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University of South Dakota physics faculty members Ryan MacLellan (left) and Dongming Mei.

USD Faculty Contribute To Neutrino Research That Earned Nobel Prize

VERMILLION — Two University of South Dakota faculty members worked on this year's Nobel Prize winning topic in physics as graduate students, and one of them worked directly with Nobel winner Arthur B. McDonald. McDonald and Takaaki Kajita, both neutrino physicists, won the coveted prize this week in physics for their work on neutrino oscillations.

Ryan MacLellan, now an assistant professor of physics at USD, was a graduate student of McDonald's and worked with him at the Suburine Neutrino Observatory (SNO) in Canada on neutrino oscillation experiments.

"It is very safe to say that I would not be where I am today if not for Art. From 2001 to 2009, I was very privileged to be one of the few Ph.D. students that Art has supervised," MacLellan said. "I had been asked many times over the years when it would be Art's turn, not that I should have any idea. But I can now say with certainty that he very much represents the ideal of the Nobel Laureate

tradition and certainly is deserving of this great honor. He is a great stately man who also could not be more personable."

Dongming Mei, an associate professor of physics at USD, also worked on neutrino oscillation experiments as part of his Ph.D. dissertation at a complementary experiment in Japan.

"Having two faculty members who have a direct connection to the recipients of a Nobel Prize in physics is quite unique for a physics department of our size," said Tina Keller, director of physics, professor and associate dean in the College of Arts & Sciences at USD. "This speaks quite highly of the caliber of research occurring at USD and the opportunity our students have to participate in truly groundbreaking physics research."

MacLellan, Mei and other USD faculty join scientists from around the world who are also researching neutrinos at the Sanford Underground Research Facility in South Dakota's Black Hills.

"We were part of a crew of neighbors that got together whenever any of us made hay or needed help of any kind. How I wish that were the same today," said the 78 year old cattle-producer from a nearby county.

My well-spoken friend continued. "When I was in my fields raking hay or disking and a neighbor happened to also be working on the other side of the fence, we both stopped our tractors, walked to the fence and chatted a while. Now if we talk, it's on the phone instead."

There is a progressive age divide in farmer social interactions. Surveys conducted over the past several years, as reported in various print and digital forums, almost always say about 90 percent of the youngest American farmers use smart phones and the internet to conduct business, and to stay in touch with their family, but the use of electronic messaging declines as age progresses.

Older farmers still prefer to conduct business in person and to seal an agreement with a hand shake. Only about a quarter of persons over 70 years of age and currently farming rely on some type of digital technology other than the telephone to stay in touch with people they consider important and/or to conduct business, such as marketing.

Seeing people in person is important, especially for older farmers. Attending church, community meetings, weddings, funerals and neighborhood get-togethers were—and still are—the main opportunities for social interactions of most aging farmers.

My 78 year old farming friend said to me recently, "If I want to know what someone is really thinking, I have to look into his eyes."

Few older farmers regularly use Twitter, email and other electronic methods to undertake marketing and to



Dr. Mike
ROSMANN

document contracts. But these older active farmers carry a mobile phone with them for telephone calls and texts, for they are well aware that having a phone can save time, many steps and sometimes their lives.

Farmers often worked alone during bygone eras, partly depending on where they lived. I enjoyed meeting a farmer who lived closest (20 miles) to the tiny hamlet of Two Buttes in the farthest southeast county of Colorado in August 1968. My job involving migrant farm worker research took me to remote regions of several western states. As I drove 40 miles on a gravel road without seeing any vehicles, towns or farmsteads, I pulled up to a ramshackle house with a single tree near a decrepit house, a windmill, and a couple decaying wooden structures with a few chickens, pigs and a cow nearby, without any fences to contain them.

I wanted to make sure I was on the correct route. When I approached the house around noon, a hefty, unshaven 40ish man dressed in an overall with one suspender latched, no shirt and wearing worn shoes without socks came to the door after I knocked.

The fellow shook my hand repetitively as he said he hadn't talked with anyone for over two weeks and that he drove to town only a half dozen times each year to buy the few items he needs and which aren't otherwise available. He invited me to join him for the dinner that he was eating out of a can.

He pulled another can from the cupboard and handed me a spoon he retrieved from the kitchen sink. I declined his offer, for I noticed his kitchen sink was piled high with dirty dishes,

but I stayed a while to talk.

His story fascinated me about how he inherited the farm from his parents who managed to hang onto the farm during the Great Depression and inconsistent years of drought. Oh how he wanted company, but I had to be on my way after another hour of interesting discussion with a socially starved person.

Capacity to tolerate isolation is a trait that formerly was characteristic of successful farmers, but not anymore. In the past farmers had to be able to work alone for long periods.

As a young farmer in the 1930s/40s my father often worked all day in the fields at a single operation like cutting hay; the only times he had any contact with others was during the morning, evening and at his noon meal.

Now most farmers' days are spent multi-tasking, obtaining information, negotiating and communicating. The comfort with solitude and self-reliance that social scientists reported only two decades ago as characteristic of successful farmers are now disadvantages.

However, many of today's farmers have insufficient training in such complex social skills as contract negotiation, conflict resolution, behavioral health management and financial planning. High school agriculture courses, community college programs in agriculture and in agricultural business and related college programs for agriculture undergraduates and graduate school enrollees should teach these skills.

Communication methods are changing and farmers need to change with them. Today's farmers want to be up-to-date, even if we don't like it.

Dr. Mike is a farmer, licensed Iowa psychologist and educator. To contact him, visit: www.agbehavioralhealth.com.

Soldiers Help Boy Scouts Find Strength Within

BY SPC. CARL JOHNSON
129th Mobile Public Affairs
Detachment

The crisp air matches the participants' anticipation as dawn breaks over Lewis and Clark Scout Camp near Yankton. Over 250 boy scouts and more than 60 South Dakota Army National Guard Soldiers stand at attention as the flag ceremony begins. In the background the bugle plays as the children's eyes follow the crew of four Soldiers cradling the neatly folded red, white and blue flag. A picturesque scene with a pink and gold hewn sky stretches out over the crowd.

After the solemn moment fades, Soldiers and scouts began their busy weekend, Oct. 2-4, a joint opportunity allowing Soldiers to instruct while scouts sharpen their survival skills.

"We wanted to do some 'out of the box' training for our Soldiers," said Capt. Michael Nei, commander of Battery B, 1st Battalion, 147th Field Artillery. "Our guys really enjoyed being able to invest their time into young lives. It was a great event for the community."

Multiple National Guard units from across South Dakota were involved to include: the 730th Area Support Medical Company; Battery B, 1st Battalion, 147th Field Artillery; 842nd Engineer Company; 211th Engineer Company (Sapper), and the 196th Regiment, Regional Training Institute provided training support.

The event gave the Soldiers the opportunity to provide inspiration to young



men.

"Everybody was so enthused about working with the National Guard," said Barry Schloss, property manager of the camp. "Our organization is built on learning how to do something, making mistakes, learning from it and moving on. Overcoming adversity really, in that way the two organizations are very similar."

The Soldiers were able to improve the scouts' knowledge in several areas: gun safety, fire building, survival techniques, rappelling, military communica-

tion, physical fitness, land navigation, flags and military customs, first aid, map reading and exposure to military equipment.

At the gun safety station, an electronic target system allowed scouts to test their marksmanship skills on an electronic target system. The weapons are not actually fired but a laser is released by the pull of the trigger and the target senses where the laser lands. The scores were recorded and friendly competition ensued.

Several scouts could also be seen exploring the



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various Humvees and track vehicles. The scouts showed particular interest in the different weapon systems that were on display. Soldiers explained how each system functioned and in what warfare situation they would be used.

During the obstacle course, Soldiers guided the scouts through step swings, cargo nets, slide poles and climbing walls.

While the scouts and Soldiers worked on their skills, leadership saw how the training was benefitting both organizations.

"The National Guard helped us attract a lot more youth to this event," said Tom Smotherman, the executive director for the Sioux Council Boy Scouts of America. "It brought nearly 300 kids out here. We would have expected around 100 normally. We had to cap it at 300 because that is all the dining hall could handle."

"The Boy Scouts provided a realistic training experience for us," said 1st Sgt. Brooks Schild, of Battery B, 1/147th FA.

Schild went on to say that training young people tested

the Soldiers' knowledge, as the scouts had numerous questions.

Staff Sgt. Michael Schwans, training NCO for the 147th, was in charge of securing resources for the event. Humvees, various track vehicles, a wide assortment of weapons and even a MRE (meal ready to eat) lunch were available to the scouts and scout leaders.

"We really tried to get everything possible to provide a great experience for these kids," said Schwans.

The National Guard was supportive of the Boy Scout leadership's goal to create a 'wow' experience for the scouts, said Smotherman.

"Having the Soldiers here brings that 'wow' attraction more than going to the state park, tying some knots and starting some fires," said Smotherman. "Events like this one help keep kids in the program."

Jordan Beukelman, a Boy Scout with Troop 72 in Mitchell, had his own 'wow' moment.

"I saw a video of people doing the rappel tower," said Beukelman, with a hint of nervousness in his voice. "I thought to myself 'I don't know if I'm ever going to do that.' I finally did though!"

Several scouts were similar to Beukelman and initially showed hesitation while attempting to scale and descend the rappel tower. As the assisting Soldiers calmly coached them through each step, the scouts' fears dissipated and gave way to confidence. With a little help, each one found their strength within.

Governor Seeking Interns For Spring Term

PIERRE — Gov. Dennis Daugaard is currently seeking applications for two spring 2016 Governor's Office internships in Pierre. The positions will be paid and run from early January through May 2016.

Governor's Office interns have the opportunity to work at the highest level of state government. During the legislative session, interns will work closely with Governor's Office policy staff members on the administration's legislative priorities.

Interns' duties will depend on interests and strengths. Typical duties will include aiding the Governor's general counsel, conducting policy research, preparing policy briefings and staffing the Governor, Lt. Governor and First Lady.

The positions are open to all undergraduate or graduate-

level students. Preference will be given to South Dakota residents attending South Dakota colleges or universities.

Students who are interested in receiving credit should also apply. The Governor's staff is open to working with individual universities and professors to secure credit for

the internship program.

Interested students should submit a resume, cover letter and two letters of recommendation by Nov. 1, via email, to Patrick.Weber@state.sd.us.

For more information on duties or logistics, please visit sd.gov/governor/Internship or contact Patrick Weber at

Patrick.Weber@state.sd.us or 605-773-5999.

Thank You

We express a sincere appreciation for the many congratulatory cards and wishes on our 50th wedding anniversary. We are blessed to have all of you in our lives. God bless you.

**George & Connie
Adam**

Thank You

I want to thank my family for the nice 90th birthday party they had for me and also for all the best wishes and many cards I received.

God bless you all.

Janice Aune



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