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
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 emeriti 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.

"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.
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.

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.

“Our 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.”
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!

The creditor and issuer of the Visa card is U.S. Bank National Association, ND.

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.
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.”
“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.

“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 back-ground, 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.
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.

The games, however, always end with important debriefings where the facts are disclosed and discussed. “In fact, students will go research and find out what happened, and then bring that into the game. What we find is students do a good job of coming up with possible outcomes and understanding the real outcome,” she explains.

Both students and faculty feel the impact of the Reacting experience. “Students say they worked harder in this course than they ever expected to – and they just did it on their own,” notes Dunn. “It’s kind of remarkable.”

Dunn, Driscoll and Siems report that Reacting has made them more enthusiastic about teaching. “We’re all pretty passionate about it,” Dunn says.

When she looks to the future of Reacting to the Past courses at BSU, currently the only Minnesota university or college offering them, Dunn says she’d like to see Reacting classes offered at the freshman level as they are at other schools. She would also like to incorporate the method into other disciplines.

“The Reacting approach has a student-centered pedagogy, so it fits Bemidji State’s core tenant of being a student-centered university,” Dunn explains. “It also fits our mission as a public university in raising civic awareness; it’s a parallel idea. Students have to become active and involved to participate in this class.”
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.”

In addition to teaching and coaching, “I hope one day to open a construction company or cabinet shop,” says Hillukka of his long-term goals.

Some people just seem to make the most of every opportunity that comes their way. Katherine Tieben is one of those people.

Fully grasping the significance of the support and inspiration provided by faculty and fellow students, she also possesses a clear vision of her future in the performing arts.

“Through performance, I want to inspire people to get involved in the arts,” says Tieben, a senior pursuing a double major in vocal music performance and theatre. “Through workshops and performances, I want to touch people’s lives.”

To that end, she plans to move to the Twin Cities after graduation and begin auditioning. She also plans to develop a workshop that she could bring to elementary schools to inspire children to get involved in the performing arts.

Tieben is known for putting her performance passion into action. As a junior at BSU, she 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

“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 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

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 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
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’ cover photo. 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 (’84) played on the Minnesota Chippewa Chippewa-Legion pool team that took second at the 2006 American Cane Sports Alliance National Championships at Las Vegas, NV. Amanda Brooks and Bradley Jewell were married August 12 in Yukon, OK. She’s employed at 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 BJSU 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, LLC. Brent Fulton was hired in May as a patrol officer with the Detroit Lakes Police Department. He and his wife, Heidi, live in Wilton. Kori Hutchinson 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 Haukebo 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 Bemidji State University, were married August 10 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 29 in Woodbury. She is employed with the Oakdale School District and he is a contract analyst with Benfeld Inc. in Bloomington. George Fairbanks recently accepted the position of news editor at the Roseville Review, North St. Paul. Brent Nelson 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 Eric Samuelson were married on August 30. She’s employed as a supervisor with Lifeguide Lodge in Bemidji and he is an intern architect at MJ Architectural Studios in Bemidji... Josh Overgaard and Shauna Mchenney were married on August 26. Both are attending the University of Minnesota-Duluth. Sherry Kuzel and John Nannoff, Jr., were married June 24 in East Grand Forks. She is employed as a substitute teacher in Bemidji and he is working as a corrections agent for the MNDOC in Bemidji... Jennifer Heim of Kelleher served with other military veterans as a grand marshal for the Sullivan Lake Fourth of July boat parade... Brent Finsett and Traci Tolman were married August 26 at Underwood. He is employed as a commercial risk management specialist with Lutheran Trust Church Asset Management and she is employed with Otter Tail County Human Services... Travis Schwarz and Kristen Krueger were married August 24 in Fisheker. He is employed by Cretex Concrete Products North as a customer coordinator and she is a registered nurse with Tri-Valley... Lindsay Larson and Benjamin Cournia were married on December 31 in Princeton. They live in Koldiak, AK, where Lindsay works as a reporter with the Kodiak Daily Mirror and Benjamin serves in the Coast Guard... Carl Peterson and Nicole Wiekamp were married October 7... Amanda Sachau and Eric Nevins were married August 26 in Bemidji where they reside... Stacy (Nutter) Nelson is a special education teacher at Kittson Central High School... Chase Jackson of Bemidji qualified for state in the Bemidji-Birchmont Golf Tournament men’s championship division, finishing at 147 (74-73) with David Joergensen and Patrick Quinn (’03) who were married October 7 in Bemidji. She is employed with RSM McGladrey and he works with the Thomson Corporation. The couple resides in the City area... Molly (Zimmerman) Turner and her family recently produced a CD entitled “Waiting on Sundown” and performed songs from it at coffee houses in Bemidji. Molly and her husband, Doyle, have two children and live in Bemidji.

2004 Dana Hasselberg of Staples qualified for the women’s championship field in the Birchmont Golf Tournament held in Bemidji... Jason Swanson is manager of the Country 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 Pinecastle Publishing in Bemidji. He is a professional hockey player with the Florida Panthers... Amy Troyeb and Seth Eklund of Bemidji were married June 17 in Bemidji. She is a kindergarten teacher at Horace May Elementary and he works at Brewery Taphouse and Tasting Towsing... Candice Skramstad and Andy Olson were married June 10 in Mora. She is employed with Lakes and Pines and he is employed with Environmental Consultants, Inc. Nikki Baird and Bob Brink were married June 30 in Bemidji... Heather Eidemoc and Bryan Anderson (’03) were married June 26 in Bemidji. She teaches English at Northern Elementary in Bemidji and he teaches in the Cass Lake-Bena School District... Sarah Hess of Bemidji was a finisher in the Carry Jirikohn Half Marathon held in June... John Hoerner is a park manager at the Zippel Bay State Park located near Baudette... Nicole Schmidt and Andy Polk were married June 25 in Woodbury. She is employed by the Marquette County Health Department and he is employed by the Westfield School District... Justin Fink and Megan Jack- lith were married July 29 in Walker and now live in Maple Grove. Justin is employed as a digital designer and applications engineer at Trane in White Bear Lake and Megan is employed as a registered nurse at the University of Minnesota Medical Center-Fairview in Minneapolis... Josh Peterson of Minneapolis 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 modeling camp conducted by world-renowned photographer Bruce Weber... Isaac Smieja and Erin Mrozek were married July 22... Sara Zimmerman and Aaron Stodell (’03) were married July 1 in Walker. They live in Bemidji... Jennifer Quistgaard and Zachary Hazleton 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 Hollanday, an executive officer with the Army National Guard, is serving a 12-month assignment in Iraq.

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 Cloquet... Tara Schleskens 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 Breitback were married October 15, 2005, at Etna. 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 Pikka 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 as a union heat and frost insulator by P&H Insulation, Fargo. They live near Felton... Sarah Balstad was a volunteer at last summer’s Fishing Has No Boundaries event held in Bemidji... Sam Larson of Bemidji participated in the Bemidji Hangfire Blackpowder Club’s 111th annual powder keg in June... 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 Minnetonka... 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 Rottland Homes in Minneapolis... Adam Stewman is the new managing editor of The Hoffman Tribune. John Bouchard has had his book, A Taste of Sota, 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 field of the Vasa Medical Memorial Cross Country held in Bemidji... Vicki Linbocker is the activities director at Goldpine Home in Bemidji... Scott Nichols was promoted to claims representative III with Federated Insurance, Minneapolis.

2001 Jennifer (Sullivan) Pirkle of Bemidji works for Stellher Human Services, providing mental health services in Cass Lake-Bena District schools. She

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

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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 new owner of a photo studio and art gallery in Bemidji. Becky (Zimmer) Larson and her husband, Tony, of Duluth announce the May birth of a daughter, Madeline... Gretchen Hein, an art director for an advertising agency in Minneapolis, and her mother, Rose Hein, of Kettle River, developed a line of soaps and lotions that are sold in many stores throughout Minnesota... Laura Hood is employed as a cook at Grandma B's Restaurant and Coffee Shop in Bagley... Alexander Knudson was promoted to senior program analyst with Federated Insurance, Owatonna.

2000 Mike Martin, 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 lives at Young Life Castaway Club... 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 Angie Nelson were married July 22 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 a flight instructor at Thunderbird Aviation in Crystal... Chad Pontinen and Abigail Paavola 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 Nickeouskemeacing First Nation from Ontario, Canada. He has taught Ojibwe language and culture at UW-Superior since 1992 and at the Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College since 1997... Heidi (Heem) Kellogg, along with her husband, Andy, and their sons, Njord and Leid, 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 Carryington, 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 PhD at the University of North Dakota... Sarah Borupyme and Justin Copiskey 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...

dren. She works in the community services field... Matthew Moyle and his wife, Ellen, live in Chicago, IL. Rebekah Steinhorst and Lonnie 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 Dairy. Dirk Ver Steeg and Stacy Peters were married July 29 in Chisago. He is an internal auditor for Allstate in Duluth and she is a sales consultant at Lancersoft in Duluth... Cpt. Daniel Lillquist is a captain serving with National Guard forces deployed to Iraq in September. He is a battlein 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 Adventure Club. Lori Mostad (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 two children... Peter McNeilan recently opened Shannon’s Tax & Consulting Services... Pat McNallen was head coach to the Bemidji 11-year-old All-Star team that captured the state Cal Ripken tournament title in July.

1996 Michael Maiterud 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 Bagley/Raynita Houglum of Northfield is the new associate director of the Beltrami County Cultural and Arts District... Guenther of Greensboro was a finisher in the Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon held in June at Duluth. He is employed as an in-formation delivery developer for the Center for Strategic and International Studies at the George C. Marshall Center... Rochelle Van Den Heuvel is the new superintendent of Greenway Schools... David Gooch is an industrial technology teacher at Bemidji High School...

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 Neble of Northfield is the new associate director of academic research and planning at St. Olaf College. He and his wife, Robyn, have two children... 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... Walker Jay Bergland and Toby (O’Neil) Bergland (96) live in Farmington and have two children... Jay is the assistant director of student judicial affairs and academic integrity at St. Olaf College... Lea Østmo and Toby is a school counselor at Richfield Middle School... Jamie Dupuis is in his seventh year of teaching Eng-lish in Japan through the Global Education and Cultural 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... Heather (Sande) Copiskey of Bemidji was honored by her family, friends and her jewelry company for outstanding sales accomplishments and professionalism... Henry Flocken serves on the board of the new charter school, Minnesota Foundation for Humanities.

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 Northome 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... Tom Copiskey and his wife, Renee, live in Bemidji... Corei Barke was elected to a one-year term as secretary of the Bemidji Habitat for Humanity Board...
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 firm. He was named senior project manager for the City of St. Paul. Lisa Carlson is the new principal of Woodland Elementary School in Eagan. Jeri Stegemiller 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. Helen ruth Schuette 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, Marne, of Woodbury announce the April 13 birth of a son, Vincent Edward.

1990 Kari (Pickett) Munson of Bemidji was a fundraiser in the Grandma’s Marathon held last summer in Duluth. Amy Nore 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 and 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 Lundebeck 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 human resource coordinator 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 Grand Rapids.

1988 LaMae Ritchie of Bemidji was a fundraiser 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 Northwest 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 Minnesota, Chicago and New York.

1987 Paul Parthun, 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 Engineer- ing Commercial Aircraft Modifications. He and his wife, Marcia, live in Camano Island, WA. Suzanne Whirley has joined the Wadena Medical Center as a family nurse practitioner. She will also provide medical care for the Community Behavioral Health Inpatient-Wadena. Pat McEldowney, hospital equipment manager, 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 Wangberg is the fund raising chair of the Bemidji area Special Olympics program... The betting on the day of the World Series is at John High School Vocalmotive show choir that in 2005-2006 had its most successful season since it began competing 11 years ago. He also leads the Bemidji Boys Choir... 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, live in Red Wing, is director of Arden Hills’ Arden-Arneson and Lynette (Berndt) Arneson live in Ham Lake with their two children. He is a senior product 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. He has been with the department since 1990 and became a sergeant in 2001. A cross-country runner while at BSU, he ran his 20th 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 the post as se- nior 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 Hepper 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 Chronicing the History of Ottertail City.

1983 Dwight Flatt of Solway participated in the Bemidji Hangfire Blackpowder Club’s 31st annual Ron-de-veo in June... Charles Powell has been re-certified by the Minnesota Bar Association as a civil trial specialist... Dan Ninhman, Cass Lake-Bena head 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. He’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 Podness 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 ele- mental teacher and rock climbing coach. He has two children... Jane (Mersch) 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 Peltson and her husband, Mike, of Bemidji celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on July 17... Mark Gray and his wife, Capti, live in the Scratchgravel Hills north of Helena, MT, and have three children. Mark teaches English at Cap- tal 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 So- ciety’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) My- ron is the director of community partnerships for Girl Scouts Peace Pipe Council. She recently at- tended the advanced academy for the Blandin Com- munity Leadership Program. She and her husband, Gary, live in Redwood Falls and her husband, Mike, of Bemidji celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary on July 17... Mark Gray and his wife, Capti, live in the Scratchgravel Hills north of Helena, MT, and have three children. Mark teaches English at Cap- tal 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 So- ciety’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.
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 ('68), Bemidji, retired director of External Studies Program, BSU; Dr. David Czarnecki, ('69,'73) Dubuque, Iowa, faculty, Loras College, Iowa; Dr. Bruce Falk ('71), Salo, dentist and farmer; Paul Godlewski ('70) Ramsey, partner, Schwepel, 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.

Robert Hurd is an industrial technology teacher at Bemidji High School. Karen and Jim Mergens ('74) hosted visitors to their garden as part of the Beltrami County Master Gardeners tour of eight area gardens held in July. Ric Hoff owns Golden-Eye Productions, a photography and video production studio in Bemidji. Bob Koblika of Bemidji took the title in the executive division match of this summer’s Birchmont Golf Tournament. This was his first win in the tournament, having played for 21 years and serving as co-chair for 14 years. Steve Fogelson was recently recognized for his 30 years of service with IPS Inc. in Bemidji. He became an owner in 1977 and currently serves on the IPS Board of Directors. In 2001 he became the chief operating officer of Internet Commerce Solutions. Steven Inkel is a leader of Boy Scout Troop 25 in Bemidji. Donald Greiman is a colonel nearing the end of a 30-year career in the Air Force. He and his wife, Noel, live in Springboro, OH, and have one son. Ted Heisserer is the new business manager for Detroit Lakes Public Schools. He and his wife, Holly (Plautz) Heisserer ('75), live in Detroit Lakes. John Kincs and his wife, Elaine, of Bemidji celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in July. Carma Lee (Carlson) Ochu is in her 27th year of teaching special education for St. Anthony School District. She and her husband, Bob, live in Coon Rapids and have two grown children. Dale Collison served as a peace officer with the Aitkin County Sheriff's Department for more than 22 years and as a volunteer firefighter for 29 years. He’s also served as a Hill City Council member.

Ronald Heim served with other military veterans as a grand marshal for the Sullivan Lake Fourth of July boat parade. Richard Anderson is principal of Bemidji High School.

**PLEASE NOTE:**
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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...

1973  Wayne Bakke retired from teaching and lives in Lonsdale with his wife, Deborah. They have three grown children.

1974  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...

1975  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...

1976  Bruce Campbell was inducted as a new member in the Bemidji Lions Club in June.

1977  Jerry Winans and Kathy Winger were married July 8 in Deb... Bill Harms hosted visitors to his garden as part of the Beltrami County Master Gardeners tour of eight area gardens held in July. Roger Twiet 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.

1978  Victor Rinkle, 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...

1979  Judy (Martinson) Humeniuk has retired after spending 34 years as a teacher, technology coordinator and career guidance director at Lake of 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...

1980  Joan (Koski) and Robert Hamann (68) live in Staples. Judy Dvorak acted in the second annual Voices of the Past Cemetery Walk held in June at Greenwood Cemetery, Bemidji...

1981  Joan (Kath) Istup has retired from her position as a French teacher at Monticello High School, concluding a 34-year teaching career.

1982  Paul Godlewski, a shareholder with Schwelbe, Goetz & Sieben, PA 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...

1983  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...

1984  Molly (Ericson) and Ken Abrahamson (69) were recently honored by the Upasla 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 currently retired in 2006 after 33 years of teaching. They have three children... Bernadette Sorenson, dean of students at the Fosston School District, has retired from a career in education spanning more than 30 years.

1985  Hilda Kvaale of Gully is retired after teaching in public schools for 31 years and home schooling her two grandchildren for 12 years...

1986  Mar... (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.

1987  Loyd Melby of Bagder 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.

1988  Ralph Christofferson has retired from his post as Crookston School District superintendent, having served in that position for five years. He's been an educator for 39 years...

1989  Rod McKenzie and his wife, Nancy, live in Wentzville, MO, and have three children, Ryan, Stephanie and David...

1990  Julie (Quern) Thorson was recognized by the Thief River Falls chapter of the American Association of University Women as one of the chapter's three 2006 Women of Honor. She and her husband, Howard, have two grown children...

1991  Peter Davison of Barton, VT, retired after a 35-year career of teaching and coaching track.

1992  Vivian (Engelbrightson) Egggen 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.

1993  Barb and Dave Sjolbad (64) live on East Twin Lake near Pequot Lakes. Barb was recently featured in the Lake Country Echo for her accomplishments as a master gardener, conservationist and musician...

1994  Marshall and Dorothy (Reed) Bergerson (63) are retired and live in Virginia. They have two grown children...

1995  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 meeting for all Springfield Public School athletic and activity participants, their parents and supporters...

1996  Faith Wick, a retired professional doll maker and native of the Iron Range, recently donated 200 of her handcrafted dolls valued at more than $250,000 to the Children's Discovery Museum in Grand Rapids...

1997  Betty (Blair) Klemensich, a third grade teacher at Babbitt-Embar... Elementary, has taught at that school for 42 years and was recently recognized with a Crystal Apple Award presented by the Horace Mann Co...

1998  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.

1999  Joe Mayer of Bemidji took the championship title in the senior men's field of the Vanderslus Golf Tournament held in Bemidji...

2000  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.

2001  John Salls is retired from teaching and is now writing. He and his wife, Lila, live in Ortonville and have two grown children...

2002  Diane (Hoselton) Geno... lives in Northfield and has raised two children.

2003  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.

2004  Edward Bolton of Nevis was a finisher in the Grandma's Marathon held last summer in Duluth...

2005  Evalin Wold recently moved to a retirement community in Miamisburg, OH. Ivan Lauderbaugh and his wife, Elaine, of Bemidji celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary May 19.

2006  Dolly (Oaks) Talbert is in her 14th year of retirement, but keeps active by accompanying instrumentalists at the Minnesota State High School League contest. She and her husband, Don, live in Lutsen.

2007  Ron Phillips recently sold a salmon fishing business in California and plans to move back to his hometown of Spencer, IA...

2008  Dwaine Marten served as chairman of health and safety education at the University of Idaho, Moscow, ID, prior to retirement.

2009  Luvern Eckhoff and his wife, Avis, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 22 at their home on the north shore of Lake Beltrami.

2010  Cora Ravndalen has retired from teaching and lives in Roosevelt. She was widowed in 2001 and has three grown sons.

2011  Dick Lawrence of Eveleth was among five veteran coaches presented with Volunteer Excellence Award in August by the St. Louis County Board...

2012  Mary (Randall) 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.

2013  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 Science Honor Society.

2014  Betty Nesbit and her husband, Charles, are retired and living in Bilings, MT.

2015  Margaret (Anderson) Hannem of Minnesota was widowed in 2005.

2016  Edna (Leen) Skold lives in Milton-Freewater, OR. She has two children, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

2017  Janice Linde 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
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—musicians,” 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.
Over 230 endowment accounts fund scholarships, endowed chairs and numerous supportive activities for which state funds cannot be used.

**Endowed Scholarships and Funds**

Edwin Alberchts Memorial Scholarship
AALW - Mabel Parks Scholarship
Allan Adams Memorial Scholarship
Alpha Nu Omega/Alpha Tau Omega Scholarship
Alumni Association Quasi-Endowment
American Indian Alumni Scholarship Endowment
Chet Anderson Athletic Scholarship
Anderson Family Scholarship
Marvin Anderson Family Scholarship
Borns and Caroline Anderson Scholarship
Elise Annis Honor Award
John B. Arnexon Scholarship
College of Arts/Letters Endowment
Men's Athletic Endowment
Men's Athletic Quasi-Endowment
Linda & Norm Baer Scholarship
Ernest & Victoria Baker Science and Music Scholarship
Harry F. Bangsberg Memorial Scholarship
Grant Bateman Scholarship
Richard E. Beitzel Scholarship
Bemidji Area Retention Scholarship
Bemidji Concert Series Endowment
BSU Foundation General Scholarship
BSU Foundation Quasi-Endowment
Bemidji Area Retention Scholarship
Richard E. Beitzel Scholarship

Bertha Christanson Scholarship
Marion Christanson & Betty McDowell Scholarship
AC. Clark Library
Wag Colson Scholarship
Cowichak Scholarship
Criminal Justice Scholarship
Dr. Don W. Crompton Scholarship
Amelia Dalzotto Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Eugene Dalzotto Art Purchase Award
Robert & Jacqueline Decker Scholarship
Ione DeKeye 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. Dhoba Engineering Physics Endowment
Les Doly Scholarship
Dyrhaug Scholarship
Dr. Dick & Eleanor Edwards Scholarship
Bill Eliott Memorial Scholarship
LeRoy Ericksen Scholarship
Otto Ericksen Scholarship
Bertha Evenson Memorial Scholarship
Fishing For Fun Emeriti Scholarship
Football Endowment
Charles Fuchsmann Scholarship
Full Tuition Scholarship
Fulton Gallagher Music Award
Andi & Mike Garrett Geographic Education Scholarship
Ronald A. Gearman Piano Scholarship
Jeanne Gillesen Scholarship
Lowell R. Giller Scholarship
Muriel B. Glimn Scholarship
John Glas Memorial Scholarship
Beulah Gregoire Endowment
Jim Greer Memorial Scholarship
Harold and Craig Hame Memorial Scholarship
Kathryn, Fred & Mabel Hamm Scholarship
Russell & Gutden Harding Fund Scholarship
Margaret H. Harlow Art Fund Scholarship
Margaret H. Harlow Ceramics Scholarship
Margaret H. Harlow Art Fund Scholarship
Ohl & Margaret Haugsrud Scholarship
Elaine J. Hazard Scholarship
Evan B. Hazard Scholarship
Clara & John Helley, Sr.
Alumni Scholarship
James & Marilyn Helzer Scholarship
Henderson, Patton, Jones Science Memorial Scholarship
Henriques International Fund
Anne B. Henry Scholarship
Lawrence H. "Hollie" Higgins Scholarship
Robert H. Peters Hockey Endowment
Hoganon Graduate Assistant Scholarship
Charles S. Holt Memorial Scholarship
Bill and Bette Howe Scholarship
Ruth Howe Scholarship
Myrtie Hunt Alumni Scholarship
American Indian Resource Center
Indian Studies Endowment
Esther & Alfred C. Instebo Scholarship
Instrumental Music Scholarship
Jack & Delphine Jacobsen Scholarship
Westly James Scholarship
Arnold Johnson Basketball Scholarship
Francis Johnson Scholarship
Margaret H. Johnson Scholarship
Sam/Peggy (Marvin) Johnson Scholarship
Robin Norgard Kelleher BSU Scholarship
Robin Norgard Kelleher Scholarship
William F. Kieftland Memorial Scholarship
KDAL/KDLH Scholarship
Lillie Kleven Print Scholarship
Knoxaug Mathematics Scholarship
Robert Kramer Scholarship
Danny Kraus Scholarship
Kraus Anderson Scholarship
Ruth Lane Memorial Scholarship
League Wm Voters-M Parker/Bruno Mangelson Memorial Schl
League Wm Voters-Hazel Shimmun Memorial Scholarship
Rhonda Syverson Levins Memorial Scholarship
Roy & Eva T. Lind Memorial Scholarship
P. Bradley Logun Choral Scholarship
James & Janet Love Scholarship
Joe & Jan Luken American Indian Scholarship
Joe & Jan Luken Scholarship
Malmquist Art Purchase Award
Ruth Brooke Mangelson Memorial Scholarship
David J. Marchand-Edgare B Bangware Music Education Scholarship
Theola Marsh Smith Scholarship
Marshall China Studies
Allison Marvin Memorial Scholarship
Marvin Windows and Doree Scholarship
Ken Mason Memorial Scholarship
Math Emeriti Faculty Scholarship
Rick Maynard Scholarship
McKee/Ellie Markward Scholarship
Mike McKinley Business Marketing Scholarship
McKnight Foundation Scholarship
James & Margaret McMahon Scholarship
Stan K. Medina Memorial Scholarship
Harry Melby Science Memorial Scholarship
Sidney Melby Memorial Scholarship
Leonard D. Melville Memorial Scholarship
Memorial Scholarship
Roy P. Meyer Scholarship
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Scholarship
Ben Miller Scholarship
Raymond M. Milowski Scholarship
J3M Chair of Accounting
J3M Accounting Department Endowment
Modern Classical Language Scholarship
Jeanette Moe-Pearce Memorial Scholarship
Cliff Moran Athletic Scholarship
Dorothy Moore String Scholarship
Harry Moore Scholarship
Music Department Endowment
Music Department Piano Endowment
Galen Nagle Memorial Fund
Naylor Electric Scholarship
William & Dona Mae Naylor Scholarship
Winston/Irene Naylor Scholarship
George W. Nelson Chair in
Wealden Ecology
F. Miles and Margaret Nelson Scholarship
Ray Nelson Scholarship
Cardinal Newman Scholarship
Ed Nordheim Scholarship
North Star Homes Endowment
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Sullivan International Student Scholarship
Sustainability Research Endowment
Sullivan International Student Scholarship
Sustainable Campus Research Scholarship
Tom Swanson Brass Quintet Scholarship
Mary Helen Tarter Scholarship
Carl Thompson Scholarship
Margaret Shepard-Thorbeck Scholarship
Ted Thorson Band Scholarship
Patrick T. Tribey Science Teachers Scholarship
Tuoria/Helfy Scholarship
Dorothy Veranth Memorial Scholarship
Vets Club Scholarship/Lester Olson)
Norm Wagner Memorial Scholarship
Ruth Warde Research Scholarship
John Warford Endowment Fund
Weber Scholarship
NA Wells Memorial Scholarship
Wes Westrum Memorial Scholarship
Wes Winter Scholarship
Women's Athletic Endowment
Women's Center Endowment
John and Dana Yourd Scholarship
Don Zuehlke Scholarship

Any 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 BSIU 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.

"Today, I think it's hard for kids to get through school on just a summer job."

Sara Lind
Scholarships

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

**Annual Scholarships**
- Alumni Relative Scholarship
- Marscy C. Beck Nursing Scholarship
- Muriel and Jack Beech Memorial Scholarship
- Bemidji Rotary Scholarship
- Nancy and Jim Bensen Scholarship
- BSU 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 Athletics Scholarship
- Frasco Memorial Scholarship
- Ed Gersich Distance Education Scholarship
- Anthony Gramer Football Scholarship
- Great Lakes Transmission Co Scholarship
- Hartz Scholarship
- Iverson Cornet 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 Honorary Scholarship
- Jack Quistgaard Pre-Pharmacy Scholarship
- Jack/Marie St Martin Men’s Hockey Scholarship
- Gerald Schnabel History Scholarship
- Sorenson Business Scholarship
- Spry Environmental Sciences Scholarship
- Theatre Faculty & Alumni Scholarship
- Theta Tau Epsilon Scholarship
- Valvoline Instant Oil Change Men’s Hockey Scholarship

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**2005-06**

**Bemidji State University Foundation Board**
- President, Joe Dunn
- President Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Becky Dawley, ’77
- Vice President, Robin Kelleher, ’72
- Past President, Robin Mechelke, ’80
- John Davies
- Gerald Green, ’60
- Jim Hanko
- Jeff Kemink
- Joe Lueken
- Peter Nelson
- Lee Norman, ’74
- Dave Ramsey, ’78 (Alumni Association Representative)
- Natalie Roholt
- Brian St. Martin, ’92
- Dave Sorensen, ’72
- Willie Stittsworth, ’53
- George Thelen, ’64
- Guy Vena, ’60

**Ex-Officio**
- M. James Bensen, ’59, Legacy Society Representative
- Rob Bollinger, Executive Director for University Advancement
- Nolan Pitlick, BSU Student Senate Representative
- Jon Quistgaard, BSU President
- Ken Traxler, Beaver Pride Representative

**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
chance that your name was omitted, please contact the BSU Foundation office.

Additional donors are listed on the BSU Foundation website, www.bsufoundation.org.

### Scholarships

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.

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### BSU Foundation Cumulative Giving

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount Range</th>
<th>Donors</th>
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<tr>
<td>$1,000,000 to $249,999</td>
<td>The George W. Nelson Foundation, John W. Marvin</td>
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<tr>
<td>$50,000 to $99,999</td>
<td>Luverne’s Village Foods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to $49,999</td>
<td>M. Fern (Ramsay/Birnstihl), Mark R. &amp; Marlene G. Somers, Moe, Sharon Moe, Northern Inn, Otto Bremer Foundation, John C. Pearce, Stephen Pearce, Barbara L. Wyle</td>
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</table>
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.

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

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Gifts

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

Memorials and Honors

[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Bud Amble  Frances Peterson
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Ann Agaun  Irv and Pat St. John
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Marie Bishop  Dr. Richard and Josephine Beitzel
  Dr. William and Henrietta Britton
  Lorraine F. Cecil
  Rev. Michael A. Dekraai
  Tatyana Dumova
  Norma and Dennis Fitzgerald
  Rev. Michael A. Dekraai
  Tatyana Dumova
  Norma and Dennis Fitzgerald
  Rev. Michael A. Dekraai
  Tatyana Dumova
  Norma and Dennis Fitzgerald
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Paul V. Boswell  Holly Annis
  Kevin and Connie Barsness
  Maxine and Paul Boswell
  Janeke R. Brandt
  Steven D. Cairns
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  Tatyana Dumova
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  Peg Furshong
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[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Elizabeth Bridston  Robert Scriba
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  Helen E. Bull  Richard L. Bull
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  Eldridge A. Erickson  Jeannette Barnhart
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  Darcy Healy
  Cliff and Ann Hewitt
  Diana M. and Robert E. Kittredge
  June Erickson LaBlanc
  Betty LaDue
  Kathleen A. and Adolph W. Link
  Barbara Lukeitch
  S.D. Mason
  Otto and Judy Olson
  Virginia and Bevie Sanders
  Katharine Schultz
  Wayne H. Smith
  Sharon Strickland
  John and Thelma Stull
  Thomas and Mary Elizabeth Thompson
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  LeRoy Erickson  Charlene M. Washburn
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Charles Gallagher  Richard and Josephine Beitzel
  Fulton and Nancy Gallagher
  Tom and Bonnie Swanson
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Arthur H. Hedlund  Lorraine F. Cecil
  Dru. Raymond and Beatrice Knodel
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Dr. William Kirlind  George and Elaine Nakano
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Elton Leeman  Lorraine Cecil
  Deana D. Evans
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Gladys McKinley  Richard Jokinen
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Leonard D. Melville  Hilmia M. Belair
  Dorothy V. Roe
  Donald and Vivian Rye
  Kenneth and Marion Christianson
  Wagner and Alice Collins

Dr. Wilford J. Deweese
Elizabeth Fankhanel
Peter and Marilyn Gandrud
Dr. James and Connie Ghoshley
Annette E. Gregoire
Marlin and Sandra Gaul
Vesta Q. Kerns
Shirley K. Kocmik
Bill and Joyce Koehnen
Peggy Mathews
Nelmarie Melville
Robert and Carol Mork
Agnete Oas
Hilmer and Pearl Pederson
Dr. Jon and Trish Quistgaard
Jack and Mary Betty Quistgaard
Eide Sandstrum
Carol H. Sather
Vi Smalley
Morris L. Webb

[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Joseph Scaletta  Patricia Scaletta
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Bill Schwartz  Polly Scotland

[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  George Smith  Elizabeth Smith
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Frances Spadafore  James and Carl Conway
  Christine Emmer
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Greg T. Stevenson  Laverne and Theodore Stevenson
  Marsha Stevenson
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  George H. Stewart  Richard L. Bull
  Nemah Hussain
  John Phillips
  Irene K. Stewart
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  James M. Thompson  Bob Dalley
[ ] Gifts received in memory of
  Dick Vogel  Lorraine Cecil

(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 Division I program that has since evolved.

Graduating from high school in 1946, Stewart served in the Navy for two years before enrolling 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 finished in three years.”

Despite those struggles, Stewart made time to play hockey and football at BSU and left college with many fond memories. Never losing 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 Division I team.

His family ensured that his love for BSU hockey continued 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 Nathan 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 coming 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 instill in all of its players. “Endowments are all about giving back to the youth, our future, and giving them the resources to help make society better for the next generation,” says Dr. Rick Goeb, BSU athletic director. “Athletics is appreciative of those who create lifelong learning opportunities for our future leaders.”

Following graduation, Stewart moved to Michigan where he taught school for several years before becoming an alcohol and drug awareness educator for the State of Michigan from which he retired. Making 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.

“His spirit is there, I’m sure,” says his wife.
Memorials and Honors

- **Gifts received in memory of Wesley W. Winter**
  James Amato and Patricia Richard-Amato
  Don O. and Norma Anderson
  Dr. Ronald Anderson & Dr. Lorraine Anderson
  Gary and Catherine Ballman
  Dr. Richard and Josephine Beitzel
  Maurice and Evelyn Bomstad
  Carol J. Cadwell
  Lorraine F. Cecil
  Terry L. Colton
  Debra Dornfeld & Shepherd Myers
  William and Carmen Ford
  Dr. William and Margie Forsyth
  Brian L. and Alexa E. Coddings
  Dr. Lowell and Ardis Gillett
  Leland R. and Susan M. Granlund
  Cynthia A. Grimm
  Dr. Richard and Dorothy Haugo
  Dorns Famuyaki
  Lynne K. Holt
  Gloria D. Joy
  Drs. Raymond and Beatrice Knodel
  Helen Landreth
  Drs. Gordon and Alice Lindgreen
  Ken and Mary Lindberg
  Larry and Kay Mack
  Dr. Robert and Mary Melchior
  Dr. Gerald Morine
  Edwin and Betty Nordheim
  Anonymous
  Frances Peterson
  Dr. Robert and Marian Pickett
  Beatrice Renaud
  Dr. Frank M. Saccman
  Debra and Greg Savitt
  Alfred and Joan Schmidt
  Dr. Duane and Marilyn Sea
  Dick and Jean Slinkman
  John and Linda Taylor
  Dr. Victor D. Weber
  Lorraine R. Zuehlke

- **Gifts received in memory of Don Wohlrabe**
  Tom and Bonnie Swanson

- **Gifts received in honor of Caroline Andrican**
  David and Stacey Whaley

- **Gifts received in honor of Dr. Roy Blackwood**
  Donna M. Hoiem
  Brian and Kristin Nordling

- **Gifts received in honor of Meredith L. Brown**
  Kathy and Joel Berglund
  LtCol Gayle D. Norgaard (RET)

- **Gifts received in honor of Dr. Myrtie A. Hunt**
  Suzanne and Curt Kringen

- **Gifts received in honor of Lois Jenkins**
  Dr. Johannas M. Jordan
  Drs. Raymond and Beatrice Knodel

- **Gifts received in honor of Clayton Knoshaug**
  Dr. Richard and Josephine Beitzel
  Linda and Bruce Blanchard
  Dr. Elaine D. Bohan
  Anonymou
  Sherry Ray Carlsrud
  Wagner and Alice Collins
  Anonymou
  Dr. Kim and Janet Dreyer
  Drs. Gary and Nancy Erickson
  Louise M. Fasen
  Dr. Richard and Dorothy Haugo
  Dr. Evan and Elaine Hazard
  ING Foundation
  Teruyuki Yamamoto and Yasuko Kitamura
  Drs. Raymond and Beatrice Knodel
  Karl E. Leslie
  Glenn Thomas Like
  Drs. Gordon and Alice Lindgreen
  Colleen Livingston
  Dr. Dada M. Magalijic
  Ross D. Mason
  Phil and Linda McDonal
  Charles and Merilee Meyers
  Dr. Gerald Mortine
  John H. Olzsanzki
  Chad and Michelle Persson
  Dr. Jon and Trish Quistgaard
  Tom and Sandy Richard
  Stan and Susan Rosselet
  Marty and Linda Wolf

- **Gifts received in honor of Dr. Patricia Rosenbrock**
  Carol M. Alstrom
  Linda and Bruce Blanchard
  Mary Bowen
  Kenneth and Marion Christianson
  Dr. Patrick Donnay and Lori Forshee-Donnay
  Dr. Muriel B. Galman
  Robert and Jeanne Glassmann
  Joan M. France
  Michelle A. Hanson
  Debra K. Hegquist
  Sherry Hill
  Dr. Ruth Howe & Merrill Thiel
  Dr. Myrtie A. Hunt
  Lori K. Hutchins
  Lynda C. Johnson
  B. Christina Kippershah
  Clayton and Ivy Knoshaug
  Suzanne and Curt Kringen
  Carol L. Lindow
  Betsy McDowell
  Dr. Kathleen J. Meyer
  Dr. Nancy C. Michael
  Dr. Raymond Milowski & Dr. Carol Milowski
  Dr. Robert and Sally Montebello
  Donna Palvec
  Tafelah Palmer
  Bob and Mary Lou Peters
  Dr. Jon and Trish Quistgaard
  Sue and Pat Rankin
  Sandy and Tim Raunew
  Linda L. and W. Clark Reid
  Michael and Kimberly Roysland
  Tamahay Camp
  Mylla K. Urban
  Dick and Rose Vesely
  Sally A. Wiltsie

- **Gifts received in honor of William Weaver**
  Colleen Livingston

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**Growth of Foundation Assets**

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**Growth of Endowed Funds**

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**BSU Foundation Scholarship Dollars Provided**

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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.
January 1: Summer Session Class Schedule Online
January 23: Spring Semester Classes Begin
February 9: Summer Session Class Schedule Available in Print
March 1: Summer School Registration Begins
March 15-16: Early Childhood Mega Conference
April 18: Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Conference
May 1: Registration Deadline – Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference
May 18: Commencement
June 17-22: Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference

2007 Campus Preview Days
Friday, January 26
Monday, January 29
Friday, February 2
Friday, February 16
Monday, February 19
Friday, February 23
Monday, March 5
Friday, April 13; Juniors Only
Monday, April 23; Juniors Only

2007 New Student Academic Advising and Registration
Friday, March 23
Friday, April 20
Friday, April 27
Friday, June 15