“Though I do not believe that a plant will spring up where no seed has been, I have great faith in a seed. Convince me that you have a seed there, and I am prepared to expect wonders.”

— Henry D. Thoreau —

PREPARED TO EXPECT WONDERS

In my inauguration speech 10 years ago, I referred to Thoreau’s line “faith in a seed” to express my faith in the potential of students, and my sense that we can expect wonders if we believe in them. My experience working with students reveals that they deserve our faith as individuals — all of them unique, with different interests and backgrounds, different ideas about learning, sharing a common sense of wonder and excitement about their future. Thoreau was a teacher, and I imagine that he, too, believed in the potential of his students.

Today, discussions about quality learning are drowned out with comments about educational productivity, often expressed as formulas for student success. I understand and support initiatives to improve productivity and to measure student success, but those priorities should not come at the expense of attending to learning, motivating and supporting students. It’s a useful reminder to take stock in quality learning, as we have done for nearly 100 years at Minot State University. Teaching is never easy, but we know that good teaching and student success come from our ability to listen carefully, show that we care, offer help, challenge students to work hard and to experience the joys of discovery and understanding. These are not far-fetched ideas. They are central to who we are.

I hear stories from students and graduates who tell me about MSU professors who made a difference in their lives. For 10 years, I have heard those stories and observed them in classrooms. Real student success depends on people who sincerely care about students and demonstrate their willingness to go beyond the call of duty. That’s what it takes. Admission scores, remedial training, uniform tuition, dual credit standards, and even waiver and scholarship plans should not displace our attention to quality learning and our faith in students.

There are many in our profession who sincerely care about individuals’ learning and growth. They are the people who make higher education worthwhile. I can point to actual people and practices right under our noses that show the wonderful impact we make one student at a time. Some who immediately come to mind include: Steve Hayton’s many hours after the workday ends helping students in computer science; Mikhail Bobylev’s countless hours mentoring and helping individuals with their research; Rick Watson’s special efforts to motivate and demonstrate the joys of learning, playing his guitar, reading poetry and befriending many; and Clarine Sandstrom revealing her unquestionable faith in students through kindness and support. Others who go out of their way to help students are: Laurie Weber in Financial Aid, Mark Timbrook in the Office of Instructional Technology; George Withus from Information Technology Center; Deb Wentz in my office; Ken and DeVer Bowles through their remarkable support of our choral students; Kevin Neuharth in our theater department; Scott Peterson in maintenance; Doreen Wald in Publications and Design Services. There are so many other people — too many to mention here — and programs that prove their commitment to quality learning and individual support.

They are the heart of higher education. For nearly 100 years, they and others continue to make Minot State University a premier regional university in the “great” Great Plains. It is not performance scores, rankings in popular magazines, amount of efficiencies and admission standards that qualify MSU as a premier university. Rather, it is the people and tradition of service to our students that continue to give me faith and anticipation to expect wonders every day. That’s why I have loved higher education for years, and certainly why I believe in Minot State University and the job we do.

And that’s why, 151 years after his death, Thoreau’s “faith in a seed” resonates now more than ever before.

—David Fuller, president
Although subject to the authority of the State Board of Regents in Bismarck, the State Normal School at Minot was directed in its daily operations by its president. Over the last century, Minot State University has been guided by leaders with diverse backgrounds, but who shared a similar vision: to create an institution of excellence that serves its students and community with equal fervor and dedication.
Arthur Crane

The groundbreaking for the State Normal School at Minot’s initial building, known later as Old Main, was scheduled for Aug. 27, 1912. On the evening before the ceremony, Arthur Crane, a Carleton (Northfield, Minn.) College graduate, performed his first unofficial act. In the middle of the night, the 35-year-old, newly chosen president moved survey stakes 50 yards back. He disagreed on the building’s location with State Normal Board member Martin Jacobson, who helped with the school’s physical layout. Crane wanted it back from present-day University Avenue to accommodate future growth and took the necessary steps to ensure that.

Crane skillfully guided the school through social, cultural, economic and legal difficulties in its first days. When construction problems delayed the campus opening, he promptly sought another option. He appealed to the community, which provided the rent-free use of of the newly constructed Minot Armory. The first term of the State Normal School at Minot began Sept. 30, 1913, in the armory. Its offices served as recitation rooms, and the basement housed the auditorium and gymnasium. Crane and the original faculty established the identity and traditions of the fledgling school. Students, faculty and staff often referred to him as “Father Crane.”

In 1917, Crane received a 14-month leave of absence to pursue graduate education at Columbia University in New York. He returned to North Dakota in September 1918. However, before he could resume his presidential duties, the Surgeon General of the U. S. Army called him into service for World War I. Crane worked for the Army Sanitary Corps at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D. C., organizing rehabilitation work and vocational training for disabled soldiers. He returned to Minot’s State Normal School for two months in 1921, before resigning to accept the presidency of the University of Wyoming.

William Clarke

When Arthur Crane departed in 1917 to pursue a graduate degree and wartime service, William Clarke, the only faculty member possessing a doctorate among the original 12, became the acting president. Clarke, the former supervisor of practice pedagogy and school management, was Model School director. He coordinated and directed all war service activities as well as all normal and training school operations. He combined his Model School role with that of the presidency until Asra Steele replaced him in 1917. He then replaced Steele in 1918 and later, Levi Beeler prior to George McFarland’s taking office in 1922. During presidential voids, Clarke ensured that campus operations continued smoothly. Little credit is given to Clarke, when, in fact, he provided much-needed stability.

Crane possessed diverse talents. Although he had a poetic streak, he was a practical, resourceful man. An intellectual, an author, a gifted organizer, he had above all else the ability to inspire others. He could be forceful as well.

When the choice of school colors was made, Crane voiced his preference for red and green. The art faculty recommended three colors, but the president would not be swayed. He saw the young institution as belonging to the common people of the state. The geranium’s red and soft green symbolized to him the school’s function to provide a better life for ordinary people. He said, “I don’t care what colors you choose, just so they’re red and green.” In the early years of Minot’s Normal School, each window of the main building had a box of geraniums.

'The MSU campus c. 1913 – 14.'
Asra Steele

The State Board of Regents appointed Asra Steele from the University of West Virginia’s Department of Education as the first interim president in June 1917. Steele had a bachelor’s degree from the University of Missouri and a doctorate from Clark University. During Steele’s administration, several of Arthur Crane’s improvements were realized. These included additions to the school’s plant and the introduction of correspondence work under the Extension Department. Neither Steele’s impeccable credentials nor his faithful effort to continue Crane’s policies, however, could prevent his abrupt dismissal after only 10 months on the job. He angered local business people during a 1918 convocation with comments about the progress and financing of the First World War. It was a political dismissal during difficult times.

Levi Beeler

In May 1922, Levi Beeler of the University of Chicago assumed duties as president of Minot’s Normal School. Professionally, he started as a high school principal in Stillwater, Minn. Beeler later completed a doctorate at the University of Minnesota. He was described as a scholar of strong personality and a “Gatling-gun talker.” In 1908, he was appointed president of Henry Kendall College in Tulsa, Okla., which faced problems with its endowment, land management, enrollment and debt. The problems persisted, if not magnified, and trustees grew increasingly unhappy with Beeler. In 1909, he wrote, “The Trustees are very much dissatisfied because I have not secured endowments and buildings. So much so that I feel that I cannot longer remain here.” He resigned and moved on.

Little is found in Minot State University’s historical record concerning Beeler’s term in office, with the exception of bids for the construction of Main’s west wing. He also revised the Extension Bulletin about how correspondence study was to be offered. No student was allowed to take correspondence if he had not completed the ninth grade or its equivalent, and not more than a sixth of the work leading to a diploma could be taken in absenta. Each course consisted of 20 lessons, with a syllabus outlining the course. A final examination was administered at the Normal School or under the supervision of an approved person. By 1922, enrollment in the courses had climbed to 87 students. While it changed in scope and courses offered, correspondence has remained one of the institution’s delivery methods.

Both the Minot Daily News and the Ward County Independent reported without explanation the appointment of George McFarland, Williston City Schools superintendent, as the new Minot Normal School president in August 1922. When contacted by both newspapers, Beeler said “he had not been informed of the new appointment.”
George McFarland led the school through its two most trying decades, when economic depression and financial belt-tightening were paramount. Despite overwhelming adversity, this remarkable man, who was 64 when he assumed office in August 1922 and 80 when he died in 1938, managed to keep the school from foundering during the Great Depression.

McFarland had a long work history and a deep understanding of education on the Northern Plains. Several personality traits, including confidence, intelligence, sincerity, friendliness and empathy, contributed to McFarland’s success. He was a natural public figure, who felt at ease whether conversing with individuals or addressing a large group.

Regardless of the problems facing the school, McFarland believed Minot State Teachers College’s future held great promise. He displayed two attributes, optimism and sense of mission, in his Saturday evening radio talks on KLPM in the midst of the Great Depression.

The mission of the college, McFarland insisted, extended beyond teaching subjects and skills. The president described his faculty as fulfilling many other roles in addition to their pedagogical commitments. He introduced extracurricular activities as valid to the community.

McFarland’s response to the budgetary crisis facing North Dakota and MSTC in 1931 illustrates his flexibility and skill as an administrator. On two occasions, the governor summoned state college presidents to Bismarck, where he informed them of required budget cuts. For Minot, this meant drastic cuts in virtually all facets of college expenditures. McFarland returned home after the meetings determined to conform to the governor’s demands and to ensure that his institution would survive. He gathered the college community to discuss the crisis. “I regret,” he announced at the meeting, “to occupy a position in which some of these decisions must rest with me. I am likely to be under the necessity of ignoring individual disappointments in the interest of what my judgment may indicate is best for the school.” In another speech, he softened this by stressing that whatever he did “to enable the college to carry out its objectives with the funds allowed” he would do “with the least possible disaster to individuals.”

To begin with, he pointed out, “every salary in the institution from the president to the part-time janitor has been reduced 10 percent.” Moving his request to a loftier plane, McFarland summoned his troops to exhibit heightened seriousness, loyalty and commitment. In closing, the president admonished his colleagues to consider the larger picture, to ponder the magnitude of the economic crisis their institution faced. If they did, McFarland believed, they would understand that “we are very fortunate indeed to be permitted to continue more of less indefinitely on the 10 percent reduction in salaries.”

McFarland built Dakota Hall, a woman’s dormitory, in 1930-31 during the first years of the Great Depression. Unlike the new Model School and president’s house, which were built under New Deal programs, Dakota was funded with a $150,000 bond, issued by the local dormitory holding association under a special act of the 1929 Legislature.

McFarland, a visionary, held strong beliefs. He understood and appreciated students and their activities. He believed women were equal to men. He admired teachers and learning. He believed in the importance of music.

McFarland died unexpectedly in 1938. Under his tutelage, MSTC’s enrollment increased from about 200 to 765, and it grew from a normal school, offering a two-year course, to a full-fledged college, offering four years of college work.
At George McFarland’s death in 1938, Charles Scott, director of the Training School, was appointed acting head. He served for three months until Carl Swain was appointed Minot State’s next president.

Swain graduated from St. Olaf College in Minnesota with a bachelor’s degree. He later attained a master’s from Columbia University Teachers College in New York. From 1920-23, he taught in the Education Department at Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, Iowa. In 1923, he became president of Mayville State Teachers College, where he remained for the next 15 years. During this period, he earned an LL. D. degree from Carleton College of Minnesota.

In 1941, the National Youth Administration built two frame structures on campus — the president’s house and the Student Union.

During World War II, Minot State became home to the U. S. Navy’s V-5 and V-12 programs. The former trained pilots, while the latter produced deck officers. Swain shared campus authority with U. S. Navy program director R. W. Palda. Navy programs had a predesigned curriculum, and campus faculty provided the instruction. Navy support staff had offices in Old Main, Pioneer Hall and Dakota Hall. Flight training staff occupied the city’s airfield.

After the war, the college phased out the Navy programs and returned to a conventional college curriculum. Swain was credited with three key contributions in the postwar years.

First, he separated administration from instruction on the organization chart. Second, he won approval for a liberal arts degree, broadening the school’s mission beyond teacher education. This was a development occurring in colleges around the nation at the time. He also educated the college community about the key role the new G.I. Bill would have in higher education. Third, he emphasized the broader meaning of higher education. Colleges were character-building institutions, he said, committed to “the education of the whole man — physical, intellectual and spiritual.”

Minot State undertook no new campus construction during World War II. After the war, rising enrollments made expansion possible. In 1949, the Student Union was enlarged. Two years later, a health and physical building was completed, ultimately named Swain Hall.

Swain was enormously religious. He organized Monday and Wednesday convocations in the auditorium, with students given assigned seats. The dean of women took roll. In his Christmas greeting to the college in 1952, the president said that the holiday offered the believer a chance to find a savior from sin, to know God intimately and to discover a way to peace and good will.

The yearbook staff began sponsoring a beauty contest in 1951. Contestants appeared in swimsuits, street wear and evening gowns. Celebrity judges reviewed finalists’ photographs and picked the winners. Over the next 20 years, contestants were judged on personality and talent in addition to beauty. The title “Miss Beaver” was later changed to “Miss Minot State College.”

Swain retired in 1954.
Caserp Lura

Casper Lura was born and raised in Mayville. He completed his undergraduate degree at Mayville State Teachers College. He then taught junior high and high school in the small town of Taylor.

Lura later earned a doctorate from the University of Iowa in 1932. He joined Moorhead State’s Education Department and served over the next 15 years as faculty member, dean of men and director of student affairs. In 1947, he became president of Mayville State Teachers College.

In 1954, Lura assumed the same position at Minot State Teachers College. Described as diplomatic and political, he oversaw significant growth during his 13 years of service.

In the second year of Lura’s tenure, enrollment achieved the 1,000-student milestone. The president quickly addressed the cramped library housed in Old Main since 1913. The facility could accommodate only 66 students. Nellie Swanson, who served as librarian from 1939 to 1963, recalled that only 16 inches separated the stacks. “I didn’t dare gain a pound,” she said. “And why the floor didn’t go down in that building I have no idea. Only the good Lord held it up.”

A new facility, Memorial Library, was completed in 1959. It had a seating capacity of 250.

Additional dormitory space was added in 1960. Crane Hall, named after the school’s first president, provided living space for 145 students. McCulloch Hall, a women’s dorm named after Hazel McCulloch, the last of the original 12 faculty members, housed the same number of students. The following year, Cyril Moore Hall, a math and science building, was added.

The college celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1963. The next year, the school’s name was changed to Minot State College, reflecting an expansion of its academic offerings. It offered its first master’s degrees in speech correction and education of the deaf.

A decade after Lura assumed control, enrollment reached 1,841. A new football stadium opened in 1964 with a seating capacity of 1,200. Another dormitory, Cook Hall, was added in 1965.

During the tranquil 1950s and ’60s, fraternities and sororities dominated the social and political scenes on campus. Although they comprised only a third of the student body, the Greeks acquired a dominant position through control of student government.

During this period, the Cold War and Civil Rights Movement received scant attention in the campus newspaper, The Red and Green. This reflected the college’s conservatism and isolation from the rest of the country.

During the Vietnam War, no demonstrations or draft card burnings occurred at Minot State. The only revolt involved James Vizas, a dissident English professor. He and a small cohort of students burned Lura in effigy on the school’s front lawn. Vizas’ novel, “The Tender and the Green,” documented his grievances. An underground newspaper, “The Independent,” sprang up at the same time, only to fold after a couple of issues.

Despite the turmoil of the 1960s, Lura’s tenure at Minot State was largely trouble free. He retired in 1967.
Gordon Olson

Gordon Olson succeeded Lura in 1967. Born in Almont, Olson grew up in a farming and ranching family. After high school, he spent a year at Jamestown College before enlisting in the U.S. Army during World War II. After his discharge, he completed a bachelor's degree at Dickinson State Teachers College.

Olson taught briefly in Belfield and Amidon and eventually became superintendent of schools in Bucyrus. He later earned master's and doctoral degrees from the University of North Dakota. He returned to Dickinson State to serve as chair of the Department of Education and Psychology. He later became a dean and vice president for academic affairs.

Before being hired as president of MSTC, he stressed to the Board of Higher Education that growth was the No. 1 item on his agenda.

“I told the board that if they were going to continue with a single mission — that being teacher education — I wasn’t interested in the job,” Olson said.

For Olson, growth meant additional programs, larger enrollments and better facilities. As an administrator, he was fiscally conservative and politically astute. He saw himself as the CEO of a small business.

The new president faced his first crisis when the Mouse River flooded Minot in the spring of 1969. Over 12,000 residents evacuated their homes in the central third of the city. The floodwaters remained for 40 days, with total damage to the city estimated at $10 million.

The Minot State campus wasn’t flooded, but several nearby fraternities and sororities had water in their basements, and students had to evacuate. Olson canceled classes for a week, and students helped local residents sandbag and vacate their homes. A 9-foot-high causeway was built on Broadway that served as a north-south link during the crisis. When classes resumed, students commuted to campus via shuttle buses.

The 1970s brought two experimental programs to campus. The New Program involved an intensive study of English and the humanities, modeled after a program at the University of California-Berkeley. The Experimental College stressed that students should take responsibility for their own educations. Both programs folded by the middle of the decade.

The student body began featuring more older students who returned to campus to complete degrees, expand employment opportunities or change careers. To accommodate them, Pioneer Hall was converted to married housing, and the Campus Heights family complex was added in 1984.

The multipurpose Minot State Dome was built in 1980. The 153,000-square-foot arena cost $6.3 million to construct. The 9,600-seat Dome boasted the largest capacity of any arena in the state.

When he became president, Olson and his family lived on campus. He felt like a pastor living in a parsonage next to the church.

“There was never a day off,” he said. “I remember a Thanksgiving when we were sitting at the dinner table, and the doorbell rang. A couple of people wanted to get into the dorm. There were many requests like that, and we always accommodated them.”

Since the early 1970s, Olson saw the need for a larger library to serve a growing student body. He worked tirelessly on the project, and his patience paid off in 1992. The college unveiled a $7.7 million facility, appropriately named the Gordon B. Olson Library.
“This is definitely a high honor, and I’m still alive,” Olson joked at the building’s dedication.

During the 1980s, the student body clamored for university status to add value to their degrees. Olson surveyed 2,000 colleges and universities in the nation and concluded that it had a case.

“We’re more qualified than a good many of them right now,” he said.

The school became a nominal university for a month in 1983, when it was renamed Dakota Northwestern University. But to become a true university, academic units were reorganized into five colleges — arts and sciences, business, education and human services, nursing and graduate school. In 1987, the school first became the State University of North Dakota-Minot (SUND-M) and then Minot State University.

When he retired, Olson had achieved the growth he had envisioned. Enrollment had increased from 2,000 in 1967 to 3,700 in 1992. Undergraduate majors had been added in nursing, social work and criminal justice. Graduate offerings had increased from one to 10. To enhance the arts, the MSU Amphitheater was built at the start of the decade, and Hartnett Hall was added in 1973. Lura Manor, the school’s first coed dorm, was completed in 1986.

**H. Erik Shaar**


He began his academic career at Northern Michigan University, where he taught music. He next served as dean of fine arts and humanities at Chicago State University. In 1975, he transferred to Shippensburg University to become vice president of academic affairs. He then became president of Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., in 1986.

When Shaar became president of Minot State University in 1992, he proposed a three-point agenda. He wanted to modernize campus buildings, forge partnerships beyond the city of Minot and increase the institution’s endowment.

He said he wanted Minot State “to become more of a university than the present university we are.”

To achieve the first goal, he directed the renovation of several campus buildings, including the Dome, Moore Hall, Hartnett Hall, Old Main and Student Union.

Memorial Library was vacant, so college officials looked to Washington, D.C., for funding. The U. S. Department of Agriculture agreed to fund the Institute for Agricultural and Rural Human Resource Development, a project that brought the university’s human services departments together under one roof. The remodeled, 90,000-square-foot building, renamed Memorial Hall, was completed in 1996.

Next, Shaar extended campus boundaries by launching an online delivery program, the first in the state. He also forged a partnership with the college at Bottineau. Formerly, Bottineau had an affiliation with North Dakota State University.

Finally, the Old Main Society was established in 1993 to recognize cumulative contributions to the university. In 1995, the MSU Development Foundation received a $1 million contribution from the General Electric Co. on behalf of David C. Jones and his wife, Lois. Both had attended Minot State in the 1940s. Jones is a retired U. S. Air Force general and former chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff. By the end of his tenure in 1992, Shaar had increased the school’s endowment to $11 million, a 700 percent increase from the start of his presidency.

Shaar was an avid supporter of the arts while at MSU. An accomplished cellist, he performed with the Minot Symphony Orchestra and, on occasion, wielded the conductor’s baton. His wife, Jane, was a practicing photographer and artist, working in oils and watercolors.

Throughout his time at Minot State, Shaar marveled at the cordial relationship between campus and community.

“I don’t think there’s one anywhere in the country as good,” he said.
David Fuller

A Nebraska native, David Fuller attended Hastings College, where he majored in English literature. After college, he worked in retail for six years. He later earned a master’s degree from Kearney State College and a doctorate from the University of Iowa.

He then taught English for 13 years at Northern State University in Aberdeen, S. D. He also served as English Department chair, director of the writing center and graduate dean.

In 1996, Fuller became vice president for academic affairs at Northland College in Ashland, Wis. In 2000, he assumed the same position at Wayne State College in Nebraska. Four years later, he became the president of Minot State University.

In his inaugural address, he rejected the business model of higher education because its results can’t be neatly quantified. Instead, it deals with the intangible, spiritual and ineffable, he said. Borrowing from 19th-century poet Henry David Thoreau, he likened educators to horticulturalists who plant seeds and nurture growth.

“That is what we do in higher education — nurture,” he said. “If students are nurtured, they have the potential for growth. Then we should expect wonders.”

To help students grow, MSU added degree programs in energy economics and finance, early childhood education and athletic training. It has also created the Severson Entrepreneurship Academy in the College of Business.

To encourage global education, the university expanded its International Programs Office and developed partnerships with universities in Norway, Denmark, Sweden, China, South Korea, Turkey and Vietnam. It also has agreements with three tribal colleges in the state. A Multicultural Center for international students is located in the Student Center.

Minot State has also improved its support services for students. These include the POWER Center and Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning. These programs have contributed to increases in retention and graduation rates.

In athletics, Minot State advanced to NCAA Division II status and joined the prestigious Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference. The department also added women’s soccer and men’s wrestling to its menu of sports. Herb Parker Stadium is undergoing an upgrade, featuring artificial turf, improved lighting, new seating, $4 million press box and video scoreboard.

Swain Hall, the physical education facility, underwent a $13 million overhaul. Attached to Swain Hall and the Dome, a Student Wellness Center was built to contribute to the university’s mind, body and spiritual wellness. Student fees funded the 60,000-square-foot facility. Total cost of the center was $13 million.

Fuller also spearheaded the transition from coal-fired boilers to geothermal heating and cooling on campus.

The 2011 Mouse River Flood tested the mettle of the MSU president. The flood destroyed or damaged 4,100 structures and forced 11,000 Minot residents out of their homes. Damage to Minot and the Mouse River Valley totaled $1.2 billion.

A total of 117 MSU faculty and staff lost homes or suffered damage. About 500 rental units near campus were devastated.

MSU’s 12-foot-high dike on University Avenue held back seven feet of water. An American Red Cross shelter in the MSU Dome housed 300 evacuees. National Guardsmen and FEMA workers lived in campus residence halls. Fuller’s leadership and bold actions kept the university dry and offered respite to the entire community.

Fuller announced his retirement effective June 2014.

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July 2012
6 Minot State officially becomes a member of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, the premier NCAA Division II conference in the country.

9 The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities receives a $533,000 federal grant to assist the North Dakota Senior Medicare Patrol program to combat Medicare fraud.

12 MSU becomes a full member of NCAA Division II, finishing a four-year application process.

25 Matt Murken is hired to lead the men’s basketball program. The school’s 15th head coach, Murken replaces Peter Stewart, who resigned earlier in the month.

August 2012
14 MSU and Dickinson State host Energy Impact Solutions symposia, in which researchers present views on the state’s changing landscape.

September 2012
3 $13 million MSU Student Wellness Center celebrates its grand opening.

4-5 Minot State earns three Player of the Week awards in the first week of the season in women’s soccer, women’s golf and men’s golf.

6 Stars of Hope bring the National 9/11 Flag, which flew over the World Trade Center wreckage site, to MSU’s Old Main for unfurling and public viewing. Destroyed in the attack and repaired by disaster survivors, the flag contains pieces of American flags from all 50 states, exemplifying American resilience.

October 2012
3 MSU Sociology Club hosts an open forum with political candidates before the November election.

15 MSU’s Rural Crime and Justice Center receives a $300,000 grant to combat domestic violence, sexual assaults and stalking on campus.

November 2012
13-15 The Native American Cultural Awareness Club sponsors a campus-wide cultural celebration.

14 Minot State football places nine student-athletes on the All-NSIC team.

17 Students from the Fargo, Bismarck, and Minot Student Social Work Organizations hold their annual “Freezin’ for a Reason” to help raise awareness of the homeless in each community.

11 MSU Alumni Association bestows Golden Awards to Ray Giacoletti (’85), Paul Soderberg (’65) and Kristi Berg (’95).

16 MSU is named a Military Friendly School for the fourth consecutive year by G.I. Jobs.
December 2012

1 Minot State women’s basketball team rallies from an 11-point deficit to knock off rival University of Mary 74-73 in the program’s first-ever NSIC game in Bismarck. Carly Boag’s effort earned her NSIC Player of the Week.

11 Mikhail Bobylev, associate chemistry professor, receives a patent for his new method of synthesizing agrochemicals and pharmaceuticals. He first applied for the patent in 2008.

January 2013

5 MSU men’s basketball knocks off nationally ranked St. Cloud State for the program’s first win over a ranked opponent. It is a big weekend as MSU earns its first NSIC road sweep of the season.

11 MSU alumnus John Greenslit (‘60) shares his life’s journeys in Distinguished Alumni Series.

February 2013

5 MSU alumna Brenda Maus Mormon (‘76) wins prestigious N.D. Outstanding Geography Teacher Award. Mormon teaches at Central Elementary in Wahpeton.

18 Minot State baseball enters the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Division II Central Region poll for the first time in school history, peaking at No. 8.

25 Track and field standout Kirk Capdeville earns a spot on the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Region team, making the top five in the region in the indoor pole vault.

March 2013

4 MSU is named to the 2013 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for its commitment to volunteerism and civic engagement. It is the only university in North Dakota to earn this award.

5 Former Minot State player and coach Ray Giacoletti helps Gonzaga to its first-ever Associated Press No. 1 ranking in basketball. Giacoletti was a two-year captain and a four-year player for the Beavers. He was later named Drake University head coach.

5 Micah Bloom, assistant art professor, debuts his film “Codex,” which documents Minot’s post-flood struggle among nature, humanity and the printed word.

6 MSU Men’s Club Hockey Team wins its first American Collegiate Hockey Association National Championship.

8 “Pennies for Patients” fundraising competition, sponsored by MSU Residence Life staff, raised over $3,800 going to the Leukemia Lymphoma Society. This year’s total tops 2012 efforts by 52 percent.
20 MSU Development Foundation receives $36,000 from Minot Sertoma Club for scholarships and voice lab equipment for the Department of Communication Disorders.

22 MSU women’s basketball player Carly Boag is named Daktronics All-America Honorable Mention, becoming the first Beaver to make an All-America team at the NCAA Division II level. She was also named to the Central Region and Northern Sun first teams.

26 Minot State brothers Jon and Marcus Wilson are named to the NCAA Division II All-Academic Honorable Mention team.

27 MSU Student Social Work Organization sponsors “Creating a Culture of Change” symposium.

April 2013

3 MSU Sociology Club’s town hall meeting examines affordable housing shortage in Minot, featuring a guest panel of university and community representatives.

8 MSU leadership students host “Make a Difference Week,” in which one group collects canned goods for a local pantry, while a second group collects toiletries for Minot’s Domestic Violence Crisis Center.

9 MSU’s Student Government Association selects Laurie Geller, Lisa Borden-King and John Girard as the 2012-13 Professors of the Year.

14 Minot State sophomore golfer Kowan O’Keefe wins the NSIC individual men’s golf title, becoming the first Beaver to win an individual title in the conference. He qualifies for the NCAA Division II Central/Midwest Super Regional.

19 300 saxophonists descend on MSU’s campus for the Region 3 North American Saxophone Alliance Conference. The campus and community are treated to three days of band, jazz ensemble and symphony concerts featuring national guest artists.

24 MSU chemistry graduate Braden Burckhard travels to Washington, D. C., to present post-flood mold research with Mikhail Bobylev, MSU associate chemistry professor. Burckhard is one of 60 students chosen nationally to go to Capitol Hill.

26 30th-Annual Alumni Association Gala is celebrated at The Grand with a record setting year. This year, over $60,000 is raised for student scholarships.

26-27 The MSU Native American Cultural Awareness Club sponsors its annual Spring Honor Dance and Powwow Celebration, which showcases Native American dancers and drum groups from the region. Over 1,500 people attend annually.
May 2013

8 Three faculty members, Warren Gamas, Ernst Pijning and Clarine Sandstrom, and two staff members, Jason Spain and Doreen Wald, receive MSU Board of Regents Achievement Awards for dedicated service to Minot State.

10 MSU’s Centennial Celebration is officially announced at commencement. As a major Centennial project, the Power of 100 challenges the campus, community, alumni, friends, businesses and organizations to complete a service project in honor of MSU’s 100 years of service!

10 MSU’s Great Plains Center for Community Research and Service ends operations due to federal cutbacks.

16 Linda Olson, Division of Humanities chair, accepts the 2013 North Dakota Governor’s Award for the Arts on behalf of the North Dakota Art Gallery Association, which she oversees. The award is presented by the North Dakota Council of the Arts.

30 MSU honors more than 760 graduates at 2013 commencement. State Sen. Karen Krebsbach ('62) and student Anthony Anderson are guest speakers.

June 2013

10 MSU breaks ground for a new Herb Parker Stadium, which starts a 14-month build that will establish the stadium as one of the finest facilities in North Dakota.

10 MSU’s Centennial Celebration is officially announced at commencement. As a major Centennial project, the Power of 100 challenges the campus, community, alumni, friends, businesses and organizations to complete a service project in honor of MSU’s 100 years of service!

17 The Dakota Chamber Music Institute begins, attracting participants from North Dakota, Minnesota, South Dakota and Canada. The Institute began in 1996.

23 Jen Dixon becomes the first MSU student-athlete to earn a first-team All-America honor at the NCAA Division II level. She is also named the Central Region and Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Player of the Year as well as the first Capital One Academic All-American.

23 Abbey Aide becomes the first Minot State athlete to compete at the NCAA Division II Track and Field Championships. Her qualifying pole vault jump is 12 feet 6.25 inches.

28 College for Kids kicks off its 25th year of educational summer camps for children ages 6-12.

30 The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association announces MSU men’s and women’s track & field teams earned 2013 Division II All-Academic Track & Field Teams distinction as a result of earning a cumulative team GPA of 3.00 or higher.
SCHOLARSHIPS

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BIOLOGY
Harvey and Judith Popinga Scholarship

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Criminal Justice Scholarship Endowment
Dan Draovich Scholarship Endowment
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Art Scholarship Endowment
Division of Humanities Scholarship Endowment
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Freshman Theatre Arts Award
Harold and Verna Aleshire Scholarship Endowment
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Harvey and Arlone Twyman Scholarship (Literature)
Harvey and Arlone Twyman Scholarship (Theatre)
Helen Hoar Memorial French Scholarship Endowment
Myrtle Nordwick Cantana Scholarship Endowment

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Minot Symphony Association Scholarship Endowment
Music Division Scholarship Endowment
Northwest International Music Festival Scholarship
Ralph Wallin Keyboard Scholarship Endowment
Robert O. “Red” Wuttke Scholarship Endowment
Ruth Schell Overholser Endowed Fellowship
Ruth Schell Overholser Scholarship Endowment
Sally Thomas Violin Scholarship Endowment

SCIENCE
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Blaine B. Kuist Memorial Scholarship Endowment
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Cyril Moore Scholarship Endowment
Division of Science Scholarship Endowment
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COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

BUSINESS
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College of Business Scholarship Endowment
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E. James McIntyre Scholarship Endowment
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St. Joseph’s Community Health Foundation Scholarship in Honor of the Sister’s of St. Francis

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COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH SCIENCES

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PSYCHOLOGY
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n Scholarships 17
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Establishing a Scholarship

Creating a named scholarship through the Minot State University Development Foundation assists students and leaves a legacy to Minot State University. It is also a meaningful way to honor family and friends.

The first step in establishing a scholarship is to determine whether you would like to establish an “endowed” scholarship or an “annual” scholarship:

- **Endowed Scholarships**
  Endowed scholarship funds are designed to be permanent and perpetual and can be created with gifts totaling a minimum amount of $5,000, contributed in full at the outset or with an initial commitment that is added to over time until the endowment level of $5,000 is reached. The principal of the fund is invested to produce income, and an annual award is made to a student/s. The principal remains untouched, so the endowment can last into perpetuity.

- **Annual Scholarships**
  Annual scholarships can be established with an outright gift of any amount. Unlike an endowed scholarship described above, an annual scholarship is not a permanent fund and is awarded only as long you (or others) choose to contribute to the fund.

  As a scholarship donor, you choose the name of the scholarship as well as the criteria. The Office of Advancement staff is available to help you create the criteria for your scholarship. Endowed and annual scholarships at Minot State are awarded to deserving students based upon area of interest, geographical origin, leadership potential, merit, financial need, academic achievement and/or other criteria.

  Typically, a selection committee carefully reviews the scholarship applications submitted by students and selects the most deserving recipient(s) based on the donor-established criteria.

  Contributors of a scholarship fund are notified annually when the scholarship recipient(s) has been selected and are informed of the name, as well as the amount of the award. Recipients often write a thank you note to the donor, and in some cases, the recipient and donor are able to meet.
Alumni and friends continue to provide financial assistance through annual donations for MSU students and the university. These contributions are vital for a solid future for Minot State. Cash donations, endowments, gifts of property, bequests, annuities and trusts all are vehicles to match the dreams of our donors with the needs of our students. Gifts can be made conveniently at www.MinotStateU.edu/alumni or by contacting the Advancement Office at 701-858-4243 or 800-777-0750 ext. 4243.

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The Minot State University Legacy Society recognizes the thoughtful generosity of those who have made a planned gift to the MSU Development Foundation to benefit Minot State University. Membership is open to anyone making a deferred or a planned gift, such as bequests, charitable trusts, charitable gift annuities and life insurance.

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Since 2008, Minot State University has recognized its most generous annual donors by welcoming them into the President’s Club. Membership in the President’s Club is open to all donors making annual contributions totaling $1,000 or more to any area of campus. Membership must be renewed each year.

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Marita Hoffart

In Memory of Mike Trudeau
Arvin and Patricia Swanson

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Frank and Val Bruels
Troy Cody

In Memory of Clair Watne
Don and Sherry Hummel
Three faculty members, Warren Gamas, Ernst Pijning and Clarine Sandstrom, and two staff members, Jason Spain and Doreen Wald, received MSU Board of Regents Achievement Awards May 8 during Minot State University’s annual Employee Appreciation Event. The awards are as follows:

**SERVICE:** Warren Gamas chairs the Department of Teacher Education and Human Performance and teaches three sections of ED 380: Technology in Teaching each semester. To share the latest technological advances, he facilitates collaborative partnerships with Minot Public Schools technology coordinators. Presently, Gamas is chair of the University Program Prioritization Committee, co-chair of the Centennial Academic Committee, and a member of the Institutional Review Board and the Planning and Budgeting Council.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** Ernst Pijning, history professor, is an expert on the history of Brazil and its relations with Europe and the Americas. He conducts research in Portuguese, Dutch, English and French, a rarity among historians. Pijning’s work appears in prestigious journals, and he is preparing a book, “Controlling Contraband: Economy, Mentality and Society in 18th Century Rio de Janeiro,” for Louisiana State University Press.

**TEACHING:** Clarine Sandstrom, associate education professor, is passionate about her role as an educator. The MSU alumna is a leader in undergraduate and graduate early childhood education, middle school and the adolescent learner, and gifted education. She is committed to preparing all candidates with current information and teaching strategies necessary for the diverse learning environments in which teachers work.

**STAFF AWARDS:**

**Jason Spain,** head women’s soccer coach, instituted the program three years ago and led the team to its first Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference championship and a national tournament berth during the 2012-13 season. Spain’s enthusiastic service to the campus and community is outstanding. During the 2011 Mouse River Flood fight, he evacuated and fed flood refugees. When no other volunteers stepped forward, Spain volunteered to coach five youth soccer teams, so community children could continue to compete.

**Doreen Wald** started as an administrative assistant for the Department of Math and Computer Science in 1987. Doreen also worked as a weekend secretary for James Babb, while he chaired the North Dakota Education Fact Finding Commission. In 1994, she joined the Printing Office as a photo-typesetter and publication designer. She became the manager of the Office of Publication and Design Services and the MSU Copy Center in 2010.
GOLDEN AWARD RECIPIENTS

RAY GIACOLETTI, men’s basketball coach at Drake University, graduated from Minot State University in 1985 with a bachelor’s degree in physical education. A four-year letterman, Giacoletti was a student assistant coach at MSU in 1984-85, a graduate assistant at Western Illinois University in 1985-86 and an assistant at Oral Roberts University in 1986-87.

For 1988-89, Giacoletti joined the World Basketball League as an assistant coach for the Fresno Flames. But he returned to college coaching as assistant coach at Illinois State University in 1990-93 and the University of Washington in 1994-97.

The Peoria, Ill., native’s first head coaching job was from 1998 to 2000 at North Dakota State University, where he went 48-33. In 2000, he went to Eastern Washington University to guide the Eagles to the best four years in program history. He then moved to the University of Utah for three years. He had the best record among NCAA Division I first-year head coaches and was 2005 Mountain West Coach of the Year.

In 2007, Giacoletti became an assistant coach at Gonzaga University. He helped continue the school’s streak of 14 straight NCAA Tournament appearances, 15 straight appearances in the West Coast Conference Tournament championship game and its dominance of the WCC regular season, as Gonzaga has won 11 of the last 12 titles.

On March 28, 2013, Drake named Giacoletti as the Bulldogs’ new head men’s basketball coach.

PAUL SODERBERG, retired rear admiral, U.S. Navy, graduated from MSU in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and physical education. He made the all-conference team in basketball and football, served as Student Association president and was selected to “Who’s Who in American Colleges & Universities” his senior year. He was inducted into the MSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1992.

Following graduation, Soderberg taught high school math and coached in Stanley. In 1967, he accepted an assistantship at the University of North Dakota, where he attained a master’s degree. Then, he attended U.S. Navy Aviation Officer Candidate School at Pensacola, Fla., and received a commission as an ensign in July 1969.

During his 33-year Navy career, Soderberg served on three Navy ships and visited ports throughout the world. His final assignment was as director of supply and logistics for the Fleet Forces Command, which included responsibility for logistics readiness for Atlantic Fleet ships and aircraft, food service operations, payroll, computer shipboard systems, ship stores, ordnance and fuel.

Soderberg is an independent consultant, with a primary focus on marketing, business development and strategic planning.

KANGOL AWARD RECIPIENTS

YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT

KRISTI BERG, assistant business information technology professor, graduated from MSU in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science in business education. She then taught at Meyer Vo-Tech and Quentin N. Burdick Job Corps. While at Job Corps, she began graduate studies and taught part time at MSU. After completing a Master of Science in management in 2000, Berg began teaching full time at MSU via on-campus, online and Minot Air Force Base classes. In 2011, she earned a doctorate in organization and management from Capella University, Minneapolis.

Involved on campus, Berg was Faculty Senate president in 2008-09. As Curriculum Committee chair, she was instrumental in the conversion from paper to electronic documentation. To remain current, she conducts research utilizing collaborative student-group experiences in her classes, publishes research articles and presents at conferences. Her real passion is engaging students, so she advises Collegiate DECA.

Within the community, the Minot native chaired Young Professionals-Minot’s Community Links Team and advanced “MSU Unity in Our Community.” She worked with the Minot Area Community Foundation on its “Rebuilding Neighborhoods” initiative following the 2011 Mouse River Flood.
The Minot State University Development Foundation is a charitable educational foundation which exists to establish, promote and stimulate voluntary financial support for the benefit of Minot State University, especially in the building of endowments and in addressing the long-term priorities of the university.

Beaver Suites was constructed by the Minot State University Development Foundation in 2012 to offer affordable apartment living for students. The Development Foundation recognized the critical need for student housing following the Mouse River Flood of 2011, and moved quickly to provide this 32-unit, 96-bedroom apartment building. It is adjacent to the west side of the MSU campus.
Kathy Aas ’11
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Karen Krebsbach ’62

Tom Probst ’67
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Doris Slaaten ’49
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Celebrating 100 years!

MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY is excited to celebrate this major milestone. We invite our greater community, students, alumni, faculty and staff to our Centennial Celebration events. Find the calendar and historical information at www.minotstateu.edu/100.

Our Place ▪ Our Legacy ▪ Our Vision