



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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PTA GRADUATION HONORS STUDENTS FOR COMPLETING PROGRAM

Twelve students were honored recently for completing the course requirements for an associate of applied science degree in physical therapist assistant. At the 14th Annual PTA graduation ceremony, remarks were given by **Dr. Bill Path**, president, and **Sarah J. Dempsey**, vice president of educational services. At the invitation of the honorees, longtime biology instructor **Roger Gipson**, B.A., M.S.E., gave the commencement address. Those honored included **Jessica Braunsroth**, Loveland, Colo.; **Meghan Fiala**, David City; **Leah Gubbels** and **Hannah Lammers**, both of Hartington; **Amanda Koch**, Bow Valley; **Travis Koehn**, Pierce; **Melisa Ritchie** and **Lindie Schreiner**, Grand Island; **Tina Schmitz**, Naper; **Martin Stoddard**, Lexington; **Taylor Suehl**, Hoskins, and **Alison Wecker**, Chambers. Successful completion of the national PTA exam is required by law in all but a handful of states before these graduates can begin employment as a physical therapist assistant.

NEW FACULTY INTRODUCED AT IN-SERVICE

Eleven new faculty members were introduced at the Fall In-Service that included presentations by Northeast's **Derek Bierman**, **Greg Sunderman** and **Mike Auten** on educational technology and the new college website, a session on EBSCO (a research database service) by **Kathy Kiely**, and a presentation by **Donald F. Costello**, senior lecturer, computer science and engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, who presented on "Information Technology-Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." The new faculty members and their teaching assignment include **Stacey Aldag** (math), **Colleen Barnes** (criminal justice and sociology), **Gayle Frevert** and **Lisa Montgomery** (nursing), **Bonnie Johnson-Haddix** and **Kristi Rastede** (English), **John Nelson** (heating, ventilation and air conditioning), **Theresa (Terry) Nelson** (communications), **Wendy Swenson** (Spanish), **Roger Walker** (building construction), and **Misty Wortman**, psychology and assessment coordinator.

RESIDENCE HALLS FULL; ACTIVITIES IN FULL SWING

Student life activities began the weekend of August 16-17 when 363 students moved in to Burkhardt and Simon Hall and the student apartments. Northeast President **Dr. Bill R. Path** and several others on staff assisted students and their families as they unloaded vehicles filled with boxes, electronics, clothing, computers, food, and furniture. Classes began Monday, August 18. Opening week activities, sponsored by the Student Activities Council (SAC) and Student Government Association (SGA), included Movies on the Lawn, Extreme Bowling, Welcome Back Picnic and Inflatable Fun, and a Cheers to Leadership Root Beer Kegger/Clubs and Organization Fair. **Liz Mendoza** is the director of student and residence life while **Carissa Kollath** is the student activities coordinator. **Lisa Reifenrath** is an academic advisor/SGA advisor.

40 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN FALL CLASSES

A total of 40 international students representing 17 different countries are enrolled in classes this fall semester at Northeast Community College. They come from the Bahamas, Kosovo, Grenada, India, South Korea, Sweden, Sri Lanka, Brazil, Colombia, Kenya, Bulgaria, Malawi, Ireland, the Ivory Coast, Iraq, Zambia, and Australia. Many in this group are returning students.

OPEN HOUSE HELD AT NEW WEST POINT EDUCATION CENTER

Guests were invited to tour Northeast's new 8,000-square-foot education center in West Point, the Shirley and Jake Weber Education Center, in the Donald E. Nielsen Community Center recently during an Open House. The facility was made possible through a \$500,000 gift from the Dinklage Foundation and a \$250,000 gift from **Hank and Mona Stalp** in honor of **Shirley and Jake Weber**. It includes several classrooms, computer labs, administrative offices, student lounge, and more. Prior to the Open House, **Jake Weber** and **Hank and Mona Stalp** were presented a memento of appreciation at a luncheon in their honor. The Northeast Board of Governors held its regular monthly meeting there that day too. The Northeast Education Center serves over 600 students a year and that number is expected to increase with the new student center.

CAREER SERVICES DEPARTMENT HOSTS PART-TIME JOB FAIR

The Career Services Department again hosted its Part-Time Job Fair to assist Northeast students in finding part-time employment during the academic year. This year, some 36 employers visited with 194 Northeast students about part-time employment opportunities. Career Services Director Rose Ann Rogers, with assistance from Amy Koehler, organizes the event every year.

CONSTRUCTION ON PARKING LOTS COMPLETE, WELCOME CENTER WORK BEGINS

The new parking lot in front of the Maclay Building and the reconfiguration of the parking lot in front of the Cox Activities Center on the Northeast campus in Norfolk were completed in time for the first day of classes August 18. Preliminary dirt work is complete and construction will begin soon on the 35,000-square-foot College Welcome Center at the front of the campus. The facility will house most Student Services and Administrative Services functions and is considered a "one-stop shop" where prospective students will begin their campus tours and enrolled students will pay their bills, find student counselors and the financial aid office, and complete admissions testing and receive academic advisement. The College Welcome Center will also be home to recruitment/admissions, disabilities services and the adaptive technology center, career services, registration and records, veteran's services, and student meetings. It is tentatively set to open in late summer of 2009.

NORTHEAST STAFF RECYCLES TONS OF PAPER IN FIRST YEAR OF GO GREEN PROJECT

During the first year of the Green Hawk, a paper recycling project on the campus in Norfolk, Northeast faculty, staff and students recycled 25 tons of paper. Recycling of other materials is being explored by the Go Green committee members, **Roger Gipson, Stacy Strawn, Jason Elznic, and Joan Kollars.**

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