



## what'sinside

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## Moving Beyond Differences

President Quistgaard calls for shared campus effort

In 2005, a group of 42 faculty, staff and students embarked on a journey to consider restructuring Bemidji State University's liberal education program. Since then, that task force has assessed the existing program, gleaned best practices from exemplary programs elsewhere, analyzed relevant research data, and, in the end, crafted a new liberal education structure that holds great promise for the University.

Throughout the process, the task force has remained intentionally focused on developing consistent, measurable learning outcomes throughout the program's courses. Their guiding force has been the vision of a liberal education experience that our students will see as keenly relevant to their education – and lives - now and in the future.

Discussion about the proposed structure has been spirited, if not, at times, contentious. Last week's vote by the faculty association to rescind their prior approval of the new plan clearly suggests the need to reexamine areas of differences, which I understand are primarily in the implementation of the program, not the structure itself. While obvious campus consternation exists about some aspects of the program, I view the vote as an opportunity to continue exploring those concerns while tending to details.

What makes the newly crafted liberal education structure so important are the significant, overall strides it makes in addressing the contemporary learning needs of our students. Its structure is sound, offering an inquiry course and three structural divisions – the foundational core, diversity of knowledge, and integration.

The first-year inquiry course would introduce students to a variety of critical thinking and communication methods, while exploring the meaning of liberal education, the baccalaureate degree, and life-long learning. The structural divisions would provide students with a coherent learning path that starts with the building blocks of communication, critical thinking and technological and mathematical literacy.

From the core, students would extend their knowledge and skills across the disciplines. An integration component would help them connect their liberal education experiences to other aspects of their lives – wellness, the environment, global and cross-cultural awareness, civic responsibility, and ethical behavior. Throughout their liberal education experience, students would be challenged to use critical thinking skills to deepen and widen their understanding.

This liberal education structure addresses many of the skills and traits that the nation's employers have deemed essential for college graduates. Ac-

ording to a 2009 study by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, those abilities, in rank order, are: communication skills, a strong work ethic, teamwork, initiative, analytical skills, computer skills, flexibility and adaptability, interpersonal skills, problem-solving skills, and technical skills.

The intention all along has been to enhance the existing liberal education program. The task force's proposed plan does that. Having experienced the University's proposed liberal education core, our graduates would have an expanded ability to think critically and logically. They would be able to communicate in written and verbal form more effectively. They would know how to access and create new knowledge in ways they hadn't before. They would better understand the interconnectedness of the disciplines. They would demonstrate personal, ethical, and civic responsibilities. They would be well prepared for workplace demands.

The core also would help our graduates gain the reasoning skills so critical in furthering our democratic society. They would know how to ask pertinent questions, weigh conflicting evidence, recognize the complexity of a situation, and propose relevant solutions using activated imaginations that arise from their knowledge and understanding of the disciplines. They would have the foundation needed to be involved, well-informed citizens.

As a University community, we are indebted to those who have worked so diligently, so creatively, in crafting a new liberal education structure. They have created a vibrant, relevant, foundational curriculum poised to have a lasting impact on our students' learning and lives. This liberal education structure has the potential to serve as the foundation from which our students draw knowledge and skills to support their major areas of study as well as prepare for their personal and professional lives.

Much time and thought has been invested in this journey toward reshaping the liberal education structure. Now is the time for the campus community to come together, addressing divergent points of view and finding common ground. For the good of our future students, we must continue moving forward toward our vision of Bemidji State University as the Midwest's premier student-center public university. A new liberal education structure will help us reach that vision. We must not retreat from that goal no matter how challenging it might be.



## Department of Music's fall season launches Oct. 4

### Annual Carl O. Thompson memorial concert launches 2009 fall season

► Complete story available at BSU Today:  
<http://www.bemidjistate.edu/bsutoday/fine-arts/2009/09/24/music-thompson-concert>

The Department of Music's 2009-10 performance season officially gets underway Sunday, Oct. 4, with the annual Carl O. Thompson Memorial concert. The show is scheduled for 3 p.m. in the Thompson Recital Hall of the Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens and free for students.

In addition to performances by BSU's major performing ensembles, the concert will feature student performances by the two winners of the Carl O. Thompson scholarship. Performing this year will be Kathryn Morrill, a senior pianist from Le Sueur, Minn., and Jake Kaehne, a senior vocalist from Bemidji.

Performing ensembles will be:

- The Wind Ensemble, directed by Dr. Erika Svano, assistant professor of clarinet and director of bands at Bemidji State.
- Jazz Band I, directed by Dr. Steve Konecne, professor of instrumental music.
- The Chamber Singers, directed by Dr. Brad Logan, professor of music.
- The Bemidji Choir, founded by Thompson and now under the direction of Logan.

Concert proceeds are used to fund two \$1,500 Carl O. Thompson Scholarships awarded to outstanding student musicians at BSU.

## Large freshman class fuels fall enrollment boost

### Incoming freshman class at 810; 20th-day enrollment up nearly two percent

► Complete story available at BSU Today:  
<http://www.bemidjistate.edu/bsutoday/news-updates/2009/09/21/bsu-fall-enrollment>

A sizeable freshman class has helped fuel fall enrollment growth of nearly two percent.

Bemidji State's enrollment figures for Monday, Sept. 21 -- the 20th day of classes -- shows a total enrollment of 4,970 students, an increase of 91 students over the same time a year ago, or an enrollment increase of 1.9 percent.

The total of 4,970 students includes 4,524 undergraduates, an increase of 1.8 percent from the 20th day of enrollment in 2008, and 446 graduate students, a 2.1-percent increase from last year.

BSU's enrollment number could fluctuate throughout the fall as students enroll for distance learning options.

Bemidji State's 810-member freshman class for 2009 played a key role in this year's overall enrollment gains, representing a 4.2-percent increase in freshman enrollment since last year.

Credit generation, which plays a more-critical role in the University's budget than headcount, is also seeing early signs of an increase over 2008. BSU's 20th-day overall credit load is 60,183 credits, a 5.5-percent increase from a year ago.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system will issue its official fall enrollment report on Monday, Oct. 5. The system report reflects enrollment on the 30th day of classes.

## Is it a cold or the flu?

Common signs & symptoms	Flu (seasonal or H1N1)	Cold
Onset	Sudden	Gradual
Fever	Common, lasting 3-4 days	Rare
Cough	Dry; can become severe	Hacking; mild
Headache	Prominent	Rare
Muscle/joint aches, pain	Usual; often severe	Slight
Fatigue and weakness	May last up to two weeks	Very mild
Extreme exhaustion	Early and prominent	Never
Chest discomfort	Common	Mild to moderate
Stuffy nose	Sometimes	Common
Sneezing	Sometimes	Common
Sore throat	Sometimes	Common



## 360° named as finalist for 10th Annual Tekne Awards

Minnesota High Tech Association award honors tech innovation and leadership in Minnesota

The Minnesota High Tech Association, in partnership with LifeScience Alley and Enterprise Minnesota, recently announced finalists for the 10th Annual Tekne Awards; that list of finalists included the 360° Center of Excellence from the College of Business, Technology and Communication.

The Tekne Awards celebrate companies, innovations and individuals that have positively impacted Minnesota's technology-based economy. In its decade of existence, the Tekne Awards have honored over 100 ground-breaking organizations and more than 25 innovative leaders in fields ranging from advanced manufacturing to education. The association works each year to discover Minnesota's best and brightest in technology.

Playing a significant part in bringing new technology to life, the 2009 Tekne Award finalists represent large global companies, as well as small startup ventures, that have positively impacted the quality of life in Minnesota and throughout the world.

Awards are separated into categories that recognize the best and brightest in innovation, development, commercialization and management of technology in Minnesota.

The program reinforces Minnesota's place as one of the most competitive and technologically advanced regions in the world.

"The Tekne Awards continue to serve as a sign of Minnesota's technological distinction, and the accomplishments of this year's group of finalists continue that tradition,"

said Kate Rubin, president of MHTA. "For the 10th year, the quantity and quality of entries continue to grow and the technology innovation, as represented by this year's finalists, is stronger than ever."

The 2009 Tekne Awards will be presented on Thursday, Oct. 22, at the Minneapolis Convention Center, beginning with a reception at 4:30 p.m., followed by general registration and reception at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m., the awards ceremony at 7 p.m., and a post-Tekne party at 8:30 p.m.

The event will be emceed by John Sweeney, author of "Innovation at the Speed of Laughter" and owner of the Brave New Workshop, the nation's oldest satirical comedy theatre.

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

## Faculty Feature

Sudhi Upadhyaya, assistant professor, Department of Technological Studies

### What's your job at BSU?

I am an assistant professor in the Department of Technological Studies. I teach technical graphics, material handling, industrial organization and leadership and the plastics portion of materials and processes, among others.

### How long have you been here?

This is my second year at Bemidji State. Before I came here I was in Illinois, and before that I was in California and Arizona.

### What's your favorite thing about being at BSU?

A couple of things, I would say. The summer is really great here; I like it. I enjoy the time during April and May, when it's not that cold and not that warm, and the sky is a different color. It's very pleasant.

### Inside the Beaver's Studio

1. What is your favorite word?  
Yes.

2. What is your least favorite word?  
No.

3. What turns you on?  
Winning a game of chess or scoring a goal in a soccer game.

4. What turns you off?  
Losing a soccer game.

5. What sound do you love?  
The sound of my daughter laughing.



6. What sound do you hate?

The sound of my daughter crying at 3 a.m.

7. What profession other than yours would you like to attempt?  
Consultant.

8. What profession would you not like to do?  
Testing.

9. If heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the pearly gates?  
"Finally, you are here."

Thanks, Sudhi, for playing along for this issue's faculty feature! Participants are selected randomly using a process that is considered witchcraft in 14 countries. If you have suggestions for a faculty or staff member you'd like to see featured here, e-mail Andy Bartlett at [jbartlett@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:jbartlett@bemidjistate.edu) or call my office at 2746.

Entries for campus notes are compiled by reporters in each college, school or administrative area and submitted to the Office of Communications and Marketing for inclusion in BSU Insider. Photos used in Campus Notes are submitted. Photos for use in Campus Notes can be e-mailed in high-resolution (300 dpi) JPEG format to: [jbartlett@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:jbartlett@bemidjistate.edu)



## Personnel News

### New faces and old friends in new places

• **Kristine Kuether** joined the Honors Program as a part-time office specialist, effective Sept. 22, 2009.

## Campus Notes

### Updates on the activities and achievements of our friends in the campus community

#### Finance and Administration

• In July, the Department of Athletics was awarded the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference's 2008-09 Sportsmanship Award at the league's annual hall of fame banquet in St. Cloud. The award recipient is selected by NSIC head coaches and a Student Athlete Advisory Committee members based on the sportsmanship of players, fans, staff and coaches at each institution.

• **Dr. Rick Goeb**, director of athletics, will be inducted into the North Dakota State University Athletic Hall of Fame on Oct. 2. Goeb, who has been at BSU since 2001, wrestled for the Bison from 1985-88. He was a three-time All-America honoree and won the 1988 NCAA Division II national championship in the 126-pound class.

#### Student Development and Enrollment

• **Dr. Lisa Erwin**, vice president for student development and enrollment, co-authored an article entitled "The Debate Continues on Concealed Weapons" that will appear in the fall 2009 issue of "Leadership Exchange: Solutions for Student Affairs Management."

• **Margie Giauque**, director of career services, presented a resume workshop at the Bemidji Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals Network meeting on Sept. 2. Giauque also has been nominated to serve on the board for the American Association of Employment in Education in the role of membership and publications. This position will begin in November.

• **Kathy O'Brien**, assistant director of the Hobson Memorial Union, attended the Event Management Systems User's Conference in Vail, Colo. in September. The conference included sessions on best practices for the use of EMS's software for scheduling and managing campus facilities.

#### Business, Technology and Communication

• The Department of Technological Studies has launched its new Web site. The department wishes to thank Bonnie Higgins and Jim McCracken for their work on the site, and to Cindy Serratore for helping write much of the site's new content. Visit the site at: <http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics>

• **Dr. Dave Smith**, assistant professor of marketing, and **Barry Stephens**, assistant professor of accounting, presented a paper entitled "Accounting Ethics Educational Interventions: A Combination of Both the Discrete and Pervasive Method" at the American Business Educators Association conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., on Sept. 23.

• **Randy Wentzel**, assistant professor of technological studies, and **Gerald (Bud) Nestal**, associate professor of technological studies, attended the Productivity Tool Show in Plymouth, Minn. on Sept. 22 with a small group of students. Following the show, they toured Remelle Manufacturing in Big Lake, Minn.

## "#" required after long distance codes starting today

As a reminder, Paul Bunyan Telephone is switching to a different long distance provider. Effective today, our long distance codes will remain the same, but we will need to enter a pound sign (#) after the code.

Here is an example of how to place a long distance call beginning Sept. 29: Dial 8-1-651-555-1212. When you hear the tone, enter your 6 digit long distance code, followed by the pound sign (#). If you have your code programmed into fax machines, telephones, etc, you will need add the # to the end of those as well. If you have forgotten your long distance code, e-mail your BSU tech ID and phone number to Marie Bock ([mbock@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:mbock@bemidjistate.edu)) and she will e-mail it back to you.