


BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

WINTER 2012

# HORIZONS

A PUBLICATION FOR  
BSU ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



*For Tyler Radniecki,  
environmental engineering  
is the place to be.*

Engineering  
**SOLUTIONS**  
*for Our Environment*

# HORIZONS

Volume 27, No. 1, Winter 2012

**HORIZONS** is produced by the Office of Communications and Marketing, Alumni Association, and BSU Foundation at Bemidji State University. It is published three times per year and distributed free to BSU alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends. Direct comments to horizons@bemidjistate.edu or 1-888-234-7794.

**EDITOR**

Andy Bartlett

**ALUMNI DIRECTOR**

Marla Patrias

**UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Rob Bollinger

**PHOTOGRAPHY DIRECTOR**

John Swartz

**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Jeff Corwin, Grant Gartland, Tiffany Sevareid, John Borge Studios, Rob Andrew Photography

**ART DIRECTOR, DESIGNER**

Kathy Berglund

**CONTRIBUTING DESIGNERS**

Cass Benson, Samantha Thibert

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Andy Bartlett, Brad Folkestad, Bruce Lilly, Al Nohner, Cindy Serratore

**EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE**

Beth Campus, Brad Folkestad, Valerie Mason, Al Nohner, Peggy Nohner, The Johnson Group Marketing

**PRODUCTION ASSISTANCE**

The Johnson Group Marketing

**EDITORIAL BOARD**

Andy Bartlett, Rob Bollinger, Tim Brockman, Jeanine Gangeness, Bob Griggs, Keith Marek, Marla Patrias



A member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, Bemidji State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and educator. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 1-800-475-2001 or 218-755-3883. BSU Communications and Marketing 12-099



## THIS ISSUE *Winter 2012*



5

8

10

12

### COVER STORY

Tyler Radniecki is the William E. Leonhard, Jr., endowed chair in San Diego State University's Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering. Radniecki won an academic achievement award or outstanding student award during each of his four years at Bemidji State. He is now leading teams of researchers looking for solutions to complex environmental issues.

**5 ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT**  
For Tyler Radniecki, environmental engineering is the place to be.

**8 DEFEAT IS NOT AN OPTION**  
Dick Werner's life as an athlete, artist, and businessman.

**10 BRIGHT FUTURES**  
BSU students to watch.

**12 JOB READY**  
BSU grads excel in exhibit design industry.

**2 CAMPUS NOTES**

**14 OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AND IN MEMORIAM**

**16 CLASS NOTES**

**20 BSU FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT**

**30 CALENDAR**



FROM

# PRESIDENT R. HANSON

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been another banner year for the BSU Foundation. The foundation's annual report, featured in this issue of *Horizons*, shows \$2.9 million in revenue for the past year, an all-time high of more than \$16 million in total assets, and a record 302 endowments.

This remarkable level of support is becoming increasingly important to the vitality of Bemidji State University. Like many higher education institutions, BSU is seeking ways to manage declining levels of state support while at the same time keeping tuition affordable for our students. The generous support of our donors and friends allows us to keep a quality education more affordable and accessible to a broader range of students. This year's annual report shows how scholarships help current students pursue their dreams and how the passionate support of donors provides the bedrock upon which students will build their futures.

The support of our donors and friends has played an important role in another strong fall for enrollment at BSU. For the third consecutive year, Bemidji State welcomed more than 800 new freshmen to campus, and for the sixth time in the last seven years total enrollment topped 5,000 students.

The role Bemidji State University can play in the lives of these students as they shape the world around them is illustrated in this issue of *Horizons*. BSU supports current students as they put their exceptional talents to work in the classroom and in the community. BSU also helped provide the foundation for the remarkable careers of alumni who are tackling complex environmental issues, creating works of art that enrich our lives, and designing awe-inspiring installations to showcase the products of others.

These stories illustrate the value of higher education, and the vital role Bemidji State University plays in providing that education to students in Minnesota and throughout the world.

Best wishes,

# Campus NOTES



» 1



» 2



» 3



» 4



» 5



» 6

» 1 **Patrias named chief development officer at BSU Foundation** As part of a strategic effort to improve the effectiveness of its fundraising efforts, the BSU Foundation named **Marla Patrias** to the newly created position of chief development officer. Patrias, who had been BSU's director of alumni relations since 2000, will direct and oversee the foundation's fundraising efforts, manage its development and annual fund directors, and oversee its budget.

» 2 **Attendance records set at Community Appreciation Day** Bemidji State's sixth Community Appreciation Day, held in August, was its largest ever with an estimated crowd of more than 3,000 enjoying games, activities, and free food. The BSU Foundation, which plans and organizes the event each year, estimated that more than 6,500 servings of food were served. The event also helped BSU's football team set an all-time attendance record of 4,711 for its game against Minot State that evening.

**BSU waives admission fees in November** From Nov. 14-18, Bemidji State participated in Minnesota College Application Week, a concentrated effort by Minnesota's high schools, colleges, and universities to inform students across the state about the college application process. In recognition of the effort to encourage high school students to complete a college application, BSU waived its usual \$20 application fee for that week. BSU received more than 1,000 applications during College Application Week; during a typical fall week, the admissions office receives around 180 applications.

**Fall enrollment tops 5,000 for third consecutive year** For the sixth time in the last seven years, fall enrollment at BSU has topped 5,000 students. Total headcount on the 30th day of classes was 5,360, down

four students from 2010. Even with the slight decline, it is the University's second-highest fall enrollment since 1991. BSU also welcomed 831 new freshmen to campus this fall, its third consecutive 800-member freshman class. Since 2008, BSU's enrollment has grown by nearly 500 students.

» 3 **Nielsen named interim dean for business, technology and communication** For the second time, **Carol Nielsen** will serve as interim dean of BSU's College of Business, Technology, and Communication. She was named interim dean in August to replace James Maxwell. Nielsen previously served as interim dean of the college from 2006-09. She has been on the faculty at BSU since 1985.

» 4 **Jazz Band tours with noted trumpeter** In November, members of Bemidji State's Jazz Band toured Minnesota with noted trumpeter **Kiku Collins**. Collins, who has played with Beyoncé and Michael Bolton, played with BSU's Jazz Band in Pequot Lakes, Staples, Brainerd, and Grand Rapids before a Nov. 19 concert in Bemidji.

**U.S. News & World Report taps BSU as one of region's top 100** For the fourth year in a row, Bemidji State has earned a place among *U.S. News and World Report's* top 100 colleges and universities in the Midwest region. The magazine's "America's Best Colleges" rankings had BSU tied with four other institutions for 91st among all colleges and universities in the region, and 34th among public universities.

**BSU nurses at Anoka-Ramsey to receive 25 scholarships** Thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, 25 Bemidji State nursing students at Anoka-Ramsey Community College will receive \$1,000 scholarships for spring 2012 tuition. The community college is part of Minnesota's Healthcare Alliance, a partnership of school districts, higher

education institutions, health care providers, and workforce development centers. The grants are part of an effort by the alliance to increase the number of nurses in east central Minnesota.

» 5 **Treuer named to state arts board** In August, BSU Professor of Languages and Ethnic Studies **Dr. Anton Treuer** was one of four new members appointed by Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton to the Minnesota State Arts Board. The board is a state agency with 11 citizen members appointed by the governor. The board's mission is to stimulate and encourage the creation, performance, and appreciation of the arts in Minnesota.

**BSU makes G.I. Jobs "Military Friendly" list** After an exhaustive review of more than 7,000 schools nationwide, the publication *G.I. Jobs* has recognized Bemidji State as a military-friendly school. The recognition is given to the top 15 percent of the nation's colleges and universities doing the most to support and embrace America's military veterans as students. Selection criteria include effort to recruit and retain military and veteran students and percentage of military and veteran students enrolled.

» 6 **BSU hosts solar energy forum** BSU's Sustainability Office hosted a solar energy forum in September featuring the Pine River-based Rural Renewable Energy Alliance. The alliance delivers solar air heat to low-income families on energy assistance as a lasting solution to fuel poverty. The forum featured **Dr. Pat Welle**, BSU professor of economics and environmental studies, who discussed the relationship between water quality and mercury emissions from fossil fuel consumption.

## Theatre program performs PROOF

Bemidji State's fall theatre production, "Proof," opened for five shows in November. The play received multiple Tony Award nominations and won the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for drama.



### Former president Gillett dies

In October, the Bemidji State community mourned the passing of Lowell R. "Ted" Gillett, who served as BSU's sixth president from 1982-1990. He was 86. Gillett's nearly eight-year tenure as University president was highlighted by student-centered capital projects that included the construction of the Gillett Recreation and Fitness Center and the renovation of Pine Hall into apartments for single students with children. His tenure also saw BSU's Laboratory School rebuilt as the Education-Art Building in 1986 and a significant renovation of Sattgast Hall in 1989. The Alumni Arch outside Deputy Hall, which has become the unofficial gateway to the University and one of the most notable landmarks on campus, was constructed as Gillett neared the end of his tenure as president in 1990.

Before coming to BSU, Gillett spent nearly 20 years at St. Cloud State University, including one year as interim president from 1981-82.

Gillett earned a bachelor's degree in English at Gustavus Adolphus College, a master's degree in psychology from the University of Minnesota and a doctorate in educational psychology from the University of North Dakota.





# Fall Sports RECAPS

**CROSS COUNTRY** finished ninth at the NSIC Cross Country Championships in October and 20<sup>th</sup> at the NCAA Central Regional Championships in November. Senior **Kirsten Maras** of



Kirsten Maras

Anoka paced the Beavers in five of six events this year with one Top 10 finish.

**MEN'S GOLF** won two team titles and is currently sixth after two rounds of the 2011-12 NSIC Championship.



Casey Hill

**Casey Hill**, a senior from Virginia, led the team in scoring average and posted three Top 10 finishes. Under first-year head coach Mark Bagaason, **WOMEN'S GOLF** competed in four events this fall, including a team win and individual medalist honors for Coleraine sophomore **Maria Sloan** at the BSU Invitational in September. **SOCCER** finished 8-8-3 overall and tied for sixth in the NSIC with a 6-4-2 conference mark. **Kirsten Erickson**, a senior from Coon Rapids, was named Second-Team All-NSIC, while senior **Kathryn Bjorge** of Prior Lake earned an All-NSIC Honorable Mention nod. **VOLLEYBALL** finished 6-22 overall, 3-17 against the NSIC, playing a schedule featuring 10 nationally-ranked foes.



Maria Sloan



Kirsten Erickson



Kathryn Bjorge

3-17 against the NSIC, playing a schedule featuring 10 nationally-ranked foes.

## Athletics News



Brianna Duff

Brody Scheff

Brian Leonhardt

### Three Beavers named Academic All-District

Three BSU student-athletes earned spots on the Capitol One/College Sports Information Directors of America All-Academic Teams this fall. Academic All-District or All-Region honorees must be starters or important reserves with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.30.

- Soccer: **Brianna Duff**, senior, defender, Ramsey; First-Team All-District 7.
- Football: **Brody Scheff**, senior, safety, Waconia; First Team All-Super Region 3.
- Football: **Brian Leonhardt**, junior, tight end, Blaine; First Team All-Super Region 3.

### Scheff named NSIC Defensive Player of the Year



Cory Immerman

Matthew Shaver

Jesse Sundby

Senior safety Brody Scheff, from Waconia, the NSIC Defensive Player of the Year, headlined a group of 12 Beaver football players to earn All-NSIC honors this fall. Scheff was joined on the All-NSIC first team by **Cory Immerman**, Brian Leonhardt, **Matthew Shaver**, and **Jesse Sundby**. Scheff is only the third Beaver to win NSIC Defensive Player of the Year honors, and the first since 2007. Bemidji State finished 8-3 this year and tied for fourth in the NSIC with a 7-3 league record.

### New coaches hired



Mark Bagaason

The athletic department hired new head coaches for women's golf and softball this fall. **Mark Bagaason**, a 25-year coaching veteran who spent the last 19 years teaching and coaching in the Clearbrook-Gonvick public school system, joined the department in August as head women's golf coach and assistant women's basketball coach. **Rick Supinski** was named head softball coach in November. He spent the previous three years as an assistant coach at Bates College in Lewiston, ME.

### Women's hockey off to best start ever



Zuzana Tomcikova

Fifth-year head coach Steve Sertich has directed the BSU women's hockey team to its best start ever. The Beavers posted a 10-5-2 record in their first 17 games, which included four wins over Top 10 opponents and featured a road win at No. 2 Minnesota. The impressive start helped the Beavers make their first-ever appearance in the Top 10 of both national polls. Goaltender **Zuzana Tomcikova**, a senior from Slovakia, set a school record with her 34th career victory in a 4-3 win at Minnesota, Duluth.

### Men's hockey opens season with win over No. 1

The BSU men's hockey team opened its 2011-12 season with a 5-3 win over No. 1-ranked Miami (Ohio) in early October. The Beavers played eight of their first 10 games on the road, and each of their first 12 games came against opponents who were nationally ranked or receiving votes in the polls.

### Basketball teams play Gophers in exhibition tilts



David Berthene

BSU's men's and women's basketball teams each opened their 2011-12 seasons with an exhibition game against Minnesota at historic Williams Arena. Lakeville sophomore **David Berthene** scored a game-high 21 points to lead the men's team in a 71-58 loss to Tubby Smith's Gophers. The women held an early 4-0 lead in their Nov. 6 contest, but fell to Minnesota, 92-50.



# Engineering SOLUTIONS

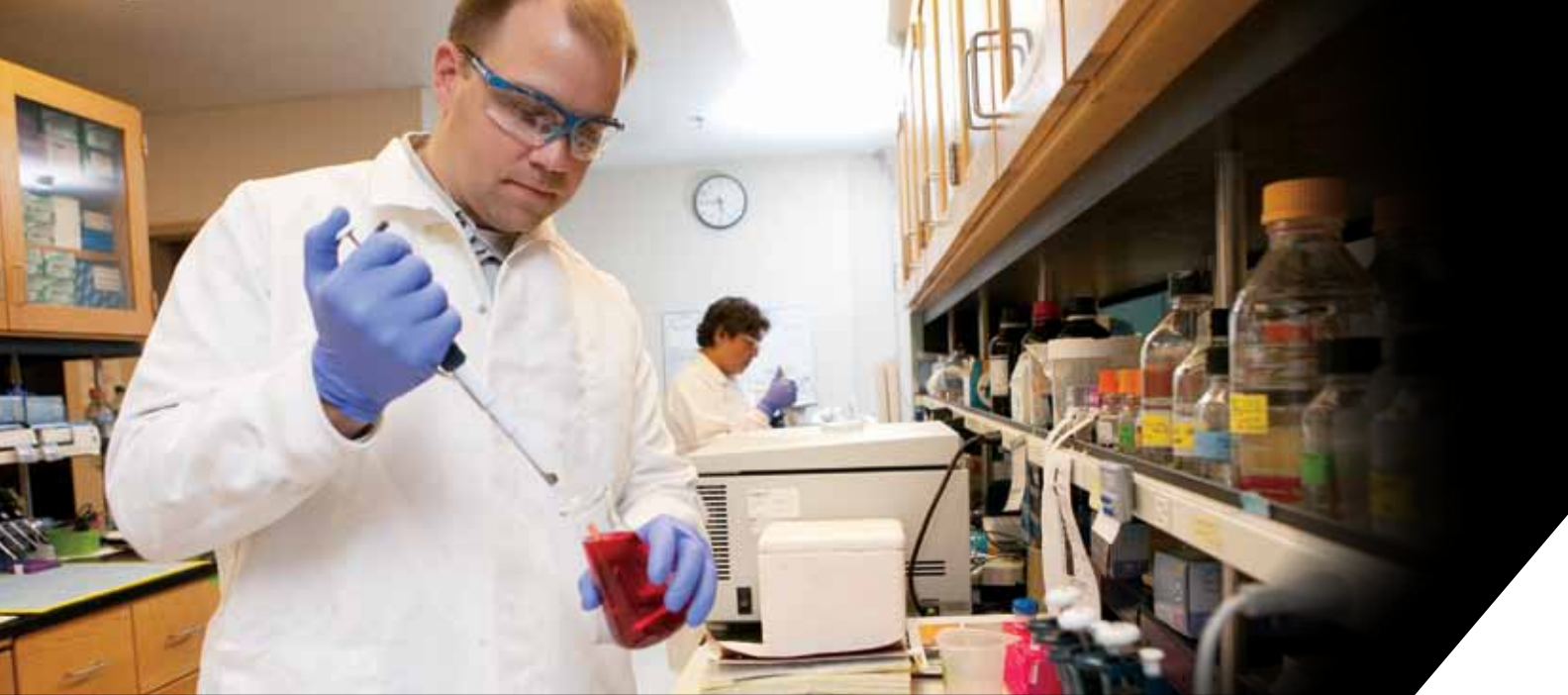
For Our Environment

*We're primarily concerned with pollution cleanup, pollution prevention, and alternative energy. This field is very exciting because I'm working on the cutting edge of many of society's pressing needs.*

TYLER RADNIECKI

FOR TYLER RADNIECKI,  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
ENGINEERING IS THE  
PLACE TO BE.

{ story on next page }



*They need to treat this water, so we've come up with a landscaping solution that involves wetlands. My research is about finding a way to design these wetlands so that nature will clean the water.*

TYLER RADNIECKI

# TYLER RADNIECKI

## Researching a Cleaner Future

{ continued from page 5 }

**F**or Tyler Radniecki, environmental engineering is the place to be. "We're primarily concerned with pollution cleanup, pollution prevention, and alternative energy," he says. "This field is very exciting because I'm working on the cutting edge of many of society's pressing needs."

Radniecki graduated from BSU in 1999 after winning an academic achievement or outstanding student award during each of his four years in school. He then earned master's and doctorate degrees in environmental engineering from Yale. In the first year of his doctoral program, he was awarded a Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation.

After completing his doctorate, he took a faculty research associate position in Oregon State University's School of Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering. This summer, Radniecki continued his rapid professional ascent by joining San Diego State University's Department of Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering as an assistant professor and William E. Leonhard, Jr., endowed chair.

Lucrative opportunities in private industry may beckon, but Radniecki prefers the university setting. "I love being an academic, being a professor," he says. "I love learning new things all the time, conducting research projects, seeing where things will take you."

It's always fun to have at least two or three different ideas going at once, because you never know which one is going to take off and lead you in a new direction that you wouldn't have thought about a year ago. I absolutely love the science, which is one of the main reasons I've stayed in academia."

While descriptions of Radniecki's work can get quite technical and include phrases such as "molecular characterization of nitrification inhibition by priority pollutants," the basic concepts are easily understandable. Currently, his three primary projects involve studying the effects of nanoparticles on wastewater treatment; seeking a solution to excessive nutrients and pathogens in rainwater runoff at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park; and studying the effects of oil dispersants, used in the cleanup of oil spills, on marine bacteria.

### Gauging the Impact of Silver Nanoparticles

The primary focus of Radniecki's lab is a National Science Foundation-sponsored project exploring how nanoparticles may hinder beneficial bacteria in wastewater treatment plants.

"A nanoparticle is a very tiny particle that is about one one-thousandth the size of a bacteria," Radniecki says. Socks or towels marketed as odor-resistant or as not needing to be washed are examples of consumer products that may contain silver nanoparticles.

"Silver is an anti-microbial, which is a good thing if you're trying to prevent the growth of bacteria in your gym socks or baby toys," Radniecki says. "But studies have shown that these particles get released from these products when you wash them, which means they are going into the sewer and ending up in wastewater treatment plants." Bacteria, Radniecki says, are essential to wastewater treatment, as they serve to degrade waste and help clean the water. "What happens if you dose these bacteria with silver nanoparticles?" Radniecki asks. "Are we jeopardizing the way our wastewater treatment plants work?"

No clear conclusions can be drawn at this point. "We see the possibility for environmental damage, but don't yet have any documented cases of damage," Radniecki says. "We're trying to get ahead of the game. We're not necessarily against the use of nanoparticles. But we want to ask how we could design the particles to be safer and ensure they are environmentally benign."

### Cleaning Up At the Zoo

Radniecki's research with the San Diego Zoo Safari Park seeks a solution to environmental issues stemming from runoff water contaminated by waste from the park's animal inhabitants.

"When it rains, the water that runs off from the safari park is too nutrient-rich and contains too many pathogens from animal feces," Radniecki says. "They need to treat this water, so we've come up with a

landscaping solution that involves wetlands. My research is about finding a way to design these wetlands so that nature will clean the water."

Radniecki's work involves identifying the types of plants and bacteria needed to properly clean the water, and then designing a wetland environment to support them.

"I'm very excited about this project," Radniecki says. "Part of the appeal of this solution is that it's low-cost, low-impact, and low-maintenance."

### Evaluating the Toxicity of Oil Dispersants

The 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico created an unprecedented environmental protection challenge. In an effort to minimize the disaster's impact on marine life, nearly two million gallons of chemical dispersants were used to break the oil into tiny droplets. "There has not been much research done on the impact of the dispersant on plant and animal life, in terms of the toxicity of oil in its dispersed state," says Radniecki. "We didn't know what would happen to organisms in the environment."

For some bacteria, Radniecki's team discovered that applying dispersant actually increased oil's toxicity. "The vulnerable bacteria play a role in reducing nitrogen from the water," Radniecki says. "Nitrogen levels increase if those bacteria die in significant numbers, which promotes algae blooms and a reduction of oxygen in the water." In this particular case, Radniecki's team found that oil dispersant is counterproductive to the goal of preserving an existing marine environment. Next spring, Radniecki and his research team will present their findings at the National American Chemical Society meeting in San Diego.

### Connections With BSU

Even though his career has taken him from one side of the country to the other, Radniecki hasn't forgotten his Midwest roots. "I miss Minnesota, especially the north woods, the lakes, the fishing, even the cold,"

he says. "I love ice fishing. It's one of my favorite activities in the world to do. I always take an extra week at Christmas just so I can ice fish longer."

A combination of academics, athletics and family tradition helped to guide Radniecki's choice of colleges. Growing up less than one hundred miles from Bemidji in Twin Valley, MN, he continued a family tradition by attending BSU. "Both of my parents and a lot of my family went there," he says.

The opportunity to participate in athletics was another draw, as he found a home with the Beaver football program. "I didn't try out for the team until the spring of my freshman year," says Radniecki, who began his football career as a walk-on. "I wanted to get used to the rigors of handling college-level schoolwork first. By my junior year, I was starting at tight end."

However, it was a strong academic program and the personal attention its students received that ultimately secured Radniecki's decision. "The environmental science program at BSU is nationally ranked," he says. "They're very well known. That attracted me. Also, I liked the small class size. You get to know your professors very well. Everyone in the department knew me and I knew everyone else."

One of his favorite memories of college life involved his membership in the Omega Phi fraternity. "One of the big activities that we used to do every year was something called

'Out In the Cold.' It was a fundraiser, but more of an awareness campaign for the homeless population in the Bemidji area," he says. "Every February, we'd spend a week outside in the middle of the quad. Every member of the fraternity would take a turn so that we'd have someone there 24/7 for a week, basically living in cardboard boxes. We had a 55-gallon drum that was used to burn scrap two-by-fours. People passing by always wanted to know what was going on, and we usually got local news coverage. You'd go into class reeking of wood smoke, and the whole classroom would smell like burned wood."

Radniecki credits BSU for giving him the opportunities he needed to stand out in the crowd. "Getting the National Science Foundation fellowship at Yale was an honor, and my work as an undergrad at BSU helped me win the award," he says. "All of my fellow students had impressive credentials, but having my senior research project at BSU published as an undergraduate put me over the top. Many of my first-year classmates at Yale didn't have that."

That opportunity to be published was just part of a strong educational foundation Radniecki says he received during his years at Bemidji State.

"BSU is high-quality education," Radniecki says. "It's a nice environment for people to learn and grow. That's what I think about when I think of Bemidji State." ■



## DICK WERNER'S LIFE AS AN ATHLETE, ARTIST, AND BUSINESSMAN

**I** don't have to win, but I'm not going to lose," says Richard "Dick" Werner. "The fear of losing inspires me more than the fanfare of winning."

This temperament has served Werner well. His accomplishments as a multi-sport athlete in high school and college earned him entry into athletic halls of fame at both the Fergus Falls High School and at Bemidji State University. The work ethic he developed in competition helped propel him into the sporting goods world and, eventually, into business for himself as the founder of two highly successful companies, R. Werner Sales and Tag Up.

There have been setbacks along the way, but Werner has a knack for turning the tables on misfortune. A traumatic experience in his childhood taught him a life-changing lesson about battling against the barriers to success. At age seven he was infected by the polio virus and sent to the Sister Kenny Rehabilitation Institute in Minneapolis, where a nurse prodded him to rise out of a slump and fight for his recovery. This nurse told him, "You can do whatever you desire, but the most important thing—and don't ever forget this—is you really have to want to."

*"I don't have to win,  
but I'm not going to lose.  
The fear of losing inspires  
me more than the fanfare  
of winning."* DICK WERNER

After his recovery, one of Werner's desires was to play sports. He threw himself into athletics at Fergus Falls High School, lettering in football, hockey, wrestling, track, and baseball. He graduated as a 15-time varsity letter winner, a school record that still stands today. Werner enrolled at Bemidji State in the fall of 1962 and continued to build the athletic resume he started in high school. He played tackle and lettered four consecutive years for Chet Anderson's Beaver football teams, and also earned varsity letters in track, hockey, and baseball.

Werner was an art major at BSU and expected to seek employment as an art teacher. First, he had to test the waters in one other profession—football. Werner had a chance to make a dream come true, receiving an invitation to a tryout camp for Vince Lombardi's Green Bay Packers. Even though he did not make the cut, "I'd go get beat up again for two weeks just to be around Vince Lombardi," Werner says. "He was a motivator. It was an incredible experience."

After another unsuccessful football tryout, this time with the Houston Oilers, Werner flew to Fargo and arranged to meet with Bob Fritz, the owner of a sporting goods store. "At that time, they needed a road salesman and it was too late in the year for me to get a teaching job," Werner says, "So, all of a sudden, I'm in the sporting goods business."

Werner has been in the field ever since. From Fargo, he took a sales position with Arch Billmire, a company in Los Angeles that represented sporting goods manufacturers throughout half of the United States and parts of Canada.

"I eventually decided that I wanted to run my own sporting goods manufacturers' representative company," Werner says. This realization led Werner to create R. Werner Sales. At its height, R. Werner Sales represented multiple product lines from several major sporting goods manufacturers, such as New Balance shoes and CCM hockey equipment, and had salesmen across the entire Midwest.

A combination of events in the mid-1990s pushed Werner to take his talents in a different direction. "One of our major manufacturers went bankrupt and the domino rolled back on me," he says. "Around the same time, the growth of big-box stores created a change in the entire sporting goods industry. Manufacturers started taking those accounts as house accounts."

Fortunately, Werner had already started pursuing a new business idea - creating personalized items for each member of a sports team. The first thought was to make individual personalized bag tags, but production costs initially made that seem impossible. However, the timing of Werner's new venture was exquisite. He was perfectly positioned to ride a new wave of digital printing technology, and these new methods led to dramatically reduced production costs.

Today, his company, Tag Up, sells products to a broad assortment of college and professional teams. "Our customers include a majority of the Major League Baseball teams, the Super Bowl, the NBA All-Star Game, and many colleges and universities, including BSU," says Werner. BSU, for example, buys helmet decals, bag tags, locker nameplates, picture plaques, and banners. "Everything is printed here in our plant in Fergus Falls."

Visually striking designs are a hallmark of Tag Up products, and Werner credits his art education at BSU for developing his design skills. "Some of my real successes have come from design ideas," he says. "If I learned one thing with my art education, it's that I learned to see and understand what I'm looking at."

Werner also expresses his artistic talents through painted wooden carvings. He began by building large, remote-controlled models of sail boats and gliders. When his grandchildren were born, he set out to make a rocking horse for them. From there, he branched out to painted wooden carvings of a carousel horse, a life-sized Santa Claus, and famous athletes, including George Halas, Curly Lambeau, Jim Thorpe, Emie Nevers, and Bronko Nagurski with Red Grange. His current project is a carving of the feared Boston Braves pitching duo, Warren Spahn and Johnny Sain.

Werner remembers his days at BSU fondly, in part because that is where he met his wife, Judy. He worked in the cafeteria and would say "Hi" to her when he saw her. Finally she said, "Is that all you can say?" As he was walking back to his dorm that night, he overheard another fellow say about Judy, "That gal is really good-looking." That was all he needed. "When I got to my dorm," Werner says, "I called her and said, 'Hey, do you want to have a Coke?' That was the start of it. We got married in the summer of 1965, so we were married my senior year."

BSU left a lasting mark on Werner. He praises the dedication of his professors and coaches, making special mention of art professor Keith Malmquist, history professors Gene Mammenga and Art Lee, and football coach Chet Anderson. He has stayed connected over the years and has lifelong friendships with some of the people he met in college. "I stay associated with BSU as my way of paying back," Werner says. "I'm very proud of my association with Bemidji State." ■

**DEFEAT  
IS NOT AN OPTION**

# BSU STUDENTS TO WATCH

Bemidji State is helping stellar individuals prepare for the future – here are three destined to do great things.

**W**hen it came time to choose a college, staying close to home was an easy choice for **Ali Hougen**. After all, she practically grew up at Bemidji State University. She was born in 1990, one year after her father, Craig, came to BSU to coach track and field and football; he later became the women's cross country coach as well. And Ali's mother, Ann, has spent 16 years as an adjunct professor of math and computer science at BSU.

"I always wanted to run in college and thought it would be cool to run for my dad," says Hougen, a four-year member of BSU's cross country team. "Growing up, we'd go to the conference meets and sometimes ride the team bus. BSU's teams always seemed like part of the family."

Hougen will graduate from BSU in December 2012 after completing her student teaching. A math education major with a 4.0 GPA, she has been a member of three BSU cross country teams that have been honored nationally for academics. For the last two years she also has been named Academic All-NSIC in cross country and indoor and outdoor track. In addition, Hougen works at the Gillett Recreation-Fitness Center and has served on the Student Activity Fee Allocation Committee and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. Last year, she received a \$1,000 scholarship as a member of the BSU President's Student Commission, a multi-disciplinary team of students who researched how to make BSU students more employable.

What impresses Dr. Randall Westhoff, chair of mathematics and computer science, is how well Hougen balances athletics, school, and work. "She is one of the most conscientious students I have ever had," says Westhoff. "She is always prepared, asks good questions, and is not satisfied until she fully understands the material."

Hougen initially planned to be an elementary school teacher, but found her math courses particularly enjoyable. "I've always wanted to be a teacher, and math has always come easy," she says.

What she has learned from her parents, she says, is to encourage young people to be confident in their abilities. Like her dad, she says she hopes to help her students and athletes become better people. She can't wait to get started.

"I'd like to teach younger grades, like the middle school, and coach middle school track, or become a school counselor or athletic director," says Hougen, noting that a master's degree and doctorate are possibilities, too. "We'll see what life brings."

**John Andringa** helps bring Bemidji State University hockey's biggest plays to the Sanford Center's big screen. After running a camera last year, he has moved into the production suite where he helps thousands of fans instantly re-live a game's most exciting moments. The Crookston native will graduate in May with a degree in mass communication and a minor in computer science. He special-

izes in video production, a field that has long captured his imagination.

Andringa got his start with video by filming his buddies at the skate park using a camera his mom gave him for his 14th birthday. He later produced a bi-weekly news program at Crookston High School.

Despite his love for video, he had planned to major in design technology or computer science until a mass media course refocused his goals.

"That was an eye-opening class for me," says Andringa. "The class required a lot of critical thinking, and most of the things that we covered, I thought, 'Wow, I never would have thought about it that way.'"

Early on, Andringa joined student-run KBSU-TV and covered BSU football, hockey, and basketball games and Student Senate meetings. "It was so much fun to have a crew together and cover an event, so I started doing extra hours," he says. His experience led to other opportunities, including camera work at a Minnesota Vikings game earlier this year.

"John is just a natural with a hand-held camera," says Bob Rossborough, Sanford

Center video display coordinator and director. "He is pretty talented for an undergraduate and has a natural feel for how to shoot. Plus you can slot him into any position."

Andringa is involved with nearly every type of media in Bemidji. He works at Lakeland News, is production director for BSU's student-run radio station, and has written for the *Northern Student*, including an article that led to improved computer security on campus. He also emceed the fall freshman dance and this past summer taught a children's skateboarding class.

Despite being his second choice for college, Bemidji State has turned out to be the best place for Andringa to develop his talents.

"I've had a good time at BSU," he says. "It's been a good education for someone like me who learns by doing." If he's lucky, Andringa intends to stay in Bemidji after graduation. He plans to job hunt in Bemidji and possibly pursue a business degree to broaden his credentials.

If there's a science to shopping, **Cheree Johnson** wants to use what she's learned

at Bemidji State to master the chemistry.

"I've always been interested in people watching and trying to understand why people do what they do," she says. "I like to shop and my parents always told me that I was a creative thinker. I'm a total bargain shopper and I like style and all that fun stuff." Her dream first job would be as an executive team lead for Target, a retailer that she says "gets the upscale side of bargain shopping."

Johnson's love of shopping grew into a fascination with people and how they respond to everything from advertising to floor displays in a retail environment, leading her to pursue a degree in marketing communication with a minor in psychology. She transferred to BSU specifically for marketing communication, a degree she says isn't offered at many other schools. She says it "combines the best classes" from multiple disciplines, including business and mass communication.

An avid Minnesota Twins fan, Johnson researched the promotion of Target Stadium for her senior thesis. She has been a member of BSU's Business Club, secretary for Students in Free Enterprise, and a student worker in the

business department. She also placed second in a statewide advertising competition and had an ad run on a Twin Cities radio station. Last summer, she helped the YMCA in Andover update its image and marketing strategy as part of an internship.

Johnson noted that much of her BSU coursework has helped develop her critical thinking skills. In one of her favorite BSU courses, she evaluated the effectiveness of various advertisements on target audiences. "It was one of the most interesting classes ever," says Johnson.

"Cheree is beyond her years professionally, always ready to hit the ground running," says Douglas Leif, chair of the business department. "Without a doubt, she'll be a leader in her future endeavors."

Johnson's original plan for college called for a school closer to her Brooklyn Park home. But as she looks ahead to graduation in December, she says her experience has made the four-hour trip to Bemidji State worth every minute. "I don't think I could be any happier with my education," Johnson says. "I've met a lot of excellent people who have prepared me well for the real world." ■

## BRIGHT FUTURES



ALI HOUGEN



JOHN ANDRINGA



CHEREE JOHNSON



JOB READY

ARIC FURFARO, FIRST EXHIBIT DESIGN. NOW A SIGNATURE PIECE FOR HAMILTON EXHIBITS.

*“We have a strong history and tradition in exhibit design. Those early professors had an entrepreneurial spirit and saw that we could have something unique that other universities didn’t have.”* DR. BONNIE HIGGINS

BSU GRADS EXCEL IN

# Exhibit Design

spring, senior design technology students present their portfolios to an audience of between 30 to 50 people, including a panel of professionals.

“I was totally prepared for any job interview,” alumna Amanda Lembke said of her portfolio review experience in 2009.

Randal Acker, chief operation officer of EXHIBITOR Media Group in Rochester is impressed with how well the BSU program prepares students as professionals. He serves on the advisory board, taught BSU’s design management course for two years, and works widely across the industry. He finds that BSU grads, like Lembke and Furfaro, are standouts in the field. “The professionals who have hired these graduates have only positive things to say,” notes Acker. “One employer told me he wouldn’t consider hiring anyone but a BSU grad.”

Like most students, Lembke, who grew up in Burnsville had never heard of exhibit design until she arrived at Bemidji State. She

graduated with a design technology degree and then returned to BSU for a master’s degree in career and technical education.

“In high school, I had wanted to be an interior decorator, but it’s hard to make a living at that,” says Lembke. “When I was exposed to exhibit design with 3D design, I found it was more of what I wanted.”

As a BSU student, Lembke attended the EXHIBITOR show in Las Vegas three times, presented at an EDPA regional chapter meeting, taught as a BSU graduate assistant, and networked whenever she could.

Because of her BSU education and industry connections, Lembke had multiple job offers before accepting a position this summer with Chicago-based Freeman Co., one of the nation’s largest trade-show design firms.

“The experiences I had at BSU were perfect for getting a job,” says Lembke, who adds that her job has been a perfect fit. “You do something 100 percent different every day. It’s always challenging, always exciting.”

Furfaro, too, is happy with his work. “I love my job,” he says. “When I was going to school I wondered how having a job would be, and it’s exactly as I envisioned. I’m doing exactly what I went to college for.” ■

**A**ric Furfaro describes his first big job interview as a whirlwind romance, one that could not have been scripted better than how it actually turned out.

A Bemidji native, Furfaro graduated from Bemidji State University in May, 2010, with a degree in design technology and an emphasis in exhibit design. Barely two months later, BSU faculty informed him that Indianapolis-based Hamilton Exhibits needed a designer and asked if he would be interested in applying for the position.

“It was the most surprising opportunity ever,” says Furfaro, who admired the firm’s work. “I sent my information, website, and portfolio. The next day they called and said, ‘When can you fly here, tomorrow?’ I left the next morning and spent the day in Indianapolis. When they dropped me at the airport, they left me with an envelope in hand. They offered me the job.”

Furfaro moved to Indianapolis two weeks later, and his first big project became a signature piece for Hamilton. He designed a 50-by-100 foot, two-story custom exhibit for Cummins Inc., a global leader in engine design and manufacture. The client was so impressed with Furfaro’s work that it insisted on sending him to Las Vegas to see its debut.

“Walking onto the show floor and seeing it was like, ‘Holy cow, it’s real!’” says Furfaro. “Four and a half years ago I was just starting college, and here I was standing in front of something I had designed.”

Although his work is one-of-a-kind, Furfaro notes that his whirlwind courtship by Hamilton is not an uncommon experience for BSU exhibit design students. “It shows the kind of reputation BSU has in the exhibit design world,” says Furfaro.

Bemidji State is the only four-year institution in the country offering a specialization in exhibit

design. As part of BSU’s design technology program, exhibit design students learn to develop concepts from thumbnail sketches to 3D designs and floor-ready exhibits. The program works closely with the industry, so students are well-networked throughout their academic experience, says Dr. Bonnie Higgins, associate professor of design technology. One industry partner, Skyline Exhibits of Eagan gave a ringing endorsement of the program this fall when it established a scholarship to cover a full year of tuition for one upper-level exhibit design student.

“We have a strong history and tradition in exhibit design,” says Higgins, crediting program founders such as professor emeriti Dr. Kermit Anderson. “Those early professors had an entrepreneurial spirit and saw that by working with the industry and creating exhibit design courses, we could have something unique that other universities didn’t have.”

BSU’s exhibit design students work closely with EXHIBITOR Media Group and the Exhibit Designers and Producers Association (EDPA).

Those organizations sponsor a booth displaying work by BSU students at the annual EXHIBITOR show in Las Vegas. The association also sponsors a mentorship program that pairs each student in the program with an exhibit design professional for an entire academic year.

The design technology program also draws on an advisory board of more than 50 industry professionals who guide program curriculum, offer lectures or workshops, and serve on senior portfolio review panels. Each

AMANDA LEMBKE, EXHIBIT DESIGN.





# OUTSTANDING ALUMNI



TRENT BAALKE '87

## Trent Baalke '87

In January 2011, Trent Baalke was named general manager of the NFL's San Francisco 49ers after spending five years in the organization as a regional scout, director of player personnel, and vice president of player personnel.

Baalke, a 1987 Bemidji State graduate with a degree in health and physical education, played football for the Beavers from 1982-86 and helped the program get back on a winning track. He recorded 169 tackles during his four-year career, was named All-Northern Intercollegiate Conference in 1985 and helped the Beavers finish as high as third in the conference. After leaving BSU, he was a graduate assistant for the North Dakota State football program that finished 14-0 and won a national championship in 1990. He later coached at South Dakota State before entering the NFL in 1998 as a scout with the New York Jets. Later, he was a national scout and college scouting coordinator with the Washington Redskins before joining the 49ers in 2005.

After graduating from BSU, Baalke earned a master's degree in educational administration from North Dakota State. He lives in Loveland, CO, with his wife, Beth, who also is a BSU alum. They have two daughters, Katlynn and Cassie.

## Seeking Nominations

The Alumni Association is seeking nominations for Outstanding Alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame. The majority of the nominations for both awards come from other alums and friends of the candidate and we thank you for the time and effort put into bringing the achievements of these alumni to our attention. Nomination forms can be found on the Alumni Association website at [www.bsualumni.org](http://www.bsualumni.org). Click on the Alumni tab and then Awards.



BILL HAWKINS '74

## William "Bill" Hawkins '74

After graduating from Bemidji State in 1974, Bill Hawkins spent six years teaching high school English and coaching at Columbia Heights and St. Francis high schools before deciding to focus his efforts on Hawkins Enterprises, Inc., a company he founded in 1978. Since then he has become one of the most sought-after sales and marketing consultants in the country and speaks to tens of thousands of people annually. He has authored a highly successful series of talks on electronic commerce and the future of the Internet, and also developed a business training series that has been translated into 11 languages. A charter member of Worldwide Group, LLC, Hawkins serves on its board and has helped develop much of the training and education that organization delivers around the world. He also sits on the board of directors for the Independent Business Owners Association International and was chairman of the IBOAI in 2008. The IBOAI is the largest small business trade association in the world.

Hawkins has been involved in a number of philanthropic efforts and ministries. In 1997, he coordinated flood relief for Grand Forks, ND, and helped raise more than \$500,000 to help that community's rebuilding efforts. He recently joined the BSU Foundation Board of Directors.

Hawkins lives in Ramsey with his wife Sandy. They have two grown daughters, Kristen and Katie.



MICHAEL ROBERGE '90

## Michael Roberge '90

Since graduating from Bemidji State in 1990 with degrees in accounting and business administration, Michael Roberge has quickly risen through the ranks of the financial investing world. Today, he manages a global firm with assets worth more than \$200 billion. He joined Moody's Investor Services in 1991 as a municipal bond analyst, holding that position for four years. He moved to Boston in 1994 to join Colonial Management Associates as a senior bond analyst and portfolio manager. A year later, he joined MFS as an analyst and has been with the company ever since. He started as a manager of fixed income portfolios and quickly became its U.S. chief investment officer in 2006. In 2010, he was named president and global investment officer and currently oversees a team that manages assets from more than 50 countries.

Roberge currently serves as the president of the Boston Security Analysts Society and is on the board of Horizons for Homeless Children, which serves children in family shelters across Massachusetts. He also participates in Boston-based non-profit organizations, City Year and Jumpstart.

Roberge, who earned an MBA from Hofstra University after leaving BSU, lives in Wayland, MA, with his wife Tracy. They have two daughters, Hannah and Emily.



AUSTIN WALLESTAD '70

## Austin Wallestad '70 ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

Austin Wallestad, winner of the first BSU Alumni Service Award, was an All-America performer on BSU's men's hockey team from 1966-69. He helped guide the Beavers to NAIA national championships in 1968 and 1969 before graduating in 1970. He taught physical education and health in Illinois until 1978, when he moved to California to manage and own Jack-in-the-Box restaurants. He started as an assistant manager and, by 1988, was a district manager for the chain. He eventually owned about 20 restaurants before retiring in 2010. Wallestad received numerous awards and honors for his work in the restaurant industry and community involvement, including Jack-in-the-Box Franchise Operator of the Year; Lion of the Year and Melvin Jones Fellow from Lion's Clubs in Madera, CA; Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the Fresno/Madera Police Chiefs Association; and 1999 Sam Walton (Walmart) Business Man of the Year.

Wallestad has been a board member and president of numerous community associations, including the Madera County Arts Council, the Madera Chamber of Commerce and the Madera Lion's Club. He also served nine years on Bemidji State's alumni board from 2000-09.

Wallestad lives in Bemidji with his wife Paula. They have three grown children, Mary, Mike, and Amanda.



NATE SANNES '05

## Nathan "Nate" Sannes '05 YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

Former Bemidji State quarterback Nathan Sannes is the recipient of BSU's inaugural Young Alumni Award. Sannes, who graduated magna cum laude with a degree in business administration in 2005 and a dual emphasis in finance and management, set a school football career record for completions and tied the school career mark for passing touchdowns. He also set numerous other single-season and single-game passing records and was named the BSU male athlete of the year in 2005-06. After graduation, he joined Federated Insurance as a marketing development trainee. He rose to his current position of district marketing manager with responsibility for 10 sales territories in Minnesota and North Dakota. He also serves as Federated's recruiter for Bemidji State. Sannes has won a dozen awards from Federated during his brief time with the company, including four Chairman's Council Awards, the company's highest honor.

He is a Life Underwriting Training Council Fellow and is co-chair of Bemidji State's national football alumni committee.

Sannes lives in Alexandria with his wife Abby. They have one daughter, Emma, and a newborn son, Riley.

## ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The BSU Athletic Hall of Fame has three award categories. To be eligible for consideration for the first two alumni awards, former athletes must have earned an athletic letter at BSU, have attended BSU for at least two years, and not have graduated from another university. Nominations are due by March 1, 2012.

**Outstanding Alumni Award** The Outstanding Alumni Award is the highest honor presented by the BSU Alumni Association. The recipients of the award bring much recognition to their alma mater through distinguished professional achievements. All nominees must have graduated no less than 10 years ago from Bemidji State University.

**Alumni Service Award** Initiated in 2011, the Alumni Service Award is given to a Bemidji State graduate who has made significant volunteer and service contributions to their community, state or nation.

**Young Alumni Award** Initiated in 2011, the Young Alumni Award recognizes Bemidji State graduates 40 years of age or younger who have had outstanding achievement in career, public service and/or volunteer activities.

**Athletic Hall of Fame** This award focuses almost solely on an alum's accomplishments while an athlete at Bemidji State University.

**BSU Alumni Coaching Achievement Award** This award recognizes former BSU athletes whose major accomplishments were in the field of coaching after leaving BSU.

**BSU Coaches Hall of Fame** BSU has a long tradition of exemplary coaches and this award recognizes those individuals whose significant accomplishments were achieved while coaching at Bemidji State University.

Spring 2012  
SAVE THE DATE

**Athletic Hall of Fame Weekend, Bemidji**  
Friday and Saturday, February 10 - 11

**BSU Alumni Night at the Wild, Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul**  
Saturday, February 11

**MN Music Educator's Association BSU Alumni Reception, Hell's Kitchen, Minneapolis**  
Friday, February 17

**Twins Spring Training Game vs. New York Yankees, Hammond Stadium, Ft. Myers, FL**  
Sunday, March 11

**Alumni and Friends Gathering in The Villages, FL**  
At the home of Tom and Sandy Richard  
Tuesday, March 13

**Alumni and Friends Golf Outing and dinner in the Phoenix, AZ**  
Thursday, March 22

**Alumni and Friends Gathering in San Diego, CA**  
At the home of Tom and Joanne Heaviland  
Saturday, March 24

Contact the Alumni Office to register or for more information:

218-755-3989 or 1-877-278-2586 (toll free)  
alumni@bemidjistate.edu  
www.bsualumni.org

## WINTER 2011 IN MEMORIAM

Joe Bowman '67, Lengby, MN  
Gloria A. (Bergland) Danielson '51, Gonvick, MN  
Wanda (Melby) Dishman '60, Portland, OR  
Dr. Lowell "Ted" Gillett (President Emeritus), Bemidji, MN  
Beulah F. Gregoire '40, Hudson, WI  
Larry D. Grimm '75, St. Paul, MN  
Jean E. (Jorgenson) Hall '71, Grand Rapids, MN  
June L. (Nasvik) Johnson '49, San Diego, CA  
Margaret E. (Anderson) Lindholm '67, Roseau, MN  
David R. Neby '76, Duluth, MN  
William R. Prickett '62, Bruno, MN  
Ann K. (Wick) Promersberger '36, Fargo, ND  
Francis R. Ramiller 1946-49, Mt. Morris, MI  
Barbara A. Reitter '78, Bemidji, MN  
Richard H. Smith '70, Hackensack, MN  
David W. Stone '64, Palmer, AK  
Renee K. (Sherman) Tomatz '71, Hibbing, MN  
Frances L. Torgerson '45, McIntosh, MN  
Fern B. (Sieckert) Tupper '68, Northome, MN  
Patricia A. Uppgaard '86, Pequot Lakes, MN  
Tyler M. Vagle '09, Portland, OR  
Philip Van Wynen '73, Crystal Lake, IL  
William B. Warde, Jr. '58, Denton, TX  
Gary A. Zaverl '66, Ely, MN  
Eileen G. Zierman '70, Minneapolis, MN

# CLASS NOTES

Note: Towns are located in Minnesota unless otherwise noted. Alumni names appear in bold.

Send your information to [alumni@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:alumni@bemidjistate.edu) or call toll free: 1-877-BSU-ALUM.

**II** **Nicole Marron** is an assistant teacher in the Community 3's preschool program at Lakeview School in Cottonwood. A resident of Marshall, she is working on developing motor skills and academic and social skills in addition to teaching pre-K basics ... **Kelly Landsverk** is teaching science at Waconia High School. She is originally from Fosston ... **Abby Bloomquist** is teaching language arts at the area high school in Blue Earth. She is from Faribault ... **Cheryl Middendorf** is opening Raptor Fitness in Grand Meadow. The business is based on a variety of classes that motivate clients to meet their fitness goals. She is originally from Sauk Centre. Her partner in the endeavor is **Chad Doocy ('09)** ... **Erin McClenahan** has been hired as a GIS technician in the West Fargo, ND, office of Moore Engineering. Moore is a civil and environmental engineering firm with offices in Minnesota and North Dakota. McClenahan lives in West Fargo ... **Ryan Cramer** has signed a contract to play for the Tulsa (OK) Oilers of the Central Hockey League. The Oilers are affiliates of the Colorado Avalanche of the National Hockey League and the Lake Erie Monsters of the American Hockey League. Originally from International Falls, the former BSU skater calls Rio Rancho, NM, his hometown ... **Seth Schmitz** of Red Lake Falls is a science teacher at Lake of the Woods School in Baudette ... **Marissa Mackedanz** of Paynesville has been hired as a kindergarten teacher in McGregor ... **Brendin Ketchum** of Nisswa recently joined LarsonAllen as a staff accountant in the firm's Brainerd office. LarsonAllen is an accounting and financial advising firm with offices across the region ... **Amanda Kinzler** married Nicholas Tritz in September. The couple lives in Glencoe, where she works as a registered nurse and he as a line worker ... **Brian Quigley**, originally from Coon Rapids, accepted a position teaching technology at Red Wing High School.

**IO** **Cody Bartz** was selected for the Grand Cities Art Fest emerging artist program in the Grand Forks, ND, and East Grand Forks area. More than 200 applied for the program with three chosen to exhibit their work at the Art Fest and to receive mentoring to assist in marketing their works. A resident of Bemidji, Bartz enjoys creating 2D and 3D art, and lately has focused on screen printing that combines computer and handmade elements in a collage style ... **Jill Thalmann** is a kindergarten teacher at Kingsland Elementary School in Spring Valley. Originally from Ottertail, she is looking to relocate to Spring Valley ... **Nick Furnstahl** of Thief River Falls teaches third- and fourth-grade social studies at Red Lake County Central Elementary School in Plummer. He will also help to coach the district's seventh- and eighth-grade girls' basketball teams ... **Joe Gould** has announced he is seeking DFL endorsement to run for the Minnesota District 3B House seat. Gould lives in Grand Rapids and is employed by Mediacom

Communications, an Internet, phone and cable TV service provider ... **Megan Seery** of Lexington joined the Primary School staff in Cambridge as a special education teacher ... **Rick Frentress** is the new industrial technology teacher for schools in Willow River, which he now calls home ... **Marilyn Upgren** is an exercise physiologist in the cardiopulmonary department and fitness center at Clearwater Health Services in Bagley. From Turtle River, she will provide inpatient and outpatient cardiac rehab, adult fitness, and health wellness consultation and support ... **Ryan Lindberg** joined the U.S. Army under the Delayed Entry Program and reported to Fort Benning in Columbus, GA, for basic training this fall.

**'09** **Chad Doocy** is opening Raptor Fitness in Grand Meadow. The business is based on a variety of classes that motivate clients to meet their fitness goals. His partner in the endeavor is **Cheryl Middendorf ('11)**.

**'08** **Matt Anderson** has been hired as the new recreation coordinator for Princeton Community Education. In this capacity, he will organize recreational activities and select coaches for sports teams. He previously worked at the high school in his current home of Zimmerman ... **Matt Pope** is skating with the South Carolina Stingrays of the East Coast Hockey League, a minor circuit affiliated with the National Hockey League. Pope, who played last year with San Antonio of the American Hockey League, is from Langley, BC, Canada ... **Rachel Hasbargen-Glowack** is teaching English at Rainy River Community College in International Falls. She previously taught at International Falls High School and Nashwauk-Keewatin High School. At Rainy River, she is teaching literature, developmental reading, and writing courses. She and her husband, Marc, live in Nashwauk ... **Serena Jackson** married **Andrew Christensen ('07)** last summer in Eden Prairie. Serena works in the Bloomington School district while Andrew is employed with American Family Insurance. The couple makes their home in Richfield.

**'07** **Patti Schmidt** is teaching special education at Deer River High School. She previously taught in the same program at the high school in Grand Rapids, where she resides with her husband, Arnold ... **Peter Larson** will teach seventh- and eighth-grade social studies, serve as dean of students, and coach wrestling in an assistant capacity at Red Lake County Central High School in Oklee. His prior experience includes four years at Naytahwaush Community Charter School. He and his wife, **Sarah ('07)**, have two young children and live in Bagley ... **Jessica (Kingsley) Heisel** was a featured speaker at a pageant in Wadena where she discussed multiple sclerosis. She sought fundraising support for the Twin Cities Multiple Sclerosis Chapter Walk, which she completed this fall. Heisel, selected as Miss Wadena in 2002, was diagnosed with MS a year ago and has been active in the Minnesota chapter of the

MS Society. She is employed as a water quality analyst with the Metropolitan Council and lives in St. Paul with her husband, David ... **Andrew Miller** is the founder and artistic director of From Age to Age, a chamber ensemble of vocal artists focusing on performance, outreach and education. The unaccompanied vocal group has performed at American Choral Directors Association meetings in Iowa and Minnesota. It was also highlighted as a regional spotlight group by Minnesota Public Radio in 2010 and will be featured on the Classical Minnesota Public Radio holiday CD *A Taste of the Holidays*. Miller, who lives in Mandan, ND, is currently director of choral activities at Bismarck State College, where he teaches and conducts the concert choir, chamber singers, and a women's chamber ensemble ... **Ben Westlie** has published *Sometimes Out of Turn*, a collection of original poetry about personal experiences and ideas. Westlie lives in St. Cloud and is an adjunct instructor at Rasmussen College ... **Tricia Severson** has been appointed national social media advisor for Adz National, an affiliate of the American Advertising Federation and the Advertising Federation of Minnesota representing advertising professionals younger than 32. Severson is the president of Adz Minnesota, which facilitates the networking, professional development, and leadership opportunities individuals need to succeed. Severson lives in Hopkins and works at Partners & Hunt Creative Group.

**'05** **Rob Jarrett** is a member of the police department in Zumbrota, where he lives. He has five years of experience in law enforcement ... **Kit Grayson** is working as an environmental scientist for Barr Engineering in Duluth, where he assists clients in complying with regulatory requirements for air, water, and waste. He worked for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for six years before joining the firm last January. Barr provides engineering and environmental consulting services across the U.S. and Canada. Grayson lives in Duluth ... **Maija Harju** married Joseph Bolen last spring on the north shore of Lake Superior. The couple resides in Fergus Falls, where Maija is a social worker and Joseph works as a heavy equipment operator ... **Lindsay (Bromenshenkel) and Andy Bronczyk ('03)** recently purchased a new home in Cologne and welcomed a daughter to their family, which also includes a young son. Both work at Emerson Process Management, she as a technical process analyst and he as a design engineer.

**'04** **Briana Frenzel** is a first-year doctoral student in criminology and criminal justice at Arizona State University in Phoenix, where she received a social work master's degree in 2008. She has focused her study on the forensic aspects of social work, co-facilitated a treatment group for prostituted women in the community, and interned with the victim services unit of the Chandler Police Department. Her research interests include trauma and abuse recovery programs in prisons; offender motiva-

tion; ecology of crime; international comparative criminology; motivation of hostage takers; and the impact of public perception on the effectiveness of policing. She lives in Phoenix, AZ ... **Brent Jergens** helped run a science camp this summer in Milaca with programs for K-3 youngsters and students in grades four through nine. He is in his fifth year of teaching science at Faith Christian School near Foreston. He and his wife, **Allison**, live in Milaca ... **Justin Martin** married Bekah Bogenriehl last spring. The couple lives in Prior Lake and works in the Twin Cities; Justin works for Lifetouch Photography and Bekah works at Baker Tilly, a full-service accounting firm.

**'03** **Marty Humeniuk** has been hired as a business officer at Border State Bank in Baudette. He was previously employed by Federated Mutual Insurance Company and Selective Insurance Company. He and his wife, **Heather (Hoffman, '04)**, have four young children ... **Angela Schmidt** is the office manager and handles employer relations with the career services office at Bemidji State University. Schmidt had previously worked at the Century 21 real estate agency. She and her husband, **Danny**, live in Bemidji, where he works as a materials quality control manager for Knife River ... **Beth Hajek** is the new counselor for Wabasha-Kellogg schools. She will advise the student council in addition to serving as the only full-time counselor in a district of 600 students. Hajek had previous counseling experience in both New Ulm and Glenville-Emmons school systems. She currently lives in Winona.

**'02** **Kari (Larson) Sprenger** and her husband, Chris, recently welcomed a second daughter to their family. Kari works as a freelance designer from home after leaving Marvin Windows, where she worked for five years as a quality assurance coordinator. Chris works at Marvin's window manufacturing plant as an electrical engineer. They live in Warroad.

**'01** **Mike Benke** is director of facilities and operations at Lewis-Clark State College in his current hometown, Lewiston, ID. Lewis-Clark is a public, four-year college in Idaho and has an enrollment of more than 4,000 students.

**'00** **Erin (Sopp) Hanson** won the Fox 9 News 2011 Top Teacher Award last spring. A kindergarten teacher at Poplar Bridge Elementary School in Bloomington, she was nominated for the honor by a mother of one of her students. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband, Billy, and two children.

**'99** **Amber (Martin) Block** is starting her fourth year as an urgent care nurse at Lakewood Health System in Staples. She also recently bought a new house in Wadena for her family, which includes a young daughter.

**'98** **Heidi Fritz** and Jason Rewitzer were married last spring in New Ulm, where

they live. Heidi is a fourth-grade teacher at Washington Elementary School in New Ulm and Jason works at 3M in Hutchinson ...

**'97** **Norma (Thorstad) Knapp** collaborated with illustrator Faythe Mills on the book *Missing My Best Friend*. Knapp's story tells of the friendship between two young boys, the subsequent grief when one dies, and the power of a family's love. It is a resource for parents, teachers, pastors, social workers, counselors, therapists, and others who work with grieving youngsters. Knapp, whose career resumé includes work as a registered nurse, educator, crisis counselor, youth specialist, and bereavement facilitator, has always enjoyed writing. She has published non-fiction, short stories, essays, and poems in a variety of venues. When not reading, writing or creating note cards in her Alexandria home, she enjoys travelling and spending time with her two adult children and four grandchildren ... **Glen Drexler** has been named the head coach of the University of Wisconsin-Superior men's and women's cross country and track and field teams. Drexler was selected for the position after serving in that capacity on an interim basis for the past year. A longtime assistant coach at the university, Drexler previously coached at Martin Luther College, the University of Minnesota Duluth, and St. Scholastica. He lives in Duluth.

**'96** **Ken Alexander** will help lead the Pelican Rapids schools' 21st Century Learning Program. The federally funded program is designed to meet children's needs by enhancing learning opportunities and life skills for students and parents. Alexander previously taught in La Crescent, South St. Paul, White Bear Lake, and Byron. He lives in Rochester with his wife, Rui Yang ... **Heather (Harrington) Forse** is the new assistant principal at Crossroads Alternative High School in Coon Rapids. Her interest in the position was prompted by the challenge of working with at-risk students in an alternative high school setting. She had spent 12 years in St. Paul schools and three in Champlin Park High School. She resides in Minneapolis ... In 2006, **Laurie (Deick) Daudt** and her brother, Kevin Deick, combined their talents to create D and D Custom Laser Designs. Daudt was in charge of marketing their fine-line laser wood products while Deick handled design and production. In 2008, Cabela's began ordering switch and socket plates from the entrepreneurs. Their product line was expanded to magnets, key chains, coasters, etched wedding and anniversary glasses, and picture frames. Their most recent popular products are cribbage boards with lake and outdoor imagery. Daudt left her full-time job in 2009 to become more involved with D and D, where she now oversees customer relations, website management and accounting. She and her husband, Jim who also works part-time in the firm,

{ continued on next page } ►

# CLASS NOTES

{ continued from page 17 }

live in Randall ... **John Ott** has been hired to work with emotionally and behaviorally disordered and learning-disabled students at Kenyon-Wanamingo High School. He recently taught special education and physical education for the public school system in Prescott, WI. He also has teaching experience at five school districts in Minnesota and served on the faculty at Northland Community and Technical College. He lives in Farmington with his wife, Liz ... **Gino Anselmo** is the chief executive officer and superintendent of the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Togo, formerly known as Thistledeew. Anselmo worked for the Minnesota Department of Corrections in a variety of capacities for 17 years before being named to his new post. MCF-Togo serves all Minnesota juvenile county courts and provides agencies with alternative residential programs, including three-week sessions for teenage boys and girls, a three-month program for boys, and a chemical dependency option for boys. Currently 29 adult females are also incarcerated at the facility. Anselmo and his wife, Sandra, live in Bigfork.

**95** **Bryan Brown** started his new role as Indus School principal this fall. His background includes 15 years as a teacher, with six at Indus. He is married to Kim Brown, a first-grade teacher at Indus. They live in International Falls and have six grown children.

**93** **Gary Cook** has been teaching health and physical education courses at Anoka-Ramsey Community College since 2003, which has campuses in Cambridge and Coon Rapids. He lives in Andover with his wife, Jessica, and three children.

**92** **Mary Beth Hayes** retired after a 31-year teaching career at Bagley Elementary School. During her tenure at the school, she taught classes in second through fifth grades, although most of her time was spent with fourth graders. She and her husband, Duane, have three children and seven grandchildren.

**90** **Richard** and **Jammie (Tibbetts) Mikesh** have moved to Canada to serve as missionaries on Indian Reserves in northwest Ontario. The couple lived and worked in the Deer River and Grand Rapids area for 17 years. Rick was a faculty member and counselor at Itasca Community College in Grand Rapids while Jammie was an administrative assistant with the Quad County District. In addition to working in communities on the Leech Lake Reservation, the family has spent several summers ministering in native communities and completing survey work in British

Columbia, Manitoba, and Ontario. As missionaries, they will provide counseling and conduct visitations, organize children's ministries, and lead Bible studies. The couple and their four children have relocated to Beardmore, ON, Canada.

**89** **Lance Northey** is the new principal at Windom Area Middle School and High School. He was previously a middle school principal in Barron, WI. He and his wife, Eve, have two adult children ... **Kevin Gish** was named lead administrator for the Essentia Health Graceville campus and also will serve as manager for Essentia's Innovis Health clinic in Wahpeton, ND. Gish has 20 years of experience in the healthcare industry, most recently at Sanford Health of Bemidji. He and his wife, Mary, still make their home in Bemidji ... **Roy Booth** has been inducted into the Pillager School Hall of Fame. The author of more than 50 short stories, he has published over 55 stage plays that have been performed in 27 countries. He and his wife, Cynthia, live in Hibbing, and operate Roy's Comics and Games in Bemidji.

**87** **Sheri Rutar** is the new principal at Clearview Elementary School in Clear Lake. A 24-year veteran of the St. Cloud school district, she began as a teacher at Clearview and also was an assistant principal at Discovery School and North Junior High School in the St. Cloud school district. She and her husband have two children and live in Sauk Rapids ... **Jeff Wade** was named the Bemidji Education Association Teacher of the Year. Wade teaches fifth grade at Northern Elementary, where he chairs the climate committee, is active in anti-bullying activities, and assists with Kindness Week. He leads the math masters program for fifth-graders and a high adventure club where he teaches snowshoeing, fly-tying, and archery. A coach in the girls' basketball program, he also leads the Bemidji High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes and is a member of All Pro Dad, a group advocating a father's involvement with his children. He and his wife, Christine, live in Laporte.

**86** **Nancy (Ettish) Vyskocil** recently spoke on broadband issues in rural America during a League of Women Voters program in Park Rapids. Vyskocil is the president and chief executive officer of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation. She is a founding member of the IMPACT 20/20 Taskforce, which identified three initiatives to better the economy of the region: education, workforce, and high-speed broadband. Vyskocil accepted her current position in 2008 after working as vice president and chief financial officer for Lake Region Electric Cooperative in Pelican Rapids and director of administrative services for Arvig Communications in Perham. She resides in Dent with her husband, Richard.

**85** **Sam Wilkes** is the elementary school principal in the Mesabi East school district. He has been with the district for 12 years after serving as an educator in Virginia, Red Lake

and in Australia. He and his wife, Beth, raised two children and live in Aurora ... **Greg Schreier** was appointed to the newly created position of metalworking market manager for Camfil Farr Air Pollution Control, a producer of industrial dust and fume collectors. Schreier will work with the company's worldwide sales and distribution network on applications involving ambient fume systems, plasma and laser cutting systems, and other metalworking processes. He will also focus on helping customers comply with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. From Minneapolis, he brings 26 years of sales, engineering, and production management experience to his new post.

**84** **Jon Schmitz** has been teaching physical education and health and has been head boys' swimming coach at Albert Lea High School since 1987. Since that time, he guided the boys to seven conference titles and added head coach duties for the girls' team to his resumé. He and his wife, Annette, have two daughters and live in Albert Lea ... **Norma (McClellan) Thayer** received an Unsung Legal Hero Award from the newspaper *Minnesota Lawyer* in recognition of her contribution to the legal profession in the state. Thayer is a senior financial analyst at Leonard Street and Deinard, a full-service law firm with offices in Minneapolis, St. Cloud, Mankato, and Washington, DC. *Minnesota Lawyer* is the only independent and online resource reporting on the law practice in the state. Thayer resides in St. Paul.

**83** **Jim Jannick** teaches math at Weeki Wachee High School in Hernando County, FL, where he previously taught special education for 18 years. His hometown is Spring Hill, FL ... **Leah Pigatti** of Park Rapids was elected to the Northwest Minnesota Foundation board of directors. Pigatti is the executive director of Mahube Community Council, a community action agency that investigates the needs of people in northern Minnesota and accesses funding to help them become self-reliant. Mahube has a staff of 100 and a \$16 million budget.

**82** **Dale Sautbine** teaches art in grades 7-12 at the Fond du Lac Ojibwe School. He is also in his 28th year of coaching the volleyball team. He makes his home in Cloquet ... **Dr. Neil Witikko** graduated from the University of Minnesota Duluth last spring with a doctorate in education, teaching, and learning. Witikko, the 1997 Minnesota Teacher of the Year, is the long-time English and German teacher at Hermantown High School. The father of three children, he and his wife, Richarda, live in Hermantown.

**81** **Dr. Rodney Capistran** teaches math at Fargo North High School. Capistran, who received his doctorate from the University of Minnesota, is also in his 12th year singing baritone in the Fargo-Moorhead Chamber Chorale. He is on the organization's board of directors and serves as its treasurer. He and his wife, **Jane (Linde, '79)**, live in Fargo.

**80** **Dr. Steve Hine** is the director for labor market information at the Minnesota Department of Economic and Employment Development. Hine, who earned his doctorate at Washington State, heads the section that provides detailed data on the state's employment numbers, wages, job growth, economic trends, workforce, labor market, and industries. He resides in St. Paul ... **Judy Comstock** has returned to the Cass Lake-Bena middle school as a counselor after spending 19 years working in the Bemidji school district. She started her educational career in 1980 teaching home economics and serving part-time as a counselor in Cass Lake. Comstock is also a consultant at Reality Training and Choice Therapy in Bemidji, where she still has her home.

**78** **Joanne Glamm** has joined the news staff of the *Le Mars Daily Sentinel*. Glamm has lived and worked in Le Mars since 1978, when she was a news reporter at KLEM radio. She was with the *Daily Sentinel* from 1995 to 1998 before returning to KLEM, where she most recently served as news director. At the newspaper, Glamm will focus her writing on the people, places, and government in the Plymouth County area.

**77** **Steve Hagenah** is the new coordinator of the law enforcement program at Leech Lake Tribal College in Cass Lake. Hagenah had a nearly 40-year career in law enforcement that included almost three decades as a special agent with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. He lives in Bemidji with his wife, Becky.

**76** **Dale Blanshan** presented a September historical program on Abraham Lincoln at Good Shepherd Church in Clearbrook. A retired minister, attorney, and educator, Blanshan's program covered Lincoln from his 1809 birth to his inauguration as our 16th president in 1861. In the three years since his retirement, Dale has presented 250 musical and historical programs at senior housing sites, libraries, and schools in Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin. He and his wife, Linda, live in Knoxville, IA.

**75** **Cheryl (Skalsky) Flatt** is a teacher with the Waubun Ogema White Earth school district. Her first 26 years in the district were spent in a kindergarten classroom, which she left to coordinate Title I program activities. Her husband, **John ('74 & '87)**, retired in 2009 after 33 years in education with the Detroit Lakes school district, the first 20 as an industrial education teacher and the remaining as school-to-work coordinator helping students explore career and post-secondary options. They have two adult children living in different parts of the country, and still enjoy the lake home they built over 20 years ago near Detroit Lakes ... **Joe Rossi** presented a program on Minnesota's hidden alphabet at the Lake Bemidji State Park. Rossi worked as a photojournalist for 31 years, including 24 for the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*. A freelance photographer since 2007, Rossi began a photo project in 2008 when he traveled Minnesota to find the letters of the alphabet in

nature. His photographs ran in the November/December issue of the *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer* and were later released as a children's book by the Minnesota Historical Society Press. He and his wife, Judy, live in Bemidji.

**74** **Adele Munsterman** received the Gordon M.A. Mork Award for Outstanding Educator from the University of Minnesota. The honor recognizes a graduate of the university's College of Education and Human Development who has demonstrated excellence in the field of school-based education. Munsterman taught Spanish and French at Fridley High School for more than 30 years. Although she retired in 2009, she remains active in the classroom as a Spanish teacher at Monticello High School. She also supervises student teachers through Bethel University. Her husband, Walter, is president of Education Minnesota Retired. They live in Brooklyn Park ... **Wayne Woolever** received the Pride Award from the Pelican Rapids Chamber of Commerce this fall. Woolever was honored for helping establish the community's Special Olympics program in 1989. He became a coach in the organization a short time later, and remained active in its events locally and regionally. He also has assumed leadership roles with the annual United Way of Otter Tail County campaign. He teaches at Viking Elementary in Pelican Rapids and is director of the local Students Against Destructive Decisions chapter. He and his wife, Janet, live in Erhard ... **Peggy (Sullivan) Ingison** is the chief financial officer of the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul. In that role, she will manage the accounting, budget development, contracting, purchasing, payroll, risk management, endowment, and financial planning for the agency. She and her husband, **Thomas**, live in New Brighton.

**73** **Dr. Dan Dressen** is the associate dean of fine arts at St. Olaf College in Northfield. Ten years ago, he started collecting scores of Nordic music and developing a Nordic Song Center in recognition of the college's Norwegian heritage. Dressen's collection has become the largest single repository for Nordic art songs in the country, and he's now begun work on the most comprehensive Norwegian lyric diction guide ever created. Dressen began teaching at St. Olaf in 1982 and has been an active vocal performer, appearing with the Minnesota Opera, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, VocalEssence, the Plymouth Congregational Church Choir, and the Minnesota Orchestra. He lives in Northfield with his wife, Elisabeth Comeaux.

**72** **Phil Dahl** has retired from Bemidji State after 37 years of teaching and advising as part of the TRIO/Student Support Services office. While he will continue to call Bemidji home, he intends to spend considerable time in Canada enjoying his shack on the Rainy River ... **Bonnie (Handyside) Brusven** retired from the Mahanomen school district after 27 years of service in

special education and at the area learning center. She started her educational career in 1972 at Cass Lake, teaching English and social studies, before moving to Mahanomen in 1984. She and her husband, Al, live in Mahanomen and have three children and six grandchildren.

**71** **Dr. Christie Gordon** retired from teaching in the English department at St. Cloud State University. Her 40-year career in education includes four years in classrooms at Kelliher High School and 10 at Backus High School. She lives in St. Cloud.

**70** Last August, **Jay Griggs** and his wife, Margaret Ontl, were grand marshals for the North Hudson, WI, Pepper Fest. Griggs is a longtime newspaperman and former editor and publisher of the Hudson (WI) *Star-Observer*, where Ontl currently works as a reporter and photographer. Griggs and Ontl were chosen as grand marshals in recognition of their service to the community and area. Griggs, who ran for the Wisconsin state senate in 1996, served on the board of the economic development corporations of Hudson and St. Croix County; organized and served on the board of the St. Croix business park; helped start the St. Croix Valley YMCA; and has been active on the Hudson Community Fund and the Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center. The couple lives in Hudson.

**63** **Al Lindahl** has retired after a long career in accounting. He was a partner at Lindahl and Cage in Bagley, which merged with McIntosh-based FARMChek Services upon his retirement. Before moving to Bagley in 1987, he worked at Price Waterhouse, Melroe, Detroit Mobile Homes, and Northwoods Panelboard. In 1989, he and a partner bought an existing accounting firm in Bagley. Lindahl and his wife, Kathy, have moved to Bemidji. They have four grown children and seven grandchildren.

**61** **Neil McCormack** was inducted into the Minnesota Golf Coaches Association Hall of Fame during the 2011 state high school golf tournament. McCormack has been the head golf coach at Rochester Mayo High School for 45 years and had teams or individuals qualify for the state tournament in 30 of those years. He also is a previous Minnesota High School Girls' Hockey Coach of the Year. He and his wife, Kristyn, live in Rochester.

**50** **Eva Stengel** participated in a panel of retired teachers who shared their memories at the country schoolhouse of the Douglas County Fair in Alexandria. Stengel spent 27 years teaching in elementary school classrooms in Alexandria. She also taught at Woodcrest School in Anoka County and at schools in Spring Lake Park and Virginia. She retired in 1987 and is a full-time resident of Saum, where she grew up. ■

# REPORT of gifts

## MOVING FORWARD

It has been another banner year for the BSU Foundation. Thanks to the private donors who have invested in Bemidji State University's future, total assets at the BSU Foundation in fiscal year 2011 reached an all-time high of \$16,236,477. Those assets include a total of 302 endowments, the most ever at the University. Annual revenues have reached a near-record \$2,967,663, and the rate of return on the foundation's investments for the past year exceeded 14 percent.

This year the foundation provided \$706,096 in scholarships to Bemidji State University students. Scholarship support from our donors ensures that BSU will remain accessible to our students and plays a crucial role in reducing student debt when they leave the University. President Richard Hanson recently reminded the campus that 89 percent of BSU students graduate with some debt, and the average debt load for a BSU graduate is \$26,800. Reducing this debt load for our students is one of the president's overall goals for the future of the University. Your support will assist us in achieving this goal for our students and will positively impact their futures.

One of the highlights of the foundation's stellar year was an endowment to fund the Myra Heieren Johnson Scholarship. The Heieren Scholarship began after the BSU Foundation received a bequest of \$545,290, its largest-ever gift for a single scholarship endowment.

Also this past year, the Lakeside Fund was launched as a coordinated effort between the BSU Foundation and the Alumni Association. The Lakeside Fund exists to engage alumni, faculty, staff members, and friends of the University in BSU's advancement through annual financial support. Unrestricted Lakeside Fund scholarships will be used for recruitment and retention scholarships, both of which are critical to the University's success.

It has been an eventful and exciting year for BSU students, faculty and our alumni. I am looking forward to another great year on campus and in the foundation. I hope to see you on campus or at one of our many regional or national alumni events during the coming year. Thank you for your commitment to BSU and your investment in our current and future students!

*Rob Bollinger*

Sincerely,

Rob Bollinger, Executive Director for University Advancement

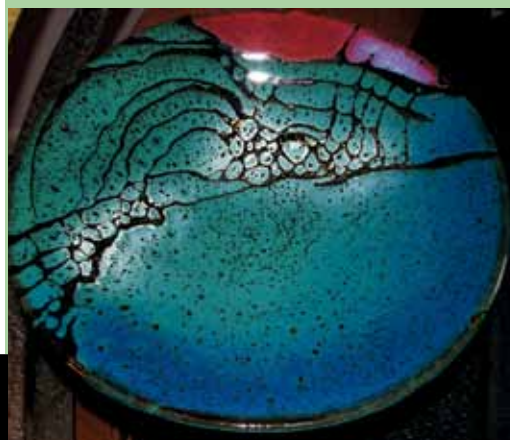


ROB BOLLINGER

## PRESIDENT'S SOCIETY

The President's Society recognizes the University's most generous contributors. Based on lifetime cumulative giving to Bemidji State University, membership includes individuals, families, and organizations. Members are recognized for gifts and pledges at the levels listed on the next few pages.

Custom chargers (as pictured below) are created especially for the President's Society by visual arts professor and department chair John "Butch" Holden. They are "awards of distinction," honoring donors with cumulative giving of \$50,000 or more.



## TRUSTEE'S SOCIETY \$1,000,000

Joseph and Janice Lueken/The Joseph and Janice Lueken Family Foundation  
The George W. Neilson Foundation

## CHANCELLOR'S SOCIETY \$500,000-\$999,999

3M, Inc.  
Edwin\* and Myra\* Johnson

## BENEFACTOR'S SOCIETY \$250,000-\$499,999

Dr. M. James and Nancy Bensen  
M. Fern Birnstihl\*  
Elfrida B. Glas\*  
Eva Lind\*  
David and Brenda Odegaard  
Paul Bunyan Communications  
Sanford Health  
George and Sandra Thelen

## DIRECTOR'S SOCIETY \$100,000+

Don Anderson and Vicki Brown  
Jeff and Kathy Baumgartner/  
Circle B Properties  
Fred Breen\*  
Raymond Breen\*  
Dr. Almond and Shalyn Clark/Al Clark's  
Formula 4 Success  
Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Bemidji, Inc.  
Enbridge Energy Company, Inc.  
First National Bank Bemidji  
Anthony S. Gramer  
Kirk P. Gregg  
Russell\* and Gudrun\* Harding  
Dr. Evan and Elaine\* Hazard  
Jim\* and Marilyn Heltzer  
Paul and Lynn Hunt  
Johannesson's, Inc.  
Margaret H. Johnson\*  
Sam and Peggy Marvin Johnson  
Katherine Neilson Cram Foundation/  
Katherine Neilson  
Robin Kelleher  
Lueken's Village Foods  
John W. Marvin  
Michael McKinley and Deborah Grabrian/  
McKinley Companies  
Mark and Sandra Niblick  
North Country Health Services  
Northern Inn/Gary Ganglehoff  
Otter Tail Power Company  
Otto Bremer Foundation  
Robert and Mary Lou Peters  
Patrick Riley & Natalie Roholt  
Security Bank USA  
Rich Seigert/Edgewater Group (Hampton Inn  
& Suites, Green Mill, Erbert and Gerbert's)  
Marcella Sherman  
David L. and Kathryn S. Sorensen  
Dr. Ruth Howe and Merrill Thiel

Two anonymous donors

## BUILDER'S SOCIETY \$50,000+

Bank Forward  
Bemidji Woolens, Inc. /Bill Batchelder  
Big North Distributing, Inc.  
BSU Dining Services/ARAMARK  
Lynne C. Bunt\* Estate  
Don and Petra DeKrey  
Dondelinger GM  
Herbert and Lillian Doran  
Joe and Karen Dunn  
Mrs. F. Russell Eggers\*  
Kenneth and Mary Erickson  
Bruce and Mary Jo Falk  
Federated Insurance Foundation  
General Mills Foundation  
Dr. Muriel B. Gilman  
Bernard and Fern\* Granum  
Margaret H. Harlow\*  
Dr. Annie B. Henry  
Lynne K. Holt  
William and Bette\* Howe  
Dr. Myrtie A. Hunt\*  
Esther F. Instebo\*  
John and Delphine Jacobsen  
The Jay and Rose Phillips Family  
Foundation  
Kopp Family Foundation  
Kraus-Anderson Construction Company  
- North Division  
Lake Region Bone and Joint Surgeons  
Lakeland Public Television  
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe  
Leech Lake Gaming Division/Marketing  
Marvin Lumber & Cedar Co  
Meritcare Clinic Bemidji  
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe  
Miller McDonald, Inc.  
R. Alexander Milowski  
Harry Moore\*  
Charles Naylor\*  
William and Dona Mae Naylor  
Nei Bottling, Inc.  
NLFX Professional  
North Country Business Products  
Northwest Minnesota Foundation  
Paul Bunyan Broadcasting  
Dr. Harold T. Peters\*  
Phillips Plastics Corp.  
The Pioneer/Advertiser  
Drs. Jon and Patricia Quistgaard  
Trudy and Kevin Rautio  
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians  
Jack and Marie St. Martin/  
The Jack and Marie St. Martin Family  
Foundation/KFC  
State Farm Companies Foundation  
Dr. Theodore and Margaret Thorson  
Gary\* and Joanne E. Torfin  
Trustar Federal Credit Union  
Mervin "Sock" Wagner\*  
Wells Fargo Bank N.A.  
Whelan Properties/Supreme Lumber  
White Earth Reservation Tribal Council  
  
One anonymous donor

## AMBASSADOR'S SOCIETY \$25,000+

3M Foundation  
Alltech Associates, Inc.  
American Legion Post 14  
Winnifred Anderson  
Bill\* and Jesse\* Baer  
Carl and Terry Baer  
Beaver Bookstore  
Dr. Marjory C. Beck  
Dr. Richard and Josephine Beitzel  
Bemidji Dental Clinic  
The Bernick Companies  
Marie Bishop\*  
Blandin Foundation  
Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council  
Al Brew  
Patrick Brown/Clem's Hardware  
Wendy Brown  
John and Ann Carlson/John  
Carlson Agency  
Jim\* and Lorraine F. Cecil  
Bertha Christianson\*  
Michael B. and Noel C. Clay  
Annie M. Czarneci  
Eugene Dalzotto\*  
Deerwood Bank  
DeLaHunt Broadcasting  
Deloitte Foundation  
Dick's Northside, Inc.  
Gregory Droba  
Gary and Nancy Erickson/Gary S.  
Erickson, DDS  
Fred and Gin Forseman  
Ronald and Dr. Jeanine Gangeness  
Dale E. Greenwalt, PhD  
Cedsel J. Hagen\*  
Hartz Foundation  
Thomas and Joanne Heaviland  
Russell Herder  
Barbara Higgins\*  
Hill's Plumbing and Heating  
Terry and Cindy Holter  
John Johannesson\*  
Virginia Hope Johnson\*  
Wilbur Johnson\* Estate  
Arnold\* and Nancy\* Johnson  
Alan and Judy Killian/GPH Bemidji, Inc.  
Lillie M. Kleven\*  
Gary Knutson\*  
Alan Korpi and Martha Nelson/  
Valvoline Instant Oil Change  
League of Women Voters -  
Bemidji Area  
Douglas and Renee Leif  
Drs. Gordon and Alice Lindgren  
James\* and Janet\* Love  
Betsy J. McDowell  
The Minneapolis Foundation  
Minnesota Energy Resources  
Diane Moe & Thomas Fitzgerald  
Gary and Marlene Moe  
Sharon Moe  
Leo D. Morgan, Jr.  
James and Janice Naylor

Naylor Electrical Construction  
Company, Inc.  
NCS Pearson  
Darby and Geraldine Nelson  
Dr. Raymond A.\* and Jane Nelson  
NorthEnd Trust  
Northland Electric  
Northwestern Surveying &  
Engineering, Inc.  
Kris and Grant Oppegaard/The  
Oppegaard Family Foundation  
Otter Tail Power Company  
Joel and Kary Otto  
David and Dianne Parnow  
Dr. John C. Pearce  
Stephen Pearce, M.D.  
Rod and Delores Pickett  
Pinnacle Publishing LLC  
The Presto Foundation  
REM Northstar, Inc.  
Bemidji Regional Office  
Dr. Tom and Sandra Richard  
James and Carol Richards  
RiverWood Bank  
Steven and Robyn Seide  
Shakopee Mdewakanton  
Sioux Community  
Hazel Shimmin\* Estate  
Slim's Bar & Grill  
Bob and Jane Smith/Image  
Photography and Framing  
Kathryn Smith  
Lowell and Lois Sorenson  
Spaulding Motors, Inc. /Buster  
and Helen Spaulding  
Super 8 Motel  
Dr. Dave and Peggy Tiffany  
USA Color Printing  
Richard and Judith Werner  
Drs. Larry and Ranae Womack  
Barbara L. Wylie  
Robert and DeAnn Zavoral  
Zetah Construction, Inc.

## FOUNDER'S SOCIETY \$10,000+

Robert and Barbara Aalberts  
Ace on the Lake  
Don and Susan Addy  
Bernard V. Adlyns  
American Ass'n of Univ Women  
American Family Insurance  
Boris and Caroline Andrican  
Arrow Printing, Inc.  
Dr. Linda L. Baer and  
Dr. Norman W. Baer  
Dr. Thomas J. Beech  
William and Maria Beitzel  
Beltrami Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Bemidji Building Center  
Bemidji Lions Club  
Bemidji Medical Equipment  
Bemidji Rotary Club  
Bemidji Sports Centre

{ continued on page 22 }

# Report of gifts

CONTINUED

## FOUNDER'S SOCIETY \$10,000+

### Bemidji State University Alumni Association

June L. Bender  
Kermit and Sandy Bensen  
Best of Bemidji Quarterly Magazine  
Best Western Bemidji  
Jon and Linda Blessing  
Bob Lowth Ford, Inc.  
Robert and Lisa Bollinger  
Dr. Mel and Ruby Bolster  
Dr. John\* and Anne\* Brady  
Bravo Beverage Ltd/Trish and Terry Jones  
Linda Brew  
Gurnee K. and Mary\* Bridgman  
Burger King Corporation  
Louis H. Buron Jr.  
Robert C. Bush\*  
Jeffrey P. Busse  
Dr. Raymond and Margaret Carlson  
Caswell International Corporation  
Central Valley Food Services, Inc.  
Charter Communications  
Kenneth\* and Marion M. Christianson  
Chrysler Center of Bemidji and Honda of Bemidji  
Citizens State Bank Midwest  
Control Stuff  
Bret and Veronica Cooper  
Veita L. Corbin  
Country Kitchen Restaurant  
William R. Crews  
Scott Curb and Mary Boranian  
Caroline M. Czarnecki, Ph.D.  
Lyle E. Dally\*  
Dave's Pizza  
Robert\* and Jackie D. Decker  
Steve and Veronica DeKrey  
Delta Kappa Gamma  
Patrick and Barbara DeMarchi  
Dick's Plumbing and Heating of Bemidji, Inc.  
Dickson Enterprises Inc.  
John T. Driessen  
Jon and Beth Duncan  
Dwayne Young, Inc. Plaster & Drywall Contractor  
Eldercare Health Benefits Mgmt Systems, Inc.

Steven and Susan Engel  
Janet Esty\*  
Herbert M. Fougner\*  
Dr. Joann Fredrickson  
Freeberg & Grund, Inc.  
Laura Gaines  
George and Joann Gardner  
Michael and Deanna Garrett  
Daniel Gartrell & Julie Jochum  
GE Fund Matching Gift Center  
Beulah Gregoire  
Georgia-Pacific Corp. - Superwood  
Dr. James and Connie Ghostley  
Col. Clark and Judith Gilbertson  
Ordella M. Gilbertson  
Marjorie and James Gildersleeve  
Dr. Lowell\* and Ardis Gillett  
Dr. Richard and Carol Goeb  
Bruce L. Gordon  
Gourmet House  
Bryan and Paulette Grand  
Great Lakes Gas Transmission Ltd Partnership  
James and Barbara Grier  
Richard F. Haberer\*  
Lisa L. Haberman  
Dr. Harold\* and Renate\* Hagg  
Kathryn K. Hamm\*  
James and Joyce Hanko  
Linda S. Hanson  
Dr. Richard and Dianne Hanson  
Hardees of Bemidji  
Dr. Richard\* and Dorothy Haugo  
Oluf\* and Margaret\* Haugrud  
Gary and Diane Hazelton  
Headwaters Shrine Club  
John R. Heneman  
Hoeschler Fund - St. Paul Foundation  
Honeywell Foundation  
Dr. Howard and Mary Hoody  
IBM  
The Idea Circle, Inc.  
Imation Corporation  
Indian Harvest Specialtifooods, Inc.  
Insure Forward  
Iverson Corner Drug  
Louise H. Jackson  
Richard and Sheri Jahner  
JC Penney Co., Inc.  
Jerry Downs Agency  
Dr. Terrance and Susan Johnson  
Thomas and Diane Johnson  
Dr. Johannes M. Jordan  
Thomas and Susan Kaplan

Jeff Keckeisen/Keckeisen's Sporting Goods Sales  
Keg N' Cork  
Keith's Pizza  
Dr. Debra Kellerman and Anthony Wandersee  
Ken K. Thompson Jewelry  
Kentucky Fried Chicken  
David and Charlotte Kingsbury  
Knife River Materials/MDU Resources Foundation  
Drs. Raymond and Beatrice Knodel  
Pat Knoer State Farm Insurance  
Dr. Clayton and Ivy Knoshaug  
Krigbaum and Jones, Ltd.  
Dr. Franklin and Diane Labadie  
Dale and Michelle Ladig  
David J. and Alice M. Larkin  
Hazel Leland\*  
Dr. Robert and Dale Ley  
Paul and Teri Lindseth  
Brad and Dawn Logan  
Dr. Kenneth and Mary Lundberg  
Lutheran Community Foundation  
William and Jodi Maki  
Keith Marek  
Allen and Susie Mathieu  
John and Judith McClellan  
Dr. Judith L. McDonald  
James D. McElmury  
Neil B. and Patricia\* McMurrin  
Jon and Debra McTaggart  
Robin and Diane Mechelke  
Medsave Family Pharmacy  
Debra Melby\*  
Dr. Kathleen J. Meyer  
Midcontinent Communications  
Midwest Cable Communications/Langhout Family  
Thomas and Marilyn Miller  
Minnesota Humanities Commission  
Dr. Robert and Sally Montebello  
Dr. Dorothy L. Moore\*  
Gerald\* and Fern\* A. Nichols  
Lee Norman  
North Central Door  
Northern Amusement  
David and Jean Olderman  
Marc and Kay Olson  
Allen Oman State Farm Agency  
Douglas L. Onan  
Family and Friends of Ruth Oувerson  
Greg and Kathy Palm  
John and Lori Paris  
Edward and Marla Patrias  
Patterson's Men's Wear  
John S. Persell II  
Dr. Martha and Don Peters  
Rohl and Patricia Peterson

David Lee Peterson\*  
Sporting Goods Sales  
Productivity, Inc.  
Dr. Joanne M. Provo  
Jack\* and Mary Betty Quistgard  
David and Kim Ramsey  
Raphael's Bakery Cafe  
Michael and Jackie Rasch  
Roger Rasmussen  
Richard Rude Architectural  
Dr. Patricia A. Rosenbrock  
Stuart and Susan Rosselet  
William and Rochelle Scheela  
John T\* and Evelyn\* Schuiling  
Walter and Mardene Schuiling  
Lee C. Scotland, D.D.S.  
John and Mary Seamans  
Tom and Cindy Serratore  
Dr. Mark A. Shanfeld  
Doreathea A. Shanfeld  
Pete and Marilyn Simonson  
Michael and Melinda Spry  
St. Joseph's Area Health Services  
Maria K. and Terry L. Statton  
Irene K. Stewart  
Willie and Arla Stittsworth  
Stittsworth's Nymore Food Mart  
Dr. Thomas and Bonnie Swanson  
Chet Swedmark\* and Helen Kohl-Swedmark  
Systec, Inc.  
Doug and Lori Taylor  
Teammates for Kids Foundation  
Sue and Eugene Teigland  
Telespectrum Worldwide  
Jeff and Susan Tesch  
Thorson, Inc./Wayne and Bev Thorson  
Dr. Ken Traxler  
Tri-State Manufacturers' Association  
Dr. James and Diane Tuorila  
Mary M. Veranth  
Austin and Paula Wallestad  
Robert and Patricia Walrath  
Ruth E. Warde\*  
Dr. Victor D. Weber  
Julie Wegner  
Robert and Jeanette Welle  
Wells Fargo Educational Matching Gift Program  
George and Paula Welte  
Widseth Smith Nolting & Associates  
Jerry and Kathy Winans  
Bud and Gloria Woodard  
Four anonymous donors  
\* deceased

# PREPARING a LEGACY



OUVERSON SCHOLARSHIP WINNER AMY LAPIERRE (CENTER) WITH RUTH OUVERSON'S HUSBAND, DOUG, AND DAUGHTER, ALYSSA.

## OUVERSON SCHOLARSHIP

### Endowment Supports Early Childhood Students

Almost 25 years ago, Bemidji State University alumna Ruth Oувerson was instrumental in establishing Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) programs at Rockford schools in Minnesota's Wright County. In 2007, the 58-year-old Oувerson's life was tragically cut short during a robbery at her home. The eventual capture and conviction of her killers did little to ease the loss felt by her friends, family, and peers, so they sought a way to keep her memory alive.

Knowing Oувerson's love for her time at Bemidji State and her love for education, those who knew her wanted to pass her enthusiasm and commitment to young children on to Minnesota's next generation of teachers. Their efforts came to fruition when the first Ruth Oувerson Early Childhood Education scholarship was awarded in 2008.

"We wanted to make sure we were preparing a legacy for younger teachers to come into the profession," long-time friend and colleague Jan Shaffer explains. "The Wright County ECFE school readiness group, staff members at Rockford, and family held benefits to raise funds."

Those efforts and individual contributions fund an endowed award presented annually to a junior or senior in Bemidji State's early childhood education program.

"It was sad, but fun," Shaffer says of the effort to raise the funds. "We were driven to create a way for Ruth's memory to live on."

Oувerson coordinated ECFE and its school readiness program for Rockford-area schools and worked with parents and their children from birth to the age of five. As one of ECFE's early innovators, she built her program around families and their needs. The program operated a public preschool for children ages three to five, offered health and developmental screening, and consulted during home visits.

Oувerson and Shaffer met during regular meetings of ECFE staff from 14 districts in Wright County. Oувerson helped organize this network, which met to discuss needs, concerns, and challenges in the county. Shaffer was part of this network from the very beginning, hired by the Delano school district at the same time Oувerson started in Rockford. Over the next 20 years, the professional peers became close friends.

"Ruth's life was to take care of her family, the children in the schools, and those who worked with them," Shaffer says. "Helping staff grow and develop was an important core value for her. She was constantly challenging them."

Looking back, Shaffer notes she will miss Oувerson's periodic phone calls, her laughter, the gleam in her eye, and her voice as an advocate for young children. Looking forward, she finds solace in the knowledge that her friend's work is being continued by a new generation of young professionals.

Crosby native Amy LaPierre is the recipient of this year's Oувerson scholarship. She will graduate from Bemidji State for a second time in 2013 with a degree in early childhood education after first earning a bachelor's degree in design technology in 2008.

"Early childhood education is one of my passions," LaPierre says. "Toddlers are so much fun and pre-schoolers are just starting to learn things and expand their horizons beyond the front door. And you get to be right there when they're excited about learning their colors and letters. Little kids are so creative and their imaginations are huge, endless."

LaPierre worked as a modelmaker in Massachusetts and Connecticut before returning to BSU. Since her mother ran a home daycare for 17 years, she was comfortable in her decision to change her career path. Still, returning to school came with some anxiety.

"Knowing I was going to have more student loans on top of what I already have made the decision to go back to school very tough," LaPierre says. "The scholarship will help alleviate my loans, but it's also a powerful message telling me there are people helping students find their passion. It's reassurance that this was the right thing to do." ■

# HONORING a LIFE'S MISSION



GWEN CAMPBELL (LEFT) WITH MARY CAMPBELL

## Gwen (Ranzau) and Madeline CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP

### New Opportunity Personalizes Scholarships

**B**emidji State alumna Gwen (Ranzau) Campbell embraced a mission in life to help middle school students overcome fear of mathematics. After graduating from Bemidji State in 1986, she spent 17 years making that mission a reality in Minnesota classrooms.

Sadly, it was a mission that would end well before its time. In July of 2003, Campbell and her newborn daughter, Madeline, both died during complications in Madeline's birth.

Campbell met her husband, Christopher, while both were teaching at Sunrise Middle School in White Bear Lake. They married in 2001, and Madeline was to have been the couple's first child.

"My son was pretty quiet before he met Gwen," says Christopher's mother, Mary Campbell. "Gwen just loved life and had a great, sweet personality. I loved her."

Mary's affection for her late daughter-in-law and granddaughter fueled memories of Gwen's mission and brought to light an

opportunity that could help both BSU and a new generation of students.

For the first time, donors can honor loved ones through donations to the University's annual fund, now known as the Lakeside Scholarship Program. Scholarships will be given as long as the donor continues to fund the award.

Mary Campbell and Lou Buron, her managing partner at Paul Bunyan Broadcasting of Bemidji, used this recently created opportunity to fund six scholarships in Gwen and Madeline's name. One \$1,500 award and five \$1,000 awards will be given to freshmen next fall.

"Both Mary and I feel very strongly about BSU, which is a real jewel in town," Buron says. "The new program gives you some choices in what you can do and how you can handle it. We were both approached about the same time we were thinking about Gwen. She went to school here, loved it, and talked a lot about Bemidji. That sealed the deal."

A named Lakeside Scholarship can be established for a minimum of \$1,000 and is a discretionary award with no specific selection criteria. This differs greatly from an endowed scholarship, which requires a minimum balance of \$25,000 and produces an annual award from interest-bearing accounts. They are awarded based on criteria assigned by the donor.

Lakeside Scholarship recipients are selected by the admissions office, which can offer the awards to maximize enrollment and enhance the quality of an incoming first-year class. "This will allow admissions staff the flexibility to use the scholarships as they see fit," says Lisa Hofstad, director of annual giving for the BSU Foundation. "They often know which students are on the fence and what it will take to get them here."

Interim admissions director Mary Jo Chirpich echoes those sentiments. "BSU's needs for recruitment change every year," she explains. She notes that admissions could offer the awards to high-achieving students, to increase under-represented populations, or to satisfy financial need. "These scholarships may be the determining factor for a student's attendance at BSU, or for attending college entirely," she says.

"This program gave us a vested interest in the scholarship," Campbell says of the motivation behind establishing the Gwen and Madeline Campbell Scholarships. "We've always contributed, but this time it became much more personal. We wanted to do as much as we could to get it off the ground. It was a great thing to do in her memory. She loved BSU, where she fell in love with math and the concept of teaching math."

"I'm looking forward to knowing the names of the students we're helping," Campbell says. "I hope they get as much out of BSU as Gwen did during her time on campus." ■

# BEMIDJI STATE

## the Legacy SOCIETY

The BSU Legacy Society recognizes those who have made a deferred or planned gift to the BSU Foundation. The society has grown from 43 charter members in 2002 to 186 members today.

- |                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Donald G. Anderson                 | Vince Johnson*                   |
| Kenneth M. Anderson                | Wilbur Johnson*                  |
| Boris and Caroline Andrican        | Johannas Jordan                  |
| H.C.* and Jessie* Baer             | Bill and Pat Kelly               |
| Grant Bateman*                     | Richard and Sharon King          |
| Jim and Nancy Bensen               | Margaret Ann Kircher*            |
| Evelyn Berg*                       | Lillie M. Kleven*                |
| John (Dan) and Terri Bergan        | Roy* and Eva* Lind               |
| M. Fern Birnstihl*                 | Neil B. and Patricia* McMurrin   |
| Marie Bishop*                      | Nelmarie Melville                |
| Jody and Gene Bisson               | Kathryn and Donald Mertz         |
| Elaine D. Bohanon*                 | Margeret (Peggy) Miles           |
| Randy and Marlene Bowen            | John and Susan Minter            |
| John Fred Breen*                   | John and Walli Mitchell          |
| Raymond Breen*                     | Dorothy L. Moore*                |
| Alan Brew                          | Harry Moore*                     |
| Gurnee and Virginia* Bridgman      | Claude W. Morris*                |
| Bill and Henrietta Britton         | Ronald and Michael Ann Mortaloni |
| Lynne E. Bunt*                     | Betty and George* Murray         |
| Jeffrey P. Busse                   | Judy and Norman Nelson           |
| Joan Anderson Campbell             | Raymond Nelson*                  |
| Dale and Joanne Carlson            | Wilfor* and Albiona *Nelson      |
| Joe and Jenifer Carson             | John O'Boyle                     |
| Rose and Samuel* Chen              | Charlie O'Connor                 |
| Bertha Christianson*               | Beulah Parisi                    |
| Almond Clark                       | David and Diane Parnow           |
| Caroline M. Czarniecki             | Larry Perkins                    |
| Lyle E. Dally*                     | Bob and Mary Lou Peters          |
| Donald and Petra DeKrey            | David Lee Peterson*              |
| Rebecca Eggers*                    | Rohl Carlo and Patricia Peterson |
| Fritz and Robin Ehlers             | Joanne M. Provo                  |
| Irvin and Kay Engebretson          | Jon and Trish Quistgaard         |
| Donald and Mary K. Erickson        | Dave and Kim Ramsey              |
| Eldridge* and Jean C. Erickson     | Tom and Sandy Richard            |
| Janet M. Erickson                  | Willard and Lois Robertson       |
| Ann Flowers*                       | Patricia Rosenbrock              |
| Bill and Marge Forseth             | Carol Russell                    |
| Jerry and Shirley Froseth          | John and Charlotte Schullo       |
| Helen Gill                         | Duane and Marilyn Sea            |
| Ted* and Ardis Gillett             | Ken* and Betti Sherman           |
| Ronald and Nancy Gladen            | Hazel Shimmin*                   |
| Beulah Gregoire*                   | Lowell (Steve) and Lois Sorenson |
| James D. Gribble                   | Duane and Celeste Sperl          |
| Pat Grimes                         | Irv and Pat St. John             |
| Keith W. Gunderson                 | Jack and Marie St. Martin        |
| Cedsel* and Elmen* Hagen           | J. Ruth Stenerson*               |
| Kathryn K. Hamm*                   | Maury and Lorna Sullivan         |
| James F. Hanko                     | Merril Thiel                     |
| Kurt Hanson                        | Dave and Peggy Tiffany           |
| Linda Hanson                       | Joanne Torfin                    |
| Gudrun* and Russell* Harding       | John and Mary* Traxler           |
| Margaret H. Harlow*                | Ben and Joan Trochilil           |
| Oluf* and Margaret* Haugsrud       | Jim and Diane Tuorila            |
| Beverly Henriques                  | Floyd A. Tweten                  |
| Annie Henry                        | Mervin "Sock" Wagner*            |
| Ruth Howe                          | Christel and Jeff Wallin         |
| Myrtie A. Hunt*                    | Victor Weber                     |
| Esther F. Instebo*                 | Robert and Jeanette Welle        |
| Jack and Delphine Jacobsen         | Wesley Winter*                   |
| Edwin O.* and Myra* Johnson        | Shirley Yliniemi                 |
| Jeffrey and Marjorie Johnson       | Robert and Sherry Young          |
| Margaret H. Johnson*               | Charles and Susan Zielin         |
| Paul and Margaret (Marvin) Johnson | Seven anonymous donors           |

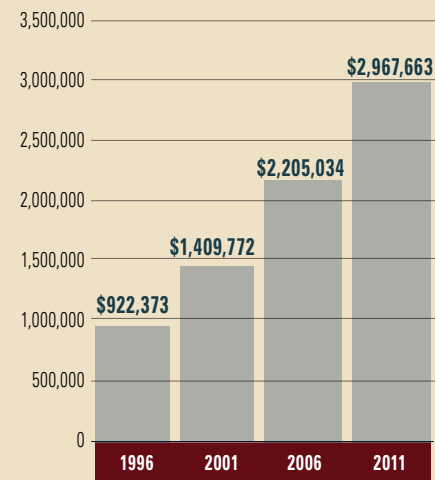
### Statement of Position

June 30, 2011

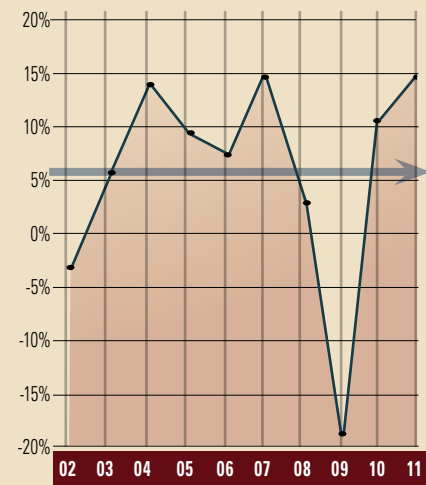
Assets	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 11,349
Investments	14,830,401
Accounts Receivable	10,095
Contributions Receivable	592,843
Prepaid Expenses	4,382
Total Current Assets	<u>15,449,070</u>
Property and Equipment	308,890
<b>Other Assets</b>	
Contributions Receivable	333,844
Remainder Interest in Real Estate	111,014
Cash Surrender Value Life Insurance	33,659
Total Other Assets	<u>478,517</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>16,236,477</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$ 52,472
Annuities Payable, Current Portion	18,534
Accrued Interest Payable	2,644
Other Accruals	1,662
Total Current Liabilities	<u>75,312</u>
<b>Long-term Liabilities</b>	
Annuities Payable, Long Term Portion	171,119
Note Payable, Long Term Portion	732,250
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>903,369</u>
Total Liabilities	978,681
<b>Net Assets</b>	
<b>Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	
University Fund & Quasi Endowment Fund	\$ 346,380
Alumni House Acquisition	-60,000
Plant Fund	308,890
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>595,270</u>
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	2,554,791
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	12,107,735
Total Net Assets	<u>15,257,796</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$16,236,477</b>

# HONORING a longtime COACH

Cash Contributions Received



Rate of Investment Return



— Annual Return  
→ Ten Year Average



DR. BOB MONTEBELLO

## MONTEBELLO SCHOLARSHIP

### Creating a Scholarship for an Enduring and Endearing Sport

If Dr. Bob Montebello learned anything during his nearly three decades at Bemidji State University, it's that the sport of baseball is both endearing and enduring.

The success and very survival of the sport at Bemidji State depended on athletes who started in the sandlots as kids and loved the game enough to battle through the adversity inherent to northern Minnesota baseball. Through shortened spring seasons, games cancelled by blizzards, tight budgets, and a lack of scholarships, Montebello still fielded teams that represented the University well for 29 seasons.

"Our players were not afraid to face adversity," Montebello says. "They just wanted to play". We didn't have the best facilities or location, but this made them stronger, on the field and later in life."

Montebello understood the life of a non-scholarship college athlete walk-on at Ohio State, he settled into a role as a third baseman and back-up catcher. He continued to play amateur baseball after graduation as he continued his education, eventually earning a doctorate from Columbia University in New York. He came to BSU as a health and physical education faculty member and coach in 1958, where he taught a variety of classes and served as chair of the health department for a number of years before his retirement in 1987.

A member of both the BSU Athletic Hall of Fame and the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Hall of Fame, Montebello amassed a BSU-record 290 wins during his career in the dugout. In 1982, he was named NAIA district and regional Coach of the Year after leading the Beavers to their only national tournament appearance. In his 29 years on the diamond, he mentored numerous all-conference and all-district performers, all of whom were non-scholarship, walk-on players.

"They wanted to be students first and athletes second, which made me proud of what we produced and what we accomplished with our teams," Montebello says. "Our student players had a love for baseball and worked their tails off to make the team and raise money by working concession stands and selling program ads. We had a slim budget, but we managed to put a competitive team on the field."

His players found success after graduating, entering education, coaching, business, or other professions. One year at the Minnesota state high school tournament, six of the final eight teams had coaches who played the game on the BSU diamond or had completed Montebello's coaching class.

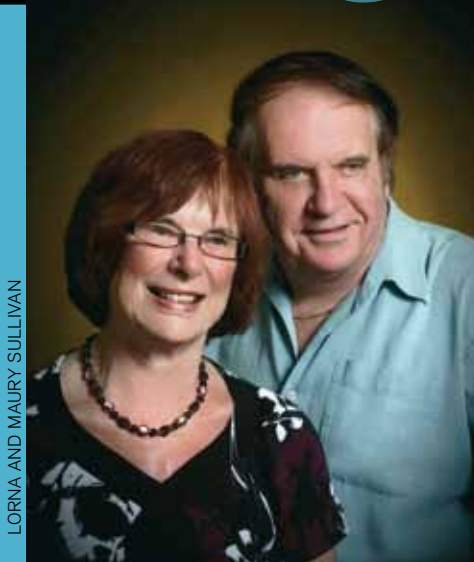
"Coach Montebello provided me an opportunity to enjoy baseball at the collegiate level," says Michael Gerbich, a former player who recently retired to Scottsdale, AZ, following a career overseas as an educator and businessman. "He was a mentor who insured you not only played, but accepted the responsibilities of getting a proper education."

The dedicated baseball alumni who played for Montebello have continued to support the program with funds for an electronic scoreboard, uniforms, equipment, and other necessities. The coach and his former players are now strengthening their connection to Bemidji State baseball by endowing the Dr. Bob Montebello Scholarship Fund. Fundraising for the award began in 2007, and a total of 39 donors have contributed between \$25 and \$1,000 to fully endow the scholarship. It will be presented for the first time this spring.

Current BSU baseball coach Tim Bellew welcomes the scholarship and understands what it means to players. "Bob was a very dedicated and prominent factor in the lives of many student-athletes both on and off the field at Bemidji State," the BSU skipper says of Montebello. "This scholarship will be a huge factor for our program, not only for the monetary amount but also as an honor to the young man selected." ■



# OPENING EYES



LORNA AND MAURY SULLIVAN

## Sullivan International Student Scholarship

## Scholarship Promotes Cultural Interchange

During their years working with international students at Bemidji State University, Lorna and Maury Sullivan watched students from other countries become active on campus and in the community. It was an eye-opening experience for everyone, as the students settled into their new home and the community took advantage of opportunities to explore new cultures and ideas.

"International students brought another cultural experience into our community, and we learned a great deal," says Lorna, the former director of BSU's international student office.

"In the 1980s when [international] enrollment grew to more than 200 students, it really changed campus," says Maury, former director of conference and guest housing on campus. "They were motivated, so classrooms became competitive and it made all students try harder."

While watching these students interact with the campus, the Sullivans noted that, like many college students, they sometimes

struggled to make ends meet. While most international students received substantial financial support from their families, many needed more aid than their families could offer. In addition to the daily expenses of college life, international students could be impacted by political and economic upheavals in their home countries, reducing or eliminating their support networks.

For most of these students, working on campus was the only way to help cover expenses.

"There was little available, because students had to be citizens or residents of this country to qualify for financial aid or loans," Lorna says. "When Maury and I retired, we wanted to do something about this at the University."

For the last 15 years, the couple has been providing support for international students through the Sullivan International Scholarship.

Following a competitive process each year, a committee awards the scholarship based on identifiable need, leadership skills, and involvement in campus and community activities. Since its inception, more than 60 individuals have donated to help the Sullivans endow the award.

Ernest Ang, a first-generation college student from Malaysia, is this year's recipient of the Sullivan Award. A leader even during his early undergraduate days at Malaysia's HELP University, Ang traveled to small towns and stressed the importance of education to children. He also was instrumental in starting a Chinese club on campus.

Ang came to BSU to complete a psychology degree, but encountered the model building program after arriving on campus. "They don't have this type of program in Malaysia," he says. "My mom said I could do it for one semester and, if I liked it, they would try to support me financially."

That promise came while Ang's family was paying for his older sister to finish college in Canada and also saving to send his younger sister to college. He has stayed at BSU to finish a second degree in model making and works 20 hours a week in BSU's Information Technology Services office. He also has spent the last two summers working 80-hour-per-week outreach internships through the University of the Ozarks in Arkansas.

In addition to a double major and his job, Ang also has been heavily involved on campus. He is a member of the current President's Student Commission researching student participation in the community, is part of a work group looking into student success and retention, and is a past president of BSU's International Student Organization.

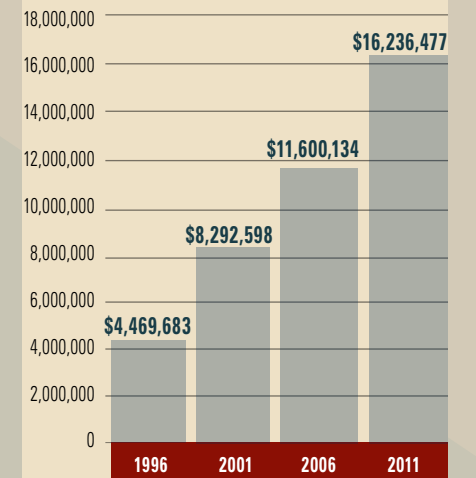
"My parents didn't expect to sponsor me for so many years in college, so with this scholarship I don't have to rely entirely on them," says Ang, who is in his seventh semester at BSU and his sixth year in college overall. He recognizes that the value of his scholarship goes far beyond the expenses it helps to pay. "I work hard and involve myself to obtain leadership skills. This scholarship affirms my time here with my parents."

The scholarship is an eye opener to Ang's parents, much like his time in Bemidji has been for him. "Wherever you go, people smile and are so friendly," he explains. "I didn't expect it that much." ■

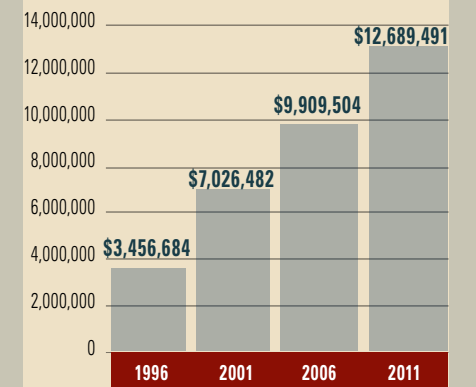


ERNEST ANG

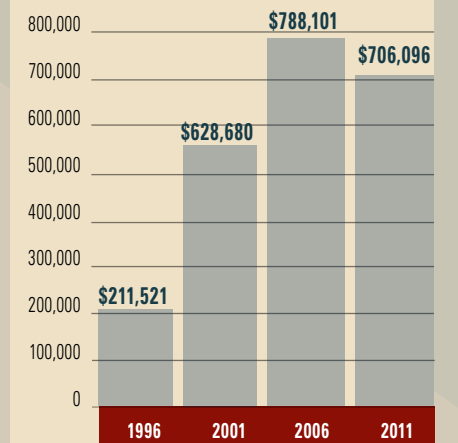
### Growth of Foundation Assets



### Growth of Endowed Funds



### BSU Foundation Scholarship Dollars Provided







# BEMIDJI

STATE UNIVERSITY

1500 Birchmont Drive NE  
Bemidji, MN 56601-2699



FIRST SNOW OF THE 2011-12 SEASON

**CAMPUS PREVIEWS:**

January 20, February 10, February 20, March 12

**SATURDAY SAMPLERS**

February 4, March 3, April 21, May 5

**ACADEMIC ADVISING & REGISTRATION**

FRESHMAN:

Fridays - March 16, March 23, April 13, April 27, June 15

TRANSFER:

Mondays - May 7, June 4, July 16

**CAMPUS CALENDAR**

**Spring Semester Begins** Jan. 9

For University events and news  
visit [www.bemidjistate.edu](http://www.bemidjistate.edu)

Also follow BSU on

