GOOD NEWS

Student Clubs
Thank you for helping cast 2,171 votes for MSU's Avian Science Club in the 'Reach, Teach, Learn' competition run by Zoetis. The club with the best idea to promote the poultry industry will win $7,500 to put their proposal into action. Voting closed April, 29, 2013.

The four proposals are now being evaluated by a panel of judges representing different industry segments. The contest winner will be revealed after May 6.

Online voting results:
- Michigan State: 2,171 (52%)
- UW-River Falls: 1,558 (37%)
- Minnesota: 314 (7%)
- NC State: 158 (4%)

MAKE A NOTE OF IT

Construction Junction agenda set for May 9
Infrastructure Planning and Facilities continues “Construction Junction” construction planning and progress meetings. These meetings serve as monthly opportunities for the campus community and its neighbors to offer input and ask questions about planned construction across campus. Construction Junctions are at 8:30 a.m. the second Thursday of the month. The May meeting is in the Cook Recital Hall in the Music Building.

The agenda for May 9 is as follows (subject to change):

New presentations:
- Well House No 32 – Drill Well and Construct Well House
- Spartan Stadium – North End Zone Addition
- Munn Ice Arena – HVAC Upgrades Ice Making System
- Hannah Administration – Renovations to Second Floor - VP For Research
- Michigan State Police Post – Buildings 110G And 110H Renovations

Progress updates:
- West Circle Steam Loop Segment 2 (2013)
- Bogue Street and Shaw Lane Intersection – Reconstruction and Steam System Repairs
- Brody Complex – Utility Improvements – Phase 5
- Auditorium - Alterations to Fairchild Theatre
- Morrill Hall Demolition
- Parking Lot 67 (Jenison) Reconstruction

Construction information resources:
If you are unable to attend Construction Junctions, keep up with all the latest construction information by visiting www.construction.msu.edu frequently. The site contains specific project information, detour maps, Construction Junction meeting information and more. Also get construction updates by following the MSU Infrastructure Planning and Facilities in social media.

Upcoming meeting dates are (agendas will be sent prior to meetings):
- June 13 (Communication Arts and Sciences, Room 147)
- July 11 (Communication Arts and Sciences, Room 147)
- August 8 (Communication Arts and Sciences, Room 147)
Fire Alarm Testing (Air Handler Shutdown)

The Maintenance Services Department will be testing the duct detectors on the air handlers at ANTHONY HALL; this will take place Thursday, May 23, 2013, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. We will be testing the duct detectors on the air handlers throughout the building and they will be temporarily shutdown as part of the testing. No alarms will sound during the testing and only one air handler will be down at a time. There will be a HVAC technician available to ensure the units return to normal after repairs. No other building systems will be affected.

If you have any questions, please contact Rich Brown, Skilled Trades Supervisor, at 884-3696 or, Eric Strouse, Mechanic Electronics I, at 517-819-1909, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Construction Project Communication Notice

Parking – Lot 67 (Jenison) – Reconstruction – CP12036

Starting Monday, May 5, 2012 construction work will begin at Lot 67 (Jenison). This project involves the reconstruction of the parking lot on the south and west sides of the Jenison Field House including demolition, earthwork, storm sewer, and other misc. utilities, lighting, concrete and asphalt paving, curb and gutters, barrier-free improvements and SESC control measures. The substantial completion date for this project has been set for 8/2/2013. During the period of construction, please use caution around construction areas and equipment. Detailed information about the project can be found at construction.msu.edu.

Any questions, comments or concerns can be direct to the Project Representative, Andy Linebaugh, at 517-432-7103, alinebau@ipt.msu.edu.

Benefits Open Enrollment

The open enrollment period for MSU benefits began on Monday, April 22 and will run through Monday, May 13, 2013. It is important to note that this open enrollment period is to enroll in benefits for a six-month period beginning July 1, 2013 and ending December 31, 2013. MSU is moving toward a calendar year-based benefits period rather than a fiscal year-based plan year for all of the benefits plans currently available to faculty and staff. There will be another open enrollment period in October 2013 for faculty and staff to make plan selections that will be effective beginning January 1, 2014.

“Affidavit Only” Option Available: Employees who cover a spouse or Other Eligible Individual (OEI) on their health plan that does not work at MSU will be able to fill out their health affidavit without going through the entire enrollment process. To complete the affidavit-only process, first log into EBS and click your Employee Self Service (ESS) tab. Then click the Benefits link. Finally, click the Spouse or Other Eligible Individual Affidavit link and follow the on-screen instructions. This will be a good option for you if you do not want to make any changes to your health plan or other benefits but still want to continue covering your spouse or OEI. The affidavit MUST be completed each year in order to continue coverage for spouses or OIEs that do not work at MSU. As in previous years, if you do not want to make any changes to your current benefits selections AND you do not cover a spouse or OEI on your benefits plans, you do not need to complete the open enrollment process. For more information visit http://www.hr.msu.edu/openenrollment.

Emergency Generator Testing

Maintenance Services personnel will be testing the emergency generator at ANTHONY HALL. This will require Infrastructure Planning and Facilities electricians to have the life safety systems power off on Friday, May 10, 2013 from 6:15 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. This shutdown will affect the stairwell lighting, exit lighting, fire alarm systems, phone systems and any other equipment on the emergency generator. This shutdown will not affect normal building power.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact John Nurenberg, Skilled Trades Supervisor, at 432-0509, or Mike Ramirez, Planner/Inspector/Analyst, at 432-0540, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
EVENTS

Spring 2013 Senior Reception
Be sure to join us as we send off our seniors at the Animal Science Senior Reception, Saturday, May 4, 2013; 2PM to 4PM in the Anthony Hall Lobby.

Department Coffee Break
The last Animal Science Department coffee break before summer will be held at 9:30 a.m. in room 1310 Anthony Hall on May 10th. Coffee breaks resume in September.

SEMINARS

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
Southeastern Intercollegiate Meat Judging Competition
Recently, 12 students from MSU competed at the Southeastern Intercollegiate Meat Judging Competition in Columbus, OH and Lexington, KY. Teammates include: Shane Adams, Jonathon Brewer, Sara Bronkema, Ben Galbraith, Shelby Goodwin, Jill Gulick, Emily Hemstreet, Lynette Jackson, Sonja Lapak, Alexis Siomka, Chris Walker, and Emily Webster. Last year’s team member, Lane Carpenter, also acted as the assistant coach to Sarah Wells and traveled with the team to this contest. At the contest, each University is allowed two teams of 4, but all members get to compete for individual awards. Individually, Adams placed second overall, with teammate Bronkema in fourth out of 60+ competitors from nine different Universities. MSU teams placed 4th and 8th out of 12 total teams. Other individual honors include:

- Galbraith and Adams in the top 5 in beef grading
- Webster winning beef judging with Lapak in 4th
- Adams leading lamb judging with Bronkema tied for 5th
- Goodwin and Bronkema in the top 5 in pork judging
- Bronkema winning specifications with a perfect score
- Adams and Goodwin taking 1st and 2nd in placings
- Webster ranking 3rd in reasons

Team Awards:

- MSU Green won the written reasons division, placed 2nd in beef judging, 2nd in lamb judging, and 4th in beef grading
- MSU White placed 3rd in pork judging, 3rd in placings, 5th in beef judging, and 5th in reasons

The team will rejoin in the fall and head to 4 competitions across the country. The first will be the Eastern National in Wyalusing, PA during the first weekend in October.

Go Spartans!

GRADUATE STUDENTS
POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nutrient Management Specialist at North Dakota State University

The North Dakota State University Carrington Research Extension Center is accepting applications for the following position:

Nutrient Management Specialist
Office headquarters: Carrington, North Dakota
Screening begins: May 28, 2013

Attached is the position announcement. Screening for this position begins on May 28. Your help in referring potential candidates for this position would be greatly appreciated. A complete announcement is posted on the NDSU home page at the following URL:  
https://jobs.ndsu.edu/postings/3510.

For questions contact: Vern Anderson, Search Committee Chair, 701-652-2951, vern.anderson@ndsu.edu

ANIMAL FUN FACTS

The shell of a turtle is made up of 60 different bones all connected together. The bony portion of the shell is covered with plates (scutes) that are derivatives of skin and offer additional strength and protection. Most land tortoises have high, domed carapaces that offer protection from the snapping jaws of terrestrial predators. Aquatic turtles tend to have flatter, more aerodynamically shaped shells. An exception to the dome-shaped tortoise shell is the Pancake Tortoise of East Africa that will wedge itself between narrow rocks when threatened and then inflates itself with air making extraction nearly impossible.