

# HORIZONS

## **CSI: Bemidji State**

*Students Become  
Scientific Sleuths*

## **One Life's Circle**

*Student Explores Past,  
Finds Way at BSU*

*Dream* **DEFY** *Do...*  
*Entrepreneurial visionary  
eyes bio-fuels future*





## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Bemidji State University continued to make significant strides in 2007 toward its goal of becoming the Midwest's premier student-centered university. The former Bemidji High School property was purchased in July, providing future expansion opportunities as new demands of the 21st century arise. This fall, the University experienced one of the largest freshmen classes in a decade, started new programs in nursing and applied technology, and put the finishing touches on the newly renovated Linden Hall, complete with suites and multiple gathering spots. Our nationally recognized Outdoor Program Center began preparing for new lakeside facilities in Diamond Point Park, while an Advising Success Center opened to help students reach their goals and fulfill their potential. Our community commitment continued with Beaver Service Day and other service projects undertaken by student organizations, athletic teams, and students completing class assignments. Bemidji State's blueprint for action – the five-year strategic plan – has been updated for another five-year cycle. The updated plan reflects our dedication to developing graduates prepared for success in their careers, communities, and lives. It was, indeed, a year of accomplishments. As we pause to reflect on our past year's progress, we eagerly await the new opportunities that 2008 will bring. Happy New Year!

Dr. Jon E. Quistgaard, President



### COVER STORY:

Producer, entrepreneur and alternative energy leader, Scott Dunlop recently added BSU graduate to his resume. Story on page 5.

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# HORIZONS

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## Outdoor Program Center Relocating to Diamond Point Park

This spring, BSU's nationally recognized Outdoor Program Center (OPC) will move its rental, educational, and outdoor programs into a new waterfront location in the city of Bemidji's redeveloped Diamond Point Park.

Leased from the city, the new waterfront facility increases the public visibility of OPC's rentals and educational programs, says OPC Director Mark Morrissey. Besides being winterized, the new facility contains space for demonstrations and classes. This added space enables OPC to introduce the public, as well as students, to activities they might not otherwise try.

While a grand opening is planned for spring, OPC may begin using the building for selected activities much sooner. The center plans to increase its offerings of activities such as skijoring and ice fishing, while branching out into some new areas such as kite boarding.



## Fall 2007 Enrollment Up

Bemidji State University experienced a 15 percent enrollment growth in new freshmen this fall, with overall enrollment for 2007 expected to rise by about one percent.

The figures show 4,792 students enrolled on the 20th day of classes, the largest 20th-day count at BSU in four years and the fourth highest in a decade.

BSU's enrollment continued to rise throughout the fall as students enrolled for distance learning options and, by mid-November, reached 4,982 students.

## Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference 2008

### **Natasha Trethewey**

2007 Pulitzer Prize Recipient in Poetry  
*Distinguished Visiting Writer*

**June 15-20, 2008**

*Sunday Noon - Friday Noon*

### **Workshops**

*Tina Parke-Sutherland* Symbolic Modeling  
*Terrance Hayes* Poetry  
*Judith Kitchen* Creative Nonfiction  
*Judson Mitcham* Fiction  
*Victoria Redel* Novice

### **Beautiful setting on the lake at Bemidji State University**

- Dedicated writers who are also good teachers
- Workshops
- Unique Symbolic Modeling workshop
- One-on-one consultations available
- Two-hour conversation with Natasha Trethewey, winner, 2007 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry
- Evening reading series
- Lake-view campus lodging
- Waterfront setting with canoeing, kayaking, and sailing

[www.bemidjistate.edu/writersconference](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/writersconference) • [writersconference@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:writersconference@bemidjistate.edu) • 218-755-2068

## Computer Services Wins Accolades for Macintosh Project

By early 2005, the volume of computers filling various labs at BSU was, in the words of Director of Technical Support Brian Allen, "spiraling out of control." About 810 computers, both PCs and Macs, were sprinkled throughout 76 computer labs on campus. In BSU's SuperLab alone, there were 100 machines split nearly evenly between PCs and Macs.

During the summer of 2006, Allen and other members of the BSU technical support staff began experimenting with a new Apple iMac computer capable of running both Apple's Macintosh and Microsoft Windows operating systems. Allen saw these new computers as a way for BSU to reduce the number of machines on campus while expanding the availability of each particular operating system.

A pilot program is now under way among a group of BSU faculty and staff who are testing the computers in everyday, real-world environments. Windows users have been given Apple laptops and are running high-level Windows applications on the new computers.

If successful, Allen estimates that the University could save nearly \$2 million over a three-year period by using the dual-boot hardware.

Apple, Inc. has taken notice of the efforts at BSU. As the first campus in Minnesota – perhaps nationally – to deploy this sort of technology on such a wide scale, Bemidji State will be profiled at [apple.com](http://apple.com) as a higher education success story. Apple will focus on BSU's use of this technology in a large-scale lab environment – the Deputy Hall SuperLab.

In February 2008, Allen and his staff also will be presenting their work at the Society of Applied Learning and Technology's New Learning Technologies Conference in Orlando, FL.

## Social Work Program Receives \$26,873 Federal Grant

The social work program at Bemidji State received a \$26,873 federal grant to support its participation in the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Child Welfare Consortium. The grant aims to strengthen undergraduate education for those who wish to work in Title IV-E public and tribal welfare agencies in non-metro areas across Minnesota.

The Title IV-E grant funds stipends of \$1,900 per semester for undergraduate social work students committed to careers in public or tribal child welfare. In 2005, six BSU students received similar stipends, and five of those students are now working in the field of public child welfare.

The funds will also be used to develop child welfare training modules for use in required BSW courses and elective classes.

The consortium is a partnership between the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Department of Social Services, and the social work departments and programs at Bemidji State University; Minnesota State University, Moorhead; Minnesota State University, Mankato; St. Cloud State University; and Winona State University.

## New CD Released

The eighth annual release of the Bemidji Choir and Chamber Singers CD, with music selections from the 2006-2007 season, is now available. The CD, available for \$16, features 22 tracks, including the upbeat title song, "Gloria," four selections from the Madrigal Dinners and two songs by the Men's Choir. CD sales help fund production costs and the distribution of CDs to BSU choir members, Minnesota's All-State Choir, and high school choir directors in Minnesota and parts of North Dakota. For more information, contact Dr. P. Bradley Logan, music department, at 218-755-2918 or [plogan@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:plogan@bemidjistate.edu).





Technology and applied engineering classes are held in the recently renovated Bridgeman Hall.

## New Bachelor's in Applied Engineering Slated to Start Fall 2008

Starting this fall, Bemidji State will begin enrolling students in a new bachelor of applied science (BAS) program in applied engineering. The program recently received approval by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system board.

As with the University's new baccalaureate nursing program, the addition of the degree in applied engineering continues Bemidji State's goal of responding to the educational needs of the regional, statewide, and national workforces.

"We received major encouragement from business and industry here in Minnesota," says Dr. Jim McCracken, director of the Center for Career and Technical Education, technological studies professor, and primary contact for the new degree program. "They expressed a need for individuals with a mix of technical and engineering experience and education."

The new degree program complements Bemidji State's existing applied bachelor's in technology management, with both programs serving as completion programs for graduates of two-year technical colleges. While the technology management track is geared toward individuals with interests in personnel and project management, the applied engineering track creates an opportunity for those interested in engineering activities to obtain their bachelor's degrees.

## University Has \$150M Local Economic Impact

Bemidji State University adds an estimated \$150 million per year in local economic activity and is directly responsible for more than 2,100 jobs in the Bemidji community and surrounding area, according to an economic impact study completed recently by Wilder Research of St. Paul, MN.

"A university serves a unique role as both an academic and economic engine for its surrounding region, and Bemidji State University continues to be a vital component of Bemidji's reputation as the community of choice in northern Minnesota," BSU President Dr. Jon E. Quistgaard says.

Spending by the University, its students, and visitors is not a one-time event, but plays a role in the local economy by becoming income for another person, which in turn is re-spent. This re-spending leads to an estimated total economic impact of Bemidji State University on the local economy of \$150,394,412.

BSU has an impact of \$38.75 million from direct spending by the University, \$39.58 million in spending by its students, and \$4.08 million in spending by its visitors for a total of \$82.41 million. A multiplier then brings the final estimate of \$150.39 million of spending impact by the University on the local economy.

Wilder Research also estimates the local labor market benefits from 2,105 jobs that result from the presence of Bemidji State. In addition, BSU impacts the local labor market by adding 88 percent of its student body to the part-time workforce. The study also found that 46 percent of students surveyed indicated a preference to remain in the Bemidji area following graduation.



# Dream DEFY Do...

*Entrepreneurial visionary  
eyes bio-fuels future*

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**E**ight years ago, Scott Dunlop – producer, entrepreneur, and alternative energy leader – wrote a satirical documentary, “Behind the Gates,” about life in his affluent Orange County community, hoping to poke fun at his generation. At the time, he had no idea where it would lead or that it would eventually reconnect him with Bemidji State University.

NBC Bravo premiered the show in March 2006 as “The Real Housewives of Orange County,” a controversial television series that lifted the network to its best second-quarter performance ever. The *Los Angeles Times* ran a front-page entertainment feature about Dunlop, the show’s executive producer, noting that he gets “tssked” by some of his disapproving neighbors.



Scott Dunlop poses with cast from the first season of “Real Housewives.”



Dunlop encourages students to follow their passions during the Alumni in the Classroom talk held Homecoming week.

**Dream, Defy, Do...** *Continued*

Shrugging in disbelief, Dunlop recounts the story on a recent return to campus. Of all his endeavors, he finds it ironic that this “silly television show,” as he calls it, has gained him so much attention.

Dunlop left Bemidji State in 1976 with a complicated transcript. His credit transfers from four other colleges – including two besides BSU that he attended in his freshman year alone – were a mess. Taking his first job without his degree, he tried to work out the credit valuations, but eventually gave up.

As news about the TV series got back to BSU, officials determined that Dunlop needed just six credits to graduate. With encouragement and help from faculty, he completed the coursework, earning his business administration degree in August.

Dunlop, 54, notes that he had always wanted to graduate. Now that he has, he’d like to collaborate with BSU in some meaningful way to benefit the University. Not surprisingly, he already has a few ideas.

“The nexus of my experience is in energy markets, and that could broaden opportunities for the school,” says Dunlop. “I’m feeling like I’m here for a reason, and I just want to play the hand out.”

As principal in the Dunlop Group, a suite of advertising, entertainment, and bio-energy interests, Dunlop has

*“The nexus of my experience is in energy markets and that could broaden opportunities for the school. I’m feeling like I’m here for a reason, and I just want to play the hand out.”*

**Scott Dunlop**

enjoyed great success. His business tagline is: Dream, Defy, Do. It could be his mantra in life. He told BSU students at a business forum this fall that it’s okay to pursue many paths, but to stick with their passions.

“What I’ve learned over the years is to go with my gut feeling,” Dunlop says of his business ventures and life pursuits. “You have to challenge institutional thinking.”

Spending 16 years of his career as a marketing executive with a division of Fuji Film, Dunlop also pursued his interests in Hollywood, first as a musician and later as a comedian, writer, actor, and producer. He enjoyed performing, but not the chaotic lifestyle. Yet his Hollywood connections proved invaluable in 1992 when he launched a virtual advertising agency that drew on lesser-known talent from the entertainment world.

About the same time, Dunlop became fascinated with bio-fuels and launched Pure Energy Corporation in 1994 with his brother, Douglas. They

were particularly interested in turning refuse – leaves, grass clippings, sawdust, and other trash – into clean-burning fuel. With the help of a Princeton University physicist and \$25 million in private and public equity capital, they succeeded. They have since introduced two patented fuels and have a third fuel, a low-cost hybrid, in the works.

“We created a fuel not contemplated by law or science, but it was the wrong time,” says Dunlop. “Oil was selling at \$17 a barrel in the 1990s, so alternative energies were not as appealing as they are now with oil at more than \$80 a barrel.”

Even so, Dunlop says alternative fuels are inevitable. As he points out, the world produces three million fewer gallons of oil a day than it consumes.

While continuing their controlling interest in the third fuel, Dunlop also remains active as an alternative energy leader. He is a member of the California Energy Commission Ethanol Working Group and is working on a proposed joint venture with the Shoshone-Bannock Indian Tribe in Idaho to develop a bio-diesel plant and wind farm.

Ironic as it may be, the Bravo show has given Dunlop a fresh platform for his energy message. He’s already contemplating another production, “Running on Empty,” which is the working title for a documentary or perhaps a TV series about the looming energy crisis. He also wants to optimize his newest





fuel and had planned originally to ask Princeton University to help. Now, he says, he would rather engage his alma mater, if there is a way to do it successfully and benefit Bemidji State.

For Dunlop, who was raised in Indiana, BSU was a refuge in his restless youth. It was the only place he had lived where temperatures dropped so low that one's breath seemed to vaporize instantly, people drove vehicles across frozen lakes, and his roommates brought their car batteries inside to keep them warm on cold nights. Dunlop remembers loving the sense of solitude.

"It was an amazing environment," says Dunlop, who envisions working with BSU students to create a documentary – maybe even a reality TV program – about ice fishing or some other unique aspect of Minnesota winters. "Now, that would be fun."

They're just ideas, but Dunlop asks, "Why not?" Bemidji State has had a big impact on his life, and he hopes to connect with other alumni in a way that might help the school make an even bigger impact on the world. Besides, he adds, "Of all the things I've done, I'm probably most proud of getting my BSU degree." **HORIZONS**

**Note: Find more information about Dunlop Group at [www.dunlogrp.com](http://www.dunlogrp.com).**



# CSI: Bemidji

**C**rime is hot. Make that, *crime scene investigation* is hot. One look at "CSI" Web boards, the ratings, spin offs, or copy-cat shows will tell you that. People are interested in watching, discussing, and learning about the elements that make up crime scene investigations. And not just for fun – for *real*.

With the advent of TV shows like "CSI" and "Cold Case," academic forensics programs across the nation have witnessed an increase in enrollment, and Bemidji State University is no different. In 2001, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) opened its Bemidji regional office with a forensic science service laboratory, and students responded immediately.

"We had multiple students knocking on our door, asking how to get a job in that lab," says Dr. Ken Traxler, Bemidji State University chemistry professor. "It ended up being so many that we thought we should be offering a program in that area."

That idea prompted a collaborative program – criminalistics – between the chemistry and criminal justice departments where students could learn to use science to solve crimes. This science provides answers and, thus, is the focus of BSU's program.

"We have a very intensive science curriculum," says Traxler. "Through science, students can see what really occurred."

Blood splatters, ransom notes, foot prints, and corpses sound like a list of props for a TV series, but are actually some of the items analyzed in BSU's program. Using chemistry, criminalistics students learn to extract results that ultimately solve crimes.

They learn to establish a time frame of death by analyzing where a body was found, the climate, the season, insects

*"With our preparation, students are familiar with the instruments, techniques, and courtroom proceedings that will position them to excel."*

**Dr. Ken Traxler**



Professors Mike Herbert and Ken Traxler watch as Hillary Duin, a chemistry and criminal justice major from Adrian, and Matthew Fuchs, a chemistry major from Paynesville, run an electrophoresis experiment to differentiate proteins in blood samples.

# State

on the body, and other factors. Likewise, they gain experience in analyzing and linking DNA to suspects and detecting accelerants in arson cases.

In addition to the chemistry core, criminalistics students take criminal justice courses to gain a law enforcement perspective for their work in crime labs. This allows them to understand the procedures police use in detecting, collecting, and processing various types of evidence. It also prepares them for the role their work will play in legal settings.

"The collaboration between the chemistry and criminal justice departments, along with our working agreement with the BCA here in Bemidji, allows us to provide an interdisciplinary and practical educational experience," explains Dr. Mike Herbert, criminal justice department chair and associate professor.

"The criminal justice part gives you an idea of how precise you have to be, what will go over in court and what won't," adds Matt Fuchs, criminalistics student. "You learn how any mistakes or oversights could have large repercussions."

So is real-life criminalistics anything like what's on TV? Yes and no.

Fuchs feels that Court TV's "Forensics Files" does a good job of depicting real analysis and is truer to life because it examines real evidence and what really happened. While shows such as the more widely watched "CSI" use terminology that's legitimate, they frequently provide a blurred picture of criminalistics.

"People get the idea that it's easy to find and analyze evidence and that test results are available in like five minutes," Fuchs says.



Criminalistics students Hillary Duin and Matthew Fuchs analyze the results of their electrophoresis experiment.

## STUDENTS, BECOME SCIENTIFIC SLEUTHS

"There's a lot more to it," Traxler notes. "One person doesn't follow a case all along. The stars on these shows look like they do everything from blood work, to tool comparisons, to question-document examinations. In real life, each person has a specialty."

From a criminal justice side, Herbert points to a "CSI effect" that these shows create. "Trial jurors have become [misled] by these shows in regard to what criminalistics can and cannot do," he says.

"Forensics TV shows are not without some redeeming value," Herbert adds. "These shows have definitely increased interest in the field, and they give a generic sense of what an investigation entails and how personal characteristics – such as being observant – are beneficial."

Making BSU's criminalistics program relevant is paramount, Traxler says. With practical skills, a well-rounded knowledge of lab and legal aspects, and the opportunity for real crime lab visits and internships at the BCA, the University's program is unique.

"With our preparation, students are familiar with the instruments, techniques,

and courtroom proceedings that will position them to excel," Traxler says.

Looking to the future, both professors have ideas for expanding the criminalistics program. "I think we'll add more instrumentation," Traxler says. "And maybe add courses with more specific work in fingerprinting analysis and question-document analysis – including forgeries, counterfeit, ransom notes, and writing analysis."

With the current program flourishing and plans for growth being made, the future looks bright for the program. "There is always a demand for these types of professionals," Herbert says. "As science and technology evolve, there will be an increased demand for graduates who understand and can work at this level."

While criminalistics may not be as glamorous as what's portrayed on TV, the real work often provides a great amount of satisfaction. And for all the once-shunned science geeks, it's a chance to bask in the limelight.

Because now...science is hot.

**HORIZONS**



## STUDENT EXPLORES PAST, FINDS WAY AT BSU

**A LETTER.** It came like any ordinary piece of mail, but it changed Joan Kauppi's life forever. Adopted as an infant, Kauppi grew up in a Minneapolis suburb, attending public schools and graduating from Bloomington Lincoln High School in 1978. At about that time, Kauppi received a letter revealing clues to her past as well as to her future, bringing her life full circle.

The letter, from Catholic Charities, notified Kauppi that her birth mother had registered her at the Red Lake Indian Reservation. "I had no idea I had any indigenous blood," Kauppi says of the knowledge that spurred an interest in exploring her biological roots. "It was the realization that really made me think."

Over the years and through a number of coincidences, Kauppi met aunts, cousins, and even brothers, whom it turned out, her neighbor had known for 20 years. In fact, during a conversation, this neighbor pulled out a photo album containing pictures of her brothers.

To some, meeting brothers via your neighbor or a cousin in a night class – all by chance – might seem unfath-

*"We are partners on  
a journey – the  
same journey, but  
different paths."*

**Joan Kauppi**

# One Life's Circle

omable, but Kauppi sees these occurrences as fated pieces of her life's puzzle. "These coincidences, I think, were meant for me to know where I came from and who I am," she says.

These happenstances also have prompted Kauppi to pursue new life directions. After a particularly bad day at work, Kauppi decided to join her daughter at Bemidji State University. "Tara said, 'I'm going to BSU. Want to come?' I said, 'Let's go.'" Kauppi says it was probably the most liberating thing she'd ever done.

In 2004, Kauppi started general education courses at Bemidji State, intending to pursue a business degree. However, after taking a few Indian studies classes, she changed her mind. "I had a very strong pull to go further in that field," she says. "I just felt it."

For Kauppi, the program's content served as a source of enlightenment and motivation.

"The courses are completely fascinating," she says. "You learn things you never knew happened in history. At first, there's a lot of anger of what happened to our people. After that, it's looking forward to what we can do to make sure some of these things don't happen again. What kind of positive changes can I make?"

Kauppi is making many positive changes already through her extra-curricular activities. She is a board member for a legal aid organization serving the area's three Ojibwe reservations, a Council of Indian Students committee member producing a confer-

ence on violence against women, and a staff member at the Leech Lake Area Boys and Girls Club where she's acted as youth development coordinator, art teacher, statistics analyst, and now financial department executive assistant.

Along with her commitments, Kauppi's academic resolve has earned her consistent presence on the Dean's List, a recent inclusion on the President's List, and last year's American Indian Student of the Year Award.

She credits part of her academic success to her daughters, Tara and Janae, who also attend BSU. Tara, 23, a chemistry major in the pre-pharmacy program, and Janae, 17, a high school student taking a full-time load at BSU through the Post Secondary Enrollment Options program, are both excellent students and full of ambition. "We are helping each other move forward in our lives," Kauppi explains.

"We are partners on a journey – the same journey, but different paths."

This portion of Kauppi's BSU journey ends this spring when she graduates. Then, after Janae's high school graduation, she hopes to pursue graduate school at the University of Arizona at Tucson.

"I'd like to research cultures of other Indian nations," she says. "When I'm done, I'd like to combine my passion for Indian studies with protecting women and children."

Passion, Kauppi has found, can be discovered when you least expect it – at age 43 – among the walls of BSU's American Indian Resource Center where she experienced the meaning of the circle in her Native American culture and in her own personal journey.

It's a journey of discovery that began simply with a letter placed in her mailbox many years ago.

**HORIZONS**



**Joan Kauppi and daughters  
Janae Kauppi and Tara Anderson**



*Michelle Morgan*

Across campus, faculty and staff see senior Michelle Morgan as a talented, unflappable, and self-confident person.

And they should. After all, they rely on her to slay the gremlins that foul computer connections, jumble broadcast systems, and make a modern smart classroom seem dumb.

They would be surprised to hear Morgan, who has worked in the Academic Technology Center since starting at BSU, describe this year with words like anxiety, nervousness, and uncertainty.

Morgan is preparing to student teach spring semester after finishing course work on three majors this past fall: math education, technology education, and mathematics. Then the search for a teaching job begins in earnest.

"It's the fear of the unknown," she says. "I only know being in school as a student. Getting ready for my first experience of actual teaching is kind of nerve-racking. But I'm confident in what I

want to do; it's finding a place where I can do it that's making me nervous."

Her teachers in technological studies and mathematics would attest that she need not worry.

"She has a seriousness of purpose to succeed in achieving the goals she sets for herself," mathematics professor Ivy Knoshaug says of Morgan. "Her deductive reasoning, problem solving, and communication serve her well in mathematics and technology education. She looks for connections between theory and application and is always willing to go the extra distance to investigate non-obvious or subtle connections."

Morgan feels majoring in technology and mathematics has prepared her well for teaching. "Math is a lot more structured, and industrial technology uses a lab setting," she explains. "It's beneficial to see how they fit together. I've learned ways to make math more interesting with hands-on approaches and to use my math background in industrial technology to explain why and how something works the way it does."

Morgan, who has won academic awards and scholarships from both departments, has been busy beyond her work supporting the campus' academic technology needs. She has volunteered for many years at the Northern Minnesota Mathematics Contest, ExtremeTech for Girls program, and the BSU Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Conference. She was recently named one of six statewide recipients of an award from the Minnesota High Tech Association for students who promote STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields.

From Bemidji, she looked at various options for her undergraduate studies but has no reservations about staying close to home.

"Bemidji State is exactly what I wanted," Morgan says. "It was small enough that I could get that one-on-one attention from professors while being large enough to have a lot to offer."

#### HORIZONS

## Liz Wentland

Connections are important for Liz Wentland. Looking to meld her interest in people with a career path after graduating from Sartell High School in 2003, she enrolled at a university close to home, but didn't feel any synergy with her studies.

So she undertook the sometimes confusing and frequently daunting task of finding another school and seeking her future at a different institution.

"I knew about Bemidji State as a little girl growing up in Nashwauk," Wentland says. "I called the admissions office about options in psychology and other fields. They encouraged me to contact department chair persons directly, which was unexpected and comforting."

A first call and subsequent phone conversations with Dr. Russ Lee of the psychology department helped alleviate the stress involved with scheduling classes at a new university and the panic that could accompany such a move.

Four years later, the St. Stephen, MN, student is putting the finishing touches on majors in psychology and applied psychology.

"Bemidji State has prepared me for whatever I decide to do," she comments. "I've learned so much."

Wentland was torn between social work and psychology, but decided her strong interest in working with people and interacting with individuals on a one-to-one basis was better suited for psychology. Her career choice became clear when visiting with Lee prior to an internship last summer.

"He explained that psychology wants to work on an individual with the hope that the world gets better," she says. "Social work wants to work on the world in hopes that it makes it a better

# Seniors to Watch



place for individuals. That brought it all together for me."

Connecting with young people became a strong component of her internship as a therapist and counselor of pre-teens at a children's home. She encountered kids from abusive homes, youngsters who endured inconsistent parenting, and others who felt abandoned.

"You approach them with an open mind and patience," Wentland explains. "You have to earn their trust and respect, and the connection will come. It was a comfortable and natural process."

It is a process she plans to continue in the future. She is currently exploring graduate school options in child clinical psychology. She feels that her program at BSU, with its theory and hands-on experiences, has prepared her to enter this highly competitive field.

She also is grateful for a scholarship enabling her to undertake an in-depth research project. She had planned on graduating in December, but now can stay an extra semester.

"Right now I'm exploring options on gender influence on diagnoses of children with same behaviors or measuring a perceived lack of empathy exhibited by autistic people. It will be a huge learning experience."

It will also solidify the most recent connection to her future. **HORIZONS**

**J**esan Sorrells believes everyone encounters a moment of clarity, that instant in time where choices define a person, a career, a life. For Sorrells, his moment came on September 11, 2001.

"The pillars that make up civilization and living in relative safety are fleeting things," Sorrells says. "They can be taken away by people who don't appreciate it and don't understand it, or just don't like you. So these people can stop your vision, your pursuit of maintaining civilization, and who you are."

"On 9/11, everything became clear and, if I missed the opportunity to act, I would regret it for the rest of my life."

Home-schooled by his grandmother for most of his education, Sorrells worked several jobs after completing high school requirements in 1998, even though his expectations – and those of his family – would have placed him on a path leading directly to college. He wrote and illustrated comics. He worked grinding lenses as an optometry lab technician. After 9/11, he decided to seriously pursue a visual arts career.

He completed studies at a community college in New Jersey and started looking for a place where he could refine the edge on his moment of clarity. Accepted at universities closer to home, he opted for Bemidji State University.

"The East Coast art scene is too crowded," he explains. "If a person has a vision, it can get drowned

out by a lot of other visions. I am an individual who wanted to be a big fish in a middle-sized pond."

So Sorrells looked for the right pond away from his hometown of Bridgeton, NJ, one with a smaller art department and a personalized focus.

"I was more interested in how to paint, how to draw, how to print, how to represent the things that I see in my head rather than some ephemeral theory," he says. "I could learn that later."

Arriving on campus in 2004, he was driven by his search of clarity in both his student life activities and his art.

While his art became refined, a career path emerged within his vision. A bachelor of fine arts major with art history and resource management minors, he will seek positions after graduation next spring in the care of public, private, or historical collections. Graduate school is an eventual goal as he hopes to work in arts administration with dealers and artists as well as galleries and non-profit organizations.

"I wouldn't change one decision I have made," Sorrells admits. "The education I received enabled me to see the world through different eyes and realize more opportunities. It opened up a world of choices."

**HORIZONS**



*J*esan Sorrells



# Shangri-la

VISITING CHINESE INSTRUCTOR  
EMBRACES BEMIDJI STATE

When Dōnghui Zhang considers her good fortune as a visiting Chinese instructor at Bemidji State University, she first acknowledges a passion for education inspired by her grandmother who, at age 50, sold all her belongings so her youngest daughter, Zhang's mother, could be educated as a medical doctor.

"Both my grandmother and my mom are great, strong personalities," says Zhang, who traces her academic success to the opportunities created by her grandmother's bold sacrifices. "My grandmother was a widow and, much to the surprise of her neighbors, she made a far-reaching decision. She sold her home, becoming homeless, to support my mom in her university studies."

Zhang's parents in turn encouraged Zhang to excel in school, which she did, studying English and graduating at the top of her class at Liaoning University, Shenyang, China, in 1990. She has since taught English there for 17 years, as well as Chinese language and culture to international students. Fluent in English, she translates American novels and other books into Chinese and works with the British Council as an English examiner in China. She also enjoys cultural anthropology and hopes her work will help people of Chinese and American cultures better understand one another and build mutually beneficial relationships.

Influenced by her father, a university instructor of Chinese language, Zhang began studying English at age seven. She remembers loving the English sounds, which she found so different from her native Chinese. By the time she was 13, her dream was to

study in the United States. She got her chance this year, although instead of studying, she is teaching Chinese on a nine-month assignment as part of an exchange program begun in 1988 between BSU and Liaoning University.

Each year since, Bemidji State has hosted a different Liaoning University language instructor. And each summer, BSU students have participated in Sinosummer, a month-long visit to China that includes two weeks at Liaoning University. In nearly 20 years, about 500 students have participated in the program.

At Bemidji State, Zhang teaches two courses a semester and takes various BSU courses. She also hosts a weekly Chinese discussion group and has drafted a story in English about three generations of women in her family, starting with her grandmother.

Always motivated to find better ways to bridge Chinese and American cultures, Zhang thinks of her grandmother's sacrifices, her parent's loving support, and the officials from BSU and Liaoning University whose work has made her BSU experience possible. She has enjoyed studying and teaching in peaceful times, something that her grandmother and parents never experienced. Her grandmother – living through the Chinese civil war, China's economic transition in the 1950s, and the Cultural Revolution from 1966 to 1976 – raised four children alone while sometimes surviving on leaves and roots when food was scarce.

Born in 1968, Zhang lived with her grandmother as a young child while her parents worked and attended the government courses required in the Cultural Revolution. She says her par-

ents' careers suffered through the political upheaval, yet in that time, she learned much from her grandmother and is determined to persevere through any hardship that she may face in her own life.

Coming from the large industrial city of Shenyang, she says that Bemidji is a place of great beauty, peace, and learning. Last year, when traveling in Tibet, she learned that Shangri-la is a paradise of the heart, an experience that she now equates with her time at Bemidji State.

"I recall the first day when I came to Bemidji, when I saw the beautiful nature, the clear lakes, and no pollution," says Zhang. "For me, my Shangri-la is here in Bemidji." **HORIZONS**



Dōnghui Zhang



# Alumni

*The Outstanding Alumni Award is the highest honor presented by the Bemidji State University Alumni Association. Bringing much recognition to their alma mater through distinguished and professional achievements, award recipients are honored for exceptional service and contributions to Bemidji State University and to their community, state, and nation.*

## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

All nominees must have graduated no less than 10 years ago from Bemidji State University and can be nominated by anyone except immediate family members. To nominate a qualified alum, visit the BSU alumni website at [www.bsualumni.org](http://www.bsualumni.org) and select "Alumni Awards" for more information about the program and to download a nomination form.

The nomination deadline is January 31, 2008.

HORIZONS

## 2007 OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

**PAUL BOSWELL '81** (posthumus) Paul earned a bachelor's degree in mass communication from BSU in 1981 and his master's from North Dakota State University (NDSU) in 1998. He spent the first part of his career writing for community newspapers and then moved into the higher education arena. Among his varied positions, Paul spent several years at NDSU as director of Multicultural Student Services and later at the University of North Dakota as director of the Native Media Center, where he was employed when he was killed in an auto accident last year.



**DR. ALMOND CLARK '64** Dr. Clark graduated from BSU in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in business education. He later earned a master's and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. Al spent his early career in business and vocational education before moving into financial services and insurance. He has worked for State Farm Insurance for 26 years and has been recognized for the past eleven years as the top producing, multiple-line agency among their 17,000 agencies in North America. Al and his wife, Shalyn, live in Arlington, TX.



**DR. HILDRETH MCCARTHY '74** Dr. McCarthy graduated from BSU in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a minor in chemistry. She went on to earn her doctorate of medicine from the University of Minnesota. After general surgery residency at the University of Minnesota, she accepted a fellowship in Dallas, TX, specializing in colon and rectal surgery. For the past 23 years, Hildreth has been a partner in private practice in this field. She and her husband, Jon Massey, live in New Orleans, LA.



**JON MCTAGGART '83** Jon graduated from BSU in 1983 with a bachelor's degree in mass communication. Upon graduation, Jon joined Minnesota Public Radio as a station manager in Bemidji and has been with MPR for the majority of his career. Currently serving as the chief operating officer, he is the senior executive responsible for daily operations of American Public Media, Minnesota Public Radio, and its parent support organization, American Public Media Group. Jon and his wife, Debbie ('82), have two children and live in Maplewood, MN.



**DAN NINHAM '83 & '92** Dan earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from BSU in 1983 and completed his master's degree in physical education in 1992. Dan has spent his career teaching physical education, first in Wisconsin and now at Bemidji Middle School. Dan has also had a standout career. A high school basketball coach for the past 13 years, he earned Coach of the Year honors several times and took his Cass Lake-Bena High School team to the state championship game last season. Dan and his wife, Susan ('00), have three children and live in Bemidji.



**TRUDY RAUTIO '75** Trudy earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from BSU in 1975 and an MBA from St. Thomas University. She has led the finance divisions of several national and multinational corporations, including Boise Cascade, Pillsbury, Jostens, and Carlson Companies. She is currently the executive vice president and chief financial officer of Carlson Companies, where she is responsible for the financial operations of the entire corporation. Trudy and her husband, Kevin, live in Minneapolis, MN.



**JEANNE THOMAS '64** Jeanne graduated from Bemidji State in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She spent her career in education, first as a classroom teacher and eventually as a full-time leader of Education Minnesota, the National Education Association affiliate in Minnesota. She also has been actively involved in the DFL party and is the current chairperson of the Second Congressional District DFL. Jeanne and her husband, Charlie, live in Burnsville, MN.



# Class Notes

If you want your information included in **Horizons**, contact the Alumni Association Office (email: [alumni@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:alumni@bemidjistate.edu); toll free: 1-877-BSU-ALUM).

**PLEASE NOTE:**

*Towns are located in Minnesota unless otherwise noted.*

**2006** Thomas Henry of St. Cloud graduated from the U.S. Navy's Aviation Rescue Swimmers School in Pensacola, FL, in June ... Amy Christenson is teaching third grade at Grygla Elementary ... Kara Klietz and Patrick Leopold were married September 1 in Shoreview. Kara is a teacher at the New Horizon Academy in Shoreview and Patrick is employed at Featherlite Exhibits, Minneapolis ... Kristin Andres is an early childhood family education teacher for Paynesville Area Public Schools. She and her husband, Steve, live in St. Cloud ... Ayleen Lindahl and Daryk Leonhardt were married October 6 in Bemidji. She is a residence hall director at BSU's Department of Residential Life and he is student teaching at Bemidji High School ... Ben Mettling is teaching fourth grade and serving as a paraprofessional and junior high volleyball coach at the Ashby School. This is his first year of teaching ... Andrew Bellefy of Grand Rapids is teaching high school biology and human anatomy and physiology at Deer River ... Micah Skindelien and Eve St. Peter were married May 26 in West St. Paul. Both are employed in the Twin Cities and reside in Inver Grove Heights ... Samantha Veldhouse performed in a Twin Cities summer production of *Streaming Twin Cities*, a play directed by Ellen Mueller ('05) at the Red Eye Collaboration Theater. Also in the play were BSU grads Molly Dimba ('03) and Kari Kelly ('03).

**2005** Jodi Knaus has been appointed chief human resources officer for Ridgewater College, with campuses in Willmar and Hutchinson. She has 15 years of personnel management experience, 11 within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and four with U.S. Steel ... Julie Ehrman was recently hired as the new manager of Deerwood Bank's Littlefork branch office. She and her husband, Terry, have two adult children and live in International Falls ... Ellen Mueller directed a play in Minneapolis this summer entitled *Streaming Twin Cities*. Fellow alumni Molly Dimba ('03), Kari Kelly ('03) and Samantha Veldhouse ('06) performed in the August production at the Red Eye Collaboration Theater ... Michelle Holden is teaching fifth grade for the Pine River-Backus school district, after working in the Head Start program

from 1991-2007.

**2004** Nicole McDougall and Frank Udovich were married October 6 in Ely ... Wayne Boerner took over as Lac qui Parle State Park manager in June. He'd previously served as assistant manager at Buffalo River State Park near Moorhead ... Tim Patrin is teaching high school biology in the West Central Area School District. He and his wife, Jessie, have two daughters, ages five and three, and recently purchased a house in Elbow Lake ... Stephanie Frisch and Daniel Finnegan ('05) were married May 1 in Las Vegas, NV, and live in Alexandria where she works at American National Bank and he is manager of Plaza Goodyear Tire ... Andrew Rapaway has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX, earning distinction as an honor graduate.

**2003** Nicole Rajkowski is employed by the University of Minnesota Department of Recreational Sports as director of intramurals ... Hayley Hurd and James McKeon were married June 16 in Bemidji. Hayley is a sales and events associate at Hampton Inn & Suites, Bemidji, and James is a program coordinator for Eagles Wing Inc. and an assistant varsity football coach for Bemidji High School ... Jen Strom is an eighth-grade earth science teacher at Long Prairie. She and her husband, Rob, have a son, Martin ... Timothy Stokka has been promoted to sales and service manager for the south branch of U.S.

Bank, Fargo, ND. He has four years of financial experience with U.S. Bank ... Kari Kelly performed in a Twin Cities summer production of *Streaming Twin Cities*, a play directed by Ellen Mueller ('05) at the Red Eye Collaboration Theater. Also in the play were BSU grads Molly Dimba and Samantha Veldhouse ('06) ... David Steussy has been honored as the 2006-2007 Minnesota Skills USA Advisor of the Year.

**2002** Nicholas Lentz has joined the Energy and Environmental Research Center in Grand Forks, ND as a research scientist. He'd served previously as a research assistant at Iowa State University, Ames, IA.

**2001** Sarah Dryburgh is the head coach of the Fosston High School volleyball program. She and her husband, Loren, live in Fosston. He teaches special education at the high school in Bagley ... Erich Knapp of Menahga was awarded Educator of the Year by OPERA America ... Katie A. Furlong of Duluth is owner of Pink Tie Design in Hibbing.

**2000** Ben Brovold of Walker has been hired as the head coach for the Walker-Hackensack-Akeley boys hockey team. He and his wife, Jill, have a son, Cooper ... Bruce Manske is teaching English at Chisago Lakes High School ... Jessica Virnig and Randy LeBlanc were married August 11. She is employed at Onamia High School ... Susan Ninham is the new principal at Mahnomen High School. She and her husband, Dan ('83, '92), have been married for 25 years, have three children, and live in Bemidji. Dan is a physical education teacher at Bemidji Middle School and boys basketball coach at Cass Lake High School.

**1998** Colleen (Matejcek) Peterson and husband, Eric, of Bismarck, ND, announce the July 24 birth of a daughter, Mia. They also have a son, Isaac, who was born in February 2005. Colleen is employed as an environmental health specialist with the city of Bismarck ... Rob Nudell of Buffalo is the new Dassel Elementary School principal. He had served nine years as an elementary principal in Buffalo.

**1997** Sara (Raderschadt) Hager and husband, Boyd, of Otsego announce the birth of a son, Evan, in May ... Jenny



**1967 40-Year Reunion participants.** Front Row (L-R): David Parnow '67, Wilbur Nelson '67, Larry Uhlir '67, Bob Fellman '67, Gary Zitzer '68, Dallas Way '68. Back Row (L-R): Dianne (Arvidson) Parnow '67, Jill (Erickson) Hall '67, Karleen (Swanson) Nelson '68, Marsha (Magnuson) Johnson '67, Peg (Marvin) Johnson '67, Sally (Combs) Fellman '67, Joyce (Andresen) Way '68.

Loeck is the new athletic director at Roseville Area High School. She had taught and coached at Roseville for seven years before leaving to become the activities director at Blaine High School for three years.

**1996** Julie Sutherland and husband, Derek Sutherland ('95) of New Market announce the August 6 birth of their first child, a son, Cooper. Julie is the coordinator of the School Age Child Care Program in the Lakeville School District and Derek is an account manager with Delta Dental ... Nicole Belpedio is the principal of St. Peter's School of Delano and also teaches fourth- and fifth-grade math. She'd spent 11 years teaching at Merritt Elementary in Mt. Iron.

**1995** Audra (Christensen) Leisdon and husband, Craig, live in Inver Grove Heights. Audra works for Watson-Wyatt Worldwide as a benefit systems administrator, a position she's held since April of 2005 ... Ted Halbur is principal designer for Target GiftCards, Minneapolis, and his wife, Amy (Engler) Halbur ('98) is in her 10<sup>th</sup> year of teaching fourth- and fifth-grade in the Centennial School District. Ted has designed more than 150 gift cards and his designs have appeared in *How Magazine*, in the *Print Regional Design Annual* and at the AIGA MN Design Show. He and Amy have three sons ... Kristopher Franzen is in his tenth year as an elementary teacher for the Bakersfield City School District in Bakersfield, CA. He and his wife, Virginia, also a teacher, have a daughter, Carolina.

**1994** Brad Kennett is the dean of students at Lafayette High School in Red Lake Falls. He's also head coach for the varsity hockey team and the school's athletic director ... Sarah Jensen joined Otter Tail Corporation in July as an accounting supervisor at the Fergus Falls office. She is a CPA and had previously served as controller for Lund Boat Company in New York Mills.

**1992** Kathy Carroll is the Early Childhood Family Education parent educator for Hill City School. She's married and has four grown children and five grandchildren ... Vikki Varichak Jacobson received her doctor of philosophy degree from Capella University in Minneapolis this summer ... Craig Swenson accepted a commercial agent position with Denali Companies in Baxter, focusing on commercial and investment real estate. He has 15 years of sales experience in his field.

**1991** Patty Cook received the Administrator of the Year award from the National Indian School Board Association. She is a Leech Lake Reservation enrollee and the current administrator of the Casa Blanca Community School, serving the Gila River Reservation in Arizona.

**1990** Jeff Spry has been hired by the JPC Group, Duluth, to lead the agency's creative department as senior art director and team leader. He'd previously spent eight years as an art director at Westmoreland.

**1989** Roy Booth served as a panel moderator at Arcana 37, a speculative writing convention held in October. He was also recently commissioned to develop a film script/TV pilot based on Douglas Texter's award-winning science fiction short story, *Primetime*. This will be his sixth screenplay. His fortieth play has also just been released, *Beanie and the Bamboozling Adventure Machine*. He owns and operates Roy's Comics & Games in Hibbing and Bemidji.

**1988** Bob Cummings of Aitkin has been named manager of Security State Agency, a newly restructured insurance company with two offices in Aitkin and branch offices in Isle, Onamia, and Grand Marais. He's also a hobby farmer and father of four, ages five to 23.

**1986** Connie Fragodt has been hired by the SW/WC Service Cooperative in Marshall as an early childhood special education teacher in Montevideo. She spent 15 years with Prairie Five Head Start in Madison ... Drey Bradley is serving as co-head boys hockey coach at Eastview High School, Apple Valley. He had been the assistant boys hockey coach at the high school for the past five seasons.

**1984** Lisa (Bailey) Laing, administrative support careers instructor with Minnesota State College Southeast Technical, has received the 2007 Outstanding

Continued on Page 18

Contributions to Business Education by a Post-Secondary Business Teacher Award from Minnesota Business Educators, Inc.

**1983** Kathy Sanders and her husband, Les, live in Glendive and were recently featured in a newspaper story about their varied artistic abilities. She is a decorative painter, working primarily in oils, and recently expanded her medium to include carving and decorating gourds.

**1982** Kay Wilson is the new activities director at Glencoe-Silver Lake High School. She first served as choir director at Glencoe and later at Glencoe-Silver Lake high schools for a total of 22 years. She and her husband, Randy, have two grown children, Sarah and Tim ... Karen Anderson has joined the marketing department of Wiseth Smith Nolting in Brainerd. She has 20 years of experience in photography, advertising, and marketing ... Linda Swanson is a special education teacher at West Elementary, Slayton, where she had been a long-term substitute the previous year. She and her husband have three sons and live in Fulda.

**1981** Roger Schultz of Forest, VA, serves as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA ... Dale Umlauf of Fergus Falls recently accepted a position with West Central Initiative as vice president of business development. He'd most recently served as executive director of the Crookston Development Authority. He has two grown children.

**1980** Nadine Omans teaches Spanish at Cass Lake-Bena High School ... Kim Roysland has been hired as a part-time assistant women's golf coach with the University of Minnesota, Crookston's athletic department, bringing 23 years of varsity golf coaching experience to the golf program ... Ellen Adams has been named Outstanding American Indian Teacher of the Year by the Minnesota Indian Education Association. She's been teaching at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School in Bena for nearly 30 years and serves on the school's Elders' Council.

**1977** Patty Baird, who is more often recognized now by her pen name of Jamie Lee, has been awarded the Ben Franklin Award for Best New Voice in fiction for her

latest novel *Washaka – The Bear Dreamer*. She teaches at Oglala Lakota College on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and is the author of two previous non-fiction books, *Feeling Good About Feeling Bad* and *Re-Visioning Adolescence and the Rite of Passage*. She and her husband, Milt Lee, live in Rapid City, SD ... Randy Wanek has been named administrator of Pelican Valley Health Center in Pelican Rapids. He'd previously served as the healthcare workforce coordinator of the West Central Initiative in Fergus Falls and has an extensive background in long-term care.

**1976** Maj. Gen. Thomas Waldhauser was recently promoted to the post of commanding general of the First Marine Division of the U.S. Marine Corps at Camp Pendelton, CA ... Susan Alstrom recently earned her 500<sup>th</sup> career coaching win, becoming one of only nine coaches in Minnesota to reach that number. She's currently in her 27<sup>th</sup> year as head volleyball coach for Buffalo Lake-Hector.

**1971** Tyrone Hanson joined the teaching staff at Carlson Music's Educational Center, Alexandria, this fall. He has 35 years of experience teaching band, choir, and elementary music and is qualified to teach a broad range of instruments.

**1970** Paul Godlewski of Minneapolis was selected recently by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers In America* 2008

## Save the Date

### BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

#### *Alumni and Friends Dinner and Golf*

- Oakwood Country Club – Sun Lakes, AZ  
Saturday, February 16, 2008
- Woodhaven Country Club – Palm Desert, CA  
Saturday, March 29, 2008
- Oak Glen Golf Club – Stillwater, MN  
Friday, August 1, 2008

#### *MMEA Reception for BSU Alumni*

Friday, February 15, 2008  
Hell's Kitchen - 89 South 10th Street,  
Minneapolis, MN

#### *50-Year Reunion of the Class of 1958*

Thursday, May 15, 2008

#### *Golden Beaver Society Luncheon*

A recognition event for alumni who have graduated 50 years ago or more.  
Friday, May 16, 2008

For more information on each event, contact the Alumni Office at 877-278-2586 (toll free) or via email at [alumni@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:alumni@bemidjistate.edu) or visit our website at [www.bsualumni.org](http://www.bsualumni.org).



**BEMIDJI**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

in the field of personal injury litigation. He is a partner in the Minneapolis law firm of Schwebel, Goetz & Sieben, P.A. ... **Mike Schueller** has been inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He served as head wrestling coach at East High School, Wausau, WI, for 17 years. In 1991 he moved into an administrative position, gave up coaching, and became a prominent Wisconsin wrestling official. He and his wife, Mimi, live in Wausau and have three children.

**1969** **Gail Nucech** of Hibbing was honored with a community day in her name in September. She's a volleyball coach, and the celebration marked her teams' many wins.

**1968** **Gary Halek** received the Dick Siebert Award from the Minnesota State High School Baseball Coaches Association at the organization's banquet in October. For the past five years, he's coached the St. John's Prep Johnnies, Collegeville, and for the 26 years prior to that he served as head coach at Sauk Rapids High School.

**1967** **Lowell Searcy** of Brainerd was inducted into the Minnesota High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame in October ... **Dan Anderson** and his wife, Irma, live in Yorkville, IL, and have a grown son, Eric. Dan has retired from a 30-year career with Motorola and is now volunteering with the American Cancer Society.

**1963** **Hank Larsen**, a retired track and cross country coach, has been inducted into the Glencoe-Silver Lake Panther Association Hall of Fame. He and his wife of 40 years, Judy, live in Glencoe and have two grown sons.

**1951** **Roger Johnson** and his wife, Randi, live in Wayzata where Roger recently celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**1941** **Harold Shellum** and his wife, Ruth, recently sold their home of 43 years in Sunnyvale, CA, and purchased a new home in Monrovia, CA, to be closer to family.

**HORIZONS**

## IN MEMORIAM

Sheila Andress Anderson '73, Akeley, MN

Grant Bateman '55, Osage, MN

Donald Beaumont '47, Fosston, MN

James W. Buchanan '57, Bloomington, MN

Julie Ann Christensen '98, Bemidji, MN

Clifford R. Davis '61, Sahuarita, AZ

Mary "Mimi" Diffley '96, Bemidji, MN

Rosamond C. Doty, Attended '38 & '39, Monticello, MN

Ann Moore Flowers '42, Richmond, VA

Marilyn Wahlquist Foss '90, Mianyang, Sichuan Province, China

Isabel Gilbertson '34, Mahnomon, MN

Everett William Goodwin '77, Bagley, MN

Merrill Gustoff, '62, Spencer, IA

Gary Hellekson '62, Eagle, ID

Jerald Hickerson '63, Thief River Falls, MN

Leroy Jasmer '49, Willmar, MN

Lynn Joy '70, Detroit Lakes, MN

Galen Lisell '71, Roseau, MN

Elaine Moore '43, Backus, MN

Evelyn Myrum '65, Clearbrook, MN

Iris Nelson '67, Marysville, MI

Edwin I. Nordheim, '41, Bemidji, MN

Judith Bartz Peterson '64, Golden Valley, MN

Ruth Reiten '66, Lovell, WY

Edmund M. Sauer '69, Walker, MN

Linda Schaefer, '65, Blackduck, MN

Gladys Simonson Schleicher '42, McIntosh, MN

Maxine Thompson '57, Grand Forks, ND

Kenneth Tisher '60, Backus, MN

Marcella E. Tweed '40, Nashwauk, MN

Edith L. Watson '32, International Falls, MN

James D. Watson '54, Logan, UT

LeRoy Yoder '67, PA

2006-2007

# Report OF Gifts



Greetings from the BSU Foundation! This past year was a whirlwind of successful programs and events at BSU and within the BSU Foundation. Some of the highlights and accomplishments included:

- Enrolling the largest freshmen class in a decade, with nearly \$400,000 in BSU scholarships supporting those new students;
- Adding two new development officers to work directly with the colleges;
- Hosting the second annual BSU Community Appreciation Day;
- Receiving a state award for the greatest increase in alumni participation among the four-year Minnesota state universities;
- Creating the President's Society to recognize the lifetime cumulative giving of our loyal donors;
- Hosting the first President's Society Gala during Homecoming to recognize cumulative giving and to thank donors;
- Creating new events for BSU alumni and friends in the Twin Cities, Arizona, and California; and
- Growing the Legacy Society by 15% to 168 members with anticipated assets (current and future) of approximately \$19 million.

Currently we are developing a new website for the BSU Alumni Association and Foundation that will be an expanded source of information for our alumni and friends. Also, the boards of directors of the Alumni Association and the Foundation are working closely together on strategic planning and on improved communication and involvement with our alumni, donors, and friends.

On behalf of the students, faculty, and the administration at Bemidji State University, thank you for your continued support and dedication. Your commitment makes a difference on a daily basis as we work together to reach our goal of building an even stronger University for the future.

Sincerely,

*Rob Bollinger*

Rob Bollinger  
Executive Director for University Advancement



**HERB & LYNN DORAN**

**W**hen Herb and Lynn Doran moved back to Bemidji in 1992, they left six children and numerous grandchildren behind in Houston, TX. Little did they know they would find a much larger family here than the family they left behind in the Lone Star State.

Herb Doran had just retired after a 32-year career as an engineer with Shell Oil Company. Both born and raised in Bemidji, he and his wife returned to the north country to enjoy non-winter months with plans to head south when snow and cold arrived.

Those plans changed as they became involved with the BSU men's hockey team. Always hockey fans, their bond began slowly by attending games. It grew through contacts with the coaches and became serious when the Beavers began NCAA Division I competition.

Now it entails just about everything associated with family life. Introduced once to visitors as the team grandparents, the Dorans certainly fill roles as the team's patriarch and matriarch.

# At Home

WITH THE BSU MEN'S HOCKEY PROGRAM

Lynn and Herb invite small groups of players to their house for an occasional home-cooked meal. Similar to a family reunion, they organize an annual event where parents of hockey players can meet. Prior to each weekend hockey series, Lynn's baked goods – dozens of cookies or piles of brownies – are delivered to the team. At season's end, they host a team cook-out complete with Olympic-style yard games.

Besides creating a family environment for the team, the Dorans also have established scholarships to help their unusual, northern family achieve educational goals.

"We used to visit Houston for about three months," says Lynn Doran. "As we got more involved with the hockey team, we decided we were going to miss too many games. So now we go down at Christmas.

"Our own kids have grown, and they're busy with work and families. Our grandkids are in school. We don't get to see anyone, and if we're going to only talk on the phone, they can just as easily call us up here."

*"A lot of scholarships have names associated with them, but this scholarship is much more personal. You look at them and you see what Beaver hockey is: a tight-knit, loving, caring community."*

Riley Weselowski

So Herb Doran spends time watching practices, and Lynn Doran bakes the nine dozen cookies fed to the team prior to each series. Season ticket holders, they both enjoy the games and their special relationship with the team.

"They're just nice young men," says Herb Doran with some pride about this skating clan. "One thing that has really impressed us is the grade point average they maintain. It's amazing they can spend the time they do practicing, traveling, and playing while still earning a 3.33 team grade point average."

Accomplishing amazing feats certainly fits Riley Weselowski, the current recipient of the Doran Men's Hockey

Scholarship. A senior business administration major from Pilot Mound, Manitoba, he earned Academic All-CHA and ESPN the Magazine/CoSIDA Academic District honors. Prior to the current season, he appeared in 89 games on defense for the Beavers, and his three assists in a 2006 game against Air Force tied a BSU Division I team record for defensemen.

"They do so much for the program to give it an at-home feeling," Weselowski explains as he describes the Dorans' special bond with the team. "A lot of scholarships have names associated with them, but this scholarship is much

more personal. You look at them and you see what Beaver hockey is: a tight-knit, loving, caring community.

"And the financial support is nice. Any scholarship takes a weight off your shoulders. You don't have to come out of school with the kind of debt some others have."

To further support their extended family, the Dorans established a second scholarship for a player who has completed his eligibility but needs additional classes to finish degree requirements.

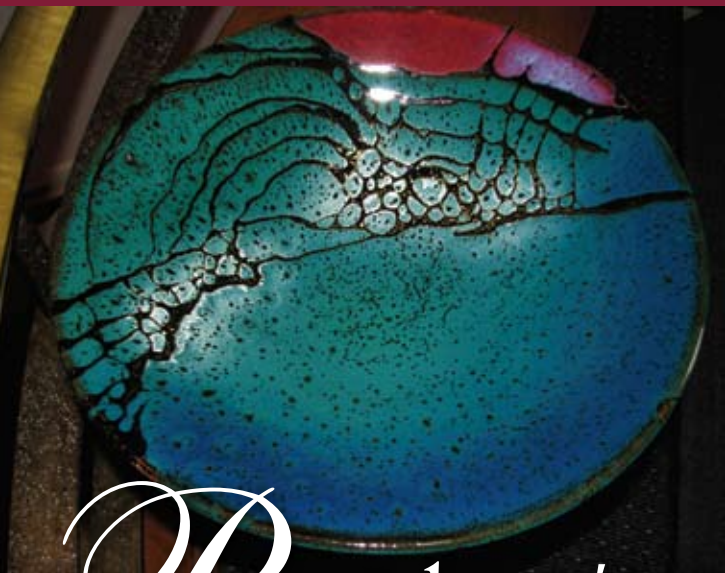
For the Dorans, the scholarships are a way they give back to a group that has added meaning to their lives.

"We don't have family here, and the players don't have family here. So we serve that for each other," Lynn notes.

**HORIZONS**



Weselowski with a batch of Lynn Doran's home-baked cookies for the hockey team.



**Chargers, like the one on the left, are "awards of distinction" created especially for the President's Society by Visual Arts Professor and Department Chair John "Butch" Holden. The award honors donors with cumulative giving of \$100,000 or more.**

# President's Society

*The President's Society recognizes the University's most generous contributors. Membership includes individuals, families, and organizations and is based on lifetime cumulative giving to the Bemidji State University Foundation. Members are recognized for gifts and pledges at the levels listed below.*

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# The Legacy Society

*The BSU Legacy Society recognizes those who have made a deferred or planned gift to the BSU Foundation. The society has grown from 43 charter members when it formed in 2002 to 168 members today.*

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 Robert & Sherry Young  
 Charles & Susan Zielin  
 7 Anonymous Members

**Deceased**

\*Charter Members

# Recipe FOR Giving

**W**hen Myrtie Hunt retired from Bemidji State University in 1973, she was asked to help raise scholarship funds for women in the fast-growing fields of physical education, health, and dance. Hunt doubted she could be successful, because she wasn't a high-profile faculty member or well-known coach.

What she did know was nutrition. She also knew hunting and fishing, as well as how to cook the game she caught, shot, or landed. Perhaps most importantly, Hunt knew the BSU students and colleagues she had met since 1946.

"I didn't fancy the idea of running around talking to businesses or people for funds," remembers Hunt, who at 96 still lives in her home overlooking Lake Bemidji. "Once I was visiting with friends about recipes. Ruth Howe (professor emerita of physical education) saw me struggling to find a recipe on scraps of paper in notebooks around my kitchen. She suggested I get organized and then put

together a cookbook to sell as a scholarship fund raiser."

With the help of students and friends, she published the *Sport of Cooking, Hunt Style*, a volume featuring such dishes as Fillets of Perch in Chablis, Mallard Casserole, Venison Stroganoff, Wild Rice Jello Salad, Blueberry Cobbler, and Hunt's Health Bread.

Alumni, friends, and current students sold the book across the region and soon the Myrtie Hunt Alumni Scholarship was endowed. The alumni designation was added to recognize the role they played in promoting the book.

Kelli Taylor, a junior from Watford City, ND, knew little about Hunt or the scholarship when she was named the 2007 recipient last spring, but she would soon discover a very personal connection. Her grandmother was visiting her parent's home when she relayed

the scholarship news. A 1949 graduate of BSU, Pat (Knight) Taylor recalled taking a modern dance class from Hunt.

"My grandmother said Myrtie was quite a lady and a very good teacher," Kelli Taylor says. "I was honored to be chosen as the recipient because she is still talked about on campus with respect and is admired for what she did for the program."

Among the first for female physical education majors, the Hunt scholarship began in 1979 just as opportunities for women were emerging in athletics, fitness, coaching, and education. It's a history not lost on Taylor, who plans to teach after graduating in

2009 with degrees in physical education and exercise science as well as a certificate in developmental adapted physical education.

"When I grew up, I tried just about every sport," she explains. "They've always been around for my generation. My mother says things have changed a lot, with more opportunities and job options available now than when she was in school."

Hunt recognized the growing need for support and understood the impact the scholarship would have on students. Over the years, she has visited with every recipient and frequently hears from parents.

"One mother told me the scholarship would enable her daughter to complete her education on time,"

*"It is beneficial because it connects us with our history. In a way, the scholarship is like a thread that runs through past, present, and future professionals."*

Dr. Muriel Gilman

Kelli Taylor





**MYRTIE HUNT**

Hunt remembers. "The student was planning to leave school and get a job before finishing."

For Taylor, it reduced the financial burden on her and her family. Last year she and two siblings attended college at the same time, and she had to take out loans to cover educational costs. A loan isn't in this year's plan because of the scholarship.

When she found out *The Sport of Cooking* was reprinted in 2000, Taylor got a copy autographed by Hunt and gave it to her grandmother, illustrating the generational impact Hunt has had on alumni and students.

"Scholarships like the Myrtie Hunt Alumni Scholarship mean our predecessors have confidence we will carry on the work of the academe," says Dr. Muriel Gilman, who chairs the Department of Physical Education, Health and Sport. "It is beneficial because it connects us with our history. In a way, the scholarship is like a thread that runs through past, present, and future professionals."

**HORIZONS**

**BSU FOUNDATION BOARD**

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- Secretary/Treasurer**, John Davies, Laporte, MN
- Vice President**, Robin Kelleher, 1972, Burnsville, MN

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- Dr. Lee Norman, 1974, Kansas City, MO
- George Thelen, 1964, Park Rapids, MN
- Jeff Kemink, Bemidji, MN
- Peter Nelson, Nisswa, MN
- Gerald Green, 1960, Edwardsville, IL
- Pam Raden, 1986, Sartell, MN
- Jeff Baumgartner, 1977, Bemidji, MN
- Jon McTaggart, 1983, Maplewood, MN
- Willie Stittsworth, 1953, Bemidji, MN
- Joe Lueken, Bemidji, MN
- Dave Ramsey, 1978, Owatonna, MN
- Dave Sorensen, 1972, Plymouth, MN
- Guy Vena, 1960, Palatine, IL

- Ex-Officio**, Dr. Jon Quistgaard, BSU President
- Ex-Officio**, Rob Bollinger, Executive Director for University Advancement

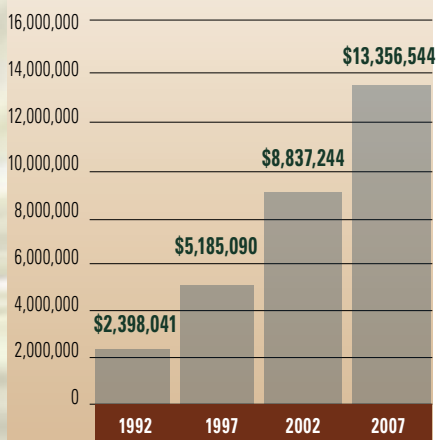
**ENDOWED CHAIRS**

*George W. Neilson Chair  
in Wetlands Ecology*

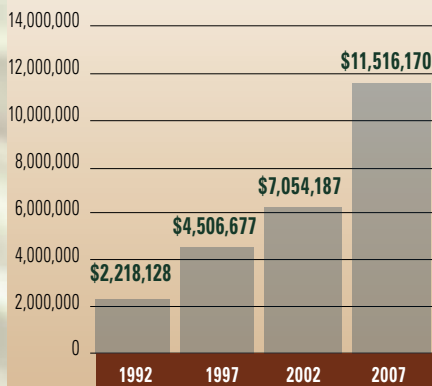
*3M Chair of Accounting*

*An endowed chair is a faculty position supported by income from an endowed fund established by a gift or gifts.*

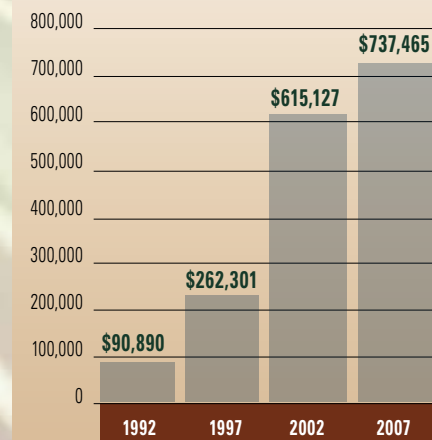
### Growth of Foundation Assets



### Growth of Endowed Funds



### BSU Foundation Scholarship Dollars Provided



**LYNNE HOLT**

**A**s a scientist in the 1960s, Chuck Holt knew studying his favorite research topic – fresh water – often meant long hours, under rugged conditions and miles away from home.

Imagine, then, the thoughts that ran through his mind when he arrived at Bemidji State University in 1965 charged to forge a new direction within the study of biology on campus. Fresh from finishing his doctorate at the University of Minnesota, he saw Lake Bemidji, Sattgast Hall situated on its shore, and unlimited potential.

*“The location on the lake meant there was credible, hands-on access for study not available anywhere else. He loved field work – winter, summer, fall, or spring. There was an advantage for students doing real work by stepping out the door and being right at the study site.”*

Lynne Holt

# Scholarship Pushes Student to Find Potential

"The location on the lake meant there was credible, hands-on access for study not available anywhere else," says Lynne Holt, Chuck's wife. "He loved field work – winter, summer, fall, or spring. There was an advantage for students doing real work by stepping out the door and being right at the study site."

Chuck Holt and other faculty in the biology department maximized this advantage by shaping a curriculum that evolved into a widely recognized and viable major, aquatic biology, with a research facility located right on the lake. It started with a few classes, developed into a major, and grew with the addition of a master's component. Graduates became valued additions both at graduate schools and in the work force.

"He was committed to students at Bemidji State," remembers Lynne Holt. "They were all hard workers, extremely bright, and equal to or better than graduates at other programs, regardless of the school size or reputation."

When Chuck Holt died in 1998, his family, colleagues,

and friends looked for a way to remember his work, assist undergraduates, and continue his research interests. They accomplished this through the Charles S. Holt Memorial Scholarship, awarded annually to an outstanding aquatic biology student on campus.

"The goal was to support knowledge," Lynne Holt says. "It was designed to take some burden off finances and allow students to focus on studies. And I hoped it would give them a little push to reach their full potential."

For David Grundy, his selection as the 2007 recipient of this award was a surprise, a welcomed assist financially, and an eye opener for his future.

"The impact of the award goes beyond the financial aspect," the senior from

Bemidji says. "It recognizes the work I've done, and it got me thinking beyond this year."

The scholarship influenced his decision to pursue an advanced degree after graduating next spring. He is currently preparing for graduate entrance exams and looking at school options.

First he will finish courses at BSU and complete a study on bull trout habitat pressures that he began last summer for the National Forest Service. An endangered species found only in a handful of northwest states, bull trout numbers are diminishing partly due to invasive species, habitat infringement by humans, and a warming temperature, which is critical to the species that requires water below 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

"Dave is an outstanding classroom scholar," said Dr.

Don Cloutman, biology professor. "But he is also a very meticulous, hard worker with a good analytical mind, characteristics which make him an outstanding researcher."

Grundy feels his decision to attend BSU opened the doors of opportunity to study and conduct important research. He looked at programs at the larger universities before deciding to stay near his home in Bemidji.

"Most of my classmates wanted to get out of town," Grundy admits. "My decision to remain was based on the caliber of the aquatic program and a system that produced quality credentials. There is a lot of research opportunity here, and you're out on the lake for classes almost every day getting hands-on experience and writing reports."

It's a vision and philosophy for an area of study that Chuck Holt hoped would take hold when the program began, and one that continues in his name through support from the endowed scholarship.

**HORIZONS**

David Grundy



# Giving AND Passion

FOR THE ARTS



**MARCELLA SHERMAN**

Combining the potency of scholarships and the arts just made sense to Marcella Sherman.

After all, her own college experience at Stanford would not have happened, she believes, without the help of such awards. And without her education, the San Jose, CA, resident feels she would not have had a successful career in education, first as a teacher and later as an administrator specializing in grant writing.

Passion for the arts was something that she and her husband, Rick, shared. Rick Sherman taught art and worked as a ceramist. Together, they were patrons of the arts, especially the visual arts.

After Rick's death, she decided to combine the benefits of scholarships with their passion for the arts, establishing the Marcella and Rick Sherman Endowment Fund. The gift supports art majors at Bemidji State University.

The Shermans became familiar with Bemidji State University through Margaret Harlow, a 1936 alumna who created a teaching collection of ceramic works that allows students to study the techniques and glazes used by artists in different time periods, across many geographic regions, and with varying senses of purpose. Harlow annually purchased a piece or two for the collection.

"Every year Rick would go to a national conference for ceramic educators, and he met Margaret at one of these," Marcella Sherman remembers. "He admired what she did to create a teaching collection, and not just to purchase something to be put on display. She encouraged Rick to visit Bemidji, which he did.

"Over time, we had obtained a number of different pots and enjoyed them. It was Rick's intention to donate these to Bemidji State after he died."

Also following Rick Sherman's death in 2000, Marcella Sherman funded the appraisal of the Harlow Pottery Collection and added the endowment to fund two scholarships. The recipients are selected during a competitive exhibit for art majors.

"It is important that funds be made available to help students make art and study," says Marcella Sherman. "Tuition today is so high. I hope students can do the things they want to do without getting into debt."

For recipient Brittany Ann Moore, that hope is a reality. A senior from Evergreen, CO, Moore used a family college fund to pay her initial four years at BSU. She anticipated

applying for financial aid in her fifth year and saw the possibility of a loan in her future. An arts education major as well as a jewelry artist, Moore entered and won a scholarship from the department's annual competition.

"This gives me a lot more confidence in myself as an artist," Moore says. "It is incentive to work toward better things and not be afraid to put myself or my art out there for people to view.

"It also means a lot for me financially. It will help me continue on the path I'm now on to do art and to teach."

Moore has already picked up valuable classroom experience, serving as a teaching assistant for both education and visual arts courses.

"Brittany is a promising young artist whose vision and skill

**Brittany Ann Moore**



*"Art has been a very big passion in my life. With the demands in the classroom, it sometimes is hard for teachers to keep art in their life. A teacher should always strive to improve, and there's no better way for an art teacher to do that than creating and showing your work."*

**Brittany Ann Moore**

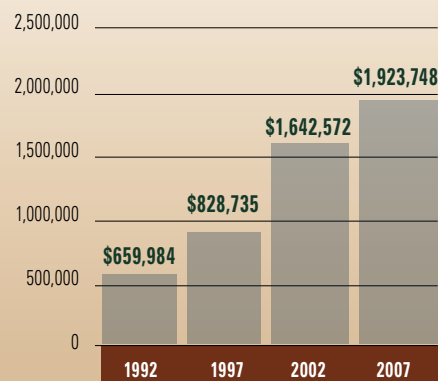
continues to grow," says Linda Brown, BSU assistant professor of visual arts. "She served as my teaching assistant in beginning metals for one year. In addition to assisting beginning students during class time, she also made appointments – on her own time – to help those who were struggling."

Once she leaves Bemidji State, Moore hopes to student teach in New Zealand before embarking on her dual careers as an educator and as an artist.

"Art has been a very big passion in my life," Moore explains. "With the demands in the classroom, it sometimes is hard for teachers to keep art in their life. A teacher should always strive to improve, and there's no better way for an art teacher to do that than creating and showing your work."

**HORIZONS**

### Cash Contributions Received



### Statement of Position

June 30, 2007

#### Assets

|                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Current Assets</b>               |                     |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents           | 47,288              |
| Investments                         | 12,311,901          |
| Contributions Receivable            | 329,225             |
| Prepaid Expenses                    | 2,652               |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>         | <b>12,691,066</b>   |
| Property and Equipment              | 424,909             |
| <b>Other Assets</b>                 |                     |
| Contributions Receivable            | 125,835             |
| Remainder Interest in Real Estate   | 76,940              |
| Cash Surrender Value Life Insurance | 37,794              |
| <b>Total Other Assets</b>           | <b>240,569</b>      |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                 | <b>\$13,356,544</b> |

#### Liabilities and Net Assets

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>              |                     |
| Accounts Payable                        | 27,410              |
| Annuities Payable, Current Portion      | 40,509              |
| Note Payable, Current Portion           | 5,696               |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>        | <b>73,615</b>       |
| <b>Long-term Liabilities</b>            |                     |
| Annuities Payable, Long Term Portion    | 174,678             |
| Note Payable, Long Term Portion         | 13,289              |
| <b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>      | <b>187,967</b>      |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                | <b>261,582</b>      |
| <b>Net Assets</b>                       |                     |
| <b>Unrestricted Net Assets</b>          |                     |
| University Fund                         | 262,742             |
| Alumni House Acquisition                | -80,000             |
| Plant Fund                              | 424,909             |
| <b>Total Unrestricted Net Assets</b>    | <b>607,651</b>      |
| Temporarily Restricted Net Assets       | 2,673,492           |
| Permanently Restricted Net Assets       | 9,813,819           |
| <b>Total Net Assets</b>                 | <b>13,094,962</b>   |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b> | <b>\$13,356,544</b> |



# BEMIDJI

STATE UNIVERSITY

1500 Birchmont Drive NE  
Bemidji, MN 56601-2699



## CAMPUS Calendar

- January 1:** Summer Session Class Schedule On Line
- January 22:** Spring Semester Classes Begin
- February 8:** Summer Session Class Schedule Available in Print
- February 28:** Summer School Registration Begins
- March 13-14:** Early Childhood Mega Conference
- April 11-12:** Spring Theatre Production - "Twelfth Night"
- April 16:** Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Conference
- April 19-20:** Spring Theatre Production - "Twelfth Night"
- May 16:** Commencement
- June 15-20:** Northwoods Writers Conference

## ADMISSIONS

### Campus Preview Days

- Saturday, January 26
- Monday, January 28
- Friday, February 1
- Monday, February 18
- Monday, March 17
- Friday, April 11- Juniors Only
- Monday, April 21- Juniors Only

### 2008 Academic Advising and Registration

#### Freshmen

- Friday, March 28
- Friday, April 18
- Friday, April 25
- Monday, May 5
- Monday, June 16
- Monday, July 14

#### Transfer Students

- Friday, April 25
- Monday, May 5
- Monday, June 16
- Monday, July 14

Keep updated on BSU events. Go to "Events Calendar" at [www.bemidjistate.edu](http://www.bemidjistate.edu).