



PRESIDENT FAITH C. HENSRUD

Welcome to the end of Bemidji State University's centennial celebration, a milestone we celebrate during one of the most trying times in our institution's history.

As we prepare this issue of Bemidji State University magazine for print, we are in the midst of an unprecedented response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The majority of our employees have been working remotely for nearly a month, and we have worked to support both the essential employees who must remain on campus and the students who remain in our residence halls. Faculty are now teaching all of our spring coursework via alternative delivery methods, with no in-person instruction on campus. And, as you may have heard, we joined the rest of the Minnesota State system in making the difficult decision to cancel our May 8 Commencement ceremony.

There is no playbook for the challenges we have been forced to overcome, but throughout this emergency our campus community's passion, creativity and sense of purpose have remained focused on the success of our students. These are the traits we celebrated from the first 100 years of our history, and these are the traits that will carry us forward into Our Second Century.

Please enjoy this issue of Bemidji State University magazine, and re-live the events and activities that have occurred on campus since April of 2017 in recognition of our Centennial. Not only do I hope the stories and photos you find within will provide you with a welcome distraction during this pandemic, I also hope they provide a reminder of the vital role BSU continues to play in the lives of our students. Through their dreams and achievements, we continue to demonstrate our place in the Bemidji community, the state of Minnesota and the entire world. May this fine institution continue to endure, to its 200th birthday and beyond.

Please take care of yourselves and your families and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Faith C. Hensrud

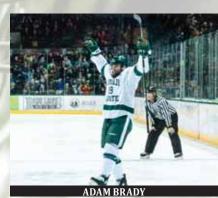
Faith C. Henril

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STATE UNIVERSITY

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HAGG-SAUER GROUNDBREAKING

BSU Breaks Ground on First New Building of its Second Century

By Andy Bartlett

On a sunny September afternoon, more than 125 Bemidji State University faculty, staff and students were joined by representatives from Minnesota State colleges and universities, the state legislature and the Bemidji community to celebrate the groundbreaking of the new Hagg-Sauer Hall.

The original Hagg-Sauer Hall, built in 1970, was demolished over the summer to pave way for the new, smaller, modern classroom facility as part of an extensive campus-altering construction and renovation project.

Following a Native American honor song performed by Nathaniel McDonald, a freshman accounting major, Karen Snorek, vice president of finance and administration, welcomed attendees to the ceremony and thanked key partners for their support.

Jay Cowles, chair of the Minnesota State Board of Trustees, praised BSU's planning processes and perseverance to see the Hagg-Sauer project through this important phase, with Dr. Devinder Malhotra, chancellor of Minnesota State, echoing his sentiments.

"This project is much like the Greek mythological creature the phoenix, where rising from the dust of the old facility will be a new, modern facility, reborn to serve students and the region well beyond our time," Malhotra said. "I believe the renovation of Hagg-Sauer will not only meet our students where they are but, more importantly, where they need to go."

BSU President Faith C. Hensrud shared a brief history of the old Hagg-Sauer Hall and recapped the 15-year journey BSU had traveled to reach a groundbreaking celebration. She also focused on the future and what the new building will mean for generations to come.

"As we begin Our Second Century, we recognize how truly special this new building will be as we focus on our students," Hensrud said. "I can assure you, the new Hagg-Sauer Hall will provide state-of-the-art classroom spaces that will enable students to achieve their educational goals, and will provide new experiences that lead to our student's success."



MID-2000s: Hagg-Sauer Hall renovations top BSU facility wish list

2014: BSU receives \$1 million from state legislature to plan construction and renovations

2016 & 2017: Hagg-Sauer Hall funds included in Minnesota Gov. Dayton's bonding recommendations

2017: Minnesota State lists Hagg-Sauer Hall replacement as its top bonding priority for 2018 legislative session

AUGUST 2017: State legislators tour Hagg-Sauer Hall

2018: Minnesota legislature's bonding bill includes \$22.512 million for Hagg-Sauer Hall construction and other campus renovations. Gov. Dayton signed bill on May 30, 2018

APRIL 30, 2019: BSU holds retirement ceremony for Hagg-Sauer Hall

JUNE 2019: Demolition begins on old Hagg-Sauer Hall

SEPTEMBER 16, 2019: Groundbreaking ceremony for new Hagg-Sauer Hall



Participants in the Groundbreaking Ceremony Include:

President Faith C. Hensrud

Chancellor Devinder Malhotra

Trustee Jay Cowles
Minnesota State Board of Trustees

Dr. Derek Webb professor and department chair of mathematics and computer science

Matthew Sauser BSU student body president

Trustee Jerry Janezich, Minnesota State Board of Trustees

Trustee Roger Moe, Minnesota State Board of Trustees

Tony Peffer, provost and vice president of academic and student affairs

Noah Wendland, BSU student body vice president

John Persell, representative, Minnesota House of Representatives

Justin Eichorn, senator, Minnesota Senate

Kay Mack, Beltrami County administrator

Tom Brown, owner, Terra Construction

Ann Voda, architect, BTR-Architects

Travis Barnes, director of facilities

David Sauer, son of Dr. Phil Sauer

Bill Maki, interim vice chancellor of finance and facilities for Minnesota State

Josh Christianson, executive director of university advancement



The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees held its November 2019 meeting in Bemidji, continuing a recent initiative to hold some meetings on campuses rather than at the system office in St. Paul. Bemidji State University kicked off the two-day meeting with a welcome event at the American Indian Resource Center.

Following a welcome from President Hensrud, several dozen BSU Faculty and staff shared results of their research and other projects with trustees during an open showcase. Trustees and Chancellor Malhotra's cabinet also met with students and community leaders during a pair of luncheons in the Beaux Arts Ballroom.



U.S. News Again Ranks BSU Among Region's Top 25 Public Universities

Bemidji State again tied for 22nd amongst public institutions and received its highest overall regional ranking in six years in the U.S. News & World Report America's Best College rankings. Overall, BSU climbed into a tie for 92nd among all colleges and universities in the survey's Midwest Region. BSU also appeared on the publication's regional social mobility ranking, checking in at No. 33. That ranking measures a school's success at enrolling and graduating large proportions of Pell Grant recipients.

Meeting Students Where They Are: Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan Visits Campus

Bemidji State University welcomed Minnesota Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan to campus for a conversation with students, faculty and staff from both BSU and Northwest Technical College in October 2019. Flanagan reflected on her undergraduate experience and her Ojibwe heritage as she highlighted the many pathways young people can take to further their education in Minnesota. Students spoke with Flanagan about everyday challenges including child care, support for single parents and bringing American Indian students and history to the forefront of Minnesota State education curricula.



BSU Earns Bronze-Level Designation as a Bicycle-Friendly University

In November, Bemidji State earned a bronze-level designation as a bicycle-friendly university from the League of American Bicyclists. The league, which promotes cycling for fun, fitness and transportation through advocacy and education, recognized BSU for a number of recent bicycle-friendly initiatives including new permanent bike racks near residence halls, access to bikes through the Bucky's Bikes program and the Outdoor Program Center, and hosting League Cycling Instructor seminars. BSU is one of only six Minnesota campuses to earn a bike-friendly designation from the league.



The Princeton Review listed Bemidji State as one of the country's most environmentally responsible colleges for the third consecutive year. The 2019 list of 413 campuses, announced in November, included 18 from outside the United States. The 10th annual "Guide to 413 Green Colleges" features institutions with commitments to sustainability based on their academic offerings, career preparation, campus policies, initiatives and activities.

A.C. Clark Library Renovation Adds **New Media Recording Studio**

The A.C. Clark Library and BSU Teaching and Learning Center launched a new media recording room in December, which provides the campus with an easy-to-use professional video production studio. Using the studio, BSU students, faculty and staff can create instructional or promotional videos ranging in sophistication from simple single-camera, single-shot productions to multiple-camera setups that make use of a green screen. The library describes the studio as a "work in progress" that will be further developed over time.



School of Technology, Art & Design Signs Transfer **Agreement With Pine Technical College**

On October 2, Bemidji State and Pine Technical College signed a transfer agreement to create clear pathways for Pine Tech manufacturing students to complete bachelor's degrees at BSU. Under the agreement, students in Pine Tech's advanced manufacturing programs which include applied engineering technology, automated systems technology and its industrial equipment emphasis area, precision machining technology, welding and 360 online manufacturing — can more easily transfer into Bemidji State programs to complete their four-year degrees.





BSU Receives \$320,000 Energy Efficiency Rebate From Otter Tail Power

Bemidji State has received a \$323,042 energy efficiency rebate from Otter Tail Power Company as part of that company's Conservation Improvement Program. The rebate will be reinvested into future energy-efficiency projects across

campus. Since 2017, BSU has undertaken a broad variety of energy conservation projects that have helped the campus reduce its energy consumption by nearly 6 percent and reduce its average monthly energy bill by nearly 7 percent.





NEW ADMINISTRATORS



Travis Greene, associate vice president for student life & success

Travis Greene joined the BSU administration as associate vice president for student life & success in August. At BSU, he leads a variety of

student affairs functions including the Gillett Wellness Center, Hobson Memorial Union, Housing and Residential Life and the Student Center for Health and Counseling. He came to BSU from the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, California, where he served as vice provost and dean of student affairs.



Chrissy Koch, executive director of the **American Indian Resource Center**

BSU alumna Chrissy Koch is the new executive director of the American Indian Resource Center. As an undergraduate, Koch was active in

BSU's Council of Indian Students and was part of the committee which advocated for the creation of a resource center for American Indian students at BSU in the early 2000s. She joined the center staff as an outreach specialist in July 2019 before being named the center's first female executive director in January.



Bob Wilkinson, director of institutional research & effectiveness

Nationally renowned institutional data expert Bob Wilkinson joined BSU as director of institutional research & effectiveness in January.

Prior to joining the BSU community, he was most recently director of institutional research & effectiveness at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. Before that, he served in similar capacities at Daytona State College in Florida; Indiana University Purdue University — Fort Wayne; and at Pittsburg (Kan.) State University.

Fall Enrollment Supported by Second Consecutive Year of Strong Retention

Bemidji State's fall 2019 enrollment of nearly 4,900 students was bolstered by the university's secondhighest fall-to-fall retention rate on record. BSU retained 72.3 percent of its Fall 2018 incoming students, marking the second consecutive year — and third time in four years — it enjoyed a retention rate of above 71 percent. Prior to the last two years, BSU's highest retention rate on record came in 2009, when it retained 71.7 percent of its students.

Bemidji State Wins Numerous Accolades for Quality, **Affordability**

In recent months, Bemidji State has been recognized numerous times for quality and affordability by a variety of college ranking websites. Some of those rankings include:

Intelligent.com, which ranked BSU's online applied engineering, special education and accounting undergraduate programs and its master's program in special education among the top 10 in the country;

AffordableSchools.net, which ranked BSU seventh on its list of the nations's most-affordable degree programs in project management;

GradReports, which ranked BSU's social work program among the 25 best in the country.

Accolades from ranking websites are compiled and announced on BSU News, located at bemidjistate.edu/news.

Removing Barriers in Mental Health, **Counseling Services Free to All BSU Students**

Starting in the fall of 2019, students had access to free mental health counseling through the Student Center for Health & Counseling. New 30-minute sessions have been added alongside existing 50-minute sessions to help ensure more students can be seen by counselors. In addition to the cost savings, the new 30-minute sessions are designed to help make access to counseling services more accessible in a student's busy schedule.



New Academic Program Combines Indigenous Knowledge With Western Sustainability Practices

Bemidji State's Niizhoo-gwayakochigewin (NI-zhu GWY-ah-ko-chee-gay-win) program — named for an Ojibwe phrase which can be translated to "two ways of doing the right thing in the right way" — began offering students new major and minor degree options in indigenous sustainability studies beginning in Fall 2019. The program, which was started with federal grant funding in 2018, draws knowledge and expertise from BSU's Sustainability Office, Department of Languages & Ethnic Studies and American Indian Resource Center to create a single co-curricular academic program.



Dr. Sarah Cronin, assistant professor of psychology, and Madison Ulrich, a senior psychology major from Clearbrook, presented at the American Psychological Association's annual convention Aug. 8-11 in

Chicago. The presentation, "Institutions of Oppression or Opportunity: Does Student Counseling Support All Students?," explored various barriers that college students face when seeking counseling. They also discussed BSU's Healthy Minds Survey, which aimed to gather information about how student retention is impacted by mental health.

Dr. Angela Fournier,

professor of psychology, presented research on stress and other negative experiences in people who work with animals at the American Psychological Association's annual



conference in August. While many who pursue animal welfare careers do so out of a desire to be around animals, Fournier's research examined the stressors in that work that can lead to compassion fatigue, depression, anxiety and even suicide.

Drs. Debbie Guelda, professor of biology, Colleen Greer, professor of sociology, and Donna Pawlowski, professor of communication studies, presented their work to launch BSU's Community Engagement Council at the Minnesota Campus Compact Conference. The council seeks to create partnerships with community organizations to create experiential academic opportunities for students and provide meaningful, lasting support for the organizations.



Dr. Heidi Hansen, professor of mathematics and computer science, attended the 41st annual conference of the North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education

in St. Louis. She presented a poster related to her research on math anxiety in preservice teachers. She delivered a similar presentation at the 15th International Conference of the Mathematics Education for the Future Project, held at Maynooth University in Ireland in August.

BSU FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

Samantha Jones,

assistant professor of geography, was featured in Science Direct's Dendrochronologia, a peer-reviewed international journal that includes research related to archaeology,



botany, climatology, ecology, forestry, geology and hydrology. Her article, "Managing Red Pine Stand Structure to Mitigate Drought Impacts," examined natural-origin red pines and their growth responses to drought. In October, she also presented research on academic residencies at the Clute International Academic Conference in Las Vegas.

Dr. Mahmoud Al-Odeh,

associate professor of technology, art & design, received the Strengthening Bonds to Industry Award from the Association of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering in November. He



also was named a "Professor to Know In Engineering Management Programs" by the website Online Engineering Programs.

Dr. Marci Maple,



associate professor of nursing, was named co-president of the Minnesota Association of Colleges of Nursing in October. The association advocates and provides strategic guidance for Minnesota's nursing

degree programs at the baccalaureate level and above while promoting collaboration between those programs and the state's health care providers.

Drs. Donna Pawlowski, professor of communication studies, and John Perlich, associate professor of communication studies, shared their strategies for teaching during the "Great Ideas For Teaching Speech" series at the 2019 Communication Theater Association of Minnesota's conference, held in St. Cloud in September. Pawlowski also presented on her work to develop BSU's growing communication studies program.

Drs. Cory Renbarger,

(pictured) associate professor of music, Carol Ann Russell, professor of English, and Dan Will, adjunct instructor in the Department of Music. participated in "ITALIA: Passeggiata," an original



poetry performance at Bemidi's Watermark Art Center in September. Russell's poetry was accompanied by Renbarger's vocals, with Will on piano.

Veronica Veaux,



assistant professor of business administration, participated in a panel discussion on nativeowned businesses which aired on Minnesota Public Radio as part of its ongoing "Creative Economy" series.

The panel, hosted by Chris Farrell, MPR senior economics contributor, highlighted prominent Native American entrepreneurs, who spoke about how tribal ties, culture and tradition relate to building and sustaining a small business.

Dr. Ryan Webber,

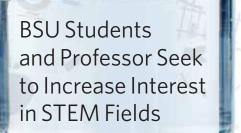
adjunct instructor in the Department of Music, was named conductor of Heartland Symphony Orchestra in September. The nonprofit community orchestra serves the communities of Brainerd



and Little Falls and the surrounding areas. The orchestra's 43rd performance season began in October and concludes in April.

Dr. Misty Wilkie, associate professor of nursing, facilitated a conversation with BSU students about creating healthy communities through strategies to support Native American nurses in a November webinar, "Future of Nursing:

Campaign for Action." The group discussed the importance of mentorship and support programs such as Niganawenimaanaanig as strategies for recruiting and retaining Native American nursing students.



ENCE: By Rachel Munson

Dr. Katie Peterson, associate professor of chemistry at Bemidji State University, spent the Fall 2019 semester conducting sabbatical research aimed at inspiring middle school students to consider careers in STEM — science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Peterson, along with senior science education undergrads Alec Stark of Little Falls and Garrett Dufault of Fertile, has created a series of hands-on, environmentally-focused projects for more than 350 eighth graders, which they are sharing with Bemidji Middle School science teachers throughout the 2019-2020 academic year.

"We want to improve attitudes toward science, the understanding of core scientific concepts and the likelihood of youth entering careers in science, technology, engineering and math," Peterson said. "I want to make science fun and exciting."

The project is an extension of Peterson's previous outreach work with Bemidji Middle School sixth graders. Although the project focuses on providing hands-on science experience, it also has cast a light on Bemidji's poor

retention rates in science fields. According to the Minnesota Department of Education, only 47 percent of BMS students meet state science standards -6percent below the state average.

"I want Bemidji youth to capture high-quality learning opportunities in STEM that inspire them to study science — hopefully at Bemidji State — and become scientists," Peterson said.

Peterson's first hands-on activity was held in September 2019. She and her students performed water quality experiments, measuring phosphate levels in local water samples. Other student programming has included

"I want Bemidji youth to capture high-quality learning opportunities in STEM that inspire them to study science — hopefully at Bemidji State and become scientists."

> - DR. KATIE PETERSON. ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY

solar energy, soil biodiversity, creating topographical maps and monitoring radiation levels.

Before starting their classroom work, Peterson and her students conducted an initial survey of Bemidji Middle School students to gauge their interest in STEM



fields. They will conduct a similar survey in April and compile data in May and June, and Peterson hopes the data will show an increasing interest in science.

"This is a pre- and post-type study," Peterson said. "We're asking students if they like science: Do they think science is cool? Do they talk to their parents about science? What do they think scientists do? Do they think about the mad scientist in the basement or do they see scientists as real people with families and lives?"

Stark and Dufault, partially fulfilling professional education research credits, guide students through their experiments as science mentors. Working alongside Peterson, they designed activities, created necessary tools and materials, and brainstormed ways they could inspire young students to seek opportunities in STEM-related fields.

"I had to learn how to present and ask questions that would engage the students in class discussions," Dufault said. "Each day was easier than the last, because I noticed what worked with the students and how to present information to them in a way they would understand and relate to before going into the next class. My favorite part of this research was connecting with the middle schoolers and piquing their interests in the field of science."

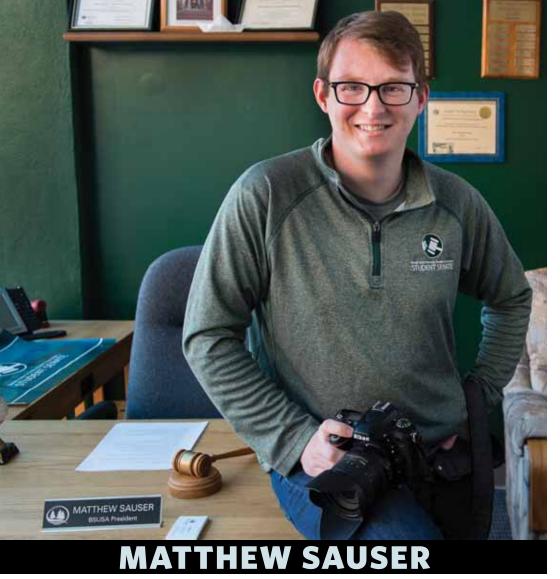
With each curriculum activity, Peterson sought to connect the middle school students with a local scientific environment right outside their back door. During the water phosphate unit, students gathered

samples from Lake Bemidji, Lake Irving and the middle school pond. While studying soil, students collected and examined specimens from the middle school's forest.

Peterson also connected each module with a local expert who could provide a real-world perspective on the topic. Throughout the year, middle school students have met with working professionals from the Beltrami County Soil & Water Conservation District, the Rural Renewable Energy Alliance and Natural Resource Conservation Service.

"We wanted to find community partners to show the students what a scientist with a local job looks like," she said. "Exposing them to tangible, real-world

experiences in science and technology is critical to developing a strong, vibrant work-force that supports the community in the long term."



By Rachel Munson

President of Bemidji State University's Student Senate, avid photographer and Bemidji State senior Matthew Sauser grew up in Monticello, but retreated from the city to find success in Minnesota's north woods.

"I really like birch trees and they were a huge draw for me," Sauser said. "I did some photography in high school and I wanted to continue that in college. So I emailed all the schools I was accepted to asking if there were any openings for a student photographer — and Bemidji State responded."

Sauser has continually pushed himself toward opportunities outside of his comfort zone. Despite self-identifying as a quiet person, he has sought public-facing responsibilities throughout his time at BSU, including door-knocking on the 2018 campaign trail, serving as a residential adviser and, since Fall 2019, serving as BSU's student body president.

"What helped me get out of my quiet phase was the line of work I got into," Sauser said. "I decided to go to school part-time in 2018 and organize for a political campaign in Bemidji. That required me to go door-to-door talking to strangers about very personal and controversial things."

Sauser returned to BSU as a full-time student in 2019, joined Student Senate and quickly decided to run for student body president. As a fifth-year senior, Sauser felt the extra time he's spent at

BSU strengthened his leadership skills and knowledge of campus culture, preparing him to be the voice of BSU's student body.

"I've become a lot more confident and comfortable with myself and what I can do," he said. "All of my roles at BSU have helped add up to that. This campus has drastically changed since my freshman year and I feel like I have good, long-term insight to contribute to the administration. I'm proud of what I've achieved here so far."

Sauser has also taken advantage of his time at BSU to pursue a second passion — sports photography. He's worked as a photographer for Beaver Athletics since 2015.

"Working with BSU athletics and photography is a dream" he said. "It is an experience that I would never have passed up. I'm looking into that and seeing what is out there."

Brad Folkestad, associate athletic director for external relations, commends Sauser as a rare student who knew exactly what he wanted before he arrived at BSU. Folkestad said Sauser's photography skills not only exhibit his understanding of the sports industry, but also his ability to adapt to each sport's environment.

"Matt has been a tremendous asset to the athletic department," Folkestad said. "Along the way he has worked really hard to refine his skills. I would put his photography abilities up against anyone, and we are really going to miss him."

Sauser is on track to graduate in May with a degree in political science, and says that while he could see himself running for public office in the future, his passion is in supporting campaigns — which he hopes to at the State Capitol.

"One thing I've realized is that I have a bigger passion for things behind the scenes," he said. "I like the campaigning more than the legislating. There is a certain energy and momentum with campaign work and I absolutely love it."

By Casey Johnson

From fighting fires to serving in the U.S. Air Force, Rachel Schapp's life has been filled with exhilaration and meeting new challenges. Now, the senior environmental studies major from Hudsonville, Michigan, is pursuing a new adventure — her passion for sustainable agriculture — at Bemidji State University.

Schaap began working as a fire fighter and emergency medical technician in 2002 for the Glen Lake Fire Department in Glen Arbor, Michigan. Rising through the ranks, she was promoted to division manager of fire suppression and hazmat. Later, she spent six months battling wildfires in the western half of the countryas a wildlife firefighter and squad medic with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Schaap left her fire service career and enlisted in the Air Force in 2009. While at her first station working nuclear security at Aviano Air Force Base in Italy, she suffered a traumatic brain injury — the fourth in her life — which required grueling rehabilitation. She recovered, finishing her six-year enlistment at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, North Carolina, followed by two years in the Air Force Reserves.

At that point, Schaap found herself dealing with the physical and emotional turmoil suffered during 15 years of non-stop emergency response work.

"My body and mind were pretty broken," she said. "The Veterans Affairs diagnosed me with PTSD, anxiety and depression, in addition to multiple injuries that left lasting effects. Despite all of the lingering issues I have, I'd go back to firefighting in a heartbeat. I wouldn't trade it for anything."

Beginning her journey to heal her mind and body, Schaap followed her wife, Elizabeth Wilson, to Minnesota and joined the Bemidji Community Food Shelf as a farm manager. There, she saw first-hand how the growing issue of food RACHEL SCHAAP

insecurity was affecting not only the Bemidji community, but also other families across the country.

"While working at the food shelf, I was able to really start digging into the issue with clients and others in our community to get a much better understanding of the situation," she said. "Out of the dozens of places I have lived, poverty and lack of quality food here in the Bemidji area has been eve opening."

In December 2018, Schaap left her position at the food shelf to become a full-time BSU student. Her goal is simple combine her experience, passion and knowledge to address food insecurity through sustainable farming practices.

"Studying at BSU allows me to focus on soil and water conservation in relation to agriculture, attend classes in-person here in the community and expand my knowledge base in sustainability," she said.

Schaap hopes to bridge the gap with conventional famers and provide alternate ways to farm that can preserve land and water. She would also like to start a program to combat food insecurity by teaching people how to grow their own food.

"Showing families that it is possible to grow a tomato plant on their apartment balcony or in their back yard can be very empowering," she said.

Beaver Hockey captain's career has been refined by hardship

TOMORROW IS PROMISED TO NO ONE.

By Brad Folkestad

Adam Brady, co-captain for the Bemidji State men's hockey team, knows this old adage well. He also has a deeper appreciation for the team's successes during the 2019–20 season, because he has reason to believe it.

The senior forward from Delhi, Ontario, Canada, leads the nationally-ranked Beavers in scoring and is among the nation's leaders in power-play goals.

Just a few short years ago, though, an accident on a foggy December night left his hockey career in doubt.
In 2015, while home during the United States

Hockey League's holiday break, Brady sustained serious injuries in an automobile accident which left the budding star bedridden with an uncertain future.

"Hockey was all I had known since I was three or four years old," he said. "I wanted to do anything I could to get back on the ice. But there weren't a lot of schools that believed in me."

One of the schools that never lost sight of his potential was Bemidji State.

"Coach (Tom) Serratore believed in me from day one," Brady added, "He was confident that I would get back to 100 percent."

That confidence, and the valued counsel of his coaches in Lincoln, convinced Brady to continue his playing career at BSU. It also served as motivation to push his body back onto the ice.

When Brady made his debut in BSU green and white on Oct. 13, 2017, it served not only as the ultimate payoff for a grueling two-year rehabilitation, but also as proof that BSU's faith in him had not been misplaced. In his first game back on the ice, Brady scored the go-ahead goal in a 5-2 victory over eventual national champion Minnesota Duluth.

"He is a tremendous leader, He is a player who does things the right way on and off the ice."

- HEAD COACH TOM SERRATORE

In the three years since then, Brady has become a consistent contributor on BSU's power-play unit and has piled up more than 30 goals and 45 assists. More importantly, he has spent the last two seasons wearing a captain's letter on his sweater.

Serratore, who has coached the Beavers for 19 years, says Brady's leadership ability is his greatest contribution to the program.

"He is a tremendous leader," Serratore said. "He is a player who does things the right way on and off the ice."

Brady says the accident forced him to view life — and his hockey career — through a different lens.

"When something like that happens, you learn not to take anything for granted and to always cherish the moments you have with your teammates on the ice," he said. "Every day is a gift, and I am just taking it all in while it lasts."







Michael Junker gives Beaver Football its first five-time All-America honoree

Defensive back Michael Junker wrapped up his collegiate athletic career as the first player in Beaver Football history to earn All-America honors from five organizations in the same season. The senior from Hastings led the NSIC and ranked fourth nationally with eight interceptions in 2019, two of which he returned for touchdowns, and he led the nation with 272 interceptionreturn yards. In January, he was named

Second-Team All-America by Don Hansen, giving him a BSU-record five All-America awards for the year. He was also recognized by the Associated Press, American Football Coaches Association, D2Football. com and the Division 2 Conference Commissioner's Association. Junker finished his career ranked second all-time at BSU in interceptions with 17, and as BSU's all-time leader with 378 interception return yards.



Neuharth earns Scholar All-America honors

Tia Neuharth, a defender for the BSU soccer team. was named to the United Soccer Coaches NCAA Division II Scholar All-

America Third Team, which recognizes elite soccer players who carry GPAs of 3.30 or higher. Neuharth anchored a BSU defensive unit which posted seven shutouts in 2019 and allowed just eight goals during BSU's entire 15-game NSIC schedule. The senior from Prior Lake was a three-time All-NSIC selection and capped her final year at BSU as a first-team United Soccer Coaches All-Central Region honoree.

Beaver Cross Country

academic success

runners recognized for

Led by sophomore Ryne Prigge,

the BSU cross country team was

recognized for its continued

excellence in the classroom. The

U.S. Track & Field and Cross

Country Coaches Association

bestowed academic honors

on Prigge as an individual

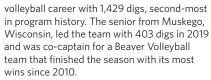
and for the entire team, which finished the Fall 2019

semester with a cumulative team



Hallman finishes volleyball career second on BSU's all-time digs list

Defensive specialist Emma Hallmann finished her 112-match BSU



Bader becomes fifth Beaver to reach 1,000 points & 600 rebounds

Logan Bader, a senior from Milltown, Wisconsin, became just the fifth player in BSU men's basketball history to score 1,000 points and grab 600 rebounds in a career with an 11-point, seven-rebound night at Concordia-St. Paul on Feb. 7. A four-year starter, the 6-foot-7 forward already is BSU's all-time leader in three-point field goals and is in the program's top five all time in rebounds.



BSU records set during indoor season

During the indoor season, BSU Track & Field has seen individual school records fall in the 60m dash, the 800m run, the one-mile run and the weight throw. Twice this year, sprinter Venice Stewart, a junior from Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, has broken her own BSU record in the 60m dash, her fastest time clocking 7.60 seconds. In January, middle-distance runner Ryne Prigge broke a school record in the 800m run which had stood since 2012 with a time of 2:18.04. In a February meet in Grand Forks. North Dakota, Kristen Petron, a senior from Rice, ran BSU's fastest-ever time in the mile at 5:17.65. Finally, **Zoe Christensen** shattered an 11-year-old record in the weight throw, with her toss of 58 feet, 8.5 inches besting the previous record by more than a foot.

BSU duo earns Academic

Emily Kos, a defender on the BSU soccer team from Coon Rapids, and Gunnar Feldhege, a football defensive back from Cold Spring, were named to the College Division Academic All-District First Team in their sports by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

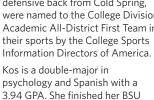
psychology and Spanish with a 3.94 GPA. She finished her BSU soccer career as a three-time Academic All-NSIC honoree and an NSIC All-Academic Team of

Excellence recipient, and was also named second-team all-central region by the United Soccer Coaches in 2018.

en route to Second-Team All-NSIC honors.









Feldhege, a wildlife biology major with a 3.85 GPA, led the Beavers with 68 tackles in 2019



















1 BSU's 101st entering class celebrates convocation. 2 A business student learns from Dr. Angie Kovarik, assistant professor of business. 3 BSU students conduct their seventh annual deer survey with Minnesota's DNR. 4 Students enjoy donuts with the Beltrami County Sheriff's Office during the seventh annual "Breakfast with the Cops" event. 6 A student enjoys the art of Paul Swenson in BSU's Talley Gallery. 6 Dr. Carl Isaacson, associate professor of environmental studies, and BSU students conducting research on microorganisms at an oil spill site in Pinewood, Minn. Free mom hugs during BSU's annual All-Campus Health Fair.















3 Charles Grolla, Ojibwe culture and language educator for the Cass Lake Bena school district, talked with students during Native American Heritage Month. 9 BSU alumni leaders in the classroom. 10 International student Jorge from Mozambique enjoying Sunday in the Park, a close to BSU's orientation weekend festivities. n President Hensrud in BSU's Home for the 100th Homecoming parade. President Hensrud in BSU's Home for the 100th Homecoming parade. 14th Annual Community Appreciation Day. (B) Dr. Phong Nguyen and Dr. Jennifer Olson, assistant professors of music, perform at BSU's first annual Holiday Gala.























ALUMNINEV



BSU Alumni & Foundation's second annual Day of Giving, called the "Build the Dam Challenge," met its goal of having at least 500 donors contribute to the university. The event, held Feb. 13, challenged BSU alumni, students, employees and supporters from around the world to "build a dam" of critical financial support for students

Successful "Build the Dam Challenge"

raises \$119,508 for student scholarships and athletics

and help fund important initiatives at BSU. Beginning at midnight and ending at 11:59 p.m., 534 donors contributed

to academic scholarships through The Lakeside Fund, Beaver Pride athletics scholarships and to specific BSU athletic programs.

BSU students, employees and supporters attended two special events that day — a campus lunch in Memorial Hall and Community Spotlight at Bemidji Brewing in downtown Bemidji. Participants at both events counted toward the campaign's 500-donor goal. In addition, some donors created their own matching-gift challenges with matches ranging from \$75 to \$45,000.

The \$45,000 matching gift to support academic scholarships was unlocked when the challenge met its goal of 500 donors at 9:30 p.m. All told, donors from 38 states and Canada — and as far away as Hong Kong — contributed \$119,508 during the 24-hour challenge.









2019 BSU Honors Gala Alumni Award Recipients

BSU President Faith Hensrud and Josh Christianson, executive director of university advancement, presented awards to the 2019 BSU Distinguished Alumni award winners at this year's Bemidji State University Honors Gala on October 4.

Professional Education Hall of Fame Dr. Boyd Bradbury '88

Young Alumni Award

Than "Alan" I win '05

Outstanding Alumni Award

Robert "Bob" Anderson '80

Alumni Service Award

Suzanne "Sue" (Aultman) Kringen '73

Bemidji State thanks this year's event sponsors - Sanford Health and the Joseph & Janice Lueken Family Foundation - for their partnership and support.

Beaver Hockey Fans Swarm Minneapolis for Mariucci Classic

Beaver Pride ran high for BSU men's hockey before their appearance at the University of Minnesota's Mariucci Classic, Dec. 28 in Minneapolis. The BSU Twin Cities Alumni Chapter hosted a watch party for more than 100 BSU alumni and hockey fans at Sally's Saloon near the University of Minnesota campus for BSU's classic opener against the Minnesota Golden Gophers.



MAKE SURE THE BSU ALUMNI OFFICE HAS YOUR LATEST CONTACT INFORMATION

Alumni who have changed jobs or their names and those who have multiple or seasonal addresses are asked to update their contact information by visiting bsualumni.org or calling (218) 755-3989 so you can stay up-to-date on news and events.



donors were honored at BSU Alumni & Foundation's annual Scholarship Appreciation Brunch on Nov. 2. Nearly 300 attendees joined President Hensrud and BSUAF Executive Director, Josh Christianson at the event, which celebrated the critical role donors play in the success of Bemidji State's scholarship recipients.

In 2019, BSU's Alumni and Foundation awarded 479 scholarships to BSU students valued at more than \$603,000.





Green & White Dinner & Auction Rescheduled for 2021

The Green & White Dinner & Auction for BSU Athletics is

rescheduled for April 17, 2021, at the Sanford Center in Bemidji.

The event brings BSU student-athletes, community members and donors together to support student-athlete scholarships. Since its inception in 2014, the Green & White Dinner & Auction has raised more than \$300,000 for these scholarships.

The semi-formal event will include a catered meal. live and silent auctions, games and raffles and special video presentations.

More details will be announced as they become available at bsualumni.org.

BSU Unveils New Benefit for Alumni

BSU Alumni & Foundation recently rolled out its new Discounts & Deals program, an online coupon website that allows contributing alumni to access exclusive discounts and special offers on travel, dining, hotels and much more in their local areas. The discounts can be viewed online and redeemed via smartphone, tablet, or by printing and presenting a coupon to participating vendors.

Alumni who make a gift of \$75 or more receive access to the Discounts & Deals website, featuring many other valuable benefits. Learn more at bsualumni.org/alumni/benefits.

Alumni & Foundation Staff Grows

Gwenia Fiskevold Gould joined BSU Alumni & Foundation as assistant director of annual giving in January.

She is responsible for the university's phonathon program and oversees the hiring, training and management of the student calling team which reaches out directly to hundreds of alumni each year.



Fiskevold Gould comes to Bemidji State after working for more than 10 years as a political field operative and legislative assistant for the Minnesota DFL Senate Caucus and as deputy political director for Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and Attorney General Keith Ellison. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Minnesota in 2012.



CLASS NOTES

Towns are in Minnesota unless noted. Alumni names appear in bold. Send information to alumni@bemidiistate.edu or call toll free: (877) 278-2586.

was hired by Delta Dental as customer service supervisor at the company's new customer service center in Bemidji., where she lives.



Adam Kirkoff works as a loan officer at Arlington State Bank in Arlington. Kirkoff lives in rural Henderson.

Gunner Olszewski made his NFL debut with the New England Patriots on Sept. 8, 2019. The punt returner and wide receiver played in eight games for the Patriots before injuries ended his season. He finished his debut NFL season with 20 punt returns for 179 yards and two receptions for a total of 34 yards. Olszewski lives in Alvin, Texas

Lindsay Marketon is a piano and voice instructor for Accent Music Academy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Marketon has taught private music lessons for five years. She lives in Pittsburgh.

'18 Brianna Timmons is a first-grade teacher at Golden Lake Elementary in Circle Pines. She lives in Oak Grove.





Missy Halda was appointed district executive



of the Oxcart Trails district of the Boy Scouts of America. She oversees 26 Boy Scout units in Otter Tail county in Minnesota and North Dakota's Richland and Wilkin counties. Halda lives in Park Rapids.

Kyle Fodness became Bemidji State's head tennis coach following the retirement of his father, who coached the Beaver tennis team since 2013. Fodness is also the head coach for the Bemidji High School



girl's tennis team. He lives in Bemidji. **Trent Jackson** is the sports information

director at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. Jackson worked as a student assistant in BSU's athletic media relations department before earning his master's degree in sport management



at Minnesota State University, Mankato. He lives in Wartburg.

Stephanie Anderson plays professional hockey for the Minnesota Whitecaps of the National Women's Hockey League. Anderson joined the Whitecaps after two playing two seasons for teams in



China. Anderson lives in North St. Paul.

15 Brandon Bosch was hired as an engineering technician for Rock County Soil and Water Conservation District's land management office in Luverne. He previously worked as a health, safety, environment and



quality lead for Great Plains Processing in Luverne. Bosch lives in Steen.

Alexandra Miller cochaired Northfield's Climate Action Plan Advisory Board, which saw its climate action plan approved by the Northfield city council in November. The plan includes a goal to source 100 percent



of the city's electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and to be carbon-free by 2040. Miller works as the sustainability program coordinator at Carleton College in Northfield, where she also lives.

Marty Evans won third place and \$10,000 in the apprentice competition at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers' **IDEAL** National Championships at Coronado Springs Resort in Lake Buena



Vista, Florida. The annual event draws union and non-union electricians together for what is considered the nation's leading competition for electrical wiring professionals. Evans is a member of IBEW Local 343 based in Rochester. He lives in



Sabin Adams is a habitat restoration specialist for Pheasants Forever. He is responsible for coordinating with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources,

the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service other conservation groups to plan and fund large habitat projects throughout the Midwest. Adams lives in Clarissa with his wife and their two children.



12 Cody Hempel was named logistics manager at Arctic Cat in Thief River Falls. Hempel has worked for the power-sports

manufacturer for over 15 years, starting as a snowmobile assembler in 2004. He is also serving in his 10th year on the Pennington County Board of Commissioners. Hempel lives in Thief



River Falls with his wife, Misty, and their two children.

Eden Jackson was named chair of the Patient and Family Advisory Council for the Rainy Lake Medical Center in International Falls. As chair, Jackson will work with hospital leadership to plan changes and be a liaison to the community. She works as a nurse for Central Packaging Corporation and lives in International Falls.

Kori Baril teaches social studies at Red Lake County Central in Oklee. In addition to teaching, he also is the dean of students and coaches football, basketball and track. He lives in Red Lake Falls.

John Kenny took over as general manager of the City Center Market food co-op in Cambridge. Kenny worked as the deli and bakery manager at Leuken's Village Foods while attending BSU. He lives in Forest Lake.



11 Pearl Walker-Swaney serves as the program manager at the Native Governance Center in St. Paul. The center's mission is to help tribal communities

exercise their

sovereignty and develop tribal leadership. She and her husband, Jacob, live in Woodbury.

Derek Daniels was hired as a conservation officer in the Lake Benton area for the Minnesota Department of National Resources after graduating from the 15-week Conservation Officer Academy at Camp Ripley. Daniels was an eight-year veteran of the Lyon County Sheriff's Office before starting with the Minnesota DNR. He and his wife, Taylor, live in Balaton with their son.

"SPARE KEY" UNLOCKS CLAFTON'S MUSIC ROW RUN

From downtown Bemidji to the twang of Nashville, Sauk Rapids native **Aaron Clafton '15** is primed to make his mark on the country music scene

Having played piano and guitar from an early age, and with an ear for country music, Clafton hit downtown Bemidji looking for a place that would let him play. In 2011, the now-defunct Toasty Beaver bar gave the freshman \$50 to play each week, plus tips. He also took the stage at Brigid's Pub and played during bustling lunch hours in BSU's Hobson Memorial Union.

After earning his marketing communications degree, Clafton moved to Nashville, Tennesee in March 2016 to chase his music dreams. He quickly found being a budding country star wasn't easy.

"The first year and a half [in Nashville] was really tough for me," he said. "I was intimidated by the city and all the talented people who wanted the same things I did."

Today, he spends his days on a bank teller line with evenings and weekends devoted to writing songs and performing with other Nashville musicians. There's not much downtime for Clafton, and his perseverance is paying off. His first single, "Spare Key", has over 40,000 streams on Spotify. A new single is set to be released in April with an EP to follow this summer.

In July, Clafton will perform at FireFest in Cold Spring, just 30 minutes away from his hometown. He will open for big-name country acts Jordan Davis, Jo Dee Messina, Blackhawk and Dustin Lynch. Could this be Clafton's big break? Only time will tell. In the meantime, he continues to live for the thrill of being on stage.

"The best part is seeing how people react. Whether it's to the music, the lyrics or the interaction between songs, it's always fun to see a connection happen."

CLASS NOTES

10 Joe Gould is a middle- and highschool social studies teacher at Voyageur's Expeditionary School in Bemidji. He lives in Bemidji with his wife, Gwenia, who is the



assistant director of annual giving for the Bemidji State University Alumni & Foundation.

 $09_{\text{Carl Borleis}}$

was hired as director of program excellence for the Minnesota State Transportation Center of Excellence, a consortium of 24 Minnesota State



two-year colleges, led by St. Cloud State University, which offers career training for the transportation industry. It is one of nine centers of excellence operated by the Minnesota State System of Colleges and Universities. Borleis lives in Breezy Point with his wife, Katie. The couple has two grown



Abby (Saeger) Randall

has been named executive director of the Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce. Randall previously worked as a marketing consultant and advertising lead for the Bemidji Pioneer. She lives in Laporte with her

husband, Ross '08, a sixth-grade teacher at Bemidji Middle School. The couple has two children.



Gordie Haug is the running backs coach and director of player personnel for the University of Wyoming Cowboys football team. Haug has been with the University of Wyoming since 2015, and has also coached

the team's wide receivers and led recruiting efforts. Haug lives in Laramie, Wyoming.

08 Katie (Stearns) Bertsch was promoted to shareholder at Ohnstad Twichell law offices, based in West Fargo, North Dakota. Bertsch has been an attorney for Ohnstad



Twichell since 2017. She lives in Moorhead.

O / Neil Schiller was hired as principal at Willow River Area School in Willow River. He previously worked as a sixth-grade teacher, dean of students and assistant principal at Hinckley Elementary School. Schiller lives in Cambridge.

Paul LaRoche, a sergeant with the Rice County Sheriff's Department. was named commander of the Cannon River Drug and Violent Offender Task Force in May. He lives in Faribault with his wife and two children.





with her husband, Orlando '09, and their three children.

Way of Minnesota's

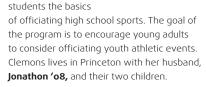
The board addresses

and communications

across Minnesota.

Board of Directors.

Sara (Olson) Clemons, a physical education teacher at Princeton High School, developed and implemented a 12-week course to teach







the Minnesota National Guard. The division provides training and readiness oversight for 10 National Guard brigades with more than 23,000 soldiers in Minnesota and eight other states. Wolbeck lives in Little Falls with his wife, Leanne, and works full-time in facilities management at Camp Ripley.

O5 Dan Reing teaches special education and coaches junior high and varsity football at North Woods school in Cook. He is also currently working toward his master's degree at BSU. Reing lives in Cook.







 $04_{\text{Josh Peterson}}$

lives in the

is the executive director of Visit Bemidji, where he oversees strategies to increase Bemidji's economy through travel and tourism. A Bemidji native, Peterson joined Visit



Bemidji after working as a reporter for Lakeland PBS News for five years. Peterson lives in Bemidji.

Rosymar Hjermstad

was hired as the strengthening institutions program/title III project director at Central Lakes College in Brainerd.



Her role is to offer support services to CLC students as they pursue their education and career goals. Hjermstad lives in northern Minnesota with her two children, Athina and Cypren.

Wade Chiodo was hired as the head coach of the Grand Rapids High School boy's hockey team. Chiodo played for the Beaver Hockey men's



team from 2001-2004, served nine years as the head coach for the Bemidji Lumberjacks and most recently worked as the head scout for the Bismarck Bobcats of the North American Hockey League. He lives in Grand Rapids with his wife, Layne (Backer) '04, who is a public defender.

O3 chris Olson was hired as principal at Lake Ripley Elementary

in Litchfield. Previously an English teacher at Litchfield Middle School for 16 years, he also coached middle school hockey and softball. Olson lives in Litchfield with



his wife and their three children.

Kathy Wilson is a historian, educator, archaeologist and museum specialist who owns and operates Historical Perspectives, a historical research and consulting service. Wilson helps individuals with research into ancestry or the history of homes, consults with museums and historic sites on exhibits, programming, presentations and archiving. Wilson lives in Marion, Iowa.

O1 Erin (Aune) Bryson teaches fourth grade at Northwoods School in Cook. She lives in Cook with her husband, William '03, and their two daughters.

OO Amy (Wallace) Ernst, director of special education at Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose Schools, won the 2019 New Special Education Leader Award from Minnesota Administrators for Special Education. Ernst lives in St. Cloud.



Kelly Fiala in January was named founding dean of the College of Health and Human Services at Salisbury University. She has been a professor at Salisbury University since 2004. Fiala lives in Salisbury, Maryland.

99 Andy Eggerth was hired by the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley as an assistant coach on the university's track and field team. Eggerth broke 16 track



and field program records while at BSU, qualifying for the NCAA Championships in five events. Eggerth and his wife, Agnė, live in Edinburg, Texas.



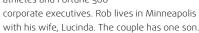
Tyler Radniecki was recently promoted to associate professor with indefinite tenure in the School of Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering at Oregon State University.

Radniecki lives in Corvallis, Oregon, with his wife and son.

96 Tony Mosser became principal at Woodbury Elementary School. He previously worked as assistant principal at Woodbury's Lake Middle School and science teacher at Minnetonka Public Schools. His wife, Lori (Cross) '98, is the principal at Oneka Elementary in White Bear Lake. The couple lives in Lakeville and has two daughters.

 $oldsymbol{5}$ Scott Nyegaard is the founder and CEO of Legacy Group, an agency that specializes in evidenced-based training for corporations, religious groups, conferences and educational institutions. He and his wife, Deanna (Broden) '91, live in Bemidji.

Rob Nelson is CEO and founding partner of North Rock Partners in Minneapolis. North Rock Partners provides financial planning services to clients including entrepreneurs, athletes and Fortune 500



Mark Scandrette is founding director of RelMAGINE: A Center for Integral Christian Practice. where he leads an annual series of retreats, workshops and projects designed to help participants apply spiritual wisdom to everyday life. He has also written nine books and lectured around the country. Scandrette lives in San Francisco with his wife, Lisa (Sands) '92.



92 Keith Cross was named deputy chief of police for the Aurora Police Department in



Illinois, effective April 2020. His 26-year career with the Aurora Police Department started as an officer in 1995. He was promoted to sergeant in 2005, lieutenant in 2008 and commander in 2016. Cross lives in Yorkville, Illinois, with his wife and son.

90 Steve Carriere is the orchestra director and guitar instructor at Grand Forks Central High School in North Dakota. He is also the bass player for Paint the Town, a pop and rock band that has played all around the Grand



Forks area, including at the University of North Dakota's Ralph Engelstad Arena. He lives in Grand Forks with his wife and two children.

{ continued from previous page }

ASS NOTES



KARGERS PROUD OF BEMIDJI STATE ROOTS

It's Wednesday morning and BSU's Gillett Wellness Center is abuzz – students lifting weights, BSU staff running the track and working professionals swimming laps before work. Mardy '72 and Lynn '91, '96 Karger, who exercise together most Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, are just walking in. Like old friends, they warmly greet those around them before beginning their workouts.

A Detroit Lakes native, Mardy came to BSU in 1963. After two years, he found he wasn't ready for college and joined the Air Force, serving 13 months in Korea. He returned to BSU and graduated with his biology degree and a mass communications minor in 1972. Lynn, who immigrated to California from Luton, England, with her family in 1964, double-majored in English education and French and later earned her master's degree in English.

Mardy was drawn to the radio industry after early experiences with the campus radio station. He joined Bemidji's Paul Bunyan Broadcasting (now Hubbard Broadcasting) as a student in 1971, sparking a 43-year career as news director, sports broadcaster and morning show host. Lynn taught English at Bemidji High School and as an adjunct at BSU for 25 years.

Living in Bemidji, the Kargers appreciate what Bemidji State offers to the community, including access to campus resources, guest lectures, art displays, sporting events and yes, the Gillett Wellness Center. What's more, their four children - Brodie '94, Lyan '96, Marnie '99 and Bonner '99 - are all alumni. Brodie and Bonner work at the university.

In 2019, the couple established the Mardy and Lynn Karger Lakeside Scholarship, which funds two \$1,250 scholarships for BSU students each year. With the opportunities, memories and successes the Kargers have enjoyed in Bemidji, it's no surprise why they choose to be generous. The couple explains it simply.

"We're proud of Bemidji State," they said.

Eric Mickelson of

Goodridge teaches fifth grade at Goodridge Elementary School. He also operates Mickelson Auctions with his wife, Patty, and their three sons, Marshall, Nick and Heath '18.

Mickelson Auctions provides auction services throughout Northwest Minnesota

Robyn (Meyer) Cook works at Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis as the advanced academics coordinator for the school's ninth and tenth grade students. Cook lives in Minneapolis.

Roy Smith was appointed to the Governor's Workforce Development Board by Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan. As one of 18 Minnesotans on the board, Smith

will be responsible for reviewing and making recommendations about statewide workforce programs and policies. Smith lives in Hibbing.



consultant for the National Football league. He and his wife, Beth (Buckingham) '89, have two daughters, Katy and Cassie.

86 Jeffrey Hane serves on the board of directors for Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota. He is an attorney at Brink Law in Hallock, which recently received an



Advocacy Achievement Award from Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota in recognition of the firm's outstanding legal work in service of disadvantaged communities. Hane lives in Hallock

Jeff Olson, president/ CEO of Credit Union Association of the Dakotas, was elected to a third term on the board of directors for the American Association of Credit Union Leagues. Olson previously served



as BSU's director of alumni relations from 1992-1995. Olson lives in Bismarck, North Dakota, and has two children.

83 Mary (Dye) Moen received an Outstanding Leadership Award on May 1 in recognition of her 25-year career teaching elementary music at Staples-Motley Elementary School. Moen lives in Wadena with her husband, **Del '82**, who serves as interim pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Browerville.

81 Mark Van **Every** retired from his post as supervisor of the Black Hills National Forest after a 37-vear career with the U.S. Forest Service. Van Every took over the supervisor



position in 2016, managing over 1.2 million acres in the national forest. He and his wife, Janell, live in Custer, South Dakota. They have three daughters.

80 Tom Heaviland sold his San Diegobased landscaping company, Heaviland Enterprises, Inc., to BrightView, the largest commercial landscaping provider in the United



States. Heaviland will work for BrightView for one year to ensure a smooth transition for the Heaviland Enterprises employees. He lives in Carlsbad, California, with his wife, Joanne.

9 Linda (Anderson) Willhite retired from the Sibley East school district at the end of the 2019 school year. Willhite taught first, third and fourth grades, Title I and coached volleyball over the course of her 40-year career. She lives in Waconia with her husband, Rick. The couple has three children and eight grandchildren.



Paul with his wife, Sandy (Haram) '78.

Dave Galovich of Crosby was inducted into the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame in Minneapolis on October 12. During his 41-year career, Galovich guided the Crosby-Ironton High School boys basketball team to more than 700 victories. He is just the fifth coach in Minnesota high school boys' basketball history to reach 700 career wins. He was also inducted into the Minnesota High School Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in 2005.

Jim Best was inducted into the East Central School District's Hall of Fame in May at a ceremony in Askov for academic and philanthropic achievement. Best earned an applied psychology degree from Bemidji State after serving in the U.S. Marines for three years during the Vietnam War. He lives in Wasilla, Alaska.

Robin Steinkraus retired as executive director of the Flathead Lakers, an environmental nonprofit organization committed to protecting the waters of Northwestern Montana's Flathead watershed. Steinkraus lives in Polson, Montana.



6 Kathy (Miller) **Sukalski** is retired after nearly 30 years as a biochemistry and molecular biology faculty member in the University of North Dakota's School of



Medicine and Health Sciences. She lives in Elgin with her husband, Tom.

56 Jim Musberger was inducted into the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame on October 12 in Minneapolis. Musberger coached basketball, baseball, football and golf at Strandquist and Karlstad high schools from 1956-79 His basketball teams won 316 games and three district championships over his career. He lives in Bemidii.

Atwater, Bruce '50, Bemidji Christianson, Marion (Fenson) '50, Bemidji Bahr, Evelyn '51, Wadena Eisbrener, John '51, Trail Snustad, Phyllis (Carpenter) '51, Medina Anderson, Marvin '55, Gratiot, Wis. Batchelder, Ann '55, Bemidji Ghostley, James '55, Bemidji Maki, Marlis (Graham) '56, Hudson, Wis. Burk, Robert '57, Pine River Hopke, Lorraine '57, International Falls Lund, Morris '58, Golden, Colo. Edd, Edna '59, Vadnais Heights Smith, Wilbur "Bill" '59, Fireston, Colo. Carey, Don '60, International Falls Drake, Leonard '60, Alexandria Green, Gerald '60, Park Rapids Olson, Lyle '60, '71, Browerville Breznay, Ernest '61, Gilbert, Ariz. Leyendecker, Maxine '61, Independence, Iowa Mertz, Kathryn (Clementson) '61, Edina Sommers, Chet '61, Willmar Swanson, Bruce '61, Hopkins Hermes, Clair '62, St. Paul Kinnunen, Thomas '62, Grand Rapids Vincent, Marian (Kampstad) '62, '73, Excelsior Wilkinson, LeRoy '62, Henderson, Nev. Borseth, Gerald '63, Mound Meier, Myron '63, Austin Wild, Larry '63, Fargo, N.D. Fultz, Doyle '64, Bagley Piccolo, Elizabeth (Lajambe) '64, Becker Troumbly, Sylvia (Rich) '64, Grand Rapids Carisch, James '65, Albuquerque, N.M. Hagen, Violet '65, Clearbrook Hillestad, Anita '65, Fargo, N.D. McLarty, Boyd '65, Walker

Ojala, William '65, Baxter Swanson, Paulette (Okerstrom) '65, Stillwater Callahan, Laurence '66, Minocqua, Wis. Linder, Inda (Johnson) '66, Plummer Duphorn, Gerald '67, Crookston Gleason, William '67, Bradenton, Fla. Olson, Wayne '67, Bovey Babcock, Dale '68, Meridian, Idaho Hauck, Dave '68, Northfield Leyendecker, Rodney '68, Huron, S.D. Lillevold, Torrance '68, Bemidii Christianson, David "Pete" '69, Badger Keil, Irene '69, North Branch Wilander, David '69, Solway Aspen, Orlando '70, Fosston Brown, Lois '70, Bemidji Deeds, Charles "Chuck" '70, Bemidji Lindvall, Sharon (Brock) '70, Littlefork Habstritt, Richard '71, Bemidji Kilgore, Albert '71, Baxter Norgard, Edward '71, Pengilly Standeven, Richard '71, Abbotsford, Wis. Walsh, Russell '71, Park Rapids Wiehe, David '71, New Hope Harkness, Timothy '72, Lake George Tomatz, Jack '72, Hibbing Weyrens, William '72, Fergus Falls Wood, James '72, Moorhead Horsager, Mary (Tholen) '73, Fargo Dimich, Jr., Nick '74, Coleraine Ludwig (Angelo), Nancy '74, Grand Rapids Maki, Robert '74, Buhl Mergens, James '74, Bemidji Mourin, William "Billy" '74, Eveleth Rothlisberger, Lynn '74, Kent, Wash. Smith, Lynn Duane '74, Cloquet Nichols, Loren '76, Baudette

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IN MEMORIAM: RAY CARLSON

A humanitarian, visionary, teacher and mentor

By Rachel Munson

Dr. Ray Carlson, professor emeritus of psychology, passed away Aug. 30, 2019, at the age of 95, leaving behind a lifelong legacy of service to Bemidji State University.

Born on his family's farm in Wildwood on May 21, 1924, Carlson grew to be an inquisitive man with a thirst for knowledge. According to his obituary, Carlson graduated from Northome High school as valedictorian in 1942. He joined the Navy after graduation and attended the University of Minnesota for one year while awaiting induction into the Navy's officer training program. After completing his training, he was assigned to an amphibious assault ship and sent to the Pacific Theater. In 1945, at the end of World War II, the 21-year-old Carlson was in command of the ship that brought him home. Following the war, he returned to the University of Minnesota where he would receive bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology. He later went on to obtain a doctorate in psychology, as well.

Carlson's quest for knowledge brought him home to northern Minnesota, where he spent more than 30 years establishing himself as a pillar of Bemidji State College's history. In addition to his role as professor of psychology, Carlson was dean of students, vice president of student

> affairs and vice president for research and development during his career. He is also credited with either initiating or significantly enhancing on-campus organizations such as the BSU Foundation, Student Senate, Hobson Memorial Student Union and personal counseling services. Though he retired in 1984, Carlson returned as professor emeritus of psychology and taught graduate classes.

An enthusiastic scholar, family man and public servant, Carlson engaged in a myriad of community activities, organizations and initiatives always with an eye for improvement. With his wife Margaret (Lindseth), he played a foundational role in organizing the first recycling center in Bemidji. He also worked closely with local entities on low-income housing projects.

Carlson's extensive and impactful career was not his only contribution to Bemidji State. Members of his family have followed in his footsteps and made their own transformational marks on the university, as well. His son, David, is a registrar emeritus at Bemidji State, having spent more than 30 years at BSU retiring in 2011. His daughter-in-law, Dr. Margaret Carlson, taught in the Department of Professional Education for 12 years, and his granddaughter, Dr. Anna Carlson, spent four years as the assistant director in BSU's Sustainability Office before moving into her current role as an assistant professor of environmental studies.

Working closely with the BSU Foundation, Carlson's family has recently dedicated the Raymond and Margaret Carlson Public Service Scholarship Fund in recognition and celebration of Carlson's life and legacy. The scholarship will support a BSU student who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to community and public service.

In addition, the family is partnering with the BSU Sustainability Office and facilities crew to plant a tree on campus as a memorial to the legacy of Raymond and Margaret Carlson and their commitment to the welfare of future generations.



IN MEMORIAM:

MARION **CHRISTIANSON**

"Mrs. C" passes away at age 91 after a life dedicated to Bemidji State

By Carissa Menefee

Teacher, athlete, artist, board member, and an alumna of Bemidji State University. Marion "Mrs. C" Christianson wore all of these hats, and more, during a remarkable life and career. She passed away in July 2019 at Goldpine Assisted Living Center in Bemidji, spending her 91 years as an educator, working to create opportunities and entertainment for students.

Marion Fenson was born in 1928, graduated from Bemidji High School in 1945, and from Bemidji State Teacher's College in 1950 with a double-major in physical education and music. She met Ken Christianson — a three-time all-conference basketball star at Bemidii State who was inducted into BSU's Athletics Hall of Fame in 2006 — while at BSTC, and they were married one

week after Marion's graduation in 1950. After college, the couple found jobs teaching in Hallock, where they worked for a short while before relocating to Blackduck. There, Marion taught physical education, music and English, and directed the school's cheerleaders, while Ken assembled a legendary career as a basketball and track coach and, eventually, as the school's athletic director.

As a Bemidji State student, Christianson had helped now-legendary faculty member Myrtie Hunt — who coincidentally had previously also been Christianson's favorite teacher at Bemidji High School — found Orchesis, a modern dance group. With Orchesis, Hunt began the college's annual dance show in 1945, an annual tradition that continues to this day.

In the 1960s, Christianson joined her long-time mentor as a faculty member at Bemidji State, where she taught physical education, dancing, tumbling and ice-skating classes and was instrumental in the early days of organized varsity athletics for women. She took charge of the dance show when Hunt retired in 1978, renaming it the Funtastic Dance Follies.

Christianson also spent more than a decade as Bemidji State's women's athletic director, a position she held from 1986 until the 1995-96 academic year. In addition, she served as president of the Northern Sun

Conference, the women's varsity intercollegiate conference that Bemidji State had helped to create in 1979.



Bemidji State University magazine published a history of the Funtastic Dance Follies as part of its Spring/Summer 2018 edition, part of BSU's official kickoff of its Centennial celebration. The story recounted the history of the Follies from its start in 1945 as Bemidji State Teacher's College's Modern Dance Recital, through Christianson's 17-year tenure as director from 1978-1995, and eventually to Christianson passing the show to her daughter, Suzie Langhout, who this April will direct her 25th Funtastic Dance Follies. That story, along with the rest of the Spring/Summer 2018 issue, is available on BSU's website.

According to her lengthy obituary, "Mrs. C" also was, among many other things, a curriculum consultant to the State Arts Board of Minnesota; an instructor in Bemidji State's Elderhostel program; a director of summer cheerleading camps; a charter board member of the BSU Snow Ball; and an international presenter and instructor of dance and cheerleading.

Marion Christianson also was a member of the BSU Alumni Foundation Board of Directors, and in 1992 she was the sole recipient of Bemidji State University's Outstanding Alumni award.

"I feel strongly about doing what the students want to see on campus," she said. "I am always impressed by our students' strength. They have a passion and are engaged with outdoor recreation and our environmental behaviors and knowledge."

Several alumni have expressed interest in supporting a naming opportunity on campus in honor of "Mrs. C." For more information, contact Lisa Hofstad, BSU Alumni & Foundation, at 218-755-4147.



2018-19 BSU FOUNDATION



GREETINGS FROM BEMIDJI STATE

Each year, alumni and donors like you enable the Bemidji State University Alumni & Foundation to continue its mission of inspiring passion, imagination and generosity in our alumni and friends to transform the lives

of BSU students. Together, we raised \$2,171,716 this year to support student scholarships, faculty research, campus facilities and Beaver Athletics.

This past year was memorable for many reasons. Here are a few highlights that stand out for me:

- Hosting events across campus, Minnesota and the country to bring Beavers together
- Launching our first-ever day of giving which raised over \$100,000 to support students
- Celebrating the culmination of Bemidji State University's centennial activities at Homecoming
- Recognizing student scholarship recipients and donors at our annual Scholarship Appreciation Brunch

On behalf of our students, faculty, staff and the Bemidji State Alumni & Foundation team, thank you for your gifts of time, talents and donations. You truly make a significant impact on the lives of all at BSU.

Sincerely,

Josh Christianson

Executive Director of University Advancement

resident's SOCIETY

The President's Society recognizes the university's most generous contributors, based on lifetime/cumulative giving to the Bemidji State University Foundation. Members include individuals, families and organizations. The list reflects giving through June 30, 2019.

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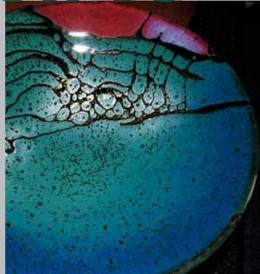
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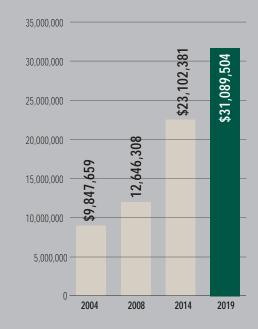
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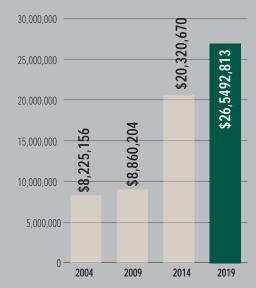
BSU Alumni & Foundation Assets



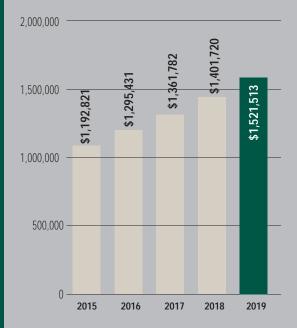
Stephen G. Wick

REPORT

BSU Alumni & Foundation Endowment Progress



Support to BSU



President's SOCIETY

{ continued from page 31 }

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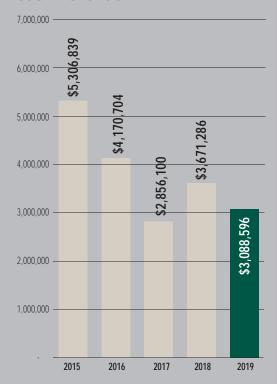
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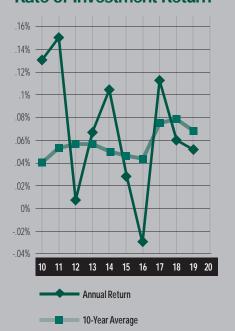
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REPORT GIFTS

Cash Revenue



Rate of Investment Return



President's SOCIETY

{ continued from page 33 }

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{ continued from page 35}

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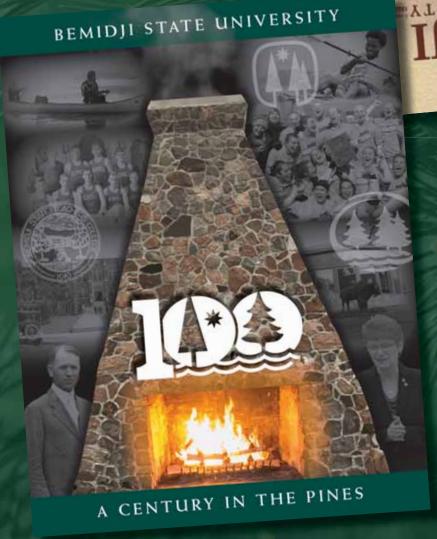
Statement of Activities

Year Ended June	30, 2018		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Support and Revenue			
Contributions & Member Dues	350,679	\$1,469,659	\$1,820,338
Endowment Contributions	-	894,824	894,824
Total Contributions & Membership Dues	350,679	2,364,483	2,715,162
Investment Income	493,656	658,898	1,152,554
Royalty Revenue	4,330	-	4,330
Lease Revenue	-	61,087	61,087
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Surrender Value Life Insurance & Actuarial Adjustr Reclassification & Net Assets Released	ment 44,768	-	44,768
from Restriction		(((0 (50)	
Administrative Assessment	640,653	(640,653)	-
Satisfaction of Purpose Restrictions Total Support and Revenue	1,986,367 3,520,453	(1,986,367) 457,448	3,977,901
Expenses			
Program Services			
Scholarships	1,172,431	_	1,172,431
Special Events and Other Services	1,506,926		1,506,926
Total Program Services	2,679,357		2,679,357
Supportive Services			
Management & General	66,540	-	66,540
Fund Raising	881,575		766,921
Total Supporting Services	948,115		948,115
Total Expenses	3,627,472	-	3,627,472
Increase (Decrease) in Net Ass Net Assets, Beginning of Year Net Assets, End of Year	ets (107,019) 4,031,678 3,924,659	457,448 26,559,801 27,017,249	350,429 30,591,479 30,941,908

Statement of Position

June 30, 2018			
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	242,120	
Investments		3.627,798	
Accounts Receivable		-	
Contributions Receivable — Current		817,782	
Prepaid Expenses		9,020	
Total Current Assets		4,696,720	
Property and Equipment		309,768	
Other Assets			
Contributions Receivable — Long-Term	-	1,475,265	
Remainder Interest in Real Estate		91,943	
Cash Surrender Value Life Insurance		142,338	
Restricted Investments for Endowment	24	1,372,660	
Total Other Assets	26	5,082,566	
Total Assets	31	,089,054	
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$	12,288	
Payroll Liabilities		32,378	
Annuities Payable, Current Portion		27,220	
Total Current Liabilities		62,886	
Long-Term Liabilities			

Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$	12,288
Payroll Liabilities		32,378
Annuities Payable, Current Portion		27,220
Total Current Liabilities		62,886
Long-Term Liabilities		
Annuities Payable, Long-Term Portion		84,260
Total Liabilities		147,146
Total Liabilities		147,146
Total Liabilities Net Assets		147,146
	3	147,146 3,924,659
Net Assets		·
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	2	3,924,659
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions With Donor Restrictions	2	3,924,659 7,017,249



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