BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

Roots and BRANCHES

Community ties bear fruit for BSU and students

A magazine for alumni and friends
FALL/WINTER 2014
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I cannot say often enough that the primary goal of everything we do as a university is to prepare our students for meaningful, rewarding lives in their chosen fields. Their success is the measure of our own. This objective motivates and inspires all we do together as administrators, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Bemidji State. Its pursuit and the results that continue to affirm our purpose can be found throughout this edition of the BSU magazine.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the tremendous and gratifying progress we have made together in the Imagine Tomorrow fund-raising campaign. In less than four years, the BSU Foundation has received gifts and pledges totaling more than $31 million. Stop and let that figure sink in for a moment. We’re closing in on our ambitious goal of $35 million, and I have every confidence that we will get there over the next 19 months. The generosity has been staggering, and our students’ increased prospect for success has already been the outcome.

The difference we are making in the lives of our students can be clearly seen in our latest examples of “Students to Watch” – young people who are defining themselves as leaders and laying the groundwork for significant accomplishment in their careers. The benefits of the guidance and motivation provided by our faculty is evident in the achievement of our alumni, including those profiled at length and the many others featured in the Class Notes section. We are so proud of our continued association with our thousands of outstanding alumni, including the remarkable individuals honored during the Homecoming Honors Gala on Oct. 17.

We also make a difference in the world through the work of our students, faculty and staff, as illustrated in the cover story on community and civic engagement. Transformative experiences of service and hands-on learning are so important to students, and they also provide enormous benefits to the greater Bemidji region and beyond.

So success begets success. Your support of our students and the university as a whole enables our mission of education and advancement, and for that we are forever grateful.

Best wishes,

Richard Hanson
Outreach efforts grow in scope and importance

By Scott Faust

In partnership with a cross-country ski club, Bemidji State University students in October installed new signs at BSU’s Hobson Memorial Forest to mark seven kilometers of trails remapped in March by fellow students.

Also in October, a computer programmer at the university convened Minnesota’s first chapter of Girls Who Code, a nationwide organization that cultivates interest and aptitude in computing among middle and high school girls.

Throughout the fall semester, students in a sociology course have taken turns tending a community garden and participating in other food-supply initiatives.

All these activities exemplify a growing priority for Bemidji State: engagement by faculty, staff and students in and with the greater community to foster education, collaboration and service.

Along with pride in yearly events that bring people to campus, such as Community Appreciation Day, the high school mathematics contest and the Madrigal Dinners, outreach and hands-on learning are increasingly prized.

“We are motivated by the opportunity for students to gain a sense of connection and relevance to the real world,” President Richard Hanson said. “Civic engagement can work to create a sense of responsibility for one’s place while also building a capacity for leadership.”

Bemidji State is actively involved in multiple projects, ranging from a downtown fine arts center that will showcase BSU artwork to a public-private student housing development planned for the former Bemidji High School site. Another example is intern Tadlock, who returned to BSU in 2012 after previously serving as a dean from 2001 to 2006.

“The courses needed new signage,” said Dr. Martin Tadlock, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “The relationships are multifaceted and growing, he said – as joyful as inviting children to skate with BSU hockey players and as ambitious as a planned off-campus Center for Community Partnerships that will coordinate the expanding interaction.

“I think all of us around the table would agree that Bemidji has been very good the past couple of years in developing partnerships and in saying we can move miles when we work together,” Paris said.

Serving the region is fundamental to the role of a public university like BSU, said Dr. Patrick Donnay, a professor of political science who also serves as secretary of the club. “We’re using the partnership between BSU and the ski club to make it happen.”

Last winter, several geography students on snowshoes used GPS navigation to trace the exact route of the Hobson trails. Funding for the signs was provided by the ski club, BSU’s Outdoor Program Center and the BSU Sustainability Office.

Typically, campus-community collaboration develops over time, as educators see ways to connect student learning with local needs.

Such was the case with students’ work on new trail signage at Hobson Forest.

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– Lori Paris, president of the Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce

and two other trail networks maintained by the Bemidji Cross-Country Ski Club, a project that began to take shape in 2013 through conversations between BSU faculty and the club.

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The new signs were designed and produced in Bemidji.
I’ve been in the computing field as a professional since the age of 19, and being a female, and a young female at that, was kind of hard. I had to take an assertive stance in order to make my way.”

Her interest in the national effort to develop girls’ talents at computing coincided with a BSU performance review that challenged her to think about her goals. A native of Hibbing, she recognized the need for such an initiative in rural Minnesota.

With the blessing of her bosses, Thiesen connected with the group’s national staff, explained the socioeconomic challenges of the Bemidji region and followed steps to organize a club, including background check and test of her own programming expertise.

In July she learned her application to form a Girls Who Code chapter had been accepted, and she began meeting with area school superintendents, principals and teachers to help her recruit girls.

“Another recent BSU outreach effort that addresses a community need is a new sociology course called Social Movements and Change, developed by Dr. Carla Norris-Raynbird. The course combines service learning through hands-on experience with in-class study of how social movements begin and evolve.”

“Norris-Raynbird’s students, not all of them sociology majors, have been working side-by-side this fall with people in the community on grass-roots initiatives to increase the availability of food for those in need. Students experience the real-life application of the theory and concepts learned in the classroom and accomplish their service learning in a concerted effort – as a group,” Norris-Raynbird said.

DIVIDED INTO several small groups, students have worked in the garden at the Bemidji Community Food Shelf and learned about such things as composting and much ing through the community Food Shelf and visiting the Harmony Natural Foods Co-op, both in Bemidji.

In class, the students are analyzing their group interactions, comparing notes with other groups and applying all of that to the larger subject of social movements.

“It’s one thing to read about social movements,” said one of the students, senior Jodi Rubio of Park Rapids, “but actually going out into the community and learning about an issue in Bemidji has made me more interested in food justice.”

Learning comes by doing

The concept of problem-based learning – tackling a community issue or need – has been central to the work of BSU’s Sustainability Office, under the leadership of coordinator Erika Bailey-Johnson.

Students employed by the office, as well as members of an organization called Students for the Environment, have been involved in such efforts as the Nice Ride bicycle-sharing program, collection of electronic waste for recycling and taking unwanted household items from Goodwill for free distribution through the Bemidji Community Food Shelf.

“We talk about what we need to do to change a situation, to make it more sustainable, and what are the barriers,” Bailey-Johnson said. “In the process, they’re learning problem-solving skills, project-management skills, leadership skills and communication skills.”

Those learning experiences, combined with a desire to improve the quality of life throughout the Bemidji region, drive Bemidji State’s increased commitment to civic and community engagement.

The importance of those efforts is underscored in the university’s draft Strategic Plan for 2014-2017. One of its six major strategies is called “Connect to Our Communities, which calls for ‘students, faculty and staff to engage and connect with our constituents and the many communities we serve through service learning, internships, mentorships, community advocacy, field experiences, class projects and practicums.”

Hanson said those community interactions are linked to connections that extend to the state and national levels and beyond.

“‘There is little doubt that the world is increasingly global and interconnected,’” he said. “‘Therefore, Bemidji State University needs to make sure its commitment to civic relevance is rock solid.”

Erika Bailey-Johnson, coordinator of the BSU Sustainability Office, left, joins with students in an electronic waste collection effort in May 2013 in downtown Bemidji.
CONTINUED
GENEROSITY

Gifts, pledges already helping students

By Scott Faust

Inspired by a glimpse of success over the horizon, leaders of Bemidji State University’s Imagine Tomorrow campaign are determined not to let up now. With $31 million given or pledged as of Oct. 14, the five-year goal of $35 million is achievable by the target date of June 30, 2014, said Dave Sorensen ’72, chair of the Campaign Steering Committee.

“Support has been coming from people who have an affinity for Bemidji State; from our alumni and from people who have heard about the success of our campaign and want to be a part of this wonderful university and what’s happening here,” Sorensen said.

Plans call for continued communication from President Richard Hanson to alumni and friends regarding both the campaign and developments on campus. BSU Foundation staff and campaign volunteers will also maintain their outreach to prospective donors and followup with individuals who have expressed interest in giving but haven’t done so yet.

“We’re at a stage now that we’re looking back and talking to some people,” Sorensen said.

One surprise has been a greater-than-expected propensity for outright gifts of cash or assets versus planned or estate gifts. “It’s a great story because it’s money that the university can use in a quicker way and a more direct way,” Sorensen said.

Another impressive result has been the level of participation by the university’s staff and faculty. Five-year pledges for this fiscal year totaled $243,000, compared with $45,000 in the previous year.

Money received so far has already made a significant impact:

• Scholarships provided through the BSU Foundation have nearly doubled, from $700,000 in 2011 to $1.2 million this academic year.
• Donors have established 35 new endowments with a total value of more than $4 million.
• Students in 18 academic departments are receiving newly endowed scholarships, ranging from nursing to education to environmental studies.
• Pledges will provide the latest technological improvements in buildings such as Memorial Hall, now being renovated into a state-of-the-art home for the business and accounting programs.

“This campaign has lifted us up,” Hanson said. “We will be more able to take down—dips, we will be more able to support our students. Access and affordability have been greatly improved for our students, and those are two significant words. I couldn’t be prouder of our staff and our volunteers. It’s really working.”

Another outcome has been a significant strengthening of the foundation staff, including a decision this summer to move former chief development officer Marla Patinas into a new role as prospect research manager. Her replacement, Jonathan Yordy, has significant fund-raising experience in higher education.

“One thing you want at the end of a campaign is an infrastructure that is far stronger than what you began with,” said Rob Bollinger, BSU’s executive director of university advancement. “We will have that at this university as we bring this campaign to a close.”

Dr. Steven Rosenstone, chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, continues to be an enthusiastic supporter of the Imagine Tomorrow campaign, something he expressed Oct. 1 during a one-day visit to Bemidji.

“How you can get involved

Everyone connects with Bemidji State in a unique way— as a student, professor, staff member, intellectual, art lover, music aficionado, sports fan and on and on. Not surprisingly, every contribution—whether it is a financial gift, bequest or volunteer effort—reflects a donor’s perspective, financial situation and time.

From a practical standpoint, here is groundwork to form your decision to be a part of the Imagine Tomorrow campaign:

CASH: Cash gifts are an easy way to give. Gifts of any size make an immediate impact on the Imagine Tomorrow priority area of your choice.

SECURITIES: Gifts of stocks, bonds, treasuries and mutual funds that have increased in value are a win-win opportunity for you under current tax laws. They provide an immediate benefit to the university and a current income tax savings for you.

PROPERTY: Property and real estate includes homes, cabins, commercial buildings, farmland and other property, such as works of art and other items of value.

PLANNED GIFTS: These involve giving to the university in the future. Typical types of planned gifts would be a bequest, life income gift, charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust, life insurance or a gift of residence with a life interest. The Bemidji State University Legacy Society is a unique organization whose members have provided for Bemidji State University through a planned gift. Members receive special invitations and other benefits.

VOLUNTEER: One of the most important gifts you can give to BSU is to tell others why the university is vital to you and the community. Attend campus events. Volunteer for committees and events that interest you. You make a difference!

Potential benefits of giving

• Make an immediate or future impact on Bemidji State.
• Help the department, college or area of your choice.
• Potentially increase the impact of your gift with a matching gift.
• Make a large gift with a small cash investment.
• Save on income tax.
• Reduce estate tax.
• Avoid capital gains tax.
• Generate lifetime income.

CONTACT: the BSU Foundation at (218) 755-7156, email to foundation@bemidjistate.edu or visit www.bsuimaginetomorrow.org.
EARLY GIFTS OFFER BOOST to business students

By Andy Burtlett

While gifts and pledges to the Imagine Tomorrow campaign are providing benefits across the campus, Bemidji State University’s Department of Business Administration has seen a particularly dramatic impact. Contributions have so far helped create five new endowments for business majors and two more that support accounting majors. 

This year alone more than $20,000 in scholarships were awarded to nine students through these new funds, and next year the level of support provided by these new endowments will grow to more than $50,000.

“We never know if a $1,000 scholarship is going to be the difference between keeping a student in school or having them leave,” said Dr. Shawn Strong, dean of the College of Business, Technology and Communications.

“It definitely gives us more stories to tell when we have prospective students coming to campus,” Henry said.

This support comes at an opportune time for the department of business and accounting as they prepare to move next fall from their current locations in Decker Hall into a new home in a renovated Memorial Hall.

The renovation, part of a construction project totaling nearly $14 million financed by state bonds, began in earnest this September and is creating a completely new setting for business and accounting classes, group projects and departmental offices.

Irvin E. Engbrecht ‘61, retired senior director of finance for CRAY Research, has stopped forward to help ensure the new Memorial Hall lives up to its promise of providing state-of-the-art facilities.

Engbrecht, who lives in Chippewa Falls, Wis., has made a planned gift through the BSU Legacy Society that will provide $50,000 for computers and other technology needed for business and accounting students.

While scholarships and new technology to support these students are obvious, tangible benefits from Imagine Tomorrow, the campaign’s most-important contribution may well be the relationships it is helping forge with its numerous alumni, Henry said.

“Imagine Tomorrow is bringing us closer to our alumni and the organizations they work for,” he said. “It’s drawing us tighter to that community that we were already a part of.”

SAYING THANK YOU and giving back

Michelle and Dale Ladig have seen Bemidji State University through many perspectives — not only their own, but also those of BSU students they’ve met as longtime university employees, their four daughters and students at Bemidji High School.

They are very clear about the merits of Bemidji State, and they want to share it with local students who might otherwise take their talents elsewhere.

To that end, they have made a five-year pledge to the Imagine Tomorrow campaign that will endow a $1,000 annual scholarship and will be directed to a Bemidji High student attending BSU.

“We want to give back to our community and try to help a local student achieve success through coming to BSU,” Michelle said. “It’s a win for the university and the community.”

In addition, they continue to support a scholarship, originally funded by General Mills in the mid-’80s, that bears their names and supports a returning student to BSU.  

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— MICHELLE LADIG
years overseeing residential housing and programs as the director of residential life. After previous work at Southwest Minnesota State University, he came to Bemidji State in 1978 as area director for Birch, Linden and Tamarack halls. Michelle has worked at BSU since 2000, for most of those years as a member of the Information Technology staff, including management of a university computer store. Last year, she transferred into a faculty support role in the College of Arts and Sciences. Previously, she worked in job development and training for the State of Minnesota in Bemidji. Both divorced and each with two daughters from a previous marriage, Michelle and Dale met through mutual friends in Bemidji. They have been married for almost seven years.

“Our kids have had a great scholastic experience here, so part of this is being able to say thanks to BSU for our rewarding careers and thanks to Bemidji High School for everything they did for our kids,” he said.

As parents and as university employees, they’ve gained a deep appreciation of both the challenges and the opportunities that young people encounter on their journeys to adulthood.

Michelle recalled a student majoring in music whom she got to know and mentored while he worked at the university computer store. Her recommendation helped him land an information technology position at the Blake School in Minneapolis.

“I had contagious enthusiasm about information technology that he responded to,” she said. “I was very proud of that – the difference I could make.”

Added Dale, “Our job as staff is to help them be successful. I always appreciated seeing the students walk across the stage at commencement – the ones you thought might not make it. It’s an emotional experience.”

Raising their girls and seeing them through high school and into college has deepened the Ladigs’ appreciation of the important decisions students make along the way. Both are supporters of the arts, and they have been especially involved with the Paul Bunyan Playhouse, where they currently volunteer and Dale was a member of the board for a decade.

Music is another passion, and they support the marching band and other music programs at Bemidji High School, where Michelle’s daughter, Rachel, is a junior this year.

“When students apply themselves to their music, they just seem to set those same standards for their education,” Michelle said.

The Ladigs say they’ve come to realize that Bemidji students don’t always recognize the tremendous educational opportunities that BSU offers right in their backyard. Their new scholarship is one way to encourage talented local students to take advantage of the university’s strengths.

Dale said the scholarship also is a way of saying thank you to both Bemidji High and Bemidji State.

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M innesota chainsaw artist Curtis Ingvoldstad has used his talents to bring new life to an ancient white pine log, which now stands as a lakeside monument to the wildlife found in the air, on the land and in the waters surrounding Bemidji State University.

The log for the Shoreline Sculpture came from one of three white pine trees, estimated to be over 100 years old, which were taken down by the university during the summer of 2013 as part of a project to install a modern artificial playing surface at BSU’s Chet Anderson Stadium.

The Nerstrand native started with a rough scale drawing showing an approximate position for each of the animals organized around a tree – birds at the top, with land animals such as bears or raccoons in the middle, leading to an underwater section featuring fish such as sunfish, pike or walleye.

Ingvoldstad’s sculpture is just one of several projects the university has planned that will allow the wood from those stately trees to live on. Among them is a new entry arch for the university’s Honors Gala, joined at the BSU Honors Gala on Oct. 17 by daughters Rachel Qualley (from left), Kathryn Ladig and Jessica Ladig. Not pictured is daughter Hillary Houston.

“SCULPTURE, ARCH GIVE NEW LIFE TO OLD TREES”

BSU NEWS

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SCULPTURE, ARCH GIVE NEW LIFE TO OLD TREES

Michelle Ladig, second from left, and Dale Ladig are joined at the BSU Honors Gala on Oct. 17 by daughters Rachel Qualley (from left), Kathryn Ladig and Jessica Ladig. Not pictured is daughter Hillary Houston.

Sculptor Curtis Ingvoldstad discusses his work at a dedication ceremony on Oct. 13.

BSU receives $623,000 grant to support STEM students

Bemidji State has received nearly $623,000 from the National Science Foundation to fund scholarships for BSU students majoring in programs related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The grant creates a program that will provide receiving $5,200 annual scholarships for a minimum of 22 students over a five-year period. They will be targeted toward students with interests and abilities in STEM fields, demonstrable financial need and from groups traditionally underrepresented in STEM-related programs.

The scholarships also will spotlight the creation of support programs specifically targeting students in STEM majors. The university plans to create a STEM Scholars Learning Community that includes peer-to-peer networking and more direct mentoring opportunities with BSU faculty.
Visiting scholar Wang Hangqin, a professor from Beijing, China, gains some information during Community Appreciation Day on Sept. 4.

Most Affordable Online Schools” listed BSU 13th in its ranking. Educause’s rankings score colleges and universities using a weighted formula that includes a variety of factors including retention rate, graduation rate, in-state and out-of-state tuition and breadth of offerings. BSU’s Center for Extended Learning offers seven undergraduate programs and five graduate programs that can be completed entirely online. Students enrolled at BSU and living out-of-state pay the same tuition rates as Minnesota residents.

Bemidji State Opera Theatre will present “The Mikado” in February. Bemidji Opera Theatre will present Gilbert & Sullivan’s “The Mikado,” first performed in 1885, is a satire set in a stereotypical English version of feudal Japan.

BSU’s production will be directed by Dr. Cory J. Renberger, assistant professor of music. Music will be conducted by Scott Gaidry, assistant professor of music. Costumes will be designed by professional designer Fred Rogers, and BSU’s Tom Skime will supervise the technical production. Auditions for the show were held in late September, and casting was completed in early October. The cast and crew will include BSU students, members of the BSU faculty and staff and residents from the Bemidji community.

NTC students partner in Laurel House reconstruction

Bemidji State University, Northwest Technical College and a number of other partners are collaborating on the construction of a new home on the site of the university’s former Laurel House homes residence. The home, being built primarily by students in NTC’s trade and construction programs with support from professional project managers and planners, will serve as a shared living and learning community for students in BSU’s honors program.

Demolition of the Laurel House was done in early September, and the reconstruction began shortly thereafter. Reconstruction has been planned in stages for several years, and a $2.4 million gift from Knudsen-Arendal Construction, as part of the Imagine Tomorrow campaign, allowed the project to move forward. That gift included cash and funds designated for project management services related to construction of the home.

U.S. Capitol Christmas tree packaged at BSU for trip east

One of the country’s most famous Christmas trees was packaged at Bemidji State in preparation for its journey to the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C. On Oct. 29, a tree was cut from Minnesota’s Chippewa National Forest and packaged at BSU’s Glass Fieldhouse, where it was prepared before departing for the Capitol on Nov. 3. It took a team of six to eight people approximately 25 hours to prepare the tree for shipment. The packaging at BSU was one of many visits the tree will make in cities and towns on its journey from the forest to Washington, D.C. Once the tree is installed, the lighting ceremony is broadcast live on C-SPAN.

Elected officials, education leaders, and northern communities can put her experiences to work helping students find a home where they can relax, be surrounded by supportive faculty and learn new things by involving themselves in a welcoming campus community.

Monerson went to Winona State University in her senior year as a psychology major and a minor in music. In 2004, she received a master’s degree in communications management and is a graduate of the Carlson School of Management. She has held a bachelor’s degree in mass communications with offices in Minneapolis and Brainerd. Russell leads the firm’s strategic practice in representing corporate and governmental entities originally and nationally. She has applied that experience in her leadership on foundation board as vice president and a leader in the group’s recent strategic planning efforts.

Russell was a 2006 Outstanding Alumni Award recipient. She previously served on the board from 1998-2004 and rejoined in 2009.

Colleen Greer named dean of College of Arts and Sciences

In June, Dr. Colleen Greer was named dean of the university’s College of Arts and Sciences after spending two years as interim dean. In this position, Greer provides leadership for 14 academic programs and approximately 110 faculty and staff.

In addition to her work as interim dean, Greer served as chair of multiple search committees and gender studies at BSU from 2010-12, was coordinator of BSU’s sociology program, and served as chair of BSU’s Liberal Education Task Force from 2005-08. She chaired BSU’s social relations and services department from 2002-08. She is a full professor with experience in curriculum development, strategic planning, faculty mentoring, student advising, accreditation and collective bargaining agreements.

Greer earned her bachelor’s degree in sociology at Keene State College and has master’s and doctorate degrees in sociology from the University of Kansas.

Robert Griggs appointed to serve as interim dean at technical college

In July, Bemidji’s Joint Planning Commission recommended approval for University Heights, an apartment and commercial project slated for construction on the northwest corner of Bayview Avenue and Bemidji Avenue, where Bemidji High school once stood. The commission recommended the necessary rezoning to allow for a mixed-use development with a conditional use permit for future development.

Construction on Phase 1 of the project is planned to begin in April and be completed by April 2016. That initial phase would include 42 multi-family residential and 42 apartments on the upper three levels, which would be operated by the Department of Residential Life in a manner similar to BSU’s on-campus residence halls. The university will have at least one faculty manager on site once Phase 1 is completed and called rent from student residents on behalf of the developer.

Plans call for further development in the future. Two additional phases of the project, which include a parking garage, additional multi-family units and a fitness center, will be significant residential expansion and more retail space, could be completed by the spring of 2022.

In June, Colleen Greer was named dean of the university’s College of Arts and Sciences. Previously, she also was associate vice president for extended learning and library services and interim associate vice president for planning.

Griggs holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of North Dakota and earned his juris doctorate from the University of North Dakota School of Law. He is a member of the state bar associations in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Robert Griggs is the executive director for major gifts at Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill., coordinator of public relations and fundraising at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, among other positions. In addition, he has lectured and taught at schools in Idaho, Wisconsin and New York and written works for scholarly publication.

A summum cum laude graduate of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, he went on to earn a master’s degree in English from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Jodi Monerson is university’s new director of residential life

When classes kicked off at Bemidji State this fall, a new face was overseeing residential life for the first time in decades. Dr. Jodi Monerson was named Bemidji State’s director of residential life in June, where she had been a dean for the past 14 years.

Monerson went to Winona State University intending to be a teacher. However, her own experiences as a resident assistant and the relationships she built with the RA’s and other staff in her buildings convinced her to choose a different, yet equally compelling career path of connection to her university and her adventures through the Winona State residential experience have blossomed into a career that is well into its second decade.

Monerson has a bachelor’s degree in R-E education with a minor in music and a master’s degree in educational leadership from Winona State University and a doctorate in higher education administration from St. Cloud State University.

Carol Russell ’74 became president of the BSU Foundation Board of Directors at the organization’s annual meeting in October. Russell is CEO and a founding partner of Bell & Russell, an integrated marketing communications firm with offices in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Russell leads the firm’s strategic practice in representing corporate and governmental entities originally and nationally. She has applied that experience in her leadership on foundation board as vice president and a leader in the group’s recent strategic planning efforts.

Russell was a 2006 Outstanding Alumni Award recipient. She previously served on the board from 1998-2004 and rejoined in 2009.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in mass communications from BSU. She also has a master’s degree in communications management and is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Executive Program. Russell is a member of the Board of Directors of Minnesota State Financial Aid.”
BSU FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Mahmoud Al-Odeh, associate professor of technology, art and design, presented a research paper entitled “Strategies for Teaching Online and Hybrid Courses” at the 49th National Association for Workforce Improvement conference in Portland, Ore., May 21-22. Al-Odeh also completed necessary training to become a Certified Quality Matters Master Reviewer to manage and coach peer review of online courses within the Minnesota Colleges and Universities system (MnSCU).

Dr. Jim Karta, interim dean of the College of Health Sciences and Human Ecology, and Juan Kyriopolous, teacher at the Edith Bowen Laboratory School in the Emma Eccles Janes College of Education and Human Services at Utah State University, co-wrote an article for the October issue Teaching Children Mathematics, a publication of the National Council of Teachers in Mathematics. The article was about the authors’ work in the rural Guatemalan village of Santa Avelina where students are integrating mathematics and social studies in a cultural context.

Dr. Porter Coggins, assistant professor of professional education, wrote a column titled “How Geometric Sequences Might Have Kept the Zombies Away” that was published in the June 2014 edition of the Minnesota Council for Teachers of Mathematics’ Mathbits newsletter.

Dr. Michael Urban, associate professor of professional education, in July attended the Association of American Colleges and Universities’ 2014 Project Kaleidoscope Summer Leadership Institute for STEM Faculty in South Pointe, Ohio.

Dr. Eric Forsyth, professor of human performance, sport and health, co-authored a chapter in Contemporary Sport Management (3rd Edition) entitled “Interdisciplinary Sport Management” in July. Contemporary Sport Management is written by Paul Pedersen and Lucie Thibault.

Dr. Janice Howarth, associate professor of music, presented “The Civil Rights Movement and the Songs They Sang” to open the fall season of the Headwaters Center for Lifelong Learning presentation series in Park Rapids.

Dr. Troy Gilbertson, professor of criminal justice, was part of a cohort of MNSCU faculty, staff and administrators who graduated from the Luoma Leadership Development Academy this summer. The academy is an 18-month leadership development program to promote effective leadership on MNSCU campuses.

Dr. Carla Norris-Raynbird, assistant professor of sociology, will serve as director of BSU’s women’s studies/gender studies program. She will chair the Women’s Studies/Gender Studies Council, serve on the university’s Academic Affairs Council and work with others to provide oversight for this critical area of study.

Dr. William “Bill” Scheila, professor emeritus of business administration, in September presented his academic paper on funding mechanisms for small- and medium-sized enterprises in Asia at an Association of Southeast Asian Nations conference in Jakarta, Indonesia. He presented his work with Dr. Janti Gunawan, an international business partnership consultant from Indonesia.

Dr. Patrick Wolfe, professor of economics, is nearing completion on a project to research how water levels are impacting the economic viability of resorts and other commercial water-based activities on the Rainy and Namakan Lakes and Rainy River on the north shore of Minnesota’s Voyageurs National Park.

Dr. Anton Tweet, executive director of the American Indian Resource Center, has been traveling extensively to present on a broad array of topics related to Ojibwe language and cultural preservation. In mid-September, Tweet presented as part of a panel discussion hosted by the Indigenous Scholarship Program at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla., which is exploring a collaborative effort with BSU and the University of Hawaii-Maui.

Dr. Colleen Livingston, professor of mathematics and computer science, received Quality Matters certification in August for her MATH 1100 course, Math Reasoning.

By Andy Bartlett

Bemidji State University is steadily developing alternatives for students who want a four-year degree that isn’t wholly online but live too far away to attend classes in Bemidji.

BSU now offers several so-called hybrid programs — mostly online but part-face-to-face—that allow students to complete bachelor’s degrees or achieve professional certifications on campuses close to their homes. Plus, a new business administration program at Anoka-Ramsey Community College is now offered on ARCC’s Coon Rapids campus, entirely in-person.

The degree-completion programs typically come at a lower cost than other credit-transfer options, and students still have access to traditional classroom instruction from Bemidji State professors without having to travel great distances. The university expects to continue adding locations and program options, said Lynn Johnson, BSU director of extended learning.

“The business program at Anoka-Ramsey is being looked at as a model for other programs,” Johnson said. “There are other departments that have an interest in delivering these programs to students in the metro area.”

FaxTrack teacher licensure

BSU’s Department of Professional Education set an early precedent for off-campus alternatives a decade ago when it created the FaxTrack program for degree professionals who want to become licensed teachers. Participants take coursework online and then meet in person three times a year in the Twin Cities.

The post-baccalaureate program now serves about 250 teacher licensure candidates each year. The average FaxTrack student is 35 years old and can’t manage on-campus study because of work and family.

These students can pursue licensure in music, physical education and special education at the K-12 levels, in communication arts & literature, mathematics, health and social studies at the 9-12 grade levels, or chemistry, earth & space science, life science and physics at the 9-12 level.

The program is also expanding its offerings through a partnership with St. Cloud University that will allow students to obtain certification as library media specialists.

B.S. in business at Anoka-Ramsey

BSU this fall began offering the bachelor of science degree in business administration to two-year business graduates in partnership with ARCC.

The BSU@Anoka-Ramsey program is modeled after BSU’s accredited baccalaureate degree program on the Bemidji campus. Students choose between emphasis areas in management or entrepreneurship, and all courses are daytime. Full-time, in-residence BSU faculty members teach upper-division courses.

RN-to-BSN nursing degree

In fall 2009, Bemidji State launched the first of its satellite bachelor’s degree-completion programs for registered nurses at ARCC’s Cambridge campus. The program instantly filled to capacity, spanning an expansion to Anoka-Ramsey’s Coon-Rapids campus, as well as Lake Superior College in Duluth and Century College in White Bear Lake.

These programs offer registered nurses with two-year degrees a combination of on-campus and online courses, allowing them to pursue their bachelor’s degrees while holding down full-time employment. The programs allow for full- and part-time enrollment options, with students visiting the host campuses every three weeks for lab work to complement the programs’ online coursework. Clinical experiences are arranged to be as close as possible to students’ homes.

Because of increasing demand for baccalaureate nurses, BSU is exploring additional sites at other two-year campuses in the greater Twin Cities. “There continues to be a huge demand among Minnesota’s nurses for programs like these,” said Dr. Jeanine Garvensen, founding dean of the Bemidji School of Nursing. “This is part of our continuing effort to support the ability of nurses to come back to school and complete their education.”

BSU Extended Learning

Phone: (218) 755-3080. (800) 852-7422
Email: exted@bemidji.edu

Students in Bemidji State’s RN to Baccalaureate nursing program attend an in-person course called Evidence, Practice and Profession at the Cambridge campus of Anoka-Ramsey Community College in April.

www.BemidjiState.edu | 17
By the time Bjork was 18, he had purchased a cabinet and fell in love with it. “I just love it here.”

“Eric is one of the finest students that I have ever taught,” said his advisor, Dr. Mahmoud Al-Odeh. “The quality and standard of his work is outstanding and clearly reflected in the arch.”

“Amber is frequently involved in study groups and always willing to assist students who are struggling to grasp a difficult concept,” said her advisor, Dr. Marsha Disselkot. “Among her peers, she is definitely one of the most motivated.”

When Erik Bjork graduates from Bemidji State University in December, he’ll leave behind a tribute to his alma mater: a handsome, white pine arch located on the west end of the Chet Anderson Stadium. The arch is one of two projects that have incorporated wood harvested from three 100-year-old white pine trees cut down in the summer of 2013 to accommodate stadium renovations. Bjork and three other students spearheaded the project to repurpose the wood.

“We came up with the designs, drew them in CAD, had them structurally approved and helped mill the logs and construct and build the arch,” said Bjork, who took the lead as an accomplished woodworker. He is wrapping up a degree in engineering technology with an emphasis in manufacturing management. He plans to someday own a custom cabinetry and furniture business.

“My dad had a little shop in our house...and I would build things there and tinker,” Bjork said. “Then in high school, I built a cabinet and fell in love with it. I just love hands-on building.”

By the time Bjork was 18, he had purchased his own tools and started a small side business crafting custom furniture. He spent the past four summers with a cabinet company, most recently as a project manager intern responsible for bidding, estimating and analyzing costs for shop operations.

Bjork grew up hearing BSU stories from his father, Steve, who graduated in 1986. But ultimately it was the university’s engineering technology program that most attracted him — that and the chance to hunt and fish. He joined the BSU chapter of Ducks Unlimited when he arrived.

Last year, he helped found the Beaver Engineering and Design Club, which in its first year built the arch and attended an industry conference in New Orleans. He has also received three BSU scholarships: Alumni, Paul Bunyan Communications and Kraus-Anderson.

“Erik is one of the finest students that I have ever taught,” said his advisor, Dr. Mahmoud Al-Odeh. “The quality and standard of his work is outstanding and clearly reflected in the arch.”

Bjork looks forward to his final BSU project, an independent study in which he expects to spend up to 200 hours designing and building a cedar-rribbed canoe, which will go with him when he graduates.

“He’s proud, though, to leave the arch behind ‘A person should try to leave their mark,’ Bjork said. ‘Ours will be a big arch.”

In second grade, Amber Dor of Milaca dressed up as a psychologist for career day, not fully understanding what the profession would entail. “I didn’t know anyone in psychology but maybe got the idea from a movie or TV,” said Dor, who remained intrigued with the prospect of becoming a psychologist. “I always wanted to do something to help people.”

Once she took a college psychology course in high school, she developed an appreciation for the subject matter and knew from her first psychology course at Bemidji State that she had found her passion. “I liked learning about the different disorders, symptoms and how people would think,” she said. “I like the idea of working with kids and young people, when some of those things are easier to detect.”

Dor and her twin sister, Alyssa, are first-generation college students, and she plans to be the first in her family to earn an advanced degree. Her career goal is to do counseling, possibly in a college health care center. She was recently accepted as a McNair Scholar, a nationwide program to help prepare high-achieving undergraduates for graduate school.

At a McNair Scholar, Dor will do research on racial micro-aggressions involving Native Americans in health care settings, a newfound interest for her. Dor is enrolled in the Mile Lacs Band of Ojibwe but didn’t grow up immersed in the culture. “I’ve learned a lot more at Bemidji State,” said Dor, who appreciates the insights, although her interests in psychology encompass all cultures.

Drawn to a helping profession, Dor is an exemplary leader in helping others at Bemidji State. She is president of the Council of Indian Students and the Psychology Club, has been secretary for Students for the Environment and works as a peer advisor and ambassador through the American Indian Resource Center. This semester she is a teaching assistant in the psychology department. She has also been involved in TRIO, a prep program for first-generation college students.

“Amber is frequently involved in study groups and always willing to assist students who are struggling to grasp a difficult concept,” said her advisor, Dr. Marsha Disselkot. “Among her peers, she is definitely one of the most motivated.”

Wherever her career takes her, Dor said she hopes to eventually return to the north woods. “I’d like to own a cabin on a lake,” she said. “Just love it here.”

JORDAN MORGAN

Jordon Morgan, a passionate conservation-ist and bicyclist, came to Bemidji State University from St. Peter to pursue a degree in environmental studies with a minor in sociology.

He got the opportunity to attend college when he won a Saco sno scholarship from a hometown endowment for students who triumph over hardship while doing well in school.

By the time he was 18, Morgan had been declared an emancipated minor, making him financially independent from his parents before he graduated from high school. A friend’s family took him in as one of their own and that first summer introduced him to the Boundary Waters.

“I remember thinking, ’Wow, this is something that I really care about,’” said Morgan, who was impressed by the vast wilderness. “Then when I got the scholarship, the northern woods called me back. I knew I wanted to go to Bemidji. It has an amazing environmental studies program.”

Last summer, Morgan became a Doris Duke Conservation Scholar, one of 24 outstanding students selected from a field of 400 applicants. He spent eight weeks studying conservation at the University of Washington.

“It was such a great experience,” said Morgan, who was particularly impressed by research related to climate change, wildlife movement and connectivity. “That’s where I want to do my research in the future.”

He credits his strong start in college to BSU TRIO, a prep program for first-generation and low-income students. Morgan fit the bill on both counts.

“I took full advantage of everything TRIO had to offer, and that really made the difference,” he said. “I don’t know if I would have been able to do the same things without it.”

Morgan is president of Students for the Environment and a member of the BSU Sustainability Office. He applauds the university’s signature themes of multicultural understanding, environmental stewardship and civic engagement. He has also been accepted as a McNair Scholar, a nationwide prep program for graduate school. His goal is to become a college professor so he can do conservation research and mentor others.

“When’s unique about Jordan is that he finds the good in any situation,” said his advisor, Erika Bailey-Johnson, BSU Sustainability Office coordinator. “He’s such a positive person, and that has a ripple effect on everyone.”

In the face of difficulties, Morgan sees only silver linings. “I’ve had very great people in my life — at St. Peter and Bemidji State,” he said. “I’ve been fortunate.”
Brian Leonard is first Beaver to score in the NFL | 20

Brian Leonard took the field for the Oakland Raiders in Sept. 7 game at the New York Jets, he became the first former Beaver to see action in the NFL since 1981. Leonard is the first BSU player to make the NFL under current head coach Jeff Teich, and the first since Al Wolden played for the Chicago Bears in 1982. Leonard opened the preseason with the Raiders against their hometown Minnesota Vikings at TCF Bank Stadium, and on Sept. 28 he became the first former Beaver to score a regular-season NFL touchdown. A three-yard pass from Derek Carr in a loss to the Atlanta Falcons at Wonder Bowl Stadium in London.

BSU to compete in North Star College Cup | 20

Braving the weather for the first time, the North Star College Cup. The four-team classic featuring the state of Minnesota’s NAIA Division I men’s hockey teams will be held at Xcel Energy Center in conjunction with the 2015 St. Paul Winter Carnival. BSU will open its bid for the crowned North Star College Cup trophy at a 7:30 pm. Jan. 23 versus University of Minnesota Duluth. Tickets for the four-game event are on sale now.

Beavers make NSIC academic list | 20

The Beavers’ team average of 314.2 strokes from Second Team All-NSIC golfer Charity Kimbrough is seventh in the NSIC. The Beavers, currently ranked 8th in the NAIA, are the school’s 16th member of the BSU baseball team to earn all-conference honors under ninth-year head coach Terry Belte. WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD | 20

WOMEN’S GOLF | 20

JIM SCANLAN ’85

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BSU returns with Beaver Hockey blueprint in hand | 20

By Brad Folks

An All-American goaltender for the Bemidji State University men’s hockey program in the late 1970s and early ’80s, Jim Scanlan wasn’t thinking about a career in coaching. Instead, he had his sights set on extending his playing career beyond college. Little did he know, his time playing for coaching legend Al Wolden of “Bibs” Peters would open doors and lay the groundwork for his life’s work as a coach, eventually leading him back to Bemidji State.

In June, Scanlan became the fifth head coach in BSU women’s hockey history when he was hired to replace Steve Smith, who retired after eight years with the program.

“That feels really, really good,” Scanlan said. “It still pinch me to be so honest with you to be able to come to the program at this different career, and to work with these talented young ladies, is just phenomenal.”

Scanlan’s coaching career got its start in 1984 when a former teammate pitched the idea to the University of North Dakota, where he remained until 1996. For the past 18 years, he has spent time as an educational coach and activities director in the East Grand Forks School District. He served as the Green Wave’s girls’ hockey coach from 1996 to 2005, during which he led the Green Wave to a state championship in 1996-97, prior to which he led the EGF girls to a 1995-96 season’s record, four sectional titles and four state tournament appearances, finishing as high as second in 1995.

Most recently, Scanlan completed his sixth season as head coach of the EGF girls’ ice hockey team, compiling an overall record of 110- 91-16. His 2013-14 Green Wave team posted a 26-3-1 record, earned a Section 8A championship, and claimed runner-up status in the state’s ranking, the Green Wave boys’ hockey team, finishing 2005-06 season, during which he led the Green Wave to a state championship. After the season, Scanlan was named Minnesota Girls’ “Coach of the Year.”

Now back at BSU, where he met his wife, Cyndy, and have a son and three grand-daughters, both of whom is a freshman at Bemidji State.

EARLY IN THE SEASON, Scanlan looks like the key to Bemidji State’s men’s hockey team. Scanlan is getting contributions from every player on the roster. What he may have picked up pointers from other coaches along the way and developed based on his own coaching habits, most of Scanlan’s playbook stems from the blueprint he received as a Bemidji State hockey player.

“Being a former coach has a certain comfort level for him,” Scanlan said. “He is able to come back and work here as the head women’s hockey coach is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s really, really special.”
By Maryellen Chadwick

I f your tongue gets twisted saying otolaryngology, you might see Dr. Abby (Stritesky) Meyer ‘01 to diagnose and treat it — but only if you’re a child. No matter how old you are, you might prefer to call her a pediatric ENT (ear, nose and throat) physician. A board-certified otolaryngologist with Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota—Minneapolis (University of Minnesota Physicians), Meyer enjoys the complex anatomy of the head and neck. She is fascinated by medical conditions that present uniquely in children, and she treasures the opportunity to help patients and their families navigate through challenging situations.

“Taking care of kids makes me happy,” Meyer said. “And working with families is just such a joy.”

Meyer originally thought her love of sports would transition into a career as an orthopedic surgeon. She even served as a student athlete trainer for BSU baseball and women’s basketball teams to prepare to study sports medicine. However, during her third year of medical school she discovered anatomy of the head and neck. She is fascinated by medical conditions that present uniquely in children, and she is fascinated by medical conditions that present uniquely in children, and she treasures the opportunity to help patients and their families navigate through challenging situations.

According to her BSU advisor Dr. Kerry L. Openshaw, Meyer knew what experiences she wanted to accomplish as an undergraduate student at Bemidji State University. “I never saw Abby without a textbook, even when she worked out at BSU’s Gillett Rec-Fitness Center,” Openshaw said. “The same kind of discipline she displayed as a student, she displayed as an athlete.”

After graduating from BSU, Meyer went to medical school at the University of Minnesota Medical School Twin Cities campus for four years. She then completed a five-year ENT residency at the Twin Cities campus. After finishing her pediatric ENT fellowship at Seattle Children’s Hospital/University of Washington, she returned to Minnesota to join the faculty at UM. She is nearing completion of a master’s degree in public health (MPH) in epidemiology.

Meyer said her MPH has opened up a new side of medicine for her. She volunteers with the Minnesota Department of Health’s newborn hearing screening team. They basically follow children who have been diagnosed with hearing loss.

“I think I get more out of it than they get out of me,” Meyer said.

Her professional work closely aligns with the mission of Lion’s Club International, of which she is a member. Meyer treats children through the Lions Children’s Hearing and ENT Clinic at University of Minnesota Masonic Children’s Hospital. She also raises awareness and funds by participating in events such as the Lions Multiple Distinct 4-D Hearing Foundation’s “D-Feet Hearing Loss” walk. Named one of Minnesota Monthly’s “Best Doctors” in 2014, she looks forward to doing research to contribute to her field — to make a difference. As her practice evolves, the Ogilvie native continues to learn and apply her knowledge as a more senior partner in her practice.

She also joyfully embraces her favorite “job” — being mom to sons Lincoln, 2, and Harrison, 4. With husband and fellow Bemidji State graduate Chris Meyer ‘01, who is a seventh-grade history teacher and varsity football coach in Monticello, she continues to use the multitasking skills she honed at BSU at home in Brooklyn Park.

Meyer believes prioritizing her time, helping from family and not fretting about the small stuff is really important. “Someone told me once to spend time doing the things you love. That was great advice.”

— DR. ABBY MEYER
Roger Reierson ’74 came to Bemidji State University with one idea in mind for his future and left with the skills and desire to follow his passion in a different field.

Growing up in a family of bankers, Reierson figured he would follow a similar career path. He interned at a bank and earned a bachelor of science in business administration with a marketing emphasis and a minor in finance, but photography, radio and speech classes – and the professors who taught them – opened up the possibilities in marketing and communications.

Using his degree to get his first job after college as business manager of a small Thief River Falls communications firm, Quillan and Associates, Reierson quickly gravitated toward creative and strategic work with clients.

Two years later, he and his wife, Arlene, moved to Fargo so she could complete her elementary education degree. He joined Harold E. Flint and Associates, thinking they would move on when she finished school. For the next several years, Reierson worked on accounts with the owner. They got along well, and he fell in love with the business.

Reierson and two partners bought the firm when he was 34. Those partners are no longer involved with the business. Nearly 40 years later, he’s still there – as CEO and chairman of a group composed of several marketing communications businesses, including Flint Group and AdFarm.

“Part of success is being in the right place at the right time,” Reierson said, “You also have to recognize an opportunity and be willing to take risks and put the effort in.”

Under his leadership, the business has grown from a small, downtown Fargo firm of 13 to an international business that employs more than 200.

Expansion came from aggressively seeking accounts while keeping partnerships with existing clients. They keep clients by staying in front of trends and new technology. They regularly bring in experts on the cutting edge of their fields to speak to staff and clients.

“If we don’t stay ahead of the curve, our clients will look elsewhere,” Reierson said. Reierson said he first realized staying ahead of technology would be paramount to business success when he was a BSU student. He remembers learning to program a room-sized computer with punch cards, and even then the systems changed often. Despite the speed of change, he knows it’s important to keep things in perspective.

“The biggest thing is not to get too excited,” Reierson said. “We keep a calm, even mindset about the future. We just keep doing the work and doing it well.”

Flint Group’s sister company, AdFarm, is a marketing, branding and digital agency focusing on the communication needs of agriculture businesses with offices in several locations in the United States and Canada. To work in the ag field, we need to be where the farming is taking place,” Reierson said. “Different environments require different practices.”

In 2009, he accompanied Praxis Strategy Group CEO Delore Zimmerman on an economic development mission. Praxis and AdFarm formed Prazis Africa to identify and develop opportunities in agribusiness and microbusiness in the region.

They work with young farmers to find best practices to produce food with high vitamin value. Ideally, the farms will produce crops that will not just feed but commercially benefit the village.

Reierson’s organization also works with groups, clients and a sister school in Winterset, Iowa, to help schools in Ghana. So far the schools have received 30 computers and solar lights so students can do homework after dark.

Chief operating officer Andy Reierson, Roger’s son, praises his father’s vision and ability to build relationships, always with the first priority being to help people.

“He’s a genuine person, and he wants to do what he can to help businesses and communities he’s involved with prosper and grow,” the younger Reierson said.

“Part of success is being in the right place at the right time. You also have to recognize an opportunity and be willing to take risks and put the effort in.”

— ROGER REIERSON

The elder Reierson fosters that development and growth through civic engagement on local, state and national levels. He contributes his business expertise as a thought leader and officer for many groups, including the Greater North Dakota State Chamber Association, the North Plains Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America and the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA).

One of his proudest professional moments came in 2011 when NAMA chose him as its National Agri-Marketer of the Year. Leadership, charisma and vision were qualities cited in NAMAS’s announcement of its most prestigious award.

Reierson established NAMAS’s Northern Prairie Chapter in 1986 and has served as chapter president several times.

Even though he began by pursuing a career he was not going to be happy in, Reierson remembers his days at BSU fondly and is grateful for what he learned.

“Without those accounting classes and those business management classes, I don’t think I could be where I am today,” he said. “And without the instructors that showed me what mass communications could be, I wouldn’t be in this position and wouldn’t be in this profession today.”

Roger Reierson ’74 participates in an Oct. 17 Alumni Leaders in the Classroom panel on careers in mass communication during Homecoming at Bemidji State.
More than 350 people gathered Oct. 24 for BSU’s 2014 Homecoming Honors Gala in the Sanford Center ballroom. The event included recognition of Outstanding Alumni and Alumni Service award recipients, presentation of memorial videos honoring the late Joe Luken and Peggy Johnson ’67, acknowledgment of new President’s and Legacy Society donors, and an announcement that the Imagine Tomorrow campaign had reached the $35 million mark.

Created in 1972, the Outstanding Alumni Award is the Alumni Association’s highest honor and takes into consideration an alumnus’s professional accomplishments and community service. Including the 2014 honorees, there are 182 Bemidji State alumni who have received this award.

Kirk Gregg ’81
Kirk Gregg has served as Caring Corporation’s chief administrative officer since 2002. He oversees human resources, information technology, procurement and transportation, aviation, community affairs, government affairs, business services and corporate security. Gregg graduated cum laude from Bemidji State with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and minors in economics and business administration. He attended the University of Minnesota for a master’s degree in industrial relations (MSIR) and a Sloan Fellow from M.I.T.’s Sloan School of Management.

Robert Krowech ’72
Robert Krowech founded Eden Prairie-based Heat Recovery Services Inc. (HRSI), as its CEO in 1985. Prior to Corning, Gregg was a Sloan Fellow from M.I.T.’s Sloan School of Management.

Lori (Jones) Carmichael ’86
Lori Carmichael grew up on a farm near St. Francis. She knew she wanted to attend a small school, and BSU was a great fit for her. She graduated with an accounting degree before joining the Internal Revenue Service as a revenue agent. She became a group manager in 2000 and was involved in the hiring and training of new revenue agents. Her responsibilities included receiving a variety of issues facing taxpayers, representatives and the IRS organization.

Dr. Christopher Walker’ 81
Dr. Christopher Walker, senior vice president and director of research at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, earned a bachelor’s degree from Bemidji State followed by a master’s (1981) and a Ph.D. (1986) in economics from Washington State University.

Created in 2011, the Alumni Service Award recognizes significant service contributions an alumnus has made to community, state or nation.

Randy Bowen ’73
Randy Bowen has been a tireless volunteer and advocate for Bemidji State since graduating with a degree in education. Bowen works as placement coordinator at the College of St. Scholastica in Hermantown. As a volunteer, he served eight years on the BSU Alumni Association Board of Directors, including six years as an officer, with the last two as president. As president, he represented the Alumni Association at numerous events throughout the state and region, including Commerce
ceremonies. After completing two terms of service on the Alumni Board, Bowen was asked to help lead the formation of the Alumni B-Club and was a founding member of the National Alumni Football Committee. He is the B-Club president and helps host the football reunion held each year during Homecoming.

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A parade, a game, a plunge and a party

1. Alumnae at the pre-game tailgate in Diamond Point Park.
2. Homecoming Parade Grand Marshalls Dr. Art and Judy Lee.
3. Carol Russell ’74, BSU Foundation board president, and Jeff Kemink, outgoing president.
4. International Student Organization marches in the parade.
5. Outstanding Alumni Award recipient Dr. Christopher Waller and Bucky.
6. Football team runs onto the field.
7. Beaver Block Party in downtown Bemidji.
8. Homecoming King and Queen Randall Riehl and Brittany Hull.
Tradition, pride, enrichment and a chilly dousing

1. Nearly 1,000 students were invited to graduate on May 9.
2. Bemidji MusiCamp was held July 20-26.
3. Poet Aimee Nezhukumatathil was among presenters at BSU’s Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference June 20-26.
4. Design and drawing students sketched outdoors on Sept. 6.
5. Freshman Convocation was held on Aug. 24.
6. Time for a “selfie” during the Outdoor Program Center’s Waterfront Wednesday on Aug. 28.
7. Officials and students joined in a Sept. 4 groundbreaking ceremony for the renovation of Memorial Hall.
8. Dr. Richard Hanson, president; Bill Maki, vice president for administration and finance; and Dr. Martin Tadlock, provost, took the ALS Bucket Challenge on Aug. 26.
ALUMNI NEWS

President Richard Hanson throws out the first pitch July 25 before a Minnesota Twins game at MINSCU Night at Target Field.

BSU TO COMPETE IN NORTH STAR TOURNEY; MCGOVERN'S WILL BE ALUMNI CENTRAL
The Bemidji State, Minnesota State, Minnesota Duluth and Minnesota men’s hockey teams will compete in the four-game North Star College Cup tournament on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 23-24, at the Xcel Energy Center in downtown St. Paul.

The Beavers will face Minnesota Duluth at 4 p.m. on Jan. 23, followed by Minnesota State versus Minnesota. Game results will determine the next day’s schedule.

Join BSU fans for a pre-game gathering both days at Patrick McGovern’s Pub & Restaurant on Seventh Street, walking distance of the arena. A single ticket for $80 covers all four games. To order NSCC tickets, contact Tony Barber at 218-441-4018 or tbarber@bemidjistate.edu.

Six individuals, one team to be inducted into BSU Athletic Hall of Fame Feb. 21
The B-Club Athletic Hall of Fame will honor new and former inductees at a luncheon on Feb. 21. BSU’s 2015 honorees include: Ron Barman (1976-80, Buce Edkull 1980-83), Jim Scanlan (1978-82, and Kim (Bubala) Zerr 1981-82), who will be inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame, the newest selection for the Alumni Coaching Achievement Award (Heinemich) 1967-69, and the 2015 John S. Glas Honorary Letter winner, Joe Dunn. In addition, Bemidji State’s 1979-80 men’s swimming and diving team will be enshrined into BSU’s Team Hall of Fame.

Alumni Scholarship application deadline is Feb. 1
Alumni can sponsor relatives attending BSU as incoming freshmen, returning and transfer students. The scholarship awards are $1,000 and $750 respectively. This year $4,000 was awarded. For complete information and an application, go to: bsualumni.org/alumx/programs/scholarship. The application deadline is Feb. 1.

PCI updating information for alumni directory
BSU is working with an outside vendor (PCI) to verify some information for an alumni directory project. You already may have received a postcard, email and/or phone call asking to confirm your records or update them. We appreciate your cooperation with this project.

Check out our frequently asked questions page at bsualumni.org. email alumni@bemidjistate.edu or call 218-755-3989 with questions.

6196 grads preparing for 50th reunion on busy weekend next summer
The class of 1966 will be heading back to BSU July 31-Aug. 2. Activities being planned include a dinner Saturday night at BSU’s American Indian Resource Center. The event was moved to allow participants to take advantage of the Dragon Boat Festival and other area activities that weekend.

Class of 1966-69 members should update their contact information (especially email addresses), go to bsualumni.org and click “Update your contact information here” or call the alumni office at 877-278-2586. Make your hotel reservations now or consider reserving a room on campus (Luten Hall). Visit bsualumni.org for more information beginning Jan. 1.

Three join BSU Foundation Board
Cynthia Cashman ’83, Paul Jensen ’95 and Stephen Vogt ’85 are the newest members of the BSU Foundation board. They bring diverse backgrounds and a unified desire to give back to their new roles.

Cashman of Brooklyn Park is chief development officer for the University of Minnesota College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences. Jensen, who lives in Fergus Falls, is assistant general counsel for AgCountry Farm Credit Services. Vogt of Libertyville, Ill., is chief investment officer for Mesirov Advanced Strategies, Inc. They each began three-year terms in November.

Alumni Leaders in the Classroom connects students with professionals
During Homecoming Week, the Alumni & Foundation hosted five Alumni Leader in the Classroom panels (education, accounting, business, mass communication and health professions). More than 350 students were able to learn about “real world” experiences in their fields from 24 alumni at various stages in their careers.

1’4 Anna Goldthof is the education and outreach program manager for Planned Parenthood in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. She meets with community leaders, speaks at conferences and delivers training sessions to youth. Goldthof lives in Bemidji. Chris Richmond of Bemidji was hired to serve as an inspector monitoring for invasive species at boat accesses to Bemidji-area lakes. Brian Sane is the new head girls’ gymnastics coach at Bemidji High School and is teaching second grade at Northern Elementary School in Bemidji, where she resides. Nate Hayes is a new police officer in Baudette, where he lives. Lauren Hayes is the new kindergarten teacher at Cuyuna Range Elementary School in Crosby.

1’3 Maureen Shelton was named vice president of operations and information technology security officer at Lakeview Bank. A resident of Shakopee, she will be responsible for the operation, accounting and technology office of Lakeview. Annie Ulrich has been hired as the education coordinator of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program serving Mahnomen and Becker counties as well as part of Clearwater County. She will be presenting educational programs and classes to qualifying youth and adults in such areas as cooking, healthy eating and nutrition. She will live in Bagley. Air Force First Sgt Jessica Pearce graduated from basic training in San Antonio, Texas. An honors graduate, her studies included military discipline, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles. She is from Waseca. Beau Peterson is the Farm Rich wildlife biologist with the Big Stone Soil and Water Conservation District in Ortonville, where he works on conservation programs and assists farmers in improving their land while enhancing wildlife habitat.

1’2 Amy Gunstol is teaching preschool classes at Heartland Christian Academy in Bemidji, where she lives. Capt. Mike Wedin has been promoted to the rank of captain and is the new commander of the Minnesota State Patrol district that serves southwest Minnesota. Wedin, whose experience also includes stints as a sheriff’s deputy and police officer in North Dakota, started with the state patrol in 2004 as a road trooper. He and his wife, April, live in Marshall with their three children. Grant Gmeinder of Bemidji will be girls’ head girls’ soccer coach this fall at Brainerd High School. Gmeinder previously taught on the elementary level in the district where he will serve as a substitute teacher this school year. Kate Mrazek has been hired to teach at the elementary school in Forest Lake, the district last taught fifth grade in Grand Rapids. Kimberly Grubek is employed as a special education teacher at Paul Bunyan Elementary School in Bemidji, where she lives with her husband, John. Drew Fisher has signed a contract to play another year with the Twin (MIA) Oilers, a minor pro team in the Central Hockey League. A winger, Fisher has played in 144 consecutive games and scored 72 points for the Oilers over two seasons. Dustin Sluszewicz married Ashlee Elfenson this summer. Both are employed by the Spring Lake Park school district. Ashlee is a second-grade teacher at Northpoint Elementary and Dustin as a physical education and health instructor at the high school, where he also serves on the track coaching staff. The couple lives in Blaine.

1’1 Maddie Draper of Bemidji will move from the Red Lake school system to Bemidji Middle School this fall to teach special education.

1’0 Elizabeth Grace (Becker) of Bemidji had authored three books: “The 724 Hours Miami” travel guide as well as the children’s books “A Hollywood Trail” and “A Hollywood Trip.” Another travel book is due in 2015. She works as a marketing manager for the IT staffing firm PROTECH in Boca Raton, Fla., and as a freelance writer in Miami, Fla. Josiah Hoagland is the lead pastor at New Journey Church in Fosston while continuing his career in the U.S. Army Reserve, which included drill sergeant training this summer in Columbia, Minnesota. His wife, Lisa, lives in Fosston.

Class Notes

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with one child: Joel Van Norden married Anna Dapprich in a ceremony last spring. Van Norden is a lawyer at the Waldeck Law Firm in Minneapolis. The couple resides in Minneapolis. 

Sasha (Demoret) Almendinger has been hired as an English teacher at Bemidji High School and lives in Bemidji. She previously taught in the Red Lake school district.

Shiloh and Trent Nelson (’09) welcomed a new baby into their Urbana, Ill., home this summer. Trent is an academic advisor in the College of Media at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Tara Severson (’03) and her husband, Tim, have a new baby. Severson was named program director for the new athletic director at the high school in Davis, Calif. He previously taught physical education and served as athletic director at two other California high schools. His wife, Christi, is the marketing and referral managing director at a veteran’s hospital in Roseville, Calif. The couple has two young children and lives in Sacramento, Calif.

Rachel (Korbel) Hickock is a development officer at Goodwill-Fairhaven in Minneapolis.

Shane Dagoberg has been hired as a teacher at the Silver Bay Library. A full-time artist, he lives with his wife, Katie, in Roseville, Calif. The couple has two young children.

Erik Monson formerly served as the dean of students.

Dr. Aaron Peterson is an instructional coach for special education and served as athletic director at the new athletic director at the high school in Davis, Calif. He previously taught physical education and served as athletic director at two other California high schools. His wife, Christi, is the marketing and referral managing director at a veteran’s hospital in Roseville, Calif. The couple has two young children and lives in Sacramento, Calif.

When the public talks about prison wardens, they describe a stereotypically tough, cold and hard individual. They certainly don’t think about Connie Roehrich. She was the first female warden of an all-male prison in Minnesota and finished her 35-year correctional career managing the state’s biggest lockup.

“They are surprised,” Roehrich said. “I’m a good people person, and that served me well in corrections. Wardens in Minnesota are down to earth and think about what is best for offenders.”

She carries that people-to-people attitude in retirement to help volunteer work. A member and former chair of the Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union, Roehrich serves because she believes in the philosophy of the member-driven cooperative. She actively participates on the roll Degrees board as it turns lives around to support safer communities with programs for youth, adults and families.

But her people focus moves beyond state boundaries through Partners of the Americas, a nonprofit promoting economic and social development throughout the Western Hemisphere.

“Minnesota connected with Uruguay through the program more than 20 years ago,” Roehrich said. “We have visited Uruguay many times. The relationship is strong. It’s an opportunity to visit Uruguay and share our Minnesota values.”

When Roehrich visited the University of the Republic in Montevideo recently, she met with a group of female students who share her passion for helping people.

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Katie (White) Pieper and social work at Lakewood Health Center. Chris social media marketing, graphic design and operates SandPieper Design, which provides children and lives in Pine City.

Eric Luedtke at Jacobson Elementary by Sgt. Chelsea Westby, he was named Principal of the Year. Garfield County Schools and care ministries. He teaching at the elementary school in Park Rapids, where the couple lives with their four pre-teen children ...

Jim Caldwell has joined U.S. Bank in Minnesota. He is a quality-...
Class Notes

Diane Lopf of Coon Rapids was named chief financial officer for the U.S. market of Nilfisk-Advance. Based in Denmark, the company is one of the world’s leading manufacturers of professional cleaning equipment with sales in 44 countries and distributors in 70 countries. Her office is located in Plymouth.

Susan Hawkinson presented a reading from her book “Tina Christina Sestina” at an AWU program in Grand Rapids. The book, nominated for a Minnesota Book Award in young people’s literature, tells a story through a series of 16 sestinas, a classical poetic form. A retired writing instructor at Itasca Community College, Hawkinson presents programs at schools, libraries, book clubs and other organizations when she is not writing new material. She lives in Grand Rapids. Terri Anderson-Schlader was named the Middle School Teacher of the Year in Huron, SD, last spring. She teaches special education in the social learning classroom at Huron Middle School. She lives in Huron with her husband, Dan, and their two sons. John Baldec was named the acting chief executive officer of the Port of San Diego, an organization in California with more than 1,800 employees and an annual budget of $145 million. He had been serving the past four years as the chief of the Harbor Police Department and as police chief for Brainerd and Mora prior to his move to California. He and his wife, Diana, live in San Diego and have adult children... Bill Wirtanen has been inducted into the Mesabi Range College Athletic Hall of Fame. Wirtanen retired 10 years ago as the offensive line coach and longtime coach of different sports at the college, and the school’s gymnasiu...m was renamed in his honor. He is a member of the Bemidji State, NJCAA Wrestling Coaches and Minnesota Community College Athletic Association halls of fame. He and his wife, Joan, raised three adult children from their home in Hibbing... Eric Enzer is the new superintendent of Lake City schools. He previously served as principal at Zuminda-Mazeppa for 14 years. He lives in Zumbrota with his wife, Teresa, and their teenager children. They plan an eventual relocating to the Lake City district.

Kelli McCullough is serving as the academic dean of the arts, humanities and social sciences division at Riverland Community College, which has three campuses in southwestern Minnesota. McCullough arrived at Riverland last year working a administrative position at the state of community and technical colleges, and... was named the acting chief of police at Brainerd. He plans on keeping in touch with the classroom as a substitute teacher, although working with six sons’ business ventures is also a possibility. He lives in Pine River.

38

39

Towns in Minnesota  continue on next page...
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Rick Nelson teaches sports management and health education classes at Century College in White Bear Lake. A veteran of five years in the MidCCU system, he also does governmental relations work for Minnesota State college faculty. His wife, Kaari, is the administrative assistant to the vice president of continuing education and is in a customized training at Century. They live in White Bear Lake.

Steve Adkins of Roseau couple has been teaching math to sixth-graders for 35 years. During his career, he also taught business courses for Northland Community and Technical College. He received a Master's in Telecommunications at the National College of Telecommunications.

Dr. Robert Aalberts is the school's clinical professor of business law, as well as owner of B's Liquor in Lakeville. He was named the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and his wife, Barbara, have been married for 27 years. They have two adult children.

Fladeland Rodriguez, president and CEO of Treatment Alternatives for Recovery in San Francisco, originally hails from St. Stephen, Minn. She was named the Arkansas State Bioscience Institute's 2014 Entrepreneur of the Year.

John J. Cropp is the executive director of the Minnesota Council on Problem Gambling. He was named the 2014 Outstanding Professor of the Year by the University of Minnesota’s Center for Professional Education.

The Class Notes page of Bemidji State University Magazine can be found on page 9.
IN MEMORIAM

Listed in order of class year

Joe Lueken (Honorary Alumni ’64), Floraine Nielsen (former music faculty), Joe Vipond

Information to alumni@bemidjistate.edu

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

REPORT

GREAT THINGS FOR BSU

2013-14

A GREAT MANY DOING GREAT THINGS FOR BSU

Visionary Steve jobs once said, "The only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work." In the past year, donors, alumni, board members, faculty, community members and staff have contributed great individual efforts and gifts to benefit students and ensure BSU's future.

The public launch of the Imagine Tomorrow Campaign at the 2013 Honors Gala resulted in a humbling response. If we learned one thing, it's that people are passionately committed to supporting BSU. We just needed to ask.

Countless hours of research, planning, debate, execution and questions moved us from the $12.6 million in assets the foundation held just five years ago to more than $31 million today.

Much of that progress is due to the leadership and vision of friends like Joe Lueken and alumni Peggy Johnson, whom we lost this summer. We mourn their passing, celebrate their legacies and strive to carry on their shining examples.

Their generosity and that of donors like them already is benefiting students. Since beginning the quiet phase of the campaign in July 2011, scholarship dollars awarded have grown from $772,664 to more than $1 million. That translates to 711 scholarships used fully, 4,330 credit hours.

Nevertheless, we're not done, and we are not content to simply hope we attain our goal.

The foundation and alumni boards have developed a strategic plan for both organizations: connect, educate, communicate and engage. These efforts will help shape events, outreach, volunteer opportunities and other efforts.

As I reflect on my time on the foundation board and as its president, I have to smile. I felt true satisfaction in helping the Friends of the Foundation, the Friends of the BSU Foundation, and the Friends of the Student Athlete.

As we move into the next phase of the campaign, we ask you to lend your support to the Imagine Tomorrow Campaign.

Jeff Kemink

Immediate Past President

Bemidji State University Foundation
In Tribute

By Cindy Serratore

The passing in July of both Joe Lueken and Peggy (Marvin) Johnson left their friends and communities filled with sorrow and deep gratitude for their leadership, generosity and commitment. Both were dear and supportive friends of Bemidji State University, hard-working visionaries in their communities and examples to all through the lives they lived.

Joe Lueken

In 1945-2014

A Life of Success and Service

Joe Lueken invested a lifetime into his grocery business and could have sold it for a fortune. Instead, he turned his three stores over to his employees, making them all owners. “The grocery business is who Joe was,” said Tom Welsch, president of First National Bank in Bemidji, one of his early lenders. “It was his life and his passion, and he did everything he could to see it successful and leave it that way.”

By the time Lueken was 7, he worked in his father’s bakeries in Springfield and Mitchell, S.D. He graduated from high school in 1959, met his future wife, Jan, at a dance and married her in 1962.

The couple moved to Bemidji four years later to manage a downtown grocery store, which Lueken subsequently purchased from his brother. From the beginning, business was a family affair: Joe, Jan and their four sons – Michael, Jeffrey, Joseph Jr. and David – all played a role. “Some of my earliest memories were of going to work with my dad on Sunday evenings to change prices,” Jeff Lueken said. “When we were done, we got pizza at Dave’s and went home to watch ‘NBC impossible’ and ‘Fill.”

In 1971, Joe and his wife started a third store, and Lueken worked side by side with his employees in Bemidji and Wahpeton, N.D. “He wasn’t going to ask anyone to do something that he wouldn’t do himself,” said Barry Bower, Wahpeton store manager. “You’d see Joe in the back crushing cardboard boxes and you’d think, ‘That’s the owner of the company.’”

Johnson

1945-2014

For the Love of Giving

In Tribute

By Paula Heppner (Daughter)

She taught in Mora and then International Falls, where she started the girls track and field program and coached the team to a 1972 state co-championship. Years later, when asked to serve on the board of the BSU Alumni Association, Johnson didn’t hesitate. She served eight years, and together with Sam endowed scholarships in biology, physical education and music.

Her son, Jeff, noted that his mom wasn’t “on committees - she ran them, because if there was a project, she was going to get it done.” Johnson received the Jaycey Key Woman Award and once served as state vice president. She was a track coach, golf coach and always took the lead in the annual high school reunion, summer theater and so much more. After the floods of 2002, she helped establish the Warroad Area Community Fund.

“You loved Warroad!” said her daughter, Paula Heppner. “She supported the people there with her life. No person, no project was ever too small or too big for Mom.”

Along with her mother, Peggy planned the Warroad library and years later built the William S. Marvin Training Center. She visited museums all over the country to make sure Warroad had the best. But what endeared her to so many was the way she welcomed people into her life.

“When Asian refugees arrived in Warroad, she taught them English, bringing them into her home, learning their culture and recipes. In her sophomore year at Bemidji State, she met Irene Kano, a Japanese student from Hawaii, and invited her home for the holidays. “That was just Peggy. She attracted people to her,” said Irene, who in turn introduced Peggy to Hawaii. “She loved her life,” said her best friend, Teresa Larson. “You’d call her up for a campfire – or to do anything – and she’d say, ‘We’ll be right there.’”

Johnson loved her family, the outdoors, water ski fishing, hiking, swimming, shirt kabobs and red bean salad. And she did the best cannonballs into the pool just ask her grandchildren. Even multiple myeloma couldn’t stop her from relishing every moment. “She was always looking out for her family, especially after her diagnosis,” said Paul Koski, a BSU alumnus and friend. “She said, I’m not going to miss one birthday party. And she didn’t.”

“‘She loved Warroad! She supported the people there with her life. No person, no project was ever too small or too big for Mom.”’

– Paula Heppner (Daughter)
Growth of Assets

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Scholarship Dollars Provided

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REPORT

The President’s Society recognizes the university’s most generous contributors. Members include individuals, families and organizations. The President’s Society is based on lifetime/cumulative giving to the Bemidji State University Foundation.

Growth of Assets

Custom chargers (as pictured above) are giving of $50,000 or more. The institution has received $3,479,975 in funds from 325 donors.

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*Deceased

New Member

Funds Provided

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Burger King Corporation
Lowe’s Home Improvement
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Von’s Bar & Grill
Bob & Jane Smith/Image Photography & Framing
Dr. Kathryn Smith
Robert* & Jackie Decker
James & Lois Wood
Yvonne E. Staso-Fiskum
Jeffrey P. Bissen
Dr. Robert & Sally Montebello
John & Lori Paris
Wes’ Plumbing & Heating
Julie A. Wegner
Dr. Victor D. Weber*
Rohl & Patricia Peterson
Debra F. Peterson
Northern Liquor Offsale
Mark A. Sheffstedt, MD, Ph.D.
Hubbard-Shriners Estate
Robert W. Fiskum & Yvonne E. Staso-Fiskum
Von’s Bar & Grill
Bob & Jane Smith/Image Photography & Framing
Dr. Kathryn Smith
Robert* & Jackie Decker
James & Lois Wood
Yvonne E. Staso-Fiskum
Jeffrey P. Bissen
Dr. Robert & Sally Montebello
John & Lori Paris
Wes’ Plumbing & Heating
Julie A. Wegner
Dr. Victor D. Weber*
Rohl & Patricia Peterson
Debra F. Peterson
Northern Liquor Offsale
Societal Gifts
Total Revenues Received
Dr. Robert & Barbara Alberts
Don & Susan Adity
Bernard V. Adlys
Allan Ogrendt Diment Farm Agency - business sold
Coral M. Allstrom
American Orioles of Brn Women
American Family Insurance
Dee & Linda Anderson
Ralph & Dolores Ahrens
Boris & CarolAnn Anderson
American Family Foundation
Arrow Printing, Inc.
Ors. Norman & Linda Baar
Ryan & Jean Baer
Rustie Brothers Construction/Jen Barrutto
Dr. John & Jule Barta
Bruce Creek Energy
William & Barbara Beatel
Edward & Jennifer Bebeka
Reliant Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Benjamn Ambulance Service, Inc.
Bemidji Building Center
Bemidji Medical Equipment
The Bemidji Rotary Club
Bemidji Welders Supply, Inc.
June Beyer
Kenneth & Sandy Benson
Terry & Gil Beggs
Best of Bemidji - Quarterly Magazine
Best Western Bemidji
Jon & Linda Blessing
Bob Lohoff, Inc.
Daniel & Marj Bouerter
Dr. Mel & Ruby Bolster
Howard & Rebecca Borden
Randy & Marlene Bowen
Tony & Ann Bowman
Dr. Bob & Jane* Brady
Brave Beverage Ltd
Linda Brow
Gunner K. Bridgman
Phillip A. Buhn
* Deceased
Newcomer
1999 2004 2009 2014
Total Liabilities
Total Current Assets
25,205,310
16,000,000
8,000,000
4,000,000
1,000,000
0
2009 2004 2009 2014
Total Unrestricted Net Assets
5,978,338
1,543,905
5,434,433
5,400,000
5,372,000
0
2009 2004 2009 2014
Statement of Position
Assets
Current Assets
Cash and Cash Equivalents
$52,420
Inventories
27,465,992
Accounts Receivable
2,318,143
Prepaid Expenses
2,382
Total Current Assets
32,160,157
Total Liabilities
1,098,879
Total Liabilities
6,476,338
Temporary Restricted Net Assets
$5,973,588
Permanently Restricted Net Assets
12,792,923
Total Net Assets
29,016,459
Total Liabilities
1,098,879
Net Assets
Unrestricted Net Assets
Lakeside Fund
$1,543,905
Hospice & Palliative Care
49,000
Insite Care
2,925,424
Academic Affairs/Admissions/Financial Aid
1,424,015
Plants
298,963
Total Unrestricted Net Assets
6,476,338
Total Net Assets
29,016,459
Temporary Restricted Net Assets
$5,973,588
Permanently Restricted Net Assets
12,792,923
Total Net Assets
29,016,459
Statement of Position
June 30, 2014
Assets
Current Liabilities
Accounts Payable
$3,113,780
Accrued Payroll
28,313
Other Current Liabilities
2,160
Total Current Liabilities
$3,464,253
Total Liabilities
3,464,253
Total Liabilities
3,464,253
Total Net Assets
29,016,459
Total Liabilities
1,098,879
Net Assets
Unrestricted Net Assets
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12,792,923
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29,016,459
REPORT

GIFTS

The Legacy Society recognizes and honors those alumni and friends who have provided for Bemidji State University in their wills or have exercised one of the several planned giving options available through the BSU Foundation.

Statement of Activities

Year ending June 30, 2014

Unrestricted Temporarily Permanently Total
Support and Revenue
Contributions $1,147,812 $2,192,737 $3,468,549
Endowment Gifts
Investment Income 379,163 1,870,370 2,249,533
Royalty Revenue 10,326 10,326
Lease Revenue 27,952 61,087 89,039
Increase in Cash Surrender Values
Investment Income Restricted 181 181
Net Assets Released from Restriction
Administrative Assessment 276,953 276,953 0
Investment Income Released
Satisfaction of Purpose Restrictions 2,277,719 2,277,719 0
Total Support and Revenue 4,354,656 1,578,451 1,606,281 7,539,388

Expenses
Program Services
Scholarships 1,076,785 1,076,785
Special Events and Other Services 1,884,950 1,884,950
Total Program Services 2,961,735 2,961,735
Supporting Services
Management/General 189,380 189,380
Fundraising Expenses 679,959 679,959
Total Supporting Services 868,939 868,939
Total Expenses 3,830,674 3,830,674

Change in Net Assets
524,476 $1,578,451 $1,606,281 7,539,388
Net Assets, Beginning of Year 5,453,862 5,733,173 16,323,352 25,356,251
Net Assets, End of Year 5,978,338 5,151,588 17,529,533 29,059,459

John McNichol Mitchell
Dr. Dorothy L. Moxie
Tom & Mary Moberg

Harkness

Claude Morris

Richard and Susan Morris

Betty Murray

Mary Ann Muns

Noel & Judy Nelson

Dr. Raymond A. Nelson

William & Alzheimer Nelson

Dr. John & Monica O’Boyle

Dr. Charles O’Connor

Boube M. Pardue

David & Diane Parnow

Lawrence W. Perkins

Robert & Mary Los Peter

David Potkay

Rolf & Patricia Peterson

Dr. Jeanne M. Pleson

Dr. Jon & Patricia Quaas

David & Ed Ramsey

Robert & Susan Richard

Evelyn Borgen

Dain & Tom Reigan

M. Fenn Bliss

Bill & Jean Bliss

Judy & Gene Bliss

Net Assets Released from Restriction

Total Support and Revenue

Unrestricted Temporarily Permanently Total

3,468,549

$3,468,549

1,578,451

1,606,281

7,539,388

1,076,785

1,076,785

1,884,950

1,884,950

2,961,735

2,961,735

189,380

189,380

679,959

679,959

868,939

868,939

3,830,674

3,830,674

524,476

$7,539,388

5,978,338

5,151,588

17,529,533

29,059,459

5,453,862

5,733,173

16,323,352

25,356,251

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March 2014

MARCH

21

22

23

North Star College Cup

Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul

February 5 p.m., Banquet in Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union

5 p.m., Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union

5 p.m., Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union

Varsity Singers

7:30 p.m., Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union

7 p.m., BSU Social

FEBRUARY

13

MM Music Educators Association (MMEA)

BSU Social

5-7 p.m., Mason’s Restaurant Barre

Kingston Music Fishing Tournament

Ike’s Fishing Tournament

Elk’s Fishing Tournament

BSU Foundation

5-7 p.m., Hobson Ballroom

42nd Annual Pow Wow

2-5 p.m., John Glas Fieldhouse

11:30 a.m., Briarwood Country Club

Sun City West, Ariz., Luncheon

May 8

Golden Beaver Luncheon

11:30 a.m., American Indian Resource Center, BSU Campus

21

Varsity Singers Spring Concert

7:30 p.m., Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union

21

11

8

March 2014

MARCH

7

Mesa, Ariz., Golf & Luncheon

Apache Wells Country Club

Golf: 8 a.m., Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.

8

Sun City West, Ariz., Luncheon

11:30 a.m., Brierwood Country Club

9

Tucson, Ariz., Luncheon

11:30 a.m., BLoF in Seafood Bistro

APRIL

10

Student Scholarship & Creative Achievement Conference

11

24th Annual Pow Wow

7 p.m., John Glas Fieldhouse

May 8

Golden Beaver Luncheon

11:30 a.m., American Indian Resource Center, BSU Campus

21

Varsity Singers Spring Concert

7:30 p.m., Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union

14

Madrigal Dinners

7 p.m., Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union

7

Madrigal Dinners

5 p.m., Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union

6

Instrumental Jingle Jazz

3 p.m., Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex

5

Madrigal Dinners

5:30 p.m., Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union

February 2014

5-6

EMERITI & LEGACY SOCIETY

Jeanie & Miles Bijou

BSU Foundation Annual Report

BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

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