

'WHITE TEACHER TALKS ABOUT RACE' AUTHOR JULIE LANDSMAN SPEAKS HERE ON FEB. 15

Julie Landsman, author of "A White Teacher Talks About Race" and a 28-year veteran teacher in the Minneapolis Public School District, will discuss



her book at 8:30 a.m. in the student union Thursday, Feb. 15 ballroom and again at 3 p.m. in room 227 of the student union.

She's a guest of the university's Comstock Visiting Scholars Series and the College of Education and Human Services.

In "A White Teacher Talks About Race," Landsman takes the reader through a day of teaching and reflection about her work with a group of ethnically and racially diverse high school students in an inner city school.

Landsman has also taught writing, literature, and education at Carleton College and Hamline University. She's the author of another book about her teaching experiences, "Basic Needs: A Year with Street Kids in a City School."

Her essays on education appear frequently in national publications and her short story "Suspension" won the 2005 New Letters Award in Fiction.

Both presentations are free and open to the public.

Her 8:30 a.m. talk is titled "What's Race Got To Do With It?" and her 3 p.m. session will be an informal discussion based mainly on questions from the audience.

DILLE EXCELLENCE AWARDS GIVEN TO NINE FACULTY PROJECTS

Nine projects have received funding as Dille Excellence Award Grants for 2007. The committee received 25 proposals requesting a total of \$44,824 and was able to award \$10,850.

The Award committee consists of President Barden, Vice President Bette Midgarden, Dean Michael Parsons, Alumni Foundation Executive Vice President Patrick Hundley, Alumni Foundation Board member Dick DuBord and MSUM Student Senator Jered Weber.

Funds were awarded to:

- * **Michelle Malott**, Biosciences, for her proposal, "Developing the use of DRAGONfly DNA into hands-on learning experiences about broad-based scientific issues."
- * **Michael Michlovic**, Anthropology and Earth Sciences, for "Archaeological Testing at a Sheyenne Valley Enclosure Site."
- * **Ananda Shastri**, Physics, for "The Legality of Nuclear Weapons In International Law: Bringing a Complex Area of Active International Legal Research to Students in the MSUM Honors Program."
- * **Tim Borchers**, CSFSTA, "Enhancing the Multimedia Dimension of the Public Speaking Course."
- * **Patricia Wisenden**, Biosciences, for "The Effects of Endocrine Disruptors on Aquatic Life in the Red River."
- * **Wayne Gudmundson**, Mass Communications, for "Landscape Photographic Workshop."
- * **Stephen Hamrick**, Honors Program, for "The First Annual Honors Forum."
- * **Kelli Sinner**, Art and Design, for "Architectural Ceramic Door Surround."
- * **Paul Decker**, Biosciences, for "Photographic Atlas Of Dragonflies and Damselflies at MSUM Regional Science Center."

The Dille Fund for Excellence is a permanent endowment established in 1994 by the MSUM Alumni Foundation through the generosity of MSUM alumni and friends to honor former President Roland Dille and his wife, Beth Dille.

The Dille Fund for Excellence Grant Awards annually seeks proposals from the campus community for innovative projects that raise the quality of education at Minnesota State University Moorhead.

Projects are to demonstrate innovation, uniqueness, and a commitment to improved educational experiences for MSU Moorhead students. Projects normally fall into five categories: Faculty research projects that involve students; Equipment grants for innovative instructional systems; Guest lectures and artists who would share insights and expertise with the campus and community; Cooperative community projects that encourage university/community interactions; or Special projects involving a particularly innovative idea.

THREE FINALISTS SELECTED FOR DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Six weeks ago a search committee was charged by President Roland Barden to gather applications and make recommendations for the leadership of MSU Moorhead's athletic program. The committee has recommended three of the applicants as finalists.

In alphabetical order, the finalists are: David Herbster, Director of Athletics at the University of Nebraska at Omaha; Doug Peters, Director of Athletics at Valley City State University; and Gregory J. Walaitis, Associate Athletic Director for Development at Fresno State University.

Next, the finalists will visit the campus to meet with students, faculty and staff. The University aims to make the decision in March in order to have a new head of Dragon Athletics under contract by summer.

The campus visit schedules and information submitted by the finalists will be made available via the MSU Moorhead Web site in the near future.

President Roland Barden appointed Warren Wiese, Vice President for Student Affairs, to chair the search committee. The other committee members are: Greg Peterson, Dragon Fire; Larry Scott, MSUAASF athletics representative; Dennis Aune, MSUAASF representative; Cindy Phillips, IFO (faculty association) representative; Benjamin Smith, IFO representative, Robin Abraham, AFSCME representative; John Haugo, MSUM Alumni Foundation representative; Tammy Blake, women's volleyball head coach; Rollie Bullock, women's soccer head coach; Drew Waters, Student Athletic Advisory Committee representative; Megan DaPisa, Student Athletic Advisory Committee representative; Kathleen Enz

Finken, Dean of Arts & Humanities; Yvonne Condell (faculty emerita), community member; and Sherry Senske (alumna), community member.

Betsy Alden of Alden & Associates has been the consultant for the search. Her firm is experienced in selecting personnel for higher education institutions that compete in NCAA Division II.

Sylvia Barnier has been serving as the interim Athletic Director since the departure of Alfonso Scandrett, Jr. earlier this year.

DRAGON ATHLETES HIT THE BOOKS BEFORE THEY HIT THE FIELD

Once again, MSUM student-athletes continue to excel on and off the playing field. Dragon student-athletes combined for a composite grade point average of 2.944 for fall semester, higher than the student body overall GPA of 2.85. Dragon women posted a 3.186 GPA while Dragon men recorded a 2.751. The top three women's teams included cross-country (3.456), tennis (3.447) and basketball (3.355) while Dragon men were led by cross-country (2.932), track and field (2.923) and football (2.817). The fall semester Dean's list includes 108 of our 280 student athletes.

Dragon athletes listed 54 different majors with Biology (39), Business Administration (18) and Elementary Education (17) the most popular.

HONORS BROWN BAG MONDAY LOOKS AT EMERSON, DYLAN AS YOUNG ARTISTS

Jim Bense, English, presents a Brown Bag Honors Program talk on "Ralph Waldo Emerson and Bob Dylan's Self Portrait of a Young Artist" at noon Monday, Feb. 12 in Hagen Hall 210.

The Brown Bag talks enable faculty to share with students from across disciplines their passion for scholarship, service, and/or teaching. Talks last approximately 30 minutes. Attendees are encouraged to bring their lunch, and drinks will be provided.

CHEMISTRY SEMINAR FEB. 12: SIGNALING AT THE MEMBRANE

Anne Hinderliter, Chemistry, will discuss "Signaling at the Membrane: Concepts and Consequences" from 3 to 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12 in Science Lab 118. It's a Chemistry Seminar event.

HENDRIX BEGINS CAMPAIGN ON NEW HPV VACCINE

Hendrix Health Center Peer Educators have begun a campaign at MSUM to educate the campus community about Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and the vaccine that is now available. Annually 500,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer. Until recently it was unclear what causes it. Cervical cancer is caused by HPV, a sexually transmitted infection. HPV's common name is genital warts. HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the United States and here at MSUM. HPV often times has no symptoms and the infected person is unaware they have it.

The good news is there are ways to prevent getting cervical cancer, including getting regular pap exams and getting vaccinated for HPV. The vaccine is called Gardasil and is given to women through an injection into the arm on three different occasions. The Hendrix Health Center has the vaccine available for students. The cost of each shot is \$140 but many insurance companies are covering those costs. Check with your insurance plan and call Hendrix to set up an appointment today. The phone number for Hendrix is 477-2211.

POKER WALK FOR FITNESS & FOOD SCHEDULED THIS WEDNESDAY

Just 30 minutes of moderate exercise per day, (like walking), can: cut your risk of heart disease by 30%; reduce your risk of hypertension, diabetes and colon cancer by 30%; reduce body fat by an average of 18%; and eliminate undue stress.



Therefore, you are encouraged to participate in the Annual MSUM Winter "Poker" WALK FOR FITNESS from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14.

The objective is to walk to each of the seven MSUM departments listed in this memo, draw a card at each, and try to acquire the best poker hand. The best 5 out of 7 cards can be used. Jokers are wild. Prizes will be awarded for the top three hands.

In conjunction with Valentine's Day, a prize will also be awarded to the individual who has drawn the most "hearts" in his/her hand.

In conjunction with the "Poker" Walk, Human Resources will be collecting items for the YWCA of Fargo-Moorhead. A needs list is available in HR and can be emailed, if requested. Red barrels will be situated at HR to collect your donations. Those

who donate to this worthy cause will be eligible to draw another card at the HR site; therefore, increasing the chance to attain the winning hand.

PARTICIPATING DEPARTMENTS:

- **Alumni Foundation - HEC Building Room 154 (enter doors off of 14th Street)**
- **Field Experience - Lommen 213**
- **Instructional Resources Office - Library 120**
- **Career Services - CMU 114**
- **Anthropology/Earth Science - King Hall 103**
- **Mass Communications - 803 11th St S (south of the Center for Business)**
- **Human Resources - Owens 210**

A beverage will be served in HR at the finale of your walk.

Draw a card at each department... your name and card will be recorded. Keep your card and proceed to the other departments. You do not have to walk to all seven departments at one time, walk on your breaks or lunch hour. Human Resources **must** be the last department you walk to—before 4 p.m. You will draw your last card, and submit your best hand. You can also throw your name into the hat for a grand prize drawing to be held in April, after the 3rd MSUM "Poker" WALK FOR FITNESS is held.

This is a great opportunity to familiarize yourself with the MSUM campus and get some exercise to boot. Contact Deb Lewis (2158) for more information.

KAYLA KNUDSON NAMED MSUM'S STUDENT LEADER OF THE MONTH

The Student Organization Advisory Committee named Kayla Knudson, nominated by Campus Activities Board, its Student Leader of the Month.

The purpose of the award is to recognize one extraordinary student leader each month who has significantly contributed in some way to their student organization or the campus community and deserves to be recognized.



Kayla, a senior Mass Communications major, is a 2002 graduate of Minot High School.

Kayla is the advertising coordinator for Campus Activities Board. She is depended on by her peers and trusted to get advertising done for events in a timely manner in order to make the events successful. Kayla leads by example and always has ideas and insights to offer at meetings. She has added a new and creative vibe to CAB this

year. Kayla consistently goes above and beyond to promote the mission of CAB and truly believes in the organization and its goals.

UPCOMING MSUM MUSIC

The following MSUM music events are scheduled in February; all are free and open to the public.

* **Tri-College Jazz Combos** on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Concordia College's Christensen Hall.

* A **jazz composition recital** featuring MSUM faculty member Allen Carter will be presented at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18 in Weld Hall Glasrud Auditorium.

* MSUM's **Wind Ensemble**, directed by John Tesch, performs at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23 in Weld Hall Glasrud Auditorium.

MISCELLANEA

* **Gary Nickell**, Psychology, was a co-presenter on three poster presentations at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology meeting in Memphis in January. The title of these posters were: "Friendly And Positive Or Hostile And Negative: Perceptions Of Interacting Alone Or Together With Unknown Individuals And Groups," "Regulatory Fit Theory At Work: The Relationship Between Regulatory Focus And Food Safety Behavior," and "Dispositional Disgust As A Motivating Emotion In Food Safety." These research presentations were based on collaborative research with Verlin Hinsz from NDSU and his students.

* **Elise Pforr**, a recent 2006 graduate in Psychology, had a paper accepted for publication in "Modern Psychological Studies." It's a psychological journal devoted exclusively to publishing manuscripts by undergraduates. Elise's paper, titled "The Importance of Handedness for Females Solving Visual-Spatial Problems," was based on her student research project in Psy 430 (Advanced Experimental Psychology) under the supervision of **Magda Chalikia**. Elise also presented this project last year at the Spring 2006 Red River Undergraduate Psychology Conference and at the 2006 MSUM Student Academic Conference.

* MSU Moorhead All-American **Nate Baker** will be featured on the next edition of the NSIC Showcase. The show will be aired on Fox Sports Net at 1 p.m. on Saturday, February 10, 10 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 12 and 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14. Baker is the reigning NCAA Division II 165-pound wrestling champion.

* Three Counseling Center staff members—**Cliff Schuette**, **Connie Eggers** and **Sandi Schuette**—attended the Minnesota State

University Counseling Association meeting at Southwest State University in Marshall on Feb. 1-2. Cliff Schuette and Connie Eggers presented on "Heart Rhythm Coherence: Biofeedback as a Counseling Tool."

* **Stacy Voeller**, Library, attended the American Library Association's (ALA) Midwinter Meeting in Seattle January 19-23. As an appointed member of the Library and Information Technology Association's (LITA) Research and Assessment Task Force, the Task Force met with the LITA President and Board to discuss their research and findings for LITA to move forward with a definitive plan to conduct structured assessment activities within LITA. She also attended committee meetings as a member of LITA's Bylaws and Organization Committee and also as a member of the Association of College and Research Libraries College Libraries Section Leadership Committee. After having recently been accepted to write articles for Cognotes, the newspaper for both ALA's Midwinter and Annual Conferences, Stacy had three articles published during the conference, and two in the wrap-up issue which was mailed to more than 50,000 ALA members.

CLASSIFIED

* A completely furnished two-bedroom apartment is available as a sabbatical residence (duration of stay starting at 1 month) in Glyfada (Athens), Greece. It is located about 1 mile from the coast, near bus transportation to Athens or the subway. More detailed information and pictures can be found at <http://myweb.cableone.net/chalikiahinsz/GlyfadaApartment>. Interested individuals can contact Magda Chalikia (701-2328236, chalikia@yahoo.com).

* MSUM professor is seeking part-time sabbatical housing near the University of Minnesota for 2007/08. If you have a house, apartment, or room to rent 3-4 nights/week near the U of M, call 4079, or nawrot@mnstate.edu.

IN MEMORIUM

Ted Schaum, Professor Emeritus, 72, died Monday, Feb. 5 from injuries suffered in an automobile accident near Detroit Lakes. Dr. Schaum taught German at MSUM, starting September 1, 1969, retiring in 1994. He was currently the chair of the MSUM Gray Dragons.

Preparing for college...

MSUM Partners with Area High Schools to Help

“Every year prospective students tell me that if someone would have told them that their freshman and sophomore grades in high school were important, they would have paid more attention,” says Jeremy Johnson, an MSUM assistant director of Admissions.

Well, parents, teachers and counselors probably did tell them, repeatedly, they just didn’t listen. But when someone from a college or university tells them the importance of good grades, it has a greater impact.

MSUM wants students to care about their college preparation and to begin planning for college early. The university’s admissions office is partnering with area high schools to deliver freshman presentations that reinforce the message that 14-year olds need to think about college sooner rather than later.



Jeremy Johnson

The presenters, Johnson and Mark Proulx, an MSUM admissions counselor, know first-hand what students need to get into college. They review applications and meet with prospective students daily.

Many of today’s students are unprepared for college.

Numerous studies identify areas where high school students fall short in college preparation, specifically in math, reading and writing.

One report, written by a commission appointed by the U.S. Department of Education, states that almost half of all high school students are “uneducated or miseducated.”

Blame is pervasive: colleges don’t communicate with high schools about higher ed expectations; high schools don’t have adequate resources; governments don’t support K-12 education; parents aren’t aware of college prep standards; and students don’t care or don’t know what they need for college.

“Some students probably get limited or no postsecondary information at home because their parents may have never been to college,” says Jayne Jacob, a counselor at Lake Park Audubon High School. “Teachers can be good sources of

information, but college professionals keep up with the changes that occur from year-to-year and might be better able to answer students’ questions. Also, because they work in the college setting already, they may come across as being more credible to the students.”

Like many high schools, Fergus Falls High School is trying to get younger students to take high school seriously. “We are focusing more on the ninth grade transition to high school and helping them to be more successful,” said Dave Thorpe, a counselor at Fergus Falls High School. “We want them to know that the decisions they make today may affect their future earnings.”

“It’s appealing to have an outside source, someone from a university who’s associated with the admissions office, to tell students the impact the early years have on their whole academic career,” said Chad Mattson, a counselor at Moorhead High School. The MSUM presentation coincided with an alumni day there, where MHS graduates who finished their first semester at college returned to school to talk about their college experience and reinforce the importance of working hard in high school.



Mark Proulx

During the freshman presentations, Johnson says that the grades they earn as freshmen will impact their college opportunities. “I tell them the first day of high school they have the opportunity to create their destiny and that every option we discuss is open to them,” Johnson says. “They may self-select themselves out of certain options if they don’t take the right courses or if their GPAs aren’t high enough to get into the school of their choice.”

The presentations, which more than 1,300 students from seven area high schools have seen this year, feature general information on career options, goal setting, post-high school options, differences between community, technical and four-year institutions, and admission requirements for college. And they’re fun.

“I thought it was really helpful, and he did a good job of presenting and keeping us entertained, considering we’re young and it’s hard to do that,” said Tyler Martin, a ninth grader at Hawley High School who listened to Proulx’s presentation on

Jan. 30. He says his friends were really into it, too—interacting, paying attention and enjoying the trinkets that were given away.

“I learned about the choices I can make when I’m out of high school, how important my GPA is, and how I need to keep working hard in high school,” Martin said. “When I’m looking at colleges, I need to find one that clicks and has the major I want.”

Most teachers, counselors and parents want their students to go on to higher education in some capacity. “We tell them that there are numerous higher education options available, but they need to graduate from high school with good grades first,” Johnson said.

“They should also be encouraged to begin volunteer work early and get involved in co-curricular activities,” Jacob said. “Waiting until their senior year to get involved is too late. They need to understand that their permanent high school record begins their freshman year.”

College preparation programs generally require three years each of science, math and social studies; four years of English; and one year of world culture or the arts.

Developmentally it is hard for ninth graders to think about colleges and careers, but if they haven’t taken the right courses or achieved good grades, their career options and college choices may be limited.

Johnson wants students to know two things: They are capable of going to college if they make that decision; and they need to plan for college right now by taking school seriously.

These presentations help high school counselors because it’s a college professional that the students don’t normally see, telling them why it’s important to work hard in high school to prepare for college, which is only four short years away.

“Kids really do take the message more seriously when they hear it from people who are out there in the college world,” said Principal Mike Martin of Hawley High School.

FY 2008 MASTER WORK PLAN & PROPOSED WORK PLAN INITIATIVES

In accordance with the University strategic planning process, the following FY 2008 Master Work Plan and Proposed Work Plan Initiative Project Summaries have been posted on the University web page.

Department of Athletics <http://www.mnstate.edu/>

<http://www.mnstate.edu/president/StrategicPlanning/FY2008SP/FY2008OOP.htm#Athletics>

Please review the Department of Athletics planning documents and offer comments no later than Wednesday, February 14 for consideration at the University Planning & Budget Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 15.

Student Affairs Division
<http://www.mnstate.edu/president/StrategicPlanning/FY2008SP/FY2008StudentAffairs.htm>

Please review the Student Affairs Division planning documents and offer comments no later than Wednesday, February 21 for consideration at the University Planning & Budget Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 22.

Comments can be made to University Planning & Budget Officer Jean Hollaar (hollaar@mnstate.edu or 477.2336) or your representative member on the University Planning & Budget Committee. University Planning & Budget Committee membership includes: Roland Barden, President (Chairperson)
Bette Midgard, Vice President Academic Affairs
David Crockett, Vice President Administrative Affairs
Warren Wiese, Vice President Student Affairs
Doug Hamilton, Executive Director University Advancement
Brittney Goodman, Director Instructional Resources
Barb Matthees, IFO, Nursing
Rich Pemble, IFO, Biology
Larry Schwartz, IFO, Instructional Resources
Allen Sheets, IFO, Art & Design
Cliff Schuette, MSUAASF, Counseling Center
Bryan Kotta, MAPE, Information Technology
Nancy Kruse, AFSCME, Continuing Studies
Dave Renecker, AFSCME, Physical Plant
Leigh Wilson-Mattson, Student, Student Senate President
Joe Rapp, Student, Student Senate Vice President
Jennifer Ohren, Student, Student Senate Treasurer
Michael Redlinger, Neighborhood Representative
Jean Hollaar, ex-officio, University Planning & Budget Officer