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SDSU Research Will Tap The Power Of Connections BY STEVE YOUNG Argus Leader

BROOKINGS - There's a school of thought in some scientific circles that suggests obesity is a sign of superior breeding. A predisposition to storing fat, the reasoning goes, is evolution's way of ensuring that mankind survives times of famine

Or put another way, nature isn't about to risk the future of the human race on the scrawny. Whether true or not, the idea that

genetics play a role in the readout on a bathroom scale is one that intrigues scientists at South Dakota State University — and is a potential research focus for a new \$47 million laboratory being planned on the Brookings campus, the Argus Leader reported (http://argusne.ws/16RhIAI).

The vision for what is being called the Interdisciplinary Bioscience and Engineering Laboratory is to bring researchers together from diverse disciplines across campus. They will tap into expertise for which SDSU is renowned - primarily food produc-

Core From Page 1

estimates more than 5,000 of the state's roughly 9,500 teachers, including some from all but two of the 151 public school districts, have participated in the training.

The sessions provided online training guides and approved independent training programs for districts as they prepared for the transition. Becky Nelson, who coordinated the state training efforts, said \$6.7 million was set aside for teacher training before the launch.

"We are not finished with our training. With the implementation of the assessments, we can target where the gaps are for training," she said. "We see it really as an ongoing effort.'

Sioux Falls secured a \$400,000 grant from the state to study the standards, devise a curriculum and train its teachers.

"It helped the teachers gain a deeper and clearer understanding of the standards," Schueler said.

Sioux Falls teachers began using elements of the Common Core in elementary math and all English classes last year. This school year.

Abortions

The state decline mirrors a national drop in abortions.

Nebraska approved a first-

of-its-kind law in 2010 that bans

abortions starting at 20 weeks

From Page 1

tion, health and nutrition, and renewable energy. They'll work together in a

71,000-square-foot facility to tackle challenges such as hunger, obesity, autoimmune diseases and other possibilities. "As we look to the future, we do

know that complex problems like food security and renewable energy are not single disciplinary in their basis," SDSU President David Chicoine said. "Interdisciplinary teamwork is essential for competing in the future.

By teams, he means researchers who don't necessarily share test tubes now. Those are the biophysicist, chemist, molecular geneticist and plant breeder working alongside the biosystems engineer, exercise scientist and nutritionist.

It's an approach the National Insti-tutes of Health, the largest funder of academic research in the country, has been promoting, said Kevin Kephart, vice president of research at SDSU. The idea is that taking scientists out of their individual work environments and putting them side by side will produce a sharing of techniques and ideas that spawns new learning and discoveries

SDSU officials are dreaming big. Like the goal set by Sanford Health officials when they announced they were using part of \$400 million donated by T. Denny Sanford to find a cure for Type 1 diabetes, SDSU is chasing grand global challenges

Kephart said it makes sense to draw from SDSU's experience in food production, nutrition and health, and renewable energy. Certainly, obesity falls into that domain.

"There was new information out recently on the genetics behind obesity, he said. "We don't know enough about the human genome to know which part of the population is most susceptible to unwanted weight gain. Is there a genotype affected by environmental interactions? This is what we want to look at.'

Geneticists would be part of any such research, Chicoine said. But the interdisciplinary possibilities mean nutritional scientists would be important in the work as well, as would exercise scientists.

"It's not all about what we eat," he said. "It's about what we do. We have people involved in all those platforms that we could use to focus on the problem.

Another possible challenge to study is the gluten sensitivity present in a spectrum of disorders, including celiac and Crohn's diseases. Gluten is a protein composite found in wheat and other grains. It gives elasticity to dough, helping it to rise and keep its shape. Those with sensitivity to it experience bloating, abdominal discomfort or pain, diarrhea, muscular disturbances and bone or joint pain.

The world has consumed wheat for thousands of years without the gluten reactions that are manifesting themselves at an ever-increasing rate today, Kephart said. The question to be unlocked: What has caused this?

"We have an internationally recognized strength in wheat breeding, genetics and management at SDSU. So this makes sense for us," he said. "It's a human health issue. It's an ag production issue.

the district will align instruction to the new math standards for grades six through

"This has been a twoyear, stepping stone Schueler said. process,'

The Deuel School District got an early start, too. Superintendent Dean Christensen said they piloted a new elementary math program last year, have encouraged faculty members to study the standards, and have sent staff to the state-sponsored trainings.

The greatest challenge, he said, has been devising a training schedule for teachers who often have had to spend time away from their classrooms, Christensen said.

"Are we 100 percent? No, but we are as prepared as any district in the state," Christensen said. "I think until we finally start seeing what the tests look like and how our students do, we're prepared."

ents have been skeptical of Common Core training and the standards themselves. Henry and Estelline have not sent anyone to the state-coordinated training, the only public school districts in the state not to do so.

Although the standards generally have been judged to be more rigorous, Henry

Beth Burkstrand-Reid. "I don't think anybody knows for sure," said Burkstrand-Reid, a national expert on reproductive rights and women's health. "It's difficult to know whether there's a correlation between any of the abortion restrictions and the

said they introduce students to some math skills later than his district historically has. His biggest concerns centered on when and how the Common Core introduces concepts to students, as well as who decides how teachers will teach. He was

Superintendent Steve Zirbel

not convinced that local districts would have control over their school's curriculum. 'You've got to have local

control," Zirbel said. "I really think the how-to's really ought to be left up to the school districts.⁴

Zirbel said that he is not opposed to the Common Core as a whole, however, and would send some members of his faculty and staff to a training session in Aberdeen before the start of the school year.

"It's the same stuff we've been talking about for 35 years," Zirbel said.

Estelline, which was working through a change in superintendents, missed the state training sessions both summers and ended up pay-

ing for training on their own. **Estelline Superintendent** Pat Kraning said the district hired some of the same Common Core trainers that the state used for its training sessions. He is confident that his teachers are ready to teach to the new standards.

that researches sexual and reproductive health.

"Abortion rights have been declining for about a decade," said Rebecca Wind, a spokeswoman for the institute. "We've seen it nationally and in just about every state. Nebraska remains a leader

parental consent for minors. Women must also receive state-

cludes information designed to

discourage them from having

an abortion, followed by a 24-

hour waiting period. Abortion

is covered in private insurance

mother's life is endangered, un-

policies only in cases when a

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tional rider at additional cost.

In the process, the rough

fish must be completely eradi-

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be one or two carp remaining

- which they do twice a year

- and regenerate a large pop-

The four organizations

are planning to seek public

input on any potential deci-

sion, Bockholt said. That in-

formation will be released at

You can follow Jeremy

Hoeck on Twitter at

twitter.com/jhoeck

ulation, he added.

a later time.

in the lake to start spawning

directed counseling that in-

"Our teachers that were already good teachers are going to be good teachers in the traditional system or in the Common Core," Kraning said.

The Faith School District was one of three, along with Eureka and Summit, that sent teachers and administrators to only the 2012 state-sponsored training.

"I feel that we've done what we can to prepare for it," Faith Superintendent Kelly Daughters said.

For teachers, the biggest issue has been making sure they have enough time to adapt to the new standards before having to worry about sanctions for poor test scores.

The American Federation of Teachers conducted a survey of teachers about Common Core implementation in March. It found 74 percent of teachers were worried that testing would be conducted too early and 39 percent felt they were not fully prepared for implementation.

"When you look across the school districts, every district is at different levels, said Sandy Arseneault, South Dakota Education Association president. "I believe we have some schools that are ready and we have some schools that are working to be ready.'

CROSSW By THOMAS

ACROSS 1 Rogues 5 Show embarrassment

One of the greatest concerns for both teachers and administrators is the new Smarter Balanced assessments, which were designed for the Common Core. The online tests will be radically different from traditional multiple choice tests taken with paper and pencil.

Some worry that because the standards are new and challenging and the tests different, there will be a dramatic drop in proficiency scores, which might cause a backlash from the public. Kentucky, which was the first state to fully implement the Common Core standards, saw a one-third dip in proficiency scores in math and English after its first tests during the 2011-12 school year.

New York also saw assessment scores drop after implementing a different set of tests aligned to the Common Core last year. Both states drew sharp criticism for designing tests that critics felt were too hard. But according to Schopp, comparing student performance on the Smarter Balanced assessments to traditional testing isn't fair.

This is a different assessment," Schopp said. "The scores are not alike. They're going to look much differ-

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Read & Recycle!

into the pregnancy, based on assertions that fetuses feel pain at that stage of development. Abortion opponents argue studies and testimony from doctors prove fetuses feel pain at 20 weeks gestation. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists states that it knows of no legitimate evidence that fetuses can experience pain. The law went into effect in October 2010. "I suspect that (the law)

continues to drive the numbers of abortions down," said Julie Schmit-Albin, executive director of Nebraska Right to Life.

The decline in abortions could also be due to a number of other factors, including women who have learned to use birth control more effectively, said University of Nebraska assistant law professor

_ake From Page 1

duct a survey on the lake. The results found a small variety of game fish, but an increasing number of rough fish.

Last week, the four groups had a short meeting to discuss the data and ideas for the next step — "to get our ducks in a row," Bockholt said.

If any plans move for-



From Page 1

Bonnie Belongea, director of contracts with Good-Shred, stressed that safety is the top priority for the 20 different Goodwill locations it services. None of the Goodwill employees have access to the material.

Once we put our hands on it, nobody else can get in there unless they go through a 64-point background

nationwide trend."

Burkstrand-Reid said the number of abortions might drop even faster now that the morning-after pill has become available over the counter. In June, the federal government approved unrestricted overthe-counter sales for the Plan B One-Step pill and generic emergency contraceptives.

The recession may have played a role in the decline by encouraging women to use birth control until their financial situation improves.

"If people do not have a job, they will likely think about whether to have children at that time," Burkstrand-Reid said.

The decline coincides with an overall drop in abortions throughout the United States, though rates among poor women have increased, according to the New York-based Guttmacher Institute, a group

ward, they wouldn't occur until the fall of 2014 or possibly 2015, Schuckman said.

"It's going downhill and will continue to, in my opinion," Schuckman said. "It's a documented problem with the higher numbers after the flooding, and hopefully sooner rather than later we can get going."

A drastic endeavor such as a complete renovation would naturally generate public criticism, Bockholt acknowledged. He also added that it could take at least two years to get the fish population back to normal.

check," said Belongea, who added that those checks are done before a hiring and periodically throughout employment.

Each GoodShred truck uses a Babcock locking system that requires the material to be locked away before the truck will start, Belongea said.

She also said that Good-Shred works with more than Goodwill stores, and it has partnerships with several banks, school systems, private businesses, medical services and law firms. Each location has an official con-

tainer - which can vary in size — that is then emptied upon being filled, always by the official drivers.

Though a new service, the Yankton Goodwill is hoping more and more customers utilize the option, Beltran said. "It's a great benefit to local businesses, too," she said. "If you think about law

firms and banks, they all have sensitive documents."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

0One of in restricting abortions, despite the woodan unusually quiet legislative winds session this year in which no 11 Fulmimajor abortion-related laws passed. One proposal that nated would have let health providers 130re opt out of services they find source morally objectionable, such as 4 Peter of prescribing contraceptives, didn't make it out of a committee. "Lawrence In recent years, lawmakers of Arabia" and Gov. Dave Heineman have 15 Enhance approved laws that prohibit the 17 Make a use of telemedicine to administer abortion drugs and required

choice 18 Design 19 Fawn's mother 20 Anger 21 Rain heavily

22 Binge 25 Polite chaps 26 Dessert fruit 27 Saloon 28 Have

lunch 29 Be composed (of) 33 Cry of insight 34 Masters settina 35 Come back 37 Oodles

8-26

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTE

GSC	DBN	ED GS	QG M	CQHO	GEIHW
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GSC	DH	O Q C	LG	S C	KFFO
BCCA	GSC	EX LE	QXN.	— Q	WIXCL

BXCNKMFXR

Saturday's Cryptoquote: MAN IS MOST NEARLY HIMSELF WHEN HE ACHIEVES THE SERIOUSNESS OF A CHILD AT PLAY. — HERACLITUS

8-26

