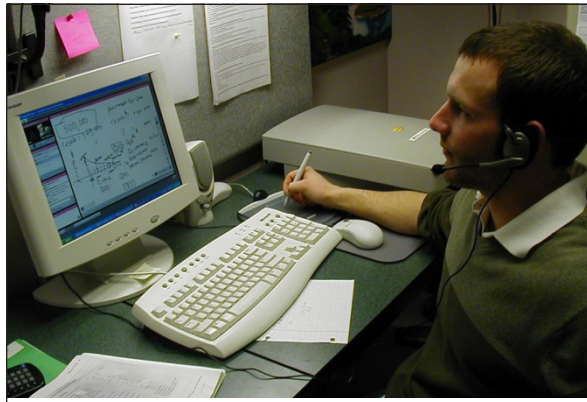




Center for Extended Learning

The Office of Instructional Technology helps with campus tutoring services

When Minot State University students at remote campus sites like Bismarck need help with their classes, tutors sometime prove difficult to find. In a recent scenario, one of our students needed help with an advanced Business Course and no one was available to assist her. Refusing to say “no” to a student in need, Evelyn Klimpel, director of the campus Disability Services Office approached the Office of



Trevor Hieb discusses a business problem with a student in Bismarck (OIT).

Instructional Technology for a possible solution.

After an initial meeting and trial run of available software, a pilot tutoring program was fashioned. First, Klimpel found a highly motivated tutor, Trevor Hieb. Trevor is a senior and International Business and Management student at Minot State University who has served as a tutor in the past and agreed to participate in the pilot. Trevor then received training from the Office of Instructional Technology on how to use a WACOM writing tablet and Adobe Acrobat Professional, which is a web-conferencing service. The merger of the two tools allows both the tutor and student to communicate using headsets and webcams real time and share a whiteboard where they can both work on example problems similar to the assignments the student needs help with. To date, seven sessions have taken place and both participants feel the endeavor has proven fruitful. Mark Timbrook, an instructional designer, gives credit for the pilot’s success to Hieb’s “technical competence and skill and patience as a tutor.” The sessions have taken place in the Office of Instructional Technology; however, due to the success of the pilot, both offices are examining the possibility of acquiring additional hardware to support future distant tutoring efforts.

CEL Mission and Core Values

The mission of the Center for Extended Learning (CEL) is to provide flexible, accessible and quality lifelong learning opportunities. To carry out this mission, CEL assists the University in offering programs and learning opportunities that:

- Are taught by University faculty committed to teaching and learning with excellence, integrity and engagement.
- Use campus technologies to promote teaching and learning excellence and engagement.
- Are respectful and responsible regardless of student location or educational goal.
- Foster a sense of community and place in students that may be geographically removed from campus.
- Involve community members and recognize their contributions as respected and valued contributions to the University.
- Involve learners of all ages in ways that promote high ethical and moral principles.

The Dean’s Perspective



Hello! We’ve decided that every few months we need to provide the campus with a quick look

at what’s going on in the Center for Extended Learning. As many of you know, CEL assists our MSU colleges in providing flexible educational opportunities, but we don’t stop there! In the next few months you will see articles about CEL sponsored events like our Municipal Financial Officers Institute and College for Kids. We will showcase campus instructional technologies and provide information about correspondence, dual credit, IVN and outreach sites like the Minot Air Force Base and Bismarck.

I am proud to be part of the Center for Extended Learning team. We hope that this newsletter will provide you with a better understanding of what we do and the part we play in making MSU one of the premier universities in the “great” Great Plains.

—Dr. Kristen Warmoth

From Kim's Korner

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) allows students to demonstrate that they have acquired college-level mastery of course content in 34 different subject areas. Students who successfully complete a CLEP exam can avoid repeating material that they already know, reduce the rising cost of higher education, and shorten the path to a college degree.

All 34 computer-based CLEP examinations can be taken at MSU. A list of the CLEP exam titles for which credit can be granted at Minot State University upon achievement of the minimum score is available online at www.minotstateu.edu. Official score reports must be sent to the Registrar's Office for credits to be posted on a student's permanent academic record at MSU. No more than 15 credits from CLEP examinations can be applied toward a degree.

The total cost for each CLEP exam is \$85, which includes a \$20 administration fee payable to MSU at the time of registration and a \$65 examination fee payable to CLEP on the day of the exam. Minot State University's CLEP testing center is located on the 2nd floor of the Gordon B. Olson Library. For more information, contact Kim at 6-3990 or visit www.minotstateu.edu/cel/CLEPTesting.shtml

COMPASS Math Placement Exam

Students must score 21 or higher on the Math section of their ACT to be eligible to enroll in MATH 103 College Algebra, 25 or higher to enroll in MATH 107 Precalculus or MATH 146 Applied Calculus, and 29 or higher to enroll in MATH 165 Calculus I. Students whose ACT Math score is not sufficient and students who are not required to provide ACT scores for admission to MSU may choose to take the COMPASS Math Placement Exam. This computer-based exam is untimed and designed to gauge a student's proficiency in important algebra and trigonometry skills. Course placement information is provided immediately upon completion of the test.

COMPASS Math Placement Exams are free to students with MSU ID. For more information or to schedule a testing appointment, call Kim Schwinler at 6-3990.

Sue's Scene

March 17th began another 8-week term at Minot AFB with record enrollment. We look forward to summer term with a variety of classes being offered, including two new ones...Nutrition and Medical Terminology.

You will soon see a new face in the office. Jessica has taken a job with the Community Center as their program director here on the base. We wish her the best.

Did you know?

- Sue became a grandma again...Oliver Maurice made his appearance on LEAP DAY.
- Amy's brother Dexter and family from Arizona will be on an episode of Oprah's Big Give on April 13th.
- Kim's daughter, Ashton, was recently promoted on March 14th to Cadet Commander of the Air Force Junior ROTC unit at Minot High School.
- Bobbi Jo Zueger's daughter, Katie Jo, was offered a position on the Century High School Junior Olympic Volleyball team. Katie Jo is a seventh grader at Horizon Middle School in Bismarck.

Profile of an Online Student

My name is *Jessica Nashund* and I am a Minot State University Online student working on my degree in Developmental Disabilities from Accra, Ghana. Prior to our move to Accra, we were proud members of the Minot community. It was almost 2 ½ years ago that my husband's military career relocated our family here as part of the State Partnership Program that was recently established between North Dakota and Ghana. It was quite a big move filled with new experiences as well as opportunities.

After we settled into our new surroundings, I decided to continue my schooling in Special Education. Coming from Minot, I knew that MSU was the place to go. Soon I was enrolled and taking 3-4 classes a semester. Taking online courses from such a distance can be quite challenging at times. One of most prevalent being the lack of or slow Internet speed experienced here. Ghana is a developing country, growing quickly in their technology; however, lack of electricity due to power shortages affects my ability to get online when needed. I have learned that when the power is on and steady to do as much as possible because it could be gone in a flash. They are in the process of upgrading our Internet system in Accra, which comes with many unscheduled outages as well. For the most part like any student, I have to stay on top of things to make sure I am getting my assignments in on time. A somewhat out of the ordinary challenge I face on occasion are the classroom chats required by some classes. West Africa is in GMT zone,



which puts me at 6 hours ahead of my fellow classmates. Sometimes I have to set my alarm clock to get up at 2 am to make it to a chat on time. This makes for some interesting replies on my part I am sure.

Along with taking online classes at MSU I am also a paraeducator at an international school here in Accra called Lincoln Community School. I work in a 4th grade classroom providing learning support to students. The classes I have taken thus far at MSU have really helped me provide the assistance needed in this area of the classroom.

I will soon graduate from MSU's Developmental Disabilities Associate's Degree program with intentions to seek a teaching degree in Special Education when I am back in the USA. I have really enjoyed my online classes and feel it is a good experience for anyone near or far.

—Best regards, Jessica Naslund

News from Amy's Desk

College for Kids is right around the corner and I think we have a great lineup of camps this summer. *Salamanders, Frogs and Their Homes, Making Stories Come Alive, and PrintMaking* are a few of the new camps for this summer. MSU faculty, Alumni, and Minot Public School teachers help to make College for Kids possible. Our goal is to have a place where kids can learn new things in a fun and exciting environment. If anyone has an idea and would like to propose a camp, please contact Amy in the CEL at 6-3989.

SmarThinking Services

SmarThinking Services are available to all registered MSU students

SmarThinking is the leading provider of online tutoring. Students connect to live tutors from any computer that has Internet access. SmarThinking is a virtual learning assistance center. We provide **online tutoring** 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We also have an **online writing lab** where e-structors critique and return essays within 24 hours.

HOW DO STUDENTS AND E-STRUCTORS INTERACT?

Students work in real-time with an e-structor; submit questions or essays for a next day response, or pre-schedule online appointments. Students communicate with e-structors using a virtual whiteboard technology. Scientific and mathematical notation, symbols, geometric figures, graphing and freehand drawing can be rendered quickly and easily.

SmarThinking offers tutoring in the following subjects:

Math (<i>basic math through Calculus II</i>)	
Writing	Grammar
Statistics	Accounting
Economics	Chemistry
Biology	Physics
Spanish	

TO CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT:

Contact the SmarThinking Account Manager at mydegree@minotstateu.edu for account login information.

HOURS OF OPERATION: (REGULAR TERM)

Most areas of service are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Summer Hours may vary. Please check the MSU Online website www.minotstateu.edu/online for Summer Hours.

Students MAY NOT allow others to login under their name or use their account. If they let others use their account or they fraudulently use the service and are not a Minot State student they will be billed for the time used (at a rate of \$35 per hour). By using this service students agree to these terms.

Free online tutorial services are provided to MSU students free of charge. They may continue to use the SmarThinking service as long as they are a registered student at Minot State University.



MSU Commencement—May 9, 2008 at MSU
Graduation Reception for MSU@BSC—May 15, 2008

WHO'S WHO IN THE CENTER FOR EXTENDED LEARNING

Kristen Warmoth ~ Dean

Phone: 858.3168

- Oversee CEL areas
- Contact for outreach programs

Richard "Dick" Debertin ~ IVN & Video Conferencing Coordinator

Phone: 858.3984

- NDUS Access Coordinator
- Campus scheduler for classes and meetings
- Supervise student workers

Jessica Hudson ~ Registration and Fiscal Coordinator

Phone: 858.3983

- Contracts and Budgets
- ACT Center Testing Proctor
- Receive Tuition collections for Teacher Education
- Recording of CEU's
- Record Graduate Credit Activity

Julie Keller ~ Administrative Assistant

Phone: 858.3822

- Assist the Dean
- Accounts Payable
- CEL Web site
- Supervise student workers

Sue Krebsbach ~ Program Coordinator at MAFB

Phone: 727.9044

- Coordinate all MSU classes/programs at MAFB
- Advises students for MSU classes
- Coordinates marketing

Jolina Miller ~ Online Program Coordinator

Phone: 858.3430

- MSU Online Courses
- Contact for new online course development
- Collaborative contact
- CEL Enrollment Reports, Surveys, and Data

Trisha Nelson ~ Online Degree Advisor

Phone: 858.4422

- Advise online students seeking degrees for Business Administration, Business Information Technology and General Studies programs
- Advise students seeking certificate programs for Business Information Technology
- SmarThinking Online Tutoring Administrator
- Online program Student Satisfaction Survey data reporting and dissemination

Sherie Saltveit ~ Online Instructional Designer

Phone: 858.3280

- Assists faculty with course development
- Aids with incorporation/maintenance of technology in teaching
- Supports students and faculty in day-to-day Blackboard activities

Kim Schwinler ~ Credit Coordinator

Phone: 858.3990

- Correspondence and Independent Study
- Dual Credit
- ACT Testing Center Administrator
- CEL Schedule changes

Mark "Tim" Timbrook ~ Technology Design Specialist

Phone: 858.3832

- Assists faculty with course development
- Aids with incorporation/maintenance of technology in teaching
- Supports students and faculty in day-to-day Blackboard activities

Amy Woodbeck ~ Professional & Community Education Coordinator

Phone: 858.3989

- Conference Planning
- College for Kids
- Institutes
- Continuing Education Units (CEU's)
- Graduate workshops for Educators

Bobbi Jo Zueger ~ Student Services Coordinator at BSC

Phone: 701.224.5496

- Coordinates classes for Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Psychology & Social Work programs at BSC campus
- Advise MSU students seeking degrees for Business Administration and Psychology programs at BSC campus
- Coordinates marketing

Quote of the day: Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush.
— Doug Larson —