

**VERONICA MICHAEL NAMED
COORDINATOR OF MSUM'S
STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAM**

Veronica Michael has been named coordinator of Minnesota State University Moorhead's new Student Success program.

In the new position, Michael will be responsible for overseeing programs aimed at freshmen and transfer students: Dragon Days (freshman registration), transfer student registration programs, Parent Orientation, New Student Orientation and Family Day.



Michael the university's Admissions office as a counselor and assistant director for the past six years.

The Student Success program was developed by a work group last summer that looked at ways to better restructure existing programming for new students and their families.

A 1990 graduate of Climax High School, Michael is originally from the West African nation of Sierra Leone and the daughter of Edward and Joy Michael and Linda J. Michael.

Currently pursuing a master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy at NDSU, she and her husband Matthew Myrold, a supervisor with the Educational Day Program at the Fargo Public River's Edge School and also an MSUM alum, live in Fargo.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING STUDENT
ACADEMIC CONF. PRESENTATIONS IS FEB. 9**
MSUM's Ninth Annual Student Academic Conference will be held Wednesday, April 11 in the Comstock Memorial Union.

*Feb. 5, 2007. Produced by the Publications Office.
tornell@mnstate.edu (Deadline 10 a.m. Friday)*

The deadline for submitting applications for the conference is Friday, Feb. 9. For details, go to <http://www.mnstate.edu/acadconf/>

The purpose of the afternoon event is to showcase the work and talent of MSUM students through presentations, posters and creative works.

**DEANS' LECTURE NEXT WEEK
LOOKS AT EMERGING TECHNOLOGY
TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING**

"Using Emerging Technologies to Improve Student Learning," a Deans' Lecture Series event, starts at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13 in CMU 227.

Barbara Hoppe, Instructional Resources, will look at some of the methodologies that have been used at MSUM, sharing experiences faculty and students have had with integrated technology and some of the strategies that have worked in both a traditional classroom and with a hybrid or online class. Technology integration, she said, is fast becoming one of the biggest challenges of education.



Hoppe

**GOVERNOR RELEASES BUDGET
RECOMMENDATION**

Gov. Tim Pawlenty released his biennial budget recommendation last week, which consists of a \$2.9 billion increase in state spending with the majority of the new money going toward education and tax relief.

For Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, the recommended budget increase is \$123 million over the biennium. This amounts to approximately 70 percent of the \$177 million system request.

Included in the budget recommendation is \$60 million for technology, \$12 million for the recruitment and retention of groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education, \$10 million to expand science, technology, engineering and math education, \$3 million to

expand health care education, \$3 million for a Biosciences Center of Excellence and \$10 million for management innovation.

In addition to the above, the governor recommended \$25 million for the system for a “performance bonus” based on meeting goals related to the system’s strategic plan. The system must meet three of the following measures to access the funding:

- * Increase the percentage of students taking STEM courses by 5 percent
- * Increase enrollment of upper division Center of Excellence programs by 5 percent
- * An increase of at least 1,400 students trained on electronic medical record technology
- * Increase the number of students taking online courses and/or increase online course offerings by 10 percent
- * Expand utilization by 10 percent of “awards of excellence” or other initiatives that reward innovations

The governor also recommended \$92 million for his ACHIEVE II program that awards students with post-secondary scholarships for taking challenging classes in high school. This funding would be appropriated to the Office of Higher Education. Pawlenty is also recommending a \$75 million appropriation to the Office of Higher Education for a veterans’ package that would eliminate state income taxes on military pay and military pensions. This package also includes \$30 million for a Minnesota GI Bill that will provide up to \$2,000 per year in higher education benefits to veterans and their dependents.

For a summary of the governor’s complete budget, visit:

www.finance.state.mn.us/budget/operating/200809/070122_summary.pdf

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.

STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS ANNOUNCED

The College of Social and Natural Sciences Student Advisory Board announces the recipients of Student Research Grants for Spring 2007. Eleven proposals were submitted and seven received funding. Recipients include:

- * Bodini Herath, who is studying the impact

of fish and dragonfly larvae predators on the macroinvertebrate assemblage of wetlands;

* Molly Dowling, Ashley LaPlante and Amanda Laplante, who are researching growth rates, mortality rates, and degree and kind of sexual dimorphism in painted turtles;

* Ryan Walsh, who is studying the Brassica rapa, also known as Wisconsin fast plants;

* Brent Voels, who is researching the onset of abiotic induction of systemic acquired resistance in plant cell walls;

* Josh Lunski, who is examining the impact of the earth’s magnetic field on migration patterns of dragonflies;

* Evelyn Fuentes and Adriane Maag, who are researching cardiovascular disease;

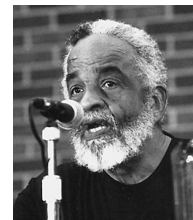
* Alex Brandt, who is determining the morphological structure of tetrakis porphine films.

The College of Social and Natural Sciences awards \$6,000 in student research grants each year. Recipients are required to present their work at the MSUM Student Academic Conference. Fourteen projects were funded this year out of 28 proposals submitted.

ACTIVIST AUTHOR NELSON PEERY SPEAKS HERE FEB. 8 ON RACISM & RIGHTS

Minnesota native Nelson Peery, the author of the award-winning “Black Fire: The Making of an American Revolutionary,” will talk on “Racism, Class Struggle and the Future of America” at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8 in MSU Moorhead’s King Auditorium.

His talk is sponsored by the university’s TOCAR Initiative (Training Our Campuses Against Racism). He will also be visiting a number of classes while on campus.



Peery

Peery grew up in Wabasha, Minn., the son of a postal worker and the only African American family in town until his father was transferred to Minneapolis. During the Depression, he became a hobo, an experience that gave him a unique view of racism and the American economy.

After author Meridel Le Sueur taught him to

write during evening classes in Minneapolis, he published "Black Fire" in 1994, a book that explored the contributions of Black soldiers during World War II and, using his own experiences, demonstrated how to become a "revolutionary" for civil and human rights.

He's also the author of "The Future Is Up to Us: A Revolutionary Talking Politics with the American People" (2001), and "Black Radical: The Making of an American Revolutionary 1946-1968," scheduled for release this spring.

Recently the Minnesota Historical Society interviewed Peery for its "Minnesota's Greatest Generation" project.

An activist for civil and human rights for 60 years, Peery is also a founding member of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America (formerly the Communist Labor Party). He currently lives in Chicago.

MSUM's History department and Black Student Alliance are also sponsors of his appearance on campus.

ART EXHIBITION REPLACED WITH STUDENT WORK

The exhibit "Pattern & Structure," work by Liz Whitney Quisgard, slated for display in the Roland Dille Center for the Arts Gallery Feb. 5-22, has been cancelled.

In lieu of this exhibit, the current shows "Plot" by Cedar Marie and "Vignette Reliquaries" by Erin Holscher Almazan, will remain on view through Tuesday, Feb. 6. Then from February 12-21 a student-curated exhibit titled "Interplay" will be on view. It will feature the work of students who are members of SIVA (Students Involved in the Visual Arts), and the photo, ceramics and drawing guilds at MSUM. Gallery hours are: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Wednesdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Fridays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., or by special appointment. gudmunja@mnstate.edu. Meet the artists from 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15. Refreshments will be served.

DRAGON FOOTBALL PLAYERS VOLUNTEER AT FARGO KIWANIS PANCAKE FEED FEB. 10

Head Dragon football coach Damon Tomeo and more than 50 MSUM football players are volunteering their time at the 49th Annual Pancake Carnival on Saturday, Feb. 10 at the Fargo Civic auditorium in the Centennial Hall.

They will be serving pancakes, flipping pancakes, and preparing sausage from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Stop by, enjoy some pancakes and sausage, and say hi to our student athletes.

Advance tickets are available for \$4. Contact Judy Peterson, President of the Fargo Kiwanis, at 477-2093. The Fargo Kiwanis is a corporate sponsor of the MSUM July 4th Event.

VOLUNTEER VISIONS: STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Volunteer Visions, named the February Student Organization of the Month.

Volunteer Visions is made up of about 20 students volunteering around the Fargo-Moorhead area as well as our own campus. They've been busy throughout the year helping at the Ronald McDonald House, hosting food drives, volunteering at Yunker Farm and organizing the Homecoming Blood Drive.

Most recently, they've been preparing for the annual Blood Drive during DragonFrost on Wednesday, Feb. 21 from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in CMU 101.

If you are interested in getting involved, contact them at volvisns@mnstate.edu or attend one of their weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. in CMU 216.

FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT PRAYER MEETING WEDNESDAY IN CMU

Faculty/Staff/Students are meeting to pray from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7 in CMU 218. Feel free to come and go as your schedule allows. It's a monthly program.

CALL FOR FACULTY INTERESTED IN LEADING EUROSPPRING PROGRAM

Since 1980, MSUM has offered an annual faculty-led spring semester course called Eurospring. The course entails five weeks of study in Oxford, England, and a three-week study tour of Europe. In addition, students must take a mandatory on-campus preparatory course and complete preparatory reading assignments. The Eurospring Committee is seeking applications from interested faculty for future course offerings during the Spring Semesters of 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012. Eurospring consists of the following components:

* A mandatory preparatory course to be scheduled on the MSUM campus for a specified period of the Spring semester (prior to departure). The course

will include assigned readings covering the topics offered in Oxford, orientation to England and the European cities to be visited and the goals of the study tour. The preparatory course may include guest lecturers.

* Study in Oxford under the direction of Dr. Allan Chapman and other lecturers. The Oxford portion of Eurospring is approximately five weeks in length and includes formal instruction, as well as field trips and opportunities for cultural enrichment in London. Focus of instruction is on a rotational basis with emphasis on Enlightenment (2009), Modern Period (2010), Middle Ages (2011) and Renaissance (2012). This part of the program is graded by Chapman and staff.

*Assignments derived from the three-week bus tour of continental Europe including (usually): Paris, Florence, Rome, Venice, Prague and Amsterdam (itinerary may vary depending on historical focus and faculty director's preferences). Assignments are set and graded by the accompanying faculty member. Students are generally given a one-month period after the tour ends to complete these assignments.

The approximate dates of the Oxford and tour portions of the program are from mid-March to mid-May. **Faculty carry a 12-credit load** and may expect 30 students to enroll in the program.

The faculty member will be involved in the planning of the tour as early as June of the academic year previous to the year in which the tour takes place. Much of the planning will be done with the Director of International Programs and, to a lesser extent, the liaisons in England. In the fall, the faculty member will be involved in orientation sessions covering such topics as planning and trip preparation, safety and behavior, and academic requirements. During the early spring semester, the faculty leader will plan and organize the preparatory on-campus workshop. During the five weeks in Oxford, he/she will be responsible for the students in Oxford. A faculty-led group from Bemidji State University will also be in residence in Oxford. On the tour, the Director of International Programs (or another staff person) will accompany the group and help take care of the logistical details.

Eligibility – The program is looking for full-time probationary or tenured faculty who possess the following qualifications:

- * a minimum of 3 years of full-time service at MSUM,
- * a suitable academic background geared to

the historical period designated for the spring semester in question (2009: Age of Enlightenment/Reason = 18th c.),

- * experience traveling (possibly living) abroad - especially in Europe,
- * a genuinely good rapport with students (faculty directors live in student housing in Oxford), and
- * a manifest ability to serve as a resource for student-participants who are seeking exposure to European culture and the arts, as well as a broader outlook toward the world in general.

How to apply – If you would like to further explore the opportunity to lead the Eurospring tour during a spring semester, please send 1) your C.V. with 2) a letter of interest describing your academic background, travel or other experience which you consider relevant, particularly addressing the bulleted items above, and indicating which year(s) you prefer, to Konrad Czynski, Chair, Eurospring Committee. You should also have a clear idea of the responses of your department, with your chair's support, and of your divisional Dean to your possible participation in Eurospring. Application may be made by hard copy via campus mail or e-mail. The Eurospring Committee will interview eligible candidates and make recommendations to Dean Kathleen Enz Finken.

Deadline – Applications should be received by February 15th, 2007, for review and interviews early in the spring semester. For further information, check the web site at www.mnstate.edu/intl linking to Study Abroad – Eurospring: Information for Faculty.

ANTI-RACISM TRAINING FEB. 15-17

The MSUM TOCAR Initiative, (Training Our Campuses Against Racism) is sponsoring a two and a half day in-depth Anti-Racism Training to be held in the student union. This training will engage participants in discussions of:

- * Definitions of racism, particularly understanding institutional and systemic racism,
- * Disadvantage, power, and privilege issues related to racism,
- * Anti-racist/multicultural organizational development, and
- * Strategies to promote organizational development and change

The training will be held February 15-17, CMU Comstock Room

- **Thursday, 5-9 p.m.**
- **Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.**
- **Saturday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.**

The training is free and all meals and materials

are provided. If you are interested in attending and would like to register or would like more information, please contact Anita Bender (x4973 or tocar@mnstate.edu) or Amy Phillips (x2724 or ap@mnstate.edu). All MSUM faculty, staff and students are invited to attend! In addition, if you wish to apply to participate in the Anti-racist Multiculturalism Across the Curriculum workshop this summer, participation in one or both levels of these trainings is required for a successful application.

CARNEGIE MELLON GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP MARCH 5-7

The Grant Institute's Grants 101: Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop will be held at Carnegie Mellon University, March 5-7. Interested development professionals, researchers, faculty, and graduate students should register as soon as possible, as demand means that seats will fill up quickly.

All participants will receive certification in professional grant writing from the Institute. For more information call (888) 824-4424 or visit The Grant Institute web site at <http://www.thegrantinstitute.com>.

MISCELLANEA

* **Lee Garth Vigilant**, Sociology & Criminal Justice, and John B. Williamson (Boston College) published a chapter entitled "The Sociology of Socialization" in "21st Century Sociology: A Reference Handbook" (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publication 2007). This article traces the development of socialization studies in sociology over the last century.

* The Sri Lankan Sunday Times newspaper from Sunday, January 14, 2007 included an interview with **Ludmi Jinadasa**, a student in Public Human Services Administration, in its Education Times supplement. Ludmi, who was on a personal visit to her home country with her husband, **Shanaka Herath**, a graduate software engineering student at NDSU and an alum of MSUM, participated in a number of promotional activities on behalf of MSUM while in Colombo, Sri Lanka's capital, as well as in Kandy, a smaller city four hours' drive away in the center of the island nation. The thrust of the article has to do with Ludmi's contention that students looking to study in the United States should be able to conduct their research and apply free of charge, rather than rely on potentially unscrupulous agents that charge hundreds and even thousands of dollars for materials that are available free on the web. Ludmi's visit, and the fact that she was offering her services free,

garnered a great deal of interest in the media, and another article is expected to appear in the same newspaper in the near future. She was given special privileges that included being able to drive up to the U.S. embassy and use a special pass to enter. Ludmi has worked in International Programs during her whole academic career with MSUM. She and Shanaka returned from Sri Lanka with their baby daughter Tayten, who turns one year old next month. She says the potential for recruitment in that country is huge.

* **Theodore Gracyk**, Philosophy, is currently participating in an online conference in the area of contemporary philosophy of art. His participation includes an invited essay, "Danto, Popular Music, and Indiscernible Counterparts." The conference focuses on Arthur Danto's "The Transfiguration of the Commonplace" (Harvard University Press) on the 25th anniversary of its publication. In addition to his philosophical writings, Danto is the art critic of The Nation. Professor Danto will be commenting on each of the submitted papers. To visit the online conference: <http://artmind.typepad.com/onlineconference/>

* Area artist Mike Marth will be visiting campus to work with **Zhimin Guan's** painting students February 7-9. From 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Marth will give a gallery talk at the Rourke Art Museum, 521, Main Ave. S. Moorhead on the work he currently has on show in the exhibit "Mike Marth—Mixed Media: Is It Still Life?" This event is free and open to the public. It is sponsored in part by the Comstock Visiting Artist Program at MSUM.

* **Kayla Malacek**, an MSUM senior athletic training education program student, was selected by the Minnesota Athletic Trainers' Association to attend the National Athletic Trainers' Association "Hit the Hill" day. The day consists of certified athletic trainers and select students visiting Capitol Hill to meet with their U.S. Senators and Representatives and discuss legislative issue that relate to the profession of athletic training. It is set for February 26. This is a unique honor, as she is the first student who has been supported by the state association. She was basically "hand-picked" by the state leaders over other athletic training students in the state based on her leadership skills during her term as an athletic training student and a GLATA senator. She's a 2003 graduate of Montevideo Senior High School.

* Several MSUM professors will attend the annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education held in New York City at the end of February.

-Charles Howell, Boyd Bradbury and Steve Street will present "The Micropolitics of

University-School District Partnerships: Case Study of an Onsite Graduate Program in a Rural Community of Color.”

-Lynn Mahlum, Teri Walseth and Renee Kerzman will present “Focus on the Future.” This work was funded with a Dille Grant.

-Lynn Mahlum will present “It’s Just Who I Am: Teacher Candidates Speak Out about Dispositions Assessment.”

-Brian Smith, Steve Street, and Lynn Mahlum will present “Assessment of Dispositions in Higher Education: Process, Measurement, Outcomes”

-Also attending the annual meeting: **Peggy Rittenhouse, Heather Sand and Linda Houts-Smith.**

* **Wendy Frappier**, Health & Physical Education, will receive the Honor Award this spring from Central District Association of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. It’s the highest award offered by the Central District, recognizing her contributions to the field and her leadership and professional integrity. It will be presented to her at the group’s annual convention April 26-28 in Overland Park, Kan.

IN MEMORIUM

* **Jesse Parsons**, Professor of Biology Emeritus, passed away January 30 under hospice care in Port Charlotte, Fla. Dr. Parsons began employment at MSUM the summer of 1969 and retired in 1984.

DRAGON FIRE HOSTS NATIONAL SIGNING DAY PARTY WEDNESDAY

All Dragon fans are invited to Dragon Fire’s first ever National Signing Day Party from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7 at the Courtyard by Marriott, Moorhead.

Coach Damon Tomeo and his staff will be on hand to talk about and show film of the 2007 recruiting class. Hors d’oeuvres will be served and a cash bar will be available.

The event is sponsored by Coldwell Banker and Lauritsen and Associates.

DRAGON BASEBALL HOSTS SPAGHETTI FEED FEB. 7 & 8

MSUM’s Dragon Baseball Club will hold its annual spaghetti feed and silent auction from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7 and Thursday, Feb. 8 at the Knights of Columbus in Moorhead. Tickets are \$7 and are available at the door. Everyone is welcome.

VACANCIES

Educational Leadership Assistant/Associate Professor

www.mnstate.edu/vacancy/0733P-EduLeadershipAsst.pdf

‘WHITE TEACHER TALKS ABOUT RACE’ AUTHOR JULIE LANDSMAN SPEAKS HERE THURSDAY, 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. and again at 3 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 15 in MSUM’S student union ballroom and again at 3:30 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 ethically 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.



SPREAD THE WORD

With the self study report safely in the hands of the HLC evaluators, and only a few short weeks before the March 5-7 site visit, let's take this opportunity to share a few of the things we learned about MSUM from the self study process. The entire report is available online at www.mnstate.edu/NCAvisit and hard copies are on reserve at the library.

Chapter 1/Criterion 1: Mission and Integrity

- MSUM fulfills its mission by providing distinctive educational programs, cultural events, and community engagement activities that serve our constituents.
- MSUM is committed to teaching a diverse body of learners.
- Our mission drives planning and budgeting at all levels.

Chapter 2/Criterion 2: Preparing for the Future

- MSUM has embarked on new recruitment and course delivery methods to address enrollment projections.
- Budgeting has been decentralized to improve decision-making responsiveness.
- We must be more effective at external fundraising.
- MSUM planning efforts are aligned, inform each other, and link planning with budgeting.

Chapter 3/Criterion 3: Student Learning and Effective Teaching

- Student learning outcomes for academic programs are clearly stated and are measured regularly. We will be challenged to maintain recent momentum for assessment.
- Faculty teaching is regularly evaluated and rewarded.
- Programs such as the Corrick Center,

Mathematics Learning Center, Advising Support Center, First Year Experience course, and Supplemental Instruction support student learning.

- Though resources are strained, we have new facilities that have been designed with student learning in mind. Many classrooms have been upgraded with new technology to improve learning.

Chapter 4/Criterion 4: Acquisition, Discovery, and Application of Knowledge

- Faculty, staff, and administrators demonstrate a commitment to a student-centered learning environment.
- MSUM maintains a high-quality instructional faculty that is supported through professional development opportunities.
- Engagement in research and creative activity provides many opportunities for student learning outside the classroom.
- A new Dragon Core curriculum improves general education and adjusts to changing needs of the 21st century.
- Various methods assess the curricula in preparing students to live and work in an increasingly global, diverse, and technological society.

Chapter 5/Criterion 5: Engagement and Service

- MSUM engages a wide array of constituents to determine their needs and respond to their needs with outreach programs.
- Service and engagement are widespread across campus.
- MSUM should develop mechanisms to better share information about outreach, collect data about outreach and evaluate our outreach activities.

Chapter 6: MSUM's Compliance Procedures

- MSUM complies with federal regulations in areas such as financial aid, campus crime reporting, and records of student complaints.

Chapter 7: Institutional Change Request and Request for Reaccreditation

- MSUM is requesting permission to offer selected programs at locations throughout Minnesota.

For more information:

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Judy Strong (strong@mnstate.edu)

or visit www.mnstate.edu/NCAvisit

or email selfstddy@mnstate.edu