

# Kazakhstan leaders examine ag diversification

Six young leaders from Kazakhstan participating in the Open World Program will spend June 21-29 in South Dakota examining agricultural diversification. The South Dakota World Affairs Council is hosting the delegation.

In 2012, Open World delegates from Russia enjoyed a visit to the Children's Museum of South Dakota. During the exchange, they learned about ways a democracy functions among government, private entities, philanthropy and home life to create civil society in the United States.

While in South Dakota, the delegates will have a full week visiting places such as Oak Lake and Dakota Lakes Field Stations as well as sustainable farming sites, ethanol and biofuel plants, a grain elevator, dairy operations, startup companies and agricultural and children's museums with presentations at each site made by agricultural researchers and experts.

The delegates made public presentations of their work in Room 103 of the SDSU Northern Plains Biostress Lab Thursday, June 27.

"We have hosted similar Open World groups from Russia during the past two summers and consider it to be one of the most relevant and important efforts done by the South Dakota World Affairs Council to educate citizens on the importance of being a global citizen," said Nels Granholm, emeritus coordinator of SDSU Global Studies and current chair of SDWAC. "The exchange demonstrates the importance of knowing about other people and cultures in the world. We have much to learn from them."

Homestays with local citizens in the Brookings area will allow the delegates to experience American family life. While staying with host families, they will take part in several cultural and community activities.

The visiting delegates include Aizhan Taueshovna Akymbekova, agriculture consultant in the office of the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Galiya

Kizatovna Baybolatova, manager of an international science and technology collaboration; Zhalgasbek Magauinovich Kanapin, chief agronomist at an 8,000 hectare crop farm; Yuliya Nikolayevna Shilina, research associate with the East Kazkhstan Science and Research Institute of Agriculture; and Gulnaz Rishatovna Turabayeva, senior research associate with EKSRIA.

Almaz Sandybayev, with Girne American University, an institution on three continents based in North Cyprus, Turkey, will travel with them as a facilitator. Irina Goubanova, a translator from Sioux Falls, will be the language interpreter throughout scheduled site visits.

The Open World Leadership Center has awarded a grant to FHI 360, a nonprofit human development organization based in Durham, N.C., to administer this and similar exchanges across the United States in 2013.

The Open World Program is a unique, nonpartisan initiative of the U.S. Congress designed to build mutual understanding between the United States and Eurasia. More than 19,000 Open World participants have been hosted in all 50 U.S. states since the program's inception in 1999. Delegates range from members of parliament to mayors, from innovative nonprofit directors to experienced journalists, and from political party activists to regional administrators.

SDWAC is one of a network of nonpartisan, nonprofit grassroots groups dedicated to educating and engaging the public on critical global issues. A governing board of 25 citizens sets policy, programs and activities for the organization.

For more information on the South Dakota visit, contact SDWAC at sdworldaffairs@gmail.com or by phone to (605) 688-5416.

For more information on Open World, visit <http://www.openworld.gov>.

# Internships offer myriad learning experiences for USD students

Students from the University of South Dakota Department of Political Science are making career strides and receiving credit thanks to part-time and full-time internships around the United States this summer.

Washington, D.C. is a popular location, as eight USD students are working in the nation's capital interning at various government jobs while several students are working closer to campus with internships in state offices at Huron, Pierre and Sioux Falls.

Cassie Bartlett, a junior political science and contemporary media and journalism double major from Sioux Falls, is presently interning with the Fox Business Network, a 24-hour business news network that operates out of the same headquarters as Fox News in New York City. The 10-week internship consists of learning the process of competitive research on shows and potential guests, assisting with special projects, shadowing on-air talent and sitting in on "pitch" meetings or working in the control room.

Bartlett applied for her internship through Fox News Channel University, a program

for students looking to intern with the company. After a phone interview with Fox's internship coordinator, Bartlett was selected and began working as an intern at the end of last month.

"I was applying for internships that would get me outside of my comfort zone and be a little more daring," Bartlett said. "Because my internship is with the channel that broadcasts nationally, I'm working with some of the most recognized names in broadcast business networks. It's exciting to be in the place where it all comes together and to see how a national broadcaster works."

Additional internships involving USD students this summer include Alayna Ackerman of Rapid City, United States Sen. John Thune, R-SD, Washington, D.C. office; Joseph Bliss of Sioux Falls, United States Sen. John Thune, R-SD, Sioux Falls office; Ryan Blake of Pierre, United States Sen. Tim Johnson, D-SD, Sioux Falls office; Katie Bojan of Papillion, NE, United States Rep. Lee Terry, R-NE, Washington, D.C. office; Michelle Corio of Elk Point, State and Local Campaigns Team, American Cancer Society, Washington, D.C.;

Jilanne Doom of Wagner, Bureau of International Information Programs, State Department, Washington, D.C.; Clay Hoffman of Winner, South Dakota Farmers Union, Huron; Jenny Kelly of Omaha, NE, United States Sen. Deb Fischer, R-NE, Washington, D.C. office; Seth Lopour of Pierre, Office of Legal Counsel, South Dakota Department of Transportation, Pierre; Zach Nipp of Langford, SD, United States Senate Banking Committee, Washington, D.C.; Sam Reuland of White Lake, United States Sen. John Thune, R-SD, Sioux Falls office; Blaine Reynolds of Revillo, SD, Career Transitions Center, State Department, Washington, D.C.; Lexy Schuman of Mitchell, United States Secretary of the Senate, Washington, D.C.; and Tyler Torsden of Rapid City, Office of the Governor, State of South Dakota, Pierre.

For more information about these internships or for additional information about the Department of Political Science at USD, contact (605) 677-5242 or email [polsci@usd.edu](mailto:polsci@usd.edu). You can also visit the department's Web site at [www.usd.edu/polsci](http://www.usd.edu/polsci).

## OBITUARIES

### Keith DeRouchey

Keith L. DeRouchey, age 81 of Elk Point, passed away Sunday, June 16, 2013, at Prairie Estates Care Center, Elk Point. Cremation has taken place and no formal services will be held locally. Burial of Keith's cremated remains and military rites will be in the Black Hills National Cemetery in Sturgis at a later date. Arrangements are pending under the care of the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton.

Keith Louis was born on Aug. 1, 1931, in Hoven, to Jerome and Patricia Elizabeth (Schulte) DeRouchey. He worked for Jennings Brothers in Miller, from 1947-1952 as a farm hand. On Feb. 28, 1952, he entered into the United States Marine Corps serving during the Korean War and was wounded as a result of action with enemy forces for which he received a Purple Heart Medal. He was honorably discharged on Feb. 27, 1960. After his discharge, he lived in Arizona before returning back to Vermillion to work for his brother, David.

Keith is survived by his two brothers, Dr. Vincent Francis DeRouchey of Miller, and James Cletus DeRouchey of Frisco, TX; three sisters, Lorraine Margaret Werdel of Vermillion, Jane Clara DeRouchey of Vermillion, and Patricia Nation of Mesa, AZ.

He was preceded in death by his parents and five brothers, Donald Vincent, Carroll Jerome, Michael Paul, David Charles, and Jerome James.

### Cecil Kipling, Jr.

Cecil Kipling, Jr., age 91, of Blue Ridge, GA, passed away Saturday, June 8, 2013, at Cameron Hall in Ellijay, GA.

Mr. Kipling was born Aug. 13, 1921, in Colchester, IL to the late Cecil T. Kipling and Hazel Fentem Kipling. Mr. Kipling was preceded in death by son, Barry Kipling; and brother, Lynn Kipling. He was a member of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Morganton, GA.

Cecil was a WWII veteran serving in the Army Signal Corps. Following his service, he and his new wife, Viola, returned to his home in Illinois where both taught in one-room schools. While teaching and serving as principal in his hometown, Cecil earned his Master of Arts degree at Western Illinois University and then went on to earn his Doctorate in Education from the University of Nebraska. The family moved to Vermillion, where Cecil taught in the School of Education at the University of South Dakota. The Kiplings retired to Georgia where they have lived since 1989.

Survivors include his loving wife of 66 years, Viola Hoffman Kipling; daughter, Marsha Kipling; son, Gary (Jane) Kipling; sister, Bonnie Beck; brother, Kent (Dorothy) Kipling; granddaughter, Sarah (Bill) Lightner; granddaughter, Emily (Garner) Agone; and granddaughter, Abby Kipling. The Kiplings also have six great-grandchildren, Kipling, Julia and Caroline Lightner and Grady, Annie and Wesley Agone.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, June 11, 2013, at 11:30 a.m. at the Henry-Cochran Funeral Home with the Pastor Cheryl Kester-Schmidt officiating; music was provided by Darlene Lee, and Ida-Anne and Bob Clarke.

The family received friends at the Henry-Cochran Funeral

Home of Blue Ridge, GA, Tuesday, June 11, 2013, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Memorials can be made to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church (8223 Forge Mill Road, Morganton, GA 30560) to support their "Feed the Children" program, a local outreach program for families in the Morganton area.

Henry-Cochran Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. You may send condolences to the family and sign the guest registry at [www.cochranfuneralhomes.com](http://www.cochranfuneralhomes.com).

### Michael Christensen

Michael G. Christensen, 39, died June 6, 2013 in Sioux Falls from an apparent heart attack. Mass of Christian Burial was 10 a.m. Saturday, June 15, 2013, at Therese Catholic Church followed by interment at Hills of Rest Memorial Park Wildwood Mausoleum, Sioux Falls. Visitation began at 2 p.m. Friday, June 14, at George Boom Funeral Home where a Liturgical Wake Service began at 7 p.m. The family was present to greet friends at the funeral home beginning at 6 p.m. Friday.

Michael George Christensen, son of Gary Lee and Jo Ann Bridget (Smith) Christensen, was born Dec. 19, 1973, in Vermillion. He graduated from Vermillion High School in 1992 where he was active in football and band. Mike worked as a salesperson for 20 years. His easy going and affable personality made him very approachable. Mike adored his daughter, Madison, and cherished the time spent with her. His many relatives and friends will miss him greatly.

Survivors include his daughter and her mother, Madison Christenson and Danielle Carr, Aurora, CO; mother and step-father, Jo Ann and Russ McChesney, Sioux Falls; his sister, Julie DeGreef and her friend, Gary Kelley, Pembroke Pines, FL; nieces, Rachel and Bridget DeGreef, Pembroke Pines, FL; special friend, Laurie Weber, Sioux Falls; aunts, uncles, cousins; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Mike was preceded in death by his father on Oct. 10, 1995.

Memorials are encouraged to the Madison Christenson Education Fund. [www.georgeboom.com](http://www.georgeboom.com).

### Denise Peterson

Denise M. Peterson was born on March 12, 1964, in Appleton, MN, the daughter of Dennis and Rita (Mellet) Rens. She died on Thursday, June 13, 2013, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, at the age of 49. Funeral services were held June 17, 2013.

She received her education in Lennox and graduated from Lennox High School in 1982. She received her B.A. degree in 1985, her M.A. degree in 1988 and her E.D.D. in 1998, all from the University of South Dakota. Denise was united in marriage to John Peterson on Sept. 8, 1990, in Lennox. In 1997, they moved to Brookings, where Denise was employed at South Dakota State University as assistant professor in leadership and group dynamics.

She lived to teach. Denise always said, "If I have made an impact on at least one person, I know I have done something right."

She is survived by her husband, John, of Brookings; her children, Jessica and Brock; her parents, Dennis and Rita Rens of Lennox; three sisters, Julie (Ron) Blair of Palm City, FL, Lisa (Andy) Crompton of Prosperity, SC, Melissa Rends of Lancaster, SC; and the students she encountered, and other loved family and friends.

Denise will be remembered as a loving mother, faithful wife and a brilliant educator.

### Jo Ann Swisher

Jo Ann (Payton) Swisher, 87, Council Bluffs, IA, passed away June 3, 2013. She was born on June 3, 1926, in Olwein, IA. She was married to Warren (Buck) Swisher on Sept. 26, 1947, and he has preceded her in death. She attended nurses training at Clarkson Hospital in Omaha, NE.

Jo Ann is survived by her children, Tim Swisher and his wife, Mary, of Council Bluffs, IA, Lori Riggs and her husband, Doug, of Syracuse, NY, and Kevin Swisher and his wife, Pam, of Fort Calhoun, NE; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held on June 5, 2013, in Council Bluffs. Internment will be in Vermillion.

### Lois Welch

Lois D. Welch, 79, of Vermillion, and formerly of Lockhart, TX, passed away Saturday, May 18, 2013 at Sanford Vermillion Medical Center.

Lois was born Jan. 5, 1934, in Akron, IA, to Elmer and Florence (Wiese) Mook. She attended school in Akron, IA. She married Leonard Welch on Aug. 29, 1953, and they moved from Westfield, IA, to Houston, TX.

They retired to their ranch "The Why Not" in Harwood, TX, until Leonard's death. She lived in Lockhart, TX until her move to South Dakota 2 1/2 years ago.

She loved to read, was great at doing crossword puzzles and enjoyed football. She also enjoyed spending time with her brother and sisters and many nieces and nephews and their families.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard Welch; her parents, Elmer and Florence Mook; brothers, Arnold and David; a sister, Shirley Onnen; a brother-in-law, Alfred Onnen; nephews, Gary Pyle and Steve Onnen; a great nephew, Timothy Sheeran.

Survivors include one brother, Robert (Paulette) Mook, Denver, CO; sisters, Norma (Phil) Aaland, Lebec, CA, Darlis (Craig) Myron, Vermillion, and Sheryl (David) Pyle, Jefferson.

Lois was greatly loved by all but will be especially missed by family.

Memorial services will be 10:30 a.m., Saturday, June 29, 2013, at the Hansen Funeral Home in Vermillion. A private family burial will take place at a later time. Family has requested in lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to the Juvenile Arthritis Foundation.

For obituary and online condolences, visit [hansenfuneralhome.com](http://hansenfuneralhome.com).

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