Putting Words to Work
BSU writing program launches careers
Success is a Journey
Alum’s high-tech talents tap wireless world

Justin Klander
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hot, humid weather; shimmering sunlight on Lake Bemidji; and the sight of boats skimming across the water could lead one to believe that Bemidji State vacations during the summer, but such a notion is easily dispelled. The campus bustles with camps, conferences, and classes that this summer alone served some 2,000 people. In fact, summer started early this year as we launched our first May term, a two-week session of 13 courses. Also, some 680 students took summer classes through our online programs. While current students took classes, prospective students toured campus, talked with admissions representatives, and attended academic advising and registration days. Recruitment has been so successful this year that we’re hoping to enroll one of our largest freshman classes in years. Amidst such hustle and bustle, we are fortunate to be surrounded by the beauty of northern Minnesota’s resort-like environment that softens the busyness of our summer educational enterprise. We look forward with great anticipation to the new academic year.

Dr. Jon E. Quistgaard, President

Contents

2   Campus Notes
5   Putting Words to Work
7   Keying into New Media
8   Seniors to Watch
10  Success is a Journey
12  A Deeper Appreciation
14  Coloring Memories
15  Devine Inspiration
16  Asking Questions, Finding Answers
20  Speaking for Students
22  Alumni News
24  Class Notes
28  Homecoming 2007
30  Campus Calendar

Cover Story:
Justin Klander advocates for Minnesota’s two-year college students while helping them develop their own leadership prowess. Story on page 20.

Vol. 22, No. 3, Fall 2007

HORIZONS is produced by the Communications and Marketing Office, Alumni Association, and BSU Foundation at Bemidji State University. It is published three times per year and distributed free to BSU alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends of the University. Direct comments to news@bemidjistate.edu or 1-888-234-7794.

Editor  Rose Jones
Alumni Director  Marla Patrias
Foundation Executive Director  Rob Bollinger
Designer  Kathy Berglund
Photography Director  John Swartz
Contributing Photographers  Crystal Mohr/The Johnson Group Marketing, QUALCOMM, Grant Garland
Contributing Writers  Andy Bartlett, Carrie Cramer, Jody Grau, Al Nohner, Cindy Serratore
Editorial Assistance  Andrew Browers, Scott Hondl, Al Nohner, Peggy Nohner
Production Assistance  The Johnson Group Marketing, St. Cloud, Minnesota
Editorial Board: Andy Bartlett, Rob Bollinger, Joann Fredrickson, Maureen Gibbon, Rose Jones, Keith Marek, Marla Patrias

A member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, Bemidji State University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 1-800-475-2001 or 218-755-3883.
American Indian Resource Center Holds Flag-Raising Ceremony

In June, Bemidji State University’s American Indian Resource Center (AIRC) held a tribal flag dedication, raising a flag from each of the 11 Minnesota tribal governments. Honor guards from Leech Lake, Red Lake, and White Earth raised the flags at the AIRC’s Gathering Place, where the flags are permanently displayed. Collins Oakgrove, Red Lake, conducted a pipe ceremony. Other state and tribal dignitaries also spoke at the event.

Recognizing the importance of tribal sovereignty and inter-governmental relationships, the ceremony also provided an opportunity to remember the contributions made by American Indian veterans from all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Nursing Department Receives $750,000 Federal Grant

The nursing department at Bemidji State received a three-year, $750,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in June. The implementation grant helps the department fund a director position for the new four-year nursing program, meet additional faculty needs for upper-level courses, supply and equip a clinical resource center, and secure simulation equipment.

Bemidji State’s four-year baccalaureate nursing program is one of 48 first-year nursing programs receiving grants from a $12 million federal pool this year. Opening this fall, the program is slated to graduate its first class of registered nurses in the spring of 2011.

Wellstones Named Distinguished Minnesotans

Paul and Sheila Wellstone were named co-recipients of the 2007 Distinguished Minnesotan Award during commencement this spring at Bemidji State.

The Wellstones perished on October 25, 2002, in a plane crash near Eveleth, while Paul was campaigning for a third term in the U.S. Senate.

Senator Wellstone worked tirelessly to pass sweeping reform legislation in health care, economic security, the environment, and children’s issues.

Sheila played a key role in the passage of the Violence Against Women Act and other legislation aimed at protecting women and children from domestic violence.

Jeff Blodgett, executive director of Wellstone Action, accepted the Distinguished Minnesotan Award on the Wellstones’ behalf.

BSU acquires old Bemidji High School property

In June, the Bemidji District 31 School Board voted unanimously to authorize the sale of the old Bemidji High School property to the BSU Foundation, with the sale closing at the end of July. In 2005, the board had agreed in principle to sell the 11-acre parcel to the Foundation.

The Foundation’s $575,000 purchase entails three lots of the old high school property, including the A-building and auditorium, a vacant site, and a stone maintenance building still used by the school district.

BSU will lease the maintenance building to the school district under the purchase agreement for up to two years, allowing the district time to design, build, and relocate to a new building. Because of its poor condition, the high school building will be demolished later this fall or winter.

While the University will not be acquiring the track and athletic fields on the north end of the property, Bemidji State does anticipate renegotiating a joint-use agreement with Bemidji High School to continue using the track for events such as the Special Olympics and rugby games.
Dr. Pat Rogers Named Interim Dean of College of Social and Natural Sciences

Dr. Pat Rogers was named interim dean of the College of Social and Natural Sciences in early August. Previously Rogers, on leave from BSU, was the dean of the School of Education and Graduate Studies at Valley City State University in North Dakota.

A Getty Fellow and Fulbright Scholar, she consults internationally on e-learning, has authored several articles on instructional technology, and has presented regularly at technology and education conferences.

Rogers holds a B.A. and M.A. in art education from the University of Minnesota as well as a Ph.D. in instructional systems and technology and art education from there. She has previous work experiences with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system office and the University of Minnesota School of Public Health.

Dr. Lisa Erwin Begins VP Duties

Dr. Lisa Erwin officially joined the campus community as vice president for student development and enrollment in July. Reporting directly to the President, she is the University's student affairs officer, providing BSU students with a voice and advocate at the senior leadership level.

“Bemidji State's signature themes—civic engagement, multi-culturalism, and environmental stewardship—personally and professionally are very meaningful for me,” Erwin notes. “Coming to Bemidji State was a unique opportunity to find a place where there is a connection between what is important to me and what is important to the institution.”

Erwin served six years at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC) in Kansas City, MO, most recently as director of student financial aid and associate dean of students. She also directed a six-person staff that provided comprehensive financial aid services to students, including scholarship selection and coordination, budget counseling, and financial aid programming. In addition, she supervised the director of the Medical Center's student activities program and served as the co-advisor for the KUMC Student Governing Council since 2004.

Fourteen Emeriti Designated in 2007

Fourteen faculty and administrators with a combined 366 years of service to Bemidji State University received emeriti status during commencement ceremonies at the John Glas Fieldhouse in May.

Retirees with at least 15 years of service and eligible to receive emeriti status in 2007 were (name, position, years of service):

Dr. Charles Alberti, professor emeritus of professional education, 18 years
Dr. Karenlee Alexander, professor emerita of professional education, 18 years
Jon Blessing, director emeritus of student life and counseling, 36 years
Alan Brew, professor emeritus of anthropology, 35 years
Deanna Evans, professor emerita of English, 24 years
Dr. Annie Henry, professor emerita of professional education, 20 years
Dr. Deanne Kishel, professor emeritus of library and library services, 36 years
Dr. Alice Lindgren, professor emerita of biology, 43 years
Dr. Ronald Oldham, professor emeritus of professional education, 18 years
Dr. Carol Porterfield Milowski, professor emerita of English, 21 years
Dr. Jack Reynolds, professor emeritus of professional education, 27 years
Diane Rose, professor emerita of nursing, 24 years
Dr. Steven Spigarelli, professor emeritus of environmental studies, 24 years
Erle Steigauf, director emeritus of security and safety, 22 years

Upward Bound Proposal Garners $482,000

Thanks to its grant application scoring in the top 10% of some 988 eligible applications, Bemidji State's Upward Bound program received a five-year, $482,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education. The grant funding begins June 1, 2008, and runs through May 31, 2013.

Upward Bound identifies and assists high school students who have academic potential and are from families where neither parent has completed a four-year degree, classified as a low-income family, or that meet both criteria.

Bemidji State's Upward Bound program serves 90 students annually.
360°, a partnership of Minnesota state colleges led by Bemidji State University, launched an interactive website, www.360mn.org, late this spring to promote manufacturing and applied engineering careers.

The 360° site features an innovative, interactive career pathways tool designed for students interested in manufacturing and applied engineering careers and for professionals already in the field. This tool outlines and illustrates the seamless educational and career pathway available to career seekers interested in manufacturing and applied engineering.

Besides BSU, the partnership includes: Central Lakes College, Northwest Technical College, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Pine Technical College, St. Cloud Technical College, and Saint Paul College. The institutions are collaborating to tackle shortages in manufacturing and applied engineering professionals affecting businesses in the region.

Funded by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, 360° and its partners impact diverse regions of the state, from metro to rural and growth regions, to areas with declining population. The 360° partnership offers over 50 accessible and smart manufacturing and applied engineering programs, from certificates to master’s degrees. The 360° program deals primarily with precision manufacturing such as machining, welding, automation, and robotics, as well as engineering technology and applied engineering.

The website informs students about the types of programs available to enter, maintain, or advance in manufacturing and applied engineering careers now and in the future. The site is also a resource for individuals and organizations working to strengthen manufacturing recruitment efforts throughout Minnesota.
Established in 2002, the program, which leads to a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree, nurtures students’ love for writing while equipping them for rewarding and sustainable careers. With only 14 similar BFA programs in the nation, the BSU program offers a pioneering approach.

“The BFA is a studio degree,” says Hauser, Bemidji State English professor and department chair. “It focuses on the study of the student’s own creative and professional work.”

Through this focus, students become comfortable with their writing, having it critiqued, seeing it in new ways, and seeking ways to improve it. “In the BFA, students quickly learn there is no one right way to write something, read it, or teach it,” Hauser explains. “They claim their authorship. They gain confidence.”

Part of that confidence is built through small workshop classes limited to 20 students, who read aloud their work and have others comment on it. During these sessions, participants learn how to read what they have written and, more importantly, learn how someone else might approach the writing. While group critiques can be
difficult, the workshop environment is positive, helping students better understand and improve their writing.

Another valuable aspect of the program is the senior project. Students develop a portfolio of representative writing samples suitable for submission to graduate schools or publishing companies. The document includes a manuscript with a five-to-ten page writer’s statement describing the student’s process or placing his or her work in a greater context.

“This statement is especially important to students at this stage,” Hauser says. “It helps them see what they’re doing as writers.”

The creative and professional writing program at BSI offers students real editorial and publishing opportunities, as well. Students are encouraged to submit to or serve on the editorial boards of four anthologies published at BSI: Dust and Fire, Rivers Meeting Project, Fire Ring Voices, and New Voices. Each publication features works by a distinct artist group: women, Bemidji State students, men, and high school writers.

Hauser notes that many campuses have anthologies, but few, if any, have four where students become experts by serving on an editorial board or producing a journal.

“They learn to ask if the work under consideration is right for the publication despite their own personal take on the piece.”

Creative and professional writing students also gain key experience through internships at Bemidji State’s esteemed Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference. The five-year-old conference features successful, well-published authors who share their insights on the writing process.

Student interns are paired with writers and assist them during the conference. This arrangement benefits both the student and the writer.

“Being interns changes students’ lives,” Hauser says. “They pick up the writers at the airport and take them everywhere. They develop friendships. I don’t think any other program offers that kind of exposure and connection to the literary world.”

Along with its leading-edge workshops, senior projects, and internships, the creative and professional writing program gives students a well-rounded curriculum.

The program offers professional and technical writing courses, as well as poetry, creative non-fiction, and fiction writing courses. This expanse of courses prepares students for positions in freelancing as well as in professional, technical, and web writing.

“It’s an exciting time to be a writer with markets everywhere you turn,” says Hauser, noting that United States Bureau of Labor Statistics project a 20 percent increase in the demand for writers through at least 2012.

Currently, program graduates are working at technical corporations, fashion magazines, and publishing companies. They’re also entering graduate programs at universities throughout the country, including Rutgers University in New Jersey, Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and Wichita State University in Kansas.

“The career market is shifting sand,” Hauser says, “but our students are well prepared to enter it. We nurture and encourage their natural tendency to be curious and creative. And that combination is key to survival in the modern work world.”

“We’re really helping students find their way doing something they love,” she continues. “Most writers come to writing for a love of it. These students like the way words work and enjoy putting them together in an effective and meaningful way, but they also want a career. We try to offer an entrance to the work world through our program.”

The offerings and unique experiences available through the creative and professional writing program make the entrance into the work world easier and more enjoyable. “You get this wonderful creative soup,” Hauser explains. And that concoction helps students write their own recipe for success, satisfying both personal passion and career placement.

Recent BFA graduate and conference intern Jessica Hahn worked closely with distinguished visiting writer Bret Lott at this year’s Northwoods Writers Conference.
Scan the English department's current course listing, and you’ll quickly discover classes on Wikis, web blogs, instant messaging, pod casting, and web designing nestled among the more expected writing and literature courses. These “new media” topics arose as the Internet and other electronic media crept into just about every nook and cranny of our lives, including the writing world.

Because professional writing today often involves working with technical media, Bemidji State’s English department equips students with these skills through its creative and professional writing program. The program, offering an electronic communications minor and certificates, leads to a bachelor’s in fine arts and is the only one of its kind in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.

The department identified a need for the electronic writing program as it assessed job markets, examined media trends, and considered industry demands.

“There's a lot of room opening up for experts in the field—people who know how to shape writing for the new media,” says Dr. Michael Morgan, Bemidji State University English professor. The program core lies in rhetoric, the study of the effective use of language. Seeing and experiencing how composition changes when writing for the Web, students learn to select from an array of rhetorical strategies to convey their messages.

“They get highly adept at both analyzing and shaping their writing to work effectively in multiple formats,” Morgan says. “They do it one way for a web page, another way for a blog, and so on.”

Besides writing skills, students also learn to use graphic design as an effective communication component, combining images and text to develop and strengthen a web page.

Electronic writing students also gain technical know-how as they learn to use new media technologies and web devices to best address a particular writing and design task. It’s powerful knowledge that gives them a marketable edge.

“These students will be able to apply for jobs in areas they wouldn’t have a few years back,” Morgan says. “And no matter what they do, they’ll use these communication skills.”

The electronic writing minor and the certificates complement many fields of study and majors, giving students a strong technical background, a sense of how language works, and the ability to collaborate.

Morgan, who regularly presents at regional and national conventions on electronic writing and the educational uses of computer-mediated communication, sees great promise in BSU’s electronic writing program.

“I'm really excited about where this program is going,” he says. “I'd like to see it continue to grow. And it'll have to constantly change because everything keeps changing.”

Can Bemidji State stay abreast of this fast-paced field?

“We can keep up,” Morgan says. “In fact, when we introduced the Wiki and web logs course in 2001, students said, ‘What's this?’ When corporations glommed onto it four years later, we were well ahead. I think we still are.”

"These students will be able to apply for jobs in areas they wouldn't have a few years back. And no matter what they do, they'll use these communication skills."
Sara Spann is always willing to try something new.

Her appetite for diversity took root at home where she helped with a variety of farm chores and traveled to Germany as a high school Rotary exchange student.

At Bemidji State, Spann broadened her life experiences in the classroom and beyond. She spent two spring breaks building houses with Habitat for Humanity, traveled to Malaysia on a BSU study abroad program, and completed two internships in prosthetics as a divergence from more typical model-making experiences. She also learned to drive the Zamboni, a very non-Wyoming type job she did for three years.

“I like being exposed to new things; it makes you a more rounded individual,” says Spann, who grew up on her parents’ farm outside Sheridan, WY.

Drawn to working in the lab, Spann gravitated to the hands-on challenges of industrial technology. She especially enjoyed teaming with classmates Tim Stoltenberg and Nathan Allen on a variety of model-making projects that included building a wheelchair prototype and an architectural model of the Sheridan Memorial Hospital annex in Spann’s hometown. The model has been donated to the hospital for display.

She graduated from Bemidji State in May with a degree in industrial technology and an emphasis in model making. In July, she started as a prototype specialist at Garmin International of Olathe, KS, a leading manufacturer of Global Positioning Systems.
Seniors to Watch

Sara Spann is always willing to try something new. As a student at Bemidji State University, she has successfully prepared for both. Chris Zempel

Chris Zempel remembers arriving at Bemidji State University without many expectations, but that quickly changed. Zempel, a 2004 graduate of Bemidji High School, had planned to study aerospace engineering and become an engineer. His aspirations changed when he took an international relations course with Dr. Tom Beech, assistant professor of political science. Noting that a "great teacher and a great topic" proved irresistible, he found history more appealing than aerospace.

Zempel became a history major with an emphasis on international relations and political science. He plans eventually to pursue a law or graduate degree. In the meantime, he takes European and non-western history courses whenever possible, hoping to gain more insights about other cultures.

To further his global interests, he also serves on the University's cultural awareness committee. This committee focuses on study abroad programs and programs to make it easier for international students to assimilate at BSU.

"Since I've been here, I've become more aware of things going on in the world," says Zempel, who participated in the Bemidji State study-tour in Malaysia last year and will do an eight-week Eurospring study abroad program in March. "This is a really good school for anyone interested in becoming internationally connected."

Zempel has also become politically active. He lobbied legislators in St. Paul last year, encouraging them to slow tuition increases, and he met with BSU administrators to present a student response to proposed budget reductions.

"Chris is a good student, always energetic, and interested in the University," says Dr. J. Tom Murphy, department chair and associate professor of history. "His involvement in the Student Senate and other activities suggests that he really cares about the University."

Caring comes naturally for Zempel, who learned about stepping up to social responsibilities through his involvement in the Civil Air Patrol and in Students Today Leaders Forever, a Minnesota-based student service organization. Being part of a society comes with responsibilities, according to Zempel who takes that concept to heart at Bemidji State.

"Down the road, when I say I went to BSU, I don't want to just say that I went there," says Zempel. "I want to be a part of it, do what I can to help. I'm proud to be here."
A bell tolls in the small coastal town of Positano, Italy, where Bemidji State University alumnus Paul Hedtke strolls the streets while conducting his Horizons interview via cell phone. The QUALCOMM senior director of business development for wireless business solutions is following up on an earlier mobile call from the ruins of Pompeii. 

Paul Hedtke has traveled a long way from his family farm in Minnesota's Lake of the Woods county. Today he lives in San Diego where he is enjoying his ninth year with QUALCOMM, an industry leader in digital wireless communications. At QUALCOMM, Hedtke is responsible for both product and business development. "Typically what I do is lead projects to develop new products or start up new businesses," he explains. His first project with QUALCOMM involved satellite tracking systems for the trucking industry. His next project was to establish the company's European presence. "I put together a project team and landed in Europe with nothing but my suitcase," he says. "We had no presence in Europe. I was pretty much on my own." Leading an acquisition in the Netherlands and establishing offices in central Europe, Hedtke soon established several Qualcomm corporate partnerships. While his southern California home and his jet-setting job for a high-tech company are far from his northern Minnesota roots, he's never far from the lessons that he learned there. "My training at BSU positioned me for the types of roles I enjoy and have compensated me very well," Hedtke
Hedtke, who graduated in 1981 with a double major in physics and mathematics, was heavily involved in the University's physics department where he worked as a part-time teaching assistant in math and science. "It was a very fun time, and BSU was very central to my life at the time. I was ready to stay forever, but eventually a person has to move on." Moving to San Diego, he first worked as an engineer for General Dynamics. After working in technology, aerospace, and defense for a number of years, Hedtke joined QUALCOMM in 1998, a relatively new company where he knew a number of employees. "It was a matter of already knowing a lot of people who were working here," he explains. "Your networking with people is what leads you through life and gives you opportunities."

Currently Hedtke is working on an opportunity to bring wireless communication innovation to the healthcare industry. He has worked already with a small cardiology company whose technology transmits electrocardiograms of patients with suspected arrhythmia to a monitoring center while the patients carry on their daily lives. Now Hedtke is working to bring health services to chronic disease sufferers through the use of their cell phones.

"This type of technology allows us to diagnose and monitor people without putting them in a hospital bed," he explains.

These human condition management systems will help individuals who have hypertension, chronic artery disease, asthma, epilepsy, diabetes, and other chronic conditions.

"And it'll all be based on a cell phone," Hedtke says. "Although I hate to call it a cell phone because it's really evolving into a handheld computer."

To reach its goal, QUALCOMM has founded LifeComm, a wireless service company with similarities to Verizon or AT&T.

Expecting LifeComm's solutions to be introduced in the United States within two years, Hedtke foresees QUALCOMM venturing into additional enterprises. "We're always trying to add more and more functionality," he says. "We're looking into adding everything but the kitchen sink. And we'd probably do that, too, if we could."

If QUALCOMM could add the kitchen sink, Hedtke would most likely relish the challenge. "I like being exposed to new technologies. I also like meeting new people in various industries. I've met a lot of interesting and good people; I really enjoy that aspect of it."

Besides meeting new people, Hedtke's career has allowed him to experience many different cultures throughout Europe, South America, and the Far East. Those encounters have led him to understand and appreciate different ways of doing business.

"You have to adapt," he explains. "You can't always act like an American. A lot of other cultures are more relationship based in the way they conduct business. They won't do business with you unless they trust you."

Looking back, Hedtke believes Bemidji State well equipped him for success. "Bemidji State felt like home to me," he reflects. "It prepared me for a very satisfying career in engineering, project management, and ultimately business development. It enabled me to obtain positions in industries I've found very rewarding intellectually and financially. And that's allowed me to do a lot of things I enjoy."

His interests are as expansive as his work experiences. Hedtke enjoys traveling, yachting, learning to fly helicopters, and spending time at his ranch where he's developing a vineyard inspired by his love for Italian wine.

"At BSU, I also learned not to be afraid of something that, in the beginning, I wasn't sure I'd be capable of doing," he says.

For Hedtke, Bemidji State was an excellent launching pad to a number of rewarding destinations. And despite veering from his original plan to transfer from BSU to a larger institution after two years, Hedtke is satisfied with his decision to stay at Bemidji State.

"You must follow your nose at times in life," he says.

Afterall, the nose that craves the aromas of an Italian café perched above the Mediterranean Sea can be the same nose that breathes in deeply the north woods scents that envelop Bemidji State University.
"Where’s the lake?" was one of the first questions Bemidji State University student Gilles Mbo Enoa asked when he arrived in Bemidji from Cameroon, West Africa.

A Deeper Appreciation

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ADD DEPTH TO BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY
For Mbo Enoa, coming to BSU was an opportunity to gain a valuable education that will allow him to help advance life in Cameroon. A computer science and math double major, he was drawn to the University not only by its academic offerings, but also by its international program, its size, and sense of community.

Community is important to Mbo Enoa, who hopes to use his Bemidji State skills and experiences to help better society. “My main goal is to reestablish the meaning of family into society,” he says. “It may be a stretch, but if we don’t have good families, I think our society will just crumble.”

Graduating in spring 2010, he plans to develop an international network for supporting abandoned children. It is an idea he first had when helping homeless children in Cameroon. “My church group went into the streets, reached out to kids, talked to them, took them off the streets, and helped them go to school and learn job skills.”

So how does a computer science and math major plan to work in the social services field?

“I am friends with a lot of people in the social sciences who might come along with me. We come together with different perspectives. I don’t know how exactly it’ll work out, but it will because of the interest people show.”

Others’ interest in Mbo Enoa and his vision, as well as Mbo Enoa’s interest in others, have added to the warm and colorful fabric of Bemidji State University. The experience has given him what he believes will be lifelong rewards. “I’ve made lifetime friends here,” he says. “We’ve been through a lot together. It’s helped me understand what others go through and to see how I can help. That’s something I will take with me.”

Mbo Enoa believes the influence of American culture also will help him in his Cameroon career. While he sees Africans more laid-back than Americans, he plans to strike a balance. “In the United States, people are on the go, sometimes too much. I hope to go back knowing how to be efficient while remaining human.”

The human and educational aspects of BSU are enhanced by international students who bring their unique perspectives, understandings, insights, and experiences to the north wood’s campus. And like Lake Bemidji, which at times may not be what one expects, there is much depth to explore and appreciate below the surface for both international and American students who come here looking to expand their horizons.
Danny Statton’s view of Germany and its people changed four years ago when Nina Ziegenhals came to ask for a job. As the Bemidji State University facilities services supervisor, Statton was hiring summer workers, and Ziegenhals, an international student from Germany, needed work.

His previously held views of Germans had been shaped by a father who nearly died from starvation as a prisoner in a World War II prison camp as well as by an uneasiness the Cold War spawned during his own childhood.

Although Statton’s father, Clyde, talked freely about his experiences, encouraging his son to have an open mind about world events and the people involved, Statton held a narrow opinion of Germany and its people that lasted until Ziegenhals entered his life.

She helped frame his long-held views from a new perspective. A business administration major from Bonn and a member of the BSL women’s hockey team, she worked as a custodian under Statton’s supervision for over three years. During that time, she shared stories about her grandmother, the fear that generation had of Allied bombings, and the casualties of war that included her grandmother’s three brothers.

“Through Nina, I saw a whole different picture. No, it was actually the same picture, just from a different side,” Statton says. “She would talk a lot about her country, the history of Germany, and her grandmother.”

The sharing of such memories brought Statton and his young charge to a new level of cultural understanding. Over the years, he’s had similar insightful exchanges with other international student workers from countries such as Nepal, Japan, and the Ukraine. As with Nina, he has learned of their cultures, traditions, and impressions of Americans. And, he has shared a bit of northern Minnesota by taking them snowmobiling, four-wheeling, and fishing.

“I get more from them than they get from me,” he admits. “I’ve seen their traditions, talked about their countries, and tasted their foods. But there’s also a realization that, while they are different than Americans, we are so much alike as people.”

It is a realization echoed by many Bemidji State University staff and faculty members whose worlds are expanded and enriched by international students.
As a junior on the Bemidji State University track and field team last year, Sheena Devine amassed credentials that spoke volumes about her dedication and commitment to excel as a consummate student-athlete.

Assembling one of the best all-around performances in BSU athletics history, she posted an undefeated season against NCAA Division II shot put competition in 2007. She also claimed indoor and outdoor national championships, earned national academic honors, and was named BSU’s Female Athlete of the Year.

“No one expected what happened last year,” says Devine, who placed sixth outdoors and ninth indoors the previous season. “Before the year started, I had done a lot more weightlifting and worked a lot on my technique. When my first throw last winter was a foot longer than I’d ever done before, I figured something special could happen.”

That something special did happen, first during the NCAA Division II indoor meet when she entered her final throw in second place. She tossed the nine-pound shot slightly over 51 feet, a personal best, to outdistance the field by six inches and claim her first national title. She repeated that special happening during the outdoor nationals in 2007, exploding for a throw in her last opportunity to move from second to first place and garner her second individual championship.

“The same thing was going through my mind prior to each throw,” Devine remembers. “I just reminded myself that this is what I had been working for all year, that it was my last chance, that I was ranked number one, and I just needed to get after it.”

That competitive attitude has served Devine well since her days as a three-sport athlete at North Branch High School, located north of the Twin Cities. She improved her throws by a couple of feet each year, twice finished third in the Minnesota state meet, and secured the North Branch records for both shot and discus.

But her first sporting love was volleyball, which kept her in training nine months out of the year. She went to Southwest Minnesota State to play for the Mustangs, but found that experience wasn’t what she had hoped for. Devine then transferred to Bemidji State where her boyfriend—now fiancé—Joe Remitz had joined the BSU track team, also as a thrower.

She readily admits that having Remitz on the team has played a pivotal role in her success. “He keeps me motivated,” she says. “It’s like having another coach to work with.”

Once she arrived on campus as a business administration major, Devine knew she would have to find a balance between her life, academics, and athletics. During the 2007 breakout season, she worked two jobs for a combined 30-40 hours per week, spent 20-30 hours per week in track, and handled a full academic schedule.

“I had good grades in high school, but I knew I would have to work harder on the college level,” she says. “That’s why the academic all-America honor is also important. I’m proud that I was able to do that while competing in track and doing other things.”

The upcoming year promises to be just as busy for Devine. She’s aiming to improve her shot put results by another 18 to 24 inches during the seasons as well as qualify in nationals for the hammer throw. Continuing to work at least one of her two jobs, she will also complete her degree requirements as she prepares for a career in finance or insurance.
Steeped in the writings of six Holocaust poets this past year, senior music major Jessica Scrimshaw understands the power of the written word. She also knows first hand the soul-stirring effects of music. Seeking a synergy between the two became her passion as well as her senior research project.

The results were the creation of two compositions for cello and soprano voice that she performed at the 2007 Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Conference at Bemidji State University.

Scrimshaw’s undertaking typifies the undergraduate research and creative projects that occur at Bemidji State each year. The University and its faculty are at the front of a nationwide movement to engage undergraduates in deeper learning experiences through such activities.

Research at BSU is encouraged throughout the disciplines. Honors Program students, for example, present and defend their theses before a faculty panel. Many academic areas also require a thesis or capstone project, sometimes with findings published in professional journals or the University’s Journal of Student Research. In some cases students work with faculty on grant-supported research, volunteer for community projects, or work on projects for which they are paid.

“These experiences are valuable on many levels and our faculty work hard to challenge students to excel,” says Dr. Joann Fredrickson, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “Research not only hones critical thinking and independent inquiry, but also fosters lifelong learning and responsible citizenship.”

With the ambiance of a professional research gathering, Bemidji State’s annual student research conference showcases the students’ professionalism as well as their creative or research abilities. “The variety and complexity of topics, depth of knowledge, and professional demeanor of the presenters are impressive,” says Ivy Knoshaug.
BSU Honors Program director and mathematics associate professor.

While their research topics differ, Bemidji State students share a similar sense of accomplishment from having stretched their imaginations and reached a new height of understanding. The projects of Scrimshaw and Bemidji students Patrick Bright, Ivory Hilliard, and Stephen Hinz exemplify the expansive learning opportunities students have at Bemidji State.

Retelling a lyrical story

Scrimshaw researched the lives and times of six Holocaust poets, and then poured their introspections into a vocal and cello arrangement adapted for her soprano voice.

Compelled by the poetry as heard on the CD Holocaust 1944, Scrimshaw contacted the nationally-recognized composer, Lori Laitman, who originally arranged the songs for baritone and double bass. Scrimshaw wondered if a soprano-cello combination could portray the same stirring emotions. Laitman loved the idea and rewrote the music for her. Scrimshaw then worked on the music with cellist Dr. Patrick Riley, professor of music, and they performed two of the songs together at the 2007 student achievement day.

"It was a great experience working with a professor so closely," reflects Scrimshaw, noting that her research changed her. "I gained insight into many things because of this project: love of your neighbor, the preciousness of life, the power of persuasion, and human senselessness."

Music students research diverse topics, helping them to see music as more than simply notes on a page, says Jennifer Swanson, assistant professor of vocal music, who introduced Scrimshaw to Laitman’s work. “As singers, we always want to know more about where our music and text comes from. The fact that Jessica was able to track that down was wonderful.”

Scrimshaw, from Brainerd, will graduate in December with a double major in vocal and instrumental music education. Student teaching in Pequot Lakes this fall, she hopes her pupils will appreciate as much as she does the beauty, importance, and life lessons that music gives.

Recording the Past

Patrick Bright never recorded the stories his grandparents told about their lives and World War II. And, his grandmothers died before he had a chance to talk with them about their experiences. So he jumped at the chance to contribute to the Minnesota Historical Society’s Greatest Generation Project.

"Doing an oral history is more difficult than it might seem," says Dr. J. Tom Murphy, associate professor of history and department chair. He says that students must demonstrate a general understanding of their topics, be prepared to ask engaging questions, listen carefully, and transcribe with clarity and accuracy.

As a result of Bright’s work, Daly’s story has become part of the historical record, and Bright feels good about that.
“These people lived through some of the most pivotal times in the 20th century,” says Bright, who hopes to become a university professor. “The knowledge and experiences they can share is truly a gift.”

Testing a hunch

Ivory Hilliard learned a lot about antibiotic resistance in her medical microbiology course and, from that experience, developed a hypothesis of her own. She believed that some antibiotics pass unaltered through the city’s sewage treatment plant into Lake Bemidji and that E. coli near the plant would, therefore, show higher levels of antibiotic resistance than samples taken in Lake Bemidji State Park. Her hypothesis held up. A significantly greater amount of bacteria tested near the treatment plant were antibiotic resistant.

“To me, this is an important issue,” says Hilliard of Detroit Lakes, whose work became her senior capstone project. “Antibiotics are one of the most relevant discoveries of our time. Losing the advantages that these drugs have would be devastating.”

For Hilliard, the experimentation process was as valuable as the outcome. She gained confidence in her lab skills, often doing tests on her own, including some that she had never performed before. She also found herself more invested in the topic as her work progressed.

“To be a part of raising awareness of this issue, even in a small way, makes me feel like I’ve accomplished something substantial,” says Hilliard, who will graduate in 2009 with a teaching licensure, a double major in Spanish and biology, and a minor in chemistry. She hopes to teach high school life sciences.

Like much good research, Hilliard’s work poses as many new questions as it answers, says Dr. Patrick Guilfoile, biology professor and department chair. Other students will be able to further the research she started.

“A university should be not only a place where students learn what has been discovered, but also a place where new knowledge is generated,” says Guilfoile.

Getting down to business

Stephen Hinz asks a lot of questions, and that’s a good thing for someone paid to get answers.

“If you don’t like research, you’re not going to like this job,” says Hinz, who graduated in May and worked at the Marketing Assistance and Research Solutions (MARS) office while he completed his degree in business administration with an emphasis in marketing and small business management.

MARS, a faculty-directed and student-run organization, provides professional market research services to the greater Bemidji area. Student researchers are paid by the hour.

In 18 months, Hinz coordinated six MARS projects, leading focus groups, doing phone surveys, and conducting one-on-one interviews for various clients. He sometimes spent up to 20 hours a week compiling survey responses and other data. He and his student colleagues sent out 6,000 surveys in the summer of 2006 for three different organizations.
Last fall, Hinz led an economic impact study for the Bemidji Industrial Park board to help determine whether the park should expand. MARS interviewed all but three of the parks 42 business owners and completed the project in less than a month.

“This is hands-on, real-life experience,” says Hinz, of Stillwater. “When you’re in MARS, you increase the learning curve a lot faster than in any class.”

MARS students follow up on leads, meet with clients, set deadlines, and estimate costs in presenting proposals. They are required to dress in professional attire and are encouraged to engage in public speaking whenever possible.

Dave Smith, assistant professor and MARS adviser, says small businesses need information more than ever, and MARS students can help.

“Research is important because we have to know how to find answers to our questions,” says Smith. “If we go about research in an organized way, we get our answers better and faster.”

**Small can be better**

Knoshaug, a mathematics professor, feels that undergraduate research at BSU differs from similar activities at many large institutions because of the availability of faculty. While much of the research is self-directed, faculty members are closely involved, especially at the early stages when project parameters are set.

“Many individual faculty motivate students and direct them to issues and problems that are interesting, substantial, and doable,” she says. “That academic and personal interaction during the research process can be a valuable and rewarding experience.”

She also notes that many undergraduates use research to impress graduate schools and employers, who are often expecting those credentials on the applicant’s resumé.

With today’s fast-changing knowledge base, research skills are critical for students across disciplines, adds Murphy. As chair of the history department, he is always looking for projects and challenges to engage his students in research, noting that students come to a university to solve problems and find answers.

“Research is the cornerstone of learning and necessary to create new knowledge,” says Murphy. “Without it, a university is only a collection of buildings.”

Stephen Hinz
Justin Klander hoped that his college leadership experiences would look good on his résumé when he graduated from Bemidji State University in 2001. He had no idea at the time that these experiences would also propel him into a position of influence so early in his career.

Klander was 26 when he was named executive director of the Minnesota State College Student Association (MSCSA) in 2005. The student-fee supported organization represents the interests of over 100,000 students on Minnesota’s 46 public two-year community and technical college campuses. Klander advocates on their behalf at the Minnesota State Capitol, as well as in Washington, DC.

Besides enabling him to advocate for students, his job provides him with opportunities to give back to the organizations that initially helped him build his leadership skills.

While completing an associate degree at Mesabi Range Community and Technical College, Klander served as the college’s student government president and worked with MSCSA. As a student at Bemidji State, he sat on the Student Senate and served as its president. In his senior year at the University, he was

“I’ve tried to have that mentality of giving back—first with my time and second with my resources. It’s hard, but giving back to organizations that have helped you is important.”

Justin Klander
elected state chair of the Minnesota State University Student Association. That experience left him well-versed in the economics of higher education and the issues of workforce development.

“One of the largest problems facing higher education is lack of state investment. It’s a national trend, not just something happening in Minnesota,” he notes. “Although Minnesota’s two-year college students pay the second highest tuition in the country, it’s still a good deal. Yet a generation ago, a technical college education was nearly free.”

As he speaks, his passion for students and higher education becomes evident. He is particularly concerned about students who never enroll in college or who drop out because of tuition costs. He feels the state’s economy suffers when people miss out on an education.

While lawmakers are aware of the needs, Klander notes that making investments is challenging for the state. He acknowledges that a lot of important programs, such as elementary and secondary education, also need funding, and state resources are often tight.

To make certain higher education issues draw the attention of state and federal officials, Klander and the five other MSCSA staff meet regularly with post-secondary students and hold a series of conferences throughout the year, encouraging students to be leaders and make their voices heard.

The students are responding, and lawmakers are taking notice. In May, the governor and legislature approved $500,000 to identify and improve ways to reduce college textbook costs that included a possible rental program. The legislation was crafted entirely by students, which was a first for MSCSA. Also, lawmakers approved additional funding to slow tuition increases for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system, a priority for students looking to keep education affordable.

“Justin has demonstrated time and time again his determination to keep tuition as low as possible,” says Dr. James H. McCormick, MnSCU chancellor. “He has articulated the students’ point of view clearly and powerfully. Indeed, his clarity, both in content and direction, is always a valuable contribution to helping us set policies and advance the system’s legislative initiatives.”

After graduating from Bemidji State with a degree in business administration, Klander had hoped to become an account executive for a large marketing firm, but found that job market tight. Instead, he returned home to Mountain Iron and a part-time position with the Virginia office of the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

In what quickly turned into a full-time regional marketing position, his job responsibilities included a variety of business and economic development projects to help diversify the Iron Range economy. He managed a statewide marketing campaign to encourage entrepreneurship and helped deliver a $3 million federal grant to coordinate a nursing education program in northeastern Minnesota.

“For my age and experience, I was really given an opportunity to do some major projects,” says Klander, noting that he couldn’t have asked for better opportunities to prepare him for his current job.

Outside of work, Klander is involved in the Rotary Club and tries to volunteer on two or three boards. He doesn’t see a lot of peers his age on these boards and encourages young people to get involved, especially at the local level where he believes they can make significant contributions and gain valuable experiences.

He also encourages individuals to give back to their communities, believing that everyone benefits when people of all ages invest in their communities and the organizations that have helped them.

“A speaker challenged a group of us in Washington, DC, to invest five or 10 percent of our income into our communities and to start doing it now,” says Klander. “I’ve tried to have that mentality of giving back—first with my time and second with my resources. It’s hard, but giving back to organizations that have helped you is important.”
The Alumni Association and the Department of Athletics are seeking nominations for the 2008 Athletic Hall of Fame. Up to eight former athletes and BSU coaches are inducted every other year into this prestigious group. Nominations for the Athletic Hall of Fame must be in writing and will be accepted until January 31, 2008. Nomination forms are available on the alumni website at www.bsualumni.org through the link for award programs.

Nominees must have earned an athletic letter at BSU, must have attended BSU for at least two years, and not have graduated from another university. They also must have attended BSU at least 20 years ago. Previous coaches or administrators who made significant contributions to the development and success of BSU athletics may also be considered. Selections will be based on merit in four categories: athletic accomplishments while at BSU; post-collegiate professional accomplishments; service and contributions to community, state, and nation; and service to BSU. Further information is available by calling the Alumni Office at 1-877-BSU-ALUM (278-2586) - toll free or 218-755-3989, or emailing alumni@bemidjistate.edu.
Nominations are now being accepted for candidates to be considered for the Bemidji State University Outstanding Alumni Award.

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

All nominees must have graduated no less than 10 years ago from Bemidji State University. Nominations will be accepted until January 31, 2008, and can be made by anyone except an immediate family member. Current faculty, staff, and members of the Board of Directors of the Bemidji State University Alumni Association are not eligible for consideration. A nomination form can be obtained by calling the Alumni Office at 1-877-278-2586 (toll free), 218-755-3989 (local), via email at alumni@bemidjistate.edu or by going to the alumni website at http://www.bsualumni.org and selecting “alumni awards.”

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, says Marla Huss Patrias, director of BSU alumni relations. 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.

To find out how you can support the BSU Alumni Association through the 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.

Class of 1957 Celebrates 50-Year Reunion

2006 Fawn Bakken, a piano teacher at Headwaters School of Music & the Arts in Bemidji since 2003, now provides private lessons to Clearwater County residents in Clearbrook as part of a school service expansion project. Jarrid Houston has been named an assistant project manager in the Duluth office of Kraus-Anderson Construction Company. He’d previously worked for Big Lake Construction, Osceola, WI. James Midboe is playing professional football with the Manchester Wolves in Manchester, NH.

2005 Brittany (Doris) and Tony Hubiger were married April 21 in Maus, HI, and reside in Seattle, WA. Brittany is a sales representative with Hercules Freight and Tony is sales manager for Woodinville Lumber. Nathan Heim and Laura Young were married and celebrated with a reception in Bemidji. Kirsten Ekholm of Eagan recently graduated from Minnesota State University Moorhead with a master’s degree in school psychology.

2004 Isaac Moll of Bagley returned home this summer from a two-year Peace Corp assignment in the Fijian Islands. He majored in criminal justice at BSM. Tyler Burke, a Crow Wing County Sheriff’s Department dispatcher, was recently hired as a part-time police officer by the Lake Shore City Council. William Cloutman and his wife, Sarah, live in Kansas City, MO, where he is employed with GE Money. The couple was married February 17 in Bemidji.

2003 Bayard Black and his wife, Shannon, own Raliedyance Salon in Mankato. A portion of the salon serves as a gallery where Bayard often displays his photography, recently selling his works at a silent auction that raised $3,000 for Donate Life, an organization dedicated to educating people about organ and tissue donation. Previously employed as an electronic imaging specialist at Lime Valley Advertising in Mankato, he recently launched his own design business. Hilary Horn recently completed the ABRS Certification Program for information referrals practitioners. She works at the Disability Linkage Line’s Bemidji/Northern office. David Steussy, a diesel mechanics instructor at Alexandria Technical College was honored as the Minnesota Skills USA Advisor of the Year for 2006-2007.

2002 Marcus Aulie is the new activity and volunteer coordinator for Kinship Partners and a part-time music instructor in the Braham School District. Traci Vaughn, a teacher at J W. Smith Elementary School, Bemidji, served as Kindness Week chairwoman there. Students and staff raised $900 in donations for the Twin Cities Ronald McDonald House. Scott Hoffman of Bemidji recently completed a master of science in health and social psychology at North Dakota State University. Fargo. His graduate work focused primarily on personality research and new ways of measuring how individuals perceive themselves.

2001 Christopher Pieper was hired as a social worker with Lake-Wood Health Center. He and his wife, Katie, live in Baudette with their daughter, Mackenzie. Katie works for Crow Wing Press as a graphic designer. Michael Bessler of Lake George is a market manager with the new Bank Forward in Bemidji. He joins the organization with five years of experience as a bank branch manager and financial service officer. Will Tyvver of Laporte is a bank financial service officer with the new Bank Forward in Bemidji. He and his wife, Lacy, have two daughters, Camryn and Lauren. Devin Arenz of Cass Lake won the 2007 Mora Vasa-loppet Classical Cross Country Ski Race in February. Erich Knapp, a vocal music teacher in Sebeka, was the national recipient of the Educator of the Year Award by OPERA America.

2000 Pam (Skon) Anderson and Bob Anderson (’02) live in St. Paul, where Pam is a specialist with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s lake program. Bob teaches high school math at Watershed High School. Keith Dragisch has been named business banking relationship manager for Wells Fargo, International Falls.

Michelle Leffelman is the school resource officer at Bemidji High School. She’d been a Bemidji police officer since 2003. LeeAnn and Judd Shogren (’98) and their children, Conner and Aleah, of Bemidji served as an ambassador family for Bemidji’s March of Dimes WalkAmerica in April. LeeAnn works in human resources at Pinnacle Publishing in Bemidji, where Judd owns LeClaire Electric. Bryan Thygeson recently accepted the position of superintendent of Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Public Schools, having previously served as principal at Marshall County Central High School for 10 years.

Becki Pederson is an officer with the Bemidji Police Department. Stephanie (Engen) Walseth and her husband, Ryan, of Fargo, ND, announce the February 22, 2007, birth of a daughter, Georgia. Stephanie works as an LPN at Merit Care Hospital in Fargo, ND, and is also stepmother to Leyton.

Ranae (Shefland) Seykora teaches kindergarten at Central Elementary School, Bemidji, and lives in Cass Lake with her husband, Will, and son, Carter. Kurt Reynolds, an English teacher at Lincoln High School in Thief River Falls, has won the 2007 BSU Graduate Creativity Award for his account of the life of his grandmother, Myrtle Baril, who was a country schoolteacher, flapper, and the first girl in her town to wear slacks. His thesis was also nominated for the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools’ 2007 Distinguished Thesis Award.
1995 Patrick Carriere, interim chair and assistant professor of theatre and communication arts at BSU, recently received a commendation at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival held in Ames, IA, for achievements in directing the BSU production of Gogol’s Inspector General. Joann Hovet of Bemidji recently exhibited 23 pastel paintings with the theme “Memories in Pastel” at Nelson Place, Bemidji. Shawn Rojeski of Chisholm was honored in January as a member of the Bemidji-based 2006 men’s Olympic curling team that was named the U.S. Olympic Committee’s 2006 Team of the Year. Alan Neurier of Bemidji has been honored as an outstanding agent of Farmers Union Insurance. He’s been a Farmers Union agent since 1992.

1996 Jeremy Fayette, the Edward Jones Investment representative in Bemidji, has accepted a limited partnership offering in the Jones Financial Cos., the holding company for the St. Louis-based financial services firm. Doug Peters, former assistant basketball coach, has been hired as athletic director at Minnesota State University Moorhead. He’d previously served as athletic director at Valley City State University in Valley City, ND. Scott Anderson was recently hired as the new K-12 principal by the Willow River School Board. He’d previously served for a year as interim director at Spring Lake Park Learning Alternatives. Charlene Godec is the new regional director of perioperative services for the Franciscan Health System. She oversees the surgery-related services at St. Joseph Medical Center in Tacoma, WA, St. Clare Hospital in Lakewood, and St. Francis Hospital in Federal Way.

1997 Michelle Hagen owns Expressions, a family footwear store in Roseau. She and her husband, Bill, have a daughter, Camryn. Dan Skinner of Pelican Rapids has been named leader of the land services practice for Ulteig Engineers, Detroit Lakes. He has 18 years of experience in land services and surveying. Dan Tollefson was recently named as the boys’ hockey coach at Willmar, having previously served as assistant coach. Michelle Plotts teaches fifth and sixth grades at Heartland Christian Academy, Bemidji. Chris Fiske of Emmons was the featured speaker at Kiester’s Memorial Day Program. A pastor of Bethel and Trinity Lutheran Churches since 2005, he also has served many years in the North Dakota and Minnesota National Guard organizations. He and his wife, Julie, who is also a pastor, have three children.

1999 Michelle Plotts teaches kindergarten at Heartland Christian Academy, Bemidji. She and her husband, Rocky, have been married 20 years and have three children. Ken Howe and Kari Howe of the Bemidji Dunn Bros Coffee received the 2006 Local Flavor/Community Partnership Award for the Upper Midwest Region at the Dunn Bros national conference.
Continued from Page 25

on the Marquette University men's basketball staff. He spent last season as an assistant coach at the University of Iowa and returns to Marquette having previously served there as top assistant coach during the 1999-2000 season.

1985 Judy Ducharme of Bemidji participated in the 18th annual Bemidji Rotary Club’s health care outreach to Honduras in February … Craig McCollum, a senior business leader in operations support with MasterCard Worldwide Global Technology and Operations, was recently recognized for excellence in collaboration and innovation. He and his wife live in St. Louis, MO … Julie Johnson-Williborg, a staff member at Lumberjack Alternative High School, Bemidji, accompanied students who traveled to the state capitol in February to participate in the MAAP STARS Legislative Day … Leah Carpenter successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, “Tracking the Land: Ojibwe Land Tenure and Acquisition at Grand Portage and Leech Lake,” completing the final requirement for her doctorate in American Indian Studies from the University of Arizona. She is president of the Leech Lake Tribal College, Cass Lake … Tammy Zimmel of Racine, WI, is the chief psychologist for the Racine Youthful Offender Corrections Facility, a division of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. She also owns and operates a private practice, providing mental health services to adolescents and adults.

1983 Cheryl Armstrong is the pre-kindergarten/kindergarten readiness teacher and part-time health aide at Heartland Christian Academy, Bemidji. She and her husband, Bruce, have been married for 23 years and have two daughters … Dan Ninham is the head coach of the Cass Lake-Bena High School basketball team that finished second in the 2007 state tournament this school year … Glen Lindseath was recently elected to serve a three-year term on the North Country Health Services board of trustees. He is a certified public accountant with the accounting firm of Miller McDonald Inc, Bemidji. He and his wife, Theresa, have two children.

1982 Jim Green, a mechanical engineer with Ice Coring and Drilling Services at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, and has spent an extensive amount of time during the past five years working in Antarctica. He and his wife, Nancy (’78), met at BSL and have been married 26 years … Randall Peterson is the new principal of Eastview High School in Apple Valley.

1981 Bob Mullan will enter the Minnesota State High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame at the association’s fall meeting. He recently won his 500th game as the Bagley Flyers baseball coach … Larry Hutchins of Loretto is a senior marketing representative with Federated Insurance, Minnesota. He received the company’s 2006 Distinguished Service Award and the President’s Award … Greg Wood of Verona, WI, is a senior marketing representative with Federated Insurance, Wisconsin. He received the company’s 2006 Distinguished Service Award and the President’s Award.

1980 Fayola (Olson) Doubek of Lino Lakes received the 2007 Raye Knevov Gerontological Nurse Award from Third District Nurses Association in May. She has been employed as a staff development director at St. Anthony Health Center for nearly three years. She and her husband, William, have three children, Dan, Adam, and Liz.

1979 Dennis Peterson of Bemidji, who coaches the Destination ImagNation team at Deer River High School, won the Spirit of DI award this spring. The award honors those who demonstrate outstanding levels of spirit, sportsmanship, and volunteerism. He’s coached the team in Deer River for 23 years … Joan McKinnon, a fourth-grade teacher in the Bemidji school district, was among 30 educators honored in March with an Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning grant … Jane Linde Capistran of Fargo, ND, won this year’s North Dakota String Teachers Association Teacher of the Year award. She is a professor at Concordia College, Moorhead … Richard Armstrong of rural Bagley has produced a CD of original songs with the cover title Thunder of the Circle. A Leech Lake Band member and now living on the White Earth Reservation, he plays guitar, bass, and traditional hand drum.

1978 Pamela Fladeland Rodriguez of Elk Grove Village, IL, has been named one of nine juvenile justice experts in the nation to serve on the federal Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. She is a longtime advocate for youth involved in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. She is also executive vice president of TASC, Inc. of Illinois. TASC is a statewide, nonprofit case management agency that serves adults and youth with substance use problems and mental health disorders … John Persell and his wife, Patty, power their home near Wolf Lake with a wind generator. In March, they produced nearly 100 percent of the energy for their home, which is located between Bemidji and Cass Lake.

1977 Scott Baird of Bemidji was honored in January as a member of the Bemidji-based 2006 men’s Olympic curling team that was named the U.S. Olympic Committee’s 2006 Team of the Year … Rachel Hurni has retired from a 34-year career of teaching grades 2-5 in the Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools … Scott Pearson of Bemidji is a senior marketing representative with Federated Insurance, Minnesota. He received the company’s 2006 Distinguished Service Award.

1976 Todd Fore coached the Bagley High School basketball team that qualified to play in the state tournament this spring … Karl Weisenhorn of Mound and chairman of the Central Lakes College (CLC) photographic imaging technology program advisory board, gave the commencement address at the Staples CLC campus. He is midwest sales manager and product applications specialist for Connecticut-based Quality Media and Laminating Solutions … Francine Sterle of Hibbing has had a collection of poems entitled Nude in Winter published. The collection transfers the work of artists such as Claude Monet and Georgia O’Keeffe from the canvas into language. This is her second full-length book of poetry. Her first book, Every Bird is One Bird, was the Tupelo Press Editor’s Prize Award winner in 2001 … Deb Jacobson has retired from a 34-year career with Northland Community and Technical College, Thief River Falls. She’d served as the college’s athletic director and as a coach.

1975 Barbara Schuupert, institutional effectiveness director at Northwest Technical College, Bemidji, is the primary architect of the first academic quality improvement systems portfolio recognized by the Higher Learning Commis-
1974 Doug Franzen has been appointed vice president of business development for RVI Inc. in Redwood Falls … Steve Grineski, a professor at Minnesota State University Moorhead, has written a book entitled Baby Dragons: The Story of Moorhead’s Campus School. The book describes the K-12 school on the Moorhead campus from 1888-1972, using interviews with former teachers and students, primary source documents, and more than 260 photographs … Mike Ziemann of St. Cloud is a senior marketing representative with Federated Insurance, Minnesota. He received the company’s 2006 Distinguished Service Award and qualified as a leader in group growth and profitability … Adele (Levchak) Munsterman of Brooklyn Park was one of 15 Minnesota educators honored this spring as 2007 Women of Achievement by Delta Kappa Gamma International …

1973 John Reff serves on the board of directors of the Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area … Jane Schmidt has retired from a 34-year teaching career in the Pequot Lakes Public Schools … Dan Dresben has been appointed associate dean for fine arts at St. Olaf College in Northfield … David Zirbes has retired from a 34-year teaching and coaching career with Bertha-Hewitt High School. He and his wife, Joan, have two children, Kyle and Christine … Larry Klancher has retired from a 34-year teaching and coaching career at Oakland Jr. High in Lake Elmo.

1972 Dan Gartrell, director of the Child Development Training Program and professor of early childhood and elementary education at BSU, made two, three-hour presentations for

Horizons

Bemidji State University

27

Class Notes

sion’s regional accrediting organization for innovation in higher education … Steve DeKrey, an associate dean of the business school at the Hong Kong University of Science Technology (HKUST), has co-edited a book released recently in Asia entitled Leadership Experiences in Asia – Insight and Inspiration from 20 Innovators. Proceeds from the book will be donated to a Kellogg–HKUST scholarship fund for non-government organizations.

1974 Doug Franzen has been appointed vice president of business development for RVI Inc. in Redwood Falls … Steve Grineski, a professor at Minnesota State University Moorhead, has written a book entitled Baby Dragons: The Story of Moorhead’s Campus School. The book describes the K-12 school on the Moorhead campus from 1888-1972, using interviews with former teachers and students, primary source documents, and more than 260 photographs … Mike Ziemann of St. Cloud is a senior marketing representative with Federated Insurance, Minnesota. He received the company’s 2006 Distinguished Service Award and qualified as a leader in group growth and profitability … Adele (Levchak) Munsterman of Brooklyn Park was one of 15 Minnesota educators honored this spring as 2007 Women of Achievement by Delta Kappa Gamma International … David Haggerty of St. Paul is chief research officer for TestQuest and recently had an article appear in Wireless Com, a web-based tech business magazine. He has nearly 25 years experience in developing complex hardware and software systems … Kris Hasskamp of Crosby filed as a candidate for the Crow Wing County Commissioner District 5 special election. She is a former state representative, having served 12 years in the Legislature.

1973 John Reff serves on the board of directors of the Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area … Jane Schmidt has retired from a 34-year teaching career in the Pequot Lakes Public Schools … Dan Dresben has been appointed associate dean for fine arts at St. Olaf College in Northfield … David Zirbes has retired from a 34-year teaching and coaching career at Bertha-Hewitt High School. He and his wife, Joan, have two children, Kyle and Christine … Larry Klancher has retired from a 34-year teaching and coaching career at Oakland Jr. High in Lake Elmo.

1972 Dan Gartrell, director of the Child Development Training Program and professor of early childhood and elementary education at BSU, made two, three-hour presentations for

Moving Ahead Together, the state initiative for universal, high-quality preschool care and education in Missouri … Margaret Matson was among a group of L&M Fleet Supply employees who won a trip to Rome, Italy, as recognition for the Bemidji store being one of the top 80 Cub Cadet independent retailers of 2006 … Jerry Wenzel has retired after 25 years of teaching seventh grade at Central Middle School in East Grand Forks … Marc Hamren has been inducted into the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Hall of Fame, along with four other 2007 inductees. He teaches physical education at Richfield Middle School, is the head coach of the Richfield Spartans boys and girls swimming teams, and coaches the Richfield Swim Club. He and his wife, Pamela, have been married for 37 years and have four daughters. Pamela teaches pre-school at Wooddale Nursery School in Eden Prairie.

1971 Mary Kostohryz, a multi-age classroom teacher in the Bemidji school district, was among 50 educators honored in March with an Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning grant … Don Paprock has guided the Bemidji High School gymnastics team throughout its 14-year history and has served as head coach for the last nine years … Wayne Vold, an elementary music instructor in Pine River-Backus schools, has retired after teaching both high school and elementary music there for nearly 50 years.

1968 Darryl Mustonen was nominated as a United Way Someone Special Volunteer by the North Country Snowmobile Club of Bemidji. For more than 15 years, he has performed trail maintenance, operated a groomer, volunteered for rescue missions, and assisted with youth safety training as well as serving in several club officers’ positions … Marie Luoma has been recognized as the 2007 Friend of the Arts by the

Bemidji Community Arts Center. She sings with the Third Street Singers, a choral group she formed at the Bemidji Senior Center, and plays piano at local nursing homes. She also taught music in Bemidji public schools and was honored as a Bemidji Middle School Teacher of the Year … John Pietila was selected as Lion of the Year for 2006-07 by the Lake Park Lions Club. A resident of Lake Park since 1970 and a retired teacher, he is the only charter member of the club who has remained active in it to the present day.

1974 Doug Franzen has been appointed vice president of business development for RVI Inc. in Redwood Falls … Steve Grineski, a professor at Minnesota State University Moorhead, has written a book entitled Baby Dragons: The Story of Moorhead’s Campus School. The book describes the K-12 school on the Moorhead campus from 1888-1972, using interviews with former teachers and students, primary source documents, and more than 260 photographs … Mike Ziemann of St. Cloud is a senior marketing representative with Federated Insurance, Minnesota. He received the company’s 2006 Distinguished Service Award and qualified as a leader in group growth and profitability … Adele (Levchak) Munsterman of Brooklyn Park was one of 15 Minnesota educators honored this spring as 2007 Women of Achievement by Delta Kappa Gamma International … David Haggerty of St. Paul is chief research officer for TestQuest and recently had an article appear in Wireless Com, a web-based tech business magazine. He has nearly 25 years experience in developing complex hardware and software systems … Kris Hasskamp of Crosby filed as a candidate for the Crow Wing County Commissioner District 5 special election. She is a former state representative, having served 12 years in the Legislature.

1973 John Reff serves on the board of directors of the Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area … Jane Schmidt has retired from a 34-year teaching career in the Pequot Lakes Public Schools … Dan Dresben has been appointed associate dean for fine arts at St. Olaf College in Northfield … David Zirbes has retired from a 34-year teaching and coaching career with Bertha-Hewitt High School. He and his wife, Joan, have two children, Kyle and Christine … Larry Klancher has retired from a 34-year teaching and coaching career at Oakland Jr. High in Lake Elmo.

1972 Dan Gartrell, director of the Child Development Training Program and professor of early childhood and elementary education at BSU, made two, three-hour presentations for

Moving Ahead Together, the state initiative for universal, high-quality preschool care and education in Missouri … Margaret Matson was among a group of L&M Fleet Supply employees who won a trip to Rome, Italy, as recognition for the Bemidji store being one of the top 80 Cub Cadet independent retailers of 2006 … Jerry Wenzel has retired after 25 years of teaching seventh grade at Central Middle School in East Grand Forks … Marc Hamren has been inducted into the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Hall of Fame, along with four other 2007 inductees. He teaches physical education at Richfield Middle School, is the head coach of the Richfield Spartans boys and girls swimming teams, and coaches the Richfield Swim Club. He and his wife, Pamela, have been married for 37 years and have four daughters. Pamela teaches pre-school at Wooddale Nursery School in Eden Prairie.

1971 Mary Kostohryz, a multi-age classroom teacher in the Bemidji school district, was among 50 educators honored in March with an Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning grant … Don Paprock has guided the Bemidji High School gymnastics team throughout its 14-year history and has served as head coach for the last nine years … Wayne Vold, an elementary music instructor in Pine River-Backus schools, has retired after teaching both high school and elementary music there for nearly 50 years.

1968 Darryl Mustonen was nominated as a United Way Someone Special Volunteer by the North Country Snowmobile Club of Bemidji. For more than 15 years, he has performed trail maintenance, operated a groomer, volunteered for rescue missions, and assisted with youth safety training as well as serving in several club officers’ positions … Marie Luoma has been recognized as the 2007 Friend of the Arts by the

Bemidji Community Arts Center. She sings with the Third Street Singers, a choral group she formed at the Bemidji Senior Center, and plays piano at local nursing homes. She also taught music in Bemidji public schools and was honored as a Bemidji Middle School Teacher of the Year … John Pietila was selected as Lion of the Year for 2006-07 by the Lake Park Lions Club. A resident of Lake Park since 1970 and a retired teacher, he is the only charter member of the club who has remained active in it to the present day.

1967 Alice Fuglestad volunteers as a foster grandparent for grades K-8 at Heartland Christian Academy, Bemidji.

1966 Andy Wells, owner of Wells Technology Inc., Bemidji, was honored for his business accomplishments and community contributions when he was named the 2006 Entrepreneur of the Year by the Metropolitan Economic Development Association.

1963 Henry Larsen is the head track coach at Glencoe Silver Lake High School. His team won the Class A state championship this spring.

1961 LeRoy Larson and his Minnesota Scandinavian Ensemble performed in Bagley in May as part of The Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning-sponsored Systende Mai Celebration. The ensemble was formed to play the music he loves and is headquartered in Minneapolis where they perform regularly.

1958 Dale Skinner and Janet Holden Skinner (’52, ’70) of Mountain Iron have both retired from their teaching careers, and Dale recently returned from a short-term mission work trip in Honduras. They have four children.

1956 Georgia Meade and her husband, Jerry, have a summer home in Grand Rapids and recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Georgia retired after 35 years of teaching elementary education. The couple has five children and 14 grandchildren.

1954 Lois Reerson and her husband, Virgil, of Bemidji celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in April.

1947 Pat (Fallon) Gregerson and her husband Bob, of Rochester recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.
Beaver Royale
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.  50-Year Reunion of the 1957 Conference Champion Football Team. American Indian Resource Center, $15 per person. Advanced registration required.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  Beaver Pride Luncheon. Walnut Hall, $6 per person. Join other BSU athletic fans as they listen to coaches and student athletes talk about their upcoming season.
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.  Outstanding Alumni Member Reception. American Indian Resource Center. All Bemidji State University Outstanding Alumni and their families are welcome.
6:30 p.m.  BSU Alumni Association Honors Banquet. Beaux Arts Ballroom, $23 per person and advanced registration required. (Social hour - 6:30 p.m., Banquet - 7 p.m., Awards program - 8 p.m.) Celebrate with alumni, faculty, and friends of Bemidji State University as the 2007 BSU Outstanding Alumni awards are presented to:
Paul Boswell (posthumous) ’81, Communications/Media, Grand Forks, ND
Al Clark ’64, Insurance, Arlington, TX
Dr. Hildreth McCarthy ’74, Medicine, New Orleans, LA
Jon McTaggart ’83, Communications/Media, Oakdale, MN
Dan Ninham ’83 & ’92, Education, Bemidji, MN
Trudy Rautio ’75, Business Management, Minneapolis, MN
Jeanne Thomas ’64, Education, Burnsville, MN
7:00 p.m.  BSU Women’s Volleyball vs. Minnesota Crookston. BSU Gymnasium.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
8:00 - 10:00 a.m.  Lutheran Campus Center Open House and Continental Breakfast. 1221 Birchmont Drive NE. All alumni and friends of the ministry are welcome.
9:00 a.m.  Homecoming 5K Run/Walk. Course includes a tour of campus. $10 per person registration fee includes t-shirt and beverages. Check In/Registration at 8 a.m. For more information email r.fulton@vacationsports.com.
9:00 a.m.  40-Year Reunion of the Class of 1967. Reunion brunch for members of the class of 1967 and the wrap-around classes of 1966 and 1968. Registration information will be sent to class members.
10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  Bemidji State University Homecoming Tailgate Party and Carnival. Lakefront, Lower Hobson Union. Entertainment for the whole family: carnival booths, music, entertainment, food, beverages, and FUN! Co-sponsored by the BSU Alumni Association, Beaver Pride, and Hobson Union Programming Board.
1:00 p.m.  2007 Homecoming Football Game. Chet Anderson Stadium. The BSU Beavers take on the Northern State Wolves.
5:00 p.m.  Football Alumni Reunion. After the game at the Elks Club Bemidji. All football alumni are invited to attend.
6:00 p.m.  1st Annual President’s Society Gala, BSU Foundation. A Foundation appreciation dinner in recognition of BSU donors. For more information, contact the BSU Foundation.
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

11:00 a.m.  *Holy Spirit Newman Center Mass and Brunch.*  Newman Center.  Speaker and presentation of 2007-08 Cardinal Newman scholarship and service award winner.  All welcome!  RSVP: 218-444-4762 or via email at ncenter@paulbunyan.net

3:00 p.m.  *Carl O. Thompson Memorial Concert.*  Beaux Arts Ballroom, BSU Campus.  Tickets available at the door.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

The Alumni Association “Honors Banquet” has limited seating available.  Advanced registration is required.

Advanced registration is also required for the ’57 football team reunion and the 40-year reunion reception and dinner.

The deadline to register for these events is Friday, September 21, 2007.

To register online, go to www.bsualumni.org and choose “Calendar of Events” and then “Event Registration” or call the BSU Alumni Office at 755-3989 (local) or 877-278-2586 (toll free). Registrations will be accepted over the phone, if payment is being made with a credit card.

---

**ADDITIONAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE DURING HOMECOMING:**

**University Bookstore Hours:**
Monday - Thursday, 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday, 7:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Campus Tours:**  Weekdays, 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.  BSU Admissions Office.  755-2040 (local calls) or 877-BEMIDJI (toll free).

**Gillett Recreation & Fitness Center:**
Thursday, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Enjoy a great workout with family and friends at the Gillett Recreation and Fitness Center during Homecoming weekend. Simply show your BSU alumni membership card at the door, and you and your family will be admitted free of charge. Or, stop by the alumni office to pick up a pass.

**KB101/KBUN “Chat-a-bout”:**
12:30 p.m.  Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday  Locations across campus.
FALL VISIT DAYS
October 18 & 19

CAMPUS PREVIEW DAYS

Friday, October 26
Monday, November 12
Friday, November 16
Monday, December 3
Friday, December 7
Saturday, January 26

Monday, January 28
Friday, February 1
Monday, February 18
Monday, March 17
Friday, April 11
Monday, April 21

Priority deadline for applications and scholarships is February 1, 2008

Click on BSU Today at www.bemidjistate.edu for a listing of BSU events