

# Newsletter

**usdsu**  
Sioux Falls



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## *USDSU Name Changed*

To reflect the fact that soon all six Regental universities will be offering programs in Sioux Falls and to recognize the emerging area of research, the 'USDSU' name was changed to The South Dakota Public Universities and Research Center. The name change will be launched in late October.

During the last legislative session, much of the discussion centered on inviting all universities to offer select programs in Sioux Falls. The name, 'USDSU', was viewed by many as being limiting since it seemed to exclude three universities. Thus, a new name was required.

Lawrence and Schiller was engaged to help with the naming process and to generate some possible new names. The naming process helped identify the various factors that any new name should reflect. The name itself was chosen by the Board of Regents at their meeting in Spearfish in early August.

The next steps in the process are to operationalize the new name in many ways. One such way is to begin to think about how the community will refer to us in a shortened version. Another operational issue deals with converting all our materials, advertisements and signage to use the new name. That work is going on now.

## *Lucrative college degrees*

**Some majors are raking in big increases in starting salaries. But the initial offers on others haven't kept pace with inflation.**

By Jeanne Sahadi, CNNMoney.com senior writer  
July 14 2006: 12:05 PM EDT

NEW YORK (CNNMoney.com) -- The Class of 2006 continues to enjoy the strongest job market in five years. And in many disciplines, the starting salaries are proof that entry-level grads are in greater demand.

"Employers expected to face more competition for new college graduates this year, and that competition is translating into higher starting salaries," said Camille Luckenbaugh, research director for the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) in a statement announcing NACE's latest quarterly salary survey.

According to that survey, majors that have seen some of the biggest increases in average starting salaries are:

**Hospitality services management:** Up 9.7 percent to \$36,480

**Business administration/management:** Up 6.3 percent to \$42,048, thanks to investment banks that were paying an average of \$53,277

**Accounting:** Up 5.5 percent to \$45,656

**Economics/finance:** Up 5.1 percent to \$45,112, again thanks to a high number of offers from investment banks and also financial services companies.

**Information sciences and systems:** Up 8.5 percent to \$48,593

**Civil engineering:** Up 5.4 percent to \$46,023

**Chemical engineering:** Up 4.7 percent to \$56,335, thanks to a large number of starting offers averaging \$58,456 from petroleum and coal products manufacturers. Those manufacturers may also be responsible for the 12.3 percent jump in the starting salaries of those who majored in geology and related sciences. They are earning an average of \$44,191.

## **More modest pay increases for others**

Other majors also experienced higher entry-level paychecks, but the increases didn't outpace the 4.2 percent inflation over the past 12 months through May. And in a few cases, starting offers actually declined.

These two groups include:

**Computer engineering:** Up 2.3 percent to \$53,651

**Electrical engineering:** Up 3.2 percent to \$53,552

**Mechanical engineering:** Up 3 percent to \$51,732

**History:** Up 3.1 percent to \$32,697

**Psychology:** Up 1.2 percent to \$30,218

**Communications:** Down 0.4 percent to \$31,876

**Political science and government:** Down 2.6 percent to \$32,665

**Sociology:** Down 2.7 percent to \$30,944

**English:** Down 4.1 percent to \$30,906

**Check out the USDSU  
Spring 2007 schedule  
located on the  
[usdsu.org](http://usdsu.org) website!**

**Issues on the 2006 Ballot**  
*(Submitted by John Hollingsworth)*

I wanted to share some information about the upcoming November 7<sup>th</sup> election. There are many issues on the ballot that all voters should be aware of prior to going in to cast their vote. I took a survey of four of my classes to see how many were aware of the 11 Ballot Questions – Amendments, Initiated Measures, and Referred Laws – that would be on the ballot this upcoming election. I had exactly 100 responses which made calculating the percentages very easy.

Issue	Aware of	Unaware of	% aware of
Amendment C	61	39	61%
Amendment D	17	83	17%
Amendment E	20	80	20%
Amendment F	13	87	13%
Initiated Measure 2	74	26	74%
Initiated Measure 3	34	66	34%
Initiated Measure 4	58	42	58%
Initiated Measure 5	27	73	27%
Initiated Measure 7	61	39	61%
Initiated Measure 8	27	73	27%
Referred Law 6	90	10	90%

Only five of the eleven issues had an awareness percentage over 50%. Referred Law 6 pertaining to abortions had the highest awareness percentage of 90%.

The editorial page in the September 22, 2006 Sioux Falls Argus Leader “Young Voters Wanted” states that only 22% of the 18 to 29 year olds vote nationwide. In South Dakota we get a 36% turnout from this age group. So, I guess we do better than the nation as a whole, but I still think that 36% is too low of a turnout. Not only do we need our young population to vote, we more importantly need them to become informed voters. With that thought in mind, I would like to mention a website which I think should be the first step for voters to become aware of the issues that will be put before them this coming election. The site is [www.sdsos.gov](http://www.sdsos.gov). From the initial page choose **Elections & Voter Registration**. Next select **Upcoming Elections**, on this page you will have two useful spots – **Ballot Question Pamphlet (PDF)** where you will be able to view both a pro and con side to the issue. I warn you that both the pro and con sides are just one person’s view – you are still required to think through the issue. You may also wish to view – **2006 Ballot Question Attorney General Explanation** which will contain the full text of the issues as it will appear on the ballot. I hope that you find this information useful and that you do your part to become informed voters prior to the November 7<sup>th</sup> election.

Do not come to me for directions as to how to cast your vote. I say this for three reasons

I have not made up my mind yet on several of the issues. I might be wrong. That’s not my job.

I leave you with a quotation attributed to Thomas Jefferson – “If a nation expects to be ignorant and free in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be.”

**USDSU Health Fair**

The SDSU College of Pharmacy will be hosting a health fair on campus for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Please come by for any of the following services:

Flu Shots (Must be 18 years old) – **FREE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES with ID card** or \$25

Cholesterol Screenings (Non-fasting) - \$12

Heel Bone Density Test - Free

Blood Pressure Checks – Free

Blood Sugar Testing – Free

**WHEN:** Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00AM – NOON

**WHERE:** IN THE COMMON’S AREA OF USDSU

**Early Alert System**

The staff at USDSU are committed to students’ academic success and as a result we are actively using our “early alert” system. What the system entails is the professor contacting the advisors notifying us that a student is missing classes or having academic difficulties. We then call the student to discuss the situation and attempt to come up with a possible solution that works for them. The professor is then notified of the discussions.

We know that you are busy students and we want to help anyway that we can. It is an intervention to help you succeed. If you have any comments/suggestions about the early alert system please contact Denise at [denise.heidebrink@usdsu.org](mailto:denise.heidebrink@usdsu.org).

**America's smartest cities**

*Latest census numbers are in...the places with the highest concentration of college degrees*

*By Les Christie, CNNMoney.com staff writer, August 31, 2006: 3:05 PM EDT*

NEW YORK (CNNMoney.com) -- If you equate education with intelligence, then the smartest city in the United States is Seattle - 52.7 percent of its residents age 25 or older have completed a Bachelor's degree or higher. The education rankings were released this month by the U.S. Census Bureau. Seattle's also been ranked as the most literate city in the United States by Central Connecticut University, beating out Minneapolis, Washington and Atlanta. That rating was based on such things as the number of book sellers, libraries and newspaper circulation - as well as educational attainment.

Many brainy people have flocked to the Seattle area to work in what's called the "knowledge economy."

Companies headquartered there and in surrounding towns, including Microsoft, Amazon, Cray, Washington Mutual and Costco, all use heavy doses of information technology. Even another of the area's biggest employers, old-line Boeing, is also a glutton for technological solutions.

Seattle also has more than its share of residents with advanced degrees; 20.5 percent. Only Washington, D.C. has more holders of other advanced degrees. Many there work for the Federal government, as well as the think tanks and other non-government organizations that form the heart of capital working culture.

**Super-service economy**

For many twenty-first century cities, knowledge drives what Andrew Beveridge, Queens College sociology professor, calls the "super service economy."

Cities in general are better positioned than rural areas to attract knowledge workers. The factors can vary from an abundance of high tech or other employers who require highly educated workers to cultural facilities and recreational opportunities.

Second to Seattle for the percentage of residents holding Bachelor's degrees is San Francisco, a center for high-tech and financial services. Raleigh, N.C., with its amalgam of great research universities and high tech companies, tied San Francisco for second place for holders of Bachelor's degrees and was seventh for advanced degrees with 16.7 percent of residents holding one.

New York cracks the top 25 list at No. 20 and is No. 19 for advanced degrees. For Manhattan alone, however - the center of New York's knowledge economy - the percentage of residents with Bachelor's degrees is a whopping 57.5 and the figure for advanced degrees is 26.9 percent.

Manhattan is a prime example of the kind of urban area that has become a magnet for young college grads, according to Beveridge. The types of industries thriving there, he says - Wall Street, publishing and television production, advertising - all require highly educated workers.

But New York also draws educated young people for its performing and fine arts, museums, street life, professional sports teams and other cultural assets.

San Francisco has many of these same strengths and, like New York, it is a culturally and ethnically diverse city that welcomes people with alternative lifestyles, the so-called "creative class." This group is made up of artists, musicians and writers, and includes gay men and "Bohemian" types.

Richard Florida, who developed the creative class concept (the efficacy of which remains controversial) advises that attracting these groups pays off better for cities than building large scale industrial developments or municipal building projects.

Simply put, smart people like to live in cool places, and cities are trying to oblige. Pittsburgh is building biking trails. Providence has established a weekly "Waterfire" festival that runs from May to October. Cleveland built a museum dedicated to rock and roll.

Although it might be debated as to what comes first, an educated population or a successful economy, there is little doubt that the two are closely entwined; wealthy places tend to have well educated populace.

In the United States, the five most educated major municipalities all qualify among the 25 cities with the highest median household income. Seattle for example, is the eighth wealthiest city in the nation measured by household income. San Francisco is the fourth.

The wealthiest city, San Jose, is also the among the 15 best educated. As your mom always said, to get a good job, get a good education.

**The brainiest cities in the United States**

Top 25 cities with more than 250,000 population, ranked by percentage of bachelor's degrees among residents 25 and older

Seattle	WA	52.7
San Francisco	CA	50.1
Raleigh	NC	50.1
Washington	DC	45.3
Austin	TX	44.1
Minneapolis	MN	43.2
Atlanta	GA	42.4
Boston	MA	40.9
San Diego	CA	40.4
Lexington-Fayette	KY	39.5
Denver	CO	39.0
Charlotte	NC	38.8
Portland	OR	38.8
St. Paul	MN	36.5
San Jose	CA	36.1
Colorado Springs	CO	34.9
Honolulu	HI	34.7
Oakland	CA	33.8
Pittsburgh	PA	32.3
New York	NY	32.2
Albuquerque	NM	32.2
Anchorage	AK	32.2
Omaha	NE	31.9
Nashville-Davidson	TN	31.7
Columbus	OH	31.4
New Orleans	LA	31.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Barbara Myers, who successfully defended her dissertation and was awarded her EdD in Adult and Higher Education. Dr. Myers is a DSU computer science instructor at USDSU.

Dr. Myers will present a paper at the World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare and Higher Education. The title of her paper is Computer Anxiety: The Potential for Gender Inequity in E-Learning.

**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to April (Semmler) Lovrein and her husband Ryan on the birth of their daughter Reagan Devine, born on Saturday, September 23rd. April is an SDSU Speech instructor at USDSU.

**USDSU  
Business Office****Hours:**

Monday – Thursday  
9am – 7pm  
Fridays 9am – 5pm

**Phone:**

605-367-8418

**Communication to  
USDSU Students**

Official communication from any South Dakota Board of Regents University will be delivered to the email address supplied by your home institution.

**If you are taking classes at more than one regental institution, you only need to check your email from your home institution. Email from the other regental institutions will be forwarded to your home institution account.**

It is your responsibility to know how to access this e-mail account and read it on a regular basis. Questions regarding your email accounts should be addressed to the IT help desk of your home institution.

**USD**

[helpdesk@usd.edu](mailto:helpdesk@usd.edu)

605.677.5028

**SDSU**

[sdsu.supportDesk@sdstate.edu](mailto:sdsu.supportDesk@sdstate.edu)

605.688.6776

**DSU**

<http://www.support.dsu.edu/>

605.256.5675

**NSU**

[loginid@wolves.northern.edu](mailto:loginid@wolves.northern.edu)

605.626.2283

**Veteran's Organization  
Join Us!**

USDSU wants to invite all military veterans, family and friends to be a part of the Veteran's Organization. Enjoy refreshments and get to know one another. For more information contact Doug O'Neill or Hillary Westerhuis at 367-5640.

**On-line Billing and Tuition  
Payment System**

SDePay is the South Dakota Board of Regents new online billing and tuition payment program. You must use this system to access bills as paper bills will no longer be sent out by the university campuses. Access SDePay through WebAdvisor. You will find your current student account activity, current bills and billing history all at SDePay.

Payments may be made online using your credit card or your checking account. Convenience fees will apply to credit card payments. MasterCard, American Express and Discover cards are accepted. There are NO fees for paying by E-check using your checking account.

**USDSU Photo ID Cards**

USDSU students may obtain student ID cards for identification purposes. These ID cards are also used for requesting print jobs in the computer labs and on open lab printers.

For each semester that a student is enrolled in USDSU classes, a \$5.00 credit will be applied to their ID card for use on the printers. These credit funds cannot be used to make copies or to make purchases at the USDSU Bookstore.

Students may add DEBIT funds to their card for additional printing, copies and for bookstore purchases. These funds may be added at the USDSU Business Office with cash or check or online at <https://web66.onlinecardoffice.com/sdstate/>

**Inclement Weather**

With winter fast approaching, there may be times when classes are cancelled due to the weather. When individual classes are cancelled by instructors, the cancellations are posted on the USDSU website ([usdsu.org](http://usdsu.org)). Click on the class cancellation link to check if your class has been cancelled. If all classes have been cancelled, an announcement will be sent to the television stations—KDLT, KSFY, KELO.

## Fall 2006 Tutoring

The USDSU Student Services department warmly welcomes you to fall 2006 semester, and wishes you well! To help you succeed, we have tutors available in the following content areas and times:

### Chemistry

CHEM 106/108 (7-9 pm)

Mondays (Rm 189), Tuesdays (Rm 274), and Thursdays (Rm 175)

CHEM 106/112 (4-5:30 pm) Mondays (Rm 189) (7-8 pm) and Thursdays (Rm 175)

**The 106/108 tutor and the 112 tutor will overlap on Mondays by one hour. Students who have questions or concerns, should email Dr. Sara Madsen at [Sara.Madsen@usdsu.org](mailto:Sara.Madsen@usdsu.org)**

### Math (Room 280e)

MATH 021, 101, and 102

Monday 11:00a - 5p

Tuesday 11:00a - 4p

Wednesday 11:30a - 3:30p

Thursday 11p - 5p

Friday 1p - 6p

Saturday 11a - 3p

### English (Room 280f)

Monday 1p - 3p and 4p - 6p

Wednesday 1p - 4p

All other days by special appointment.

### English Language Learning (Room 280)

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am - 3pm

Your tutor has been approved and verified by the academic department relative to your course and has either been trained in learning skills or has demonstrated a high level of proficiency in these areas. The Student Services department places a high priority on hiring tutors with patience, strong communication skills, and a pleasant personality. All tutoring is provided at no charge to USDSU students, and plays an important role in helping you succeed in these areas.

### How to Sign-up

You may sign-up for a tutor in the Resource Center at Room 280e. Tutoring is scheduled for regular weekly one hour time slots. In cases where you feel you may need additional help, you may schedule yourself more often; however, there is a limitation of one hour/day.

### **Your Education...it's Important!**

The tutor will challenge you to do your best and will expect you to come to your sessions prepared, focused and directed. They are to serve as your guide as you work to understand the concepts and complete your assigned work. Tutors will not complete assignments for students and are free to terminate a session(s) if they feel you are placing inappropriate expectations on them. Tutors also may ask you to consider making changes in your study habits and/or your behaviors related to classroom learning.

### **Learning Tip: Have an Attitude**

Attitude helps...consider yourself in a win-win situation: You win by doing your best and contributing your best to a class, whether for yourself, your fellow students, and even for your teachers and instructors. If you are content with your performance, a grade becomes an external check on your performance, which may not coincide with your internally arrived at benefits.

### **Do you want to be a tutor for Spring/Summer 2007?**

The primary duties of Student Tutors are: to assist students individually or in groups with basic skills & general education courses in identified content areas (Math, English, and Chemistry); to serve as a liaison between students and other departments and services; to assist in the delivery of academic support services including referrals to other departments and/or services. Note: you may be expected to take the COMPASS exam and/or some measure of proficiency. Send a resume and application to:

USDSU

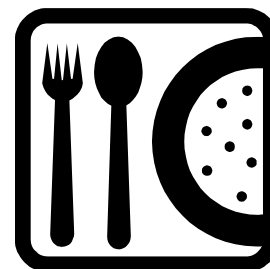
**Attn: Student Services/Tutor Application**

**2205 Career Avenue Sioux Falls, SD 57107**

**Phone: 605.367.5640**

**E-mail: [info@usdsu.org](mailto:info@usdsu.org)**

### Food Vendors at USDSU



This fall USDSU will sponsor the following food service vendors:

#### During the Lunch Hour

**Monday:** Papa Johns (pizza) (STI Fundraiser)

**Tuesday:** Rollin' Pin Restaurant (sandwiches, salads, soups, cookies)

**Wednesday:** sloppy joes (STI Fundraiser)

**Thursday:** Bagel Boy (bagels, sandwiches, soups, cookies)

#### During the Dinner Hour

**Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays (4:00-7:00 pm):**

Granny's Golden Oven (sandwiches and soups )

## WEB ADVISOR

Web Advisor provides students with online access to their own information on the student database. This includes grades, class schedules, unofficial transcripts, registration, add/drop of classes and program evaluation. Students who do not have a Web Advisor ID or password may search for classes without the ID information. We encourage students to utilize this service; our staff is willing to assist with training and are available to answer questions and assist with any problems may occur.

## *Dates to Remember*

### **OCTOBER**

**October 26th**—USDSU Health Fair (USDSU Commons)

### **NOVEMBER**

**November 1st** — Last day to withdraw from the University (**ALL CLASSES**) and be eligible for a prorated refund of University charges based on federal regulations and Board of Regents policy

**November 10th** —Veteran’s Day - No classes/Offices closed

**November 13th** — Last day to withdraw from a full semester course and receive a grade of “W” – no refund

**November 23rd-27th** — Thanksgiving Holiday (beginning November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 pm) – No classes/Offices closed (**classes resume at 8:00 am on November 27th**)

### **DECEMBER**

**December 11th-15th** — Final Exams Week (**semester ends December 15th**)

### **JANUARY**

**January 15** — Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday – **NO CLASSES / OFFICES CLOSED**

**January 16** — Spring 2007 Semester – Classes Begin

**January 16-17**— Tuition Payment

**January 18**—Deadline for payment or payment arrangements to avoid cancellation of registration and having a late fee assessed.

**January 25**—Last day to add a full semester course; Last day to drop a full semester course and receive a full tuition refund

### **FEBRUARY**

**February 19** — President’s Day Holiday – **NO CLASSES / OFFICES CLOSED**

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