

# Catalyst

*A Newsletter for Students*

## MnSCU's FAN invites action

### Reminder: Spring Faculty Conference

The Spring Faculty Conference is April 14, 8 a.m.–1:30 p.m. on the Saint Paul Campus. Open to faculty and staff, the theme is “Creating Significant Learning Experiences.” The panel moderator is John Forde, host of *Mental Engineering*. Register by Thursday, April 12 (call 651-793-1774, e-mail [ctl@metrostate.edu](mailto:ctl@metrostate.edu) or go online at [www.metrostate.edu/ctl](http://www.metrostate.edu/ctl)).

Now is the critical time for Metropolitan State at the Minnesota Legislature. The House and Senate are developing budget targets for each area of the state budget, such as K–12 funding, higher education, social services and others. These budget targets will help set the stage for the final state budget and how much money the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities will receive.

Members of the Friends Action Network (FAN), a grassroots network of faculty, staff, students, community members and alumni who support the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, are contacting legislators to urge them to support the system's biennial budget and

capital requests. You can learn more and contact your legislators through the FAN network by going to [www.fan.mnscu.edu](http://www.fan.mnscu.edu).

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system is seeking funds to cover inflation, to make critical technology infrastructure improvements to benefit students and to strengthen the state's competitive edge with strategic advancements. In addition, the system is requesting repair, replacement and critical safety improvements funding for facilities throughout the system, as well as two property acquisitions. These projects were not funded from the 2006 capital request.

## U of M Professor Xiong speaks on April 5

As part of Asian Heritage Month, Professor Zha Blong Xiong, associate professor in the postsecondary teaching and learning department at the University of Minnesota, presents “Asian Pacific Islander Students in Higher Education: What Do We Know About Them?” His presentation is in the Library and Learning Center, Ecolab Room 302, on Thursday, April 5, from 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Xiong has been involved in research focusing on adolescent development in all aspects of education and community engagement. He is the coauthor of the parent education curriculum

called *Helping Youth Succeed: Bicultural Parenting for Southeast Asian Families*. He also serves on the board of directors for the Hmong Archives, the Advisory Council for Children, U of M's Youth and Family Consortium, and the Concordia University Center for Hmong Studies governing board.

This event is sponsored by the Asian American Student Services, Asian Student Organization and the Equal Opportunity and Diversity Office. RSVP to 651-793-1270 or [lupe.sanchez@metrostate.edu](mailto:lupe.sanchez@metrostate.edu).

## Military Veterans and Friends student organization planned

Planning is underway for the creation of a new student organization, Military Veterans and Friends. Meeting dates are Tuesdays, April 3, 10, 17 and 24 from 4:30–6 p.m. at the Saint Paul Campus, Founders Hall, Room L117. Stop in on any date or time for snacks, refreshments and

comradery and learn more about the recently-created Veterans Affairs Office.

For more information contact Bruce Holzschuh, veterans services coordinator, Founders Hall, Room 120, call 651-793-1305 or e-mail him at [bruce.holzschuh@metrostate.edu](mailto:bruce.holzschuh@metrostate.edu).

## April 9 event celebrates teen literature day

### Career Services calendar

- April 3—Resume Review Drop-in, Minneapolis, T2500, noon–1 p.m.
- April 9—MCTC/ Metropolitan State Career Fair, Minneapolis Skyway, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- April 10—Interviewing, Minneapolis, Library 3100, noon–1:30 p.m.
- April 23—Minn. Education Fair, Minneapolis Convention Center, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
- April 25—Resume Workshop and Drop-in Review, Library and Learning Center, Room 321, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
- April 26—Law Enforcement Opportunities Career Fair, Earl Brown Center, Brooklyn Center, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

A special kickoff program to celebrate “Support Teen Literature Day” is planned April 9 from 7–8:30 p.m. at the Saint Paul Campus, Founders Hall, Auditorium. The event, free and open to the public, features three well-known authors of young adult literature, M.T. Anderson, Pete Hauptman and Alison McGhee.

Anderson is winner of this year’s National Book Award for Young People’s Literature and Printz Honor selection *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation, Vol. 1: The Pox Party*. Hauptman, recipient of the 2004 National Book Award for Young People’s Literature for his book, *Godless*, is also the writer of numerous novels for teens. McGhee, a Metropolitan State faculty member, has written *Falling Boy* and is a Minnesota Book Award winner. All three will be the featured panelists in what promises to be a lively exchange including panel moderator, Mary Rockcastle, dean,

Hamline University’s Writing for Children and Young Adults MFA program.

The program is cosponsored by the Metropolitan State Library and Learning Center and Center for Community-Based Learning and the Dayton’s Bluff Branch of the Saint Paul Public Library. The event is made possible with support from the Bush Foundation.

For more information contact Adela Peskorz, faculty librarian, at 651-793-1633 or by e-mail at [adela.peskorz@metrostate.edu](mailto:adela.peskorz@metrostate.edu).

This event is in conjunction with a new annual event “to raise awareness among the general public that young adult literature is a vibrant, growing genre with much to offer today’s teens” sponsored by YALSA, the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association, [www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/supportyalit.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/supportyalit.htm).

## Marketing communications specialist appointed

Sharon Hanson, Maplewood, was appointed marketing communications specialist in the Center for Strategic Information Technology and Security at Metropolitan State University.

As marketing communications specialist, Hanson is responsible for producing promotional products that support the center’s programs and activities with a special emphasis on using Internet-based communication tools.

Hanson comes to Metropolitan State from Quayside Publishing/Creative Publishing International where she worked as development

editor. She previously served as marketing and communications consultant with Hamline University Law School and SHE Communications, and worked for Imation as marketing communications manager and Web evangelist at Verifi.

She holds a B.A. from Metropolitan State University, focusing in writing with a concentration in organizational communications, and an M.F.A. in creative writing from Hamline University.

## Metropolitan State appoints TRIO counselor

Deborah Megivern Foster, Cottage Grove, was appointed counselor for the TRIO Student Support Services Program in Metropolitan State University’s Student Affairs Division, effective March 19. TRIO is a federally-funded program that aims to increase the access to, availability of, and success in postsecondary education for low-income, first-generation college students and disabled Americans.

In this position, she works with students to develop individual success plans, arranges for other services or referrals the students may need, and helps maintain student records as required by

federal grant regulations.

Foster comes to Metropolitan State from People Incorporated, Saint Paul, where she worked as a mental health practitioner. Previously, she was an assistant professor at Washington University School of Social Work, St. Louis, Mo.

She holds a B.A. in social work and psychology from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa; a master of social work in interpersonal practice, an M.A. in personality psychology and a Ph.D. in social work and psychology, all from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

## Experimental intermedia art festival is underway

### Internship information session

Students interested in learning about Metropolitan State's academic internship program are invited to attend an information session on Wednesday, April 11, or Thursday, May 17, 11 a.m.–noon, Library and Learning Center, Room 301. Learn about policies and procedures, strategies for locating internship sites, and instructions on completing the Academic Internship Agreement. Contact the Center for Community-Based Learning at [cbl.center@metrostate.edu](mailto:cbl.center@metrostate.edu) or 651-793-1285 for more information or to reserve a space at one of the sessions. Although there is no fee, preregistration is required. Individual appointments are available for those unable to attend a group session.

Strange Attractors 16: Festival of Experimental Music and Intermedia Art is on Fridays, now through April 27 at 7 p.m. at Studio 677 eXperimental interMedia, on the Saint Paul Campus, 677 East Seventh Street. This year's festival features John Franzen, Abdul Gindeel, Steve Goldstein, Dean Granros, Tom Kanthak, David Means and Andre Stephani. Suggested donation is \$5.

The festival brings to the university a collection of renowned artists in a celebration of new work and creativity. It offers a flexible and interactive environment for artists to present and discuss their work to audiences who have a unique opportunity to experience these works in diverse and creative ways. Strange Attractors 16 is produced and presented by the Program in Experimental Music and Intermedia Arts, Communications, Writing and Arts Department; College of Arts and Sciences, Metropolitan State. Upcoming performances feature the following artists:

**Friday, April 6—Tom Kanthak**—The Metropolitan State graduate and composer-musician brings a new collaborative work based

on recent sounds and images from Japan as part of the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Teachers Program.

**Friday, April 13—Asteroid 2004 MN4 Ensemble**—In honor of Friday the 13th, musicians Steve Goldstein, Dean Granros and David Means ponder the plight of the Earth on April 13, 2029.

**Friday, April 20—Abdul Gindeel**—The graphic designer and cultural collaborator presents a senior capstone linking images and sounds of two of the world's largest rivers, the Nile and the Mississippi. French texts are woven into a musical collaboration featuring laptop musician Steve Goldstein.

**Friday, April 27—John Franzen**—The Colorado-based composer-guitarist and photographer joins David Means in the world premier of "Longs Peak," a collaboration based on images and sounds of the Rocky Mountains.

For more information, call David Means, associate professor, College of Arts and Sciences, at 651-793-1434 or go to [www.geocities.com/studio677](http://www.geocities.com/studio677).

## Are you undecided or have a specialized interest?

If you are undecided and/or looking to focus on specialized career interests not offered in the university's structured degree programs, the individualized Bachelor of Arts degree through First College may be for you.

First College offers an individualized and interdisciplinary degree program for students who would like to design their own degree by choosing courses from most of the university's curriculum and by exploring a variety of creative learning strategies (priors, student- or faculty-designed independent studies and internships) to meet their educational goals. Students in the

individualized degree program complete the four-credit semester course, Perspectives: Educational Philosophy and Planning (PRSP 301) at the beginning of their educational journey. There are numerous sections offered both online and on campus each semester, and there are still seats available for you to enroll.

If you have questions about the opportunities to design an innovative degree program which meets your personal learning goals, call the First College Advising Center at 651-793-1783 or visit the Web site at [www.metrostate.edu/fc](http://www.metrostate.edu/fc). Register online at [www.metrostate.edu/registration](http://www.metrostate.edu/registration).

## Career Services seeks students to test drive new Career Workbook

### College Career Fair

Metropolitan State University/Minneapolis Community and Technical College Career Fair is 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Monday, April 9, at the Minneapolis Campus Skyway.

No registration is required for this free event.

Career Services is looking for 10 students to work through the new Career Workbook this spring and offer some feedback for the next draft. Anyone interested in participating, contact Bill Baldus, career counselor, at 651-793-1527.

The Career Workbook was created to serve as an organizing tool for all students to use from orientation through graduation and beyond in their career journey as alumni. In the workbook, students have a single repository to document their career thinking, reflections and aspirations. Hopefully, the workbook will be a living journal

and portfolio to help students make sense of their experiences and approach their career goals and job search in a planned and methodical way. Faculty are encouraged to steer their students toward the workbook and use it in their classes.

Highlights include exercises and assessments to clarify interests, values and goals; creating a plan for an "active" job search; tools including resume templates for getting started; Web resources for career-related research; and ideas for networking and conducting informational interviews. Access the workbook at [www.metrostate.edu/career](http://www.metrostate.edu/career).

# Catalyst

April 2, 2007

Vol. 36 No. 19

## In this issue

### Page one

MnSCU's FAN invites action  
Reminder: Spring Faculty Conference  
U of M Professor Xiong speaks on April 5  
Military Veterans and Friends student organization planned

### Page two

April 9 celebrates teen literature day  
Career Services calendar  
Marketing communications specialist appointed  
Metropolitan State appoints TRIO counselor

### Page three

Experimental intermedia art festival is underway  
Internship information session  
Are you undecided or have a specialized interest?  
Career Services seeks students to test drive new Career Workbook  
College Career Fair

### Page four

Internship opportunities  
Metropolitan State student recognized

Metropolitan  
State University



700 East Seventh Street  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106-5000

**DATED  
MATERIAL**

**Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
St. Paul, MN  
Permit No. 4591**

Published biweekly by  
Metropolitan State University.  
Editor Darlene Esko  
Managing Editor  
Susan Amos Palmer  
Associate Editor Diane DeRosier  
651-793-1820  
darlene.esko@metrostate.edu



## Internship opportunities

### Metropolitan State student recognized

Metropolitan State student Laura Kennedy has been recognized for her music career in a doctoral dissertation written by UCLA musicologist Carolyn O'Meara, Ph.D. O'Meara's paper is entitled "Making Music, Producing Space: The Bush Tetras and New York City, 1980." To read the abstract, visit [www.emplive.org](http://www.emplive.org). Pull down "education," select "pop conference," then "bios/abstracts" and scroll to Carolyn O'Meara.

Anyone with disabilities needing accommodations for a Metropolitan State event or who needs a publication in an alternative format, should call disability services at 651-793-1540 or 651-772-7687 (TTY).

Complete internship descriptions are posted on the bulletin boards in the Center for Community-Based Learning, 678 East Seventh Street; and second floor, St. John's Hall. Copies may also be obtained by contacting the center at 651-793-1285 or [cbl.center@metrostate.edu](mailto:cbl.center@metrostate.edu). For ongoing internships check the Web at [www.metrostate.edu/ccbl/](http://www.metrostate.edu/ccbl/) and click on Internship Links.

The Chancellor's Office is offering a finance internship to assist in the preparation of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) financial statements for fiscal year 2007. The student will also work with other members of the institution's staff and with independent auditors. Salary is \$14 an hour and a flexible schedule is offered. Interested students need to submit a resume as soon as possible.

The city of Saint Paul offers a municipal budget internship which provides exposure to the executive and legislative perspectives on budget

development. Salary is \$12-\$14 an hour. A letter of interest and resume are required by the April 13 application deadline.

Instigate, Inc., recruitment process outsourcing provider, seeks a sales and marketing intern. This is a full-time paid internship with the possibility for continued part-time or full-time employment if desired. A cover letter and resume are required.

WomenVenture offers a marketing and communications internship. A resume and writing sample are requested.

Children's Home Society and Family Services offers the internships in the following areas: youth preemployment, mentoring, special events, international adoption, adoption Webinars, graphic design, video editing, post-adoption services, individual and family counseling, student support, and summer youth program.

An equal opportunity educator

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