It’s hard to believe that eleven years have passed since Bemidji State University’s first Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Conference was held. While the students’ names and the titles of the presentations, poster sessions and creative endeavors have changed over the years, the conference’s purpose has remained steady.

The goal was – and is – to create a learning environment where the process of research and creativity is heightened by having students showcase their work in a professional, conference-like setting. Each year since, we have witnessed a steady procession of bright, talented and insightful budding professionals as they presented their research findings or discussed their works of art. The experience has not only highlighted their abilities, but also boosted their confidence.

This year over 150 presentations and 22 poster sessions were held. Topics varied widely, from analyzing the carbon footprint to interpreting original poetry. While classrooms were teeming with conference presentations, the University’s galleries and the Scandinavian Room in the union provided venues for celebrating the creative accomplishments of student artists. In keeping with tradition, the day ended with the Beaver Film Festival.

Hats off to the faculty advisors who have shared their knowledge, time and energies to prepare students for this applied learning experience. The diversity of topics and approaches taken illustrates the depth and breadth of your expertise. The experience also reflects the importance of the relationships built between faculty and students. Incubated by Bemidji State’s size and mission, these connections with students are nurtured and sustained because of dedicated faculty and staff.

My appreciation is extended to those who planned the conference. Thank you for the time and attention you gave to the numerous details. The result was an exhilarating day of celebration.

Over the years, we have not wavered from our focus as student-centered university. We are a university where the potential of our students is recognized and shaped with the expectation that our graduates will shape their own worlds. The Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Conference is strong evidence of that commitment.
Susan Carol Hauser, professor of English and chair of the Department of English, is one of five winners of a $25,000 McKnight Artist Fellowship for Writers for 2010.

Hauser is one of four recipients of a Loft Award in Poetry and Spoken Word Poetry; a fifth Loft Award was given for children’s literature.

Hauser, who is retiring from the University this year, said she intends to use the money from the fellowship to go on a retreat next winter and pursue poetry at a writer’s colony.

Hauser is the author of 12 books, including “Outside After Dark: New and Selected Poems,” four books on nature with subjects including poison ivy, ticks, wild rice, and maple sugaring, and one on writing. She has received Minnesota Book Awards for “Wild Rice Cooking: History, Natural History, Harvesting and Lore” and for “Meant To Be Read Out Loud.” She also is a charter resident at the Anderson Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Red Wing.

Hauser began working at BSU as an adjunct professor and catalog editor in 1980 and joined the faculty full-time in 1998.

The University has announced five semifinalists for the presidency at the University and Northwest Technical College.

The semifinalists, who began interviewing on campus this week, are: Dr. Linda T. Krug, on sabbatical after an 11-year tenure as dean of the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota, Duluth; Dr. Betsy Vogel Boze, senior fellow at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities; Dr. Jason A. Laker, associate vice principal and dean of student affairs at Queen’s University (Ontario, Canada); Dr. Philip C. Williams, president of the University of Montevallo (Montevallo, Ala.); and Dr. Richard A. Hanson, interim president at North Dakota State University.

Krug’s two-day visit to campus wraps up today. Vogel Boze and Laker will be in Bemidji next week; Vogel Boze on Monday and Tuesday, Laker on Thursday and Friday. Williams and Hanson will visit Bemidji during the week of April 18; Williams will be in Bemidji April 19-20, and Hanson will be in Bemidji April 22-23.

On the first day of their two-day visits, each semifinalist will hold an open form, “Higher Education at the Crossroads,” from 2:15-3 p.m. in Bridgeman 100. All faculty and staff are encouraged to attend.

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Dr. Louise Jackson, professor of psychology and director of the women’s studies program at Bemidji State University, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar Grant for 2010-11 to serve as a guest scholar at Copenius University in the Slovak Republic.

Jackson will teach courses on counseling and supervision and family therapy and Copenius and also consult on the school’s graduate curriculum.

It is the second Fulbright grant won by Jackson since 2000. In 2000-01, she also received a grant to teach at Tallinn Pedagogical University in Estonia. There, she taught counseling practicum and lifespan development and supervised the school’s Psychology Club.

Aside from teaching, Jackson also has engaged in private counseling, has been the lead consultant with Jackson Counseling and has spoken and presented at numerous conferences and training sessions over the last three decades.

Jackson received her bachelor’s degree in psychology at the University of Michigan, her master’s in educational psychology and Eastern Michigan University and her doctorate in counseling at Indiana State University.
**Bemidji State University goes social**

University’s social media audience on Twitter and Facebook has grown to more than 4,000

Last summer, the University’s Office of Communications and Marketing entered the social media realm by launching official presences for Bemidji State University on Facebook and Twitter.

Both are maintained by Andy Bartlett, associate director of communications and marketing.

“The Facebook page came first, as an additional outlet for news release content and, we hoped, as a place for discussion with people interested in the University,” Bartlett said. “Twitter was added later. We link to some of the same content there, but also use Twitter to provide links to media mentions of the University and news we encounter about alums.”

Today, the University has nearly 4,000 fans on Facebook and more than 250 followers on Twitter.

“Growing these audiences is a slow process,” Bartlett said. “At the current rate, it will take about six months to go from 3,200 fans to 4,000 on our Facebook page. But while the growth has been slow, it’s been steady. As we’ve added content, more people have become involved with likes, comments and other indicators they’re paying attention to Bemidji State.”

If your department or area has a presence on Facebook or Twitter, please let the Office of Communications and Marketing know where we can find you.

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**Staff Feature**

Billy Crews, head athletic trainer, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics

*What’s your job at BSU?*

“I am the head athletic trainer.”

*How long have you been here?*

“I count it as 20 years, but the school counts it as 15 since they’re counting FTEs. Before that, I was a student at BSU.”

*What’s your favorite thing about being at BSU?*

“I like the size of the school. I like the city, the North Woods. I like the area.”

**Inside the Beaver’s Studio**

1. What is your favorite word?
   "Goal. You can set goals, or you can score goals.”

2. What is your least favorite word?
   "Negative. Anything that deals with negativity.”

3. What turns you on?
   "Sunshine.”

4. What turns you off?
   "Knee injuries.”

5. What sound do you love?
   "Running water in a creek.”

6. What sound do you hate?
   "The sound of agony, whatever that sound is.”

7. What profession other than yours would you like to attempt?
   "Back-country ranger.”

8. What profession would you not like to do?
   "Athletic director.”

9. If heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the pearly gates?
   “It’s about time!”

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Thanks to Billy for playing along for this issue’s staff feature! Participants for this section are selected randomly using a process that involves a shed full of Charles Widmore’s weird electromagnets, used to force Desmond to cross over into the alternate universe.

This is intended to be a lighthearted look at the non-professional side of some of our favorite professionals. 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 or call my office at 2746.
Personnel News
New faces and old friends in new places

• no activity to report this issue.

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

Academic Affairs

• **Dr. Marsha Driscoll**, associate professor of psychology, has been named director of the Bemidji State University honors program for a three-year term beginning in the fall of 2010.

  As director, Driscoll will advocate for the honors program and for the honors students, promote professional development for honors faculty and promote the Honors Council Lecture Series.

Arts and Sciences

• **Dr. Susan Scrivner**, professor of English, presented a paper at the College English Association meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Her paper, “Doubly Voiceless: Immigrant Women in British Films,” examined how movies portray immigrant women and girls as being marginalized by the larger British culture but also devalued by their own families and the immigrant community. Despite this marginalization, the women balance the demands of external forces and their own need for autonomy, developing strategies to survive in their own cultures and in British society.

Business, Technology and Communication

• **Dr. Gerald Nestel**, professor of technological studies, presented “Converting Gasoline Hybrid to a Plug-In” at the International Technology Education Association Conference, March 18-21 in Charlotte, N.C.

  Nestel also attended the Association of Professional Modelmakers conference, along with 10 students, March 26-27 in Boston. Senior Joshua Munchow won the grand prize, a $500 scholarship and a 3D printer for the department, and senior Michael Latzke finished third.

• **Dr. Vince Vohnout**, associate professor of technological studies, presented his paper, “Extreme Pressure Heterogeneity in Electro-Hydraulic High Speed Forming” at the 2010 International Conference on High Speed Forming, March 9 at The Ohio State University.

• **Dr. James McCracken**, professor of technological studies, has been awarded a grant from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system to fund a pedagogy course for two-year faculty in the system.

Student Nurses Association hosts Prom at Havenwood

On March 27, the Student Nurses Association hosted a prom at Havenwood Care Center in Bemidji. After spending time decorating the building with balloons and streamers, the students changed into prom dresses for the event, which featured a grand march and a fashion show. Afterwards, the students helped serve a snack and then had a dance with the Havenwood residents.