Leading Leaders
BSU Alumnus Equips Executives in Esteemed Program

Getting Their Heads into the Game
Revolutionary Role-Play Games Come to Life at BSU

A Dream by Design
New Grad Moves Into Career, City of Dreams
Message from the President

The brilliant reds, oranges, and golds of autumn accentuated the rhythm of campus this fall as we once again welcomed “home” new and returning students for the start of Bemidji State University's 87th academic year. Also joining the BSU family were over 30 new members of the faculty and staff. A Community Appreciation Day and a BSU Service Week were just two of the many new activities added to such BSU traditions as freshman moving-in day, the all-campus picnic, the semester play, music concerts, Honors Lectures, and, of course, Homecoming. While the pace of fall's rhythm seems to have quickened, there remains a familiar constancy to its beat: Bemidji State University is truly your university for all seasons.

Jon E. Quistgaard
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Writing Program Recognized for Curriculum Excellence

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) named the Bemidji State University bachelor of fine arts in creative and professional writing as a recipient of an Excellence in Curriculum Programming Award.

The honor was one of seven announced by MnSCU for outstanding achievements in educational programs and student services within its colleges and universities.

The BSU creative and professional writing major, which began in 2001, is the only such bachelor’s degree offered in Minnesota and one of only 13 programs in the United States.

In addition to courses in fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction, the program offers innovative professional and technical writing courses, which are also beginning to be offered online.

Beauty Lake Development Tracked

Bemidji State researchers are tracking the ecological impacts of residential development on Hubbard County’s Beauty Lake, which until recently was completely undeveloped.

“Beauty Lake provides a unique opportunity to monitor a lake from an undeveloped condition through stages toward more intense development,” says Dr. Patrick Welle, BSU project manager and professor of economics and environmental, earth and space studies. “The research should not only inform efforts for protecting the quality of this lake, but enhance understanding of processes on other lakes as well.”

Dr. Charlie Parson, professor emeritus of geography; Dr. Don Cloutman, associate professor of biology; and Dr. Rick Koch, associate professor of biology, are faculty researchers also involved with the project.

Upcoming Events

January 20, 2007
Beaver Pride Winter Golf Tournament - noon at Bemidji Waterfront
February 16-17, 2007
Athletic Hall of Fame
1:00 P.M. Induction Ceremony
at Beaux Arts Ballroom
February 16, 2007
MMEA BSU Alumni Reception
- 5:00 P.M. at Hell’s Kitchen,
Minneapolis
March 17, 2007
Alumni Dinner with Golf
Mesa, AZ
March 24, 2007
Alumni Dinner with Golf
Palm Desert, CA
June 17-24, 2007
Alaskan Cruise on Sun Princess

Check www.bsualumni.org
for details on each event listed and for a complete calendar of events taking place on the BSU campus!

Alumni Credential Files Being Returned or Eliminated

As of August 1, 2006, Career Services moved to Self-Managed Credential Files for students. At the same time, they also began releasing inactive files to alumni so they can create their own self-managed files.

Documents in files created before 1975 are excluded, because they were established as confidential files. The only documents within those files available to alumni are student teaching evaluations.

For a copy of your file, please complete the release form available on the Career Services web site at www.bemidjistate.edu/career. If you do not request Career Services to return your file, your credentials file will be eliminated beginning June 2008.

For more information, please contact Career Services via email at career@bemidjistate.edu or call 755-2038 or 1-800-657-3726.

Thai Venture Capitalism Analyzed

Dr. Bill Scheela, professor of business administration, has long been fascinated by the development of the Asian venture capital industry. The interest started with a sabbatical at Chinese University in Hong Kong, continued with a teaching assignment at the National Economic University in Vietnam, and has been kept alive on recent research trips across the region.

His interests caught the attention of the Thailand government, which hopes to learn more about its venture capitalists as catalysts for job creation, particularly in small and medium businesses. Scheela received a grant from two Thai sources to fund the first of what Scheela hopes will be a multi-phased research project on the topic.

“For many Asian countries believe that a key to stable economic growth is developing small and medium enterprises,” Scheela says. “These governments are attempting to develop a vibrant venture capital industry to support the high-growth enterprises that will provide jobs.”

Scheela is conducting the research with Dr. Thawatchai Jittrapanun, an economics professor at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok.

Check www.bsualumni.org for details on each event listed and for a complete calendar of events taking place on the BSU campus!
Power Walking

Dr. Faissal Abdel-Hady is looking for a big solution to a small energy problem, and he thinks he may have found it in a person's feet.

Abdel-Hady, a Bemidji State University faculty member with dual assignments in physics and technological studies, has received a grant to design an innovative linear generator that will harvest the energy from the vibration induced during human walking.

The program's impetus is a desire to replace traditional energy sources with sustainable alternatives, such as walking. Since portable electronic equipment is becoming smaller while providing a wider range of functionality, users are becoming more reliant on the devices.

This is especially the case in remote locations where batteries are not readily available and in situations where continual use causes excess battery consumption. Such a system would allow disaster relief workers, explorers, military personnel or others to go into the field with fewer heavy replacement batteries for cell phones, GPS instruments, night vision goggles and other portable electronics.

The grant is part of a proposal written by Abdel-Hady and submitted jointly with Archangel Systems in Auburn, AL. The Navy Research Center funded the project.

In Memoriam

Linda Poehls Allen ’83 Fergus Falls, MN
Catherine Doland Anderson ’31 Grand Rapids, MN
Phyllis Anderson ’70 Batavia, IL
Owen Bailey ’68 Wausau, WI
Jeanette Beardsley ’69 Park Rapids, MN
Keith Benson ’87 Bemidji, MN
Robert Berg ’50 Rancho Santa Fe, CA
Thomas Bohanon ’80 Las Vegas, NV
Judy Brandwick ’74 Crookston, MN
Diane Braun Brumwell ’70 Red Lake Falls, MN
Wilre ‘Billie’ Chichester Jones ’39 Hibbing, MN
Rudolph DeLuca ’62 Burnsville, MN
Juanita Goswick Ellison ’70 Wildwood Township, MN
Evelyn Anderson Johnson ’62 Bemidji, MN
Michael Kruse ’74 Ramsey, MN
William Lesnak ’72 Chisholm, MN
Neil Martin ’67 Hastings, MN
Mark Martinson ’92 Barnesville, MN
Charles Osborn ’50 Minneapolis, MN
Loren Pederson ’60 Moorhead, MN
Eleanor Pfau ’31 Bemidji, MN
Shirley Dike Plantz ’87 Chanhassen, MN
Frank Price ’64 Colorado Springs, CO
Glady's Hipple Prickett ’65 Middle River, MN
Harold Reindal ’52 Oklee, MN
John Schulting ’32 Bemidji, MN
Carlene Mayo Seifert ’91 Wadena, MN
Erik Soderstrom ’05 Bemidji, MN
Richard Stever ’81 Pine River, MN
Kevin Tonte ’81 Aurora, CO
Eleanor Traut ’39 Crosby, MN
Lowell Trimble ’66 Tenstrike, MN
John Werner ’71 Ashfield, MA
Carolyn Palmer Whiting ’71 Bemidji, MN
Glenn Wills ’91 Algonquin, IL

South Korean College, BSU Sign Exchange Agreement

Bemidji State University and Sunlin College in Pohang, South Korea, have signed agreements that allow for the exchange of students and faculty.

“We’re so much closer today in realizing a global society,” said Dr. Jon Quistgaard, Bemidji State University president. “When people get together and interact with each other, wonderful things happen.”

Established in 1969, Sunlin offers undergraduate programs in nursing, public health, fashion, computer science, architecture, dermatology and beauty art, information and communication and industrial engineering. As part of its mission, Sunlin has become an active participant in global education, signing study agreements with colleges and universities in 13 countries.

“We have a strong commitment to international education and an appreciation for programs like the exchange agreement with Bemidji State University,” said Dr. Il-Pyong Jeon, president of Sunlin College. “This relationship will help students know and understand each other better. It will provide wonderful opportunities.”

BSU Football Captures NSIC Title & Bowl Bid

The BSU Beavers celebrated the football program’s first outright championship title in school history. Also this season, BSU football coach Jeff Tesch was named NSIC Coach of the Year. The team also garnered the program’s first bowl appearance, playing in the Mineral Water Bowl on Dec. 2 in Excelsior Springs, Mo. The team finished the year with a 9-3 record.
**Endangered Dialects**

Dr. Anton Treuer will closely examine four dialects of Ojibwe to help preserve the language for future generations. The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded a Documenting Endangered Languages fellowship to Treuer, an associate professor who teaches Ojibwe. He will study four different variants of the southwestern dialect of the Chippewa (Ojibwe) in Wisconsin and Minnesota. The language is still spoken only by elders, and some communities have fewer than five remaining speakers.

The project proposes to research and write the first pedagogical grammar of the Ojibwe language as spoken in Minnesota. “It will involve hundreds of hours of interviews, transcriptions and analysis to be sensitive to issues of dialect and cover the complex web of grammar usage for Ojibwe,” says Treuer.

**Model Replicates Retreat for Healing and Renewal**

When the directors of the Lacek Foundation embarked on an ambitious fund raising endeavor to create a retreat for families of critically ill children or those who experienced a loss of a child, they felt they needed something that would bring substance to their dream.

That substance was provided by the model makers at Bemidji State University, who created a scale model of Faith’s Lodge as it will appear in the north woods of Wisconsin. The model was used during a gala event in the Twin Cities that kicked off a $1.5 million campaign to build the facility. Established in 1999 by Mark and Susan Lacek, the Foundation focuses on supporting children and families.

Bemidji State students John Angeli, Ross Roetman and Mark Nordell worked with Northwest Technical College faculty member Lyle Meulebroeck on the model, which became the centerpiece of the gala and subsequent outreach efforts.

**Show Beaver Pride with the BSU Alumni Visa® Card!**

The Bemidji State University Alumni Association has partnered with U.S. Bank to offer an exclusive credit card for alumni and friends of BSU. Those who use the BSU Alumni credit card are supporting scholarships, athletics and other vital programs with the card’s use. If you currently carry a BSU Alumni credit card, please check for the U.S. Bank logo on the back because purchases made with any other BSU Alumni card no longer support the University.

Marla Huss Patrias, director of BSU alumni relations, believes that the new program offers superior products and service to cardholders at the same time it helps students and alumni. “We are very pleased to have U.S. Bank as a partner in our effort to provide convenient, high-quality opportunities for alumni to use a product that supports the BSU Alumni Association,” she says.

To find out how you can support the BSU Alumni Association through our credit card program, visit www.bsualumni.org, or call 1-800-853-5576 ext. 8616 today!

**Call for Nominations 2007 Outstanding Alumni**

Nominations are now being accepted for candidates to be considered for the Bemidji State University Outstanding Alumni Award.

The Outstanding Alumni Award, presented annually during Homecoming, is the highest honor presented by the Bemidji State University Alumni Association. The award recipients are honored for exceptional service and contributions to the University and to their community, state and nation.

All nominees must have graduated no less than 10 years ago from Bemidji State University. Current faculty, staff and members of the Board of Directors of the BSU Alumni Association can not be nominated. Nominations will be accepted until January 31, 2007, and can be made by anyone except an immediate family member. Contact the Alumni Office for a nomination form at 1-877-278-2586 (toll free), 218-755-3989 (local); via email at alumni@bemidjistate.edu; or on the web at http://www.bsualumni.org/awardprograms/outstanding.html.

**DNR Grant to BSU Studies Shrinking Walleye Population**

Dr. Don Cloutman, a BSU biology professor, received a two-year grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to determine whether the rusty crawfish is harming Leech Lake’s walleye population through its consumption of their eggs.

Believed to be native to the Ohio River Basin, rusty crawfish were first spotted in Minnesota in 1967. They are an aggressive, larger species that tends to displace native crawfish, compete with young game fish for food and consume walleye eggs.

As the rusty crawfish has spread throughout the upper Midwest, the walleye population has dropped in several areas.
Imagine a class where students become characters, teachers become observers, and the class itself becomes a game centered on the happenings of another time and place.

Sound intriguing?

Many Bemidji State University students think so, as do students at some 30 other institutions across the nation where Reacting to the Past courses are offered. This teaching method uses educational role-play games to explore historical topics, periods and events.

“Students learn a lot about history through the course of these games … and also that history isn’t inevitable,” says Dr. Elizabeth Dunn, Bemidji State University history professor. “It’s always contingent on what individuals do or do not do.”

Initiated ten years ago at Barnard College in New York, the Reacting to the Past approach evolved when history professor Mark C. Carnes sought a method that would submerge students in historical crises – impressing upon them the criticality of the events and helping them relate to somewhat intimidating and seemingly detached topics. Carnes’ approach has since become a national phenomenon.

The phenomenon reached Minnesota in 2004 when Dunn and two colleagues – Dr. Marsha Driscoll, assistant professor of psychology, and Dann Siems, assistant professor of biology – began teaching a Reacting course. Their combined areas of expertise reflect the transdisciplinary focus of Reacting classes that often draw from biology, psychology, philosophy, sociology, and other disciplines.

Dunn contends that this transdisciplinary course focus reflects the matrix in which life truly functions. “Students become increasingly aware that the world is complex,” Dunn says. “They are opened up to a complicated world and ways of understanding that world. They realize there are no easy answers, they embrace tolerance for others’ views, and they develop self-efficacy.”

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They also become more confident speakers, better writers, better readers, and they are better able to engage in creative conflict,” Dunn adds.

Former Reacting student Sam Parsons agrees. “The subject matter is undeniably interdisciplinary, which yields a multi-dimensional view of the information and context,” he says. “As a result, you learn concepts and relationships, not just simple facts in a two-dimensional world.”

With titles like *The Threshold of Democracy: Athens in 402 B.C.*, these games are not typical party mixers, although the term *game* does attract students. “At first we were worried students wouldn’t take it seriously,” Dunn acknowledges. “But they seem to respond to it. We’re speaking a language they can understand when we’re talking about gaming.”

Reacting to the Past games are highly sophisticated, based on understanding complex texts that are at the heart of each game. These texts delve deep into subjects such as tensions in Puritan New England, ideas behind the French Revolution, and Confucianism and politics in sixteenth-century China.

“Students say they worked harder in this course than they ever expected to — and they just did it on their own. It’s kind of remarkable.”

A key aspect of the Reacting experience is the way in which students and teachers function differently from typical class structures. The faculty, structuring the classroom environment so students are front and center, oversee the process from the sidelines.

“Students are running the class, disciplining the class, and controlling the flow of the class. Meanwhile, instructors are in the background, intervening occasionally,” explains Dunn. “A lot of our work is preparation. In class, we are taking notes and giving visual responses to what’s happening. Occasionally I might pass a note: Did you think about this approach?”

Outside of class, the learning continues as faculty and students exchange a continual flow of emails, engage in one-on-one discussions and attend various group meetings. “We do a lot of tutorial work on the side,” Dunn notes.

Teaching such an innovative course comes with many challenges, Dunn says. “As a professor, there’s a challenge to get yourself out of the middle of the classroom, when you’re used to being in charge,” she says. “It can be hard for professors who spend their careers at the center of knowledge.”

On the student side, the games aren’t for everyone. “Students who are proactive, passionate, and willing to engage will do well in Reacting classes,” Parsons observes. “It’s not a class for students who wish to be spoon fed.”

Another challenge is getting people to understand the educational value of the Reacting games. “These games are very non-traditional,” Dunn says. “As a result, a lot of critics don’t understand or know the academic depth to them.”

With outcomes that sometimes differ from history, some historians also worry that history is being taught poorly. “And now that we’re getting into science games, some scientists worry about teaching ‘bad’ science,” Dunn notes.
FROM GAME MASTERS TO GAME CREATORS

Beyond using Reacting to the Past games at Bemidji State, Dr. Elizabeth Dunn, history professor, along with Assistant Biology Professor Dann Siems, Assistant Psychology Professor Dr. Marsha Driscoll and student Kamran Swanson, have created a game that’s scheduled for publication this year. Charles Darwin, the Copley Medal and the Rise of Naturalism investigates the theories and findings of Charles Darwin within the socio-political environment of the 19th century. “We experimented with a class on Darwin, but it was difficult to teach,” says Dunn. After attending a Reacting conference some three years ago, it occurred to her that Reacting might be a good way to teach the course without threatening students’ core beliefs. In its nearly finished state, the game has been played in three classes and at a few conferences. “We’ve gotten really good feedback,” Dunn says. “And things have happened that we didn’t expect. The experience has led to some of the most exciting conversations I’ve had in my career.”

Driscoll concurs. “The result is our total immersion in the process. We eat, sleep and drink the game - both its inherent historical issues and its design features,” she says. “I rarely sleep well during Reacting because my mind simply won’t shut off.” The transdisciplinary and collaborative involvement required in creating the game is key to its impact. “Collaborating across disciplines is highly stimulating,” Siems explains. “We each bring different perspectives to game development and end up seeing our own discipline in a new light.” Looking toward the game’s release this year, the professors feel confident about its reception. In fact, they aim to play the game in London in 2009 at the 150th anniversary of the publication of Darwin’s The Origin of Species. Still, they express some feeling of uncertainty as the game nears release. “It’s kind of like watching your children go off to school,” Dunn explains. “You’re not sure what’s going to happen.” Much like the game of life.
This year, technology education major Todd Hillukka can be found teaching building-trades skills to students at Staples-Motley High School. As he completes his one-year internship, he’s also building a foundation for a future that he sees as a teacher, coach, continuing participant in the construction industry and, eventually, business owner.

This Sebeka High School graduate and decorated National Guardsman will also be adding dad to his list of job titles when he and his wife, Amanda, welcome their first child into the family in March.

Hillukka’s university education was interrupted at the halfway point in 2003 when he was deployed for 14 months as a carpenter with the National Guard, spending a year of that time in Iraq.

“I learned some valuable lessons in Iraq that will remain with me the rest of my life and throughout my career,” reflects Hillukka. “I learned respect for authority, leadership and a strong work ethic.”

His service caliber was recognized when he was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal and two Army Achievement Medals.

Today he finds his inspiration in the youngsters he plans to teach. “I believe that lives can be made or broken when we are kids,” Hillukka says. “I believe every child deserves a good chance and hope I can help some kids have a better life.”

In addition to teaching, Hillukka says that coaching the Staples’ seventh-grade football team this year has made him more focused on seeking future coaching opportunities.

James Brouwer, professor of professional education at BSU, describes Hillukka as a hard worker and a great asset to his program.

“As an older-than-average student, he brings a lot of knowledge to his internship and is well liked by students,” Brouwer notes. “And as a result of his military experience and time spent in Iraq, he’s able to contribute a unique blend of life experiences to our program.”

Hillukka plans to move to the Twin Cities after graduation and begin auditioning. He also plans to develop a workshop that he could bring to elementary schools to inspire children to get involved in the performing arts.

Hillukka is known for putting his performance passion into action. As a junior at BSU, he and a high school friend staged a benefit performance for Jordan High School, their alma mater. They raised $3,000 for the school’s music and drama programs.
She’s far from kicking back during her final year at BSU. Tieben is president of both the Bemidji Choir and the student-run theatre organization, Theatre Unlimited. This is also the second year that she directed the masque for the Madrigal Dinners. She’s actively involved in the Chamber Singers as well.

Tieben credits her fellow students with being her greatest source of inspiration. “Their dedication and commitments to the departments constantly give me something to strive for,” she says.

Praising Tieben for her range and talent, Music Department Chair Dr. Brad Logan notes, “Through her intelligence, dedication and talent, Katherine has excelled in a broad range of disciplines within the performance field. She is one of the top students in both of her majors.”

Tieben is grateful for the range of experiences she’s had at BSU. “The leadership roles I’ve been put into have helped me realize what I really want to do,” Tieben reflects. “I couldn’t imagine a better place to spend my undergraduate years.”

Berne Christiansen credits the friends he’s made and the experiences he’s had at Bemidji State University with making him more easygoing and spontaneous. Driven is more likely the adjective an observer might choose to describe him.

The Arden Hills native and Mounds View High School graduate is pursuing a double major – a teaching degree in English and a bachelor’s degree in political science. While teaching remains in the mix, Christiansen’s BSU experience has prompted him to take a broader view of his future options.

“Being involved in all that I am has also prompted me to consider some different options for life after college, such as being a student affairs professional, an educational lobbyist or working with a state student association,” says Christiansen.

A member of the BSU Student Senate since his freshman year, he has chaired both the student services and the academic affairs committees. In addition, he has served as the campus representative to the Minnesota State University Student Association (MSUSA), where he also has been special assistant to the cabinet.

His commitment to these organizations has garnered him praise and recognition. In 2006, the MSUSA named him “MVP” and, in 2003, the BSU Student Senate honored him with its Meritorious Service Award.

“It comes down to feeling like I’ve made some impact, if even a small one, on the campus, on people.”

Born with cerebral palsy, a condition that challenges his mobility, Christiansen can be found making his way around campus with the use of either a cane or his trusty scooter.

Those who work with him admire his passion and his perseverance. “His wit and perspective, combined with his commitment to serving students, are evidence of his passion for what he does,” notes T. Todd Masman, director of Hobson Memorial Union.

“I especially value the fact that he perseveres in the midst of adversity and is always a positive voice for student engagement.”

Christiansen’s greatest inspirations include his many BSU friends and colleagues as well as his parents, who he says, “They instilled in me the belief that I could do anything I set my mind to, despite any limitations I may have.”
"They all have big jobs. My challenge is to prepare them to do their leadership jobs even better. To be responsible for the careers of many people and the destiny of an organization is heady stuff."

Dr. Steve DeKrey

To me, leadership is one of the most honorable endeavors," says Dr. Steve DeKrey, 1975 Bemidji State University graduate. "When I embarked on this career path, my goal was to make a positive impact on the development of leaders."

That career path took DeKrey to the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), where he is the associate dean of the business school and founding director of the Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) program, in collaboration with Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. At HKUST, DeKrey oversees the program that caters to executives from all over the world, while also serving as director of master's programs and an adjunct management professor.

“I love what I do,” DeKrey says. “I enjoy the variety, the autonomy and the excitement.”

And there is much excitement about HKUST’s EMBA program. Just eight years old, the program ranks third in the 2006 Financial Times EMBA global rankings, a slight dip from its 2005 second-place ranking, yet a marked improvement over its sixth-place ranking in 2004 and its ninth-place ranking in 2003 – impressive slots themselves.

Established with the goal of providing the best executive education that the United States and Asia could offer, HKUST’s EMBA program meets on extended weekends over a course of 18 months.

“The keys are capable and facilitative faculty as well as deep discussion in the classroom,” DeKrey says. Discussions are rich, DeKrey observes, largely because of the expansive experience participants bring to the program.

“With 50 top executives in the room, there’s no doubt that they gain a lot from each other,” DeKrey says. “Plus, our students come from all over the business environment.”

HKUST’s EMBA program students are not typical graduate students. They make an average of $250,000 and some fly from as far away as Seattle, San Francisco and Mexico City to attend classes in Hong Kong.

“They all have big jobs,” DeKrey says. “My challenge is to prepare them to do their leadership jobs even better. To be responsible for the careers of many peo-
People and the destiny of an organization is heady stuff."

This, of course, makes DeKrey’s role heady itself, as he strives to meet the needs of some of the most senior and most diverse students in the world. It appears DeKrey is doing his job well—even though he went initially to Hong Kong to advance the MBA program.

“We were not known to the business community, and our alumni, small in number, were not in significant positions to help the school,” reflects DeKrey, who saw an opportunity to fill this void with an EMBA program. “It seemed a fine way to advance our school and enter a higher-level student market.”

So DeKrey, using his experience in initiating similar programs at the University of Florida, took his idea to HKUST’s president, dean and faculty where the concept gained acceptance despite its uncharted nature.

Although new to Asia, EMBA programs were not new to the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, where DeKrey had been assistant dean and assistant professor. “I approached my former boss and mentor, Donald P. Jacobs, about starting a partnership in Hong Kong,” DeKrey explains. “He was very interested, but too busy to move quickly.”

DeKrey pressed the urgency of the matter and within six months secured a deal. The program was built on trust and, to this day, there is no contract other than a half-page memorandum of agreement, DeKrey says.

Trust and loyalty are characteristics DeKrey holds in high regard. That same loyalty extends to BSU, one of his four alma maters. DeKrey, who grew up on Lake Bemidji, graduated from BSU with a degree in psychology after attending Montana State University for two years where he “majored in skiing,” he jokes.

BSU became the place where DeKrey settled into his studies and formed a vision for his life. “I was finally getting serious about my future,” he says. “BSU was a great place to launch it.”

DeKrey says he plunged into his career with two key traits he acquired at BSU: discipline and confidence. These qualities helped him realize that anything was possible and propelled his career.

Despite a frenetic work pace, DeKrey finds his work rewarding. “This is a very dynamic region, and I am honored to be in a position that matters here. Management education is important to the future growth and professionalism of all Asia, especially China.”

When he needs a break from the hubbub of Hong Kong, DeKrey returns to Bemidji where he and his wife, Veronica, own a summer home on Big Bass Lake. Returning to northern Minnesota is one of the ways he stays connected to his hometown and to BSU. He also nurtures Bemidji State by contributing regularly to a scholarship created in honor of his mother, Ione DeKrey, who attended BSU at the same time he did. “I consider it a privilege and responsibility to help the schools I’ve graduated from,” DeKrey says.

As for his future, DeKrey sees himself at HKUST for a while. “Being part of such a dynamic school and an impressive team keeps me here,” he says. “We are no where near done in our quest to be not only the leading school in Asia, but also a leader worldwide.”

As a leader who has affected many lives, he offers a message to current BSU students that parallels his own career trajectory, “Think big. Do not limit yourself. Look ahead and engage yourself.”
A Dream by Design

NEW GRAD MOVES INTO CAREER, CITY OF DREAMS

"Where I'm at now isn't where I thought I would be. But it's better than I'd ever imagined."

Heather Hurd

She lives in Manhattan, rides the subway, designs ads for major fashion brands, works in an upscale office where models pop in, shares an apartment with her Broadway-bound sister, and even wins TV commercial contests. It sounds more like the life of a movie character than a hometown Bemidji girl, but this is reality for recent Bemidji State University graduate Heather Hurd, a graphic designer at Phillips-Van Heusen in New York.

"Where I'm at now isn't where I thought I would be," Hurd says. "But it's better than I'd ever imagined."

Hurd, who graduated last May with a bachelor of science in design technology, moved to New York that same month, joining her younger sister who was attending the American Musical Dramatic Academy. She had no job, no leads and no contacts. But she did have the $10,000 winnings from a contest she entered in hopes of financing her post-college venture to the Big Apple.

Last winter she created a 30-second commercial featuring herself slurping Aquafina during a silly workout. Three months later Hurd found out that she'd won. Her dream was falling into place. "It was perfect," Hurd says.

Hurd's Big Apple adventure continued. After 10 days of job-hunting, she received a call from Phillips-Van Heusen. The Madison-Avenue, multi-brand, fashion corporation wanted to interview her for a position in their marketing department. After her first interview, she was called back to interview with the marketing department's
Bemidji State University

Horizons

Bemidji State University

president. She landed the job – securing a nice salary and benefits package. The whirlwind continued as Hurd learned to adjust quickly to big city life. Within weeks of moving to New York, Hurd was boarding the subway at 8 a.m., working a 9-10 hour day that included lunch at her desk, and taking the train back to her apartment for a 9 p.m. dinner, a little TV and bed. Some might be overwhelmed by such a jump into the working world, but not Hurd. “In the morning, I’m actually geared up to go again,” she says. “I get excited to go to work.” That excitement might be tied to the projects she works on – everything from in-store and magazine ads, kiosk signage, billboards and web graphics to clothing tags and labels, shopping bags and gift boxes for some pretty high-brow brands: Calvin Klein, Kenneth Cole, Bass and Chaps, to name a few. “I’ve done so much already,” she says. “And I’ve learned so much because they throw you right in there. I feel comfortable tackling projects, and I’m able to produce.”

Hurd credits Bemidji State University with giving her much of this ability to produce. “My classes were really great,” she says. “They taught me the core skills I needed to know.” She also cites her work experience in BSU’s publications office as a key part of her education. “Working in the publications office really helped me grow and expand my skills,” she explains. “Working with clients, getting files ready to go to press, doing actual real-world things helped me so much.” BSU also helped her get in the door at Phillips-Van Heusen. In particular, Hurd cites the design technology program’s portfolio presentation class. “The class was all about interviewing, presenting, describing your work, even deciding which pieces to use,” Hurd explains. She also speaks highly of her senior capstone experience, a critiqued presentation in front of professional graphic designers, design faculty and peers. “It’s the most dreaded part of the design tech program,” Hurd recalls. The critique went well for Hurd. “I was on cloud nine for a long time after that. It boosted my confidence for moving to New York and interviewing.”

Interviewing, portfolio-building and job skills aren’t the only benefits Hurd gained at BSU. In fact, she says the relationship skills she learned are invaluable and unique. “Since it’s a small campus, it helps shape relationships with people,” she explains. “That’s something I’ve taken with me. I’m building relationships with everyone now.” Hurd’s dreams have come true in a New-York minute, with many thanks to BSU, she says. “I learned so much there; I don’t think I’d be here today without BSU.” As for her future, Hurd has a few ideas. “I’d like to stay here and move up,” she says. “But I know I’d really like to move back to Minnesota, too.” For now, she’s busy living her New York designer dream. “We’ll see what happens,” she says. “The possibilities are endless.”

From One Graduate to Another

Looking for a New York photographer to help illustrate the story of BSU graduate Heather Hurd, we turned to another BSU graduate for help. Todd Williams (’97) took the Horizons’ photos of Heather. While at BSU, he was an NSIC champion pole-vaulter for the Beavers. Having graduated with a B.S. in technical illustration and graphic design, he, too, headed to New York and is now a professional photographer. Todd travels the world creating images for his clients. To see more of his photographs, visit his website at http://www.toddwilliamsusa.com/
2006 Christa Pribula of Bemidji was a finisher in the Grandma’s Marathon held last summer in Duluth. Brian Brunelle and Bill Brunelle (’88) played on the Minnesota Chippewa Chipper Legion pool team that took second at the 2006 American Indian Sports Alliance National Championships at Las Vegas, NV. Amanda Brooks and Bradley Jewell were married August 12 in Yukon, OK. She is employed by Kandy B. Anderson Ltd., a CPA office in Bemidji, and he is employed as the operations assistant at First Federal Bank, Bemidji, and as computer support for BSU Career Services Office. Shannon Anderson of Minneapolis recently began working for the Minnesota Senate as committee administrator to the Health and Human Services Budget Division chaired by Sen. Linda Berglin…Rachel Becker lives in Washington, D.C., and is the meeting planner/executive assistant for the National Association of Secretaries of State. She also works part-time for the Washington Capitals pro hockey team as an events staff member.

2005 Kameron Babin and Chad Genz were married September 10 in Outing. She is employed as the juvenile diversion program coordinator for Aitkin County and he is co-owner of Genz Construction, L.L.C. Kameron is an officer with the Blackduck Police Department. He and his wife, Heidi, live in Wilton. Kori Hutchison worked in Hawaii for three months in 2005 as a volunteer with a sea turtle project. She plans to attend graduate school for wildlife conservation. Beth Haukoeb of Emmaville served as a Hubbard County DFL delegate at the Minnesota DFL State Convention…Ed Heltunen of Brooklyn Center and Beth Hendrickson, a student at BSU, were married June 0 in Menahga. Ed is a math teacher at Brooklyn Center. Sally Ohman and Matthew Heier were married July 15 in Park Rapids. She teaches at Park Rapids Elementary and he is a postal clerk in Park Rapids. Lisa Smith and Eric Walker (’04) were married July 28 in Woodbury. She is employed with the Oakdale School District and he is a contract analyst with Benfield Inc. in Bloomington. George Fairbanks recently accepted the position of news editor at the Roseville Review, North St. Paul. Brent Fulton was hired in May as a patrol officer with the Detroit Lakes Police Department. He’d previously worked for the Beltrami County Sheriff’s Department as a correctional officer…Janel Budenski and Andrew Martens (’06) were married July 15 in Bemidji. She is a website designer/developer and graphic designer at Pinnacle Publishing in Bemidji. He is a professional hockey player with the Florida Panthers. The couple resides in Bemidji. Eric Walker (’02) was married August 5 in Bemidji…Jim McKeon served as co-chair for this summer’s Fishing Has No Boundaries event held in Bemidji.

2004 Hanna Hasselberg of Staples qualified for the women’s championship field in the Birchmont Golf Tournament held in Bemidji. Jason Swanson is manager of the County View Living Estates in Walnut Grove. Dana Johnson and Andrea Rhen were married July 1…Nicole Linder and Andrew Martens (’06) were married July 15 in Bemidji. She is a website designer/developer and graphic designer at Pinnacle Publishing in Bemidji. He is a professional hockey player with the Florida Panthers. The couple resides in Bemidji. Eric Walker (’02) was married August 5 in Bemidji…Jim McKeon served as co-chair for this summer’s Fishing Has No Boundaries event held in Bemidji.

2003 Mike Fogelson, coach of the Bemidji High baseball team, served as emcee at its annual awards night program in June…Jesse Rockstead and Pamela Palmer were married July 22 in Blackduck…Cyrus Swann of Pine River had his artwork, "Transitions and Tradition," displayed this summer at the North Dakota Museum of Art in Grand Forks. Lauren Miller and Matthew Miller were married September 9 on the North Shore of Lake Superior. She is employed as a park police officer for Three Rivers Park District and he is a police officer for the City of Coon Rapids. Tara Schelske and Kevin Valley (’02) were married August 5 in Bemidji…Jim McKeon served as co-chair for this summer’s Fishing Has No Boundaries event held in Bemidji.

2002 Zach Howard and Nicole Brehnback were married October 15, 2005, at Efloa. He is a biology teacher at Farmington High School and she is employed as an x-ray technologist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. They live in Zumbrota. Tanya Fliska and Peter Mattson were married June 11, 2005, in Crookston. She is employed as a technology education teacher for Fargo Public Schools and he is employed by a union heat and frost insulator in Minneapolis. Sheryl Porter and her family competed in the Bemidji Jaycees Water Carnival Family Olympics during the Fourth of July holiday…Lori Chap and Shawn Ostendorf were married July 8 in Rogers where they now reside. She is a senior re-insurance analyst with Benfield Group of Bloomington and he is a senior recruiter with the card services division of HSBC in Minneapolis. Janell Hjelm and Eric O’Brien were married September 9 and now live in Monticello. Angela Gangi and Kevin Young were married March 30 in Las Vegas. She is employed at Edina Eye Physicians and Surgeons and he is a superintendent of Rotland Homes in Minneapolis. Adam Stadler is the new managing editor of The Hoffman Tribune…John Bouchard has had his book, A Taste of Sada, published. He and his wife, Sara, live in Kansas and have a daughter…Tom Jenkins of Plymouth took the championship title in the men’s held of the World Medical Center-Fairview, Minneapolis. Bill Brunelle of Bemidji won first place in the Twin Cities’ Next Top Model Contest on July 8. He received a $5,000 modeling contract and a trip to Los Angeles to participate in a photoshoot with world-renowned photographer Bruce Weber…Isaac Smieja and Erin Mrozek were married July 22. Sara Zimmerman and Aaron Stodgell (’03) were married July 1 in Walker. They live in Bemidji. Jennifer Quistgaard and Zachary Hazeltun were married August 12 in Bemidji. Both are attending the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Jennifer was a volunteer with last summer’s Fishing Has No Boundaries event held in Bemidji. Lt. Jonathan Holliday, an executive officer with the Army National Guard, is serving a 12-month assignment in Iraq.
and her husband, Bill, have one child. Samantha Stenson of Howard Lake works in a bank and sells real estate near the Twin Cities. Valerie (Paskvan) Johnson is the newest member of Belmant & Rogers, Two Way Cellular in Bemidji. Becky (Zimmer) Larson and her husband, Tony, of Duluth announce the May birth of a daughter, Madeline. Gretchen Heim, an art director for an advertising agency in Minneapolis, and her mother, Rose Heim, of Kelliberg, developed a line of lotions and soaps that are sold in many stores throughout Minnesota. Laura Hood is employed as a cook at Grandma’s Restaurant and Coffee Shop in Bagley. Alexander Knudson was promoted to senior program analyst with Federated Insurance, Owatonna.

2000 Mike Mastin, a Bemidji police officer, was recognized by the City of Bemidji recently for excellence in seat belt enforcement. Steven Loney and Willow Sedore were married July 15, 2005, at Grand Rapids where they reside. He is employed as a mental health practitioner at Northland Counseling Center and she is a staff writer at the Grand Rapids Herald. Amy Olson and Matt Boeke, both of Detroit Lakes, were married May 7, 2005, in Detroit Lakes. Amy is a kindergarten teacher for Detroit Lakes Public Schools and he is a sales person at Young Life. Castaway, Jordan Welsh and Lee Peterson were married July 1 in Pelican Rapids. They live in West Palm Beach, FL, where both are employed with the Palm Beach County School District. Michael Burgess and Angela Foss were married July 23. She lives in St. Paul and he in Bloomington. The couple lives in Shakopee. Rachel Roberts and Jeffery Kuha were married October 7 in Hibbing. She is a special education teacher at Century Junior High School in Forest Lake and he is the director of operations and flight instructor at Thunderbird Aviation in Crystal. Chad Poinsett and Abigail Paasola were married August 19 at Hoyt Lakes. He is employed as a manufacturing engineer with Boston Scientific and she is in her third year of veterinary school. Don Vigen is employed as a local client representative with RCB Collections in Bemidji.

1999 Dan Jones of Cloquet recently received the 2006 Distinguished Person of Color of the Year Award at the University of Wisconsin-Superior. He is a member of the Nickeouskemenecing First Nation from Ontario, Canada. He has taught Ojibwe language courses at UW-Superior since 1993 and at the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College since 1997. Heidi (Heem) Kellogg, along with her husband, Andy, and their sons, Njorn and Leif, are moving to Nigeria to work with Wycliffe Bible Translators/The Seed Company doing Bible translation. Kirby Harmon is the manager of the new Book World Store in downtown Bemidji. Lori Mattson graduated May 6 from the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a doctorate in pharmacology and toxicology. Ethan Johnson and Heidi Bjere were married August 19 in Clearbrook. He is co-owner of Robson Honey in Carrington, ND, and she is employed with a dental clinic in New Rockford, ND. Matthew Mattson is the new athletic director at Champlin Park High School. Bryan Dunrud and Cassie LeTourneau were married August 25 in Ottertail. He coaches and teaches physical education, health, and developmental adapted physical education for New York Mills Public Schools and she works in regional sales for TEVA Pharmaceuticals.

1998 David Georgina lives in Park Rapids and is working on a Ph.D. at the University of North Dakota. Sarah Burgoyne and Justin Cogdill were married June 25, 2005, in Pequot Lakes. They live in Merrifield. Raynita Hougum and her husband, Rick, live in International Falls and have two children. She works in the community services field. Matthew Moyle and his wife, Ellen, live in Chicago. Ilkka Rebecia Steinhorst and Lonne Bode were married August 5 in Alexandria. She is an elementary special education teacher with New Ulm Public Schools and he farms and works at Hancock Farm. Dirk Ver Steeg and Stacy Peters were married July 29 in Chisholm. He is an internal auditor for Allstate in Duluth and she is a sales consultant for Lancersoft Inc in Duluth. Cpt. Daniel Lillquist is a captain serving with National Guard forces deployed to Iraq in September. He is a battalion medical officer with 15 years of military service and will be in Iraq for a year.

1997 Ryan Aylesworth of Bemidji was a finisher in the Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon held in June at Duluth. He is a Bemidji High School teacher who also served as a guide to a dozen students in the BHS Outdoor Adventures Club. Lorri Mostad-Castawood and John (Johnson) Ritchie of Bemidji was a finisher in the Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon held in June at Duluth. John Schmitt and his wife, Shannon, live in Laporte and have twins. They recently opened Shannon’s Tax & Consulting Services. Pat McNallen was head coach to the Bemidji 11-year-old All-Stars team that captured the state Cal Ripken tournament title in July.

1996 Michael Malterud of Bagley was a finisher in the Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon held in June at Duluth. Kari Opatz had a showing of her artwork at The Beanery in Atikin this summer. Brenda (Meyer) Holleman, an agent with the Travel Chalet of Bemidji, retired February. She is reinserted to a special-level status in Sandals Resorts’ Certified Sandals Specialist program.

1995 Jodie Tweed and Nels Norquist were married October 22, 2005, in Pequot Lakes. She is employed at the Brainerd Dispatch and he is also employed at the Dispatch and owns Maple Leaf Photography. Nick Neef of Northfield is the new associate director of academic research and planning at St. Olaf College. He and his wife, Rochelle, were married May 19. She is the director of alumni and parent relations at St. Olaf. Calub Shavlik of Nevis is a fisheries biologist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in Walker. Jay Bergland and Toby O’Neill (Bergland) ’96 live in Farmington and have two children. Jay is the assistant director of student judicial affairs and academic integrity at the University of Minnesota. Toby is a school counselor at Richfield Middle School. Jamie Dupuis is in his seventh year of teaching English in Japan through the Global Education and Opportunities Services Corporation. Larry Wirta and Amanda Johnson were married October 7 in Duluth. He currently works at Full Circle Image in Grand Rapids. She is a health information assistant at Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital and is also a violinist with the Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra. Heath (Sande) Cooper of Bemidji was honored with a new jewelry company for outstanding sales accomplishments and professionalism. Henry Flocken serves on the board of the new charter school, Minnisaakwaang Leadership Academy in East Lake.

1994 Sara Boettcher and Todd Joyal were married December 10. She is employed by Corporate Graphics, North Mankato, and he is employed with Kraft Pizza Co. Julie Noggle and Corey Hanson were married October 29, 2005, in Mahnomen. She is employed by Mahnomen County Human Services as a child protection social worker and he is self-employed as a farmer. Corey Barke works at Star Exhibits and Environments. He and his wife, Bethany, live in Brooklyn Park. Erik Larson of Cambridge is a home inspector and does residential carpentry. Alisa Franklin and Todd Meyer were married April 12. Both are employed by Northcross Inc. Todd Johnson has been registered as a professional land surveyor. He’s been employed with Landecker & Associates Inc., Grand Rapids, for the past 10 years and is currently a project manager in the Walker office. He and his wife, Mary, live in Bemidji. They have a daughter and husband, own Mustard Seed Gardens & Gifts, just north of Bemidji. Anita Spangler was elected to a one-year term as secretary of the Bemidji Habitat for Humanity Board.

1993 Scott Leindecker of Bemidji was a finisher in the Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon held in June at Duluth. Jason Staal of Roseville is employed as an in- formation delivery developer at Van’s political science professor at Southwest Minnesota State University. They live in Marshall. Matthew Manz received the Master of Divinity degree from Luther Seminary on May 28 in Minneapolis and plans to serve a church in the Western North Dakota Synod. He and his wife, Anne, have two children. Gary Walworth has retired from a 34-year teaching career, having spent 27 years teaching industrial arts and coaching in Springfield Public Schools. He and his wife have two grown sons. They now plan to build a new home at Leech Lake. Susan Richards coached the Bemidji Junior Olympics 14 Under White volleyball team to several wins this summer. Dan Bryant, a Bemidji High School teacher, served as a guide to a dozen students in the BHS Outdoor Adventure Club. Erin Heifert served as assistant coach to the Bemidji 10-year-old All-Stars team that took third place at the Cal Ripken tournament at Waite Park in July. Patrick Grundmeier was recently hired by Episcopal Community Services as campus director of the Archdeacon Calliflann Center in Bemidji. He also serves as adjunct human relations instructor for Minnesota State Community and Technical College. Greg Berends owns English at Bemidji Public Schools and has published his first book entitled Alpha Summer. He was recently the guest speaker at the Pequot Lakes Library’s Garden Party Tea fundraiser. He was also a finisher in the Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon held in June at Duluth. He and his wife live in Bemidji and have two daughters. Geri Nickerson is the new executive director of the Bemidji Area Habitat for Humanity and is currently chair of the Beltrami Class Notes

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County Humane Society and a board member of the Community Resource Connections.

1991 Thomas Mohrland and Brenda (Clemens) Mohrland (’90) live in Woodbury and have two children. Elling Olson has joined the construction group at the Minneapolis-based Master development group. He was named senior project manager. Lisa Carlson is the new principal of Woodland Elementary School in Eagan. Jeri Steegmiller served as a chaperone when 200 girls and adults from the Girl Scouts Land of Lakes Council spent a week this summer in New York City. Helenburt School hosted visitors to her garden as part of the Beltrami County Master Gardeners tour of eight area gardens held in July. Marco Hunt and his wife, Marme, of Woodbury announce the April 13 birth of a son, Vincent Edward.

1990 Kari (Pickett) Munson of Bemidji was a finisher in the Grandma’s Marathon held last summer in Duluth. Amy Neiling is working with the Chisholm Area Chamber of Commerce, where she coordinates chamber events. She’d previously held the position of assistant vice president–branch manager with American Bank in Chisholm. She and her husband, Todd, have two sons. Todd is employed with the Hibbing Fire Department.

1989 John Deden, a Bemidji High School teacher, served as a guide to a dozen students in the BHS Outdoor Adventure Club… John Lundebreck is a project manager with Elder Jones, a national retail contractor. He and his wife, Heather, live in Monticello and have two children. Carol Gilbertson is a licensed practical nurse at North Country Health Services, Bemidji. She and her husband, Craig, live in Bemidji and have two children. Kelly Cordes Howard works as the advertising/marketing assistant for Bank of the Mountains and as music director for live local radio stations in Eastern Kentucky. She and her husband, Tim, live in West Liberty, KY, and have three children. Vivienne Morgan of Bemidji had her artwork accepted into the 14th Annual Juried Art Exhibition held in August at the MacRostie Art Center in Rapidan.

1988 LaMae Ritchie of Bemidji was a finisher in the Grandma’s Marathon held last summer in Duluth… Pat Reynolds and her husband, Jack, of Bemidji served as honorary hosts for BSU’s Snow Ball in February… Ann Beck of Bagley was recently elected to the North Country Minnesota Foundation Board of Directors. She is director of community education for Bagley Public School… Roy Smith has been named regional workforce development coordinator with the Iron Range Resource Agency… Jan (Schreiber) Brown of St. Cloud teaches fifth and sixth grade at a Christian school and is a freelance proofreader for publishing companies in Minneapolis, Chicago, and New York.

1987 Paul Parthen, a Bemidji police officer, was recognized by the City of Bemidji recently for excellence in seat belt enforcement. Malcolm Gillespie is a project manager for Technical Services Engineering Commercial Aircraft Modifications. He and his wife, Marca, live in Camano Island, WA. Suzanne Whitley has joined the Wadena Medical Center as a family nurse practitioner. She will also provide medical care for the Community Behavioral Health Unit in Wadena. Pat Anderson, manager of Medical Equipment recently presented a check for $1,500 to the Beltrami County Fair to be used to increase the handicapped seating capacity in the grandstand… Kim (Keller) Pirkl of Hampton is employed as a case manager at Blue Cross Blue Shield and planned to skate in her fourth inline skating marathon this fall. She and her husband, Rick, have one child.

1986 Vicky Wangleberg is the fund raising chair of the Bemidji area Special Olympics program. Carol Blythe of Bemidji High School’s Vocalmotive show choir that in 2005-2006 had its most successful season since it began competing 11 years ago. He also leads the Grandma’s Marathon held last summer in Duluth… Jill Katrin teaches second grade in International Falls where she lives with her husband, Mike. They have two children. John Bolduc is chief of police in Brainerd and was recently appointed by the governor to the Peace Officer’s Standards and Training Board. He and his wife, Dawn, live in Fort Ripley and have two children… Cheryl Koplin of Red Wing… David Arneson and Lynette (Berndt) Arneson live in Ham Lake with their two children. He is a senior professional specialist at Honeywell and she works for Anoka-Hennepin School District… Brad and Penny (Hysell) Messer (’85) live in Redwood Falls and have two children… Michael Korpi is a patrol sergeant with the Airport Police Department. She’s been with the department since 1990 and became a sergeant in 2001. A cross-country runner while at BSU, he was to run his 50th marathon in fall 2006.

1985 Leah Carpenter has been selected as a 2006 National TRIO Achiever. She is president of the Leech Lake Tribal College and, as a student, participated in the Upward Bound program at BSU. Laurel Beager is the new editor of the International Falls Daily Journal having been promoted from her post as senior writer… Derek Olson of Bagley showed his oil paintings at Gallery North in Bemidji this summer. He also helped restore a home on Lake of the Isles and has worked many years as a commercial artist painting such large-scale projects as the mural at Galli Furniture in Bagley… Doug Graham of Houston, TX, has accepted a position in the educational diagnostician field at a Houston area school district.

1984 Glen Heppner is living in London, England, working as an actor and artist… Charles Olson of Roseau is a retired criminal investigator and private investigator. He has two children… Heidi (Murray) Wenzel and her husband, Tom, have two children and live in Little Canada… John Crandall, a historian, has written the definitive history of Shell City. Silhouettes of Time. He and his wife, Karen, live in Wadena. Retiring from a teaching career in 2006, he has also written Boom and Bust: Reflections Chronicling the History of Ottertail City.

1983 Dwight Flint of Solway participated in the Bemidji Hangfire Blackpowder Club’s 3rd annual Ron-de-voir in June… Charles Powell has been re-certified by the Minnesota Bar Association as a civil trial specialist… Dan Ninham of Bemidji High School, certified by the Minnesota Bar Association as a civil trial specialist, was named Boys basketball coach, was named Section 6, Class A Coach of the Year by the Minnesota Basketball Coaches Association.

1982 Lee Hanson and David Harrington, both of Bemidji, were finishers in the Grandma’s Marathon held last summer in Duluth… Kitura Main served as a chaperone when 200 girls and adults from the Girl Scouts Land of Lakes Council spent a week this summer in New York City… Dale Goodyear teaches industrial technology at Bemidji High School… “Scotty” Campbell Allison and his wife, Leanne, have two children and live in Daegu, Korea. He is a colonel in the U.S. Army and commands a brigade in Waegwan, Korea. She’s served 24 years in the military… Armand Nelson and his wife, Pam, live in Champlin with their two children. He is director in IT at Gander Mountain, chairman of the local parks and recreation commission and president of his school district’s PTO… Mark Fodness served as coach this summer to the Bemidji U12 Boys Soccer Team. They captured the league title finishing 7-1-1 in regular season play… Jim DeWenter is the Bemidji GED Test Center’s chief examiner… Jim Bakke of Henderson, KY, is employed with Electronics Research and also works part time as a substitute elementary teacher and rock climbing coach. He has two children… Jane (Merseth) Merschman has been teaching English at Bagley High School since 1985. She and her husband, Jim, have three children… Chuck Richards showed his artwork this summer at the Tri-County Hospital in Wadena. He and his wife of 51 years, Mary, have lived in Wadena since 1974. He retired in 2000 from teaching art in the Wadena-Deer Creek School District.

1981 Carol Richards, a BSU speech professor, acted in a one-woman play that kicked off Women’s History Month activities at BSU in March… Mark Morphew is the owner of True North Security in Bemidji… Carol Pelton and her husband, Mike, of Bemidji celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on July 17… Mark Gray and his wife, Capri, live in the Scratchgravel Hills north of Helena, MT, and have three children. Mark teaches English at Capital High School and is in his 33rd year of teaching. During the past two years he has been selected as a Helena Education Foundation Distinguished Educator, been nominated twice for National Honor Society’s Most Inspirational Teacher Award and been included in the 2005-2006 editions of Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers and National Honor Rolls’ Outstanding American Teachers.

1980 Stuart Desjarlait is superintendent of the Red Lake School District… Sally (Colehour) Myrom is the director of community partnerships for Girl Scouts Peace Pipe Council. She recently attended the advanced academy for the Blandin Community Leadership Program. She and her husband, Gary, live in Redwood Falls. Her brother, Mike, of Bemidji, and his wife, Teresa, live in Stow, MA. They adopted an infant son from St. Petersburg, Russia, in August 2005 and are planning to adopt another child early this year… Peter Friessen is the strength coach and trainer for the Carolina Hurricanes, the 2006 Stanley Cup champions… Kris Ferraro, a certified public...
Seven Bemidji State University graduates received Outstanding Alumni Awards at this year’s Homecoming activities. The recipients were: Kermit Bensen ’60, ’70, Bemidji, retired school principal; Lorraine Cecil ’63, Bemidji, retired director of External Studies Program, BSU; Dr. David Czarnecki, ’69, ’73, Bertram, agriculture technician; Dr. Bruce Falk ’71, Audubon, dentist and farmer; Paul Godlewski ’70, Ramsey, partner, Schwabe, Goetz & Sieben law firm; Dr. Debra Kellerman ’72, ’75, Oak Island, faculty, St. Cloud State University; and Carol Russell ’74, Brainerd, co-founder, Russell Herder, public relations firm.

2006 OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

Kermit Bensen  
Lorraine Cecil  
Dr. David Czarnecki  
Dr. Bruce Falk  
Paul Godlewski  
Dr. Debra Kellerman  
Carol Russell

Glenn Chiodo is the superintendent of schools at Park Rapids. Bob Whelan was recently named the new Bemidji High School wrestling coach. Mark and Tracey Jurchen ’72 live on Sibley Lake. Mark has been manager of the Lakeland Agency, an insurance company in Pequot Lakes, since 1999. The couple has two daughters and a grandson. Karla Jensen has released her first CD entitled “Collage.” She’s been a teacher and coach at Pierz Healy High School for the past 28 years and has been married to her husband, Mark, since 1981.

1979 Jon Shorter of Bemidji was a finisher in the Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon held in June at Duluth. Sandra (Gurley) Herath of Brainerd, co-founder, Russell Herder, public relations firm, sent a representative with Federated Insurance.

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1972 Kirk Myers of Outing has taken an early retirement from a career that included 16 years of teaching and 14 years in administration and is now focusing on real estate. He married Therese Kunz in 2002 and has three grown children. Wayne Bakke retired from teaching and lives in Lonsdale with his wife, Linda. They have three grown children.

Gary Stenberg and his wife, Karen, the first teachers to work at Faith Christian School in Detroit Lakes when it opened in 1997, retired in May. They have two grown children. Thomas Welle, president of First National Bank of Bemidji, joined in groundbreaking ceremonies in late June for the bank's new home at 1600 Paul Bunyan Drive NW. Bruce Campbell was inducted as a new member in the Bemidji Lions Club in June.

1971 Jerry Winans and Kathy Winger were married July 8 in Debs. Bill Harms hosted visitors to his garden as part of the Beltrami County Master Gardeners tour of eight area gardens held in July. Roger Twig recently retired from teaching and coaching in Crosby-Ironton schools. Jeff Nichols recently retired from teaching in Crosby-Ironton schools. He taught elementary school for 35 years.

Victor Rinke, principal of Pine River Elementary, was honored with a 2005 Division Leadership Achievement Award by the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association. He has nearly 31 years experience as a principal. Judy (Martinson) Humeniuk has retired after spending 34 years as a teacher, technology coordinator and career guidance director at the Woods Schools. She and her husband, John, live in Baudette and have two grown children. Tom Thurlow and his wife, Susan, live in Nisswa and have two grown children. Joe Sales retired and living in Billings, MT.

1970 Paul Godlewski, a shareholder with Schwebel, Goetz & Sieben, P.A. in Minneapolis, has been named a Super Lawyer for 2006. This is the ninth consecutive year he has been named one of Minnesota’s top attorneys by Minnesota Law & Politics magazine. He is a personal injury trial lawyer with 33 years of experience in his specialty.

Bryan Grand was honored in February when BSU retired his hockey jersey number during a celebration commemorating 50 years of hockey at BSU. He recently retired from a 30-year teaching career with the Bemidji school District. Molly (Ericson) and Ken Abrahanson (69) were recently honored by the Upsala community. Molly was selected as the 2006 Upsala Area Schools’ Teacher of the Year and her husband, Ken, was chosen as the Upsala Area Schools’ Volunteer of the Year. She has been teaching for more than 25 years and he retired in 2003 after 33 years of teaching. They have three children.

Bellette Sorensen, dean of students in the Fosston School District, has retired from a career in education spanning more than 30 years.

1969 Hilda Kvaale of Gully is retired after teaching in public schools for 31 years and home school- ing her two grandchildren for 12 years. Marie (Krueger) Kelsey is the educational media and technology program director at the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth. She published a book on Ulysses S. Grant in September 2005 and received her Ph.D. in library science from the University of Wisconsin in 2004. She was widowed in January 2004.

1968 Loyd Melby of Baudette was honored in July as one of two Roseau County residents named a Roseau County Outstanding Senior Citizen. He is a retired teacher and principal.

1967 Ralph Christofferson has retired from his post as Crookston School District superintendent, hav- ing served in that position for five years. He’s been an educator for 39 years. Rod McKenzie and his wife, Nancy, live in Wentzville, MO, and have three children, Ryan, Stephanie and David. Julie (Quern) Thronson was recognized by the Thief River Falls chapter of the American Asso- ciation of University Women as one of the chapter's three 2006 Women of Honor. She and her husband, Howard, have two grown children.

Peter Davis of Barton, VT, is retired from a 35-year career of teaching and coaching track.

1966 Vivian (Engelbrigtson) Eggen of Wannaska was honored in July as one of two Roseau County residents named a Roseau County Outstanding Senior Citizen. She is a retired teacher.

1965 Barb and Dave Sjoblad (64) live on East Twin Lake near Pequot Lakes. Barb was recently featured in the Lake Country Echo for her ac- complishments as a master gardener, conservationist and musician. Marshall and Dorothy (Reed) Bergerson (63) are retired and live in Virginia. They have two grown children.

1964 Tom Saterdal, who was inducted into the Minnesota High School Hockey Coaches Hall of Fame in 2005, was the guest speaker in August at the welcome back meet- ing for all Springfield Public School athletic and activity participants, their parents and supporters. Faith Wick, a retired doll and doll maker and native of the Iron Range, recently donated 200 of her hand-crafted dolls valued at more than $250,000 to the Children’s Dis- covery Museum in Grand Rapids. Betty (Blair) Klemensich, a third grade teacher at Babbitt-Embar- rass Elementary, has taught at that school for 42 years and was recently recognized with a Crystal Apple Award presented by the Horace Mann Co. Lowell Hanson retired in June, concluding a 40-year teaching career. He lives in Everett, WA, and spent the last 35 years teaching art and serving as an administrator at Everett Community College.

Pleased to Note: Towns are located in Minnesota unless otherwise noted.

1963 Joe Mayer of Bemidji took the championship title in the senior men's field of the Vandersluis Golf Tournament held in Bemidji. Dale Wolden earned a heroism award from the Beltrami County Sheriff for freeing and possibly saving the life of Howie Schultz, who was pinned under the tires of a truck.

1962 John Salls is retired from teaching and is now writing. He and his wife, Lila, live in Ottonville and have two grown children. Diane (Hoselton) Genova lives in Northfield and has raised two children.

1961 Norbert Pastir and his wife, Laurel, live in Roseau. Belle (Sutton) Storbeck and her husband, Carroll, live in Aurora and have four grown children and 10 grandchildren.

1960 Edward Bolton of Nevis is a finisher in the Grandma's Marathon held last summer in Duluth. Evalin Wold recently moved to a retirement community in Miamisburg, OH. Ivan Lauterbaugh and his wife, Elaine, of Bemidji celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary May 19.

1959 Dolly (Oaks) Talbert is in her 14th year of retirement, but keeps active by accompanying in- strumental soloists at the Minnesota State High School League contest. She and her husband, Don, live in Lumberton.

1958 Ron Phillips recently sold a salmon fishing business in California and plans to move back to his hometown of Spencer, IA. Dwaine Marten served as chairman of health and safety education at the University of Idaho, Moscow, ID, prior to retirement.

1955 Luvern Eickhoff and his wife, Avis, celebrat- ed their 50th wedding anniversary on July 22 at their home on the north shore of Lake Beltrami.

1953 Cora Ravndalen has retired from teaching and lives in Roosevelt. She was widowed in 2001 and has three grown sons.

1952 Dick Lawrence of Eveleth was among five veteran coaches presented with Volunteer Excellence Award in August by the St. Louis County Board.

Mary (Randal) Norgart received a 2006 Top Aggie Award from the Northwest School of Agriculture Alumni Association. She’s helped serve individuals with special needs for 50 years and is still an active volunteer. She and her husband, Richard, live in Kings City, OR, and have five grown children.

1950 Charles Patterson of Baton Rouge is a Louisiana State University professor emeritus and recipient of the Distinguished Member Medal of Beta Phi Mu, the International Library and Information Sci- ence Honor Society.

1949 Betty Nesbit and her husband, Charles, are retired and living in Billings, MT.

1947 Margaret (Anderson) Hannem of Minne- apolis was widowed in 2005.

1942 Edna (Leen) Skold lives in Milton-Freewater, OR. She has two children, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

1941 Janice Lind and her husband, Erling, live in Moorhead and have three grown children.
Greetings from the Bemidji State University Foundation! On behalf of the students, faculty, staff and administration at the University, thank you for your support this past year. Your commitment to BSU is making a difference on a daily basis as we work together to reach our goal of building an even stronger University for the future.

This year’s annual report not only highlights the growing support the University has received from generous alumni and friends, but also provides a glimpse of the impact those gifts are having on the lives of our students and campus community.

Since coming to BSU in May 2006, I have witnessed firsthand the quality and rich history of the people and the educational enterprise here at the University. In the coming year and beyond, I look forward to meeting as many members of the BSU family as I can, including BSU alumni, friends and supporters.

Our mission is to build strong relationships and to provide effective opportunities for the support of Bemidji State University. You are, and will continue to be, a vital partner in fulfilling that mission.

Thank you again for your support. I look forward to visiting with you in the future!

Rob Bollinger
Executive Director for University Advancement
“That three-building complex, with the wonderful in-winter tunnels, began my long lasting love affair with what has grown to be Bemidji State University.”

Dr. Dorothy Moore grew up in the 1930s and 1940s as a ward of the State of Minnesota. The only way she could afford college was with a scholarship and a job.

Her role models included a few caring teachers who perceived promise in her future. They guided her search for college scholarships, which led her to what was then Bemidji State Teachers College.

“That three-building complex, with the wonderful in-winter tunnels, began my long lasting love affair with what has grown to be Bemidji State University,” says Moore, class of 1949.

“I was a fortunate member of that learning community and still value many of those continuing friendships,” she notes.

Bemidji State’s offer of a Rotary Club Scholarship and a job in Sanford Hall as a dormitory assistant convinced Moore to attend. She majored in English and in vocal and instrumental music.

Knowing how much that scholarship meant to her in those formative years led Moore to later endow a BSU scholarship as a tribute to her alma mater. The Dorothy L. Moore String Scholarship is awarded each year to a BSU music major.

A few years ago, she also established two $10,000 charitable gift annuities, one for each of her sisters. Those gifts have lasting benefits not only for her sisters, but also for Bemidji State students.

“I went to Bemidji wanting to become a teacher and when I retired 40 years later, I had taught the gamut of preschoolers through university graduate students,” Moore notes.

For 22 years, she was the vocal and instrumental music teacher and consultant in the St. Cloud Public Schools. She also taught in Wykoff, Goodridge and Russell schools in Minnesota. Concluding her teaching career as a professor in the College of Education at Georgia Southern University, she resides in Georgia.

In 2001, Moore received Bemidji State’s Outstanding Alumni Award in recognition of her achievements. She is also a charter member of the Legacy Society.

“Endowed scholarships help us attract talented scholars,” comments Dr. Brad Logan, chair of the BSU Department of Music. “Their participation in our solo and ensemble programs have a positive impact on our already excellent product.”

Last year, the Moore scholarship went to Shien Yuin Yong, an international student from Malaysia, who plans to graduate from BSU in 2007 with a degree in music and an emphasis in piano pedagogy and performance. Her hope is to someday teach from her own piano studio.

Yong intended to study at BSU for just a semester, but like Moore, she fell in love with BSU and decided to stay.

“My friends here are like family to me,” she says.

The Moore scholarship helped her meet the financial commitments, so she could focus on her studies.

“Dr. Moore’s scholarship allows deserving students, who often are without financial means, to focus their entire attention on their studies,” observes Dr. Nancy Erickson, dean of the College of Arts and Letters.

“Her own achievements as an educator who began building her career at BSU, as well as her contribution to the development of our future music teachers, will remain her legacy at BSU.”

For Moore, the main benefit of an endowment is the satisfaction of knowing that she is helping more students realize their dreams.

Shien Yuin Yong
Endowed Scholarships and Funds

Edwin Alberich Memorial Scholarship
AAUW - Mabel Parks Scholarship
Allan Adams Memorial Scholarship
Alpha Nu Omega/Alpha Tau Omega Scholarship
Alumni Association Endowment
Alumni Assoc. Quasi-Endowment
American Indian Alumni Scholarship Endowment
Chet Anderson Athletic Scholarship
Anderson Family Scholarship
Marvin Anderson Family Scholarship
Born and Carlson American Scholarship
Elise Annis Honor Award
John B. Arneson Scholarship
College of Arts/Letters Endowment
Men's Athletic Endowment
Men's Athletic Quasi Endowment
Linda & Norman Bearer Scholarship
Ernest A. Victoria Baker Science and Music Scholarship
Harry F. Bangsberg Memorial Scholarship
Grant Bateman Scholarship
Richard E. Betsell Scholarship
Bemidji Area Retention Scholarship
Bemidji Concert Series Endowment
BSU Foundation General Scholarship
BSU Foundation Quasi-Endowment
Bemidji State University Scholarship to Clearbrook-Gonvick High School
Bender Scholarship
Jim Bensien Innovation Fund
BIO Endowment
M. Fern Benstedt Scholarship
Marie Bishop Scholarship
Roy Blackwood Mass Communications Scholarship
Harold Borchers Scholarship
Dr. B. W. F. Bornschlegl Scholarship
Paul V Boswell Memorial Scholarship
John/Anne Brady Scholarship
Paul Brandvik Choral Scholarship
Fred Breen Endowment
Ray Breen Endowment
Gurnee Bridgeman Biology Scholarship
William Britton Scholarship
Meredith Brown Music Scholarship
Jeffrey Busse Geography Scholarship
Eben Calder Scholarship
Campus Honors Scholarship
Anita Carlson Memorial Scholarship

Bertha Christianson Scholarship
Marvin Christianson & Betsy McDowell Scholarship
AC Clark Library
Wag Collins Scholarship
Cowick Scholarship
Criminal Justice Scholarship
Dr. Don W. Crompton Scholarship
Amela Dalzotto Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Eugene Dalzotto Art Purchase Award
Robert & Jacqueline Decker Scholarship
Ione DeKrey Memorial Scholarship
Delta Kappa Gamma Society International/ Hazel Shimmun Scholarship
Leonard Dickinson Scholarship
Herb & Lynn Doran BSU Men's Hockey Scholarship
Herb & Lynn Doran Fifth Year Scholarship
G. S. Drobog Engineering Physics Endowment
Leda Dudy Scholarship
Dyrhaug Scholarship
Dr. Dick & Eleanor Edwards Scholarship
Bill Eliot Memorial Scholarship
LeRoy Erickson Scholarship
Otto Erickson Scholarship
Bertha Evenson Memorial Scholarship
Fishing for Fun Emeriti Scholarship
Football Endowment
Charles Fuchman Scholarship
Full Tuition Scholarship
Fulton Gallagher Music Award
Andi & Mike Garrett Geographic Education Scholarship
Ronald A. Gearman Piano Scholarship
Jeanne Gillen Scholarship
Lowell R. Gillett Scholarship
Muriel B. Gilman Endowment Scholarship
John Glas Memorial Scholarship
Beulah Gregoire Endowment
Jim Greer Memorial Scholarship
Harold Haggy History Scholarship
Kathryn, Fred & Mabel Hargreaves Scholarship
Russell & Audrey Harding Scholarship
Margaret H. Harlow Art Fund
Margaret H. Harlow Ceramics Scholarship
Margaret H. Harlow Geography Scholarship
Olin & Margaret Hashwold Scholarship
Elaine J. Hazard Scholarship
Evon B. Hazard Scholarship
Clara and John Helley, Sr. Alumni Scholarship
James A. Marilyn Heltzer Scholarship
Henderson, Patton, Jones Science Memorial Scholarship
Henriques International Fund
Anne B. Hentz Scholarship
Lawrence H. “Hollie” Huggins Scholarship
Robert H. Peters Hockey Endowment
Hoganson Graduate Assistant Scholarship
Charles S. Holt Memorial Scholarship
Bill and Betty Howe Scholarship
Ruth Howe Scholarship
Myrtle Hunt Alumni Scholarship
American Indian Resource Center Indian Studies Endowment
Esther & Alfred C. Intebo Scholarship
Intrumental Music Scholarship
Jack & Delphine Jacobson Scholarship
Westly James Scholarship
Arnold Johnson Basketball Scholarship
Francis Johnson Scholarship
Margaret H. Johnson Scholarship
Sam/Peggy (Marvin) Johnson Scholarship
Robin Norgard Kellerhe BSU Scholarship
Robin Norgard Kellerhe BSU Scholarship
William P. Kirtland Memorial Scholarship
KDAL/KDHE Scholarship
Lilje Kleven Print Scholarship
Knoashaq Mathematics Scholarship
Robert Kramer Scholarship
Danny Kraus Scholarship
Kraus Anderson Scholarship
Ruth Lane Memorial Scholarship
League Win Voters-M Parker/R Brune Mangeldorf Memorial Scholarship
League Win Voters-H Hazel Shimmun Scholarship
Rhonda Syverson Levinsko Memorial Scholarship
Roy & Eva T. Lind Memorial Scholarship
P. Bradley Logan Choral Scholarship
James & Janet Love Scholarship
Joe & Jan Lukken American Indian Scholarship
Joe & Jan Lukken Scholarship
Malmquist Art Purchase Award
Ruth Brune Mangeldorf Memorial Scholarship
David J. Marchand-Edgar B Gangwe Music Education Scholarship
Theola Marsh Smith Scholarship
Marshall China Studies
Allison Marvin Memorial Scholarship
Marvin Windows and Doors Scholarship
Ken Masse Memorial Scholarship
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Ray Maynard Scholarship
McKeever/Humvaki Scholarship
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Leonard D. Melville Memorial Scholarship
Memorial Scholarship
Roy P. Meyer Scholarship
Millie Lance Band of Owls Scholarship
Ben Miller Scholarship
Raymond S. Milowski Scholarship
3M Chair of Accounting
3M Accounting Department Endowment
Modern Classcial Language Scholarship
Jeanette Moe-Pearce Memorial Scholarship
Cliff Moran Athletic Scholarship
Dorothy Moore String Scholarship
Harry Moore Scholarship
Music Depart Endowment
Music Dept Piano Endowment
Galen Nagle Memorial Fund
Naylor Electric Scholarship
William & Dona Mae Naylor Fund
Winston/Irene Naylor Scholarship
George W. Nelson Chair in Women's Studies
Wendell Ecology Scholarship
F. Miles and Margaret Nelson Scholarship
Ray Nelson Scholarship
Cardinal Newman Scholarship
Ed Nordheim Scholarship
North Star Homes Endowment
Nursing Scholarship Endowment
Ottertail Co Scholarship
Ray Nelson Scholarship
Harald T. Peters Scholarship
Philosophy Endowment
Physic Emeriti Faculty - Andrew Brown Scholarship
Dr. Marnry Beck Physical Education Graduate Student Scholarship
Ernest Plath Memorial Scholarship
Joe Plummer Jazz Scholarship
Jim Cecil Political Science Scholarship
Bemidji State University Capitol Internship Scholarship
Presidential Scholarship Endowment
Professional Education Department Endowment
Bemidji State University Scholarship
Women's Life/Dining Service Award
Patricia Rosenbrock Scholarship for Community Activism
Dale Ross Baseball Scholarship
Ragels' Hockey Scholarship
Tom Rowlette Nursing Scholarship
Robert Sellon Award
William Sellon Scholarship
Rick and Marcella Sherman Scholarship
Gordy Skaa Memorial Athletic Scholarship
Constance Simonson-Dekrey Memorial Scholarship
Sociology and Anthropology Professors Emeriti Scholarship
Stephen A Los Sorenson Endowment for Visual Arts
Hypatia Spangler Music Scholarship
Special Situational Scholarship
Dr. Marnry Beck Sports Science Endowment
Jack/Marie St Martin American Indian Scholarship
Jack/Marie St Martin Hockey Scholarship
Star Tribune Foundation Scholarship
Ruth Stenerson Scholarship
George Stewart Memorial Hockey Scholarship
Willie Stittsworth Scholarship
Sullivan International Student Scholarship
Sustainable Campus Research Scholarship
Tom Swanson Brass Quintet Scholarship
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John and Dana Youd Scholarship
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Aury errors or omissions are unintentional and deeply regretted.
When Lowell Scearcy went looking for a four-year college to attend in 1965, he knew he wanted an affordable school that was close to home. He picked the nearest public college, but after a full day of trekking across campus in an attempt to enroll at that institution, he changed his mind.

“The next day, I went to Bemidji State and got enrolled in an hour,” Scearcy recalls. “They were a little more student friendly, I guess you’d say.”

A bit of happenstance turned out to be a good thing. Having attended a community college for two years, Scearcy finished his studies at Bemidji State University, graduating with a degree in mathematics in 1967 and a master’s degree in 1976.

He had always wanted to be a coach and particularly enjoyed baseball, a sport he managed to play by convincing his younger brother to help with chores so he could go to practice. That practice paid dividends.

Among all coaches in the history of Minnesota high school baseball, Scearcy ranks second for his winning record and holds the number one spot among active coaches. In 2005, he was inducted into the Minnesota State High School Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame and recently received the state coaches association’s George Haun Award for service.

He spent 30 years as a high school football and basketball official and has supported athletics in countless roles. In 2002, he received the BSU Outstanding Alumni Award.

Scearcy retired from teaching in 1999 after 27 years at Brainerd High School. He continues as their head coach for the baseball team and for the Central Lakes College football team.

Looking back on his success, Scearcy says that his favorite memories “have nothing to do with winning or losing games, but the goofy things that happened along the way.”

He has good memories of his time as an undergraduate at BSU. “People told me when I was a kid that college is the best time of your life,” Scearcy reflects. “A lot of young people don’t believe that, but it’s true.”

Scearcy and his wife, Diane, foundation director for Central Lakes College, contribute regularly to the BSU Foundation to support a variety of scholarships. Their hope is that such gifts will help keep college affordable.

Scearcy put himself through BSU by working on the Northern Pacific Railroad during the summers. “Today, I think it’s hard for kids to get through school on just a summer job,” says Scearcy.

Sara Lind, a sophomore and accounting major from Wright, a small farming community southeast of Bemidji, finds that to be true. Last year she worked two jobs through the summer and returned home every other weekend to work in a bar and grill to help pay for school.

She received a BSU Merit Scholarship her freshman year to defray costs. This year, she funds part of her education by working as a residence assistant in Maple Hall.

“Scholarships made it much easier adjusting to college without having to worry about money,” notes Lind, who hopes to someday own a business. It also helped her delay using loans.

Carol Nielsen, interim dean of the College of Professional Studies, says that contributions to the Foundation are the financial underpinnings for the development and growth of many BSU programs.

“Scholarship funding is also crucial for our students, many of whom work while attending school. Scholarships help keep those students in school and create the financial stability they need to stay focused on their studies.”

Scearcy, glad to play his part, hopes that students make the most of their BSU experience.
Scholarships

Gifts made to the following funds provide scholarships on an annual basis.

Annual Scholarships
- Alumni Relative Scholarship
- Marsity C. Beck Nursing Scholarship
- Muriel and Jack Beech Memorial Scholarship
- Bemidji Rotary Scholarship
- Nancy and Jim Bensen Scholarship
- BSLU Distance Learning Scholarship
- Al Clark Scholarship
- Deloitte Touche Scholarship
- Elks Vocal Scholarship
- Enbridge Energy Scholarship
- Trustee Emeritus Erickson Part-time Student Scholarship
- Federated Insurance Information Services Scholarship
- Federated Insurance Business Scholarship
- Federated Insurance Business Athlete Scholarship
- Frasco Memorial Scholarship
- Ed Gersich Distance Education Scholarship
- Anthony Gramer Football Scholarship
- Great Lakes Transmission Co Scholarship
- Hartz Scholarship
- Iverson Corner Drug Pre-Pharmacy Scholarship
- Johnson Controls Scholarship
- Lakehead Pipeline Co Ltd Partnership Scholarship
- Geraldine Lane Scholarship
- Larson Allen Accounting Scholarship
- Leah Scholarship
- Gordon Lindgren Marathon Scholarship
- Gladys McKinley Distance Learning Scholarship
- Michael McKinley Distance Learning Scholarship
- Minnesota Energy Resources Scholarship
- Morgan Family Technology Education Scholarship
- Don Niskanen Men’s Golf Scholarship
- Northern Minnesota Distance Learning Professional Scholarship
- Palmer Tarbell Scholarship
- Rod Pickett BSU Men’s Hockey Scholarship
- Presidential Honorarium Scholarship
- Jack Quistgaard Pre-Pharmacy Scholarship
- Jack Marie St Martin Men’s Hockey Scholarship
- Gerald Schnabel History Scholarship
- Sorensen Business Scholarship
- Spry Environmental Sciences Scholarship
- Theatre Faculty & Alumni Scholarship
- Theta Tau Epsilon Scholarship
- Valvoline Instant Oil Change Men’s Hockey Scholarship

Any errors or omissions are unintentional and deeply regretted.

2005-06

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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 from private sources. There are two endowed funds at Bemidji State University.

Scholarship Dollars Awarded
- Merit Scholarships $20,250
- Campus Honors Scholarships $38,000
- Alumni Relative Scholarships $34,500
- Presidential Scholarships $29,000
- Full Tuition Scholarships $144,265
- Beaver Pride Athletic Grants $189,330
- Athletic Grants from University Funds $40,000
- Athletic Grants from Other Funds $40,685
- Other Annual and Endowed Scholarships $252,071
BSU Foundation
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$100,000 to $249,999
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While gifts of any amount are very much appreciated, this report contains only gifts of $1,000 or more contributed between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2006. If your name was omitted, misspelled or incorrectly listed, please contact the BSU Foundation Office. Additional donors are listed on the BSU Foundation website, www.bsufoundation.org

Scholarships

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Nelmarie Melville, ’94
The Minneapolis Foundation
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Onitstanda Insurance Agency
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Jeffrey Busse almost didn’t graduate from Bemidji State University in 1988 as he had planned.

His course schedule was daunting and he was sure it was more than he could handle. But one of his geography professors and department chair at the time, Dr. Mike Garrett, saw it differently.

“In my senior year, I walked into Dr. Garrett’s office and told him that I was going to have to drop something,” Busse recalls. He also remembers Garrett’s response – a resounding “No, you’re not!”

“Dr. Garrett did not take anything off my plate. He rearranged what was there, and I graduated on time and on budget.”

For that, and much more, Busse is grateful. So, as his own career advanced, he has shown his gratitude to BSU by establishing an endowment fund for geography students, as well as a bequest to support the University.

“We truly appreciate alumni who provide this kind of encouragement and support to our students,” says Dr. Ranae Womack, dean of the College of Social and Natural Sciences. “Scholarships offer students valuable financial assistance while also recognizing their academic achievements and fostering the idea of giving back to further the careers of future students.”

Busse earned his geography degree in 1988 and soon started as a statistician with the U.S. Bureau of Mines. In 1996, he joined the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in Virginia and has spent the last 10 years working with their Minerals Information Team. His work has twice earned the USGS STAR Award for Excellence.

Crediting BSU for his solid career preparation, he points to small class sizes, personal interaction with professors and numerous opportunities to present and defend his research as defining activities.

“That kind of speaking experience was one of the most important skills that I took with me into the work force,” notes Busse.

In addition, he came away with a passion for traveling. Since graduating, his adventures have included a dream-fulfilling trek through the rugged and stunning landscapes of Patagonia in South America and a voyage along coastal Norway. His travel list also includes the Minnesota fishing opener every May and visits with Minnesota friends and family as often as possible.

Jared Hovi shares Busse’s fondness for Minnesota and the University. A Grand Rapids native and outdoor enthusiast, Hovi is a 2006 BSU graduate with a degree in geography. Becoming hooked on geography in a course he’d taken at a community college, he transferred to BSU where the Busse Geography Scholarship helped fund his senior year.

He, too, appreciated the small class sizes and supportive faculty. In fact, he landed his first internship with help from one of his BSU professors. That internship led him to a job with Pro-West Associates in Walker, where he now does parcel data development.

“The BSU geography department is like their own little family, and they’re always willing to help,” Hovi says.

In the department, most scholarships range from $500 to $1,000 and are awarded to juniors and seniors already committed to their major.

“That is a significant amount and can make a difference just when advanced-level students may need the financial assistance most,” Garrett explains. “Current students appreciate the fact that a grad has made a contribution on their behalf.”

When Busse decided to make a bequest to BSU, he became a member of the Bemidji State University Foundation Legacy Society, where his contributions support students like Hovi and many others who follow.

“The Bemidji State University Department of Geography changed my life,” Busse says. “If I can play a small role in the Geography Department’s mission of educating and developing the succeeding generations of geographers and leaders, that will make me happy.”

Jared Hovi
Gifts to the BSU Foundation in memory of or in honor of another person.

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  Lorraine Cecill

(Continued on page 28)
Anyone well acquainted
with George Stewart, knew he
graduated from Bemidji State
University.

He loved to share his story,
according to his wife, Irene,
who notes that he particularly
enjoyed talking about the BSU
men’s hockey program. Stewart
played on the BSU team
in 1949, but hockey in those
days was a far cry from the Di-
vision I program that has since
evolved.

Graduating from high school
in 1946, Stewart served in the
Navy for two years before en-
rolling at Bemidji State. Shortly
after arriving in Bemidji, he
and Irene started a family and
had two daughters by the time
he graduated in 1951 with a
bachelor of arts in education.

“The whole time we were at
BSU was a struggle for us, but
we got through,” Irene says.
“He had to get through school
and get a full-time job. He fin-
ished in three years.”

Despite those struggles,
Stewart made time to play
hockey and football at BSU
and left college with many
fond memories. Never los-
ing his passion for hockey, he
played the game throughout
most of his life and closely
followed college hockey. He
particularly enjoyed watching
BSU emerge with its own Divi-
sion I team.

His family ensured that his
love for BSU hockey contin-
ued after his death in 2005. At
that time, they established an
endowed scholarship in his
name to benefit the BSU men’s
hockey program.

“He told anyone who would
listen that he went to Bemidji
State, so everyone who knew
him, knew he went to school
there,” Irene says. This year’s
recipient of the George Stewart
Memorial Scholarship is Na-
than Schwartzbauer, a senior
majoring in sports management
with a minor in business. He’s a
defenseman on the BSU men’s
hockey team.

“As soon as I learned about
the Stewart scholarship, it was
awesome,” says Schwartzbauer
of Wasilla, Alaska. “But after
hearing his story, it’s that much
more of an honor to accept it.”

Schwartzbauer and his team-
mates are keenly aware of how
those early players paved the way
for those who have followed.

“I can imagine being one of
those guys some day and com-
ing back to the John Glas or a
new arena,” Schwartzbauer
said. “I’ll always be proud to say
that I’ve been part of Bemidji
State.”

That’s a sentiment the BSU
athletic program hopes to in-
still in all of its players.

“Endowments are all about
giving back to the youth, our
future, and giving them the
resources to help make so-
ciety better for the next
generation,” says Dr.

Rick Goeb, BSU athletic direc-
tor. “Athletics is appreciative
of those who create lifelong
learning opportunities for our
future leaders.”

Following graduation, Stew-
art moved to Michigan where
he taught school for several
years before becoming an alco-
hol and drug awareness educa-
tor for the State of Michigan
from which he retired. Mak-
ing Michigan home, Stewart
continued to enjoy his Bemidji
connections.

After his death, Stewart’s
family traveled to East Grand
Forks to bury his ashes in a
family plot. On the way, they
stopped in Bemidji and buried
some of his ashes outside the
BSU hockey arena as a tribute
to his lifelong passion for his
alma mater and its hockey
tradition.

“He told anyone who would
listen that he went to Bemidji
State, so everyone who knew
him, knew he went to school
there.”

Irene Stewart

Tom Serratore, head coach
of the BSU men’s hockey team,
couldn’t agree more and says
that the Stewart family’s gen-
erosity is an incentive to oth-
ers who may also want to give
back.

“It’s not just the hockey that’s
important, but the camaraderie
and growth into responsible
young adults. That’s what it’s
all about, and George Stewart
was a great example of that.”

Nathan Schwartzbauer
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Gifts received in honor of William Weaver
- Colleen Livingston
Dr. Al Clark’s college days weren’t idyllic. He arrived at Bemidji State University in the early 1960s expecting late-night cram sessions, an active social life, wins with Beaver teams, and a leadership role in the Student Senate. As his freshman year unfolded, however, his college experience took a dramatic twist.

Just one quarter into his studies at BSU, his father suffered a heart attack that prompted Clark to return home and help tend to the family’s Kabekona grocery store. The move was only 16 miles, but it meant a much-changed college life for Clark.

As a leader, valedictorian and winning multi-sport captain at Laporte High School, Clark anticipated similar success in college, but found those wanting. But Clark, a self-described overachiever, focused on his interest in business, joining the BSU Business Club and earning a bachelor’s degree in business education along with a minor in economics. “Some of the disappointments I had as a student athlete, I turned them around,” Clark says.

In fact, he turned them into significant successes as a teacher, a coach, and a multiple-degree earner. He earned a master’s and a doctorate from the University of Minnesota. “When I got to the end, I was offered to run a vocational education program, but I decided I really didn’t want to do that,” Clark says. “I wanted to have my own business.”

After investigating various options, Clark decided to start a State Farm insurance agency. “I’d taken insurance classes and sold mutual funds, life insurance and tax-sheltered annuities for about eight years while I was teaching,” Clark explains. “I understood insurance and also business.”

He moved to Arlington, TX, rented an office and started from zero. From there, Clark soared to the top, where he now sits as the nation’s number one State Farm agent.

With his own agency, 18 employees and national recognition, Clark is enjoying the entrepreneurial success he set out to achieve.

Over the years, Clark’s role has evolved to managing the agency rather than client accounts. However, no matter what his role – agent, manager, community member or philanthropist – Clark is energized when helping people. “I’ve found a passion for working with people, helping people,” he says. “I try to help whatever organization I’m in.”

His passion extends to his past. Clark funds an annual scholarship, which he intends to endow, for BSU students from Laporte High School. “It’s in appreciation for BSU and Laporte,” Clark explains. “It was my foundation. And I think it’s somewhere I can make a difference.”

Clark’s philosophy extends to other educational endeavors, as well. As the Arlington Rotary Club’s former president and foundation board member, he’s been instrumental in developing a scholarship program for Webb Elementary School in Arlington where 92 percent of the students are considered to be disadvantaged. This program provides a college scholarship for any student who finishes high school.

His caring for today’s kids is due in part to his BSU experiences where he credits faculty with taking an interest in him and caring about him. “The teachers were always very supportive and interested in me as a person,” Clark says. “I think that was a very important part of my education – that I was looked at as a person.”

Clark sees his college experience as a great one, despite the twists and turns of his initial BSU plans. “I don’t think I missed anything,” he says. In fact, Clark would like to reciprocate for all he received.

“I have an attitude of leaving the world a little better than when I got here. I try to be a plus instead of a minus,” Clark explains.

When figuring the adjustment on that claim, the outcome is clear: Clark is a definite plus.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>January 1: Summer Session Class Schedule</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>January 23: Spring Semester Classes Begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 9: Summer Session Class Schedule</td>
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<td>March 1: Summer School Registration Begins</td>
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<td>March 15-16: Early Childhood Mega Conference</td>
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<td>April 18: Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Conference</td>
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<td>May 1: Registration Deadline – Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference</td>
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<td>May 18: Commencement</td>
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<td>June 17-22: Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference</td>
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<th>2007 Campus Preview Days</th>
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