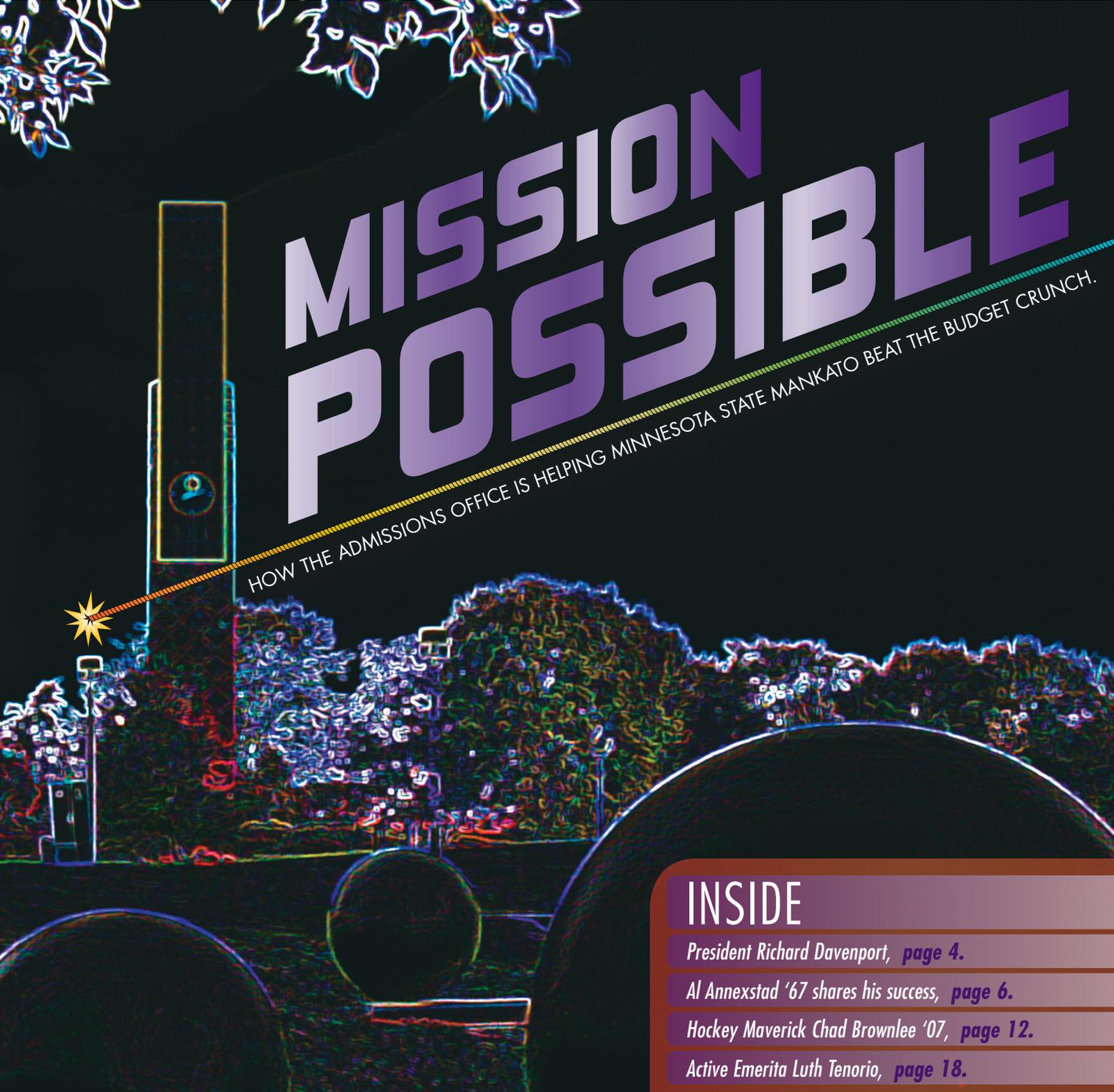




TODAY



MISSION POSSIBLE

HOW THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE IS HELPING MINNESOTA STATE MANKATO BEAT THE BUDGET CRUNCH.

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Al Annexstad '67 shares his success, page 6.

Hockey Maverick Chad Brownlee '07, page 12.

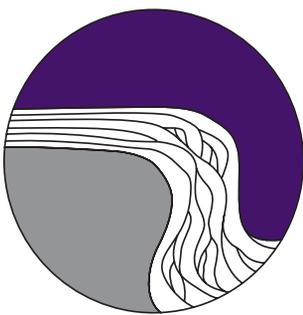
Active Emerita Luth Tenorio, page 18.

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Getting to college wasn't easy for Al Annexstad '67—but it laid the foundation for his long and successful career with Federated Insurance in Owatonna. Now the Minnesota State Mankato alum is helping other young men and women find similar success at his alma mater.

BY KELLY O'HARA DYER '89



8 MISSION POSSIBLE

Budgets are tight and shrinking, and the primary funding mechanism Minnesota State Mankato can control is the number of students enrolled. Admissions is doing everything in its power—from adding more “wow” to campus tours to reducing the time it takes to process applications—to help prospective students find the right fit in Mankato.

BY SARA GILBERT FREDERICK



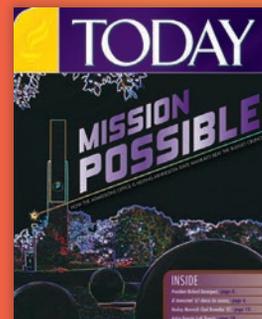
12 CHASING THE DREAM

When Chad Brownlee '07 was drafted by the NHL's Vancouver Canucks in 2003, he chose instead to pursue a psychology degree. Hundreds of hours of study and ice time later, he's got a new career that draws on both—as a rising Canadian country singer. *In this life, I know, you can't always run for cover / You gotta make it on your own somehow...* (from Brownlee's single “Carry On”).

BY WAYNE CARLSON '03

ON THE COVER:

A retooled campus tour is just one of the ways the Admissions Office is trying to convert more potential students into members of the vibrant Minnesota State Mankato community.



FROM THE EDITOR

OF PROMOTIONS AND PIE

Admit it! You're reading this last, or close to last. You've already flipped to Class Notes to see whose names have changed and where they are now.

That's fine with *TODAY*.

Class Notes still provides a connection you can't find anywhere else. Although you can easily track down a former classmate online and browse the basics of where they live and what they do, there's no place outside *TODAY* where you'll stumble upon a name you haven't thought about in years, remember them for the student they were and appreciate what they're saying through that small bit of ink on the printed page: “This is what I've done since Mankato. This is what I'm doing with my life.”

We're proud of every alumni achievement, personal and professional, and we're thrilled when you send your latest to *TODAY*. You can also connect through the online community at mnsu.edu/alumni, or through the Official Minnesota State University, Mankato Alumni Association Facebook group.

However you connect, please connect. Share your news. And enjoy your *TODAY*. ☞

Ann Fee
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TODAY



MINNESOTA STATE
UNIVERSITY
MANKATO

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Administration



THE FUTURE IN FOCUS

Thanks to the hard work of many faculty and staff over the past academic year, we begin 2010-2011 with news of great progress in all five of our strategic priority areas. To refresh TODAY readers' memories, the priorities are as follows:

- > We will plan and build the campus of the future.
- > We will think and act like a doctoral institution.
- > We will grow extended learning.
- > We will promote global solutions.
- > We will embody quality and excellence in all that we do.

Of course, at a large institution like Minnesota State University, Mankato, broad review and approval of priorities like these and their action plans take time. We should be swift, but not hasty. At our core, we are about realizing big ideas through real-world thinking, and in this case that means real-time conversations with the people who know today's Minnesota State Mankato best—the faculty, staff, and administrators who spend their days doing the noble work of higher education.

So when I say, with pride, that we've made progress, I mean that we've got a clear, thorough set of recommendations from each of the task forces assigned to a strategic priority. Beginning this fall, I will seek feedback from each of our bargaining units as well as from students to ensure that we've got the best ideas and solutions on the table in order to transform our institution.

"Transform" is a strong word. It fits here. We're talking about a campus that looks and feels profoundly welcoming and profoundly progressive in terms of energy efficiency and resource conservation, more so than today's Minnesota State Mankato or any other peer institution. We're talking about a culture where faculty are encouraged to conduct research, creative activity, travel, and teaching along strategic lines, so that from 100-level class lectures to international sabbaticals and every activity in between, faculty work is mission-critical and connected to the broader picture of a forward-thinking, doctoral-level university.

We're talking about maximizing existing partnerships and forming new ones, as well as making the most of existing technology and always exploring new tools in the interest of extending Minnesota State Mankato's uniquely high-quality educational offerings to people bound by geographical, technological, or other limits.

We are talking about fully realizing our potential to serve as a problem-solving engine without internal or global boundaries; we are talking about pride and impeccable standards of excellence present in all we do for everyone we serve, every day.

The transformation has begun. The vision was the first step, and careful planning was the next. In the new academic year, we'll pursue the thoughtful feedback, analysis, revision, and broad ownership necessary to move us to the next level.

Our groundwork is solid and our drive is strong. Thank you for sharing my pride and excitement as we progress. As always, I welcome your feedback and hope you'll connect with the institution as we continue to move forward. ☞

President Richard Davenport
president@mnsu.edu

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newsmakers

- Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs **SCOTT R. OLSON WILL SERVE A ONE-YEAR TERM AS INTERIM VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS WITH MnSCU**. He replaces Linda Baer, who is resigning to become a senior officer with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. **ANNE BLACKHURST**, dean of the College of Graduate Studies and Research, has been named **ACTING VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**, replacing Olson. Blackhurst will oversee the academic colleges, student affairs and student support services, and institutional diversity programs.
- A unique new **ENDOWMENT FROM COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY DEAN EMERITUS JOHN AND ANNE FREY IS INVIGORATING STUDENT RESEARCH IN RENEWABLE ENERGY AND GREEN TECHNOLOGY**. The Anne and John Frey Renewable Energy/Bio Products Research Endowment will provide annual funding to a student and faculty mentor who conduct applied research in biomass energy.
- Minnesota State Mankato **FINISHED FOURTH IN THE 2009-2010 NATIONAL LEARFIELD SPORTS DIRECTORS' CUP STANDINGS**—the fourth time in as many years in which the Mavericks finished among the top four D-II universities in the country. The Directors' Cup honors institutions that maintain broad-based programs and achieve success in many sports.
- A series of three **TELEVISION SPOTS FEATURING ALUMNI RECEIVED THE GOLD AWARD IN THE 2010 CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS PROGRAM OF THE COUNCIL FOR ADVANCEMENT AND SUPPORT OF EDUCATION**. The campaign, created by Minnesota State Mankato's Integrated Marketing team, received one of two gold awards in the category of Video PSAs and Commercial Spots. Thirty-one entries were considered, including those from Division I universities.
- In a ceremony attended by state and local officials, **THE UNIVERSITY'S PAN AFRICAN STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WAS RENAMED THE DR. MICHAEL T. FAGIN PAN AFRICAN STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**. The conference, founded by Fagin in 1977, attracts more than 1,000 people each year and provides presentations by African-American leaders from across the Western Hemisphere.
- **WALTER R. ZAKAHI OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY WAS NAMED THE NEW DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES**. He replaces Dr. Jane Earley, who retired last year after leading the College for 35 years. Zakahi was professor of communication studies at New Mexico State University, teaching interpersonal communication, communication theory, and quantitative methods.
- Three faculty members were honored as 2010 Distinguished Faculty Scholars. **STEVE BUECHLER, DANIEL CRONN-MILLS, AND BRIAN FRINK WILL HOLD THE TITLE OF DISTINGUISHED FACULTY SCHOLAR** for the duration of their tenures at Minnesota State Mankato. The award honors faculty members who have distinguished themselves as outstanding scholars and whose work has earned national or international recognition.
- Ten faculty and staff members were honored at the second annual **GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARD** ceremony for major contributions to globalization at the University. **LINDA GOOD**, Elementary and Early Childhood Education; **KARL HEISE**, Modern Languages; **BASIL JANAVARAS**, Marketing and International Business; **JOHN JANC**, Modern Languages; **LINDA MEIDL**, College of Business; **DONNA CASELLA**, English; **KATHRYN ELLIOTT**, Anthropology; **DAVID LAVERNY-RAFTER**, Urban and Regional Studies; **LEE TESDELL**, English; and **JACQUELINE VIECELI**, Political Science and Law Enforcement.
- The University captured awards in three categories during the annual Minnesota State Colleges & Universities academic and student affairs program excellence competition. **THE IRON RANGE ENGINEERING PROGRAM**, a partnership with the Northeast Higher Education District, **RECEIVED THE EXCELLENCE IN CURRICULUM PROGRAMMING AWARD**. **STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES RECEIVED THE INNOVATIVE PARTNERING AND COLLABORATION AWARD** for its 2009 H1N1 immunization initiative. **KAYE HERTH, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH & NURSING, RECEIVED THE OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATOR AWARD**. It is the seventh year in which Minnesota State Mankato has won one or more of the statewide awards.
- The University received **AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND EXCELLENCE IN FACILITIES MANAGEMENT** at the MnSCU Chief Financial and Facilities Officers meeting. This was the ninth consecutive year for the facilities management award and the eighth financial management award for the University.



CATHY AND AL ANNEXSTAD '67.
PHOTO BY GREGG ANDERSEN

SHARING HIS SUCCESS

Al Annexstad '67 overcame the odds to attend college and succeed in business. Now his family is helping other students do the same.

In the latter part of the 19th century, the writer Horatio Alger produced more than 100 popular books that featured rags-to-riches stories of impoverished young people who made good through a combination of personal ingenuity, character, and “pluck.”

Fast-forward a hundred or so years to a private ceremony held at the U.S. Supreme Court on April 8, 2010.

Justice Clarence Thomas welcomed a group of 11 distinguished Americans—including Al Annexstad, Minnesota State Mankato alum and chairman of Federated Insurance in Owatonna, Minn.—as the recipients of the 2010 Horatio Alger Award (other honorees included former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Gen. Tommy Franks, former commander of the U.S. Army Central Command).

The Horatio Alger Association is a national organization that has funded more than \$70 million in scholarships since its establishment in 1947. Its award is presented to persons who, like Alger’s heroes, “have overcome great adversity and humble beginnings” to achieve tremendous success.

Annexstad has done both.

He was born on a dairy farm near St. Peter, Minn., the youngest of four children. His father passed away when he was only five, leaving his mother to raise him and his siblings as she worked in a college cafeteria for the next 40 years.

Those early experiences provided Annexstad with both an incredible drive and a deep desire to attend college himself.

He worked several jobs as he put himself through school. He took his first job delivering newspapers at age nine; then during his senior year in college, an acquaintance suggested he might be interested in a sales job with a company called Federated Insurance. He was. He has remained with that company for more than 45 years, rising through the ranks to become chairman of a business that employs more than 2,600 people nationwide.

Annexstad’s background eventually led him, his wife Cathy, and their two children to create the Annexstad Family Foundation Scholarship Program in 2000. The Foundation offers debt-free scholarships at several colleges and universities for students who’ve been involved in the mentoring organization Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS), in part because Annexstad credits much of his success today to the caring adult mentors who similarly encouraged him in his early years. To date, the Foundation has provided scholarships to more than 140 students with an ultimate objective of serving 1,000 students or more.

Brendan Sjodin, a soon-to-be senior at Minnesota State Mankato, participated in BBBS, which pairs “littles” (children) with “bigs” (the adults who volunteer to serve as positive adult role models) as a child. Sjodin, who’s studying economics with a financial emphasis, applied for and received a four-year scholarship through the Annexstad Family Foundation. He initially enrolled at a private college but dropped out during his sophomore year, admitting that he wasn’t taking school seriously enough.

“I thought, oh God, I just lost everything,” Sjodin says of his generous scholarship. But Annexstad wasn’t willing to give up on him. Annexstad told him if he returned to school, the money would still be there. Sjodin then enrolled at Minnesota State Mankato, where he’s having more success—and where he’s been happier as well.

“He is a happy, cheerful, really down-to-earth guy,” Sjodin says of Annexstad. “He brings out the best in everybody around him. With the level of success he’s achieved in his life, he’s not one to give up, and he wouldn’t give up on me, either.”

Jennifer Polinder, a sophomore graphic design student at Minnesota State Mankato, is also attending college on an Annexstad scholarship. “When I got the scholarship, my first thought was, ‘Wow! It’s amazing what one family can do for so many students,’” she says. “It’s a wonderful thing they’re doing.”

The Annexstad Answers

TODAY asked Al Annexstad to reflect on business, philanthropy, the role of mentors, and what he's learned over the years.

Q: The Horatio Alger Association recently honored you. Alger's stories reflected a "rags to riches" life story that's been well documented in your own history. Do you feel that it's still possible for someone from humble beginnings to become successful in their career through sheer pluck?

A: While in some ways it may be a good deal more challenging today to rise from humble beginnings, I still think stories of success remain very possible in America. I have learned that the most successful people are most often those who have a clear vision of what they want to achieve. They then incrementally set out to fulfill this dream with ever-expanding knowledge, tireless energy, and a relentless passion for excellence. And this lifelong process is driven by an uncompromising desire to always, always do the right thing.

Q: People talk about making their own luck. Do you feel that applies to you, and if so, what do you think that you did right that allowed that to happen?

A: I recall an age-old expression that says, "The harder I work, the luckier I get." I think this has applied to me and to most of the so-called "fortunate" people I have come to know over the years. When I was young, I unfortunately lost my father to an untimely death. In the years that followed, my mother instilled in me that I would have to find a way to make it in this world on my own. In doing so, however, she reminded me that I must find a way to achieve success while also helping others along the way realize their dreams as well. I have never forgotten her good advice.

Q: You've been very involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters over the years. What do you feel this program gives both young people and the older mentors that they can translate into valuable life lessons?

A: The evidence is overwhelming that the intervention into the lives of at-risk children by caring, conscientious adults can have a dramatic effect upon the course of their lives. Unfortunately, today far too many kids are at risk of being lost to temptations and choices that can lead to trouble. These wrong turns can eventually be very costly, both for these young people and society as a whole. BBBS has for more than a century helped match underserved children with adult mentors who are coached to help show these kids a better way to lead their lives, so that they follow on a path to becoming productive members of society. Time and again the young people and their mentors look back upon these experiences as being truly life altering—for both of them.

Q: What is your greatest joy—both personally and professionally?

A: Personally, I find great joy in seeing my family secure and happy and, very importantly, sharing the values that my wife Cathy and I have tried to instill in them. We are very blessed. But this blessing carries with it an obligation from our hearts to give something back. Our Annexstad Family Foundation has been a tremendous rallying point for our family as we fulfill our mission of helping deserving young people realize their dreams of a college education.

Professionally, I find great pleasure in seeing others accomplish great things in their careers. I would advise prospective young employees to carefully assess the culture and history of a company to see that its values coincide with theirs. Over the long term, employees will more often place a higher value in their careers upon important intangible things than merely items like compensation and benefits. Doing meaningful work, taking on challenging assignments, receiving the recognition and respect of one's peers, and working for an organization that is making a significant contribution to society—all are of great significance to people who seek rewarding careers.

Q: Many people who have been fortunate in their lives believe it's important to give back. How does that thinking apply in your life?

A: Giving back is something that financially successful people—indeed, most people at some level—should do, but for the right reason. If philanthropy is to be meaningful, it must reflect one's values. In this way, charity can be sustained so that people in need truly benefit while those fortunate enough to be able to give back can realize a genuine sense of purpose and the knowledge that their community will be a better place.

Q: What is the single best piece of advice you've ever received?

A: Many years ago, a business owner who had mentored me offered some sage advice as I contemplated my future. He reminded me that the most successful people in life make a habit of doing things that less successful people either can't or won't do. The more I thought about his words, the more I came to realize he was right, especially as my career progressed. Maintaining a high level of personal discipline in our careers is seldom an easy undertaking, especially with so many distractions in life to take us off course. Things like being an early riser, carefully planning one's time and setting challenging goals all add up to good things over time.

In the end, I believe great careers are built one choice at a time. I think you will find that the most successful people are the ones who consistently do the so-called little things that make customers and their fellow employees feel good about their relationship with them. ✍️

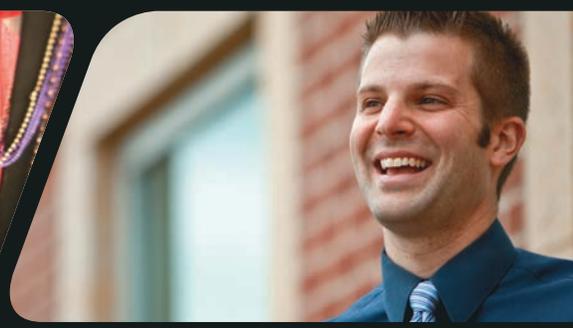
BY SARA GILBERT FREDERICK

MISSION POSSIBLE

THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE IS HELPING THE UNIVERSITY BOOST ENROLLMENT, BEAT THE BUDGET CRUNCH, AND SERVE ALL STUDENTS.



Lisa opens a door leading out of Taylor Center and ushers a small group of potential students and parents onto the campus of Minnesota State University, Mankato. She walks backwards as she leads them along the path that intersects the University's arboretum, then under the archway resurrected from buildings that once stood on the school's lower campus. She stops on Alumni Plaza to point out a few of her favorite landmarks, including the Ostrander-Student Bell Tower, which looms directly over the group. She tells her entourage that she especially appreciates that the bell chimes every hour, half hour, and quarter hour. "You can hear it pretty much anywhere on campus," she adds, "so no matter where you are, you know if you're late."



DIRECTOR OF ADMISSION BRIAN JONES '01, MS '04

Lisa, a senior at Minnesota State Mankato, is one of about 10 tour guides offering 20 campus tours each week through the Admissions Office. As such, she plays a critical role in helping prospective students turn into enrolled students.

"For traditional students, the campus visit is the single biggest factor in deciding where to go to college," explains Brian Jones, director of admissions at Minnesota State Mankato. "It is very much the decision-maker for many students."

That's one of the reasons why Jones decided to tweak the tour last year. He extended it from 60 to 90 minutes, to provide a more thorough, in-depth experience on campus. He changed the route, directing it through some of the prettiest parts of campus, both indoors and out. He doubled the number of tours scheduled each day but limited the number of people allowed on each one so that each student's questions could be answered and their needs met. "The focus is on being able to give everyone more personal attention," Jones explains. "We want to make sure that they have as good an experience here as possible. Our goal is to serve students and to help them find the right fit."

With budgets tight and shrinking, Jones recognizes that his office plays a critical role in impacting the funds available for the University. State appropriations have been set (and are down); so has the amount of tuition that can be charged. The only funding

mechanism Minnesota State Mankato can directly control is the number of students enrolled—which is where the Admissions Office enters.

The challenge is that the number of students available to recruit, admit and, ideally, enroll, is dropping. High school graduation numbers in Minnesota peaked in 2009 at 64,078; by 2015, that number will decline by 10 percent, to approximately 57,800 high school graduates.

Increasing enrollment in the face of decreasing graduating high school seniors doesn't sound easy. But Jones is working on some creative solutions to that real-world dilemma.

"Our challenge is to find new ways to reach those students," he says. "Basically, we have to do two things: We have to do a better job of recruiting our traditional students, and we have to be more open to new groups of students as well."

THE NUMBERS GAME

As her prospective students and their parents wind through campus, Lisa tells them about the buildings, the classrooms, the residence halls. She points out the auditorium in Trafton Science Center, the largest lecture hall on campus, and shows them a more intimate classroom in Armstrong Hall as well. She mentions how much she likes the variety of food available in the cafeterias. Along the way, she slips in a few facts about

Minnesota State Mankato. "When the University was founded in 1868, there were 27 students here," she tells them. "Now, there are 15,000."

By mid-June, more than 10,000 students had applied to attend Minnesota State Mankato in the 2010-11 academic year. That number has been increasing in recent years, in part because traditional first-year students are now applying to between seven and 12 colleges, as opposed to the three to five they've applied to in the past. "We have more than enough applications," Jones explains. "The real challenge we face in enrollment is to enroll a higher percentage of the students we admit."

One way Admissions is trying to increase the enrollment yield is by reducing the turnaround time on accepting applications. In the past, the acceptance process has taken about four weeks. Now, thanks to an entirely electronic system for reviewing applications, the process has been cut to less than two weeks.

"That's what students are demanding now," Jones says. "They apply online, click submit, and then call the next day to check on their application. We had to do better to stay competitive; if we don't meet the students' expectations, someone else will."

Admissions has also set up an automatic scholarship award notification, which tells potential students if they qualify for a merit-based scholarship when



they apply. In the past, they had to submit a separate application for scholarships—and wait for news on that as well. “Again, this is in response to their needs and expectations,” Jones says. “We had fallen behind the competition there, and now we are back out in front of it.”

WIRED WORLD

It's a lovely day and the tour stays outside as much as possible. But when Lisa opens the door to Ford Hall—one of the newest buildings on campus—the chill of the air conditioning provides a beautiful break. She stops in the hallway to let everyone enjoy it and to tell them about the efforts to make Ford Hall as green as possible, including the use of expansive windows to let in more natural light. As the tour resumes, the group passes several students making use of the spacious seating areas. Many have their laptops open and are hard at work. A father asks if the University offers wireless access to students, and Lisa confirms that it does: All of the buildings, with the exception of the residence halls, have wifi available, she says.

Jones knows that potential students are just as connected to all things wireless as current students are—and that Admissions needs to connect to them that way as well. So students can now apply online, and the link that allows them to do so is on Minnesota State Mankato's home page. A total redesign of the Admissions website has made it easier for students to research the University online; an online virtual campus tour is also in the works.

“Our goal is to make the interaction easier for students,” Jones says. “We want to help them conduct their research online and help them connect with the people they want to find, like professors, other students, and alumni. We want to make it very easy for them to see for themselves what a great campus this is.”

He realizes that he needs to meet prospective students where they are—and more often than not, that's online. “We have to communicate with them the way they do,” he says. “I might live my life by e-mail, but students don't even check their e-mail anymore. They live on social networks and by text messaging.”

That fact led Admissions to work with the University's Integrated Marketing team earlier this year to create a trial advertisement on Facebook. The ad directly targeted 16 to 18 year olds living within a 50-mile radius of the Twin Cities metro area. It ran for two months—and garnered a total of 16,000 click-throughs. “It was definitely successful,” Jones says. “From our perspective, it was a very effective way of reaching a targeted audience for less money than television ads and billboards.”

Now that Jones knows how successful Facebook can be, he's thinking about how else to use the social networking site to reach potential students. It's possible to expand geographically, perhaps targeting other markets, such as Chicago. It's possible to expand the age range to reach both traditional and non-traditional students. “The sky's the limit,” Jones says. “Facebook won't replace our television ads or our billboards, but it will augment and enhance those.”

The Admissions Office is also taking a more active role in University advertising in general, on Facebook and otherwise. Jones is now part of the decision-making

for how and where to invest advertising dollars, including the recent campaign, “Big ideas. Real-world thinking.” He also talks at least monthly with Jeffrey Iseminger, the assistant vice president of integrated marketing. “It's a natural fit,” Iseminger says. “It's essential to have sales, which is admissions, talk with marketing. That's what we're doing now.”

MAKING THE TRANSFER

On the way into Memorial Library, someone asks Lisa about the red sculpture near the parking lot. She explains that despite its resemblance to a pair of lips, the sculpture is actually called “Waves” and was erected in honor of a student who died at Minnesota State Mankato. She points out other pieces of art hanging around campus, particularly in the Centennial Student Union, and says all of it was created by students on campus. Then she encourages her group to peek into the recently remodeled Ostrander Auditorium, where she enjoys watching the free movies that are often shown during the school year.

Not all students come to Minnesota State Mankato directly out of high school. Especially in these difficult economic times, more students are choosing to enroll first at small, community colleges where they can get their general requirements done before moving on to a four-year college like Mankato. “The economy has definitely had an effect,” Jones says. “Students who might have gone to a private college are instead coming to us, but at the same time, students who might have come here are going to two-year colleges.”

Minnesota State Mankato has always tried to accommodate students transferring



in from two-year schools or other universities. But as enrollments at those schools has exploded in recent years, the University is making even more of an effort to connect with those students and facilitate easy transfers—and that has little to do with campus visits.

“They are much more interested in how their credits are going to transfer than in a campus tour,” Jones says. “They aren’t as much interested in the college experience as they are in the particular program they want to get into. They are looking for the most efficient way to get their degree done; they make their decision based on whether or not they’ll be able to get out in another two years.”

For them, the Admissions Office works hard to find the right information about how credits will transfer and to set up meetings with advisors and relevant faculty members—as quickly as possible. “We’ve got to have the answers for them, and we have to have those answers quicker and better than our competition,” Jones says.

The University has formed partnerships with several two-year schools, including Normandale and South Central College, and President Richard Davenport made visits to many of those colleges over the past year in an effort to reach more potential transfer students. But Jones says that what takes place at the department level is far more important than the role that the Admissions Office plays.

“More of the recruiting happens at the department level,” he explains. “So it’s been very important for us to work more closely with the academic departments and extended learning to remove any barriers that those students might be facing.”

MORE WITH LESS

The tour is almost over when Lisa spins through the turnstile at Otto Recreation Center and motions the rest of her group through. She leads them into the gym and smiles as she stands directly in front of the giant purple M that serves as the front wall. She’s already impressed the parents with the mention of free, unlimited laundry services in the residence halls and news that the shuttle bus will take their children to many off-campus destinations; now, she impresses the students by showing them the University’s state-of-the-art fitness facility. She points out the eight-lane track, the three basketball courts, the weight room and the elliptical machines, treadmills and other equipment. A few people whisper “wow” when she tells them that they can check e-mail, log on to Facebook, watch TV or even do homework while they work out, thanks to the computers attached to each machine.

Jones is proud to have guides showing off the newest and nicest parts of campus on the tours. “We’ve got a great campus to show them,” he says. “We have beautiful, brand-new facilities, a fabulous fitness center, and a great student union. We need to give these students time to experience all of the great things we have to offer here.”

Jones knows that improving the campus tour offers a significant return on investment, because so many students make their decision based largely on that tour. He knows that admitting and enrolling more students is crucial to the continued health and success of the University. But he’s also aware that budget constraints have forced departments across campus to do more with less, and that bringing in more students may seem to strain already scarce resources. Still, he is confident that the University community will embrace all of the students who choose to pursue higher education here.

“Ultimately, our mission is student success,” Jones says. “We are here to serve the students and to enable their success. We have no choice but to accomplish those goals.” ☞





PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHAD BROWNLEE AND MINNESOTA STATE MANKATO ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

CHASING THE DREAM

Alumnus Chad Brownlee has successfully traded an ice sheet for a music sheet.

Chad Brownlee chases dreams by trade.

His childhood goal by no means differentiated him from any other boy growing up in his native Canada. But the proximity to which he came to achieving that first aspiration did. Brownlee '07 grew up wanting to play in the National Hockey League.

And he very nearly did.

But storms roll in and life gets dark. The plans we made seem too hard ... —From Brownlee's single, "You're Not Alone"

A goal that might be ill-conceived for most was encouraged by Brownlee's on-ice aptitude, first on the youth rinks around Kelowna, British Columbia; later, in the British Columbia Major Junior Hockey League; and, finally, in Mankato's Verizon Wireless Center.

By the time Brownlee first donned the Maverick purple and gold, he was well on his way toward fulfilling his quest. Drafted by the NHL's Vancouver Canucks in 2003, Brownlee spent the next four years honing his craft with the Mavericks. The defenseman emerged with 134 collegiate games played, 201 penalty minutes, and two surgically repaired shoulders—tools previously key to his physical style of play.

Brownlee never latched on with the Canucks and was cut from the pro team's training camp after the completion of his Maverick career. The Dallas Stars were the next team to court the former Minnesota State Mankato standout, but in the midst of his first minor league season, another shoulder injury prompted him to re-think the likelihood that he would reach the goal he sought for the majority of his life.

In this life, I know, you can't always run for cover. You gotta make it on your own somehow ... —From Brownlee's single, "Carry On"

Unbeknownst to some, while pursuing his hockey dreams, Brownlee was nurturing a passion for music. He began playing piano at a young age, later learned the saxophone and was a member of the high school jazz band until the time constraints of a hockey hopeful forced music to the wayside.

"When I was playing junior hockey, I found myself with some spare time on my hands, so I picked up a guitar my parents gave me as a gift and started messing with it," Brownlee says. "As I got more comfortable, I just got a little better and a little better at it. It wasn't until I was in Mankato that I actually first started writing some songs."

One of those songs etched Brownlee's name among college hockey athletes who have played resounding roles in their respective communities. The Maverick captain penned and recorded "The Hero I See," a tribute to Anthony Ford, a nine-year-old whose battle with leukemia caught the attention of his favorite team. That effort, Brownlee's first publicly released piece of music, helped raise money for the foundation named after Ford and earned Brownlee a nomination for the NCAA's Hockey Humanitarian Award.

The song sparked a fire that didn't fully ignite until Brownlee was finally forced to hang up the skates in 2008. This is where most would also retire from the dream-seeking of their youth. Brownlee simply transitioned to a new aspiration: becoming a country music star.

I'm just a man with a simple song, a band of one, but words can be so strong ... —From Brownlee's single, "Hope"

Upon retiring from hockey, Brownlee started picking up his guitar—and his notepad—more regularly, visiting local open mic nights during time away from his day job at a Surrey, B.C., hockey shop. Encouraged by the response, he soon teamed with award-winning songwriter and producer Mitch Merrett on "The Best That I Can (Superhero)," his first single, which broke the Top 30 on the Canadian country music charts.

One might guess that this is where the link to Brownlee's Maverick past ends. To the contrary, says the rising Canadian country singer, who adds that his time in Mankato pushed him to these new heights.

"Those four years were very influential to me, both in who I became as a person and the decisions I made," Brownlee says. "I've used some of what I've learned in psychology to learn how to motivate myself, first in hockey and now as I pursue a career in music.

"I've always been a bit of a dream chaser," he adds. "I've been accused of making decisions with my heart instead of my head. But I know it's a process. I started all over with this ... it won't be easy to reach the ultimate goal. But it's the process that makes it all worthwhile." 📝



OFF THE FIELD

- Minnesota State had 14 teams score points in NCAA postseason competition and completed 2009-10 ranking fourth in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup standings. This year's results mark the fourth straight year that the Mavericks have finished in the top four in the country in the national standings.
- Long-time Minnesota State Athletics employee Cheryl Regan retired in August. The Mankato native worked with Minnesota State Mankato student-athletes, coaches, teams, and staff members for 25 years after joining the department in 1985. Her work spanned the careers of administrators and coaches including Georgene Brock, Rummy Macias, Ron Wellman, Don Amiot, Jim Schaffer, Lori Meyer, Dean Bowyer, Dan Runkle, Don Brose, Chuck Petersen, Nick Campa, Jim Makovsky, Mark Schuck, Donna Ricks, Marge Burkett, Matt Margenthaler, and Troy Jutting. Regan earned her undergraduate degree from Minnesota State Mankato in 1965.
- The NCAA announced that it has awarded its 2012 Division II national indoor track & field championship meet to Minnesota State Mankato. In addition to hosting the national indoor track & field meet in 2008, the University has served as the host for four other NCAA national championship events—wrestling in 1966, 1968 and 2004 and men's gymnastics in 1970.
- The Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference inducted Minnesota State Mankato luminary Manny Beckman into its Hall of Fame in July. Beckman was a three-sport athlete here from 1950 to 1954. The 11-time letter winner was part of nine conference championships during his stint at Minnesota State.
- Mavericks forward Tyler Pitlick was selected by the Edmonton Oilers 31st overall in the 2010 National Hockey League Amateur Draft. Pitlick, who tallied 11 goals and had eight assists for 19 points in 38 games as a freshman for Minnesota State Mankato in 2009-10, is the highest draftee ever to come out of the Maverick men's hockey program. Tim Jackman was selected 38th overall by Columbus in 2001 and 2010 Olympic silver medalist David Backes was selected by St. Louis 62nd overall in 2003. 📝



maverickscene



(1) Steve and Leah Galaudet '91 at Minnesota State Mankato Night at Target Field. **(2)** Distinguished Alumni Award winner Richard Nash '72 with Joel and Vera Stephenson at the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Awards. **(3)** Elizabeth Piepho, 2010 Harold J. Fitterer Service to Minnesota State Mankato award winner Shirley Skorr Piepho '76, '03 and Carol Skorr '71, '76. **(4)** Marjorie Fitterer '48, '57 (right) with daughter Lisa Johnson (middle) and granddaughter Allison Johnson (left). **(5)** 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award winner Stephen DiMeglio '87 and Dean Bowyer '71.

MAKE THE MAVERICK SCENE. Learn about events for alumni and friends at mnsu.edu/alumni.
Submit photos of your own alumni gatherings to today@mnsu.edu.



(1) Preston Davis and Yonis Gabow '08 at Minnesota State Mankato Night at Target Field. **(2)** Keith Brekke '70, '78 and Diane Brekke '70 at Mankato Social Hour. **(3)** Heather Biedermann '97, Mike Biedermann, Ruth Biedermann and Andy Biedermann at Minnesota State Mankato Night at Target Field. **(4)** Brian Wollum '08, Diane Berge '78, Brittany Wiger '06, '08 at Mankato Social Hour. **(5)** Alumni Director Jennifer Guyer-Wood '95, '98 with Muttnik from the Mankato MoonDogs at the Greater Mankato Growth Business After Hours Showcase.



Long lines, hard copies and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AT MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO.

phone calls are registration history.



Last fall, Information and Technology Services student employee Tom Rogers, supervised by webmaster Jeff Hundstad and supported by student web developers Court Cromwell-Carl and Gerardo Orellana, developed a one-of-a-kind Web 2.0 browser interface that allows students to plan their class schedules in an easy-to-read visual format linked to the University's online registration—one of few systems like it in the country.

Since 1999, class registration has been entirely online at Minnesota State Mankato. From 1991 through 2005, students used the MARS telephone registration system. Prior to MARS, registration was in person via hard copy (although beginning in 1985, when students submitted registration requests to staff members in the Ballroom or other sites on campus, they walked to a nearby printer to receive the results).

facultyemeritus

ROOTS AND RECONNECTIONS

Luth Tenorio remembers her first contact with Minnesota State Mankato quite clearly. It was 1963, and she had just graduated from Indiana University with a master's degree in nursing. She had noticed an ad for a teaching job in her specialty, mental health nursing, at what was then Mankato State College and had sent her resume. She was surprised to get a phone call the very next day, requesting that she come to Minnesota for an interview. When Tenorio returned to Bloomington, Indiana, she and her husband Norge—who was working on his master's of law thesis at the time—decided to start packing.

"I didn't interview anywhere else," she says.

Tenorio spent the next 30 years as a member of the Minnesota State Mankato faculty. She retired in 1993, after a six-year leave of absence to serve as the chair of the nursing department at Miami University of Ohio—two years before Norge also retired from three decades as a faculty member in the University's College of Business.

Now the Tenorios live in Seattle, where Luth moved to serve as Dean of the College of Nursing at Seattle University from 1993 until 2000. She also served as an accreditation site visitor for the National League of Nursing, the first national nursing accrediting agency in the country, and the American Association for Colleges of Nursing. Most recently, she has served on community boards and associations.

"I have been very busy," admits Tenorio, who is a native of the Philippines. "I tease people out here that I learned my work ethic in Minnesota."

She's not joking, however, when she says her time in Mankato laid the groundwork for everything else she's been able to do. The leadership opportunities at both Miami University and Seattle University wouldn't have come about without her experience in Mankato, she says. And without those positions, she likely wouldn't have been able to serve on boards and accrediting agencies either.

"I attribute all of that, all of what became for me and my career, to my long tenure at Mankato," Tenorio says. "It was a very rich experience for me."

During her time at Minnesota State Mankato, Tenorio helped launch the RN completion program for graduates of associate and diploma programs. She was the first woman to chair the University's curriculum committee (an experience that helped during her later positions with national accrediting agencies) and was the first minority to serve on a presidential search committee in the 1970s. She was also inspired to complete her doctoral degree, which she received from Texas Woman's University in 1986.

"We had a very active school of nursing in Mankato," she says, "with a very active faculty. There were four of us who received our doctorates from Texas Woman's University."

The Tenorios have maintained ties with many of their Mankato colleagues. They've tried to come back to Minnesota every year, although they've missed those trips the past couple of years. But they're just as likely to reconnect with friends in Florida, where the couple keeps a winter home. "We tell our Minnesota friends to come visit us in Florida," Tenorio laughs. "That's where we see a lot of Minnesotans."

Although they appreciate Florida's sunshine and warmth and have become active in their community there as well, they have nothing against Minnesota winters. In fact, Tenorio developed a greater appreciation for them after moving to Seattle. "We got a lot of sunshine in the winter there," she remembers. "In Seattle, it's quite cloudy in the winter. I could grow a lot more indoor plants in Minnesota than I can here. It may have been cold, but at least there was sun."

The Mankato sun helped more than just a few houseplants grow. It helped the Tenorios' careers flourish as well. "We really do feel that Mankato made it possible for us to realize our dreams," Tenorio says. "It helped us grow and cultivated us as professionals. We definitely feel a connection with that institution." ☞

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
LUTH TENORIO



"Mankato made it possible for us to realize our dreams ... It helped us grow and cultivated us as professionals."

classnotes

1950s

CHARLES JOSEPHES, '59,

St. Paul, MN, fondly recalls his days at what was then Mankato Teachers College, along with memories of the struggles of overcoming academic probation and other curves life can throw. He remembers the time Dr. VanSickle, when asked during a music appreciation class about Elvis Presley, dismissively replied, "(Presley's) just blues."

1960s

ROGER GOETSCH, '61,

Moorhead, MN, is retired and spending time with his wife on McDonald Lake, and winters in Moorhead as well as places in the south. He taught for 35 years in Eldo, NV, Fargo, ND, and at Penn State. He also was a Fulbright teacher in England.

MERLE SYKORA, '61,

St. Cloud, MN, retired in 1996 from teaching art at St. Cloud State University after 32 years there. While at SCSU, he had the opportunity to serve on the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) Examination Cut Score Task Force, which is the qualifier for professional status in interior design.

COURTNEY THORSON, '61,

Atlanta, GA, remembers being called to leave the working world and return to school by Dean Wissink, who volunteered to be his advisor, helped him get into the classes that he needed, and invited him to a family dinner, which included his wife's amazing pecan pie.

RICHARD TAYLOR, '63, '65,

Poway, CA, is retired and living in California.

DONALD PHELAN, '64,

Coeur D' Alene, ID, retired from the H. J. Heinz Co. where he was a food scientist, and won several Heinz technical excellence awards. He did some consulting in Canada for a couple of years after retiring from Heinz.

WILLIAM FRIEDOW, '65,

Britt, IA, retired in 2002 from North Kossuth High School. He taught Spanish at Waldorf College for five years and presently is the president of the Britt Area Food Bank.

JAMES WEISS, '66, '78,

Oakhurst, CA, has retired from being an elementary teacher and principal in Southern Minnesota for 36 years. Currently, he volunteers as an ESOL tutor and is president of the Mountain Area Literacy Council in Eastern Madera County, CA.

HON. CRAIG DUEHRING, '67,

Fairfax Station, VA, holds the title of Knight Commander with the Silver Star of the Order of St. Gregory the Great, and was honored for his support of chaplains in the U.S. Air Force.

D. ROBERT PETERSON, '67,

Grand Marais, MN, retired in 2006 after 25 years as the director of curriculum and instruction for the Bloomington Public Schools in Minnesota. During his tenure he held a number of positions, including Title I director, gifted and talented director, staff development director, and director of technology and curriculum, along with others.

CHARLES OVERBY, '67,

Big Stone City, SD, is a retired educator.

BRADLEY ERICKSON, '69,

Orono, MN, lives in Orono.

HARRIET BURGESSON, '69,

Henderson, NV, retired last year after working with people with disabilities for 36 years.

1970s

BARBARA GEERTSEMA, '70,

San Antonio, TX, is retiring after more than 27 years in teaching.

TERRY LAYTON, '71,

Colorado Springs, CO, has been named coach of the national men's basketball team of Trinidad and Tobago for the Caribbean Championships. He will speak at coaching clinics and camps in Asia, Africa, and the Americas through his basketball connections organization.



SIX 1960s GRADUATES GATHERED IN PALM SPRINGS, CA, IN MARCH. LEFT TO RIGHT: JACKIE (FRANER) HARTMAN '69, LINDA (OSMUNDSON) CRACE '69, SANDY (BERGENE) BERNDT '69, TONI (TUCKER) CUNNINGHAM '69, FAYE (BEESE) COLLINS '68, AND ELAINE (STEEKE) BUSETH '67.

CHARLENE LEWANDOSKI KNORR, '71,

Waconia, MN, is retiring from operating four dance studios for 42 years.

KATHRYN CUMMINGS, '72,

Bloomington, MN, lives in Bloomington.

A. BERGH, '73,

Kindred, ND, is a pastor with the United Methodist Church of Kindred and rural Walcott in Kindred, a career he started after he retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 2006.

PATRICIA (WHITEHOUSE) HANSEN, '73,

Orange City, IA, is a teacher within the MOC-FV Community School District in Orange City. She is the social studies curriculum coordinator and has three grown children. She enjoys being a grandmother and traveling and is thinking about when she might retire from teaching.

JIM SHEEHAN, '73,

Ham Lake, MN, past recipient of the Harold J. Fitterer Distinguished Alumni Service Award, represented America in the World Indoor Track Championship in Kamloops, Canada, in March where he was rated the third-fastest man in the world in the 1500-meter run.

GLORIA HAWLEY GRICE, '73, '76,

Spirit Lake, IA, is a retired registered nurse.



classnotes

Your classmates are eager to hear about you!

JAMES ZOTALIS, '73, '78,

Faribault, MN, is The Very Reverend, Dean of the Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour in Faribault. His wife **PAULA (NELSON) ZOTALIS, '89,** teaches fifth grade at Roosevelt Elementary in Faribault.

DEBRA (CECIL) MICHELS, '74,

North Mankato, MN, is an RN/QRC with Diversified Consultants, Inc., in North Mankato.

ERIC SPENCER, '75,

Cypress, CA, is the president, partner, and co-founder of Easy Choice Health Plan—a fast-growing and successful Medicare HMO—in Long Beach, CA. He founded this business after semi-retiring in 2003 from 25 years in healthcare executive positions in various states.

DAVID ENFIELD, '78, '81,

Sheldon, IA, got married in January and retired in June.

1980s

STEVE MCCONKEY, '80,

Madison, WI, is the president and founder of 4 WINDS—a track and field ministry that operates UndergroundNews.us and 4TrackandField.us, and works with some of the finest world athletes.

DR. RANDAL MUNSEN, '80, '90,

Tucson, AZ, is the chair of the department of social and behavioral sciences at Pima Community College in Tucson.

GENE CHAMBERLAIN, '81,

Decatur, IL, is vice president of the SFI Division with ADM in Decatur. He also is a board member of Michigan Technological University Industrial Advisory, Chemical Engineering Department.

SUSAN KRALL, '84,

Gold Canyon, AZ, has retired from human resource management.

ANDY BERKVAM, '86,

Lakeville, MN, is a teacher and coach in the Lakeville Public Schools. Most recently, he received recognition for his accomplishments as the head girls' basketball coach for the Lakeville North Panthers. He was recognized for his dedication of 20 years to the program

by the school district, his team won the Class 4A Minnesota State Girls Basketball Championship, the team went undefeated with a 32-0 record, and he was named the Class 4A Coach of the Year. He played basketball for the Mavericks from 1981 to 1986.

CHARLOTTE OLSON, '88,

Farmington, MN, is a teacher with the Intermediate School District 917 in Rosemount, MN. She also is a registered yoga instructor for Lifetime Fitness in Lakeville, MN, and is in the process of adopting a little girl.

RANDAL DAILEY-RUDDY, '88,

Moorhead, MN, is an account manager and marketing team member with Ignus Technologies a Fargo, ND, company that specializes in website design services.

JUANITA FLORES SMITH, '88,

Carrizo Springs, TX, is the enrichment department chair at Carrizo Springs Cons. ISD where she is teaching Spanish and reading and writing to students with dyslexic characteristics. She was named Teacher of the Month in January, and she has two daughters who have graduated from college.

BETHANY FOUNTAIN LINDBERG, '89,

Anoka, MN, was appointed by Gov. Tim Pawlenty to one of three trial court bench vacancies in the Tenth Judicial District in Anoka. Prior to that, she was the family law division chief attorney in the Anoka County Attorney's office, and the child support enforcement unit chief attorney in Anoka County. She belongs to a number of organizations.

TODD STAHL, '89,

Farmington, MN, recently became the district manager at Johnson Controls, Inc. in Milwaukee, WI, where he will be in charge of the custodial, maintenance and repair needs of a number of commercial buildings.

DIRK DEZEEUW, '89,

Helena, MT, is a medical administration contractor for Sterling Medical in Columbus, OH, through his employer the Montana Army National Guard State Surgeons Office in Fort Harrison, MT.

1990s

MATT HOLDEN, '90, '02,

Savage, MN, is a P.E./DAPE teacher for ISD #191 in Burnsville, MN, where he has been teaching since 1992. He will start his 19th season coaching football at Burnsville High School and is the special teams coordinator. He and his wife just welcomed their fourth child.

RHEA HEMISH, '92,

Mankato, MN, was promoted to partner at Eide Bailly LLP's Mankato office. She has more than 15 years experience in public accounting.

JEFFREY LUNDE, '93,

Brooklyn Park, MN, is a technical consultant at Dell, and a city council member for the East District, City of Brooklyn Park. Currently, he is running for mayor of Brooklyn Park. He and his wife, Jodi, have two sons.

CATHERYN MCSHANE, '93,

Yakima, WA, a Navy Petty Officer 1st Class has been chosen as Sailor of the Year with Naval Security Group in Yakima. She was selected as the top performer and cited for outstanding professional accomplishment, proficiency, leadership, initiative and military bearing.

CARLA (SOHLER) HEIR, '94,

Lino Lakes, MN, is the manager of finance for Ameriprise Financial, Inc. in Minneapolis, MN. She completed her MBA from the University of St. Thomas in May.

SARA PORTNER, '94,

Savage, MN, recently was elected to serve as chair-elect on the Minnesota Society of Certified Public Accountants (MSCPA) board of directors. She is the controller at Frana Companies in Hopkins, MN.

KENT SYVERSON '95,

Willmar, MN, shares a fond memory from the spring of 1991: "I was taking Biology 100, and we were starting a special project. We were planning to adopt some rain forest land in Belize. Three of us in our discussion group recorded a message that would be broadcast on KMSU. Next came the fund raising ... I didn't do so well. The only money I was able to raise was my own. Despite that, the response was very good. By the end of the quarter, we found out

Please use the form on page 23 to share your news. Class Notes are listed by decade and baccalaureate date.

that we had raised a little more than \$900, enough to adopt 18 acres. I don't know what happened after that, but I'm grateful to have taken part in something worthwhile."

MARK WEIBERG, '95,

Courtland, MN, is a flight paramedic with the Mayo Clinic Medical Transport in Rochester, MN. His wife, Nicole, is a flight nurse with Life Link III in Minneapolis, MN.

DEBORAH (GIESE) CUMMING, '98,

Mankato, MN, is a conservator for Lutheran Social Service in Mankato.

2000s

MICHELLE (MURZYN) LEBA, '00,

St. Paul, MN, a teacher within the St. Paul School District, will be named middle level social studies teacher of the year by the National Council for the Social Studies at its November conference.

GARY MYERS, '00,

Brownsdale, MN, recently was promoted to security and compliance analyst in IT services at Hormel Foods Corporation in Austin, MN.

TIM HUEBSCH, '02,

Maple Grove, MN, is the IS department manager for the Consumer Internet Team at General Mills and was selected by Minneapolis-St. Paul Business Journal's 17th annual "40 Under 40," a list that recognizes "fast-rising leaders for their unique professional and community contributions."

NATE HILLESHEIM, '02,

Winona, MN, owns and operates an Erbert & Gerbert's restaurant in Winona.

JESSICA (VAN HANDEL) DE FORREST, '03, '08,

Oakdale, MN, is a teacher with South Washington County Schools in Woodbury, MN, where she also coaches girls soccer at Woodbury High School. In addition, she practices athletic training through the Institute for Athletic Medicine and OSI Physical Therapy. She and her husband welcomed their second child, Crosby, in March.

SEAN JOHNSON, '04,

Bloomington, MN, is a worship and music assistant with Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley, MN.

He married his wife Becky in 2005 and graduated in May with a master's in sacred music degree in conducting from Luther Seminary in conjunction with St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN.

ROBERT MAROLD, '04,

Eden Prairie, MN, married **JENNIFER SCHMID, '03,** on April 24.

KAREN WRIGHT, '04,

Mankato, MN, is the operations director at KMSU/KMSK in Mankato, where she received first-place honors from the Minnesota Associated Press for her report on "Autism Awareness." She hosts the live weekday show "Minnesota Morning."

RASHEED RABBI, '04,

Sterling, VA, is a senior software engineer with the Department of Veteran Affairs in Fairfax, VA.

HEATHER DIERSEN, '04,

St. Louis Park, MN, recently joined the Law Office of Brian A. Meeker, Counsel to the State Auto Insurance Companies as a litigation attorney.

AMANDA (MILLER) JOHNSON, '05,

Eagan, MN, is a strategic account manager with StayWell Health Management in St. Paul, MN. She and her husband **PAUL JOHNSON, '06,** welcomed their first baby, Charles Harlowe, on March 11.

JEFFREY PELLEGRINO, '05,

Stow, OH, is the assistant director of faculty professional development center at Kent State University. He recently wrote a wilderness and remote first aid program guide for the American Red Cross, which gives information to those who are more than an hour away from definitive care.

ANDRES ANSEL, '06,

Baltimore, MD, is the director of programs at the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center of Baltimore. Recently he wrote a piece for the *Baltimore Sun* newspaper, which was picked up by the Associated Press.

ANN (WAGNER) HALLORAN, '06,

Chatfield, MN is a school social worker for Kingsland who got married on June 12.

KATHERINE BAIER WILHELMI, '06,

Marshall, MN, was named one of two Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year by the Minnesota Dietetic Association. The award is given to two registered dietitians under age 35 each year.

ASHLEY (TIBODEAU) GRUNZKE, '06,

Hastings, MN, is a registered nurse with Fairview Ridges Hospital in Burnsville, MN.

JOSEPH BACH, '08,

Mankato, MN, is an assistant branch manager with Wells Fargo Bank in Mankato.

BLAKE FRINK, '08,

Brighton, MA, is a direct support professional for Till Inc. He married **DEANNA SCHWEHR, '08,** June 12 at the home of his parents, Brian and Wilbur Frink.

GREGORY FRIE, '09,

Holmen, WI, is an administrative services manager at aXseum Solutions, LLC in Fort McCoy, WI. He and his wife were married in July 2009 and are expecting their first baby in September. He has very fond memories of his time at Minnesota State Mankato and is proud to be an alumnus. ☞

Emeritus professor of physics Jack Flinner, who taught at Minnesota State Mankato from 1969 through 1993, invites physics and engineering alumni to attend the fall meeting of the American Society for Engineering Education, North Midwest Section, October 21-23, 2010, in the Centennial Student Union on the campus of Minnesota State Mankato. For details, please contact Professor Flinner at jack.flinner@mnsu.edu or the chairperson of the planning committee, Professor Charles Johnson, at charles.johnson@mnsu.edu.

in memoriam

1930s

Grace Anna (Reilly) Doherty '30
Sheryl Alice (Brundage) Wells '33
Frances Louise Clara (Senf) Olson '35
Mary V. (Carlstrom) Anderson '36
Clara L. (Keller) McMurtry '36, '63
Donald Ferdinand Hultquist '37
Lois L. (Nelson) Eisenbarth '38
Blanche Catherine (Henry) Hennie '39
Eileen Marie (Seely) Jurgenson '39

1940s

Donald Norris Anderson '40
Sylvia Agnes (Hilger) Maher '40
Blanche Emma (Kingsboro) Moen '41
Joyce Bute (Peterson) Rasmussen '41
Betty P. (Pugh) Schrupp '42
Bernice Elizabeth (Vacek) Nawrocki '43
Glyde Junette Wheeler '44, '46
Beverly Arloine (Fifield) Roufs '47
Merle L. Van Cleve '48
Eugene F. McKibbin '49
Phyllis Ruth (Moeller) Wilkins '49

1950s

Edgar Leonard Olander '50
LeRoy David Olson '50
Stanley R. Stasel '53
Beverly P. (Pierce) Stroebel '53
Eloise Lorraine Pederson '54
Doraine Lois Peterson '54
Keith A. McMullen '55
Barbara Jane (Smith) Ulmen '55
Larrys Lynn Krueger '56
Donald Lee Baago '58
Jacob Julius Burk '58, '65
Everett Dwayne Foster '58, '60
Arlene Ann (Johnson) Naylon '59
Donald Richard Paulson '59

1960s

Robert Eugene Bock '60
Margaret Little Anderson '61
David Boyce Mathwig '61
Richard D. Welch '61, '64, '68
Bruce George Carlson '62

Leslie Howard Hanson '62
Charles Alfred Stegmeier '62
James Wilbert Anderson '63
Emma Louise Benson '63
Mervyn Leroy Jensen '63
Robert Lloyd Klaus '63
John Edward Boylan '64
Richard Allen Koch '64
Arleen Mildred (Chalin) Johnson '65
Gary Lee Nelson '65
Ted Richard Trunnelle '66
James Otis Godfrey '67
Janet Beth Jacobson '67
Geneil Kay (Cumming) Kopischke '67
James H. Littig '67
Maynard Lowell Schwandt '67
Delford W. Breitbarth '68
Arlene A. (Adolphson) Mattson '68, '76
Marlene Ione Nelson '68, '76
Judy Ann (Johnson) Nossun '68
Bruce W. Tichy '68
Mary Henrietta (Citurs) Johnson '69
Annette M. (Vik) Krapf '69
Donna Marie (Brown) McLoone '69, '92

1970s

Margaret E. (Fischer) Biegler '70
Ronald C. Johnson '71
Jerome Francis Sexton '72
Wendell L. Andersen '73
Louis D. Sickmann '73
Douglas Dean Smith '73
Daniel J. Bechtel '74
Charles Elbert Evans '74
James R. Grimmer '74
Eva Magdelyn (Ek) Olson '74
Terri Beth (Swenson) Mollert '75
Vera F. (Weirauch) Ballman Tuberg '76
Jean Harvey (Burton) Barck '76
David John Morrison '76
David Allen Bothe '77
Sue Marie (Salewske) Windschitl '79, '85

1980s

Paul Wayne Isaacs '80
Beth Ellen (Korbitz) Dougherty '82

Mary L. (Clark) Fenner '82
Debra Suzanne Faught '83
Gregory Allen Grothe '86

1990s

Paul S. Busse '98
Aaron William Honecker '98
Jenny E. (Kirchenbauer) Lamont '99

2000s

Debra Ann (Iverson) Buhmann '00
Thomas Steven Goblirsch '05
Christopher James Stranik '06

FRIENDS AND ATTENDEES

Helen Louise (Hoffman) Griffith
James H. Kagermeier
Joseph E. Lynch
Rodney N. Yarger

FACULTY AND STAFF

Donald N. Anderson
Shirley (Orgel) Forman
Harold W. Paulsen
Arnold C. Piersall
Evodia A. (Anderson) Reinikka
EuDean E. Severns
William J. Stock

To notify TODAY of alumni, faculty or staff members who have passed away, please send an obituary or funeral program to University Development, 126 Alumni Foundation Center, Mankato, MN 56001. If you wish to notify us via e-mail, or would like a copy of an obituary for someone listed above, please contact Connie Wodtke at connie.wodtke@mnsu.edu or 507-389-6762.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Please list any career changes, awards, honors, marriages, births or memorial information you'd like to see in TODAY and at MSUGrads.com. Due to publication schedules, your news may not appear in the next issue. Class Notes may be edited for length and clarity.

MAIL: Editor, TODAY
232 Alumni Foundation Center
Mankato, MN 56001
FAX: 507-389-2069 E-MAIL: today@mnsu.edu
ONLINE: mnsu.edu/alumni/update

ABOUT YOU

Name (including maiden) _____
Graduation year(s) _____
Major(s) _____
Degree(s) _____
Mailing address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home phone _____
Preferred e-mail _____
Professional title or position _____
Employer _____
Employer's address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Work phone _____

ABOUT YOUR SPOUSE/PARTNER

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Graduation year (if Minnesota State Mankato graduate) _____
Professional title or position _____
Employer _____
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