The New Rapid City Campus Opens its Doors

The Rapid City Campus celebrated their new location with community members, alumni, students, staff, and faculty on July 24th during open house and ribbon cutting ceremonies. Dr. John Quinn welcomed the crowd and greetings were also shared by Dr. Ron Shape, Mayor Sam Kookier, Mike Buckingham, and Chamber President, Linda Rabe, who is an NAU graduate. Following the ribbon cutting, an open house was held with tours of the new facility. Around 200 people attended.

NAU Says Goodbye to a Dear Friend

H. Edward “Ed” Yelick died on May 30, 2012 at the Rapid City Regional Hospital. Mr. Yelick had been a member of National American University’s Board of Governors for 17 years. He had been a very loyal and strong contributor to the university’s growth and development, involved in a number of program increases and administrative changes.

Continued on page 2
Mr. Yelick retired as an assistant vice president following 30 years of service for Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. He was involved in government and business affairs and was very active in the community. He served as a board member for the Chamber of Commerce, the West Dakota Water Board, and the Black Hill Forest Advisory Board, as well as president of Arrowhead Country Club and chair of the Rapid City Regional Hospital and the Regional Health Boards.

The following are pictures of the display cases in the campus that house some of the history of the Rapid City campus, the programs offered, and awards from the athletic programs which are a part of NAU’s history.

NAU SYSTEM NEWS

CAMPUS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
Campus directors, directors of admissions, and academic deans, along with their leaders, met in July for a leadership conference in Orlando, Florida. Participants shared best practices and took part in Disney’s Approach to Quality Service Seminar to learn how they can better serve students.

ALBUQUERQUE WEST (Formerly Rio Rancho)
In late June, the Albuquerque West campus celebrated the opening of their new location with a ribbon cutting and open house ceremony. Staff was on hand to provide tours and refreshments for the students, chamber members, and business neighbors who joined in the event.
BELLEVUE
The Bellevue campus celebrated their first anniversary with a ribbon cutting in July. Leaders and representatives from the chambers of commerce from Bellevue and Sarpy County were present along with members of the midwest regional staff.

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE
Five Ellsworth AFB students received the Foundation Academic Excellence Scholarship. Patrick Hellne, Randall Miskowic, Christopher Sanchez, Tyson Seiger and Kyle Battell (pictured with John P. Terry, Campus Director-EAFB). Kyle received the Alumni Academic Excellence award as the most senior recipient.

HDB GRADUATE SCHOOL
Marvella Brave Bird became NAU’s first graduate of the university’s Master of Science in Nursing program. The degree was awarded at the Rapid City graduation event in May 2012. Marvella has served as a nurse for Indian Health Services for 17 years, primarily working in emergency room services. • The Graduate School is relocating campus operations to Austin, Texas. Currently housed in temporary office space, the new location is expected to be operational by December 2012. Dr. Coral Noonan-Terry is the campus director.

MESQUITE
In June, NAU-Mesquite celebrated the opening of its new location with an open house and a ribbon cutting. Chamber of commerce and NAU staff and students were in attendance.

RAPID CITY
The Rapid City campus has partnered with Rapid City Regional Health to provide space for the Simulation in Motion South Dakota (SIM-SD) mobile lab. SIM-SD is a program designed to implement statewide outreach education for pre-hospital and hospital personnel. • Dr. John Quinn was the guest speaker for recent meetings of the Association of Real Estate Law Officials and the South Dakota Paralegal Association. • Gary Kirkpatrick, the head of maintenance for the campus from 1997-2008, passed away in July due to a heart attack. • Terry L. Kirkhart (pictured to the right), a well-known graduate of Rapid City, died while hiking at Harney Peak in the Black Hills. He was a 20 year helicopter crew chief in the Air Force and retired from military service at Ellsworth AFB.

ROCHESTER
The new Rochester campus celebrated with an open house and a ribbon cutting event in May.

SIOUX FALLS
Debra Perkins-Hicks, allied health instructor, received the Catherine Scholarship from the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, an honor society for women educators that promotes excellence in education and the professional growth of women educators. • Staff teamed up to participate in the American Diabetes Association’s Tour de Cure and were a favorite among participants.

WATERTOWN
As a way to reach out into their community, NAU staff and student ambassadors recently participated in the Relish Magazine Cooking Show and Expo where they shared information about educational programs and life at NAU.

WICHITA
Medical assisting students in the Laboratory Techniques 2 Clinical Science course hosted a health fair at the campus, utilizing staff, faculty, and student volunteers as patients. Students assessed vitals and also conducted lab tests. A recruiter from a local organization was invited to observe the event and selected and interviewed two medical assisting students onsite. One of the students received an official second interview with the prospect of getting the position. The recruiter loved the campus environment and the interaction between students, faculty and staff.

WICHITA WEST
Wichita West announced the recipients of the Instructor Student Class Attendance Awards. This award is presented to instructors who have a minimum of 80% of students attending every class during a given quarter. Those with a 90% and higher attendance rate received a gold medal; 84% - 89%, a silver medal; and 80%- 84%, a bronze medal. Of the 13 eligible instructors, all 13 earned the honor by creating a nurturing class environment rich with instruction. The recipients were:
- Gold Medal – Lisa Smith, David Bosworth, Linda Kreutzer-Bussman, and Rene Schuler
- Silver Medal – Craig Smith, Shayla Johnston, Haley Schurr, Joel Schroeder, Kristy Ebersole, Jared Hamburg, Bryan Akins, and Deborah Burchardt
- Bronze Medal – Paul Levy
ALUMNI - WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Sheila Thomsen, a Sioux Falls graduate in healthcare management, is working as a case manager with Community Counseling Services in Huron, South Dakota.

Kelly J. McLaughlin, Albuquerque graduate in medical assisting, is working for Health Care Partners Foundation in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Andre Barte, an IT graduate at Roseville, is working as an IT administrator for the city of New Brighton, Minnesota.

Steve Drobny, a Rapid City campus IT graduate, works in NAU’s Central Administration IT department. He was recently recognized as the “employee of the year.”

Angela Oestmann, a 1997 Rapid City IT graduate, has been employed in the field in Texas since that time. She is a senior application developer for CVS Caremark in Richardson, Texas at the present time.

Paul James is a senior systems engineer with Welkin Associates in Chantilly, Virginia. He was a BS graduate at the Denver campus.

Brenda Hadley Briggs, a Brooklyn Center graduate in accounting, has submitted forms for her CPA license. She passed all four segments of the exam on the first try. She also scored 199 of 200 points on the ETS exam given at the conclusion of the business management review course. This was highest point total of any of the Brooklyn Center students.

Sheillina Jackson Murphy attended NAU at both Bloomington and Brooklyn Center. She received a BS in Business Administration and is now a supervisor in product support and analysis for Comcast.

Gerald “Jerry” Dirks, Lee’s Summit graduate - business administration degree- is working as a special investigator for the State of Kansas.

Kathleen Macalis of Morton, Pennsylvania, recent Distance Learning bachelor’s degree IT graduate, is a member of the patient care staff at Taylor Hospital in Ridley Park, Pennsylvania.

Fernanda Nelson was recently named as the head volleyball coach at Florida Atlantic University. Previously she had served as an assistant volleyball coach at Florida Gulf Coast University (2008-2012), and assistant volleyball coach for NAU (2004-2008). She was a NAU graduate in 2003. She was also NAU’s MVP in volleyball and a 4 year NAIA All American. She was the NAIA Volleyball Player of the Year in 2001 and 2003, and a member of both the NAIA Hall of Fame and NAU’s Athletic Hall of Fame (2007). Fernanda had also been a setter for the Brazilian National Team in Volleyball.

MESSAGE

NAU wishes to remain in contact with graduates from all campuses and all time frames. To update your information, please go to www.national.edu/alumni-information-form. This will ensure that this newsletter continues to be delivered to you.

ATTN: ALL GRADUATES

Please continue to submit updates relating to career success and personal matters by using the alumni link on NAU’s website www.national.edu/alumni. This will allow the university to share information about you with other graduates.

THANK YOU!

Please consider making a contribution to the NAU Alumni Scholarship Fund, in order that the university will be able to increase the number of these awards for all NAU locations in support of academic achievement throughout!
An eight-person team of National American University faculty and administrators has developed a set of CORE abilities designed to measure student learning outcomes that all students will demonstrate upon completion of any of NAU’s programs. This activity was initiated by NAU’s participation in the Higher Learning Commission’s Academy for Assessment of Student Learning. The Higher Learning Commission accredits degree-granting post-secondary educational institutions in the North Central region, of which NAU is a member.

The four CORE abilities lay a foundation upon which all programs will build their curriculum assessment, ensuring NAU produces qualified graduates that are ready for the professional world. This is the initial stage of a four-year sequence of events focused on student learning, targeted at accelerating and advancing efforts to assess and improve student learning, and designed to build institution-wide commitment to assessment of student learning.

Offering high quality instructional programs and services is a core value of the university. Participation in this Academy is evidence of NAU’s continued commitment to students.

These four abilities are:

**Communication**
Effective communication & collaboration are vital for success in any industry.

**Occupational Skills**
These pertain to the unique professional skills attained during coursework.

**Reason**
Critical thinking and problem solving help graduates apply their knowledge.

**Ethics**
Personal and social responsibility are key to promote lifelong learning and adhere to ethical guidelines.
Show your school spirit with apparel & accessories from the NAU Spirit Shop!

Available September 1st through shop.nationalamericanbookstore.com

T-shirts • Sweatshirts • Polo’s • Caps • Backpacks
Drink tumblers • Decals • Diploma frames

*not actual garments

Garments available in a variety of colors