

FALL 2009

QUARTERLY Economic Development REPORT

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GIANT VISION

The GOED is partnering with the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the Giant Vision Business Plan Competition.

DUSEL

The Homestake mine laboratory project continues to progress. The latest stats, thoughts from the director, and one student's perspective are all inside.

SAVE THE DATE

The date is set for the 2010 Governor's Economic Development Conference.

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ready to work

Certified-Ready Task Force HARD AT WORK

Preparations Will Save Business Prospects Time & Money

The Certified-Ready Task Force, which was named in July, is hard at work researching and formalizing recommendations on how to designate potential business sites as "Certified Ready."

"Once sites are certified as ready, we believe they will be incredibly attractive to businesses. We are essentially doing some of the business' homework for them because by completing a number of the

"The task force divided up tasks at our first meeting so that each member could work on 2-3 areas of potential



Members of the Certified-Ready Task Force gather at the first meeting. From left: Ann Gesick Johnson, Matt Cerny, Kim Olson, Joe Fiala, Marlene Knutson, Steve Harding, Toby Morris, Julie Johnson, Dwaine Chapel, Craig Atkins, Roger Porch, Jeff Eckhoff, Todd Meierhenry, Bryan Walker, Kory Menken, David Owen and George Kotti.

certification such as zoning, ownership, land quality, environmental issues, utilities and transportation. They reported back to the group at the October meeting, and now we are further refining the criteria," said Kim Olson, Director of the South Dakota Governor's Office of Economic Development. "Our goal is to document final recommendations and present a report to Governor Rounds. We are really forging new ground here, as only a handful of states have similar programs and there isn't a lot out there for national standards."

due diligence items for site preparation, we save the business money and time," Olson said.

The task force (pictured above) is made up of community leaders and economic developers who have expressed an interest in being a part of the project. Not pictured is John Overby. ■

www.sdreadytopartner.com/certified.aspx

GOED Works with State Chamber on GIANT VISION

2010 Business Competition to Coincide with GOED Conference

While the Giant Vision business plan competition is now in its sixth year, 2010 marks the first year of cooperative planning between the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Governor's Office of Economic Development to promote the competition.

"We are very excited about this year's competition," said Mary Anne Boyd, Vice President of Program Services with the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "Working with the GOED is going to provide us with additional resources to better market and execute this event."

One such resource is the creation of www.southdakotagiantvision.com. The Web site, which was launched in mid-September, provides contestants with application information, links to available resources, information on previous winners, sponsors and important deadlines. It will also provide judges with an area to view entries and leave comments.

Another key change to this year's competition is its location. Because of the tie-in with the GOED conference, the Giant Vision competition will be held in Pierre.

"It makes a great deal of sense to hold the judging in conjunction with the GOED conference," said Mel Ustad, Director of Commercialization at the GOED. "It will give entrepreneurs across the state the opportunity to network with existing business owners, bankers and others involved in the economic development process."

"I encourage early stage companies, entrepreneurs and students to participate in the competition and pursue their dreams of having a prosperous business in South Dakota," Ustad concluded. ■

This year's event
will be
April 6-7, 2010



ONE WINNER'S STORY

Kyle Mulder, Eric Hesla: 2nd in Competition

For Kyle Mulder and his business partner, Eric Hesla, the Giant Vision competition took their great idea and is helping formulate it into reality.

"If you are thinking about starting a business, the Giant Vision program is an excellent opportunity," said Mulder. "Going to the competition and presenting your plan in real life – face-to-face – will pay off. Talking to the people that are actually in business is a whole different kind of learning, and I think is very valuable."

Mulder and Hesla's business, BidYourHunt.com, is a recently launched Web site that aims to connect hunters with landowners. Mulder and Hesla are personally assessing the land's qualities, then Web site users will be able to place a bid for rights to hunt that land. ■



From the DIRECTOR

Message from Kim Olson

Changes at the old Homestake mine are definitely progressing. In fact, Governor Mike Rounds recently announced the National Science Foundation is awarding \$29 million to the scientific collaboration developing the Sanford Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory at Homestake for design and development.

Of course, the economic impact of a project of this magnitude is incredible. Over the course of its life, the laboratories will bring thousands of scientists, researchers and other personnel to the Black Hills. These individuals will all need housing, will shop in our stores and eat in our restaurants.

While the exact numbers are yet to be determined, undoubtedly the Homestake lab project will have one of the largest economic impacts in South Dakota's history.

Take for example: In Los Alamos, New Mexico, the Los Alamos National Laboratory stimulated 70 high-tech startup businesses between 1997 and 2005. At the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, more than 30,000 visitors and 3,000 guest researchers go through the facility annually. Just imagine the economic impact of those things happening in South Dakota.

If and when the site is funded for the next DUSEL, the possibilities become limitless. Taking the science one step further, a study by the Battelle Memorial Institute shows that several industries have market commercialization potential in Lead as a result of the lab. The list includes: mining, robotics, communications, explosives, drilling technology, air quality, health, safety, mine mapping, sensors, enzymes, animal feeds and medicines, nuclear waste cleanup, energy and eco-tourism.



Davis-Bahcall scholars tour the Sanford Lab at Homestake in South Dakota at the 2,000-foot level.

While spending a summer globe and conducting science experiments sound like a plotline for the latest turned-motion-picture, this summer reality for Rini Kasinathan and nine students with South Dakota ties.

"It was a good cultural experience as an educational one," said Kasinathan, a Sioux Falls graduate and freshman biochemistry major at the University of South Dakota. "It was a privilege to meet the students and international physicists and engineers from all walks of life. It was really an eye-opening experience."

The students were all recipients of the Davis-Bahcall Scholarship, a program created to spark an interest in science among of South Dakota's students and to educate them on opportunities available in their own state.

The program is named in honor of Davis Jr. and Dr. John Bahcall who conducted Nobel Prize-winning experiments in the discovery of neutrinos were conducted at the Homestake Mine.

RECENT 2009 RANKINGS

We are thriving! Since May 2009, South Dakota has received the following rankings:

2010 State Business Tax Climate Index NUMBER 1

Tax Foundation | www.taxfoundation.org

NEW TO THE AREA

Congratulations to the following companies that have announced, broken ground on, or opened a new facility since May 2009.

Enertech

in Mitchell broke ground on its second expansion in two years, which will create nearly 60 new jobs.

Ethos Partners

announced an expansion into Mitchell that could create up to 40 new jobs. The company currently has a facility in Plankinton, S.D.





r
Lead,
level.

“It affirmed that I REALLY AM GOING into the right field”

Brandon Native Spent Summer at Homestake, Princeton, Italy

In the Black Hills

As part of the program, students spent one week in the Black Hills, where they attended lectures at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and traveled to Lead daily to the Homestake Mine. There, the students acted as a practicing scientist would by writing protocol for their experiments and requesting equipment they would be using beforehand.

“Going so far underground was sort of scary, but still an amazing experience,” Kasinathan said.

In Lead, the students worked in three groups on three separate experiments.

“My group participated in a hydrology experiment that deals with the quality of the water being pumped out of the mine,” said Kasinathan. “We tested the pH and the turbidity of the water.”

Off to Europe

After leaving the Black Hills, the Davis-Bahcall scholars headed to Geneva, where they spent two days sight seeing and touring the CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research) lab, which is one of the world’s largest and most respected scientific research centers.

“Not many people get to see (the CERN lab), so that was awesome,” said Kasinathan. “Our guide was the also the head scientist, so it was really neat to have a tour from that perspective.”

“We also spent a week at the Gran Sasso Laboratory near Rome, which is the largest underground lab in the world,” Kasinathan said. The Gran Sasso Laboratory conducts experiments in particle physics, particle astrophysics and nuclear astrophysics.

scholarship’s namesake),” said Kasinathan. “She gave a lecture on astrophysics, which was really interesting.”

Back in the U.S.A.

The South Dakota students were



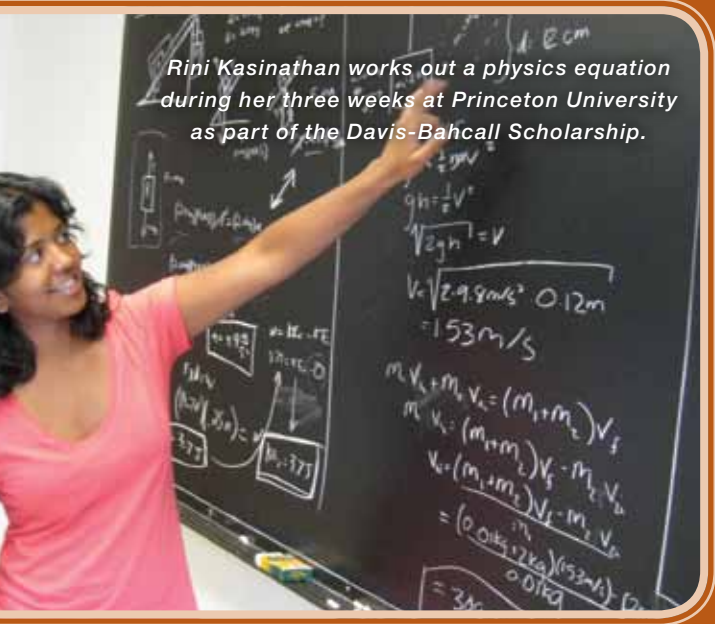
Rini Kasinathan, far right, tours the Gran Sasso Underground Laboratory near Rome, Italy, with the nine other winners of the Davis-Bahcall Scholarship.

The last leg of the scholarship was a three-week program at Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey.

“At Princeton, we had classes each day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There were two sets of lectures each day – one in the morning and one in the afternoon. I got to meet Mrs. Neta Bahcall, (the widow of the

Princeton by 20 Italian students, one lab each week in groups of two Italian students and one American student in each group,” Kasinathan said. “There was a little bit of a language barrier because even things that are said the same way are usually said differently. It was a great learning experience.”





Rini Kasinathan works out a physics equation during her three weeks at Princeton University as part of the Davis-Bahcall Scholarship.

Reflections

For Kasinathan, taking part in the Davis-Bahcall Scholarship helped confirm her career path.

“Before the trip, I wasn’t sure if I liked science enough to make it a career,” she said. “But after hearing the lectures on underground biology this summer, I realized how much I really like science. For me, it really affirmed that I’m going into the right field.”

And Kasinathan believes that there are opportunities in science in South Dakota, as well as across the globe.

“I think the opportunities are huge right now, especially with things right here in South Dakota with the Homestake Mine. If I was a physicist anywhere in the world, I’d want to come here, because the lab is going to be huge. And it’s exciting for South Dakotans like me too,” she concluded. ■

To watch a video interview with Rini please visit www.sdreadytowork.com

SO, WHAT IS GOING ON IN LEAD?

The Sanford Lab at Homestake and the Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory have certainly been in the news a lot, but just exactly what is going on right now, and when will everything else be up and running? The following facts will keep you up-to-date on the latest news.

■ The mine has been dewatered to 5,015 feet, and pumping will continue until the water reaches 8,000 feet.

■ There are currently 72 full-time employees and 20 part-time employees working at the mine.

■ Experiments in hydrology, geology and microbiology are already in place.

■ Two experiments will soon be installed at the 4,850 level. The first is called the Large Underground Xenon experiment, or LUX, and will be installed in the Davis Cavern. The LUX detector will search for dark matter. The second experiment, the Majorana-Double Beta Decay Experiment, will use ultra-pure copper to detect neutrinoless double beta decay.

DAVIS-BACHCALL SCHOLARSHIP

The 10 Students Who Were Selected:

- Mandi Durch**, Newell – Newell High School
- Karin E. Hanson**, Sioux Falls – South Dakota State University
- Travis Hoon**, Aberdeen – S.D. School of Mines and Technology
- Brennan Ireland**, Hermosa – Rapid City Central High School
- Bhavatharini Kasinathan**, Brandon – Roosevelt High School
- Keely Krolikowski**, Spearfish – Black Hills State University
- Daniel Parrot**, Sioux Falls – University of South Dakota
- Haaken Phelps**, Brookings – South Dakota State University
- Lane Raffaldini Rubin**, Sioux Falls – Lincoln High School
- Tyler Vogel**, Rapid City – Douglas High School



Governor's Office of Economic Development
 711 East Wells Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501
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SAVE the DATE

GOED Annual Conference April 6-7 in Pierre



Mark your calendars for the 2010 GOED annual conference. This year's event will be Tuesday, April 6, and Wednesday, April 7, at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center in Pierre, South Dakota.

"This year's conference is a great opportunity for anyone involved in some aspect of economic development – whether it be a local developer, a banker or a budding entrepreneur – to make contacts and network with counterparts from around the state," said Kim Olson, GOED director.

Previous topics have included financing, website development and responding to requests for information. ■

