWARD

A book co-edited by Sharon Scapple, English, was named a finalist for the 2005 Mythopoeic Award.

"Diana Wynne Jones: An Exciting and Exacting Wisdom" offers an analysis of the work of the author who has written over 50 fantasy books for young readers.

The awards were announced last month during the Tolkien 2005 conference in Birmingham, England.

Editors of this volume included Scapple, Teya Rosenberg, Martha P. Hixon, and Donna R. White. Scapple also co-authored a chapter in the book: "Transformation of Myth in A Tale of Time City."

MSUM LIBRARY'S READING ALOUD INITIATIVE DONATES PICTURE BOOKS TO LOCAL LIBRARIES

This summer 800 picture books, all published in 2004, were donated to area libraries. Each outgoing committee member of the MSUM Reading Aloud Initiative selected libraries for donations. Outgoing members included Sharon Scapple, Kacie Teschendorf, Kathleen Stompro, Jeremiah Weller, Gretchen Jost, Phyllis Sunderland, Lila Hauge-Stoffel, Liv Gudmundson, and Roberta Shreve. The following received books:

Circle of Life School, White Earth
Fargo Public Schools: Eagles Kindergarten, Jefferson, Longfellow, and McKinley Elementary Schools
L.E. Berger Elementary School, West Fargo
Moorhead Public Schools: Ellen Hopkins, Reinertson, and Robert Asp Elementary Schools
Moorhead Public Library

YWCA Shelter, Fargo
Pelican Rapids Public Library

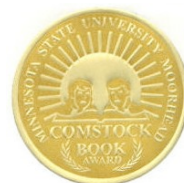
Livingston Lord Library's Curriculum Materials Center also added over 300 picture books to its collection.

The picture books were initially donated by publishers and were considered for MSUM's 2005 Comstock and Wanda Gág Book Awards. The reading aloud program is administered by Carol H. Sibley, Curriculum Librarian, and Korella Selzler, Library Technician.

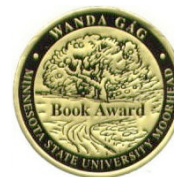
STUDENTS DESIGN READ ALOUD BOOK AWARD SEALS

Foil seals for the Read Aloud Book Awards administered by the Curriculum Materials Center at Livingston Lord Library were designed by two Art & Design students from MSUM. Each student received a monetary amount for their work. Both designs were unveiled at the announcement of the award books this past May.

Jeff Tessman, from Detroit Lakes, designed the Comstock Book Award seals. In Jeff's words, "The Comstock design portrays reading as an enjoyable pastime. It is a unique way in which family members can spend quality time learning together. Pictured, a boy and girl take turns reading to each other (equality); behind them is the sunrise, an image of a brighter future with its rays ever expanding (knowledge). The laurels are an ancient acknowledgement of higher achievement (esteem) and the whole idea was placed within a circle (eternal) to represent that this is a quality concept that should be nurtured for future generations."



The Wanda Gág Book Award seals were designed by Anthony Ryan from Thief River Falls, Minn. The design incorporates a pen-and-ink drawing by Wanda of an apple tree that appears as an illustration for the Grimm Brothers' tale "Mollie Holle" in Gág's book entitled *More Tales from Grimm*.



More information about these seals and the book awards program can be found at www.mnstate.edu/cmc/ComstockReadingAloudInitiative.htm.

NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS FOR SALE

Children's picture books, all published in 2004, will be for sale on Wednesday, Sept. 14 from 9:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the circulation area of the Library. Book prices will be a significant discount compared to normal retail prices. Proceeds from the sale will help support the Read Aloud Book Award program administered by the Curriculum Materials Center of the Library.

MLA PROGRAM GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP:

Available starting this Fall semester: A Graduate Assistantship has become available in the MLA Program. Qualifications & Responsibilities: applicant should have good writing & proofreading skills, have basic computer skills, be willing to do occasional faculty and student

interviews, write brief, informative articles for the MLA Newsletter, and work on program-related projects, including offering ideas and input about program offerings. The Assistantship entails about 4-12 hours per week at \$9/hour. If you know someone who is interested, please see Application & Nomination Forms at: www.mnstate.edu/graduate/forms_other.htm Send Nominations and Applications to:

S. Coghill
Director, MLA Program
231 Weld Hall
Phone: 477-4693
Email: coghill@mnstate.edu

REWILDING THE GREAT PLAINS

Remember the "Buffalo Commons" controversy? Now it's the notion of "Rewilding" the Great Plains that made the Forum's front page (8/18). Here's a poem by MSUM Professor Emeritus (English) **Mary Pryor** addressing that subject.

REWILDING

*Rewild the Great Plains? Hold that laugh.
Elephant, lion, and giraffe
have strode or prowled or stalked these plains
as proved by fossilized remains
and poor relations of their kind:
buffalo, cougar left behind.
A Bolson tortoise dwarfs the growth
of local turtles. Although loath
to court an ecologic shock,
dream zebra herd. Dream ostrich flock.
A scheme to lure the ecotourist,
or juicy pickings for the jurist?
Whenever rancher loses calf
to claw, new virus, foreign staph,
will anyone perceive a gaff?
Disaster? Will we be deploring,
unforeseen outcomes of in-shoring?*

ACADEMIC SERVICE LEARNING BREAKFAST

Want to learn more about academic service-learning? Interested in talking with community organizations eager to host your students? Need some assistance in conceptualizing a service-learning project?

Then come to the Academic Service Learning Drop-In Breakfast hosted by the MSUM Academic Service Learning Advisory Board. You are welcome to stop by the Comstock Room (Room 101) of the Union building any time between 8:30 and 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 28. A continental breakfast will be served.

Advisory Board members Steve Bolduc, Craig Ellingson, Michelle Malott, Liz Rowse, Amy Phillips, Theresa Hest and Mary Carlson will be available for discussion about service-learning. Community agencies will also be present to find out how they can work with you on service-learning projects.

For additional information, or to express your interest in attending, contact Amy Phillips at x2724 or ap@mnstate.edu.

HURRICANE RELIEF

The American Red Cross is directing the largest emergency relief operation in its history. The devastation from Hurricane Katrina has been described as "America's Tsunami."

What can the MSUM community do? At this time, the Red Cross says the most urgent need is for funds. Money can be converted to bottled water, food, transportation and shelter.

Our area is served by the Minn-Kota Chapter of the American Red Cross. Contributions to the chapter will be designated to hurricane relief if donors write "Hurricane Katrina" on the memo line of the check. All of the money designated will go the relief effort. You can find out more about the role of the chapter and the Red Cross at: www.fargoredcross.org

Over the river and through the woods...

MSUM SCIENCE CENTER HOSTS HIKING PROGRAM

MSUM's Regional Science Center will host a hiking program to inaugurate Buffalo River State Park's new bridge over the Buffalo River on Saturday, Sept. 25 from 2 to 4 p.m.

It will feature interpretive stops along a 2.5 mile loop trail that links the Regional Science Center and the interpretive center. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring insect repellent.

This program is free and open to the public. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The Buffalo River Site is located 15 miles east of Moorhead on Highway 10, adjacent to the Buffalo River State Park. For more information, call 477-2904.

MSUM ART EXHIBIT FEATURES PRINTMAKER ROBERT SCHWIEGER

An MSUM art exhibit featuring the work of printmaker Robert Schwieger will be on display Sept. 12-28 in the Roland Dille Center for the Arts gallery. An artist's reception will be held 4-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27 in the gallery. Both are free and open to the public.

Schwieger received his BFA from Chadron State College in Nebraska and his MFA from the University of Denver. He has worked as an art educator for nearly 40 years, including a professor of art at Minot (N.D.) State University from 1967-1990. He is currently an adjunct professor of art at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

His work has been shown extensively in many group and solo exhibitions in 45 states, Canada and Holland, and is included in numerous private and 31 public collections. He also received the prestigious National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship.

His work is a blend of the real and the abstract, depicting delicate, cloudlike forms, flat color, and images of land and people. Schwieger tries to incorporate personal history with symbolism and decorative patterns. His work

focuses also on living organisms and their precarious life on the edge and under the assault of pollution, experimentation and other forces of humankind and technology.

Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; and 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday.

MISCELLANEA

* **Chang-Seong Hong**, Philosophy, presented his paper "Property, Concept, and Reduction" at the Central Division Meetings of the American Philosophical Association (Chicago, April 2005). Also, he presented another paper "A Reductionist Refutation of Kripkean Dualism" at Humanities Conference 2005 (Cambridge England, August 2005).

James Weckler, former professor and chair of the Languages department here, has been named dean of the Cabrillo (Calif.) College Business, English and Language Arts division, with includes 129 instructors and serves 4,277 students.

* A Chicago Tribune article titled "The Search for Answers," a story about how students can search the Internet for find answers to their questions, lists about three dozen sites. Among the listing under biology:

www.mnstate.edu/weibust/internetresbiostu.htm

which is maintained by the **MSUM Biology** department.

* **Jill Frederick**, English, participated in a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar focusing on The Bayeux Tapestry. Frederick, and other seminar participants, spent six weeks at Yale University examining a CD-Rom of The Bayeux Tapestry, an 11th-century embroidery (240 feet long, about 20 inches wide) which presents a visual narrative of the conquest of England by William of Normandy in 1066. Frederick, a specialist in medieval literature, notes that "1066 is a watershed moment in English history, and the Bayeux Tapestry provides important information about that moment." She plans to focus her my capstone course this spring around the tapestry and the literature that accrues to it.

CLASSIFIEDS

* **2002 Miata convertible for sale:** White with tan leather interior. 14K miles, loaded with extras and in mint condition. Call 218-439-3930.

* **House for sale by owner:** South Moorhead Rambler with attached garage, new driveway, fenced backyard, nice neighborhood, no specials, low tax. Main floor: 3 bedrooms, full bath, living room, new carpet, new kitchen cabinets, counters & appliances. Basement: one bedroom with egress, ¾ bath, family room, kitchen, newer gas furnace with 96% efficiency, electric hot water, washer & dryer, work & storage areas. 1311 South 19th Street. Call 233-1085 for appointment.

* **House for sale by owner:** 3 Bedroom, 2 bath. Close to campus. Excellent condition. New Central Air, Low Taxes, no specials, double attached garage, steel storage building in backyard. Located at 1027 13 St South. Call 236-1657 for appt.