

# Catalyst

*A Newsletter for Students*

## 2008 Carothers Award winner announced

### Counseling staff changes

Shawn Bubany and Brooke Dean, two practicum counselors in Counseling and Career Services, have now completed their practicum training. A third counselor, Chia-Chen Tu, will be in the office through the summer with hours on Mondays and Tuesdays. Bill Baldus, career counselor, is out of the office for the summer months and will return in late August. A new group of practicum counselors will also begin in late August. For questions, contact Vesna Hampel-Kozar at 651-793-1529.

Mohammad Sarwar, Shoreview, was selected as the winner of the 2008 Robert L. Carothers Distinguished Writers Award at Metropolitan State University. He is pursuing a B.A. in writing. Honorable Mention was awarded to Elizabeth Anderson (Schumack).

The Carothers Award was created in 1991 to acknowledge former Chancellor Carothers' outstanding contribution to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and to higher education. Every spring the award highlights the work of student writers by providing one student at each of the state universities with a \$100 award to be applied toward his/her financial aid package. Students are nominated by their professors and then may submit work for the competition.

The 2008 judges were Ed Bok Lee, Communication, Writing and the Arts (CWA)

assistant professor and the author of *Real Karaoke People*; Kristin Johnson, CWA community faculty who teaches Web design and writing courses and has published more than 40 short pieces in a variety of journals and newspapers. Her writing awards include Mystery Writers of America Helen McCloy Award for her novel *Knights Before Us*, The Loft's Shabo Award for picture books, and the Loose-leaf Poetry Series contest; and Beth Mayer, CWA community faculty, whose work has appeared in *The Threepenny Review*, *The Sun Magazine*, *The Journal of Graduate Liberal Studies*, and elsewhere. Her flash fiction and poetry were contest selections for "miniStories" and "What Light" sponsored by martists.org.

Congratulations to this year's winner and to all the fine writers who were nominated by their professors for this award.

## CSITS nominated for outstanding accomplishment



*Darren Dannen*

The Center for Strategic Information Technology and Security (CSITS) Program received a nomination for "Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Information Technology, Information Security and Privacy."

Darren Dannen, senior security project manager for the CSITS, provided leadership for the timely completion of campus security assessments at all Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) campuses and the Chancellor's Office. The Information Security Assessment Program provided a baseline of the current security practices and posture for

protecting private data of the students, alumni, staff and faculty at each of the MnSCU institutions and identified common issues that can be addressed through systemwide initiatives. This nomination, the only one submitted by MnSCU this year to the national association, reflects outstanding work over the past 18 months and a truly outstanding accomplishment.

For more information, contact Sharon Boerbon Hanson, director, marketing communications, at sharon.hanson@metrostate.edu or call her at 612-659-7227.

## Summer hours now in effect

### Outstanding student employee recognized

Dorisene Anderson, student worker, Student Life and Leadership, received the Student Worker Supreme Award on April 23 at the Employee Awards event. She was commended for her role in ensuring that the events for Women's History Month went smoothly. She worked tirelessly to communicate with people and engage volunteers; she followed up on details and kept a positive attitude, showing an extraordinary level of leadership that resulted in a fine array of programs.

Dorisene was also recognized at the 10th Annual President's Student Leadership Awards Dinner as the Female Leader of the Year.

University offices are closed to students and the public at noon on Fridays during the summer through Aug. 15. The Library and Learning Center in Saint Paul will remain open on Friday afternoons.

#### Gateway—Phone service hours:

Monday–Thursday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. and Friday, 8:30 a.m.–noon. **Walk-in service hours:** Monday–Thursday 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. and Friday, 8:30 a.m.–noon.

#### Academic Testing Center, Saint Paul

**Campus**, Library and Learning Center, Room 130—hours through Aug. 19 are: Monday, 2–8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Saturdays (May 17, May 31, June 7, June 21, July 19, Aug. 2, Aug. 9 and Aug. 16), 10 a.m.–4 p.m. **Minneapolis Campus**, Management Education Center, second floor—Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. The office is closed from 1–2 p.m. each day for lunch.

#### Writing Center, Saint Paul Campus,

Library and Learning Center, Room 130, hours

through Aug. 14 are: Monday and Thursday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Friday, closed; Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. **Midway Center, First Floor Atrium**—Monday, 2–6 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Wednesday, 2–8 p.m. The Writing Center is closed from 1–2 p.m. each day for lunch.

**Drop-in hours for the Math Center, Saint Paul Campus**, Library and Learning Center, Room 130 are: Monday, 2–6 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; and Saturday, noon–4 p.m. The Math Center is closed from 1–2 p.m. each day for lunch. **Midway Center, First Floor Atrium**—Monday and Tuesday, 2–6 p.m. and Thursday, 2–8 p.m.

The **appointment tutoring schedule** for the Saint Paul Campus is Monday, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.; Tuesday, 2–6 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.–noon. No tutoring appointments are available at Midway Center during the summer.

## Nelly Torori is the Project SHINE student of the month

### Student Senate announces election results for 2008–2009

The Student Senate elections for the 2008–2009 academic year concluded at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, April 27. Fifteen senators were elected following a voter turnout of 127 students.

The students receiving the highest number of votes (from highest to lowest) were: Noel Opoti, Melissa Heinz, Hassan Mohamed Ali, Lee Her, Andrzej Galas, Clara Ware, Shirlesia Hawkins-Dembly, Daisy Lor, Chad Paul Frederick, Noelani Therena Blanch, David Lee, Josias Tchouasse Nya, Timothy Page, Benjamin Tittle and Geoffrey Gichana.

These senators will select next year's officers at an upcoming meeting.

Project SHINE is a service learning program offered at Metropolitan State's Center for Community-Based Learning. Project SHINE allows students to apply their course work in the community by becoming tutors for refugees and immigrants in English as a second language and citizenship classrooms across the Twin Cities.

Nelly N. Torori (Monyancha) is a Metropolitan State student originally from Kenya and now residing in Maple Grove with her 14-year-old daughter and going to school. She is participating in Project SHINE as a requirement for her Intercultural Communications class. She enrolled in the program because of her desire to work with people of color and because her mother, who was a single parent of five children, taught her, "with faith, nothing is impossible." She chose to work at The Somali Education Center in Minneapolis.

On the subject of volunteering, Nelly says, "I have grown to appreciate the students I tutor. It's not about how we differ, but what we have in common. This is a community I have known from Kenya, but little did I understand about them. I walk into the center, receiving smiles from students who have a sincere desire to learn. Most of my students relate to me at a personal level because of our cultural roots. Most of them

took refuge in Kenya before coming to the U.S. Some of the students connect with me in Swahili, which unites us as one culture, just separated by our various dialects."

Through volunteering, Nelly believes that as a society we have an obligation to help those in need. She says, "Knowing that my presence at the center can truly affect the life of a student and leave an impressionable mark for a brighter future gives me the satisfaction of accomplishment. This experience has expanded my cultural boundaries and taught me to get out of my comfort zone; it has taught me to give up my regular familiarity and assimilate something new, and that is invaluable. I have learned how to integrate different cultural values and look at the world as an exciting place. Most importantly it has taught me that you should allow others the time they need to share their thoughts and to always LISTEN!"

The Somali Education Center seeks to increase academic performance of recent Somali immigrant youth, grades K–12, by offering after-school tutoring and homework help.

To volunteer with Project SHINE or for more information, contact Emily Groshens, the Project SHINE coordinator, at [emily.groshens@metrostate.edu](mailto:emily.groshens@metrostate.edu).

## College of Management advisor appointed

### PRSSA to meet June 3

The Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) is meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 3, at Midway Center, Room 22. If you are interested in becoming a member, contact Jenny Sorensen at [jsorensen@maplewoodaudi.com](mailto:jsorensen@maplewoodaudi.com) or call 651-494-1414.

Sally Pinkston, Savage, was appointed academic advisor for the Metropolitan State College of Management effective April 23.

She serves as academic advisor to undergraduates who are majoring in one of the College of Management majors, including Business Online students. She also reviews academic programs, advocates for students' best academic interests, maintains and reviews student records, and interprets policies and procedures. She presents information meetings and assists in developing and improving advising tools and materials.

Pinkston previously worked as advising information specialist for Minneapolis Community and Technical College. Earlier she was M.B.A. services director at Santa Clara University (Calif.) and M.B.A. program coordinator/graduate admissions officer at the University of California, Berkeley.

She holds B.A.'s in International Relations and German from the University of Minnesota and an M.A. in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

## Anne Aronson named Elizabeth Shippee Award recipient



Anne Aronson, professor, Writing Department, College of Arts and Sciences, is the recipient of the Elizabeth Shippee Award, given by the Women's Commission to a member of the university community who has demonstrated outstanding service to women and girls. Anne has long had an interest in and has taught courses in Women's Studies. She has a special interest in feminist theory as it relates to gender and sports. Anne has done research nationally and

internationally on women's baseball and has published articles such as "Girls Deserve an Equal Shot at the Great American Pastime," which appeared in the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*; and "Leveling the Playing Field at the Springvale Baseball Club" for the *Elysian Fields Quarterly: The Baseball Review*. She presented a paper entitled "Not Just a Hit and a Giggle: Women's Baseball in Australia" at the 2007 spring meeting of the Society for American Baseball Research.

## Community Organizing and Development minor offered

First College is offering a Community Organizing and Development minor. This interdisciplinary minor is available to students with interests in organizing, developing and sustaining community, institutional and social change. The minor provides a holistic view of the organizing and development field including a focused field experience in community organizing

and development; an exploration of approaches to community empowerment and social justice; and an understanding of the impact of public policy on low-income populations and people of color.

For more information about this minor, contact Tom O'Connell, interim minor advisor, at 651-793-1436.

## "Silence the Violence" music showcase announced

### Free Mosaic Workshop offered

A free Mosaic Workshop with Kim Buell takes place on Wednesday, May 28, from 6–8 p.m. Students, staff and faculty are welcome. Contact Erica Rasmussen, gallery director, at [erica.rasmussen@metrostate.edu](mailto:erica.rasmussen@metrostate.edu) to reserve your seat. The workshop is made possible by the Third Floor Gallery and the Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts.

*I AM Magazine*, a print magazine whose mission is to reach gospel music listeners in urban communities, is presenting "Silence the Violence" Music Seminar and Showcase on Friday, June 13, and Saturday, June 14. Doors for the showcase open at 6 p.m. both days at the Saint Paul Campus, Founders Hall, Auditorium.

Some of the artists showcasing are the North High School Gospel Choir, Excelsior, Roderick Neal, Apostle BB Jay, Chuck Spearman, Bryant Scott and Bobby Champion. Showcase opportunities are available for soloists, groups, choirs, comedians, gospel hip hop, praise dancers

and praise and worship. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted at the door.

The showcases are taped for television and live webcast.

For information, call 763-323-3497 or visit [www.iamtv1.com](http://www.iamtv1.com).



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## Internship opportunities

### GEMS seeks mentors

GEMS is seeking students and mentors to participate in a mentoring program for the upcoming academic school year. GEMS will strengthen students' communication, leadership, job and life skills, foster self-confidence and self-esteem. Mentors who volunteer will be provided training and support.

The vision is “To guide, empower and support our students through mentoring.” For information contact Xong Yang at 651-793-1550 or e-mail yangxo@go.metrostate.edu.

Anyone with disabilities needing accommodations for a Metropolitan State event or who needs a publication in an alternative format, should call disability services at 651-793-1525 or 651-772-7687 (TTY).

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This newsletter is printed on recycled paper containing a minimum of 15 percent postconsumer waste.

Complete descriptions of these internships are available in the Center for Community-Based Learning, 678 East Seventh Street, 651-793-1285 or [cbl.center@metrostate.edu](mailto:cbl.center@metrostate.edu).

**Congressional internships—The Student Conservation Association** is recruiting members for the Unilever sponsored National Park Congressional Internship Program. Each year six student leaders gain real-world experience through summer immersion in a national park complimented by a spring or fall internship in a congressional office on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Openings are available to start between June 9–July 1. Candidates should have an interest in resource management, environmental issues and the public policy process. Benefits include: \$400 per week living allowance in Washington, D.C., \$150 per week while serving in the park, housing, 24-hour accident and injury insurance, and career services during and after the internship. Send a resume and cover letter to [admissions@thesca.org](mailto:admissions@thesca.org) with “Congressional Park Internship” in the subject line.

**Web site development intern—Family and Children's Services** is seeking an intern to work with their development and communications specialist in creating and maintaining their Web site. Duties include organizing and developing the “toolbox” section of [www.everyfamilymatters.org](http://www.everyfamilymatters.org); updating

events on the online events calendar; and cultivating the online presence of Family and Children's Service on other Web sites, networks and calendars. Work approximately 10–15 hours per week during summer 2008. This is an opportunity to learn more about Web site design for nonprofits. This position is unpaid, but reimbursement for transportation/parking and any other expenses is available. Contact Kimberly Ferencik at [kferencik@fcsmn.org](mailto:kferencik@fcsmn.org) or call 612-341-1611.

The MnSCU Chancellor's Office is seeking a facilities intern to assist the construction, real estate, business support and planning and programming directors with a wide variety of topics including master planning, construction management, real estate/property management, insurance and public financing. Must have skills using a broad range of office and computer hardware and software including relational databases, AutoCAD and GIS software. Exposure to reading maps, plats, surveys and legal documents is beneficial. Students majoring in business, geography, geographic information services, surveying, construction management or related studies are encouraged to apply. 40 hours per week (May–August/September); salary is \$11 per hour. Contact Greg Ewig, real estate director, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, at 651-296-3852.