The final stage of Bemidji State University’s renovation of the Sattgast Hall complex wrapped up in early August when installation was completed on a stainless steel fountain sculpture in the plaza between the hall and the lower Hobson Memorial Union.

The sculpture, called "In Flight," was created by St. Paul-based sculptor Alexander Tylevich. Tylevich, an award-winning sculptor and architect with projects ranging from free-standing site-specific sculptures to a master plan of a metropolitan city, operates Studio Tylevich with Poline Tylevich.

In Flight

In Flight

Sculpture by St. Paul-based artist Alexander Tylevich graces plaza outside Sattgast Hall

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Tylevich has designed a number of public art installations in southern Minnesota and also has installations in locations such as Chicago, Denver, Baton Rouge, La., and Blue Springs, Mo.

“Our selection committee was attracted to Alexander’s previous work, which included some very intricate and detailed science-related pieces,” said Dr. Patrick Guilfoile, interim associate vice president for academic affairs and chair of the committee that selected this piece for campus. “After hearing a presentation of his concept, the committee members thought it tied together themes related to the disciplines in the building to the adjacent butterfly garden. The committee also liked that this work brought some visual pizzazz to that part of campus.”

The sculpture was funded through the Minnesota Percent for Art in Public Places program, which is a legislated component of state public building projects. The program acquires works of art to be exhibited in and around state buildings in areas regularly accessible to the general public. Percent for Art purchases existing work or commissions artists to create new work especially for the state building or site.

The sculpture was installed by the Bemidji State University grounds crew and Studio Tylevich associates Brian Sobaski and Max Cora, with assistance from Gregg Judge and Bill Born from Kraus-Anderson Construction Company.

"In Flight" is crafted of stainless steel, stainless steel cables, cast and fabricated bronze, and colored and dichroic glass. At night, it is illuminated by built-in LED lighting in the upright mast.

The sculpture was installed by the Bemidji State University grounds crew and Studio Tylevich associates Brian Sobaski and Max Cora, with assistance from Gregg Judge and Bill Born from Kraus-Anderson Construction Company.

The sculpture addresses several issues specific to its location,” Tylevich said. “The sculpture site has an irregular geometry, with quite a substantial difference in elevation between the walkway levels. Because of this, I felt the site required a very visible ‘destination’ sculpture.”

Lining the butterfly garden’s retaining wall are seven symbolic books made of dichroic glass panels of different colors, each representing one of the seven disciplines advanced in Sattgast Hall and representing the colorful butterflies who make their homes in the adjacent garden.

The fountain that serves as the sculpture’s base complements the sculpture in its shape and flow. The retaining wall around the fountain also provides a seating option on the plaza.

In Flight

An asymmetrical “twister,” which surrounds a stainless steel mast more than 30 feet tall, serves the core of the sculpture. It takes off from the fountain and flies toward the butterfly garden and Lake Bemidji. The twister is supported by seven stainless steel cables and is inscribed with the names of the academic programs housed in Sattgast Hall - environmental studies, geology, biology, aquatic biology, chemistry, physics and nursing. It also is treated with a number of cast and fabricated elements and has seven built-in color-changing LED elements.

“The sculpture addresses several issues specific to its location,” Tylevich said. “The sculpture site has an
BSU remains in USNWR’s top Midwest tier
University ranked amongst Midwest’s top schools for third straight year

For the third consecutive year, Bemidji State has placed in the top tier of the U.S. News and World Report rankings of America’s colleges and universities in the Midwest region.

The University tied with two other institutions for 92nd among all colleges and universities in the region and ranked 35th among public universities in the region.

“Once again, Bemidji State University is ranked among the top tier of regional institutions in the Midwest, and we’re very proud of that,” Bemidji State University President Dr. Richard Hanson said. “The rankings reflect the University’s continued commitment to excellence through its stellar academic programs and educational experiences.”

Among other rankings released for universities in the Midwest region, BSU tied for 26th in rankings of a school’s population of international students and tied for 42nd in the economic diversity category, with 31 percent of its students receiving Pell grants.

U.S. News & World Report classifies BSU as a regional university in its Midwest region. The publication defines regional universities as those offering a full range of undergraduate programs with some master’s, but few doctoral, programs.

Bemidji State receives $2 million grant for TRiO
Student Support Services programming refunded for five years

Bemidji State University’s TRiO/Student Support Services programs have been refunded through 2015 by a five-year, $2.22-million grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

The grant offers BSU $444,657 in funding per year to continue its Student Support Services programs for another five years.

“Bemidji State’s Student Support Services programs offer an additional resource for students who aren’t necessarily familiar with the college environment,” said Kelli Steggall, director of TRiO/Student Support Services at Bemidji State. “We offer advising, tutoring and mentoring services, and offer a for-credit college orientation course that allows new BSU students to learn everything they’ll need to know about succeeding on campus — from how to drop a class to what student clubs and organizations are available.”

TRiO’s mission is to increase retention rates of low-income and first-generation college students and students with disabilities.

TRiO/Student Support Services has been in operation at BSU since 1970. Participation is voluntary and offered free to students who meet eligibility requirements.

Design tech program receives projector donation
St. Paul-based Skyline Exhibits donates five high-def NEC projectors

Presentations in the Department of Technological Studies will soon be a little bit brighter, thanks to a donation of projectors from St. Paul-based Skyline Exhibits.

Skyline Exhibits serves on the advisory board for the design technology program and has representatives on campus for the program’s annual portfolio review event and for advisory board meetings.

“We’ve had many conversations with Skyline regarding our program and the industry,” said Dr. Bonnie Higgins, associate professor of technological studies. “Skyline purchased a series of projectors to use with one of their new display systems. When a change in vendors prompted a separate purchase, they asked if our program might have an interest in five of the initial projectors.”

“These are great projectors,” said Skyline President Bill Dierberger. “We saw an opportunity to step in and support a quality educational program with high-end equipment they might otherwise not have been able to acquire.”
Office of the President

• Dax Larson, assistant director of athletic media relations, attended the annual conference of the College Sports Information Directors of America in San Francisco from July 4-7.

Intercollegiate Athletics

• Bert Gilling, assistant men’s hockey coach and associate professor of physical education, health and sport, coached in Romanian Ice Hockey Federation’s International Coaching Seminar and Development Camp. He also gave a presentation, “Stickhandling Around Obstacles.” The camp was held in Bucharest from July 30-Aug. 2 and in Miercurea Ciuc, Romania from Aug. 2-7.

Photos from Gilling’s trip are below.

College of Arts and Sciences

• Ellen Jones, assistant professor of theatre, participated in the 16th Annual Broadway Lighting Designers Master Class in New York City from May 25-27 at the NYU Skirball Center for the Performing Arts.

Jones also designed scenery and lighting for "All Night Strut" and scenery for "Fully Committed" at the Lost Nation Theatre in Montpelier, Vt. "All Night Strut" ran July 16-Aug. 1, and "Fully Committed" ran Aug. 5-22.

Jones also presented "Sustainability in Theatre Production: How to Survive and Thrive in the Twenty-First Century" at the Association of Theatre in Higher Education in Los Angeles, Aug 3-6.

College of Health Sciences and Human Ecology

• Jeanine Gangeness, associate professor of nursing and chair of the Department of Nursing, was selected to participate in the Higher Education Resource Services Institute at the University of Denver in Colorado. Gangeness was in Denver for the first residency of the institute from Aug. 1-7 and will return again in September and October.

Gangeness also gave an oral presentation, "Playing Together: A University and Technical College Example of Successful Collaboration" along with Rhonda Bender, director of nursing at Northwest Technical College, at the 2010 Nurse Educators Conference in the Rockies in Breckenridge, Colo., July 17.

• Carolyn Townsend, assistant professor of nursing, attended the Midwest Nurse Educators Academy in Grand Forks, N.D., May 24-26.

Townsend also attended the Faculty Learning About Geriatrics summer institute at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Campus, Aug. 2-6.
Personnel News

New faces and old friends in new places

- Constance Aagard joined Student Health and Counseling as a psychologist, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Jacob Blum named Beaver Pride Coordinator at the BSU Foundation, effective May 12, 2010.
- Wayne Chadwick named head women’s volleyball coach in the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, effective June 7, 2010.
- Cheryl Christleib named office and administrative specialist in the Office of the President, effective June 15, 2010.
- Kristen Freed named office and administrative specialist in Student Development and Enrollment, effective June 14, 2010.
- Dean Frost named associate professor of business administration, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Kanwalinderjit Gagneja named assistant professor of computer science, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Fabio Guerinoni named assistant professor of computer science, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Lisa Graefe named assistant professor of languages and ethnic studies, effective Aug. 25, 2010.
- Shane Gunderson named head women’s softball coach in the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Richard Hanson named President, effective July 12, 2010.
- Sarah Hess named customer service specialist in Residential Life, effective July 9, 2010.
- Beth Jensen joined the Center for Extended Learning as a management analyst, effective Aug. 4, 2010.
- Carol Knicker named assistant professor of professional education, effective Aug. 16, 2010.
- April Larson named assistant professor of language and ethnic studies, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Ekren Miller named head men’s golf coach in the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Toby Palmiscno named equipment manager for men’s hockey in the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- P. Joa Poor named dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 8, 2010.
- Kristi Reiplinger-Grosfeld joined the Student Center for Health and Counseling as an LPN, effective Aug. 26, 2010.
- MaryAnne Richards named assistant professor of professional education, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Angela Schmidt named customer service specialist in Residential Life, effective July 6, 2010.
- Jason Sellers named assistant professor of history, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Kelli Steggal named director of TRiO/Student Support Services, effective April 28, 2010.
- Sarah Tarutis named assistant professor of nursing, effective Aug. 17, 2010.
- Chad Williams named assistant professor of computer science, effective Aug. 17, 2010.

Tenures

The following members of the faculty have been promoted or granted tenure beginning in the fall of 2010.

Tenures

Dr. Virgil Bakken, Assistant Professor, Mass Communication, College of Business, Technology and Communication
Dr. Stephen Carlson, Assistant Professor, Music, College of Arts and Sciences
Mr. Patrick Carriere, Assistant Professor, Theatre, College of Arts and Sciences
Ms. Maureen Gibbon, Assistant Professor, English, College of Arts and Sciences

Promotions: assistant to associate professor

Dr. Virgil Bakken, Mass Communication, College of Business, Technology & Communication
Dr. Stephen Carlson, Music, College of Arts and Sciences
Ms. Maureen Gibbon, English, College of Arts and Sciences
Dr. James White, PEHS, College of Health Sciences & Human Ecology

Promotions: associate to full professor

Dr. J. Thomas Murphy, History, College of Arts and Sciences