

## **COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY**

**MAY 2005**  
**GOOD NEWS**

### **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

Day, T.A., Bryant D.M., Strauss S., Thomey M., **Secott T.E. and C.T.**

**Ruhland.** Effect of climate manipulations on vascular-plant dominated tundra along the Antarctic Peninsula. Synthesis of soil biodiversity and ecosystem functioning in Victoria Land, Antarctica: An NSF sponsored workshop. Jekyll Island, GA, April 2005.

Dr. Ned Williams, Associate Professor, was an invited speaker at an Anatomy Symposium in Chicago in March 2005. He demonstrated newly developed software and his talk was entitled "*The Application of Software in Teaching Human Cadaver Anatomy*".

### **CHEMISTRY AND GEOLOGY**

Rambo, P., and Pribyl, J. March 2005. Use of a two-tier multiple choice instrument to study students' misconceptions about molecular shape, bonding, and polarity, National ACS convention, San Diego, CA.

### **COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES**

Dr. Rebecca Bates, Assistant Professor, received an NSF Research Opportunity Award to study the correlation between human interaction in meetings and time-varying topic labels at the University of Washington, Summer 2005.

Dr. Bates has been selected to present a workshop, "Kinesthetic Learning in the Classroom," at the Seventh Annual Northwest Regional Conference of the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges on October 14-15, 2005.

Dr. Bates also received a CETL Teaching and Learning Mini-grant to look at recruiting and retaining women in computer science, engineering and technology. She attended the 26th National WomenTech Educators Train-the-Trainer Workshop in San Francisco on April 18-19, 2005. People interested in being involved in this project should contact her.

### **MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS**

Drs. Mary Ann Lee and Kil S. Lee, Professors, have been awarded \$102,000 for the second year of their federal grant with the Southern Minnesota Mathematics Partnership, which includes Fairmont, Faribault, Mankato, and New Ulm School Districts.

### **PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY**

Dr. Igor Kogoutiuk, Associate Professor, together with Physics graduate student Hanna Terletska, submitted material to three international conferences: The International Conference on Strongly Correlated Electron Systems, July 26-30, 2005 in Vienna, Austria; a workshop-conference on Anomalous Phenomena in Strongly Correlated Electron Materials, May 19-21, 2005 in Wrocław, Poland; and the Fifth International School-Conference "Semiconductors Physics Urgent

Problems”, June 26-30, 2005 in Drohobych, Ukraine. All the materials were accepted for presentation.

The sixth annual Physics Show was successfully held Tuesday, April 29, at 7:00 p.m., in Trafton C-121, to an enthusiastic audience of approximately 350, mostly schoolchildren and their parents. Members of the Physics Show Team presented their favorite physics demonstrations. On the Team are Tom Brown, Igor Kogoutiuk, Mike Peters, and Lou Schwartzkopf, of the Physics and Astronomy Department; Jim Ballard, physics instructor at Bethany Lutheran College; and Eric Koser, physics teacher at Mankato West High School.