

MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

# TODAY

SPRING 13

## A Higher Degree

As of May 2013, all four of our doctoral programs will have graduates with their degrees. What they do next will take Minnesota State Mankato's evolution even further.

### INSIDE

*President Richard Davenport, page 4 | Alumna Cheri Rohlfing, page 6 | The Quintessential Maverick, page 12 | Bill Bessler's More Than Fair Career, page 14*

AL AND KATHY LENZMEIER like the big idea behind the College of Business Global Solutions Center. They like that it will create an opportunity to bring disciplines together to tackle problems, that it will break down silos and that it will become a catalyst for creativity, problem solving and teamwork. They like the opportunities it will create for Minnesota State Mankato students so much that they are giving \$1 million to help make that big idea a reality.

Join the Lenzmeiers in supporting the Global Solutions Center and the Big Ideas Campaign. Find out how at [mnsu.edu/bigideascampaign](http://mnsu.edu/bigideascampaign).



*“Minnesota State Mankato is setting the pace in terms of being able to really meet the needs of the world today. I feel it is incumbent upon all alumni who have the ability to give back to the institution that was instrumental in launching their careers—especially as state funding is being cut so dramatically.”*

—AL LENZMEIER '65

The  
Big Ideas  
Campaign

 MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO

## DEPARTMENTS

- 4 FROM PRESIDENT DAVENPORT
- 5 NEWSBRIEFS
- 12 MAVERICK SPORTS
- 16 MAVERICK SCENE
- 18 MILESTONES/CLASS NOTES

## ON THE COVER

The impact of the doctoral degrees conferred by Minnesota State Mankato is being felt throughout the state.



8



### 6 SOARING SUCCESS

Cheri Rohlfing '96, '01 is flying high, thanks to her persistence, passion and degree in aviation from Minnesota State Mankato.

BY CHRIS MIKKO

### 8 A HIGHER DEGREE

All four of our doctoral programs will have at least one graduate this spring. What does that mean for the University—and for Minnesota?

BY CAROL JONES '86, '04



### 12 THE QUINTESSENTIAL MAVERICK

Longtime wrestling coach Rummy Macias paved a path for future wrestlers.

BY WAYNE CARLSON '03

### 14 A MORE THAN FAIR CAREER

Bill Bessler's tenure at Minnesota State Mankato included 28 years as the director of the regional science fair.

BY KELLY O'HARA DYER '89



### 15 A TEACHER'S GIFT

Pamela Fredrickson '68 helps future teachers start their educations at Minnesota State Mankato.

BY KELLY O'HARA DYER '89

## READ MORE ONLINE

### IT'S ALL ABOUT GAGE!



More at [today.mnsu.edu](http://today.mnsu.edu)

- > Photos of Gage Towers through the years.
- > Memories from those who lived there and loved it.
- > Why it's coming down, and how it will happen.
- > Countdown to demolition.
- > Opportunities to be part of the process.





## REALIZING A VISION

Helping Minnesota State Mankato gain approval to grant doctoral degrees was one of my first priorities when I came to this institution in 2002—but it was hardly a new initiative on campus. Efforts to accomplish this goal dates back more than half a century. I was proud to help champion the legislation that allowed our university to offer doctoral programs. I am even prouder to announce that each of the programs will have conferred one or more doctoral degrees by spring of this year. In addition, I am pleased to share that our University faculty have dramatically increased research and scholarly activity since 2002. Many are receiving national and international acclaim for their work.

This is another important step toward achieving distinction and to fostering a thriving, creative and robust academic culture at our university through undergraduate and graduate research and scholarship. We are all about finding solutions and innovations to real-world issues whether these challenges arise in the arts and humanities, the sciences, or other academic areas of the university. We are an institution that goes beyond the mere “discovery stage;” our professors focus on the practical side of research, applying their research to find solutions to real world problems in Minnesota and around the globe.

Another important strategic goal for the University involves planning for a campus of the future, which embodies a green, sustainable environment characterized by modern teaching and learning facilities and designed with technology that will enable our students and professors to connect globally in their teaching and learning. We are also designing a beautiful, pedestrian friendly campus that aligns with our tagline – “Big Ideas. Real world Thinking.” In the near future, the University has planned campus construction projects, renovations, and demolitions that will move us closer to our campus of the future goals.

One of those projects involves a building on campus that holds many memories for our graduates. On June 29, we will bid a fond farewell to the aging Gage Towers. Gage is a touchpoint for many of our 109,000 alumni worldwide. We know that many of you have fond memories of that building and we want to honor those memories by inviting you to events surrounding the Gage demolition, which is scheduled for the morning of June 29. Our Alumni Relations office has been hard at work planning a variety of events surrounding the removal of the Gage Towers. More details will be shared in the near future.

In the meantime, we encourage you to visit [mnsu.edu/gage](http://mnsu.edu/gage) to learn more. You can also read more about the process, and about Gage's importance to the University community through the years, by visiting the online TODAY magazine at [today.mnsu.edu](http://today.mnsu.edu).

It's exciting to see our shared visions for this campus become reality. Thank you for the role each of you has played in making this University the great place that it is today. ☺

*President Richard Davenport*  
[president@mnsu.edu](mailto:president@mnsu.edu)



MINNESOTA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
MANKATO

Richard Davenport, President

Linda Baer, Interim Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

Robert H. Hoffman, Vice President for Strategic Business, Education and Regional Partnerships

Ed Clark, Vice President for Technology and CIO

Douglas P. Mayo, Vice President for University Advancement

Richard J. Straka, Vice President for Finance and Administration

## TODAY

SPRING 2013

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 2

EDITOR

Sara Gilbert Frederick

DESIGNER

Wendy Johnston

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Gregg Andersen, Kenn Busch,

Jonathan Chapman, Linda Clavel,

Brian Fowler, Bridget Fowler, Chelsea Kocina

PRINTER

Corporate Graphics Commercial

WRITERS

Wayne Carlson, Kelly O'Hara Dyer,

Chris Mikko, Helen Healy, Carol Jones

PRINT COORDINATOR

Doug Fenske

CONTRIBUTING STAFF

Paul Allan, Karen Burger,

Kim Rademaker, Connie Wadtke

TODAY is published two times per year by the Division of University Advancement. TODAY is distributed to more than 98,000 alumni and friends.

The mission of TODAY is to entertain, to inform and to connect the reader to the campus. TODAY welcomes story ideas supporting this mission. Full manuscripts are not accepted. TODAY is not responsible for unsolicited material.

TODAY is copyrighted in its entirety. This volume and all articles, images and photographs within may not be reproduced in any form without written permission of the editor.

**ADDRESS CHANGES & CLASS NOTES:** Send to TODAY, Class Notes & Address Changes, Minnesota State University, Mankato, 232 Alumni Foundation Center, Mankato, MN 56001, e-mail to [today@mnsu.edu](mailto:today@mnsu.edu), by fax to 507-389-2069 or call 507-389-2523. Death announcements must be accompanied by a memorial service program or published newspaper obituary.

**LETTERS:** Send letters intended for publication to TODAY, Minnesota State University, Mankato, 232 Alumni Foundation Center, Mankato, MN 56001, e-mail to [today@mnsu.edu](mailto:today@mnsu.edu) or fax to 507-389-2069. TODAY reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. Include name, address, graduation year and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters are not considered for publication. All letters become property of TODAY. Submission of your letter constitutes your permission to publish it.

Member of the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities System. Minnesota State University, Mankato is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity University.

This document is available in alternative format to individuals with disabilities by contacting the magazine staff at the address, e-mail, and/or fax number listed above or at 800-627-3529 or 711 (MRS/TTY).

# newsbriefs

- An **ENERGY-SAVING PROGRAM** that was started at the end of 2012 should **SAVE THE UNIVERSITY AS MUCH AS \$119,000 A YEAR** by reducing heating and electrical costs. The Public Building Enhanced Energy Efficiency Program, which is administered by the state of Minnesota, involves a series of 27 modifications to systems and equipment that will allow the University to more effectively manage temperature control in campus buildings, reduce heat loss and save money in utilities.
- **JASPER HUNT**, a professor of experiential education, **GAVE THE PRESTIGIOUS KURT HAHN ADDRESS** at the annual International Association for Experiential Education Conference in November. Hunt also received the Kurt Hahn Award for his contributions to the development and advancement of experiential education.
- Mankato-based accounting firm **ABDO EICK & MEYERS, LLC, PROVIDED A \$25,000 LEAD GIFT TO GO TOWARD THE ADVISORY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SUITE IN THE PLANNED COLLEGE OF BUSINESS GLOBAL SOLUTIONS CENTER.** The Advisory Council expects to raise the remainder of the \$200,000 needed for the suite from current and former College of Business Advisory Council members.
- **SCOTT FEE**, an associate professor of construction management, received the **PATHFINDER AWARD FROM THE GREATER MANKATO DIVERSITY COUNCIL** for his efforts to build relationships and partnerships with individuals and institutions in South Africa.
- Economics graduate **JUSTIN BEDORE '12** was honored as one of three international recipients of the Omicron Delta Epsilon's 2012 Outstanding Student Leadership award.
- **MICHELLE ALVAREZ**, an associate professor of social work, was named an American Council on Education Fellow for the 2013-14 academic year. She is one of 50 fellows selected, and one of just two representing a college or university in Minnesota.
- The College of Business announced that it will offer a **MASTER OF ACCOUNTING PROGRAM STARTING IN FALL 2013.** The program, which can be completed in one year, is designed to provide students with the credit hours and skills required to sit for the CPA exam and advance in public accounting.

## SPACES

- **CLINICAL SCIENCES BUILDING:** The design of Minnesota State Mankato's new 56,000-square-foot Clinical Sciences Building, which will provide clinic and office space for Dental Hygiene and Speech and Hearing, as well as lab facilities for the School of Nursing, will be completed this spring; funds for construction of the \$28 million building are being sought in the 2014 capital bonding session. The building standards will be followed, ensuring it will be highly energy efficient and constructed in an environmentally conscious manner.
- **MEMORIAL LIBRARY TO CENTENNIAL STUDENT UNION PEDESTRIAN LINK:** Work on this long-awaited underground connection between the Library and the rest of campus, via the Union, will begin the Monday after spring commencement. The goal will be to have the south entrance to the Library open at the start of the fall semester, with final completion in October. As added value to the campus, an **OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATER** will be created on the west side of the pedestrian link as part of the project excavation. The amphitheater will provide natural lighting into the pedestrian link and create a new performance space capable of holding 500 people. The design incorporates some unique structural wall angles that will accelerate the construction schedule, reduce the cost of waterproofing and create a more open feeling in the predominately underground facility.

## ROASTING BASIL

Dr. Basil Janavaras, who founded the University's International Business program in 1974, will be retiring in June.



On April 25-26, he's hosting the Janavaras International Business Conference at the Courtyard by Marriott in Mankato, where many of his former students will have the opportunity to share their favorite stories.

### Q: WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF FROM YOUR 40 YEARS OF TEACHING?

A: My life-long commitment to international business education and training in an attempt to create an environment and provide opportunities for both students and practitioners to think globally and act locally.

### Q: WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH YOUR TIME AFTER RETIREMENT?

A: Spend more time with my family, travel for business and pleasure and continue enhancing my web-based international business software.

### Q: WHAT IS YOUR HOPE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS PROGRAM AT MINNESOTA STATE MANKATO?

A: That it can expand its leadership role in international education and training and revive the Global Business Institute on campus. I would like to see the GBI develop and deliver hands-on training programs for entrepreneurs, business managers and other practitioners in collaboration with key institutions and stakeholders and get students involved in every step along the way. ☺

For more information about the conference, visit [cob.mnsu.edu](http://cob.mnsu.edu)



# SOARING SUCCESS

Persistence and passion have paid off for aviation alumna Cheri Rohlfling.



Conventional wisdom tells us that natural ability is the best predictor of career success: You can't make a living as a lawyer, computer programmer or engineer without some measure of aptitude for the field. While there's some truth to that line of thinking, numerous recent studies have pointed out that ability is far from the only relevant factor. Traits such as optimism, resilience and even gratitude are arguably just as important.

Cheri Rohlfling '96, '01, offers a telling case in point. Twelve years ago, she landed her dream job as a pilot with Northwest Airlines. It was the product of hard work, her love of flying and, yes, her natural abilities. But less than a year into her new role, she lost that job because of factors beyond her control. It would have been easy to give up hope at that point. But Rohlfling persisted, never losing her passion for flying and even looking for ways to give back to the aviation community. Eventually, those efforts—and that attitude—paid off in numerous and often unexpected ways.

## READY FOR TAKEOFF

The epiphany hit when Rohlfling was a high school junior in Elk River, Minn. She was sitting in a science class—Aerospace Science, to be exact—when she realized she wanted to be a pilot. “It was an excellent class, and we had a great teacher,” she says. “I remember thinking, ‘Hey, I could do this as a career and make a pretty good living at it.’ I decided right there that I wanted to be a pilot for Northwest Airlines.”

The following summer she attended the Minnesota Aviation Career Education (ACE) Camp, a week-long, residential camp for high school students. The experience cemented her desire to fly. “It was really fun,” she notes. “There was a mix of classroom work, plus tours of different facilities. We even got to fly in planes, helicopters and gliders.”

Rohlfling built on that experience by taking flying lessons during her senior year of high school. During that year, she also applied to Minnesota State Mankato—in part because her father had graduated from the University, but also because it had a well-regarded aviation program. She earned her pilot's license on the

same day in 1992 that she moved to Mankato to begin the four-year Aviation Business Management program.

The program proved to be an ideal fit. The classes were challenging, covering everything from aviation law and airport management to aircraft electronic systems, navigation, aerospace propulsion and more. It provided students with experience on multi-engine planes. And it offered an option that worked particularly well for students like Rohlfling, who already had their pilot's licenses: Qualified students could work as flight instructors. “Not all programs allow you to do that,” she says. “It was really great—I could work part time as an instructor. It was an excellent way to build experience for my career, and it also made me realize that I enjoyed teaching.”

After graduation, she took a job as a pilot flying a 19-passenger, turboprop plane for Great Lakes Airlines, a regional carrier. From there, she moved on to fly corporate jets for Mankato-based North Star Aviation. In May 2001, she was hired by Northwest Airlines as a DC-9 pilot. It was her big break. A decade after deciding on her career choice, she had made it.

Things would soon change, however.



## GROUNDING

The 9/11 terrorist attacks had a devastating effect on the airline industry. Nearly every carrier suffered serious financial losses as fear of additional attacks choked off passenger demand. Business travel—a staple of airline revenues—dropped off as companies cancelled everything but essential trips. And the federal government instituted expensive new security measures. The result: Airlines began bleeding money and laying off employees (or providing “furloughs,” as they’re known in the industry). Rohlfsing was furloughed in the fall of 2001.

While the move was a shock, she quickly rebounded. She began teaching as an adjunct instructor in Minnesota State Mankato’s Aviation Management program, eventually working up to a full-time position, and rediscovered an old passion. “It made me realize again how much I enjoy teaching,” she says. “It’s great to work in a college environment. The students are inquisitive and enthusiastic, and I just love sharing my love of aviation and working with them to help them reach their goals.”

As Rohlfsing’s furlough extended through the mid-2000s, she threw herself into teaching. In 2005, she enrolled in the University’s one-

year Experiential Education master’s degree program. “The program was excellent,” she says. “It emphasized hands-on techniques and methods for getting students involved in the classroom setting, rather than learning only by lectures. I also could focus on aviation-related projects during my coursework, so it was the perfect fit for me.”

In addition to her work at the University, Rohlfsing helped start the Mankato-area chapter of Women in Aviation International, a nonprofit that encourages the advancement of women in aviation career fields. She also returned to the ACE Camp as a volunteer. A role on the camp’s planning committee soon turned into a new position as its director and chairperson—which she continues today. “It’s a lot of work and practically a full-time job in some respects, but I absolutely enjoy it,” she says. “There’s nothing like seeing a kid’s face when he or she flies in a helicopter or glider for the first time.”

## BACK IN THE SKY

Northwest Airlines called Rohlfsing back to work in 2007, shortly before the company merged with Delta. Today she’s the first officer on a Delta Airbus A-320 jet and flies primarily

domestic U.S. routes. She’s not the only person who’s been brought back, either. In fact, the airline industry is now facing a pilot shortage fueled by the gradual economic rebound, a wave of retirements by aging Baby Boomer pilots and a range of other factors. Some observers suggest the industry could be on the cusp of the biggest wave of pilot hiring in history. “The airlines are scrambling to fill spots,” says Rohlfsing. “Now is a great time to be a pilot—or to go to school to learn how to be one.”

She says she wouldn’t mind helping train future generations of pilots, perhaps teaching one class per semester or year as an adjunct instructor. But as much as she enjoys teaching, it doesn’t compare to her passion for flying. That deep-rooted love fueled her desire to get into education in the first place—and it provided her with the resilience to weather the challenge of a long furlough. “I love everything about flying—traveling, seeing the sun every day, going to new cities,” she notes. “I enjoy it when customers notice a nice landing, or when I can make someone’s travel experience easier or better.”

“There’s never a day where I don’t want to go to work in the morning,” she adds. “I get to do what I love to do. What could be better than that?” ✈

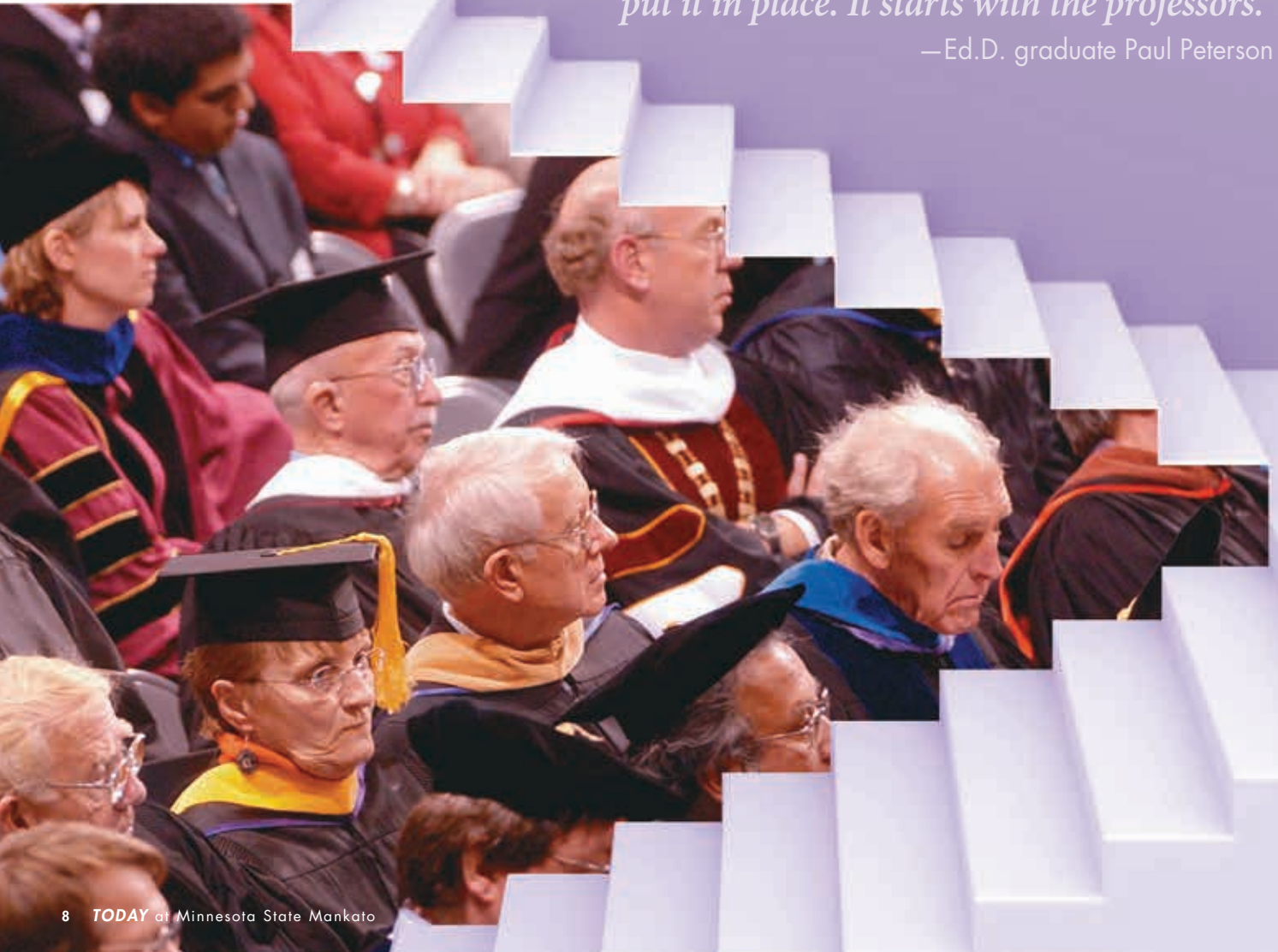


# A Higher Degree

As of May 2013, all four of our doctoral programs will have graduates. What they do with their degrees will take Minnesota State Mankato's evolution even further.

*"A program is only as good as the people who put it in place. It starts with the professors."*

—Ed.D. graduate Paul Peterson







For as long as anyone in the College of Graduate Studies and Research can remember, officials from Minnesota State Mankato had been lobbying legislators for approval to offer doctoral programs. “It was a natural progression for the University,” says Chris Mickle, the director of graduate studies. “We were prepared, there was a need in the state, and we were equipped to meet it.”

Perhaps it was the changing landscape of higher education in Minnesota. Perhaps it was the changing needs of potential doctoral candidates. Whatever the case, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system (MnSCU) granted Minnesota State Mankato approval to offer its first doctoral programs in March 2007. By May 2013, doctoral candidates from all four programs will have been conferred: nursing, counselor education and supervision, educational leadership and school psychology.

The addition of doctoral programs elevates and transforms the institution, its students and the greater community by increasing both the amount of research being done and the amount of funding for grants and contracts with outside agencies. It also supports education at its highest level.

“We truly are poised to become an even greater University, one that is not only an engine but a leader in generating solutions for the problems facing our state, nation and world,” says President Richard Davenport.

Even in their infancy, the doctoral programs clearly have attracted a different caliber of student and faculty to the University. The people involved are passionate about their fields, and they challenge each other to think about themselves, their professions and the world in a new way.

“Without a doubt, obtaining a doctoral degree is unlike anything I could have ever imagined,” says Katelyn Romsa, who has the distinction of earning the first doctoral degree conferred by Minnesota State Mankato. She received her Ed.D. in counselor education and supervision in 2009. “I have become

mentally stronger and more courageous than I have ever been and, as a result, I see the world differently.”

## AN ACT OF CONGRESS

Gaining approval to offer doctoral programs literally took an act of Congress. And that was just the beginning.

In 1998, MnSCU received a legislative directive to assess the feasibility of doctoral degree programs within the system. In November 1999, the MnSCU Board of Trustees authorized the state universities to offer doctoral degrees in select applied areas: education, nursing, psychology, business administration and audiology.

It was then that the real work began. Four Minnesota State Mankato programs—nursing, counselor education and supervision, educational leadership and school psychology—submitted doctoral program proposals. In addition to falling within the parameters of legislation, faculty in these areas showed the interest and perseverance required to make the programs a reality.

“We viewed the creation of a doctoral program as a natural evolution of our department,” says Rick Auger, counseling and student personnel professor. “We had been providing master’s programs in mental health counseling, school counseling and college student affairs for 40 years and felt it was time to expand.”

The process for each program was long and work-intensive. Entire curriculums were developed and approved. Funding was secured. Faculty was hired and/or reassigned for effective program delivery. Prospective students were recruited and interviewed.

Adding doctoral programs requires multi-level approval. “Proposals were vetted with departments, college deans, the dean of graduate studies, graduate curriculum and policy committee, council of deans, provost, MnSCU and finally the Higher Learning Commission (a regional accrediting body),” says Barry Ries, interim dean of the College of Graduate Studies and Research. “It required months just to get HLC’s approval.”

## RIGOR AND COLLABORATION

In order to teach at the doctoral level, faculty members must be appointed to Graduate Faculty as research faculty. “Research faculty status requires a demonstration of significant research productivity,” Mickle says. Doctoral programs require a different level of commitment to research. This commitment is reflected in the programs and noticed by graduates.

“A program is only as good as the people who put it in place. It starts with the professors,” says Paul Peterson, who received his Ed.D. in educational leadership in 2012. “The level of support from the faculty was incredible, but on the other side, they had extremely high expectations.”

“The collaborative efforts of faculty are a real asset to the program,” says Joyce Bredesen, who earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in 2012. “Professors were well prepared and the courses were rigorous and well done. And the push to review evidence-based literature redirected my career. It enhanced my teaching and it is evident that it impacted others as well. I see people from my cohorts also presenting and sharing their research at conferences.”

In addition to presenting their research, Mankato’s doctoral candidates are publishing their work. Julene Nolan, a doctoral candidate in school psychology who is expected to earn her Psy.D. this May, co-authored studies published in peer-reviewed journals such as *School Psychology International* and *Education and Treatment of Children*. “Faculty in the school psychology program push research really hard,” Nolan says. “I will have three papers published when I graduate.”

“All the faculty members have high expectations,” says Romsa. “They stretch you as far as you can be stretched. I remember Dr. [Jacqueline] Lewis saying, ‘We want you to feel like you have earned this.’ I definitely feel like I have earned it.”

Romsa’s research explored student-faculty interactions on the Mankato campus. “I was interested to learn how student-faculty interactions and grade point average might predict student retention and satisfaction,” says Romsa. Her findings determined that students’ overall satisfaction and GPA were statistically significant in predicting student retention.

As she moved through the program, Romsa changed her ideas about herself as a researcher. “The faculty challenged me to think about things at a higher level,” she says. “If I have a question, I know how to find the answer scientifically. I can conduct my own research. I have gained the tools to find solutions.”

## REAL-WORLD CHANGE

The doctoral programs at Minnesota State Mankato serve as a springboard for graduates. They complete the programs feeling enriched, confident and energized to make significant changes in their professions and the communities in which they live and work. Often, the research they conducted as part of their dissertation opened doors for them professionally.

Bredesen used Photovoice methodology to compare national healthcare guidelines to the actual experience of 15 homeless families in St. Paul, Minn. “I gave cameras to people who were homeless and asked them to take pictures of things that affected their health, either positively or negatively. Then we met regularly to discuss the photos,” Bredesen explains.

In the process, she collected some powerful feedback about access to healthcare.

“For example, a photo of a pencil might signify a homeless family’s challenges with filling out and maintaining healthcare paperwork,” she says. “They ask, ‘Where am I going to keep these papers? How am I going to access them? How am I going to fill out this paper when I don’t have an address?’”

Bredesen is using her study to bring about awareness and improve delivery of healthcare service. She held a community forum with representatives from 15 different organizations in St. Paul. Forum members used the findings to develop ideas to improve delivery of care. She wrote up and distributed the recommendations to community agencies. In addition, Bredesen has presented at 15 different conferences, some internationally.

Peterson studied the perceptions of licensed principals on the effectiveness of Minnesota’s principal licensure procedures. “I conducted a series of surveys and focus groups to study the relevancy between what we are teaching people in higher ed and whether it is linked to the actual job of principal,” he explains. “I found strong or high relevancy to virtually every competency.” The study provides critical information to the principal licensing review board.

The educational leadership doctoral program addresses the need for advanced preparation of educational leaders and focuses on applied research. “The process of my research and the doctoral program has made me a better administrator,” says Peterson. “Having access to the latest and greatest research and great professors opens your eyes to the possibilities within the field. It sparked my interest in other areas of educational leadership—research, focus groups, etcetera—and how that information can inform what we do as a school.”

Peterson pursued his doctorate because of his love of learning. “The jobs in education are always changing. As an educational leader, I wanted to stay sharp myself,” he says. “We expect so much of our educators; we talk about 21st century learning and staying relevant. I want to make sure I model that.”

Nolan, who was looking for an opportunity to work internationally, developed a research study that documented the results of implementing the Good Behavior Game (a classroom-wide behavior management tool) at an international school in Belize. Results from her study indicate that the Good Behavior Game is effective in reducing students getting out of their seats, talking out during class and tattling across three elementary classrooms; it was the first research to do so.

Now Nolan is making a difference in Minnesota through her work with schools in Belle Plaine and Jordan. “In addition to testing, I serve on problem-solving teams where we develop early interventions for struggling students,” Nolan says. “Now that they know what I can do, both teachers and parents are reaching out for help. I am getting the full experience of a practitioner.”

The school psychology program prepares students to attain certification to practice as school psychologists and/or pursue other doctoral level employment, including teaching at the university level.

## RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Earning a doctorate changes the way people think. “They leave the program very different people,” says Sue Ellen Bell, a professor of nursing. “It broadens both their thinking and their career opportunities.”

Many of those career opportunities are in Minnesota. Romsa teaches at Minnesota State Mankato. Bredesen teaches at Metro State. Peterson is a principal with St. Peter Schools. Nolan works as a school psychologist in Belle Plaine and Jordan. And they are not the exceptions to the rule.

Ries sees such graduates staying in the area as a return on the state’s investment in Minnesota State Mankato’s doctoral programs.

“I think the University was very forward looking—realizing there were needs in the state that were not being met and recognizing that our faculty and future doctoral students could help solve some of those problems and meet some of those needs, especially workforce needs in education, psychology and nursing,” he says. “Many times traditional doctoral program graduates move out of state, but the majority of our graduates stay in state. There is a need in the state, and Minnesota State Mankato is taking care of the need.”





# By the Numbers

- |    |   |      |  |
|----|---|------|--|
| 19 | Number of doctoral degrees conferred, as of December 2012 | 167  | Number of research faculty   |
| 2  | Number of Psy.Ds expected to be conferred in May          | 100  | Number of students currently enrolled in doctoral education tracks |
| 5  | Number of Ed.Ds awarded                                   | 2007 | Year first doctoral programs offered                               |
| 14 | Number of DNP's awarded                                   | 2009 | Year first doctoral degree conferred                               |





PHOTOS COURTESY OF MINNESOTA STATE MANKATO ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

# THE QUINTESSENTIAL MAVERICK

*Rummy Macias paved a wide, clear path for the future of wrestling at Minnesota State Mankato.*

Legend. Innovator. Champion. You can pick one, if you want. But be forewarned: You won't be able to describe Rometo "Rummy" Macias in a word.

In fact, when examining Macias's career, it's hard not to continuously search for an adjective that goes further in describing the man who may be more "Maverick" than anyone else associated with the University.

You can say that Macias put the Minnesota State Mankato wrestling program on the map, because he traveled all over it. He started the wrestling program in 1950 and coached it for 38 years, inspiring young athletes to leave farms all over southern Minnesota and northern Iowa to become Maverick wrestlers, where they would go the extra mile to face the best competition in the country.

You can also say he wrote the book on wrestling, because he penned *Wrestling*, a 126-page hardcover examination of techniques, published in 1965.

In his "spare" time at the University, he served two stints as golf coach, earning four NCC team titles and one NIC title, and was twice named the NCC Golf Coach of the Year. Oh, and he was an assistant coach with the football program.

Macias isn't just in the Hall of Fame. He's in seven of them.

And today, at the age of 90, Macias is re-inventing semi-retirement in Singer Island, Fla., where he still helps coach high school wrestling. His love for it is remains palpable.

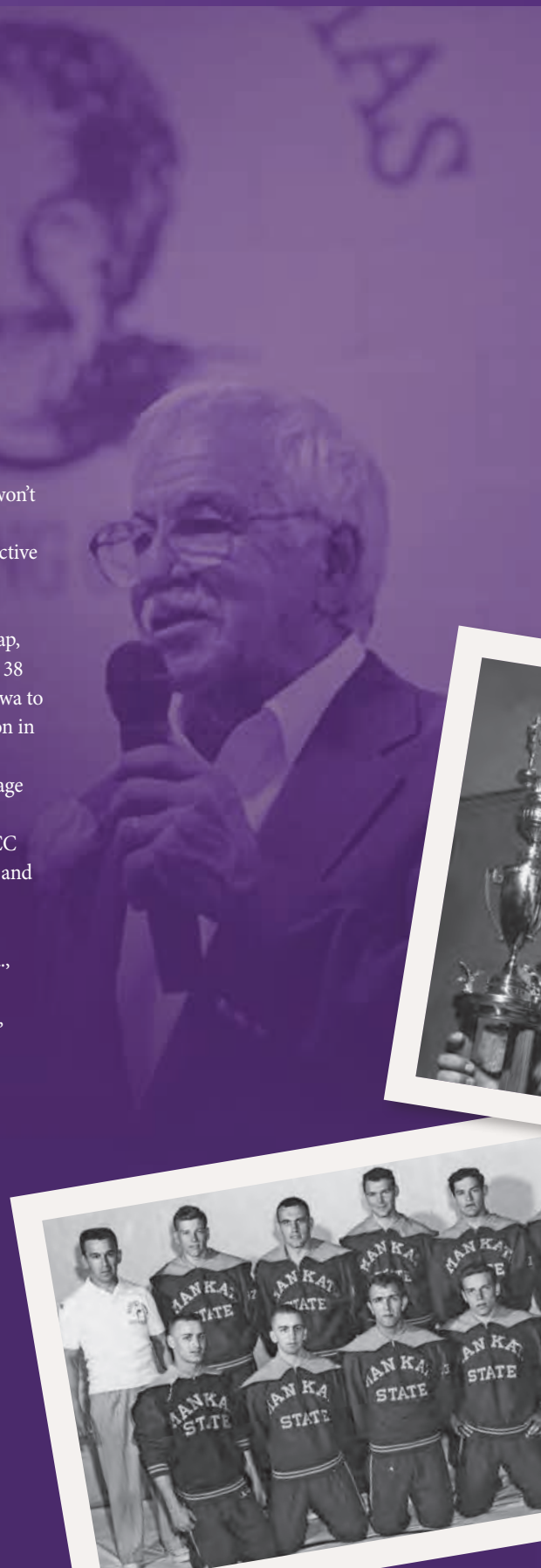
"Wrestling is a sport where you learn so much," Macias says. "It teaches you how to live, and it teaches you how to keep your body in shape. And you're all out there alone."

Like so many great wrestling stories, this one begins in Iowa, where Macias, a Davenport, Iowa, native, left an opportunity to inherit the nation's most renowned program at the University of Iowa to start his own.

"When I was in Iowa, which is such a great wrestling school, I had been told that if I had stayed there a couple years I would have a chance at being head coach there, when I was an assistant," Macias explains. "But I decided to go my own way and do it on my own. It's a dream come true that it all came together."

That it "came together" is yet another understatement. Macias built a national power, leading Minnesota State Mankato to three national titles, eight Northern Intercollegiate Conference championships and one North Central Conference title. Ninety-three of his wrestlers attained All-America status, and 19 were national individual champions.

"You of course remember the ups and the downs, but one of the things that really stands out to me now is the level of competition we competed with,"







Macias says. "As I look back, in retirement, I watch wrestling now and I see Nebraska and Michigan wrestle and to think that we competed against them, and that we did well ... that's almost unbelievable."

True to his deferential style, Macias paints with a wide brush when giving credit for the program's success, ranging from the administration that allowed his fledgling program the budget to travel so that his team could face the country's stiffest competition to the athletes who helped place the program in prominence.

"We were able to recruit a lot of kids from nearby high schools," Macias says. "That philosophy helped us because we didn't have scholarships and couldn't cover putting them up. A lot of things just fell in place. I was fortunate that the individuals I coached learned the technique very quickly. And that allowed us to compete with some of the better schools in the country quickly.

"Another thing that was important was that the town and the administration supported us so greatly," he adds. "A lot of the kids who would be graduating from nearby high schools would come and see our competitions and notice that we were traveling to play some very good schools and that made recruiting easier."

Fittingly, Macias's name graces the University's wrestling practice facility, where current wrestlers enjoy the path he paved for them. The facility was named the "Rummy Macias Wrestling Complex" in 2001. He was inducted into the

Minnesota State Mankato Hall of Fame in 1982 and in 2004 was inducted into the Iowa Wrestling Hall of Fame—at the same time as Nobel Peace Prize winner, Dr. Norman Borlaug.

"I feel so humbled," Macias says. "I am thrilled to death to have the Minnesota State Mankato wrestling complex honor me in that way. I've been honored with so many awards, but you look back and you don't really realize what you've accomplished until you're done. And you find it more interesting now. But I'm certainly honored by all of it." 📝



PICTURED, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: COACH MACIAS (FAR LOWER LEFT) WITH THE 1957-58 NAIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM; MACIAS WITH HIS TEAM'S TROPHIES; AND MACIAS WITH CURRENT WRESTLING COACH JIM MAKOVSKY.

## OFF THE FIELD

■ Minnesota State Mankato softball coach **LORI MEYER** will be inducted into the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Hall of Fame. She has coached a total of 1,507 games and racked up 927 wins during her 28-year tenure at the University, which has included three NCC titles, one NSIC title, 10 trips to the NCAA Division II National Tournament and two trips to the NCAA Championships.

■ The NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches Association has announced that coach **JIM MAKOVSKY** has been selected for induction into its Hall of Fame. Makovsky owns a 257-109-4 career record and a 234-90-3 ledger during his 20-year tenure at Minnesota State Mankato. With 257 wins, Makovsky sits 11th on the all-time wins list amongst Division II coaches and fourth among active coaches. He has overseen 38 conference champions, three Super Region 3 team championships and led the Mavericks to the 2008 NWCA/Cliff Keen National Duals championship. Makovsky becomes the second Minnesota State Mankato coach and eighth Maverick overall to be inducted, joining coach **RUMMY MACIAS** and wrestlers Bob Soulek, Jack Eustice, Jim Gale, Howie Gangestad, Larry Amundson and Tony Kenning.

■ **MARK SCHUCK**, the men's cross country coach since 1979, will retire after the 2012-13 school year. Schuck, who also served as the head coach of the men's track and field program for 15 years, earned numerous league and conference coach-of-the-year awards during his tenure, and was recognized twice at the national level. Schuck was also a student-athlete at the University; he participated in cross country, track and field and basketball before graduating in 1969. He began his coaching career at Mankato Wilson High School, where he also served as the athletic director for eight years.



# A More than Fair Career

*Bill Bessler's long tenure teaching biology at Minnesota State Mankato included 28 years as the director of the regional science fair.*



Longtime Minnesota State Mankato professor Bill Bessler spent nearly 40 years at the University, introducing as many as 2,000 students a year to Biology 100. A quick bit of math suggests that during his tenure, tens of thousands of students probably heard him lecture at least once in that general education class.

Although Bessler, 70, officially retired from his teaching post in May 2008, he has maintained close ties with the University. At one point, he returned to teach a semester of Bio 100, and until 2012, he served as the director of a project close to his heart: the South Central/Southwest Minnesota Regional Science and Engineering Fair for elementary and high school students hosted annually at Minnesota State Mankato.

For many students who attended school in southern Minnesota over the past 62 years, the words “science fair” probably spark vivid memories of unwieldy three-panel, tag-board displays festooned with photos, graphs and other explanatory information about their projects. Students first compete in local fairs in their own schools; winners then advance to the regional fair at the University. Regional winners can move on to competition at the state or even national level.

Bessler's connection to the event stretches back nearly to the start of his tenure at

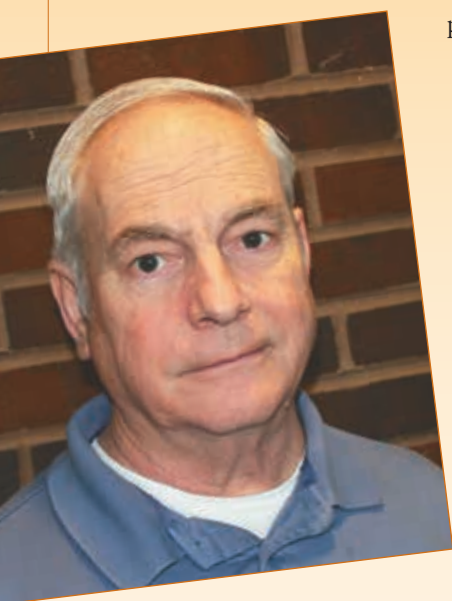
Minnesota State Mankato in 1969. He first served as director of the fair in 1976 and continued in that role for the next two decades. After a brief absence, he returned as director in 2004 and stayed until 2012. In total, he guided the fair, with the help of numerous others, for 28 years.

“There were a number of things that were coming together when I was first asked to direct the fair,” Bessler says. “[My first fair] was our 25th. Minnesota State Mankato had had a history with the science fair for many years before I became director, although those first fairs looked much different than they do today.”

During Bessler's turn at the helm, attendance and participation in the fair grew from roughly 275 students a year to well more than 2,000. In fact, the fair became so popular that in 1986, a decision was made to split the competition into two days. Students in grades 3-6 now compete in April or May, and older students participate in February or March. (An ill-timed blizzard in 1985 precipitated the change of dates, because it threatened to strand bus-riding youngsters from 27 different counties far from home.)

Bessler, who also served as chair of the Biology Department for 10 years, has a strong affinity for working with youth, both in academic and other settings. With his wife, Marilyn, he raised six sons. He and Marilyn were always involved with the Boy Scout programs in the area. “Our hobby has always been working with kids,” he says with a chuckle.

Bessler remains extremely fond of the science fair and planned to attend this year, even though he has retired from managing the event. He serves as its unofficial historian and laments the fact that much of the history of the fair was lost after old files were accidentally thrown out. He would welcome programs, reminiscences or other memorabilia from the fair's early years to help fill in some of those details. ✍



*Writer Kelly O'Hara Dyer attended the regional science fair at Minnesota State Mankato as a sixth grader in 1976; she received a purple grand-prize ribbon for her age group and was in all likelihood presented a lapel pin and a check for \$12.50 by Bill Bessler himself.*



# A Teacher's Gift



*Pamela Fredrickson's planned gift will help future teachers start their educations at Minnesota State Mankato.*

Pamela (Kassin) Fredrickson '68 identified her prospective career path early on: She remembers that when she was only 4 or 5 years old, she would routinely gather a group of neighborhood children to play "school"—and that she always insisted on being the teacher.

Fast-forward to today: Now retired after a long career as a high school English teacher, Fredrickson, 66, continues to think that being a teacher is a fulfilling, fruitful and exceptionally important calling.

That belief is part of why she decided to make a significant planned gift to Minnesota State Mankato's English Department to help future students pursue a teaching degree, as she did.

"I just think—and actually both my husband Gary and I feel this way—that we have been fortunate in our lives," she says. "We think it's just so important to help other people if you can, to pay it forward, give back, make a difference, however you want to say it. I just feel that if you can give back, you should."

Fredrickson grew up in Minneapolis and attended Roosevelt High School. She recalls consulting a male guidance counselor as her graduation approached; his advice was that if she chose to pursue college, the only vocations open to her would be as a nurse, a secretary or a teacher. Even during a phone conversation, it's almost possible to see Fredrickson roll her eyes as she scoffs at that shortsighted piece of career advice.

However, because her ambitions already leaned toward teaching, she and a close friend decided that they would attend what was then Mankato State as roommates. They entered the teaching program together, but when her friend

dropped out, Fredrickson had to press on alone. She concedes it was lonely at first, but she eventually joined a sorority, found new friends and became much more comfortable. She now recalls her college years as some of the best of her life.

After graduating in 1968, Fredrickson began student teaching in the Edina school system and discovered—just as she had when she was a child—that she loved it. She followed up her student teaching in Edina with a year teaching in Granite Falls before taking a new job in the Osseo school district, this time teaching secondary English. While in Osseo, she also pursued her master's degree at the University of Minnesota. "I eventually taught in Osseo for more than 30 years, and that is probably unusual today because people often change jobs several times during their career," she says.

It was while she was at Osseo that she met a fellow teacher, Gary, who taught choir

at the school. The two married in June 1970. Today, they live in Ramsey, Minn., and spend their winters in Florida.

Both Fredricksons believe that teaching, particularly in areas such as English and music, is crucial to providing students with a well-rounded education.

"Although art, foreign language and music are critical to a well-rounded education, sadly those areas are targeted first in a budget crisis," Fredrickson says.

Both she and Gary, who is an alumnus of Hamline University in St. Paul, have decided to support their respective colleges by creating planned gifts as part of their estate.

And although the couple has no children of their own, Fredrickson laughs that through their roles as teachers, both came to feel that they often "had 150 kids at a time."

With the support of her financial gift, Fredrickson intends to ensure that future students get a chance to experience that same wonderful feeling. ☺





# maverick scene



**(1)** Col. Kevin Ford aboard the International Space Station wearing a Minnesota State Mankato Athletic Training shirt on behalf of former student Bruce Neischwitz, who works in conditioning and rehabilitation at NASA. **(2)** Alumni Association Board President Micki Schaffer '95, '10 during the Homecoming 5K. **(3)** Retired Lt. Col. Mark Weber '94 (seated) signs books after speaking on campus.



**MAKE THE MAVERICK SCENE.** Learn about events for alumni and friends at [mnsu.edu/alumni](http://mnsu.edu/alumni).

Submit photos of your own alumni gatherings to [today@mnsu.edu](mailto:today@mnsu.edu).

See more photos at [today.mnsu.edu](http://today.mnsu.edu)!



**(1)** Kristen Turpin '98 and Jason Enger '97 returned to campus for Homecoming 2012. **(2)** Mike '75 and Kathleen Wilmes with their son Sam Wilmes at the Family Weekend Legacy Breakfast. **(3)** Sue '80 and Jim '79 Clark with President Davenport and Dr. Mary Davenport at the Gala in September.





# classnotes

*Your classmates are eager to hear about you!*

## 1950s

**KEN BOM, '50**, Minnetonka, MN, is retired. He taught in St. Louis Park, MN, for 33 years and in Mountain Lake, MN, for four years. He and his wife, Colleen, have two adult children.

**DEVON LINN, '52**, Ashland, OR, and his wife, **FAE LINN, '53**, both have retired after serving in the Peace Corps, living in 11 different states and teaching at Southern Oregon State University.

**EUGENE SORESENSEN, '54, '61**, Rochester, MN, has been retired for 19 years. He and his wife, Mary, spend winters in Mesa, AZ, travel as they like, and enjoy life every day.

**CLIFF HJELMER, '56, '81**, St. James, MN, lives in St. James.

**CLYDE KRAMER, '57**, Omaha, NE, moved to Omaha.

**HAROLD TRAUIG, '58**, Sandia Park, NM, is a professor emeritus, University of Kentucky College of Medicine. He and his wife recently moved to Sandia Park.

**ELIZABETH (HUDSON) SANDER, '59**, Huntington Beach, CA, lives in Huntington Beach with her husband, **JAN SANDER, '65**, a retired fire engineer.

## 1960s

**PATRICK ELLIS, '62, '71**, Eagle Lake, MN, retired in 1989 after serving as the director of special education for the South Central Colorado Board of Co-op Services. He also was the director of theatre for 10 years in Iowa and was given an honorable discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps in 1962.

**JUDY (GALLMAN) HILLMAN, '64**, Centennial, CO, retired from academic advising and is spending time traveling with her husband, Gary. They have two adult children and three grandchildren.

**RUTH HOFMEISTER, '64**, Minneapolis, MN, moved back to Minneapolis with her husband after they retired from their careers in California. She enjoyed teaching a number of subjects, coaching, mentoring teachers and serving as department chair. The couple loves sports, and both are avid golfers.

**LYNNE MORATZKA, '66**, Forest Lake, MN, recently was awarded the Royal Order of the Polar Star for 32 years of work at the Gammelgarden Museum in Scandia, MN. She received the honor from the King of Sweden, Carl IX Gustaf.

**RICK BALCIK, '68**, San Tan Valley, AZ, and his wife are enjoying retirement. They have three grandchildren, and he has the privilege of doing "daycare" for the youngest.

**JANICE (EVANS) CLARK, '68**, Cairo, MO, has three children and five grandchildren.

**JOHN PETERSON, '68**, Dawson, MN, lives in Dawson.

**MICHAEL FELIX, '69**, Grand Rapids, MN, is a land broker and an author. His other home is on the side of a mountain in New Mexico.

**LARRY GOHR, '69**, West Burlington, IA, retired in 2012 after 40 years as a sales agent with New York Life Insurance Co., where he is a life member of the Million Dollar Round Table.

**MICHAEL HOWE, '69**, Dayton, MN, recently was elected chair of the Delta Dental of Minnesota Board of Directors.

**KETIL OSLAND, '69**, Simsbury, CT, is a mortgage loan originator with Guaranty Federal.

## 1970s

**CRAIG AAMODT, '71**, Franklin Grove, IL, founded an IT and security consulting firm that serves airports, hospitals and government entities in the Middle East and Pacific Rim nations after retiring in 1992 from AT&T.

**KAREN ANDERSON, '71**, Grahamstown, South Africa, is a retired science instructor from Merced Union HS Dist, Merced College. She had her husband, Eric, married in September 2010.

**MICHAEL CLELAND, '71**, St. Cloud, MN, is retired.

**SANDRA RAE DEETZ, '71, '72**, Spokane, WA, is semi-retired from teaching art at Lea College in Albert Lea, MN. She also was a social worker. She continues as a practicing artist.

**BRAD JOHNSON, '71**, Bethesda, MD, lives in Bethesda.

**JOHN BERGH, '73**, Kindred, ND, is the pastor of Calvary/Zion United Methodist Church.

**STEPHEN BROWN, '73, '84**, Murfreesboro, TN, along with his wife, Pam, retired in January. He and Pam are now focusing on renting their six condominiums in Panama City Beach, FL.

**PETER R. HORNBY, '73**, Ocean Park, ME, is a published and practicing photographer who mostly captures nature. He spends his winter months photographing lighthouses of the Great Lakes. His work has appeared in two books and numerous magazines.

**CAROL (FULLERTON) LEVERSON, '73**, Bloomington, MN, is an assistant supervisor of legal administrative assistants at the law firm of Faegre Baker Daniels LLP.

**ROBIN WHINNERY, '73**, Red Wing, MN, recently received licensure from the College of St. Scholastica to teach social studies for grades 5-12. He works in adult basic education and coaches football in Red Wing.

**THOMAS SATRE, '74**, Naples, FL, has had a long, varied and successful career. He began as a teacher, moved into politics and has returned to education in the Collier County Public Schools. He also is a cancer survivor who has been in remission for more than five years.

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

**CYRIL DENN, '77**, Mankato, MN, is retired.

**MICHAEL MUELLER, '78**, St. Paul, MN, recently was elected to the Payne/Phalen District 5 Council.

**CHRIS BIEHN, '79**, Mankato, MN, is in his 33rd year of teaching science to seventh and eighth graders at Fitzgerald Middle School in Mankato. He also has coached football, basketball and baseball for Loyola High School for a number of years. In 2011 he was inducted into the Minnesota High School Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame.

**TOM JONES, '79**, Eagan, MN, was selected as Volunteer of the Year by the Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce for his involvement with planning Albert Lea's annual 3rd of July parade.

**MARK LORENSEN, '79**, Pender, NE, is president of Lorensen Lumber & Grain LLC.

## 1980s

**BRADLEY HAGEN, '81**, Medford, OR, and his wife, Linda, recently sold the medical office and movie theater they owned in Brewster, WA, and moved to Medford where he is a nurse practitioner with Providence Occupational Health and his wife is a physician at La Clinica.

**PATRICE O'LEARY, '82**, Brainerd, MN, recently was named senior director of youth, housing and family resources at St. Paul-based Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota in Brainerd. She will oversee statewide services for homeless youth and families, crisis shelter services for kids and teens and services that offer support to at-risk youth, parents and relative caregivers.

**ELLI AMBROS, '83**, Warrenton, VA, is an academic advisor with George Mason University.

**PAUL ERICKSON, '83**, Hibbing, MN, lives in Hibbing.

**TIMOTHY JOHNSON, '83**, San Pedro, CA, is a stay-at-home dad with his 3-year-old twin daughters.

**KONNIE SCHILLER, '83, '97**, Pine River, MN, is an accountant-MBA, CPA with Nisswa Tax Service.

**GALEN SPINLER, '83**, Clarks Grove, MN, is a research chemist technician with Hormel Foods in Austin, MN. He and his wife celebrated their 13th anniversary in August.

**VICKI ALEN, '84**, Rochester, MN, recently started her own consulting business working with nonprofits in writing grants, organizing special events and aiding with volunteer management.

**PATRICIA CAMPBELL, '85, '10**, is a chaplain with Odyssey Hospice.

**JERALD ANDERSON, '86**, Mankato, MN, is a video production manager with Minnesota State Mankato.

**NATALIE TYRRELL, '86**, North Las Vegas, NV, recently was re-elected to her third term as first chief judge of court, a position she has held since 2009.

**SHELLY BODINE, '88**, Tempe, AZ, recently took on a new position with eInstruction, where she heads up the marketing department. The company focuses on making instruction more engaging and collaborative for educators and corporate trainers.

**DARCY YOUNG, '88**, Ormsby, MN, is the head cook at the Martin County West-Trimont School.

**DAVID JESERITZ, '89**, Clancy, MT, began a new position with the Montana Department of Justice, Gambling Investigation Bureau as the bureau chief after retiring as assistant chief from the Helena Police Department.

**DEEANN (MEINERS) SNAZA, '89**, Mankato, MN, was recently named the Interim Assistant to the President at Minnesota State Mankato.

## 1990s

**LOLA LEMCKE, '90, '96**, Mankato, MN, is a library technician at Minnesota State Mankato.

**JOHN STEMME, '90**, Stillwater, OK, is the director of athletic training at Oklahoma State University.

**MARTIN WUNO, '90**, Beltsville, MD, is the vice president, African Region, with Soils Control International, Inc. in Austin, TX. He promotes alternative products to asphalt to build roads, which allows poor nations to build more roads. He and his wife, Emma, have four boys; the youngest will be attending Mankato State Mankato next year.

**EDWARD STUART, '91**, Minneapolis, MN, is married and lives in Minneapolis.

**DR. PAUL CHRISTENSEN, '93**, Hopkins, MN, is an assistant dean of the Graduate School of Business and Technology at St. Mary's University of Minnesota.

**KENNETH NAVITSKY, '95**, Rochester, MN, is the current personality for Advance Auto Parts Monster Jam/SPEED TV. His wife, Kelly, is the general manager of Broadway Bar & Pizza.

**TODD BRENNAN, '96**, Surprise, AZ, is a senior account representative with 3M.

**JESSICA (WHITEMAN) MAHER, '96**, Chanhassen, MN, is a shareholder with Walling, Berg & Debele, P.A. in Minneapolis, where she practices in all areas of family law. She and her husband, Eric, have two children.

**DR. ROBERTA PELLANT, '96**, Braintree, MA, is vice president of marketing and organizational development with Sonja—a woman-run company with a green initiative. She is also an adjunct assistant professor at Bentley University. She has two adult children.



# class notes

*Your classmates are eager to hear about you!*

**BRYAN SCHULTZA, '96**, Milwaukee, WI, is a partner with Foley & Lardner in its Milwaukee office; he was recently named co-chair of the law firm's food industry team, which provides legal and lobbying services for companies that produce, distribute or sell food.

**NICK MANDERFELD, '97**, Springfield, MN, is a seed technician with Monsanto. He and his wife, Eloisa, have two young sons and a third on the way.

**RYAN SPAUDE, '98**, North Mankato, MN, is a chief financial planner with Eide Bailly LLP in the Mankato office. He also is an adjunct finance professor at Minnesota State Mankato and is active with the Greater Mankato Growth Public Policy Committee as well as a number of other organizations in the community.

**HEIDI DE HOOGH, '99**, New Richmond, WI, is a pilot and the director of safety and security with Sun Country Airlines. She speaks to kids involved with science, technology, engineering and math programs about the realities of breaking into the aviation world.

**DANA (BRANDENBURGER) TRUEBENBACK, '99**, Good Thunder, MN, is an accountant with Nortech Systems, Inc. in Blue Earth, MN. She and her husband, Todd, have two sons.

## 2000s

**ERIC HARSTAD, '00**, Hutchinson MN, is the interim director of the Minnesota Valley Chorale of Mankato for the 2012-13 season. He is a candidate in Choral Conducting at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln and teaches choir at Hutchinson High School in Hutchinson.

**LORI (DE LONG) ANDROFF, '03**, and her husband, **SHAUN ANDROFF, '03**, Tampa, FL, welcomed a baby boy, Evan, in January. Lori is a senior product manager for a telecom company and Shaun is the vice president of a professional recruiting firm.

**CHRIS AUSTIN, '03**, Mankato, MN, specializes in the financial institution and manufacturing industries for Eide Bailly LLP. He is active in the Mankato area, including serving as director of the Kiwanis Club of Mankato. He and his wife have two daughters.

**LINDSAY XHILLARI, '03**, New Hope, MN, recently moved to Minneapolis from Boston to take the position of real estate accounting manager at CBRE.

**BRIGITTA (ESTUM) THARALDSON, '04**, Eden Prairie, MN, is a senior property accountant with Cushman & Wakefield/NorthMarq. She and **JASON THARALDSON, '96**, have been married for three years and recently welcomed twins. Jason is a therapist with The Emily Program.

**DAVID HARRIS, '06**, Avon, CO, says that he is "living the dream."

**HEIDI ANDERSON, '07**, Spokane, WA, married **KYLE RAPRAGER, '08**, in October.

**JESS BORADMAN, '07**, Rochester, NY, works for HGA Architects and Engineers as a mechanical designer who specializes in the design of mechanical and plumbing systems for healthcare projects.

**NATHAN MITTELSTADT, '07**, Mankato, MN, has worked for Eide Bailly LLP since graduating from Minnesota State Mankato. Primarily he works on partnership, corporate and trust tax services. He also has experience with employee benefit plan audits.

**ERIC PLATH, '07**, Mankato, MN, specializes in individual and corporate agricultural tax issues at Eide Bailly LLP. He also is a member of various organizations in the Mankato area. He and his wife have two children.

**BRADEN WESLEY, '07**, Lake Crystal, MN, provides tax services to individuals, partnerships and corporations, as well as audit services to a variety of industries with Eide Bailly LLP.

**RANDALL ANDREWS, '08**, Maplewood, MN, recently started a new position with Ramsey County Community Corrections working with juvenile offenders at the juvenile detention center in downtown St. Paul. He also is taking courses at Hennepin Technical College and looks forward to becoming Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) licensed when he's finished.

**ADAM BENSON, '08**, Mankato, MN, is in the tax department at Eide Bailly LLP where he provides services to a variety of industries and their employees.

**ELIZABETH (DROMMERHAUSEN) GENSCHOW, '08**, St. Paul, MN, is a chemistry teacher who married her husband, Phillip, in October.

**ANDREW WILKE, '08**, West Des Moines, IA, is the associate general manager at Jordan Creek Town Center, a General Growth Properties mall.

**RACHAEL PELZER, '09**, Mankato, MN, has been in the audit department with Eide Bailly LLP since graduating from Minnesota State Mankato. Her focus is on employee benefit plans, health care and manufacturing audits.

**DEVON SOULE, '09**, Mankato, MN, works for Eide Bailly LLP in the financial institutions audit department. He and his wife, Rebecca, have one son.

**SHANE WAMPLER, '09**, Faribault, MN, is an aquatics supervisor with the City of Faribault.

**KARINNE STEMIG, '10**, Byron, MN, works at IBM as a financial analyst and her husband, **KENNY STEMIG, '10**, is a pharmacy technician with the Mayo Health System. The couple was married September 8, 2012.

**YUSEF HADDAD, '10**, Glencoe, MN, is an associate project manager with Ryan Companies US, Inc.

**CAROLINE WOOD, '10**, Mankato, MN, is the owner of Inspired Aging, LLC in Mankato.



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

# 2013 Distinguished Alumni Awards

Friday, April 26, 6 p.m.

Centennial Student Union Ballroom

For more information about the event or the honorees, including videos of each, visit [mnsu.edu/alumni/awards/](http://mnsu.edu/alumni/awards/)

## Honorees

**Harold J. Fitterer Service  
to Minnesota State  
University, Mankato Award**  
Daniel Houlihan '79, '83



Daniel Houlihan

## Distinguished Young Alumni Award

Chad Brownlee '07  
Alissa Warnemunde Schmidt '99



Chad Brownlee



Alissa Warnemunde  
Schmidt

## Humanitarian Award

Robert Lykke '62, '67  
Stacy Pearson '99



Robert Lykke



Stacy Pearson

## Achievement Award

Keith Appel '56, '59, '62  
Jeffrey Olson '81  
Kathryn Roberts '76  
James G. Sneer '59  
Barbara Stoflet '94  
Lee Yao '80, '81 *posthumous*



Keith Appel



Jeffrey Olson



Kathryn Roberts



James G. Sneer



Barbara Stoflet



Lee Yao - posthumous

For more alumni events visit [today.mnsu.edu](http://today.mnsu.edu)



# in memoriam

## ALUMNI

### 1930s

Anna Alma Rahn '34, '53  
Irene Cecelia Sweeney '35  
Agnes C. (Jamieson)  
Cunningham '36  
Alice Lorena (Low) Slattery '36  
Hazel Bernice (Andersen)  
Doyle '37  
Cecil Charles Blair '38  
Elbert Duane Seaquist '39  
Leola Petra Wagner '39

### 1940s

Adeline (Sohm) Gundlach '40  
Teresa Marie (Schettler)  
Johanning '40  
Margaret Vegge '40  
Marjorie Mae (Forsyth)  
Gosewisch '41  
Marion Janet (Zell) Marion '41  
Lillian A. (Schueler) Barnes '42  
Helen June (Koster) Briggs '42  
Meredith Lois (Wehler) Johnson '42  
Mildred Marie (Pfeil) Marsden '42  
Evelyn Maxine (Wohlenhaus)  
Wohlers '43  
Elda June (Wallerstedt) Lyon '44  
Elizabeth Ann (Benson)  
Andersen '46  
Gertrude E. (Goehring) Boyum '46  
Doris Maria (Freemire) Fogal  
'46, '67  
Geneva Thelma (Stangeland)  
Ring '47  
Lorraine Ruth (Lorge) Fruth '48  
Norman Lloyd Eklund '49  
James Duane Fletcher '49  
Gloria Jean (Dahlin) Hill '49  
Kenneth Earl Pitts '49  
Richard Allen Simmonds '49  
William Charles Sperlich '49, '61  
Cornelia Mae Squibb '49, '55

### 1950s

Paul Boranian '50, '59  
Loren Francis McGowan '50  
Dale Eugene Putrah '50  
Evelyn Grace (Smelser) Tischer '50,  
'59, '68  
Frank John Formanek '51  
Dale Lawrence Swanson '51  
Cletus M. Zitzmann '51  
Thomas Mark Conlin '52  
Joseph Winston Hamre '52

William Popham Krause '52  
Marilynn Ann (Potter) Lau '52, '57  
Gerald H. Rollinger '52  
William F. Severin '52  
Alvin James Bratland '53  
Walter Howard Cowan '53  
Leora Mae (Kremin) Erickson '53  
Wilmer Henry Forrey '53, '74, '75  
Louis E. Behrens '54  
William Francis Marso '54  
Carol Jane (Rohlin) Affolter '55  
Valleen Meta (Schwarz)  
Carlson '55  
Irene Josephine (Eiden) Coulter '55  
Charles Russell Crandall '55  
Phyllis F. (Dehn) Daoust '56  
Meris Jeanne Deuser '56  
Francis G. Zvanovec '56, '61  
Jan Francis Dallenbach '57,  
'68, '85  
Marilyn G. (Gibbs) Klefsaas '57  
Ernest Lars Andersen '58  
Irene Harriet (Johnson) Brecke '58  
Thomas A. Haas '58  
Ethel Lorraine (Potter) Keil '58  
Verdell May (Billing) Ludwitzke  
'58, '60  
Mildred Ruth Olson '58, '59  
Larry Delano Boyken '59  
Warren Robert Bruels '59  
Roger George Haggenmiller  
'59, '61  
Bruce Richard Hanson '59  
Robert Martin Hokeness '59  
Helen Emily Jorgenson '59  
Patrick John Redmond '59

### 1960s

Ralph Herman Schley '60  
Dale E. Urbain '60  
Raymond M. Faucher '61  
Phyllis K. (Haynes) Fisher '61  
Dorothy Marie (Mitchell)  
Janvrin '61  
Glen D. Leiding '61  
Russell Lawrence Mattson '61  
Jerome E. Rother '61  
Betty Jean Steffen '61, '71  
Glenys Marian (Neubauer) Aldrich  
'62, '68  
Carroll Edward Angell '62  
Norma Annette (Nelson)  
Fenske '62  
Carol Kay (Oppegard) Hanson '62  
Marie S. (Soost) Haukoos '62

Doris Pauline Lohse-Stokes '62  
David Lee Pederson '62  
Charles Joseph Beckman '63  
Everett W. Berg '63  
Marie C. (Mahnke) Brands '63  
John Richard Rupp '63  
Ronald LaVerne Sander '63  
Lois Louise (McNerney)  
Vranesh '63  
Judy H. (Lohse) Wedin '63  
Ellen Marie (Berg) Carstensen '64  
Madonna H. Gisch '64  
LuAnn Virginia (Olson) Kath '64  
Barbara Kay (Anderson) Nelson '64  
Harris I. Peterson '64  
Del Kenneth Bosacker '65  
James Allen Feiker '65  
Norbert Hansen Kirkwood '65  
Carol Louise Lemcke '65  
Janice Lou Ann Ramsey '65  
Carol Marguerite (Ware)  
Rickheim '65  
Sonia Carole (Johnson) Asleson '66  
Mildred A. Duffy '66  
Robert Lee Koch '66  
Mary Nora Mack '66  
William C. Tasler '66  
Margaret E. (O'Keefe) Best '67  
Allen John Curran '67  
Willis L. Franke '67  
Shirley Ann (Immer) Glasser '67  
James Eugene Kelly '67  
Frances E. (Thoe) Lenton '67  
Kenneth Ernest Struss '67  
Dennis Duane Weigelt '67  
Kenneth Robert Wesely '67  
Roland Peter Wold '67  
Eunice Sharon Yanke '67  
Thomas A. Cloutier '68  
Millard Don Degoooy '68  
Roger George High '68  
Joan M. Janzen '68, '78  
Jon R. Lund '68  
LaMae Jean (Ingebritson) Mehl '68  
Arlene Esther (Ciffra) Scherger '68  
Paul H. Schwinghammer '68, '78  
Samuel Floyd Smith '68  
Robert Wayne Wendel '68  
Charlotte L. Albrecht '69  
Robert Paul Amann '69  
Judy A. (Mariska) Farmer '69  
Mary Alyce (Johnson) Grasdalen  
'69, '80  
Dennis Merton Rettke '69 '75, '77  
Lyle Roger Schumacher '69  
Victoria Lee (DeFrance) Staloch '69

### 1970s

Helen Melinda (Ryerson)  
Coughlin '70  
William D. Goodale '70  
James E. MacRostie '70, '71  
William Arthur Mielke '70  
Eldora Josephine (Christianson)  
Hanna '71  
David Martin Kroeger '71  
Waldo Duane McDougall '71  
Jerome Francis McRaith '71  
Patrick Joseph Murphy '71  
Larry E. Purcell '71  
Brian Robert Scheid '71  
Laura Margaret (Breitkreutz)  
Sietsema '71  
Mary Ellen (Halsted) Boger '72  
Florence Lillian (Birkemeyer)  
Evans '72  
Jane M. Knutson '72  
Clarice Geraldine (Nelson)  
Schleuger '72  
Betty Rose (Gegan) Zins '72  
Leo Glenn Chambers '73, '77  
Marcella Kay (Garlick) Everett '73  
Robert J. Gammell '73  
Larry Alan Krueger '73  
Robert Dale Laufenburger '73  
Aspasia Alice Phillips '73  
Frederick W. Poetsch '73  
Bonnie L. Cowin '74  
James Eldon Hughes '74, '80, '85  
Russell N. Nahorniak '74  
Kenneth Edward Schroeder '74  
Richard Louis Stoneburner '74  
Roger Edward Erickson '75, '79  
Albert Walter Jorgensen '75  
Lois Ann (Rockwell) Wenger '75  
Charles M. Daggett '76  
Patrick Leslie McConville '76  
Phillip Duane Pfeffer '76  
Don Richard Sauter '76, '90  
James Ray Tischer '76  
Joliene Renae (Erickson) Colby '77  
Harlan Evans '77  
Anthony Thomas Salvatore '77  
Robert Jerry Tollefson '77  
Margaret Catherine (Kloeckner)  
Dieser '78  
John Peter Pavkovich '78  
Richard Ralph Wiham '78  
Audrey Joan (Zenk) Justin '79  
Marilyn Mae Martin '79  
Robyn Lee Schmidt '79



## 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 email \_\_\_\_\_

Professional title or position \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

### ABOUT YOUR SPOUSE/PARTNER

Name (including maiden) \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation year (if Minnesota State Mankato graduate) \_\_\_\_\_

Professional title or position \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

How may we share the information you've provided to us here (contact information will never be shared)? Check all that apply:

☐ Print version of TODAY ☐ Online version of TODAY ☐ On University social media sites

### 1980s

Lee Jian Yao '80, '81  
Kelly Mary (Gleason) Lynn '84  
Gary Lee Seibel '84  
Allan Charles Hite '85  
Kathleen Lois Kea '85  
Kimberly Rae (Peterson)  
Motzko '85  
Mary Jo Kathleen (Martin) Lee '86  
Michelle Rae (Larson) Mundell  
'86, '94  
Sandra Jo Parsons '86  
Edna Faye Wayne '86  
Nancy Susan (Seiberlich) Brian '88  
Renee Marie (James) Forseth '88  
Matthew Ronald Shetka '88  
Victoria Ruth (McCormick)  
Wenner '88  
Suzette Kay Gillard '89  
Paula Marie (Nelson) Zotalis '89

### 1990s

Patrick Roger Baker '90  
Timothy Elroy Nuss '90  
Herbert Patrick Schloesser '90  
Thomas L. Stolt '91  
Alan Linus Braun '94  
Peter John Nathaniel  
Linnerooth '95  
Lori Anne (Hoebelheinrich)  
Blomme '96  
Jessica M. (Dobbelmann)  
Hudson '96  
Ruth Ann (Lumberg) Noetzel '96  
Vance Paul Hopkins '99

### 2000s

Alan Jacob McMullen '02  
Anne E. Walsh '02

Peter Nicholas Landherr '05  
Katie Lynn Miller '07  
Friedrich Joseph Statz '10

### FACULTY AND STAFF

James Platte Dunn  
Chloe I. Elmgren  
Jason Paul Farniok  
Hilja J. (Pousi) Karvonen  
Kenneth L. Krabbenhoft  
Vickie Lynn (Williams) Larson  
Donald Bryce Lindsay  
Robert Redhead  
Paul H. Schwinghammer  
Paul L. Sullivan  
Helen J. (Collin) Trost  
Betty Ann (Wertheimer) Smith

### FRIENDS

Marilyn Ann (Turner) Boyer  
Leonard Buecksler  
William S. Chalgren  
Kathleen Anne (Kraker) Cliff  
John W. Croswell  
Paul H. Gislason  
Glenn Carroll Hutchinson  
Ronald J. Johnson  
Sarah (Hill) Johnson  
Anthony A. Kerr  
Jacqueline (Rogers) Kuchenbecker  
Douglas A. Lee  
Marvin Maxfield Ostrom  
James Charles Pelzl  
Edward E. Rom  
Rosemary Yerhot

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](mailto:connie.wodtke@mnsu.edu) or 507-389-6762.



# TODAY

Minnesota State University, Mankato  
232 Alumni Foundation Center  
Mankato, MN 56001

NON-PROFIT ORGN.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 202  
MANKATO, MN 56001

## New job? New baby? New book?

Whatever your news is, share  
it with your classmates  
immediately at the online TODAY.



Submit an update quickly and easily at [today.mnsu.edu](http://today.mnsu.edu)!