

Weekly Log



January 13, 2025

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

MONDAY, JAN 13

- Basketball at NDSCS
Women's at 5:30 pm,
Men's at 7:30 pm

TUESDAY, JAN 14

- First full day of Spring 2025 classes

WEDNESDAY, JAN 15

- Alumni Meeting, Noon
- KBTO Live Break, 8:30 am

THURSDAY, JAN 16

- Men's Hockey at Denver, 8:30 pm

FRIDAY, JAN 17

- KKWZ & KZZJ Dakota College Weekly, 8:30 am
- Men's Hockey vs Northern AZ at 4:30 pm @ Westminster, CO
- Women's Hockey vs Sault Cougars at 7:00 pm



**NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Additional information may be found on the ND Public Employees Retirement System. [Click Here](#)

For questions, feel free to reach out:

1-800-803-7377
[www.ndpers.nd.gov/
contact](http://www.ndpers.nd.gov/contact)

WELCOME TO SPRING 2025



Another semester will **officially** be underway today at 4:00 pm and it's so good to see students back on campus. Thank you for helping them settle into their new routines.

At the Open Forum today, you'll have a chance to hear about our two latest hires – Lynn Evenson

and Nate Simpson. Our DCB team is one of the best, and we're fortunate to have Lynn and Nate joining us.

The legislature began meeting last Tuesday, and it's been a busy session already. We are monitoring many of the bills that are being introduced and, of course, we are hopeful that funding levels

will increase for higher education.

Before we know it, the snow will melt, legislators will return home, and new alumni will emerge. Until then, stay warm!

Best,

Carmen

Campus Dean / CEO

LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2025

2025 Legislative Session is underway. Please reference the addendums to the Weekly Log for the week's schedule.

If you are interested in attending a hearing virtually, you can do so by going to the Legislative Council's website, clicking on the video link <https://video.ndlegis.gov/>, and scroll-

ing until you find the hearing you are interested in.

Also, you can access bill tracking information here: [LegiTrack AI Dashboard](#)

NDPERS LAUNCHES NEW RETIREMENT PLAN

The North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) proudly announces the launch of the Defined Contribution (DC) 2025 Tier 3 as the official retirement plan for new state and participating political subdivision employees starting in 2025.

Mike Lefor, Majority Leader of the House of Representatives, expressed, "I would like to thank the members of the PERS leadership team for their outstanding work in making the Defined Contribution plan a reality. This was a challenging task and they did a first class job in not only meeting the goal but going above and beyond the call of duty. Congratulations and thank you all for your hard work and service to the employees of our great state."

The new DC 2025 Tier 3 closely resembles 401(k) retirement plans offered in the private sector. The newest tier of the existing NDPERS Defined Contribution Plan offers employees an employer match of up to 3% when they opt to contrib-

ute into an eligible NDPERS retirement plan.

"NDPERS staff, and board members, have worked masterfully at ensuring a seamless transition to a Defined Contribution plan in 2025. The work has included creating important and effective educational tools, outreach and interactive sessions with employers and consistent communication with all concerned parties," said Mike Seminary, Chair to the NDPERS Board.

The strategic transition aimed at establishing the Defined Contribution Retirement Plan as the primary plan for new employees aligns with legislation passed during the 68th Legislative Assembly. House Bill (HB) 1040 effectively closed the pension Main Defined Benefit (DB) Retirement Plan to new hires on December 31, 2024.

Tyler Erickson, elected NDPERS Board member, stated, "NDPERS leadership has tirelessly worked to prioritize membership education surrounding the plan transition

and the intricacies involved therein. Through this prioritization of member education, I believe all new plan members will be well positioned to maximize the retirement options available to them."

"I couldn't be prouder of the dedication that the NDPERS team has once again shown for the members we serve through this plan implementation," said Rebecca Fricke, NDPERS Executive Director. "Other states that have implemented these types of significant retirement plan design changes have had two to three years to implement. NDPERS had just over 18 months." Seminary added, "it is a privilege working with this hard working, compassionate and dedicated group of professionals."

The Main DB plan is 68.3% funded and is projected to be fully funded by 2056. There are nearly 42,000 participants in the pension plan and over 15,000 retired receiving a monthly pension.

YOUR VOICE COUNTS

Conservation Award Nominations

A call is going out to nominations for the Dakota College at Bottineau's 2025 Conservation Award. This award is presented by Dakota College to an individual who has demonstrated leadership and has made notable contributions to the conservation, preservation, and enhancement of our precious natural resources. This person will have contributed in an

exceptional way that has had a significant impact for their communities. Nominations are open from now until March 7, 2025. Please consider nominating someone you know.

[Click Here!](#)

Looking for a Mascot Name

The marketing team is considering getting a mascot. If we decide to

do this, we realize that he would need a name. Please fill out the survey and leave ONE name suggestion. The survey will end on February 5th, 2025, may the odds be ever in your favor!

[Click Here!](#)



BOOK READ FOR JANUARY

January 14 War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy — Heritage Room at the DCB Student Center

The book discussion starts at 7:00 PM. The Heritage Room is reserved starting at 6:30 PM for those who would like to gather for a meal. The cafeteria serves until 7:00 PM and is a short walk from the Heritage Room in the Student Center.

"War and Peace is known for its realism, something Tolstoy achieved through intensive research. He visited battlefields, read history books on the Napoleonic Wars, and drew on real historical events to create a novel of living history. Tolstoy had originally planned to write a novel centering on the Decembrists, whose revolution in 1825 against the tsar attempted to

end autocratic rule in Russia. The Decembrists failed, however, and those who were spared execution were sent to Siberia. Tolstoy wanted to depict a Decembrist, now old, returning from exile. As Tolstoy wrote and revised, however, the novel evolved into the War and Peace known today—a novel that takes place more than a decade before the Decembrist movement. The novel's primary historical setting is the French invasion of Russia in 1812, which was a turning point in the Napoleonic Wars and a period of patriotic significance to Russia. Some historians argue that this invasion was the event that metamorphosed into the Decembrist movement years later.

Many of the family names used in War and Peace are slight alterations

of real names Tolstoy had encountered in his life—a deliberate strategy intended to make the novel feel familiar to the Russians who read it. Bolkonsky, for example, is a manipulated version of Tolstoy's mother's family name, Volkonsky. Tolstoy also created the majority of his characters with his own family members in mind; for example, his sister-in-law, Tanya, was the inspiration behind Natasha. Tolstoy's firsthand knowledge of war likewise influenced War and Peace. When he was 26 years old, he fought in the Crimean War, which he also wrote about in three sketches describing, graphically, his experiences during the Siege of Sevastopol (published 1855–56).

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/War-and-Peace>

BIENNIAL REVIEW PUBLISHED

On December 27, 2024, DCB posted the Fall of 2022 through Summer of 2024 Biennial Review of Alcohol and other Drug Statistics and Prevention Techniques. This report, requires campuses to collect, report, and disseminate information about campus' preventative measures, as well as statistics about the use of alcohol and other drugs. In addition, this re-

port also provides information on the following:

- Campus policies about alcohol, smoking, tobacco, vaping, and other drugs.
- Campus alcohol and other drug prevention efforts.
- Resources available for students, faculty, and staff if

desired.

The Biennial Review can be found by clicking on this [LINK](#) at Health Services under Health Resources located near the bottom of the page.

Hard Copies can be found by contacting DCB Mental Health Services at 701.228.5636 or emailing han-nah.hoffert@dakotacollege.edu.

LOGGER APPLAUSE

A huge thank you to Corey and the student services team for coming to Minot to help us complete several projects in our nursing space.

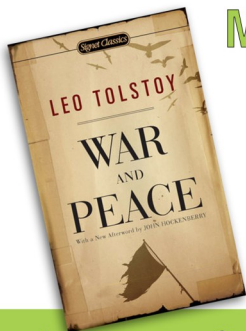
We appreciate each and every one of you and taking the time to pour some DCB love into our new building.

- From the Minot nursing team



UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

JANUARY 2025	
Jan 14	Book Read
Jan 15	Dental Assisting Applications Open (due 5-15)
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Jr Day – Campus Closed
Jan 28	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm
FEBRUARY	
Feb 3-9	Smokey's Week
Feb 13	Giving Hearts Day
Feb 17	President's Day, Campus Closed
Feb 18	Professional Development Day
Feb 25	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm
Feb 26	Future Fest
MARCH	
March 1	Nursing Apps Due
March 19	PTK Recognition, BSC
March 25	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm
March 27	NE Regional Science Olympiad
March 29-30	Hoopsters Tournament
APRIL	
April 1	Paramedic Apps Due
April 29	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm
April 23-24	Water Festival
April 25	Earth Day community Celebration (5-7pm)
MAY	
May 2	Employee Appreciation Week
May 5	Scholastic Chamber Awards
May 9, 2025	Spring Gala @MSU – Board of Regent
May 15	Dental Assistant Applications Due
May 16	Graduation
May 27	Bottineau Community Rockhounds 6pm-7pm



Monthly Book Read

January 14th, 2025
The Heritage Room
@ 7:00 PM



Contact Gary Albrightson
for more information
gary.albrightson@dakotacollege.edu

Wednesday, Feb. 26 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
Thatcher Hall Gymnasium

Join us at **FUTUREFEST** and get help with:

2025-2026 Housing Applications
2025-2026 Financial Aid Applications
2025-2026 Scholarship Applications



Spring & Summer 2025 Graduation Applications

Business Office Support

Resume and Cover Letter Writing Assistance

4-Year College Transfer Fair

Mini Career Fair



Pizza lunch and door prizes provided.



Bottineau Community Rocks!



Tuesday, January 28

6:00—7:00 pm

DCB Campus at Thatcher Hall

Alumni Conference Room

Come join us for this FREE event on the Dakota College of Bottineau Campus. Bottineau Community Rocks! is a community and family event for those interested in learning more about geology, minerals, fossils, crystals and more!

We meet once a month in the Alumni Conference Room in Thatcher to hear presentations and speakers, hear of exciting news in the geology realm, discuss our experiences and rockhounding tales, and share the love of geology.

Our January topic is: **Time Travelers: Meet the World's Living Fossils**

Journey back millions of years to meet the remarkable "living fossils" that have survived virtually unchanged since the time of dinosaurs. From the ancient coelacanth fish thought extinct for 66 million years until its shocking rediscovery, to the primitive horseshoe crab that's remained nearly identical for 445 million years, these incredible creatures offer a rare glimpse into Earth's distant past.

Sponsored by—DCB Community Education and Bottineau Community Rockhounds

Questions? Email - michelle.cauley@dakotacollege.edu