

# ND PAS EXCHANGE

January 2007

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<http://www.nd.gov/cte/secondary/programs/agricultural-ed/newsletters.html>

Volume 1

## State President

By Andy Johnsrud



It has been a great year for the ND PAS chapter. We are looking forward to our state convention this year as it will again be held in Minot at the International Inn. We will compete in the various events

and as usual have fun in the college bowl. Both evenings we will be treated to good meals and games.

Schedule changes are being made this year to try to make better use of the time we have for our conference. Hopefully it will make for less conflicts and an opportunity to set up an order of appearance for each participant so that there is less standing around waiting. It should also allow for better participation in the different events with less overlap of times.

Letters are going out to almost 150 KMOT AG EXPO exhibitors asking for their cooperation to provide our students with Ag Sales experiences. The Ag Sales competition continues to be our most popular state PAS event and we hope to have up to 48 participants in the 4 divisions this year.

Participation in Employment Interview and Career Progress and Planning programs are great ways to earn a spot to compete in at the national level. There are 12 areas that we can submit state

winners in for the Employment Interview competition. For career progress we are able to submit two in each Career Progress area for a total of 14. In Career Planning we can submit only one state representative in each planning area for a total of 34.

In other areas, we can submit one team in each Specialist Program, two teams in the Ag Machinery Service Technician program, and one person each in prepared and impromptu speaking. Each area offers opportunities to earn plaques and cash awards – last year we came home from St Louis with \$4650 in cash awards.

I encourage all of you to work to earn your spot to represent North Dakota at the National Conference in Idaho Falls. This year the ND chapter plans on taking a charter bus to nationals which will be held in Idaho Falls, Idaho. We will be leaving a day early to take in some great skiing in Montana on our way. We look forward to seeing all of our friends from other states again while competing with some of the best.

One last note – I encourage you to consider running for a state office at this years convention. If I can do it, any one can! It is not a lot of extra work and gives you a chance, to not only lead our state organization for a year, but also to have input into the workings of the National PAS as you will serve as our official delegates. See you all in Minot!

# State Secretary

By Emily Steckler



I'm Emily Steckler your new North Dakota State PAS Secretary. This year is my second year at Bismarck State College where I am an agricultural education transfer. My home is west of St. Anthony, ND which is south west of Mandan. There I help my family farm and ranch. I have been active in 4-H for eleven years and in FFA for five. I also enjoyed jazz band in high school playing keyboard and I play organ at St. Anthony's church. Besides playing piano I also enjoy fishing, camping, riding dirt bike and just being outside.

Agriculture is my biggest passion and I love everything about it. I always have a positive attitude and am ready to try new things. Focusing on the positive and being open minded are keys to success. In PAS you get the opportunity to use these positive skills as well as gain new ones. You're also given the chance to succeed and be recognized for it at local, state, and as well as the national level. It's also a great opportunity to meet new people from around the state and the U.S. You get the chance to gain skills that will be helpful in people's everyday lives. So if you haven't tried PAS give it a try and attend one of your local meetings. If you already are in PAS encourage a friend to come with you just to check it out.

I'm excited to serve you as the State Secretary this year and I'd also like to thank you for giving me this awesome opportunity. I had a great time at Nationals serving as one of your North Dakota Delegates. We got the opportunity to present issues as well as a chance to hear others. We discussed and voted on them. It also was fun to get to meet all the national officer candidates and talk to them one on one. We interviewed them all and got to know them.

For the first time this year the BSC Agri-Business club put together an Alumni Bash. It celebrated 35 years of the Ag program at BSC and was a class reunion for the past members as well as our supporters. We held banquet at the Ramkota. We had a few speakers and a silent auction. After the meal we proceeded to start a live auction which was very successful. Students worked hard to go around to local businesses here and at their home to donate items for the auctions. We received many items and appreciate the support. Our highest selling item was a buffalo picture painted by Jack Kline. Over all we made \$5,000 profit. The money will cover convention costs and numerous activities throughout the year. At the end of the night we had a live band for a dance. Another event that night was a slide show that ran all night with pictures of past classes and teachers. Old class mates had a great time catching up with each other while new ones got to know each other. It was a wonderful success and we hope to do it again in the future.

State PAS Conference is coming up quick and I hope to see a lot of you there. It's an awesome opportunity to meet new people, show off your skills, and learn a thing or two. Last year was a blast. Some of us won big on game night and others in certain contests. There's something for everyone from cows to soils and everything in between. The events cover a wide aspect of today's agricultural world.

You also get the chance to earn a trip to national convention in Idaho Falls this spring. Last spring we had the wonderful opportunity of traveling all the way to St. Louis Missouri. We spent many hours on a bus together playing cards, watching movies, sharing stories and in some cases writing stories on the way there and back. We got to see many sights including the arch and the city itself. I also saw beautiful green grass; it's a rare sight where I'm from.

It was also fun competing at a National level and meeting people from different states. Winning teams at state get to go on and compete at the national level against schools from across the US. Word has it that this year there may even be a ski trip in there too this year.

I hope to see you all at state convention with an open mind and a smile. Enjoy the rest of your school year and stay warm!

## NDSCS PAS/Ag Club

### By Kevin Olson—April 2006 Report

The North Dakota State College of Science Agribusiness/PAS Club found itself at the end of another successful year. We began our year with several get acquainted picnics and meal functions to invite new members to join and introduce them to club members and our organization.

During fall semester members were busy preparing for the varied PAS activities that they were involved in at our State Conference in Minot in January. Members participated in career planning, career progress, sales, career interview, crops specialist, livestock specialist, agricultural mechanics service technician area, and; of course, College Bowl and Texas Hold'em!

During the State PAS Conference in Minot we enjoyed excellent weather and met new colleagues and competed in our various activity areas. Everyone came home a winner and looked forward to traveling on to St. Louis.

Pictured below is of the NDSCS members who attended the National PAS Conference in St. Louis.



Back Row L to R: Joe Schaeffer, Dan Christensen, Sean Bauer, & Matt Leins.  
Front Row L to R: Nathan Fronning, Tony Bakkes, Kevin Olson, & Derek Ostby.

Eight members of the North Dakota State College of Science Agribusiness Club attended the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Postsecondary Agriculture Student Organization held at St. Louis, Missouri on March 14 -18, 2006. Leadership and agricultural related competition brought post secondary agriculture students together from 18 states for this annual event.

NDSCS qualified three teams of students to participate in the Agricultural Mechanics Service Technicians Career Area contest. Placing first in the nation was the NDSCS team made up of **Matt Leins** (sponsored by Walworth County Implement of Selby, SD) and **Tony Backus** (sponsored by Northfield Tractor and Equipment of Northfield, MN). Matt finished as the national high individual, also. Finishing in second place nationally was the NDSCS team made up of **Dan Christensen** (sponsored by Kibble Equipment of Redwood Falls, MN) and **Joe Schaeffer** (sponsored by Yankton Equipment of Yankton, SD). Finishing in eighth place was the NDSCS team of **Sean Bauer** (sponsored by Heartland Equipment of Sauke Center, MN) and **Kevin Olson** (sponsored by Beckman's Implement of Brookings, SD).

Competing in the Career Planning Beef Production area was **Derek Ostby** of New Effington, SD. Derek also was the national Texas Hold'em winner and served as one of three auctioneers who auctioned off over \$9,000 of door prizes at the conference. **Nathan Fronning** of Breckenridge, MN competed in the Career Progress Equipment Sales area. Mr. Larry Ascheman and Mr. Brad Tews also attended as PAS/Agribusiness Club advisors.

The members attended several leadership workshops and toured a variety of interesting agricultural businesses in the St. Louis area during the conference.

The National PAS officers were caught in a relaxed pose during their very busy week of orchestrating the conference activities. NDSCS would like to congratulate and thank Jason Tews, NDSCS alumni, for serving as our National Vice President during the past year.

At a recent PAS Club meeting, the officers for the 2006-07 year were elected. Our new president is Derek Ostby, our vice president is Jordan Wyum, and our secretary/treasurer is Katrina Ritten. We are looking forward to a very productive and exciting year under their leadership.



Back Row L to R:  
Dwight Little, Josh Daugherty, Jason Tews  
Front Row L to R:  
Etta Balo, Eileen Jensen, Lavye Rada

## DSU PAS/Ag Club

We hope this letter finds you all enjoying the Holiday season. Well, as usual the DSU Ag Club had another successful busy year. This past January was our state conference in Minot, ND. There were quite a few members that participated in the contests at state. Also, a member of our club, Andy Johnsrud, became state president. In February we held our 4-H and FFA Roughrider Judging Contest. There were a lot of kids that came and participated in the contest, and it was a good because all the members worked hard. In March six members and one advisor traveled to National PAS Convention in St. Louis, MI. They participated in many contests and represented our University well.

Kids Day came next, and the DSU arena was filled with noisy animals and excited kids for the entire day. It was enjoyable to see the children learn about agriculture, and we hope to have success with Kids Day in the future as well.

When we all came back to school in the fall, the Ag Club had grown in members. With a lot of new members, we were able to get a lot accomplished already this semester. To start off the year active members participated in the Ag Sales competition in Dickinson, and everyone did great. We had another successful month of calling at the Phone-a-thon in November, raising over \$10,000 in scholarships for DSU students.

The DSU Ag Club members are looking forward to another great, fun filled semester coming up this spring. Thank you to all of you who have supported us through the years, because without you it would be very difficult. Also, thanks to our parents who have been there to support us in everything we do. Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!



## BSC PAS/Ag Club

By Jena Bohl, Reporter

It's been a great year so far and this semester is already coming to an end! To kick off finals week and help relieve the students' stress, the PAS club and instructors held a breakfast on Tuesday morning. Breakfast burritos and deer sausage were served to many people from the agriculture department at BSC. It was delicious!

The PAS club is selling raffle tickets to raise money for the National PAS Conference in March. We are raffling two different rifles and a hand crafted quilt. The tickets are \$10.00 a piece and the drawing will be in January.

The BSC Agribusiness Department will be hosting the Ag. Roundup on January 6, 2007 for 4-H and FFA members. Various events such as crops judging, livestock judging, salesmanship, and small animal care will be part of the day. BSC PAS club members will be assisting with registration and monitoring throughout the day.

Everyone is getting exciting for the State PAS Conference, which will be in January and also the National PAS Conference held in March. We are working hard to raise money and look forward to our trips!

We hope everyone has a wonderful and safe vacation!

# ND PAS Excel at National Conference

April 2006—

Members of the ND Postsecondary Agriculture Student (ND PAS) Organization returned from the national PAS Conference with \$4,650 in cash awards along with award plaques recognizing excellence in PAS Career Programs.

Thirty-two North Dakota members traveled to St. Louis for the National PAS Conference held March 14-18. Over 700 PAS members from 18 states competed in Award Programs, Educational Tours, Leadership and Personal Development workshops and an Ag Industry Career Fair. North Dakota members represented BSC, DSU, NDSU, and NDSCS.

Teams from NDSCS finished in first, second and eighth places in the national Ag Machinery Service Technician Award Program. This competition tests students' skills in diagnostics, repair, calibration, adjustment, identification, measuring and testing. Top team members were Matt Leins and Tony Bakkes (\$2100), and second place team members were Dan Christiansen and Joe Schaeffer (\$1300). Placing eighth was the team of Sean Bauer and Kevin Olson (\$100). There were a total of 34 teams in the competition. Sponsors of the competition are John Deere, Duramax Diesel, Allison Transmission, and Rotella T. Matt Leins was also the high individual for the competition. He received \$500.

Three BSC students were recognized for excellence in Career Progress/Planning Programs. Angela Keller was the national winner of the Agribusiness Career Progress award (\$200) and Kacey Schafer won the Animal Production Career Progress Award (\$200). Victoria Buchmann earned a National Merit Award, 3rd place, in the Ag Equipment Parts Retailing Career Planning program (\$50).

Andy Johnsrud from DSU placed 2nd in the National Impromptu Speaking Competition (\$50) and 2nd in the Employment Interview competition in the Livestock Production division.

In the Livestock Specialist Award program, the Beef Team from BSC placed 2nd (\$150). Team members were Emily Steckler, Matt Kline, and Heather Wells. Wells placed 3rd individually.

The College Bowl team of Andy Johnsrud, Tim Walford, Nikki Thompson (all of DSU), and Derek Ostby and Nathan Fronning of NDSCS also progressed to the final 8 of the National College Bowl Competition.

The North Dakota PAS motto is "Uniting Education and Industry in Agriculture" and their mission is to "provide opportunities for individual growth, leadership and career preparation in Agriculture". PAS is supported by the State Board of Career and Technical Education.





**2006-2007  
Membership**

BSC .....	44
DSU .....	28
NDSU .....	27
NDSU .....	18
WSC .....	13



**Dues**

ND PAS currently has 130 members! Additions/Memberships will be accepted until February 9. State & National PAS dues are \$20 per member. This is a unified dues package. Please use the National PAS Roster available through the National PAS website [www.nationalpas.org](http://www.nationalpas.org) (click on "Membership") to report your members – do not send the roster to the national organization – send it to state advisor Doug Vannurden at [dvannurd@nd.gov](mailto:dvannurd@nd.gov).



**PAS Mission**

**The National Postsecondary Agriculture Student Organization provides opportunities for individual growth, Leadership, and career preparation**

**Upcoming Events**

**2007**

- Jan. 24 – 26 – ND State PAS Convention – Minot International Inn
- Feb. 9 – Deadline: discounted dues & affiliation for spring students due
- Feb. 23 – National PAS Hotel Reservations due
- Feb. 23 - National PAS Conference Registrations due
- Mar. 14 – 17 National PAS Convention – Idaho Falls, Idaho

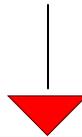
[www.nationalpas.org](http://www.nationalpas.org)

Want to learn more about the organization? Want to stay up-to-date on all the latest national PAS news?

Log onto [www.nationalpas.org](http://www.nationalpas.org) and find:

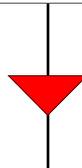
- National Officer Updates
- Yearly Calendar
- PAS Week Information
- PAS Logos & Forms
- PAS Recruiting Brochure
- The Comprehensive Guide to Starting your Chapter
- National PAS Handbook
- Career Program Information

The website offers you the unique opportunity to become excellent and is a great resource to help you pass the excitement on!



Our State Website is:

[www.nd.gov/cte/post-secondary](http://www.nd.gov/cte/post-secondary)  
(click on Agricultural Education)



**NDSU PAS / CFFA**  
By Courtney Hawbaker, Secretary

The NDSU PAS/CFFA chapter has been busy wrapping our school year up. On April 6<sup>th</sup> elections for new officers were held. Results were as follows:

President- Kimberly Spear

Secretary- Courtney Hawbaker

Historian- Jayme Fiesel

CASAC/CSO- Sarah Seefeld

Vice President- Lacey Schneider

Treasurer – DJ Morast

Philanthropy- Whitney Haux

Fundraising Co-Chairs- Lindsay Voigt and Calli Wold.

The new officer team is excited and ambitious for the year to come!

We had three members attend National conference over spring-break; these members were Jeremy Zink, Justin Vogel, and Calli Wold. They had fun with the competitions and new experiences; overall they said it was a wonderful trip.

The NDSU PAS chapter will be participating in Relay for Life on April 21. We are in the process of thinking of a theme as well as fundraising ideas.

Our spring picnic will be held April 27. Members have been encouraged to invite non-members along. We are hoping to recruit a few more members for the next school year. At the picnic we plan to fill in the non-members in on what PAS/CFFA entails as well as meet the current members. We are all very enthusiastic about next year and are looking forward to another wonderful year of College and PAS/CFFA!