



Northeast
community college

SPOTLIGHT

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SPOTLIGHT, an electronic newsletter to the friends and patrons of Northeast Community College, is published nine times a year. Please forward it to your colleagues and neighbors. You are all partners in our efforts to provide quality, affordable, close-to-home educational opportunities to students and training for area businesses, industries, and organizations. Northeast Community College serves residents of 20 counties in northeast Nebraska.

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SENATE SUBCOMMITTEES EARMARK FUNDS FOR SOUTH SIOUX CITY PROJECT

Dr. Bill Path, president of Northeast Community College, and **Dr. Richard Collings**, president of Wayne State College, received welcome news recently that the Senate Appropriations Committee passed two federal funding bills which include \$1.35 million for the proposed Northeast Community College-Wayne State College College Center. The proposed center would allow students to take their freshman- and sophomore-level courses from Northeast and then take junior and senior-level or graduate-level courses from Wayne State College, all in the same location in South Sioux City. The next step for the bills is review by conference committees. Final versions of the bills will be voted on separately by both the House of Representatives and Senate before being sent to President Bush for his signature. "We are extremely pleased that this college center concept is receiving bipartisan support from our U.S. senators," Dr. Path said.

ENROLLMENT DOUBLES AT SOUTH SIOUX CITY EDUCATION CENTER

Preliminary figures show that credit enrollment at our South Sioux City Education Center has nearly doubled from last fall semester when the new 10,000-square-foot center opened in the Westside Business Park. As of August 21st, 140 full- and part-time students were registered for a total of 1,269 credit hours. Some 28 students were registered for nursing classes, 27 were registered as academic transfer or business students, and 17 were taking administrative assistant classes.

PTA PROGRAM GRADUATES 13 IN AUGUST CEREMONY

Thirteen Northeast Community College students recently completed the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program and were recognized at a special graduation ceremony. The graduates included **Tammy Staab**, Arcadia; **Leron (Mrs. Merle) Bierman**, Arnold; **Anna (Mrs. John) Laska**, Cedar Rapids; **Mary Lou Hoffman**, Crawford; **Jacqueline Schindler**, Elgin; **Elisabeth Tophoj**, Grand Island; **Renee (Mrs. Curt) Saunders**, Laurel; **Debra (Mrs. Larry) Stockman**, Norfolk; **Sheila M. Smith**, St. Paul; **Lisa Heiden**, Waco; **Brian Pierce**, West Point; **Devin VanDerBrink**, Ireton, Iowa, and **Cory (Mrs. Jared) Reynolds**, Manhattan, Kan. The graduates must now pass a national PTA examination, required in all but a handful of states, before beginning employment as a PTA. Northeast's placement rate for its PTA graduates is 100 percent.

NEW FACULTY, COORDINATORS, HR DIRECTOR WELCOMED TO NORTHEAST FAMILY

Several new full-time faculty members and coordinators were introduced at the Fall In-service. They included: **Beth Burbach**, nursing; **Dave Pobanz**, professional truck driving; **Danny Whitlock** and **Michael Holcomb**, both drafting, and **Kurt Pytleski**, horticulture. Also introduced at the In-service were **Merri Schneider**, our west regional coordinator based in O'Neill; **Kathi Lenser**, the new Lifelong Learning Center coordinator, and **Chris Kort**, the student development coordinator. **Dave Ptak**, our new general counsel and executive director of human resources, and **Sarah Dempsey**, our new vice president of educational services, were also introduced.

CONGRESSMAN FORTENBERRY, SEN. HAGEL VISIT NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

U.S. Congressman **Jeff Fortenberry** and U.S. Senator **Chuck Hagel** paid separate visits to Northeast in August. Both met with administrators who updated them on several Northeast initiatives including the College Center in South Sioux City, progress on the new \$2.7 Utility Line-Professional Truck Driver Training building, the expansion of Northeast's drafting program to help meet the needs of the Nucor Detailing Center, and proposed ethanol training programs. Both expressed support for the ethanol training programs and South Sioux City expansion and congratulated all administrators on their efforts. "This is such an exciting place to visit," Congressman Fortenberry said. "Your passion for education, under the exceptionally strong leadership of Dr. Path, is palpable. Keep up the great work."

STATE SENATORIAL CANDIDATES ALSO VISIT CAMPUS

Dr. Path and several administrators also hosted state senatorial candidates **Merton 'Cap' Dierks**, **Ewing**, and **Kent Rogert**, **Herman**, along with Senators **Mike Flood**, **Norfolk**, and **Pat Engel**, South Sioux City, for a luncheon and campus tour. They also heard about our many new and ongoing initiatives.

SGA HOSTS WELCOME BACK PICNIC; SAC PROVIDES ENTERTAINMENT.

A record number of 660 students, faculty, staff and their families kicked off the school year with a Welcome Back Picnic, hosted by the Student Government Association (SGA). The meal was served to guests by Northeast administrators and SGA members. Following the meal, the Student Activities Council (SAC) hosted two games, "Not So Newlyweds," featuring Northeast faculty and staff and their spouses, and "Let's Make a Deal." **Shelley Lammers** is the SGA advisor while **Carissa Kalloth** is the SAC coordinator.

RESIDENCE HALLS FILLED TO CAPACITY

Northeast's Burkhardt and Simon Residence Halls and Student Apartments, with a capacity of 346 students, are filled to capacity this semester. The overflow rooms in the residence halls are also being used temporarily. Northeast's Norfolk campus boasts the largest on-campus student housing capacity of any community college in the state of Nebraska.

CAREER SERVICES DEPARTMENT HOSTS PART-TIME JOB FAIR

The Northeast Career Services Department recently hosted the annual fall Part-time Job Fair at the Lifelong Learning Center. The fair is designed to match employers with Northeast students seeking part-time employment. Some 33 employers visited with 247 students at this year's Job Fair. **Rose Ann Rogers** is Career Services director. She is assisted by **Amy Koehler**.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY DONATES PICKUP TO AUTO TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Northeast Community College has recently taken possession of a 2005 Ford F-150 Super Crew Cab pickup, donated by the Ford Motor Company. The pickup will be used in our automotive technology program as an educational tool.

PLANS CONTINUE FOR NEW EDUCATION CENTER AT WEST POINT

Northeast Community College, thanks to the forward-thinking leaders of West Point, will soon have a new 7,500-square-foot education center in that community. The center will be housed in the Weber Education Center, a wing of the new Donald E. Nielsen Community Center. Northeast will offer distance-education classes, a computer lab, regular classrooms, and a science lab. Northeast will lease the space.

WANTED: MORE ADDRESSES FOR NECC "SPOTLIGHT"

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