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**VCSU recognizes its major donors**
By VCTR Staff
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Valley City State University honored its Diamond Level, Regents Level and Legacy Society donors Monday in a recognition luncheon at Sabir’s Dining and Lounge.

About 50 people attended the luncheon and program presented by the VCSU Foundation.

Recognized at the Diamond Level, for $100,000 to $249,000 were Dacotah Bank, Robert and Jan Ingstad and Ralph and Carolyn Kolstoe.

There were nine individuals and businesses recognized at the Regents Level for $25,000 to $49,999: AmericInn Lodge & Suites, Dave and Patty Bass, Dakota Plains Cooperative, Ben and Marge Herr, John Deere Seeding Group, Ludvigson, Braun & Co., James and Gayle Retterath, Steven and Jennifer Shirley and Valley Sales Co. Inc/Budweiser.

Honored as a group but not as individuals were members of the Legacy Society, who have pledged a portion of their estates to the foundation.

Society members include DuWayne Bott, Nyle and Arlene Burchill, Robert and Bonnie Burchill, Ellen Chafee and David Schwalbe, George and Audrey Gaukler, Mark and Kathy Finstad, Janet Schultz, Tom and Ginger Trousdale, Leila Whiting, Jim and Rae Ann Vandrovec, James and Mary Kieley, Jay and Marilyn Matthews, James and Rita Nielson, DeForest and Dolly Peterson, Larry Peterson and Lois Steer, Anne Haugaard, Robert and Deanne Horne, Lillian Jacobson, John Keller and Vinton and Darlene Zabel.

Larry Robinson, executive director of university advancement, said so far this year VCSU has allocated $757,000 in scholarships, a record for the university.

At the same time, said VCSU President Steve Shirley, the most recent enrollment count at VCSU was another record of 1,384 students.

Major projects VCSU is working on now include a $10 million-plus addition to the Rhoades Science Center and a $500,000 cafeteria renovation at the Student Center.

Robinson said a future project would be a remodeling of Vangstad Auditorium.
Shirley said the addition should be finished either in December 2012 or January 2013. He said the addition would give VCSU the “premier facility for undergraduate science education in North Dakota.”

Shirley said it takes scholarships to attract “the best and brightest students” to VCSU. He also noted this past fall VCSU was awarded a “full 10-year reaccreditation.”

VCSU’s success depends on “all of us working together,” Robinson said.