

FALL 2009

# *connections*

Minot State University Alumni Association & Development Foundation

## A Legacy of Teaching Teachers



# WELCOME



... the gentleman simply wanted me to know how much he appreciated the education he received at Minot State.

Recently, a gentleman made an appointment to see me, and as I didn't recognize his name. I asked my administrative assistant if she knew why he wanted to visit with me. She told me that the gentleman simply wanted me to know how much he appreciated the education he received at Minot State University. As I met with him, he did, indeed, share his gratitude for the knowledge and skills he acquired as an education major in psychology. He explained that Dr. Fred Brooks had been instrumental in helping him find his way into teaching and how much that had assisted him throughout his life. He never did teach in a regular classroom, other than student teaching, but he used his training to become a seminar presenter across the world. He commented on how his MSU education prepared him to communicate with people, to organize his material and to help others learn.

There are more than 9,500 people currently on the lists of active alumni who have graduated from our teacher-education programs. I am amazed at the "Who's Who" list of Minot State graduates that occupy key positions in the state. In the last few years, four of our alumni (Fran Armstrong '99, Julia Koble '02, Marlene Srock '07 and Verna Rasmussen '07) have been named North Dakota's Teacher of the Year. When MSU goes through its regular accreditation process, the board responsible for the visiting team struggles to find enough qualified people who do not have connections to Minot State.

We are so proud of our heritage as a premier teacher-education institution. We are proud of the people who have used their experience at Minot State to provide great service to this state and to the world as a whole. Last year, our commencement speaker, David Marquardt, an education graduate of Minot State, shared his story as one who had worked with NASA on the space program's school curriculum. This kind of experience is not uncommon among our teacher-education graduates. We currently have 20 programs that prepare school personnel, from regular classroom teachers in almost all subject areas, to special educators, to school psychologists and speech-language therapists.

It is hard to imagine the impact that more than 9,500 people have had and continue to have. Our graduates work all over the world, as indicated by the article on Katie Narum Miyamoto and her work in Japan. We have students currently doing graduate work in education from Ghana, and they will carry on the tradition of Minot State teacher education halfway around the world. Recently, we have been recognized for our Center for the Applied Study of Cognition and Learning that takes us into the cutting edge of recent research on the brain and how that new knowledge can be utilized to improve teaching and learning. We are proud of our heritage as a premier teacher-education institution and feel an obligation to do our part in furthering the knowledge and skills of teaching and learning, so that decades from now we will still be considered a premier teacher-education institution.

— NEIL NORDQUIST, Ph.D.  
Dean, College of Education and Health Sciences





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## ON THE COVER

Dr. Lesley Magnus. See story on page 8.

(Photo: Otis & James Photography.)

*connections* is published two times a year by the Minot State University Alumni Association and Development Foundation. Send comments, articles or photo submissions to *Connections*, MSU Alumni Office, 500 University Avenue West, Minot, ND 58707. Telephone 701-858-3890 or 1-800-777-0750. Fax 701-858-3179. E-mail: alumni@minotstateu.edu

Printed on Forest Stewardship Council certified stock. Third class postage paid at Fargo, ND 58101

# Limke family has deep roots in education and MSU



*Jean Limke in her Glenburn classroom.  
(Submitted photo.)*

# Teaching career of choice for five generations

Jean Guidinger Limke, 95, is the middle link in a family teaching tradition that spans more than a century, the last half of which is closely tied to Minot State University.

Jean Limke's grandfather was a teacher. Her mother was a teacher. She became a teacher. All six of her children taught school, and six of her 19 grandchildren work in education in North Dakota.

Although she earned her two-year standard teaching certificate at Valley City State College, Limke kept up her credentials by taking classes at what was then Minot State Teachers College. Five of her six children became Minot State graduates. And nearly half of her grandchildren have attended or graduated from MSU.

## Worthy profession

When Jean Limke started teaching in 1932, some students in Renville County's Callahan Township School were older than she was, but that didn't intimidate her. Nor was she discouraged by the meager pay — just \$55 per month in those early years. She taught in a few rural North Dakota schools, even served as deputy superintendent in Renville County, before she and husband David started their family.

For the next 14 years, Jean's main job was being a mom, but a desperate need for teachers in 1953 brought her back to the blackboards in Glenburn — all six children in tow — while David held down the farm. She began teaching in Lansford in 1954 and remained on the faculty for the next 19 years.

Son, Dick Limke ('63), remembers piling into the family car in Lansford during noon hours to study for tests with his mom, brothers and sisters. Mrs. Limke had each one of her children as students through the years. Although Dick suspects they weren't all angels in the classroom, he says, "Our parents both gave us a sense of importance of education and a respect for teachers."

## Unanimous degree choice

How all six siblings came to earn teaching degrees had a lot to do with the Limke family. "There must have been a positive characteristic about education that we all liked," Dick says.

And it had a lot to do with Minot State. The college was primarily known for educating teachers. It was close — only 33 miles from the family farm. And — thanks to athletic scholarships awarded to Dick, Denis ('63) and Jim ('68) — it was affordable.

All four Limke brothers played baseball for MSU, and all, except Patrick ('62), played basketball. It was a natural extension of their high school years and hours spent entertaining themselves on the farm.

"With so many close brothers, we'd find a way to have games going on the farm all the time," Dick says. "Whenever we had some free time, we'd play upstairs in the barn. We cleared away the hay and set up a hoop, so we'd have a court. It was cold in the winter, but we'd play up there forever. In the summer, it was baseball. We'd draw a strike zone on the side of one of the buildings, and we would pitch by the hour."

## Athletes turned coaches

The Limke boys did MSU proud, and two got noticed by professional baseball scouts. Youngest brother Jim played five years for the Chicago White Sox, and Dick spent parts of three years playing in the minor leagues for the St. Louis Cardinals. Not surprisingly, all four Limke brothers got involved in coaching, including at their alma mater.

Dick served as head basketball and golf coach at Minot State University from 1985 to 1998 and served as head baseball coach from 2003 to 2005. He got his start coaching high school basketball at Center and Tioga and served as guidance counselor, superintendent and head basketball coach at Bismarck-St. Mary's before joining MSU. He retired as superintendent of Max Public Schools but recently returned to work as acting superintendent at Bishop Ryan High School in Minot.

Denis retired as head basketball coach at Dickinson State University. Prior to his collegiate career, he taught and coached high school basketball and football in Munich, Garrison and Mandan. While earning his master's, he served as assistant basketball coach at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.





Pat Limke '62

Pat coached basketball throughout his teaching career, starting at Walhalla, then Munich, Bishop Ryan and finally the family's old stomping grounds in Lansford.

Jim coached and taught in New Salem before going into private business and later taking over the family farm.



Dick Limke '63

Sisters Judy Wells ('65), Minot, and Barbara Buhr, Buffalo — the lone sibling to graduate from North Dakota State University with a home economics degree — taught until motherhood changed her priorities. Wells continues to use her business education degree as office manager for Minot's Sash & Door.

### *The fifth generation*

The Limke family stats wouldn't be complete without naming all the teachers and MSU attendees among Jean and David Limke's grandchildren.



Denis Limke '63

All of Patrick's children attended MSU and three work in education: Greg ('90) teaches social studies and coaches basketball in West Fargo; Garth ('97) is district technology coordinator and coach in Hillsboro; Andrea Hedberg ('92) is a reading specialist in the Minot Public Schools; David is in private business but coaches at Bishop Ryan; and Grant ('94) works as a fireman in Minneapolis.



Judy Limke Wells '65

Other MSU attendees in the Limke clan include Dick's daughter, Aimee, who graduated in ('98), his son Jason, and Barbara's sons, Brian and Brent Buhr.

The fifth generation of teachers also includes Barbara's daughter, Jennifer Thoreson, who teaches in Valley City; Denis' daughter Heidi Schumacher, who is a teacher with the Mandan Public Schools; and Dick's son, Jeffery, who is a counselor in Burnsville (Minn.) Public Schools.



Jim Limke '68



*Grandma Jean Guidinger Limke, granddaughter Andrea Limke Hedberg and great-granddaughter Maddie Hedberg.*

### *Strong role models*

Granddaughter Andrea Hedberg, who is married to MSU Athletic Director Rick Hedberg ('89), says she was teetering between careers in optometry and teaching when she enrolled at Minot State. But hanging out with her dad at school, hearing her grandmother's stories about students baking potatoes on potbellied stoves and watching her uncles in action made teaching seem the natural thing to do. "All of those people were great role models for me," Hedberg said.

She chose Minot State for the same reasons as her forebearers: proximity, quality and affordability. She received a track scholarship and ran on the same team as brother Garth for one year. "All my brothers were in athletics at MSU. Greg played basketball, Grant played football and Garth played basketball and ran track," Hedberg said. "And when I was there, Uncle Dick was the basketball coach."

Hedberg thinks there's a strong chance the next generation will carry on the Limke teaching tradition, based on signs in her own family. When her daughter Maddie's kindergarten class observed "What I Want to be When I Grow Up Day," her 6-year-old chose to dress up as a teacher.

— Cathy Jelsing

# El Paso teacher pipeline flourished

For more than a decade, a human pipeline operated between Minot State University and the western Texas city of El Paso.

The El Paso School District recruited more than 100 MSU teacher-education graduates during that feverish period.

A convergence of forces created the unlikely partnership.

The state of Texas added pre-kindergarten education and reduced class sizes on the elementary level. School districts had to scramble to find new teachers.

At the same time, teaching jobs were scarce in North Dakota, so the siren song of high salaries and Southern climate appealed to new graduates. Soon, a human tide began flowing southward.

Susan (Zupetz) Howse graduated from MSU with an elementary education degree in 1985. She and several classmates attended a job fair in Fort Hays, Kan. El Paso recruiter Beth Garcia led the charm offensive.

“They gave us contracts at the job fair,” Zupetz recalled. “Nine of us ended up down here the first year. Four of us are still teaching in El Paso. Six of us are still teaching in Texas.”

Impressed by the Northerners’ teaching skills and work ethic, the El Paso School District put the recruiting machine into overdrive. The piston driving it was Ralph Yturalde, an elementary principal who visited MSU for 13 consecutive years, often with his wife Suzee.

“MSU put out some excellent teachers,” said Yturalde, now a principal in New Mexico. “We kept that a big secret. We were a little greedy.”

Yturalde sometimes brought along MSU graduates on his recruiting trips.

“We would say, ‘Look, these kids went down there, and they’re fine,’” the former recruiter said.

Yturalde visited Minot State from the mid-1980s until the late 1990s. He said a deep reservoir of good will developed between the two cities.

“They treated us like royalty,” he said.

Minot State graduates experienced culture shock when they arrived in the Southwest. Two-thirds of the students were Hispanic, and El Paso was one of the poorest cities in the nation.

The Northerners vowed to stick it out for at least a year. Howse recalls calling home several times a week during the first year. Eventually, the newcomers settled in.

“Most of us married somebody from down here and ended up staying,” she said. “I like the warm climate. The people are really friendly. They have a good education system.”

Howse and her husband Roger have three sons, ages 16, 13 and 11.

As teaching jobs in North Dakota became available, the torrent to Texas slowed to a trickle. Recruiters from Alaska, Arizona, California and Texas still visit the state, but changing demographics make an El Paso-size pipeline unlikely to reappear in the future.

— Frank McCahill



MSU graduates, from left to right, Mary (Norton) Jenkins '85, Joan (Norton) Bissett '85, Kelly Hady '86, Lori (Dufner) Byars '84 and Susan (Zupetz) Howse '85. (Photo by Leonel Monroy Jr.)







# Curious George goes to MSU

*Magnus brings passion for profession, 'curious' collection to alma mater*

**L**esley (Chlopan) Magnus was 16 years old and about to embark on a Rotary exchange program to the Netherlands when her friends gave her a plush Curious George doll to keep her company. They didn't know it then, but they started something. The clever character — in one form or another — has been part of Magnus' life ever since.

So it was natural when Dr. Lesley Magnus moved into her office in Minot State University's Memorial Hall that many Georges and his memorabilia would move in with her. It's been four years since they arrived, and the determined little monkey has expanded his territory onto the hallway wall across from Magnus' office door. It's the kind of thing Curious George would do.

In her office, the trademark yellow, red, green and brown of the classic children's book illustrations gleam under florescent lights, repeated in fast-food figurines, book jackets, a movie poster, a lunch box, a shiny child's purse, a toy tea set, an alarm clock, even a piñata. There are photos of the Curious George cake (baked by Magnus' husband) and of Magnus posing with a Curious George mascot in Barnes & Noble.

A plush George on a rocking horse rides across her desk to strains of "The Lone Ranger." Poke another George, and he'll giggle. It's hard to miss the Curious George calendar, Curious George notepads and Curious George screen saver. Magnus even has brown Curious George car floor mats.

"I know. It's terrible," Magnus said, as incredulous as anyone at the breadth of her collection.

It's not why she started collecting Georges, but the associate professor of speech-language pathology has found having the wily monkey around relaxes children served by MSU's Communications Disorders Clinic. "Children often come into my office and play before or after their sessions," Magnus said. "We have a little conversation, so I can get a feel for how they are doing."

Glancing overhead at a George on a unicycle perched on a string, "This, is the big thing," she said. While many young clients are reluctant to speak, they almost always are willing to say something to get Magnus to pull on the tightrope and make George ride from one corner of her office to the other.

While many young clients are reluctant to speak, they almost always are willing to say something to get Magnus to pull on the tightrope and make George ride from one corner of her office to the other.

## *Curious connection*

It all started with those high school friends who gave her the first George. A little worse for the wear, he lives in retirement at the Magnus home in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. How one George bloomed into a collection has a lot to do with George's chief personality trait. "I love that George is curious," Magnus said, "because I think I'm curious too." A lifelong learner, Magnus says she's eager to learn about everything: people, places, ideas and — especially — about her profession.

Magnus was a third-grader growing up in Regina, Saskatchewan, when she knew she wanted to be a teacher. By age 12, she somehow had figured out she wanted to be a speech and language pathologist. So when it came time for university, Magnus felt she had two choices — the University of Alberta, which was eight hours from home, or Minot State University, just four hours from Regina.

She chose MSU. And when she finally launched into her major, Magnus said, "I think it was better than I imagined." She earned her teaching degree, student taught fourth grade and then moved right into MSU's master's program in speech-language pathology, completing her second degree in 1986 at age 22.

## Career and family

Magnus spent the next 15 years as a pediatric speech and language pathology clinician, first in her hometown and later at Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon. Her clients included families of children born with cleft lips and cleft palates, children slow to develop speech, and parents of infants with swallowing and feeding disorders. She loved the work and decided she wanted to learn more, so she enrolled in the doctoral program at Wichita State University in Kansas. Then, just as she was preparing to depart Saskatoon for graduate school, she met Randy Magnus, the man who would become her husband.

A long-distance relationship ensued, and a year later, the couple was married, just a couple of months before Magnus returned to Kansas to complete her coursework. In their first full year of living in the same town, the Magnus family bought a house and got a dog. Magnus returned to work and completed research for her dissertation; and she learned to be a stepmom to her husband's two little boys. Together, they survived and thrived. In 2000, Magnus was awarded her doctoral degree, and she and her spouse decided they were finally ready to expand the family.

But it was not to be. In four years, there were six miscarriages. With each loss, it became increasingly difficult for Magnus to work in the hospital with children and their parents, especially with mothers who used cocaine during their pregnancies.

"I got so I couldn't go into the neonatal unit," Magnus said. "I found myself getting so mad at those parents, I started lecturing them. I couldn't get my personal life out of it and knew I needed to do something totally different." That something turned out to be teaching. At the precise moment Magnus sent her résumé to Minot State, the Department of Communication Disorders had an opening.

## Destined to teach

Magnus and her husband are back to a long-distance relationship. A seven-hour drive apart, they see each other once a month during the academic year, longer at Christmas, and Magnus returns home to family and clinical work each summer. Her two stepsons, Ryan, 19, and Christian, 17, remain a huge part of her life, although Ryan's work and Christian's life as a junior hockey player often take them in different directions. Grateful for the support of family and friends, Magnus is thrilled to be back at MSU.

"I really feel like — after all that sadness — my passion is to teach, and my gift is to teach," Magnus said. "I have found my true self by being a university professor." A taskmaster in the classroom, she says her students may not love her when they are in class, "but I think five years down the road they will, at least I hope so." Her stated goal is to make students the best they can be and help prepare them for accreditation. And every year, MSU students pass the national praxis exam at a higher rate than the national average.

Magnus' students are her kids. And then there are the kids whose therapy she supervises from a television monitor in her MSU office and the kids she works with each summer in Saskatoon.

"Every single day I am thrilled I picked the profession I picked." Magnus said. "When I do clinical work, I get 10 hugs from little kids every day. I get hugs from my students. I even get hugs from parents. How can you beat that?"

Curious George agrees. He must. Like longtime pal Lesley Magnus, he's always got a smile on his face.

— Cathy Jelsing

## MSU's Communications Disorders Clinic

The Vocal Functions Laboratory, which was made possible in part by donations from the Minot Elks Lodge and the Minot Sertoma Club, is one of the better-equipped laboratories for the evaluation and treatment of voice disorders in the upper Midwest/northern plains. Because of its uniqueness, the laboratory keeps quite busy with individuals traveling from areas throughout North Dakota, other states and Canada. The equipment is, in many instances, research-caliber and applicable for scholarly studies pertaining to the normal voice and its disorders.

The spacious audiology clinic encompasses today's most modern audiologic diagnostic instruments. Persons of all ages, from newborns to geriatrics, are served in this state-of-the-art facility. Patients are tested for audiological functions, assessments and hearing aid amplification. More than 1,000 patients are served each year.





# Job Corps program is gateway to success

MSU's College of Business offers the only master's program in the nation designed to help Job Corps personnel advance within the organization.

Ninety-six Job Corps professionals from 37 states have been admitted to the Job Corps Executive Management Program since its inception in 2000.

Between 10 and 15 students are admitted to the program each year. Students take online classes over two semesters and finish with a summer session on the MSU campus. Thirteen students are in the current cohort.

"On Thursday nights, we have our words-of-wisdom sessions," said Lori Willoughby, JCEMP director at Minot State. "We bring in center directors, corporate people and former students to share their experiences."

In 2008, the program added an information systems management master's degree and a knowledge management certificate. Both focus on the technological side of Job Corps operations.

Dawn Anderson, a Rugby native, is in the current cohort. She graduated from MSU with an associate's degree in accounting in 1982. She worked at Job Corps centers in Minot and Greenville, Ky. In January, she moved to a center in McKinney, Texas. She has unabashedly embraced the organization's philosophy.

"Job Corps is one of the best-kept secrets in the United States," she said. "It's an awesome program for young adults who need a second chance or aren't ready for college and need to further their education."

With a master's degree through JCEMP, Anderson hopes to be a center director.

"I want to continue to make a difference in young people's lives," she said. "I love our students; they have so much potential."

Anderson has several models to emulate as she advances in the corporate ranks. One is Lyn Dockter-Pinnick, who graduated from MSU with an English degree in 1974.

After teaching and working as an administrator at Minot State and Fort Berthold Community College, Dockter-Pinnick joined the staff at the Quentin Burdick Job Corps Center in Minot.

"Education is the key that unlocks everything," she said. "Those who have slipped through the cracks in the regular school system are given the opportunity to get that high school diploma and degree."



*Bryan King, McKinney, Texas, recently graduated with the eighth JCEMP cohort. (Photo by Otis & James.)*

Today, Dockter-Pinnick is vice president of operations for MINACT (Minorities in Action). She oversees four of the firm's nine Job Corps centers around the nation.

The career of another Minot State alumnus illustrates the new worlds that open up to JCEMP graduates.

Nolyn Fueller, also a Rugby native, earned a business education degree in 1993 and worked for six years at the Burdick Center. He earned his master's degree through JCEMP in 2002 and became a center director in Kentucky.

Today, Fueller is part owner and director of operations for Horizons Youth Services, a private firm that oversees four Job Corps centers — two in Kentucky and one each in California and Texas.

"The faculty is a large part of why the JCEMP program is successful," Fueller told *Connections* from his home in Greenville, Ky. "They were very interested in our professional and personal lives."

Job Corps manages 122 sites in the United States and Puerto Rico. It plans to open 50 new centers over the next decade, increasing the need for skilled managers.

"We have the opportunity to share our master's degrees with a select group that has a huge impact on the youth of our society," MSU's Willoughby said.

— Frank McCahill



*Minot State-Ghana*



*attraction is growing*



**A** gravitational pull between Minot State and the African nation of Ghana is growing stronger.

Twenty Ghanaian teachers are currently enrolled in the Master's in Education program at MSU. Another student graduated this spring. More students are likely to be drawn here in the future.

The relationship began informally several years ago. A Ghanaian teacher came to this country to teach on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. He took graduate courses at MSU, liked what he learned and recruited a small band of countrymen to Minot.

Two of the students spoke to *Connections* about their MSU experiences.

Emmanuel Adjei-Boateng taught for eight years in Ghana. Since he enrolled at Minot State in August 2008, his vision of teaching has clarified sharply.

"I have seen the difference between schooling and education," he said. "In our country, we were just schooling the students. We have seen what actual education is over here. Now we can use technology, and we are gaining new ideas for teaching and learning."

George Prince Atta taught for nine years in his home country. He came to North Dakota in January. An MSU master's degree will launch him toward loftier goals.

"It is my wish to have the doctorate before I leave," he said. "I want to be a professor in one of the leading universities in Ghana. I hope to turn things around in my country."

A harsh reality of their American adventure is leaving their families behind. Adjei-Boateng is married with two daughters, ages 6 and 3. Atta and his wife have a 1-year-old daughter.

"I miss them a lot," Adjei-Boateng said. "I wish I could go back and visit them, but I can't afford it."

The Ghanaians have been slowly negotiating geographical and cultural disparities. They have exchanged blister-

ing tropical temperatures for the icy grip of the Northern Plains.

They have also left behind familiar foods for exotic new fare, such as pizza and hamburgers. The staple food of Ghana is fufu, a dough made from ground plantain or cassava. A soup made with vegetables, fish, or meat is often poured over it.

"A Ghanaian would tell you that he didn't eat that day if he did not take fufu," Atta said.

“ I want to be a professor in one of the leading universities in Ghana. I hope to turn things around in my country. ”

The students are paying their own way at Minot State. This summer, they are working for plant services as "environmental engineers," keeping the buildings and grounds clean.

The cohort has praised MSU to colleagues back home. They predict an influx of West Africans to MSU in the immediate future.

"Every Ghanaian wants to come to the United States because it is the No. 1 nation in the world," Adjei-Boateng said. "We love the United States."

While an informal relationship has developed between MSU and Ghana, formal relations have been slower to develop. Following U.S. State Department policy, the N.D. National Guard adopted Ghana in the 1990s to provide much-needed military and humanitarian assistance.

U.S. AID, an independent federal agency, pairs American and African universities to upgrade education on the continent. More than 300 American schools, including MSU, competed for 20 \$50,000 planning grants from the agency this year.

Neil Nordquist, dean of MSU's College of Education and Health Sciences, visited

Ghana in January to assess its educational needs. He visited the University of Education, Winneba, the premier teacher-education institution in the nation.

The Ghanaian government has increased funding for education, and school enrollments are up. But the nation still lags behind the developed world, Nordquist said.

In one small town, 70 students squeezed into a classroom with 50 desks. Textbooks were available for only a fourth

of the pupils. A single teacher taught the class. Only impeccable behavior by students made the situation workable.

Another class was held under the open sky. Students sat under a tree while the teacher wrote on a blackboard dangling from a branch.

"Their challenges would make the rest of us pale," Nordquist said.

MSU failed to earn a U.S. AID grant, but university officials plan to continue working with the University of Education, Winneba, to improve Ghanaian education.

"We were on the same page on what needed to be done," Nordquist said.

After their visit to the American mountaintop, the Ghanaian teachers said they plan to return home to sow seeds of Western innovation in the hard soil of the Third World.

— Frank McCahill

*Students pictured, left to right, in photo on page 12: Samuel Antwi, Emmanuel Adjei-Boateng, Emmanuel Mensah, George Atta and Joseph Antwi.*

# MSU alum finds work, love, mission in Japan

## *Graduate nurtures Japanese students, young missionaries*

It's about 9:15 on a Saturday morning. Katie Narum Miyamoto is seated at her computer in Kumamoto, Japan. Her long blonde hair is pulled back in a low ponytail. Her clothes are loose and casual. It's her day off, but she's about to do an interview for *MSU Connections*.

Her computer "rings" to let her know the expected "caller" is online. It's still Friday in North Dakota, around 7:15 p.m. Narum Miyamoto's image instantly pops up on the caller's computer screen. Even though Miyamoto is halfway around the globe, the 2-by-2-inch video is clear, Miyamoto's movements only slightly jerky and her words delayed just a couple of seconds.

Narum Miyamoto regularly uses Skype — a free Internet service — to connect with faraway friends and family. It's an option that wasn't available in 1996 when she made her first trip abroad as a Minot State University exchange student to Keele University in Staffordshire, England. She didn't know it then, but that first taste of a different culture would whet her appetite for international travel.

"I was always dragging people back to Europe with me," she said, then one day — as she was completing her senior year at MSU — she heard an ad for a mission program in China. She called the 800 number, and in May 1999, the same month she collected her degrees in elementary and music education, began teaching English at the English Language Institute/China in Dalian.

After spending two months in China, Narum Miyamoto returned to Minot, completed her student teaching and started looking for more extensive lay ministry programs that would get her back to Asia. Within a year, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America had an assignment for Miyamoto teaching English at Luther High in Kumamoto.

Even though Kumamoto's population nearly matches the entire state of North Dakota, Narum Miyamoto says, the people of Japan consider the city — on the southernmost side of the four major Japanese islands — countryside.



*Katie Narum Miyamoto (far left) with students (left to right) Kiwa Hanatachi and Yuki Fukushima on their graduation day. (Submitted photo.)*

Narum Miyamoto and her husband, Kazunori (nicknamed "Kazu"), live on the top floor of a six-story apartment building. Their "3LZK" apartment has three extra rooms, in addition to a living room, dining room and kitchen. "Even with the other rooms, it's quite small," Narum Miyamoto said. "Our whole apartment would probably fit in my parents' living room and dining room back in Minot."

Narum Miyamoto and her future husband met on the day they joined the staff at Luther High. Kazu, a native of Kumamoto, attended college and worked in California and Minnesota, before returning to his hometown. Since dating between colleagues was discouraged, the couple kept their courtship secret until just a couple of months before their March 2005 wedding. It turns out they had little to worry about. Miyamoto said, "The first thing the school administrators said was, 'You're not quitting, are you?'"



The answer was, no. Katie and Kazu Miyamoto were at Luther High to stay.

The 1,000-student high school shares its campus with about 125 kindergartners, 100 junior high students and Kyushu Lutheran College. Most of the 400 college students are preparing for careers in English or social work. The Miyamotos live within walking distance of the campus, but Kazu, enjoys driving and often takes his car to work, and Katie, appreciates the ride home after putting in 12- to 14-hour days.

In addition to teaching English, Narum Miyamoto frequently escorts student trips to Australia. “It’s fun to see them experience a different part of the world for the first time,” she said. She also prepares students for exchange programs with schools like Oak Grove Lutheran School in North Dakota. “Although, I don’t think I could have ever prepared them for all the flooding in Fargo this year,” she said.

And when the students return to Japan, Narum Miyamoto helps them readjust. “It’s like reverse culture shock,” she explained. “These students get into American or Australian school systems, where they are expected to express their opinions. They learn to work as individuals. They gain self-confidence and start to enjoy their independence. A lot of times, when they come back here, they have changed so much it’s difficult for them to adjust to being part of a homeroom again.”

... in 1996 (Narum Miyamoto) made her first trip abroad as a Minot State University exchange student to Keele University in Staffordshire, England. She didn’t know it then, but that first taste of a different culture would whet her appetite for international travel.

Japanese high school students spend three years in the same homeroom. They have the same homeroom teacher, the same class schedule. “They practically live together,” Narum Miyamoto said. Homeroom teachers are responsible for all aspects of their students’ well-being, including college admission. “I would say being a homeroom teacher to third-year high school students is the most stressful year of any Japanese person’s life,” Narum Miyamoto said. And that’s exactly what her husband has been doing for the past year.

Because students spend so much time in school and extracurricular activities, it’s a challenge to fit church into their schedules, but that’s part of Narum Miyamoto’s job as an ELCA missionary. Sunday mornings tend to be the best time to gather teens at church, but Narum Miyamoto says most seem more interested in meeting their friends there than meeting God.

“It’s a different way of evangelism,” she said. “Japan isn’t very welcoming to Christianity, but it is welcoming to Christians because of the social programs they bring to the lower echelons of society.” As recently as 50 years ago, blind and deaf children weren’t allowed to attend school, but their families would allow them to go with missionaries to be cared for and educated. Still, there’s a reluctance to embrace the faith.

Narum Miyamoto, who was recently awarded long-term missionary status, says some of her greatest satisfaction comes from supporting short-term missionaries — many just out of college — who come to Kumamoto. When their two-year assignments come to an end, Narum Miyamoto is frequently thrilled and amazed at the relationships they’ve developed and the adventures they’ve had. “I feel successful if they’ve been successful,” she said.

— Cathy Jelsing



Kazu and Katie Miyamoto in Suizenji Park. (Submitted photo.)



# Alumni Association

26th annual

# Gala

dinner & auction



Above (from the left):  
Student Ambassadors Sara  
King, Camila Oliveira and  
Paolo Freitas



Above: Brad and Jackie '95  
Thomas

Right: Trista Zacharias '07  
and Rebecca Ruzicka '01



Right: Rich '72  
and Vicky '72  
Campbell



Above: Rick '89 and  
Andrea '92 Hedberg



Above: Pat '91  
and Liz '97 Slotsve



Above (from the left): Gala co-chairs Deb Schultz  
'72/'91 and Linda Christianson '72



Right (from the left):  
Kim Bartsch, Alyssa  
Kraft '04, Ashley Fox  
and Lindsey Wolf

Join us for the 27th Annual Gala April 30, 2010,  
at the Holiday Inn!





# ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

## 4th Annual MSU Summer Friend-Raising Golf Tour



*Velva (from the left): Jen Miller, Dave Kramer '89, DeAnn Johnson, Johnny Johnson*



*Rugby (from the left): Daniel Gannarelli, Bruce Gannarelli, Jacob Stadum, Corey Espe '95*

*Current MSU scholarship recipients in Stanley (from the left): Jasmynn Dauwalder, Anna Lahtinen, Ashley Holmen, Kyle Nichols and Lance Hollinger*



# HOMECOMING 2009

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

TBA Golf Scramble

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

6-8 p.m. YP Speaker, Bill Rancic, first winner of the Apprentice, Ann Nicole Nelson Hall  
8 p.m. Bonfire, Dome parking lot

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

7 p.m. Coronation, Ann Nicole Nelson Hall

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

5-8 p.m. Community Block Party & 5K, Old Main lawn

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

6-8 p.m. Golden Awards, MSU conference center

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

12 p.m. Beaver Booster Luncheon  
2 p.m. Campus Tour  
7 p.m.-12 a.m. MSU Alumni Reunion(s), Holiday Inn Mu Sigma Tau, Student Association, Wes Luther Teams

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

10:30 a.m. Homecoming Parade  
11:30 a.m. Tailgating  
1:30 p.m. Football Game  
2:30 p.m. Induction of Hall of Fame inductees and Wes Luther reunion participants  
4:30 p.m. Barley Pop After Party – YP Group (tentative)  
7 p.m. Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, Holiday Inn



**Check out the Homecoming Web site for more details ...**

**[www.minotstateu.edu/homecoming](http://www.minotstateu.edu/homecoming)**

# HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY

## *The First Wartime Sacrifice*

World War I, or the “Great War” as it was then called, influenced the State Normal School at Minot in many ways. Foremost, enrollments dropped as male students went off to war, and war work replaced many of the traditional campus activities. The Red Cross ancillary on campus produced thousands of bandages and clothing items for the war’s wounded and homeless. Several faculty members also served in the war effort. President Arthur Crane served as a major in the U.S. Army Sanitary Corps at Walter Reed Hospital. He developed methods and policy for helping wounded veterans re-enter society and learn new workforce skills. However, greater sacrifice was called for. In July 1918, Dr. Clarke, the acting president in President Crane’s absence, was informed the institution had experienced its first wartime fatality.



Henry Finn, a resident of Portal, was a summer enrollee when called to duty as a corpsman. He left for the front in 1918 and was assigned to the Medical Detachment, 4th Infantry, 3rd Division, American Expeditionary Forces. On July 23, 1918, fighting was fierce on the front. As was common in trench warfare, many men were trapped in no man’s land, a vacant, open space between allied forces and the enemy, a landscape few men returned from. Despite severe bombardment and intense machine-gun fire near Les Franquettes Farm, Private Finn

went “over the top” and administered first aid to the wounded officers and enlisted men who were pinned down in no man’s land. While doing so, Finn was killed by enemy machine-gun fire. Under General Order No. 32, W.D. 191, Private Henry Finn was posthumously presented the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action. He was interred in Plot A, Row 18, Grave 27, Oise-Aisne American Cemetery at Fere-en-Tardenois, France. In September, a second student, Fred Otis Cooper, was wounded during the Battle of St. Mihiel. Private Cooper was returned to the States for treatment but succumbed to his injuries.



A grieving campus and community planted two American Elms and a flower garden southeast of Old Main in their honor. The majestic Finn and Cooper trees still adorn the campus landscape. Minot State University takes this opportunity to remember Henry Finn and all the men and women who have served and sacrificed for our institution and our nation.

— *An excerpt from “History of Minot State University,” written by Jonathan Wagner and Mark Timbrook for the 2013 centennial celebration.*



*Spot in field where Henry Finn fell, wounded by sniper’s bullet. Five miles out of Chateau Thierry, this was his first burial place.*



*Body of Henry Finn lies in this cemetery among 300 other American boys — on the Marne River.*





## *Do you recall a favorite teacher, or a teacher who impacted you in such a way that it changed your life?*



Many of us remember such a teacher.

A Minot State alumnus recently told me if it had not been for Dr. Doris Slaaten taking a personal interest in him he does not know where his future may have been. Currently, he is a successful businessman in the Minneapolis area.

We hear stories like this from many alumni. They mention Dr. Pearl Stusrud, Dr. Robert Holmen, Pat Swanson, Dr. Joseph Hegstad, Dr. Ira Schwarz and many, many others who have continued the legacy of genuinely caring about Minot State students and

going the extra mile to help the students be the best they can be.

When the Minot Normal School was founded in 1913, the mission was to serve, serve, serve. And that is exactly what generation after generation of quality teachers have done for Minot State students. Because of this commitment to our students and the impact that our students have had on their own professions, families and communities, our students have helped shape a better world.

Many of our alumni who appreciate these inspirational teachers have decided to give back so that students who are coming after them have the opportunity for the same experience. Often, our alumni will make a gift to Minot State honoring a special teacher.

If you would like to participate in honoring a Minot State teacher, it is easy and very worthy. You can give online by going to [www.minotstateu.edu/alumni](http://www.minotstateu.edu/alumni), or you can contact the Advancement Office at 1-800-777-0750 ext. 3890.

— MARV SEMRAU  
*Vice President for Advancement*



## ATHLETICS

# Life after stroke: Lynn Miller running toward ‘normal’

*The third time Jason Miller went to check on Lynn, he found her lying on the basement bathroom floor. Crouching beside her, he gently helped her to her feet, thinking she must have bumped her head. But when he looked into her face, he saw half of her smile had gone slack. His 29-year-old wife was having a stroke.*

**November 16, 2008** is the date that changed the Miller's lives forever. Everything before that day now seems like an idealistic dream.

The couple met and fell in love while students at Minot State University. He played football. She played volleyball. In 2000, he graduated with a corporate fitness degree. In 2003, she completed a master's in speech-language pathology. And Jason went on to Northern Michigan University in Marquette for a master's in exercise science.

In 2005, Fargo became home. Jason began work as a strength and conditioning coach at North Dakota State University. Lynn became a speech-language pathologist for the Moorhead Public School's Early Intervention Center. They bought a home. They joined in community activities. That spring, Lynn ran half of Fargo's fledgling marathon. And in 2007, they became parents to Cameron.

Life was better than good; it was great. But on a Sunday morning before Thanksgiving, something went horribly wrong. Lynn was taking longer than usual to get ready for the day, so much longer, that Jason had checked on her twice before he found her lying on the floor. His suspicion that she had suffered a stroke was confirmed soon after the ambulance delivered her

to Fargo's Meritcare Hospital.

The next morning, doctors told Jason that the only way to relieve the mounting pressure in his wife's brain was surgery. Another ambulance brought her to the University of Minnesota's Fairview Hospital in Minneapolis, and within hours, a surgeon was removing the entire right side of Lynn's skull and a tiny portion of her temporal lobe. To help her heal, doctors induced a coma.

Reporting her progress on the Caring Bridge Web site, family members called her "our sleeping princess." A ventilator helped her breathe. Later, the vent was replaced with a tracheotomy.

By mid-December, Lynn improved enough to be released to Meritcare Hospital for rehabilitation. She had lost 20 pounds. She could barely lift her head, she had no use of the left side of her body and her right side was weak. With the help of her therapy team, she slowly regained the ability to walk, to speak, to think again.

After nearly six weeks of inpatient rehabilitation, Lynn was allowed to go home but she wore a helmet to protect her healing head until Feb. 3, when Fairview



*Jason and Lynn Miller near the finish line at the Fargo Marathon's 5K Walk-Run. (Photo courtesy of [www.asipphoto.com](http://www.asipphoto.com).)*



doctors reinstalled the piece of skull or “bone flap” removed to save her life. They also inserted a shunt to drain excess spinal fluid from her traumatized brain, a permanent side effect of the stroke.

“We’re starting to get back into a routine,” Jason said, “but it’s a completely different life than it was a year ago.”

In April, Lynn had surgery to repair a small hole in her heart, which may or may not have allowed a blood clot to invade her brain and cause the stroke. In May, her routine continued to be structured around therapy — four days a week.

Lynn has begun cooking for her family and hopes to get her driver’s license this fall. Without the use of her left arm, meeting the needs of 2-year-old Cameron is a challenge. “Right now, I can’t do what Cameron needs done, so he bypasses me

and goes to Jason,” she said. “I want to be present for him. He and Jason are my number one motivators.”

So, Lynn sets goals: to walk, to walk a mile, to participate in the Fargo Marathon’s 5K Walk-Run. And, she achieves them.

On May 9, she not only walked in the 5K, but she also ran the last 60 yards to cross the finish line. Family, friends and co-workers cheered as her image flashed across the Fargodome’s JumboTron, with husband and son, in his stroller, just a few paces behind.

... Lynn sets goals: to walk, to walk a mile, to participate in the Fargo Marathon’s 5K Walk-Run. And, she achieves them.

The future continues to be measured in moments like these. Little victories in a journey with an unknown end. “Today could be as good as it gets,” Jason said.

“No one really knows, but we’re focused on opportunities for improvement.” As for Lynn, she someday hopes to run the entire Fargo Marathon and yearns for a recovery that will return their lives to a blessed normal.

— Cathy Jelsing

To follow Lynn’s progress, check out [www.caringbridge.org/visit/lynnmiller1](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/lynnmiller1).

## MSU looking to add two sports

Minot State University announced April 22 that it is looking to add two sports to its stable of teams. Athletic Director Rick Hedberg said the university is moving to bring back its wrestling program that was cut due to budgetary concerns after the 1989-90 season and add women’s soccer, beginning in 2010.

“We set the goal of \$130,000 about four months ago during the private fundraising,” Hedberg said. “We thank the donors and the committee for the work done so far.

“I am very pleased to participate in this event and look forward to starting wrestling and soccer,” Dr. David Fuller, president of MSU, said. “When I came to Minot State, I often heard, especially from the wrestling community, how important reinstating wrestling on our campus is, and I am certainly interested in making that happen. What this does for us is clearly show that we are committed to engaging and supporting our athletic programs for the good of our community and region.”

“These two sports will help us raise the bar. To reach our goal by 2013 will depend on us moving in bold and interesting directions,” continued Fuller. “I think adding these two sports is one step closer to achieving that goal.”

If the fundraising aspect is successful, MSU will look nationally for coaches for both sports this summer and have both in place during the fall semester.

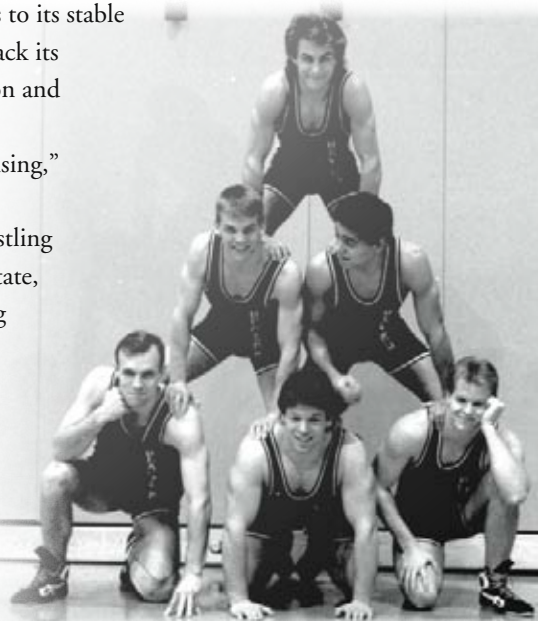
“We would like to have them on board in the fall to start working on their teams and begin playing in 2010,” Hedberg said.

Former MSU wrestling standout and current member of the committee, Steven Lipp, was pleased. He feels that adding the sport at the collegiate level will, in turn, help the sport at the local level.

“We have been trying to reinstate wrestling for at least 15 years, and we are starting to see the impact that not having it has made on the wrestling in our community,” Lipp said.

Minot Soccer Association member Dale Christensen echoed Lipp’s comments about more opportunities.

“It is very exciting for soccer,” he said. “For Minot State to have a women’s soccer program, it is just such a big benefit for our program on so many levels.”



Top row: Steve Lipp; second row (from left): Shane Goodman, Earl Bruce; bottom row (from left): Dave Isaak, Tory Nordlinder, Blair Berg.

— Michael Linnell, reprinted from Minot Daily News



## Minot State begins membership process into NCAA Division II

On July 10, Minot State University began the three-year process of becoming a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The NCAA Membership Committee informed MSU we would be entering year-one candidacy for NCAA Division II for the 2009-2010 season.

“We’re very pleased that the NCAA has chosen Minot State as a university that it would like to have as part of Division II. The change for athletics, the university and the community is an important one and fits best for the present and future of Minot State,” said Rick Hedberg, athletic director at MSU. “Minot State University’s Vision 2013 calls for the university to become one of the premier public, regional universities in the Great Plains. It is our belief that a transition to NCAA Division II is one large step toward realizing that goal.”

“Minot State University is interested in becoming a strong and viable member of NCAA Division II,” MSU President David Fuller said. “The Division II mission of integrating

intercollegiate athletics into higher education for the benefit of students and student-athletes is consistent with the mission and goals of our institution and athletic department.”

After applying at the end of May, Minot State was one of more than a dozen colleges and universities attempting the jump to NCAA Division II. The decision to apply for Division II membership comes at the end of nearly four years of research by committees from Minot State, the athletics department, administrators, the community and Beaver Booster Club members.

The past four years of work preceding an application for membership is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to becoming an NCAA Division II athletic program.

“There is a candidacy period. We have two years with our current association, the NAIA. Certain benchmarks need to be reached during the process,” said Hedberg. The third year you’re considered ‘provisional status,’ and you are with your new affiliation, in this case NCAA Division II. In the fourth year, you can become a full-fledged member.”

## Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

The Athletic Department announces the 2009 MSU Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees. Mark Guy (tennis 1978-81), Tracy Arams (volleyball 1994 and 1995), Jeremy Auch (football 1997-2000) and Bruce Bremer (baseball 1969-72 and basketball 1968-70) will be inducted during Homecoming on Sept. 26 at halftime of the MSU Beaver football game versus Jamestown College. A banquet will be held at the Holiday Inn that evening.

## Wes Luther reunion

Minot State University is hosting a reunion of the basketball teams coached by MSU Hall of Famer Wes Luther. Scheduled for Friday, Sept. 25, and Saturday, Sept. 26, it will be held in conjunction with Homecoming 2009. We are very excited to get Coach Luther and his basketball teams back on campus. Their success is a very big part of MSU’s athletic tradition.

### Friday, Sept. 25

- 12 p.m. Beaver Booster Luncheon
- 2 p.m. Campus Tour
- 6:30 p.m. Reunion Social, Holiday Inn

### Saturday, Sept 26

- 10:30 a.m. Homecoming Parade  
(Former athletes may ride in the parade.)
- 11:30 a.m. Pre-Game Tailgating,  
east end of MSU Dome
- 1:30 p.m. Homecoming Football Game
- 2:30 p.m. Introduction of reunion participants at halftime
- 6 p.m. Hall of Fame Banquet Social, Holiday Inn
- 7 p.m. Hall of Fame Banquet, Holiday Inn

For more information about the Wes Luther reunion, contact the Athletic Office at 701-858-3041 or check out the website at [www.msubeavers.com](http://www.msubeavers.com).

*Become a member of the*  
**BEAVER BOOSTER CLUB**  
*and support our athletes!*



The Beaver Booster Club enthusiastically assists the Minot State University Athletics Department in promoting and maintaining the highest level of excellence. The club provides funds to support athletic scholarships for students who have distinguished themselves in competition and in the classroom. It also provides funds for special needs of the Athletics Department.

**Contact Chad McNally at 701-858-4451, 1-800-777-0750, ext. 4451 or [chad.mcnelly@minotstateu.edu](mailto:chad.mcnelly@minotstateu.edu) and become a member today!**



# SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE

*Meet our students*

## Getting involved

*ROBIN DEUTSCH, WATFORD CITY, N.D., BUSINESS*

I am a business education graduate from 2009, who transferred to Minot State University. Before coming to MSU, I had heard that the education program was good, but I soon found out that the business program was just as good.

By being involved, I had many opportunities that led to other chances. After attending Minot State for a semester, I was asked to be on the student-advisory committee for the College of Business. I was able to have a say in my education and visit first hand with College of Business Dean JoAnn Linrud as well as other students from departments in the college.

While at MSU, I was a member of Phi Beta Lambda and earned second place for future business teacher at the National Leadership Conference this summer. I was also involved in Student North Dakota Education Association and have found out that being involved does not take too much time. I was able to work 20 hours a week, carry a full credit load and still find time to do my own things. I have been recognized and honored with different awards and scholarships, and I know that I would not have achieved such things if I were not so involved at Minot State.



*Research and study opportunities*

## Researching the education field

*DR. LISA BORDEN-KING, PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION*

The education field has sometimes been driven by current trends rather than by research-based practices. At Minot State University's Department of Teacher Education and Human Performance, we are infusing research-driven practice throughout the undergraduate experience and helping our education majors sort out what is well documented practice from what is simply popular or traditional practice.

This is evidenced by the emphasis in the Center for the Applied Study of Cognition and Learning Sciences, a new interdisciplinary initiative at Minot State University, on research-based applications of mind/brain research. The primary purpose of CASCLS is to help educators at all levels connect information on how the mind/brain actually works to appropriate applications in P-12, undergraduate, graduate and community education.

Minot State University's Reading Clinic annually serves approximately 50 children from the local area. Through the reading clinic, university students get an excellent background in teaching elementary school students to read, particularly students who struggle with reading. In addition, the reading clinic supports our research efforts by providing opportunities to study children's processing of the reading task in an authentic reading context. Current research efforts are focused on understanding a key group of struggling readers who seem to be the most resistant to traditional interventions and then designing interventions that specifically target the areas of difficulty discovered through research.

Minot State students are currently involved with our research efforts both directly as research assistants and indirectly through their participation in the reading clinic. The research we are conducting has significance for the teaching of reading in all classrooms, but, more specifically, to improving the reading skills of the most troubled readers. These efforts reflect the commitment of the CASCLS initiative to bridging the gap between mind/brain research and classroom practice. It is an exciting time in education at Minot State University!



# SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE ALUMNI FEATURES

Meet our faculty

## Ambassador of art education

DOUG PFLIGER, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ART



For Doug Pfliger, associate professor of art, getting back to Minot State University has been a search for the meaning of home, while working all the time as an ambassador of art education. And although he never envisioned himself as a teacher, looking back, Pfliger

says he wouldn't change the way life has guided him to become an art education adviser at MSU.

"If you listen to the right people at the right time in your life, you'll find a 'guiding force' leading you down the path you need to be taking," he said. "For me, the trip through life has stayed close to home — working the whole time in the upper Great Plains."

After finding a love and appreciation of art at a young age, Pfliger decided to pursue his interest at the collegiate level. There, the unexpected happened — professors encouraged him to become a teacher of the arts. While this initially didn't appeal to Pfliger, he decided to give it a try. After receiving a bachelor's degree in education from Minot State, teaching for 16 years in South Dakota, Montana and North Dakota and completing a master's in fine arts from the University of North Dakota, Pfliger is back home at MSU.

Pfliger's role as an ambassador of art education gives him a great opportunity to guide students along this career path. What he hopes his students will share with others is the value of the arts, which in turn will help solidify the importance of visual arts as a subject central to every student's education.

"I feel that my background in a variety of art mediums — sculpting, painting, print making or photography — gives MSU students the best chance at passing on their passion for the arts to school children across the state and region," Pfliger said.

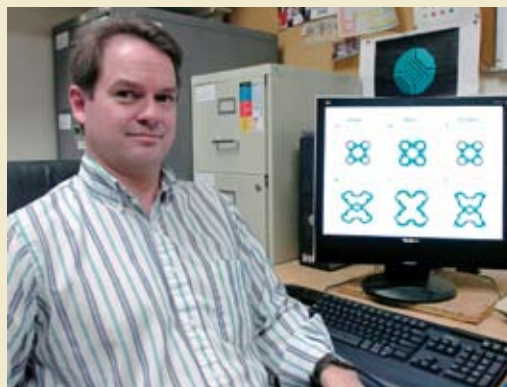
Pfliger started as a faculty member at Minot State in 2001 and said he's grateful for the immense amount of help provided to his students by the many regional art educators willing to open up their classrooms for practicum and student-teaching opportunities.

## Ubergraduate finds his niche in government research

When friends call Jerry Boatz a rocket scientist, they're not being facetious.

Boatz IS a rocket scientist.

The MSU graduate investigates chemical propellants for



rockets and missiles at the Air Force Research Laboratory located at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

"Our group works

on developing new compounds that have superior performance, reduced toxicity and are safer to handle," the Underwood native told *Connections*.

Boatz graduated with head-snapping numbers in 1983. He earned four majors — math, chemistry, physics and computer science — in five years. A gaudy 3.98 grade point average on a 4.00 scale earned him summa cum laude honors. His college preparation matches his current job almost perfectly.

"I use all four of those disciplines on a daily basis here at Edwards," he said.

In a Beaver yearbook, a math professor heaped superlatives on Boatz, falling just short of using the tag "genius."

Boatz downplays his undergraduate accomplishments. Course requirements for several of the majors overlapped, making his feat easier.

"I enjoyed everything I did; it was a labor of love," he said of his undergraduate years.

Boatz attended MSU on the recommendation of an older sister. He roomed with Charles Repnow, a long-time Underwood friend.

The scientist listed chemistry professors David Gano and Rand Rodewald, math professors Robert Holmen and Paul Venzke, computer science professor Selmer Moen and physics professor Gordon Berkey among his undergraduate mentors.

Boatz later earned a doctorate in theoretical chemistry at North Dakota State University. After a two-year post-doctoral appointment at the University of Utah, he joined the staff at Edwards Air Force Base in 1991.

"It's a wonderful job," he said. "I could see myself finishing my career where I am."

Boatz and his wife Tammy have three daughters, ages 9, 5 and 2.



## Graduate helps people with disabilities

MSU encouraged one graduate to venture off the conventional path.

Jocce Volk-Wolf graduated with a corporate fitness degree in 2003. Terry Eckmann, her mentor, encouraged her to enlarge her field of vision.

“They offered different classes to open your eyes to everything in corporate fitness,” Volk-Wolf said. “That propelled me to work with people with disabilities, to do something different than just working in a gym or doing personal training.”

After earning a master’s degree in exercise physiology, Volk-Wolf pursued an internship at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

“I was working with amputees, stroke patients, spinal-cord-injury patients,” she said. “It was one of the most rewarding jobs that I’ve ever had.”

Volk-Wolf managed the institute’s health and fitness center, creating individualized exercise programs for clients. She quickly became an expert in the burgeoning field, producing five exercise videos and contributing material for sports medicine books.



“Lots of people might overlook Minot State ... It has great teachers and a great learning atmosphere.”

In developing programs for people with disabilities, Volk-Wolf was making a virtue of necessity. She herself is a partial amputee.

“I had a traumatic accident when I was 3 years old. I lost a significant portion of my foot,” she said.

Undeterred by her condition, Volk-Wolf participated in figure skating, volleyball, basketball and softball as a youngster.

“I was never limited in what I tried,” she said.

The MSU grad recently completed a yearlong program at the Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center. After a one-year residency, she will be licensed to design and develop artificial body parts.

“I would like to work with athletes and get them back to being physically active,” she said.

Now at the top of her profession, Volk-Wolf cites MSU as the springboard to her career.

“Lots of people might overlook Minot State. They should check it out. It’s a great university. It has great teachers and a great learning atmosphere,” she said.

Volk-Wolf and husband Jason live in Aurora, Ill. He manages golf courses for Billy Casper Golf.

## Native-American artist reaches out to youth

A Minot State alumnus uses a combination of fine and martial arts philosophies and Native American culture to reach at-risk youngsters.

Monte Yellow Bird, a 2002 graduate, has a special kinship with troubled youth. During his primary years in school, he experienced abuse at the hands of one of his teachers, who singled out Native children. He vowed to help other kids when he grew up.

Yellow Bird attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M., and found guidance with the martial arts and fine arts to help heal his troubled childhood.



“I use martial arts, Native American culture and art as springboards to help young people communicate with themselves, their peers and the rest of the world,” he said.

Yellow Bird has crisscrossed the nation to work with kids as well as a variety of audiences adrift in an ever-changing world.

“Some kids are called lost,” he said. “I believe they journey to a place; I know the place they go to. My job is to reach them and tell them it’s safe to come home.”

The artist is a member of the Arikara and Hidatsa Nation from White Shield. He resides in Great Falls, Mont. While at MSU, he bloomed under the direction of Walter Piehl, Linda Olson, Bill Harbort and David Bradley.

“Walter pushed me to step out of my comfort zone,” he said. “I didn’t like it at first, but it really helped me stretch. Linda was instrumental in helping me to re-evaluate my culture.”

Yellow Bird calls his work contemporary First Nation art. It combines spirituality with various European traditions, such as expressionism and fauvism. As an artist, he uses the spiritual name “Black Pinto Horse.”

“First Nation people have a spiritual name given through ceremony,” he said. “I use the name with the art I create to add the dimension of spirituality and personal attachment.”

Wife Emily assists Yellow Bird in his fine arts business. Its Web site is [www.blackpintoart.com](http://www.blackpintoart.com).



Minot State University

# BABY BEAVER

Have you recently had an addition to your family? We want to know! Contact Kate at [kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu) to receive a free T-shirt for your new little Beaver! Please be sure to tell us the name, birth date, place, weight and length. Also please provide your graduation year, spouse's name and contact information.

After you have received your baby beaver T-shirt, send us your baby's photos! E-mail your photo to [kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu).



**Eric and Amy '07 (Jacobson) Anderson** are proud parents of son, **Eli Jacob**, born Nov. 19, 2008. He weighed 9 lbs., 2 oz., and was 20.5 inches long.



**Cruz Douglas Gellner** was born July 20, 2008, in Fargo, to proud parents **Lisa and Ryan '00 Gellner**. He weighed 9 lbs., 2 oz., and was 21.25 inches long.



**Taylor Matthew Lundeen** was born June 8, 2008, in Minot to proud parents **Matt '05 and Krista '04 (Knaup) Lundeen**. Taylor weighed 9 lbs., and was 20 inches long.

**Justin '99 and Janet '98 Beuthe Anderson** welcomed the birth of their son, **William Evan**, born Dec. 2, 2008 in Bloomington, Ind. He weighed 10 lbs., 6 oz., and was 21.5 inches long.



**Jo Anne High '07** and her fiancée, **Travas Knutson**, are proud parents of **Rylan Duane Knutson** born Feb. 13, 2009. Rylan weighed 7 lbs., 2 oz., and was 20 inches long.



**Sydney Gabriella Lyman** was born to **Mark and Katherine (Gasser) Lyman '05** on May 12, 2009. She weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz., and was 20 inches long.



**Shawn '03 and Bree '04 (Vollmers) Bergstrand** welcomed their second child on Feb. 14, 2008: daughter, **Bella Ann**. She weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz., and was 21 inches long.



**Alyssa Ann Holen** was born May 30, 2008, to proud parents **Steven '97 and Elizabeth Holen**. Alyssa weighed 6 lbs., 11.5 oz. and was 20 inches long.



**Taya Rae McKinna** was born to **Tyler '03 and Alissa '05 (Fritzler) McKinna**. She arrived April 19, 2009, in Regina, Sask., weighing 6 lbs., 13 oz., and was almost 19 inches long.

**David '03 and Renata '02 (Rensch) Buen** welcomed the birth of daughter, **Ella Jean**, born May 13, 2008. She weighed 6 lbs., 9 oz., and was 18.75 inches long.



**Kyle '04 and Heather '03 (Hill) Hunt** welcomed a new baby boy, **Kannon Jack**, on Feb. 12, 2009. Kannon weighed 8 lbs., and was 21 inches long.



**Crystal '08 and Aaron Michels** welcomed daughter, **Xylia Sharlene**, to the family on June 1, 2008. She weighed 8 lbs., 5 oz., and was 20.5 inches long.



**Micah Kenneth Corey Copeland** was born to **Raymond and Erica '07 (Sime) Copeland** on Jan. 30, 2009, at Minot's Trinity Hospital.

He was 8 lbs., 5 oz., and 19.25 inches long. Micah joins big sister, Tiana Rae, 5, and big brother, Malachi Raymond James, 3.



**Eric and Jennifer '99 (Rutledge) Iverson** welcomed their second child on June 3, 2008: daughter, **Hannah Grace**, born at 8:19 a.m. in Missoula, Mont. Hannah weighed 7 lbs., 1.5 oz., and was 20 inches long. She joins big brother Evan, who is 3 years old.



**Melissa Pauls** of Winnipeg, Manitoba, was born to proud parents **Joel and Sara '93 (Halstead) Pauls** on August 19, 2008. She weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz., and was 20 inches long.

**Ryan '06 and Jamie '06 (Slaubaugh) Eraas** welcomed daughter, **Madison May**, on March 7, 2009. Madison weighed 5 lbs., 13 oz., and was 19.25 inches long.



**Jason and Cassie '02/'04 (Artz) Loard** welcomed daughter, **Thea Jae**, on Feb. 23, 2009. She weighed 6 lbs., and was 18.25 inches long.



**Reino Christian Swartwout** was born Dec. 16, 2008, in Minot, to proud parents **Shawn and Nicole '98 (Witikko) Swartwout**. Reino weighed 6 lbs., 11 oz., and was 19.75 inches long.



**Michael and Angela '00 (Eraas) Zerr** welcomed daughter, **Danica Kaylee**, born Nov. 3, 2008, at Trinity Hospital in Minot. Danica was 6 lbs., 11 oz., and 20 inches long.





# Class notes...

## 60s.....

**Marie Swanson '68**, Fargo, retired from the faculty of Minnesota State University Moorhead in May. She was on the faculty in the speech-language-hearing sciences area. She joined MSUM in 1970 as a supervisor of the on-campus clinical practicum. She also served as director of the Regional Assistive Technology Center, part of the university's speech-language-hearing clinic.

**Bob Bartz '69**, Williston, retired in May after 40 years of teaching, 31 of which have been with the Williston Public School District. He taught social studies to seventh-grade students.



**Bruce Lovdahl '69 and Glenda Berry-Lovdahl '70** live in Tioga.

Bruce is farming and ranching full time. He taught at Alamo

for five years before pursuing farming. Glenda opened "Welo St. Music Studio" in 2000. She taught in the Minot Public Schools for 30 years, retiring in 2000. The couple has four children and five grandchildren.

## 70s.....



**Dr. Carol Sue (Lokken) Butts '70**, Platteville, Wis., has been appointed interim chancellor (president) of the

University of Wisconsin at Platteville, Wis. She has served as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the university since 1998.

**Jill McNeal-Gall '70**, Temecula, Calif., retired from the Fargo Public Schools in June and moved to California.

**Paul Tefft '71**, Fargo, retired after 37 years of teaching at West Fargo High School. He first taught at Selfridge before starting in West Fargo. He is now doing consultant work at North Dakota State University for a youth entrepreneurial task force. He is a past president of the North Dakota Golf Association.

**Carol Bellew '75**, Minot, was the recipient of the Linda Feldner Outstanding Cooperating Teacher award in March. Bellew teaches kindergarten at Bel Air Elementary School in Minot.

**Corry Schneider '79**, Minot, taught school in Goodrich High School. He has been employed by the North Dakota Department of Transportation as a traffic control supervisor for the last 28 years. He has set 172 weightlifting records from 1976-1997 in power lifting, with 33 national records and one American record.

## 80s.....

**Bonita Zuck '81**, Tioga, has secured employment at the gas plant in Tioga.

**Ruthie (Cutrell) Newman '81**, Fair Bluff, N.C., was selected Columbus County's 2009-10 Teacher of the Year and will be competing in regional competition in the fall. She has taught third grade at Evergreen Elementary School for six years. Her husband, Tommy, works in building material sales. They have three children.

**Mikey Hoeven '82**, Bismarck, was named the 2009 YWCA Overall Woman of Distinction recipient by the Minot YWCA at their awards dinner in April.

**Linda Olson '84**, Minot, was named the recipient of the YWCA's Professional Woman Award at their April event.

**Barb Bakken '86**, Bismarck, was named a mortgage banking officer with American Bank Center in Bismarck. She had previously worked in the Bismarck-Mandan mortgage industry for 15 years.

**Troy Mantz '86**, Minot, was recognized for outstanding achievements in sales by the Ford Motor Company in May.

**Melanie Boyes '87**, Casper, Wyo., is a ninth-grade language arts teacher at CY Junior High in Casper. She was awarded the 2009 Natrona County School District Teacher of the Year Award. She has also received other awards, including the NCSD Medallion of Excellence, Arch Coal Golden Apple and Ellbogen Foundation Meritorious Junior High Teacher.

**Michelle (Larson) Bagley '89**, Portland, Ore., was promoted to director of library services and eLearning at Clark College in Vancouver, Wash. She started with the college in April 2008 as the director of library services. From 2004 to 2008, she was the librarian for Western Culinary Institute in Portland. She received a master's degree in library science from the School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University in 2004. She is married to Ted, and they have a 5-year-old son.

## 90s.....

**Stacy (Jacobson) Tomlinson '90**, Max, was awarded the Volunteer of the Year award from Bremer. She is manager of Bremer Insurance in Max.

**Cord Scott '91**, Chicago, Ill., is a doctoral candidate at Loyola University in Chicago. He had two publications this spring, one in the Chicago Sports Reader. His dissertation concerns the use of war comics in relation to America's conflicts.

**Jonn Knecht '92**, Minot, was named the leader in the sales manager division from Bremer.

**Scott Bintz '93**, Jamestown, is the CEO of RealTruck. The organization received an Innovation Award in 2006 from the Information Technology Council of North Dakota, presented by Sen. Byron Dorgan.

**Dawn VerBruggen '95**, Minot, won the International Sterling Society Honor at the Coldwell Banker International Business Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Van Bruggen is employed with Coldwell Banker 1st Minot Realty.

**Jay Brost '95**, Halstead, Kan., is completing his first year as an area director for USDA Rural Development. They play a major role in the financing of community and economic development projects such as water and wastewater projects, community buildings, business loans and housing loans. He also oversees the administration of all programs in south central Kansas.

**Clyde Thorne '97**, Minot, earned the International President's Circle Award at the Coldwell Banker International Business Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Thorne is employed with Coldwell Banker 1st Minot Realty.

**Dave Morris '98**, Las Vegas, Nev., has been teaching in Las Vegas for 11 years. He has taught second grade, in-school suspension and is now the math strategist.

**Dominic Krebsbach '99**, Brooklyn Park, Minn., is employed at the Riverview Specialty School in Brooklyn Park as a fifth-grade teacher. He was named a recipient of the Teacher Outstanding Performance award by the Anoka-Hennepin School District in April.

**Ronn Burner '99**, West Hollywood, Calif., is an actor, writer and production coordinator. He has starred in multiple commercials, promos, videos and promo films, including, "Young, Single & Angry," and "The Transition of William Gray." He has worked as a promotion coordinator and is currently working for Sony Pictures TV/CBS show "Rules of Engagement." He also writes as the lead correspondent for the Miami Dolphins at [isportsweb.com](http://isportsweb.com).

## 00s.....

**Ryan Hertz '00**, Minot, was promoted to assistant vice president of commercial lending at Dacotah Bank. He is respon-

sible for underwriting, originating and servicing commercial loans.

**Maryjane (Schalk) Hadaway '01**, North Pole, Alaska, is working on a second master's degree that leads to an endorsement in special education.

**Jessa (Jacobson) Rafferty '03**, Bismarck, is employed at Coventry Health Care in Bismarck. She has been there for four years. She and her husband, Tom, have a 2-year-old son, Spencer, and a 6-month-old daughter, Jovie.

**Joel Dennis '04**, Minot, is employed with Results Unlimited in Minot as a video editor/photographer. He recently was part of a video shoot for Royal Caribbean/Celebrity Cruise Lines and had one of his shots make the inaugural video.

**Michael Gifford '04**, Reno, Nev., is a U.S. and Pre-IB World History teacher at Earl Wooster High School in Reno. He is also an assistant football coach and head track and field coach at the school.

**Jeff Brandt '06**, Bismarck, is the new personal banking officer at the Century Avenue Branch of BNC National Bank in Bismarck. He has more than two years of banking experience.

**Andrea Isaacson '06**, Bismarck, has her master's in piano performance from the University of Missouri and has been accepted at the University of Oklahoma to pursue a doctorate in piano performance and piano pedagogy. She has been awarded a GTA. Her supervisor is the internationally renowned Jane Magrath.

**Loni White '06**, Florida, has her masters of arts degree in piano performance from Florida Atlantic University. She is pursuing a career in piano performance as a soloist, performing with the violinist Lehins Aragon, in the Land L Duo, which was established in 2007 and is based in South Florida.

**Kim Carlson '07**, Jamestown, has been accepted to the graduate program at the University of North Dakota to pursue

a master's in piano performance and has been awarded a GTA. She will study with Susan Tang.



**Allyson Eckroth '07**, Bismarck, is employed with the Burleigh County Sheriff's Department. She was named the 2008 Burleigh County Detention Center's employee of the year in December.

**Christel Laskowski '07**, Minot, has been hired as business manager at Verendrye Electric Cooperative. Laskowski, a certified public accountant, will work in the Velva office. She was previously employed as a senior audit manager at Eide Bailly, LLP, where she audited cooperatives for eight years.

**Haylee (Hanna) Carlson '08**, Powers Lake, married Jordan Carlson in January 2009.

**Brock DesLauriers '08**, Minot, was promoted to mortgage loan officer with First International Bank and Trust, Minot. He has been with the bank since 2003.



**Jamie Wirth '08**, left, Valley City, was named the Teacher of the Year at Valley City

State University. Wirth is an instructor in the VCSU Department of Mathematics. He taught high school math for four years in Wyndmere and served as head boys' basketball coach for three years.

**Stacey Levingston '08**, Bismarck, has been named the program coordinator-residential for the residential re-entry



facility at Centre, Inc. She has worked for Centre for one year.

**Vanessa Anderson '09**, Jamestown, was chosen North Dakota's 2009 Cherry Blossom Princess. She represented North Dakota in the National Conference of State Societies' Annual Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C.

**Amanda Haff '09**, Bismarck, is the program manager of the misdemeanor probation office for Centre, Inc. She has worked for Centre for four years.

**Melanie Moore '09**, Minot, was named the recipient of the Community Service Volunteer Award by the Minot YWCA at their April awards event.

MSU maintains a database of alumni and provides an online directory. Alumni who have requested not to release their information are excluded. If you are not interested in being included, want to update your information or provide information for inclusion, please e-mail your information to: [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu).

*Have you received copies of these issues of Connections?*

With changes in postal endorsements, anyone with a change of address may not have received the copies pictured. If you wish to receive them, we will be glad to honor your request. Contact the Alumni Office at 701-858-3234 or e-mail [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu).

Also, let us know if you would rather receive *Connections* electronically.



# CLASS NOTES

Please let us hear from you with news of your career updates, marriage, family, address change, etc. While you're at it, include a photograph if you have one.

Name	Class
Address	
Phone	E-mail

Mail to: Alumni Association, Minot State University, 500 University Ave W, Minot, ND 58707  
 E-mail: [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu)

## MSU license plates available online



MSU license plates can now be ordered online through the North Dakota Department of Transportation. The link to the site is <https://secure.apps.state.nd.us/dot/mv/mvrenewal/plate.htm>

For questions, contact 858-3373 or [tawnya.bernsdorf@minotstateu.edu](mailto:tawnya.bernsdorf@minotstateu.edu).

# Moving

## OR HAVE A TEMPORARY ADDRESS?

**SEND YOUR NEW ADDRESS TO:**

**MSU Alumni Association,  
 500 University Avenue West, Minot, ND 58707  
 or e-mail us at: [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu)**

# In memoriam...

*It is with honor that we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away from approximately February 15 to June 30, 2009, or as submitted.*

## 20s.....

'24 Pilgrim (Anderson), Edna; Wolf Point, Mont.

## 30s.....

'30 Robinson (Harchenko), Lillian B.; San Diego, Calif.

'31 Pennington (Myxter), Louise E.; Sauk Rapids, Minn.

'33/'39 Werner, L. Ralph; Bismarck

'37 Aas (Bostow), Eleanor A.; Minot

'37 Johnston (Bertinuson), Theresa; Watford City

'38 Albrecht (Ruesink), Ruth; Miles City, Mont.

'38 Gregoire (Erdman), Nora G.; Grand Forks

## 40s.....

'40 Bahn (Thornson), Edna M.; Newburg

'40 Schan (Dostert), Anne Mary; Minot and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

'42 Flemmer, Albert; Alexandria, Minn.

'42 Wilson, Pearl I.; Fergus Falls, Minn.

'44 Monicken (Ramstad), Sylvia E.; Hudson, Wis.

'46 Jensen, Lester T.; The Dalles, Ore.

'46 Moore (Huesers), Beulah "Bea" L.; Vancouver, Wash.

'47 Bechtold (Anderson), Shirley; West Fargo

'47 Gandrud, Ervin O.; Grand Forks

'49 Yonker, Harlan; Sacramento, Calif.

## 50s.....

'50 Nyhus, Lester; Devils Lake

'51 Ruppert, Charles L.; Minot and New Town

'53 Nelson (Butterfield), Darleen; Cleveland, Texas

'54 Barnick, Helen; Madison, Wis.

'54 Smith (Staael), Mathilda S.; Oshkosh, Wis.

'55 Bergland, Rev. Clifford M.; Spokane, Wash.

'55 Morley, James C.; Hillsboro, Ore.

'59 Jones (Ringenberg), Lois M.; West Fargo

## 60s.....

'60 Barlow, Arden J.; Valley City and Minot

'60 Larsen, Robert "Bob"; Glendive, Mont.

'63 Buchanan, James P., Jr.; Morrison, Ill.

'63 Pommier (Zeltinger), Irene M.; Minot

'64 Engebretson, Gary; Minot

'64 Fiske (Rust), Janice M.; Martin

'64 Solberg (Good), Ida Mae; Rolla

'64 Stenhjem, Gary A.; Minot

'65 Kulland, Harlan D.; Fargo

'67 Sondreal (Nelson), Carolyn L.; McFarland, Wis.

'67 VanNatta (Schmeets), Lorene D.; Minot

'68 Garman, Victor M.; Beulah

'68 Tennyson (Pautzke), Janet E.; Antler

'69 Fix, Ernest; Underwood

## 70s.....

'71 Anderson (Berve), Clarice A.; Sheridan, Wyo.

'71 Carlson (Bussman), Ruth M.; Douglas

'72 Schultz, Leone; Harvey

'72 Serdahl, Steven D.; Mandaree

'73 Dravland, Gerald A.; Ashley

'75 Mattson, Alan K.; Topeka, Kan.

'76 Leonard, Donald J.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa

'76 Martin (Adam), Debra A.; Minot

'76 Reum (Petersen), Phyllis A.; Plaza

'77 Schmidt, Cletus J.; Bismarck

## 80s.....

'81 Turner, Leonard G.; Minot

'82 Glasoe (Falkanger), Olive "Ollie" M.; Minot

'82 Lamb (McAllister), Linda J.; Concordia, Mo.

'82 Slorby Sweeney (McGovern), Constance F.; Minot

'83 Hanford (Landers), Karen L.; Joshua, Texas

'87 Suchor (Franklin), Renell Gay; Hillsboro

## 90s.....

'90 Hulm, Lonny D.; New Salem

'96 Baer (Turner), Marilyn J; Minot

'97 Andersen (Hegstad), Susan; Powers Lake and Minot

'97 Matze (Bonner), Dawn; Williston

## 00s.....

'03 Smith, Christopher S.; Peterson, Iowa

## ATTENDED .....

Agnes (Horswill), Joyce M.; Bottineau

Anderson (Hanson), Barbara F.; Tioga

Baber (Steen), Sadie F.; Billings, Mont.

Bartuska, Catlin J. "Big Cat"; Minot

Beeck (Erdman), Dorothy; Worthington, Minn.

Berg (Brown), Ruth M.; Minot

Bueide (Haaland), Ruth; Lincoln, Neb.

Burgess (Rice), Evelyn V.; Velva

Deegan, Duane W.; Sheyenne

Duchsherer, Casey M.; Minot

Ehr (McMaster), Margaret "Dolly"; Minot

Faunce, Everette G.; Fergus Falls, Minn.;

Navy program

Fruhling, Richard; Minot

Gores (Wantz), Leona M.; Minot

Gutknecht (Wood), Eileen F.; Bismarck

Haugen (Grimes), Catherine M.; Garrison

Hoff (Myhre), Luella; Parshall

Hornbacher, Calvin; Fessenden

Hornberger (Haaland), Ellen H.; Berthold

Kramer (Eikesdahl), Alyce E.; Towner

Lenertz (Berube), Brenda; Bismarck

Luchsinger (Nelson), Isabelle I.; Minot

Mosvick, Stanford W.; Minneapolis, Minn.

Neard, Wendell "Oakly"; Sheridan, Wyo.

O'Clair (Vooge), Sophie; Kenmare

Oblander (Fox), Alice; Bozeman, Mont.

Olsen (Mueller), Ada; Bismarck

Olson, Kevin C.; Underwood

Reichert, Orville J.; Columbia Falls, Mont.;

Navy program

Roland (Campbell), Karen J.; Palm Beach

Gardens, Fla.

Schelling, David C.; Minot

Schmidt (Huseuth), Dorothy; Hayden, Idaho

Scott (Iverson), Helen; Minot

Staehr (Peterschick), Dolores; Garrison

Trengen (Mongeon), Elaine "Sheryl";

Las Vegas, Nev.

Wiese, "Chuck" Arlin; Yankton, S.D.;

Navy program

## FRIENDS .....

Bonebrake, Keith; Mesa, Ariz.

Crisera, Ethel M.; Portland, Ore.

Decker, John D.; Minot

Dickey (DeCol), Adelina "Toni"; Minot

Henry, Donald R.; Lake Metigoshe

Herigstad (Shigley), Harriet; Minot

Jones, Catherine E.; Minot

Kleingartner, Herb; Minot

Overholser, J. Spencer; Wyomissing, Pa.

Peltier, Joseph; Dunseith

Winkjer, Dean; Williston

## FACULTY & STAFF .....

Champion, Dr. Dean John; Laredo, Texas;

Criminal Justice instructor and served as department chair

Chapin, Wilber H. III; Minot; worked in Plant Services

Hrichena, Phillip; Minot; worked in Plant Services

Olson, Dr. Gordon B.; Minot; served as MSU president from 1967 to 1992

If you would like to send a memorial or share your memories of Dr. Gordon Olson, please forward them to:  
MSU Alumni Office  
500 University Ave W  
Minot, ND 58707  
or e-mail [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu).



A heartfelt tribute to  
**Dr. Gordon B. Olson**  
Oct. 19, 1924 - June 30, 2009



"If a student or faculty member is truly the right kind of person, they should leave a mark. Those out in the trenches don't know the impact they have on the life of others."

— *Dr. Gordon Olson,*  
*addressing Minot Sertoma Club, October 1980*

**DR. GORDON OLSON** was truly the right kind of person for Minot State University, leaving an extraordinary mark on the campus and on the state of North Dakota. Minot State University is honored to celebrate this remarkable man.

Dr. Olson's alertness to change and his ability to adapt were keys to his success as a university president and to the growth of Minot State University. Increased enrollments, expanded programs and courses, and architectural improvements flourished under his leadership.

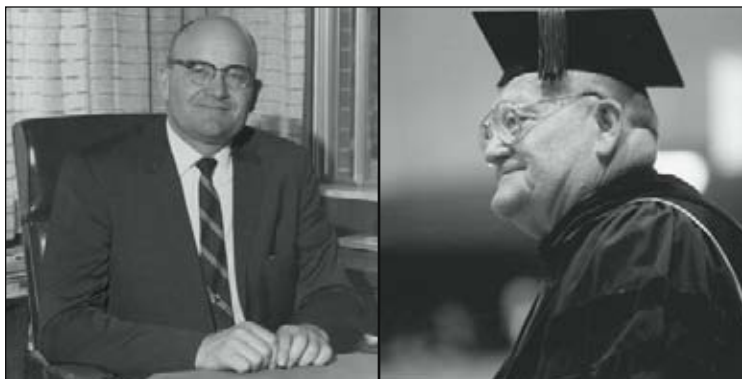
Dr. Olson was a talented communicator. A humble, down-to-earth man, he reached out to people from all walks of life and could converse with each one, regardless of background

or specialty. The fact that he made a point of remembering people's names is a testament to his concern and respect for his fellow human beings.

He viewed putting together a quality faculty and staff as one of his career highlights and often said, "You really are no better than your team." An ardent supporter and voice for students, faculty and staff, he was tireless in his efforts to improve the livelihoods of all at Minot State.

Dr. Olson was one of Minot State University's outstanding presidents, exemplifying the qualities any university would want in that office. His legacy will live on forever at Minot State University and in the hearts of all who knew him.

*Minot State University students, faculty and staff extend their deepest condolences to Dr. Olson's family. We have lost a dear friend.*





# Minot State UNIVERSITY

## Alumni Association

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*For students, Minot State University is more than just a school. It's a home that provides a lasting impact on our lives. The Class of 2009 would like to leave Minot State University a better place than when we came in. A senior-giving campaign will build a long-lasting legacy. During this past year, a beautiful part of campus, the statue Winged Victory, was accidentally destroyed. Give back to MSU for the restoration of Winged Victory and help the Class of 2009 leave a legacy for years to come. You can visit the Winged Victory Campaign Web site at [www.minotstateu.edu/wingedvictory](http://www.minotstateu.edu/wingedvictory).*



**Amber Jensen '09**

*SGA Director of Public Relations  
Senior Class Representative*



**Ken Story '09**

*Student Body President  
Senior Class Representative*

