



Fall 2022 Special Edition of

Connections

Alumni Association and Development Foundation



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Packing Well: p. 2-5 photos furnished by Suzanne Nufang

Personal steps toward a personal goal: p.10 photo furnished by Kasey Rabe

Witwer makes the most of a chance: p. 11 photo furnished by Matt Witwer

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or online at MinotStateU.edu/alumni



Be seen. Be heard. Be inspired.

Development Foundation

em·pow·er

verb: to enable or permit; to give power.

WE ARE EXCITED TO LAUNCH THE PUBLIC PHASE OF OUR **EMPOWER** CAPITAL CAMPAIGN.

This campaign is built around empowering current Minot State University students, as well as those that will join us over the next decade. In addition, the campaign will also provide much-needed support for our outstanding faculty and staff.

Our \$50 million goal is an ambitious one. In fact, it is the largest capital campaign in MSU's nearly 110-year history, but it is one that will make a real mark on Minot State University and our region for years to come.

Minot State University has a long history of growing leaders and advancing the common good. To continue on this path takes an investment by all of us — an investment of time, talents, and treasure. Our world is changing at what seems like a blinding pace and our issues appear to be growing even more complex.

Through the EMPOWER campaign, we will respond to this rapid change by coming together to provide scholarship support to our students, increase funding for current and newly developed academic programs and facilities, create professorships that provide funding to attract the best and brightest faculty possible, increase funding for athletics and the arts, and so much more.

I hope you will look closely at our summary of the EMPOWER campaign on pages 22-36. Those of you that have already made a gift to the campaign, we thank you from the bottom of our heart. You have empowered the next generation of MSU students. For those of you that have yet to make a gift, I ask you to consider doing so to create a brighter future for Minot State and our students.

While we are excited to announce the EMPOWER campaign, we are equally pleased with our esteemed alumni featured in this Connections magazine. Suzanne (Schriefer) Neufang '85 has played a key role in helping global travel return to a sense of normalcy after a tumultuous three years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Her expertise has been utilized for features on television, conferences, and the United States Senate. Many of you remember Kathy (Tryhus) Clott '75/'92, our Where are they Now feature, and it was fantastic to get an update on what she has been doing in "retirement!" Our Under 30 and Under 40 stories on Kasey (Rademacher) Rabe '16 and Matt Witwer '08 highlight some of our upcoming best and brightest, and athletics introduces you to the Beavers new Director of Athletics, Kevin Forde.

Thank you to everyone for reading this edition of Connections!

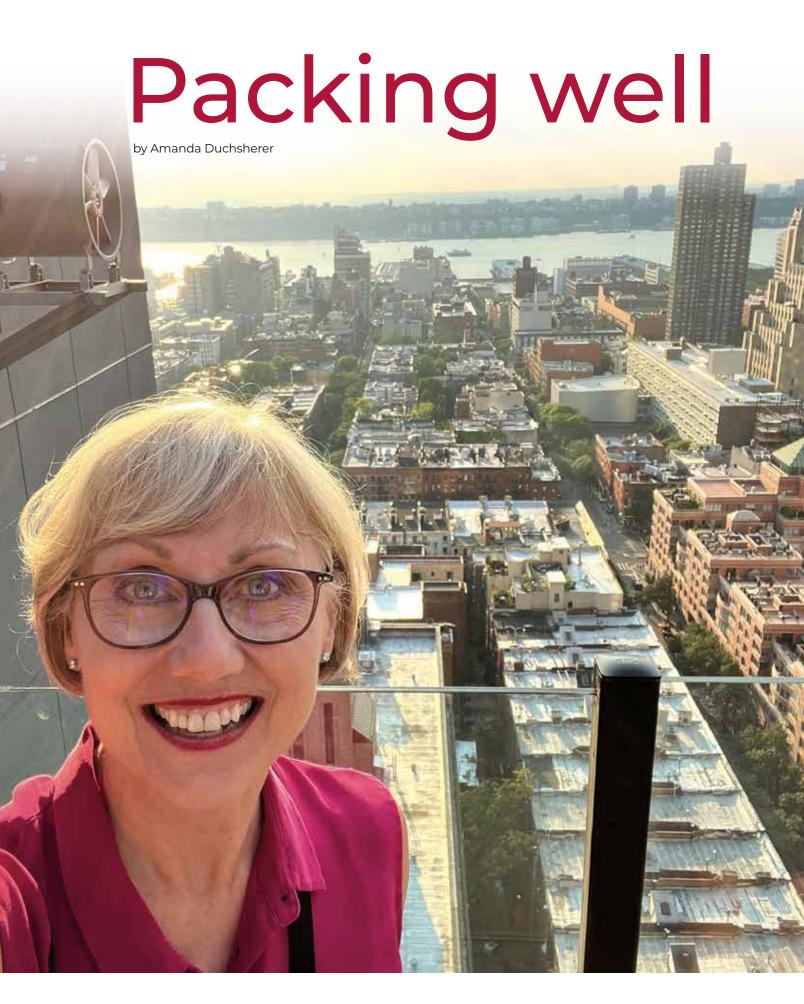
The opportunity is now for you to



the lives of students today and generations to come!

MinotStateU.edu/EMPOWER







WITH 3 MILLION FLOWN air miles, Suzanne (Schriefer) Neufang '85 knows a thing or two about packing for a business trip.

When she received an invitation to testify at a Senate Commerce Subcommittee hearing on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion in June 2022, just three days before it was taking place, she simply added an extra jacket to the carry-on bag she'd already packed for the Global Business Travel Association's (GBTA's) annual legislative summit in Washington, D.C.

It was her second time in front of the sub-committee — and the first time in person — since taking the role of CEO at GBTA in March, 2021. With business travel still globally suppressed due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the focus on inbound testing as a perceived barrier was reaching a critical stage.

"I testified on a Wednesday, and by Friday evening, the testing rules were relaxed for returning Americans and in-bound vaccinated non-Americans," she said. "It was an honor to be there — and it's nice to think my team and I had a small impact on the inner workings of the U.S. government in this regard."

Neufang became GBTA's CEO during the pandemic, which brought world travel to its knees. The \$1.4 trillion business travel industry (2019 spend) was impacted even more than leisure travel, losing nearly 70% year-over-year by the end

of 2020. The industry has since been slowly recovering, as companies send their employees back on the road, into offices, and across oceans. The industry will likely end 2022 at 65% of 2019 global spending levels.

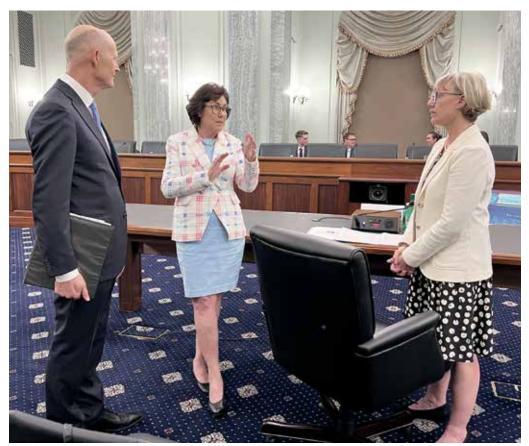
"It was a tough time in the industry and at the association itself. But it was actually a great time to take on this leadership role and work to bring the industry back again," she said. "Transformation during a crisis can bring a lot of lasting good, and that has been true for our association and the industry we serve.

"GBTA represents over 100,000 global professionals and their companies within a dual-sided marketplace. We create tradeshows and conferences where companies meet to do business. We also offer learning opportunities for buy-and supply-side professionals within the industry. And of course, we advocate with policymakers in the U.S., Europe, and Canada — in particular, defining our difference from tourism, what business travel is doing to make itself more sustainable, and ultimately why business travel is important to communities and companies."

It's Neufang's first role as CEO and follows a progression of ever-increasing leadership roles in general management, marketing, sales, product, strategy, and communications which she's held during her career. The roles have given her a broad business and leadership purview, from U.S. public companies Sabre/Travelocity, Intuit,



Neufang testifying at the Senate Commerce Subcommittee hearing on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion (June 2022)



Pre-hearing conversation with members of the Sentate Commerce Sub-committee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion. L to R: Ranking Member Rick Scott (R-Fla), Chair Jackie Rosen (D-Nev), Neufang. (June 2022)



Neufang opens GBTA's 2022 annual convention in San Diego with almost 5,000 attendees. (June 2022)

and GTE/Verizon; German private company HRS; public sector Hawaii Public Television; and even Minot State itself.

"Between my bachelor's and master's degrees, I worked for MSU for a year as a recruiter," she said.

She notes even more fondly that she met Ralf, her husband of 35 years, at Minot State, introduced by mutual friends Jane and George (retired MSU librarian) Clark.

Today, she leads a global team which is 100% remote and splits her time between New York City and Ralf's childhood home near Hanover, Germany. The joy of long-distance travel is a way of life that has been passed on to their sons, Yannik and Trygve.

"We moved to Hawaii when Yannik was a little over a month old, and every day there felt like a trip to paradise," said Neufang, who received her Master of Arts in Communication from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. "We left Hawaii after eight years for two in Connecticut, and ultimately GTE/Verizon moved us to Dallas-Fort Worth, where we lived for over 17 years. During our time in Texas, we went to Europe almost every year, first to visit family but then also to explore other parts of the continent."

Her immersion in different cultures began on the family farm near Golden Valley, where her parents, Bob and Marlene Schriefer, still live.

"I need to give my parents credit because we were always hosting somebody from a foreign country through 4-H, North Dakota Homemakers, or other foreign exchange programs," she said. "The idea that there were different world cultures and other languages and other places to visit came from those experiences."

It wasn't until her freshman year at Minot State, though, that she had the chance to travel overseas.

"I got my very first passport for an MSU concert choir trip to Scandinavia.

could really get involved in just about anything, try something new, do something you had never done before," she said.

Beginning as a music major, Neufang graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, double majoring in broadcasting and foreign languages in German and French.

"The opportunities were all there if you were willing to sign up and learn something new. For example, I had a chance to work on

Business travel recovery Neufang interviewed for a BBC news program on business

travel recovery. It was broadcast live. (November 2021)

Business travel professionals who said sustainability was a priority for the industry Ranked achieving emissions reductions as a top priority

Neufang has been driving GBTA's research on the state of sustainability within the business travel sector. Here she speaks on the topic in Doha, Qatar during IATA's annual airline conference. (June 2022)

"I wanted to do something different, and that was part of what made Minot State amazing. You could really get involved in just about anything, try something new, do something you had never done before."

And next came my first trip to New York City with the theater group and Kevin Neuharth '74 (retired Minot State theater professor) chaperoning us," she said. "How serendipitous that we now live there."

When many of Neufang's Golden Valley High School peers pursued higher education options closer to home, she followed in sister Carrie (Schriefer) Reber's footsteps to Minot State, with encouragement from family friend and then-MSU recruiter Terry (Ferebee) Eckmann '81/'82. current teacher education and kinesiology professor.

"I wanted to do something different, and that was part of what made Minot State amazing. You my stage presence, which has benefitted me in every single job I've ever had," she said. "With all of the different departments I was in, it's remarkable how influential my professors were. For the past 35 years, I have believed that the education you can get at Minot State is an important part of setting up the foundation for what you can do later in life.

"Ultimately, my time at Minot State taught me that 'packing well' — for either a journey through one's life and career or for a long-distance trip — is just as important as ever. With the right frame of mind and a willingness to learn and lead, a farm girl from North Dakota can make a difference in a global industry." ■



With family following son Yannik's marriage ceremony, taken on the Brooklyn Bridge. L to R: Neufang's parents, Marlene and Bob Schriefer; son Trygve; son Yannik; daughter-in-law, Emma Parnass; Suzanne; and Ralf. (June 2019)



FRESHMAN

Jersey Johnson

Entrepreneurship • Minot

Jersey has made an impact on faculty and staff at Minot State in the few short weeks she has attended the University. Her big personality will lend itself well to her entrepreneurship degree, or as she put it, "something in the business realm." She plans on getting more involved by joining clubs such as FBLA and music club and will save some time to spend with family and friends as well as singing and attending sporting events, all activities she enjoys outside of the classroom.

Why did you choose Minot State?

I chose Minot State because I knew I would be receiving a great education for a great price. I have built a connection with the people in Minot and eventually, I would like to give back to my community.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

I have only attended Minot State for a month, but already I have been given multiple resources to use when I need help or need someone to reach out to.

What is your favorite quote?

"I am a big personality. I walk into a room, big and tall, and loud." — Adele

What has been your favorite class?

Leadership 101. I really enjoy analyzing how I am a leader and why.

What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

Everyone here is super nice, so do not be afraid to approach someone new.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

The MSU Life bonfire, because that was one of the first activities I took part in on campus, and it was really fun!

SOPHOMORE

Sophia Keeling

Social work - Minot

Sophia plans to use her social work degree at Minot State to help others. She has already taken steps towards that plan through her work with the Minot State Student Social Work Organization (SSWO) and the many projects they accomplish each year. Despite her busy schedule, she has been a stellar student, earning the President's Honor Roll in both the fall and spring semesters as a freshman and finds time to read and make art.

Why did you choose Minot State?

I decided to come to Minot State because it allows me to be at home in an environment where I am comfortable.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

Minot State helps me earn my undergraduate degree at a reasonable cost.

What is your favorite quote?

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take... Wayne Gretzky."
— Michael Scott

What has been your favorite class?

Sociology 110 with professor Erin Baker-Giese, assistant professor of sociology.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Jim Sturm, director of the Looyenga Leadership Center.

What is the best kept secret about Minot State? We frequently do a lot of giveaways with merchandise and prizes.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

My most memorable moment so far is acing my first college test.



JUNIOR

Jaxon Gunville

Finance and accounting Minot

Jaxon is in his third year with the Minot State men's basketball team and is known as a prolific 3-point shooter, leading the team in 2021-22 with 51. Off the court, he is just as prolific with the books, earning a spot on the President's Honor Roll last year and was named to the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference All-Academic team for the 2021-22 season.

Why did you choose Minot State?

I chose Minot State because I grew up in Minot and I wanted to continue to live in the community I was brought up in.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

Minot State offers a wide range of majors and courses that fit the field that I am going into. The professors in the College of Business have helped me a lot.

What is your favorite quote?

"Be you."

What has been your favorite class?

Anything finance or accounting related.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Dean Frantsvog '97, former professor in the College of Business.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

It's getting to take the court on gamedays and every day at practice with my teammates.

SENIOR

Hussein Abu-lamzi

English - Amman, Jordan

Hussein's interests outside of school pretty much coincide with what he does in school – reading and writing stories. His appetite for reading and writing stories also led him to the Dean's List and President's Honor Roll for each of the past four years and helped him win the Minot State World Languages and Cultural Studies Faculty Book Award in Writing in 2022.

Why did you choose Minot State?

I transferred from a big public university in a big city and did not like those conditions. I wanted to come somewhere smaller and quieter – somewhere where I had the time of day to focus on what mattered to me personally, outside of my academic and professional pursuits.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

Because of its small size and its intimate staff and faculty, MSU allows me to fulfill multiple roles as an English major, including working for tutoring at the Writing Center, working in the communications department and writing for the Red & Green.

What is your favorite quote?

"Keep your options open and avoid closing any doors you've already opened." — humanities professor at Rhodes College

What has been your favorite class?

By far, my favorite class I've taken in all my six years of university has been ENGL 430: Advanced Seminar in Literature with professor Sarah Aleshire '04.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Aleshire. She completely reworked my understanding of how to read fiction in a way that is relevant to the current circumstance of my life.

What is the best kept secret about MSU?

The professors have rich lives that extend far beyond the classroom walls. They're all multifaceted in a way where their stories seep into the educational value of the classroom.





MASTER OF EDUCATION

Lori (Miscavish) Nehlsen '21

Elementary education/MEd, curriculum and instruction • Brandon, Manitoba

Lori is in her first year in the Master of Education program. Her work with MSU teacher education professor Dan Conn earned her the opportunity to present at a conference in Chicago this semester. When she isn't in the classroom, she enjoys traveling with her family.

Why did you choose Minot State?

Minot has been home to my family for 12 years now. I knew I wanted to stay close to my family while pursuing my degree. The faculty, as well as my friends supported my return to school while understanding the pressures of parenthood.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

I went back to school at 39 years old to be a teacher after a career in the medical field. I wanted a career where my

presence in the classroom helps a student make it through a tough day or where I could be cheering the loudest at the next sporting event.

What is your favorite quote?

"For me, becoming isn't about arriving somewhere or achieving a certain aim. I see it instead as forward motion, a means of evolving, a way to reach continuously toward a better self. The journey doesn't end." — Michelle Obama

Who has been your most influential professor?

Dan Conn guided me through my bachelor's degree by providing encouraging feedback. He motivated me to continue onto my master's degree. His enthusiasm toward his students makes for a caring and sympathetic environment.

What is your most memorable moment at Minot State?

Graduation day! Walking across the stage to receive a hard-earned diploma with the most wonderful friends I've met at MSU. Sharing in that experience together was by far the most memorable moment!

CONNECTIONS Fall '22 Special Edition

STAFF

Kate (Neuhalfen) Marshall '07

Management and marketing - Granville

Kate currently serves as Minot State's director of foundation operations and has worked at the University since 2007. She and her husband, Daniel, have three children, Addie (8), Lincoln (7), and Macie (2). Their days are filled attending many youth activities and spending summers at Lake Metigoshe.

Why did you choose Minot State?

I wasn't entirely sure what path I wanted to take after high school graduation, but Minot State was an affordable starting place. Before long, I made great friends, found myself taking up a business management and marketing major, working as a student employee in the business office, and then joining the Minot State Development Foundation team a few short months after graduation.

What is the best part of your role at MSU?

Minot State's alumni and friends are the real difference makers for our students; however, playing a very small role in impacting generations of students is truly gratifying.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Jerry Stai, assistant professor, College of Business. Finance and I weren't exactly the best of friends, but Jerry made me believe every day was "a great day for finance." It was hard not to love his passion and enthusiasm even though I didn't quite share his love.





Kathy (Tryhus) Clott '75/'92 has been many things.

Student of business education and information management, secretary to the athletics and physical education

departments, musician, DJ, and owner of an entertainment company, Clott's life has taken turns she never anticipated when she first began studying at Minot State University.

"I originally wanted to be a teacher," Clott said. "I ended up getting a full-time job in the registrar's office at Minot State before moving on to athletics and physical education. It wasn't what I originally planned, but everything I ended up doing, I've enjoyed doing all the way along."

Athletics was an important part of Clott's life, and then she met her husband, Dean.

"I wasn't really involved in a lot of music things before I met my husband, and he wasn't into many athletic things. He ended up being a part of the athletic department at Minot State, and then I became a part of his music. We each went into the side of what the other was doing," she said.

Between music making together and facilitating music making for others, Clott has kept herself busy since retiring. Together, Clott and her husband perform in two bands, Badlands Express and The History of Rock n' Roll Show, as well as operate Crowd Pleasers DJ and Karaoke. However, they devote much of their time to their company, DC Entertainment.

"It's a lot of fun. It's a lot of work, obviously, but it's really nice to be able to run your own business. We do production, which means setting up sound and lighting and even a stage and roof. At the state fair, we set up six of the free stages plus many other county fairs and events," said Clott.

Although her life has taken many unexpected turns since she began her Minot State journey, Clott still values the practical experience and the sense of community she gained from her time as a student and an employee.

"I had lots of background with my education, which helps in running all facets of our business. So my degrees have been good for us," Clott said. "It's also amazing how many people you meet way back in your days when you were college students, and then you still see them around today. It's a closeness. It's a good feeling. You know someone around every corner."





Personal steps toward a personal goal

by Emily Schmidt



Experiencing health difficulties in her own family, she used them to choose what to pursue after earning her degree from Minot State.

"Nobody in my family is a nurse. Everyone's been a teacher," she said. "I always wanted to be a teacher, but my cousin got meningitis right when he was born, and I watched how the nurses treated him on the pediatric floor. I decided that was where I wanted to go."

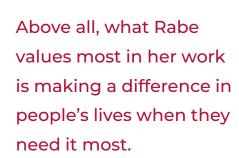
While her first position after graduation was as a face and jaw surgical aid in Minot, Rabe longed for an emotional connection to her work. When she switched to home health and hospice, she felt like she reached her full potential.

Rabe eventually left the hospice field due to scheduling conflicts with her growing family, but she still finds emotional connections in the healthcare field both through her work and community service.

"I have always really loved children and mental health, so now I'm in child and adolescent partial hospitalization," she said. "I work with children with mental health issues, and I teach them nursing concepts. I'm kind of like a teacher there. When I started, watching Dr. Wayne Martinsen work with the kids made me want to pursue it even further, so now I'm in the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program at UND. My goal is to open up my own practice."

In the free time she does have as a full-time nurse, student, and mother of two, Rabe serves as the president of the Minot Pink Ladies, a non-profit dedicated to helping people battling cancer through various fundraising efforts.

"My grandma passed away two years ago. She had MDS (myelodysplastic syndrome), a precursor to leukemia," she said. "My great grandma



passed away from leukemia. My other grandma has breast cancer and is going through chemo. My mother-in-law had breast cancer, so I have cancer in my family."

Above all, what Rabe values most in her work is making a difference in people's lives when they need it most.

"Hospice was very rewarding for me, being able to make an impact on people while they were passing away, as well as being there mental health-wise for the family," she said. "The cost of cancer before and after enduring it is crazy, so being able to bless people with money definitely encourages me." •





Witwer makes the most of a chance by Michael Linnell

MATT WITWER '08 DECIDED TO TAKE A CAREER CHANCE.

While finishing up a master's degree in business administration following graduation from Minot State, Witwer was intrigued by an offer to intern with Abaxis, Inc., a San Francisco Bay Area company specializing in point-of-care blood testing for both human and veterinary products.

Getting to work with MSU alumnus Clint Severson's '74 company was anything but a whim.

"It was an internship, and it wasn't necessarily what I was studying, but I'd been to the Bay Area on vacation, had been getting into venture capital, and thought why not go there for this opportunity," Witwer said. "I knew Clint was doing a lot with Minot State and the Severson Entrepreneurship Academy, and I talked with Andrew (Evanoff '09) about the company as he was already there, so I knew it was going to be a good opportunity. Clint and Conni Ahart have had such a big impact on my life, and they made that internship experience a huge step for me."

So much so that Witwer hasn't left — even as the company changed from Abaxis to Zoetis, which is primarily focused on animal health. He is currently the head of product management and information platforms-diagnostics with Zoetis and has been with the company for the past 12 years.

"Working in veterinary diagnostics is a different world from what people usually hear or think about. I had no idea there was this world out there before coming to this company," he said. "Animals can't talk, so giving veterinarians answers on what is going on with that animal becomes extremely important. Our division at Zoetis works mainly with diagnostic testing, using samples like blood, urine, and fecal, for businesses like vet clinics, animal hospitals, or even livestock and fish farms. We work on software updates for the devices or revisions for the product — we are always working on improving the products."

While his work with Zoetis isn't exactly in the field he studied, his academic career path wasn't exactly traditional either.

He started at Colorado School of Mines to play basketball and to become an engineer. After realizing it wasn't what he wanted to do as a career, he returned to his roots at Minot State. At MSU, he finished a degree in finance, but also found he had enough credits in math from CSM to finish a math degree.

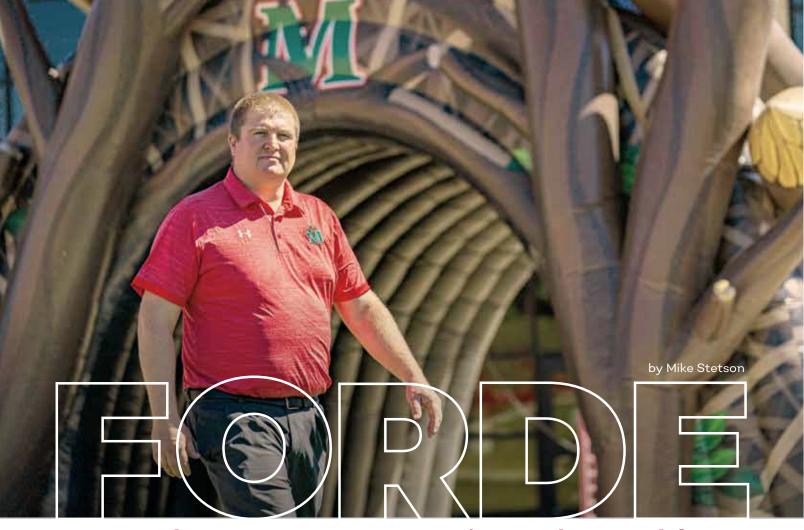
He believes his current work melds all those degree fields.

"I feel this is the perfect job for me, I get to use some of those engineering skills with the engineers and developers every day. I can speak their language and understand their problems as we come up with innovative products. We must make sound financial investments and make the company money, so I use that as well," he said.

When he left Colorado Mines, he felt a sense of failure on making what turned out to be an incorrect decision on his career path, but the faculty and staff at Minot State quickly erased those feelings.

"It was tough to admit I made the wrong decision. Wrong probably isn't the right word, I was excited to go to Colorado and it was a good experience, just not what I ended up wanting," Witwer said. "I was so familiar with MSU, I came to campus with my dad Keith, a former professor in the College of Business, all the time growing up and my mom Stephanie, who worked in MSU's Center for Extended Learning. The faculty, people and the athletic department at MSU was there to help. It really clicked for me.

"You don't always make the right decisions, but they all shape you and deciding to transfer to MSU was one of the best decisions."



returns home to serve MSU's student-athletes

In mid-July, Kevin Forde stepped to a podium in the Minot State Dome after being introduced by President Dr. Steven Shirley as the new director of athletics for the Beavers, and a new era in Minot State sports began.

A product of Tolna and son of Keith and Darlene Forde, he grew up a farm boy who played sports year-round, competing in football, basketball, and baseball in high school, and eventually was recruited to play football and baseball at Southwest Minnesota State University.

Majoring in mathematics with minors in psychology and coaching, Forde also competed for a season in baseball at SMSU and

two years for the Mustangs basketball team. He started down his current career path by becoming an assistant coach with former SMSU head men's basketball coach Tim Miles while earning his master's in education.

"When I was little, I wanted to be a football player," Forde admits. "Later on, I knew I wanted to coach."

That coaching career continued at the University of Mary as an assistant for the Marauders basketball team. The door to work in athletic administration also opened for Forde while in Bismarck, and he developed a desire to be an athletic director.

"I liked the ability to be around sports and try to

make a positive difference in students' lives," he said.

This led him around the country as he spent two years as the director of athletics at Wheeling University (West Virginia), and served as interim director of athletics at St. Xavier University (Illinois) and at East Stroudsburg University (Pennsylvania).

The opportunity to return home and work alongside folks like Rick Hedberg '89, Dean Frantsvog '97, Brent Winiger, and Matt Murken who he has known for years — was something of a once-in-a-lifetime job.

Forde brings more than two decades of athletic administration experience from all across the country with him to MSU, and has

seen "both positive and negative things," as he put it, in collegiate athletics. But most important, he brings an attitude of service to studentathletes.

"I want to be remembered as someone who made the student-athlete experience a positive one for all," Forde said. "People don't remember all the wins or losses. What they remember is the friendships, their teammates, and the trips or things they did together.

"What I hope they remember about me is not what I said, but how I made them feel; that I was approachable and that I truly cared about them as a person, no matter if they went undefeated or if they didn't have all the successes they wanted."

Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2022

THE MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE SELECTED THREE INDIVIDUALS, ONE TEAM, AND ONE SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER AS THE CLASS OF 2022. The class features former student-athletes Whitney (Stanley) Aberle '10, Jen Dixon '15, and Travis Hanson '04, the 1986 gymnastics team, and former Minot State faculty member and supporter Dean Frantsvog '97. Frantsvog, who passed away in August, is the 14th individual to earn the Special Achievement Award in the history of the MSU Athletics Hall of Fame. The 2022 class was inducted during Homecoming 2022 festivities and is the 43rd class to enter the Minot State Athletics Hall of Fame since its inception in 1980.

Whitney (Stanley) Aberle



Aberle, originally from Sherwood, is the first female golfer to earn a place in the MSU Athletics Hall of Fame. She was a three-time All-Dakota Athletic

Conference performer for MSU, being named the DAC's Most Valuable Senior, and earned the conference's Most Valuable Player award three times. She helped the Beavers capture it's first-ever DAC women's golf team title in 2010, helping MSU qualify for the NAIA Women's Golf National Championship for the first time in school history, where she finished 99th overall. She was MSU's team captain all four years, winning 90% of the tournaments she entered during her collegiate career. Aberle also coached the MSU women's team for five seasons from 2010 to 2015.

Jen Dixon



Dixon, from Brandon, Manitoba, was a two-sport standout in softball and volleyball for the Beavers from 2010-2014. In softball, Dixon was named the

2013 Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Player of the Year. She was named a Capital One Academic All-American, a Daktronics All-American, and the Central Region Player of the Year in 2013. Dixon was a two-time first team member on the All-Central Region team and the All-NSIC team. Dixon helped MSU to the national tournament at the NAIA level in 2011 and the NCAA Division II national tournament in 2013. She finished her softball career as MSU's all-time leader in home runs (39) and runs batted in (165) and had a career batting average of .372. In volleyball, Dixon led MSU in kills each of the four years she played and was named All-NSIC twice, NSIC Academic All-American twice. and to the All-DAC team once.

Travis Hanson



Hanson, originally from Casper, Wyoming who now lives in El Segundo, California, was a track & field standout. During his stellar career on the track, Hanson

was named All-American at the NAIA level four times, twice each during the indoor and outdoor seasons. In 2003, Hanson was the NAIA National Champion in the indoor triple jump. He also finished with a top 5 in the triple jump in the outdoor season in 2003, finishing third. In 2002, he was a member of the indoor distance medley relay that took runner-up honors and was third in the triple jump at the 2001 NAIA outdoor championships. Along with his track accomplishments, Hanson served as MSU Student Association president.

1986 Gymnastics Team

The 1986 gymnastics team finished second at the NAIA National Championships and had two individuals finish in the top 10 all-around. Robin (Wheeler) Filkowski '89 finished second in the all-around, winning a national title in the balance beam. She was third in the floor and fourth in the vault. Renae (Newman) Rudolph '88 finished eighth in the all-around, taking second in the uneven parallel bars and fifth in the vault. Jody Thompson finished seventh in the vault and eighth in the



bars, Nancy (Ward) Kramer '88 captured seventh in the beam, and Stacey (Aberle) Ringoen '86 was seventh in the floor. Also competing for MSU that season was Lori (Swanson) Solits '88 and Judy (Kraljic) Kuhn '89. The team, which defeated NCAA Division I University of Minnesota twice during the regular season, was coached by Gary Leslie '61.

Dean Frantsvog



Frantsvog, a Minot native, was an alumnus, professor, and longtime supporter of Minot State and MSU Athletics. Frantsvog, along with his wife, Sara, American

Trust Center, United Community Bank, and Vibeto Orthodontics, contributed to the Dean Frantsvog Academic Success Center, opened in 2018 in the MSU Dome. Frantsvog helped review and advise the MSU athletic department on compliance and policy issues as he served as the department's first Faculty Athletic Representative from 2010-2022. He was honored as the MSU Professor of the Year in 2018, the MSU Vision 2013 Merit Award, the MSU Board of Regents Faculty Achievement Award in 2012, and the MSU Golden Award for Young Alumni in 2011.

Minot State honors four with GOLDEN AWAR





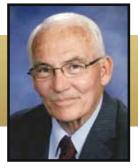




Jerry Helgeson '69



Robert Mau '74



Mark Sanford '61



Veronica (Cavallo) Pinnick '04

he Minot State University Alumni Association honored four individuals with the Golden Award and one with the Young Alumni Achievement Award at the 54th annual dinner on Wednesday, Oct. 12.

The 2022 class for the Golden Awards includes Leslie (Gray) Coughlin '01, Jerry Helgeson '69, Robert Mau '74, and Mark Sanford '61. The Young Alumni Achievement Award winner is Veronica (Cavallo) Pinnick '04.

The Golden Awards are the highest award bestowed by the Minot State University Alumni Association. Selections are based on outstanding service to the University or alumni association and distinguished leadership in the recipient's career or community. The Young Alumni Achievement Award recipient is between the ages of 21 and 39.

COUGHLIN

Coughlin, from Minot, is currently a member of the Minot State Board of Regents and

the MSU Foundation Board.

Minot State was an ideal fit for Coughlin, a native of Carpio. She enjoyed meeting new lifelong friends and was happy to discover that many of them shared her love of shenanigans. After receiving an Associate of Arts degree in 1993, she returned to Carpio to farm and ranch.

Her interest in helping others led her to Befrienders, a Clinical Pastoral Education program offered though Trinity Health. She began volunteering for Trinity Hospice and for several years helped facilitate Camp Discovery, a program for children who had experienced the loss of a family member.

She began working evenings and weekends at Thompson-Larson Funeral Home and returned to MSU as a full-time student during the day. With less shenanigans and more studying, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice in 2001. That same year at a fundraising concert for the former McFarland Auditorium renovation, she

was introduced to John Coughlin. Leslie appreciated John's involvement in the community and shared an enthusiasm to be engaged in organizations and activities that would benefit Minot and the surrounding area. They were married a year later, and she became the proud stepmom to John's daughter, Hope.

Together they support the Minot community with service through many boards, committees, and activities and have been long-time volunteers for Norsk Hostfest. John is a Rotarian, and Leslie, a past president and member of the Minot Lions Club for 25 years. They are passionate about education and maintain the Coughlin Family Scholarship Fund at Bishop Ryan Catholic School as well as the John and Leslie Coughlin Scholarship Endowment for the Department of Nursing at Minot State. She is a past chair of the MSU Board of Regents.

Past community involvement includes The Greater Minot Zoological Society,

Women United, and past president and campaign chair for the Souris Valley United Way. In 2011, she was one of four people in the state to receive the ND League of Cities Hometown Hero award which honors community volunteers for their efforts to make their cities a better place to live. This award recognized her work in organizing a warehouse system to supply materials to volunteers and homeowners for rebuilding homes damaged in the Souris River flood.

Coughlin currently serves on the Minot Area Community Foundation Board of Directors, is a member of Minot Art Club, Power of the Purse, Give 360, and co-chair of the Scandinavian American Hall of Fame Banquet. She will complete her Master Gardener internship this fall. She enjoys spending time tending to the community garden in rural Velva which supplies thousands of pounds of fresh produce to the Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry in Minot each year.

HELGESON

Helgeson, born and raised in Powers Lake and now hailing from Windsor, Colorado, is the president of American Eagle Distributing.

While at MSU, he was a member of the Sigma Tau fraternity and graduated in 1969 with a business degree.

Helgeson's love of flying took him to Colorado where he earned his pilot's license, hoping to fly commercial. But life took him in another direction, and he bought a beer distributorship in 1976 and over the next 40 years, he grew that distributorship to over 125 employees. American Eagle Distributing, a Budweiser distributorship, grew to be 33rd of the top family-owned companies in Colorado. In addition to winning several Anheuser-Busch awards for excellence in sales and service, he also started the Colorado State University's Beverage Business Institute to educate young people in management specific to the beverage industry. In 2002, he was instrumental in building the \$15 million **Budweiser Event Center** in Loveland, Colorado

one with YOUNG ALUMNI **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

and was a part-owner of the Colorado Eagles, a hockey farm team for the Colorado Avalanche. Helgeson sold the business in 2015. Along with his sons-in-law, he started a new distributorship company, but this time for Ziggi's coffee. So, he never really retired!

He served on several boards in Northern Colorado while in business and volunteered at the Weld County Sheriff's office doing intakes at the jail for several years. He bought a few airplanes over the years and enjoyed flying with friends and family.

While in college, he married his wife, Sandy, and they have two daughters, Susan and Julie, and five grandchildren. Jerry and Sandy have been married 55 years and have traveled extensively to Europe and other destinations and enjoy cruising. He golfs regularly — waiting for that hole-in-one - bikes, and swims to keep busy.

MAU

Mau, who lives in Minot and Islamorada, Florida, is the president and owner of Eagle Operating in Kenmare. Born in Kenmare, he was raised on the family farm southwest of Mohall. He graduated from Mohall High School in 1972 and attended college at Minot State from 1972-76. While attending MSU, he was a member of the 1972 football team and is a

member of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity.

Mau continued to farm and began a career in the oilfield. He started Eagle Operating Inc, which drilled oil and gas wells, and Eagle Well Service, an oil and gas service company.

He served as chairman of the board of the North Dakota Petroleum Council Hall of Fame. Mau was asked to serve on the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission by former Gov. John Hoeven and Gov. Doug Burgum. He received the Pioneer Award recognizing efforts in CO2 sequestration by the Energy and Environmental Research Center. He currently serves on the Minot State University Board of Regents. He enjoys golfing with friends and old fraternity brothers and offshore fishing in Florida.

Mau and wife Kathy (Schwartz) were married in 1976, moved to Kenmare in 1979, and then to Minot in 2014. The couple have four children and nine grandchildren.

SANFORD

Sanford, from Grand Forks, is a retired school administrator and current member of the North Dakota House of Representatives.

He graduated from MSU in 1961 with majors in mathematics and history and participated in baseball, basketball, and track & field, while serving as president of the Letterwinners Club and as a student senator.

Following graduation, he and his wife, Gloria (Berg) '68, joined the faculty at Stanley. During his tenure there, he served as a math teacher, coach of three different sports, high school principal, and superintendent. In 1971, he was offered the opportunity to oversee the design and construction of Minot Magic City Campus and was named the first principal of the school in 1973. His next career move was to Grand Forks in 1976 where he became superintendent of schools for the next 31 years. Following retirement in 2007, Sanford spent two years as a volunteer administrator at Northwood assisting that school district with their recovery from a devastating tornado that destroyed their

He cites the Magic City Campus experience as a rare opportunity because it included significant remodeling and expansion of the curriculum as well as the construction of a special facility. Unique features included quarter courses, contract courses, cooperative learning, school store and restaurant, mini courses, and moveable walls. Over 10,000 visitors from around the nation came to view the facility and programs during the first two years of operation.

school.

The Grand Forks experience provided the biggest challenge of Sanford's career. In April 1997, a major flood impacted over 70% of the community. Five school buildings were destroyed and 17 others suffered major damage. Utilizing makeshift facilities around the community, the school district was able to provide summer school to 4.000 students and daycare for another 1,000 children while also planning for school in the fall. Over 100 portable classrooms were rented and moved to Grand Forks and several churches were retrofitted as school space. School started on time in the fall and over the next three years, 22 facilities were remodeled or replaced.

Sanford was elected to the North Dakota House of Representatives in 2010 and still serves in that capacity today. His legislative tenure has mostly been spent serving on the Appropriations Committee. Between sessions, he serves as chair of the Higher **Education Committee** where he has worked on the remake of the funding formula and created a facilities remodel/construction fund. In addition, he has enjoyed the experience of being on the Water Resources Committee.

Mark and Gloria have two daughters who live with their families in Frisco, Texas.

PINNICK

Pinnick, originally from Minot and currently Silver Spring, Maryland, is an integration and test manager for NASA.

Pinnick earned a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Minot State in 2004. Following graduation, she attended Texas A&M where she completed a doctorate in analytical chemistry in 2009. It was at Texas A&M that she studied under renowned professor Emile Schweikert, a leading researcher in time-of-flight mass spectrometry. Pinnick was tasked with developing instrumentation that could measure nano-particle materials.

Upon completing her doctorate, she had offers from major companies around the country including a lucrative offer from tech giant Intel. Instead, Pinnick took a shot on a postdoctoral fellowship at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore. Marvland. Under the quidance of professor Bob Cotter, Pinnick had a chance to work on the development of a mass spectrometer for NASA.

Pinnick finished work on a highly advanced mass spectrometer for the Mars Organic Molecule Analyzer (MOMA) that was sent into space in 2020 as part of the Exo Mars Rover's mission to Mars.

She was named to the Minot State Academic Hall of Fame in 2019.

2022 Golf Tour















ND State Fair Parade and Luau











Bismarck and Fargo Alumni and Friends Socials







Alumni Association Upcoming EVENTS



Alumni & Friends Social



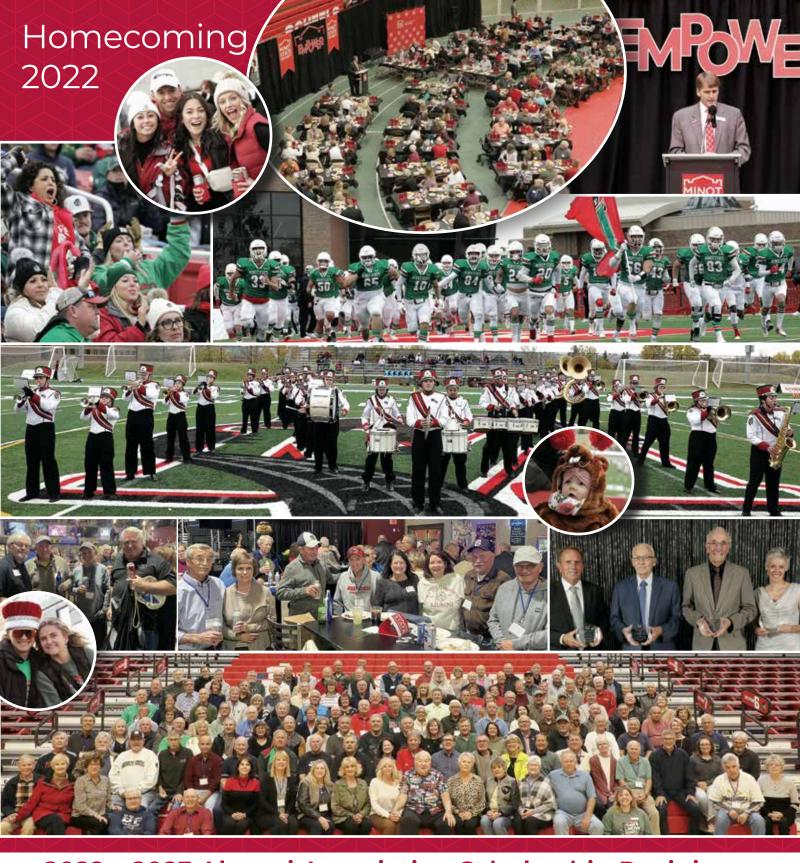


For more information visit MinotStateU.edu/Alumni









2022 – 2023 Alumni Association Scholarship Recipients



Look who's NEW!

minot state

Have you had an addition to your family recently?

Kate.Marshall@MinotStateU.edu.

We want to know! Contact Kate Marshall, director of foundation operations, at Kate.Marshall@MinotStateU.edu to receive a free T-shirt for your new little Beaver! Please be sure to tell us your baby's name and birth date. Also, please provide your graduation year, spouse's name, and contact information. After you receive your T-shirt, email your baby's photo to:

> Adam Carson '18 and Shelby (Brandvold) '18 Adam welcomed Eli Toby on Jan. 18, 2022.



Archdekin Proud Beaver parents Barton Archdekin '10 and Katelyn Wouters-Archdekin '10/'12

had Ayla Rose May 18, 2021. The family resides in Canada.

Doyle Branson Michael arrived Oct. 26, 2020. Parents are Janna (Stevenson) Doyle '14/'16 and her husband, Matthew.



Hendrickson

Noah Thomas arrived Feb. 3, 2022 and was welcomed by parents Nichol Anderson '08 and Neil Hendrickson.



Kayce (Rachner) Holt '15 and her husband, Robbie Holt, welcomed Jaxten Richard on Dec. 21, 2021. Jaxten joins







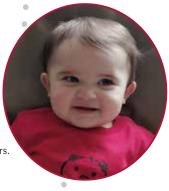
Hustad Taylor (Foley) Hustad '17 and her husband, Colter, welcomed Koe, born Nov. 16, 2021.



Schaper

Rosenthal Lexi (Bahl) Rosenthal '15 and her husband, Andy, welcomed their first baby, Hale Kent, on Nov. 10, 2021.

Kraft
Evelyn Grace was born
Oct. 13, 2021. She was
welcomed home by her
parents, Todd and
Heather (Klosterman)
Kraft '98, and her six big
sisters and three big brothers.



Schu Clara 2021

Melanie (McCormack) Schaper '02 and her husband, Mark, welcomed a little

boy, Luke Allan, on Nov. 29, 2021.

Scheller
Clara Ruth was born April 20,
2021 and was welcomed by Calli
(Heidbreder) Scheller '06 and
her husband, Paul.



Morris
Minot State retired assistant math professor Timothy Morris '77/'91 and his wife, Kim (Eltz) Morris '79, were blessed with a grandson, Karter, in 2021. They proudly welcomed Karter with his parents, Sean and Abby.



Orrin was born Jan. 23, 2022 to **Becky** (**Kaylor**) **Schweitzer** '09 and husband, Nathen. She joins big sister Elsie.



O'Shea Palmer entered the world Jan. 15, 2022. Proud Beaver parents are Taylor '16 and Molly (Willert) O'Shea '16.



Teske
Jax arrived April 30, 2022 and was
welcomed by proud Beaver parents,
Taylor '15 and Kayla (Hill) Teske '18.



Prock
Lloyd Prock '15 and his wife,
Megan, welcomed Henry
on Dec. 25, 2021. The family
resides in Fargo.



Wurtz
Harvey Wayne entered the world Oct. 10, 2021. He was welcomed by Shelby
(Bigelow) Wurtz '18 and her husband, Lucas.He joins siblings Treston, Truvy, and Trajan.





A campaign for Minot State University

EMPOWER



Steven W. Shirley, Ph.D., President

Welcome to a very special edition of Connections!

It is an exciting time across the Minot State campus, and certainly one of the most significant initiatives underway is the public launching of our EMPOWER capital campaign. As you read these pages, you will find stories of how the campaign is focused on five key areas helping ensure MSU continues fulfilling our mission of educating students and building on our nearly 110-year legacy of service.

The five pillars of the EMPOWER campaign include: Scholarships, Academic Programs, University Facilities, Athletics, and the Vision Fund. Together, these pillars encompass the areas where we can make the greatest difference in serving our students and helping them achieve their educational goals. While \$50 million is undoubtedly a lofty goal, as you read through these pillars and how they impact the campus and our students, I hope you will agree it is absolutely the right course of action at this moment in MSU's history.

As we continue attracting and retaining outstanding students to Minot State, it is imperative we have the scholarships available to help them meet their educational goals. Closely related to the scholarship pillar, is the fact that we need re-

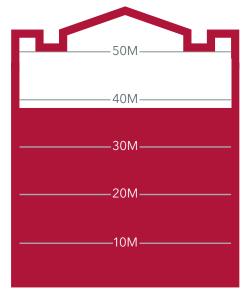
MinotStateU.edu/EMPOWER

sources to ensure our academic programs are relevant, flexible, and responsive to society's needs. We have made a number of recent upgrades to our university facilities, but we need to continue ensuring we have funds available so our programs are being taught and delivered in the best environments possible. There are 415 students at MSU currently participating in Athletics on one of our 19 teams, so it is important we continue supporting this large population of on-campus students both in the classroom and on the field of play. Finally, the Vision Fund provides unrestricted resources that helps MSU support students and overall campus initiatives that might not otherwise fit into other categories.

Higher education is incredibly competitive, and the EMPOWER campaign will help ensure MSU not only maintains, but expands its reach in providing important post-secondary opportunities for current and future generations of students. This campaign is an investment in our collective future, and I encourage you to come along on this historic journey as we navigate the exciting path ahead.

Thanks for supporting Minot State University and our students, a special thank you for supporting the EMPOWER campaign, and as always **GO BEAVERS!**

\$50 million



\$38,446,659 as of 10-15-22

Scholarships

GOAL

\$18 million

While Minot State continues to be a leader in affordability, one of the greatest hurdles in earning a college degree is cost and is a barrier for many. Increasing scholarships available to students is one of MSU's highest priorities and includes:

- Needs-based and merit-based: Offset expenses for those in greatest need and reward our highest achievers.
- Hometown Pride: Aids students in Northwest and northcentral North Dakota.
- Transfer: Assists students completing an advanced degree.
- Native American: Supports MSU's large enrollment of Native American students.
- Undergraduate Research: Offsets the cost of collaborative research.
- Athletic: Helps to recruit and retain quality student-athletes to be competitive at the conference and national levels.
- International Travel: Maximizes opportunities for this unique experience.
- Graduate Student: Rewards excellence in writing, research, and scholarship.











KEVIN VANDAL · sophomore, music, Perth

Academic Programs

GOAL

\$12 million

It is essential for Minot State to be at the forefront of cutting-edge academic programs to meet ever-changing global demands. The University continues to evolve from its original Normal School charter to expanding academic offerings in a wide-array of service, research, and technical disciplines. MSU will strengthen and add programs in the following areas:

- Cybersecurity: Help prepare our students in one of the fastest growing sectors of industry.
- Music: Ensure unique collaborations such as the Minot Symphony Orchestra and the Western Plains Opera continue.
- Nursing: Assure rigorous qualifications and demands in the region are met.
- Added Programs: Keep MSU relevant in a changing academic landscape.
- Professional Development: Invest in faculty and staff, essential in training tomorrow's workforce.
- Speaker Series: Create unique educational experiences and premier community events.











I WANT TO BE AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE FUTURE and leadership is a vital trait of a teacher. Especially in my case as I will be a leader of 6-year-olds! Leadership and my time in the Looyenga Leadership Center is important in so many ways, and I believe anyone can assume the role of leader. It is a very important part of my academic career.

JADYN SANDY · freshman, elementary education, Velva

University Facilities

GOAL

\$10 million

Significant renovations to learning and living spaces at Minot State allow our students to experience stimulating environments that nurture creativity and personal development. Highly-advanced classroom and lab space with innovative learning tools play an essential role in MSU delivering a superior education. Building and infrastructure priorities include:

- MSU Amphitheater: Upgrades enhance the experience at the iconic venue.
- Nursing Lab: Renovations are essential for this nationally-recognized program's advanced simulation lab.
- Residence Halls: Enhancements and upgrades modernize living spaces improving the students' on-campus experience.
- Classroom Innovation: Highly advanced labs with state-of-the-art equipment and innovation plays a vital role in a superior education.
- Hoffman Auditorium: Renovation calls for new seating, sound, lights, and technology for advanced learning.
- MSU Greenhouse: Requires a total reconstruction consisting of double-layered panels, working irrigation system, and a climate-controlled interior.

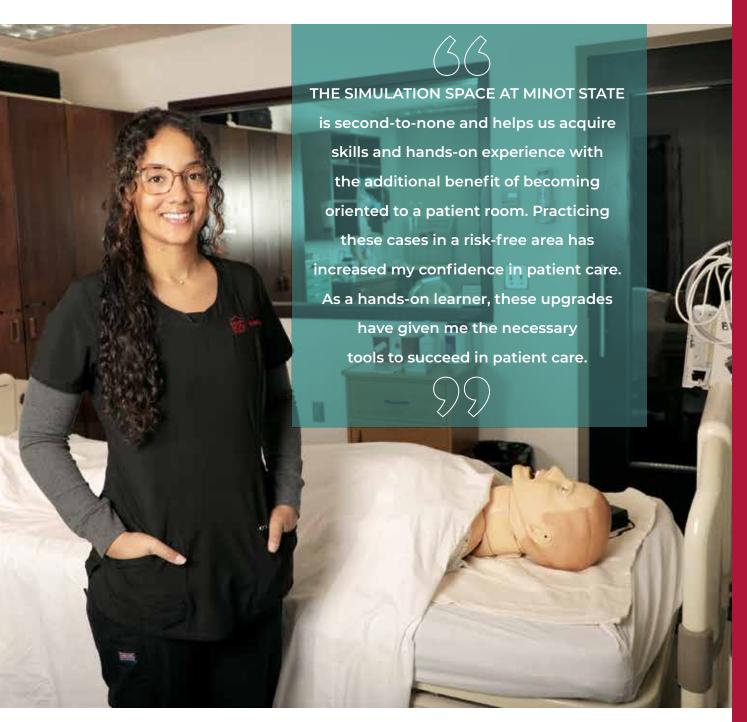




Facility investments supporting our community ensure future growth and strength Modern facilities are key to attracting students







SOPHIA RINEHART · senior, nursing, York, Pennsylvania

Athletics

GOAL

\$8 million

Minot State Athletics play a major role in providing a vibrant and engaged campus life. Ensuring the highest possible student-athlete experience comes at a significant cost. To preserve MSU as a premier venue hosting a hub of athletic, entertainment, and educational events, continued improvements to the MSU Dome and Herb Parker Stadium are vital and will include:

- Minot State Dome:
 - Creating new strength and conditioning space, renovating locker room, and adding meeting space and field-level storage.
 - Expanding offices, adding a food court, concessions, entertainment suites, and apparel shop, and updating the Athletics Hall of Fame.
 - Improving displays with an optimized center-hung scoreboard.
- Herb Parker Stadium:
 - Adding a northeast entrance gate with ticket office, restrooms, and entertainment space.
- Men's and Women's Hockey Endowment:
 - · Aiding operations of both programs.











BEN BOHL · senior, business, Minot

Vision Fund

GOAL

\$2 million

The ability to meet today's needs, respond to unexpected circumstances, fund a brilliant idea, or advance a unique scholarship opportunity is one of the many functions of unrestricted gifts to the MSU Vision Fund. The flexibility to offer spontaneity and innovation helps fuel a vibrant, modern campus with exciting academic and extracurricular programs to inspire students such as:

- Annual Unrestricted Giving: Provide flexibility for new program development, spontaneity, and innovation.
- Highest Priorities: Bridge the gap between long-term goals and immediate, everyday needs.
- Hometown Pride Scholarship: Usher in a new scholarship rewarding students in our own backyard.
- Emergency Fund: Help students in crisis as unplanned and unavoidable issues arise.
- Innovative Projects: Realize the full potential of iconic venues and newly imagined structures.









33

I'VE HAD THE WONDERFUL

privilege of receiving

financial assistance

through the Hometown Pride

Scholarship. This scholarship

has relieved immense costs

for me and has provided

a tremendous sense of

acknowledgement and

acceptance from Minot State.

This contributed to my

decision to attend, and

further instilled my desire to

study in a familiar territory.





 $\textbf{ANGELICA ALEXANDROU} \cdot \textbf{freshman, business, Williston}$

Ways to give ...

ONLINE

Giving to the MSU Development Foundation online is safe and convenient at MinotStateU.edu/give.

MAIL

Gifts made by check may be mailed to the MSU Foundation at 500 University Ave W, Minot, ND 58707. Please make checks payable to the "MSU Foundation" and include information describing what your gift is intended to support.

WIRE TRANSFER

Bank wire transfers are the fastest and most secure way to send cash to benefit MSU.

STOCKS, BONDS, AND OTHER SECURITIES

Giving a gift of publicly traded securities may provide greater tax benefits than giving cash. Your broker can assist you in making a gift of stock via a direct transfer to the MSU Foundation.

RECURRING GIFTS

A recurring gift is an easy, automatic way to support MSU with a continuous source of funding. Recurring gifts enable you to make a more generous contribution than thought possible by spreading your donation over a longer period of time.

MATCHING GIFT

Your gifts to support MSU could be matched dollar for dollar by your employer. Your employer's personnel office can provide information on how to claim your company's matching gift benefit.

DONOR-ADVISED FUND

You may recommend donations from your donor-advised fund (DAF) to support the areas of campus you're most passionate about.

PLEDGE

A pledge is a gift that is paid over a period of time, allowing you to spread out your payments and tax benefits.

CHARITABLE IRA ROLLOVERS

Individuals age 70½ or older may give up to \$100,000 directly from their individual retirement account without paying federal income tax on the withdrawal. Amounts given this way count toward satisfying the required minimum distribution for the year of the gift.

WILLS AND TRUSTS

The simple act of including Minot State in your estate plan has more power than you might imagine. Your gift can be for a specific dollar amount or for a percentage of your estate, allowing you to support MSU while also providing for your loved ones. The Development Foundation is available as a resource to help you get started.

GIFTS THAT MAKE PAYMENTS TO YOU

- Charitable Gift Annuities In exchange for a gift of cash or stock, the MSU Foundation will make fixed payments to you for life. You will also qualify for an income tax charitable deduction and no immediate capital gains are triggered at the time the gift is made.
- Charitable Remainder Trusts In exchange for a gift of cash or stock, the MSU Foundation will make payments to you for life or for a period of years. You will also qualify for an income tax charitable deduction and no immediate capital gains are triggered at the time the gift is made. Charitable remainder trusts are especially popular for donors who own appreciated real property.

NORTH DAKOTA ENDOWMENT TAX CREDIT

North Dakota taxpayers may be eligible to receive a 40% state income tax credit of up to \$10,000 per individual or \$20,000 per married couple.

NORTH DAKOTA CHALLENGE GRANT

The North Dakota Challenge Grant program allows individuals to make gifts to Minot State and receive a 50% match on gifts designated to scholarship endowments and other areas such as technology, educational infrastructure, classroom enhancements, and equipment.

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM AND HONORARIUM

Your gift may be made in memory or in honor of an individual. The individual or the individual's family are notified of your gift.

NAMING GIFTS

Minot State University has identified a variety of naming opportunities to recognize donors. Gifts to support scholarships, faculty, programs, or learning environments may qualify for naming opportunities.



1969



Alton Nygaard was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the North Dakota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association in April.

Nygaard spent his entire educational career, 35 years, at Des Lacs-Burlington High School and retired in 2004. He taught business education and physical education classes, was an assistant coach for football, basketball, and track, and, toward the end of his first year of teaching, he accepted the junior-senior high school principal position. He was assigned athletic director duties as well. Over the years, he took over managing girls and boys basketball and volleyball district and regional tournaments. which he still oversees. He was selected District 15 Athletic Director of the Year in 1985 and District 12 Athletic Director of the Year in 1996. He served as the president-elect and state president of the North Dakota Association of Secondary Principals Association. He received the North Dakota High School Activities Association Certificate of Recognition Award and was awarded NDHS Principal of the Year. In 2008, he received the North Dakota High School Activities Association Distinguished Award. Nygaard and his wife, Cleo, have four children.

1972



Doug Wurtz's retirement activities include nature photography as well as serving as a certified interpretive guide for the State Histori-

cal Society of North Dakota. He is past president of the North Dakota Archaeological Association. Wurtz, a Ryder native, is also a past board member of the Ryder Historical Society and Hiddenwood Old Settlers Association. Wurtz and his wife, Linda, live in Bismarck.

1973



Sheryl Solberg, former assistant director at the North Dakota High School Activities Association, received the North Dakota

Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Distinguished Service Award during the NDI-AAA Spring Conference Hall of Fame Banquet in April. Her first position following graduation was teaching business education and physical education classes and coaching at Mayville-Portland High School. Solberg served for 34 years as the assistant director for the NDHSAA and was presented the NDHSAA Distinguished Service Award in 2012. She was inducted into the NFHS National High School Hall of Fame in 2014. She is one of only nine North Dakotans in history to receive this honor. Solberg is a softball and volleyball official and was inducted into the ND Officials Association Hall of Fame in 2000. Since her retirement from the NDHSAA, she has continued to serve Valley City Special Olympics, Valley City Optimists Club, Sheyenne Valley Friends of Animals, and the Community Garden Board of Directors. She served as an adjunct professor at Valley City State University.

1978

James Grosgebauer, vice president and loan officer of the First National Bank & Trust Co. of Bottineau, retired on July 31. Grosgebauer, a Bottineau native, went to work for CIT Financial Services in Minot, where he started his financial training. He then went to Grand Forks as the assistant manager of that office and, ultimately, to the Dickinson branch, where he managed the CIT office. He began his banking career with First National Bank & Trust Co. of Dickinson in 1979. In 1988, he started at the Bottineau office, where he had worked on a part-time basis while a high school student in the early 1970s. Grosgebauer has been actively involved in community service throughout his career. He is currently a member of the Bottineau Country Club, continues to serve on Dakota College at Bottineau's Career and Technical Advisory Board, and is on the governing board of First Baptist Church.

1979



Blaine DesLauriers, senior executive vice president and vice chairman at First International Bank & Trust, Minot, was honored with

the 2021 Odin Award. The prestigious award — named after Odin Stenehjem, who founded the bank in 1910 — is given annually to the employee who best exemplifies FIBT's mission, vision, and values. It recognizes those who execute service at its highest level and inspires those around them. To celebrate his achievement, FIBT donated \$5,000 to the Minot Family YMCA, DesLauriers's charity of choice. In addition, he chose to donate \$5,000, which the Stenehiem family matched for a grand total of \$15,000.

1980



Leslie (Metz) Barney received the Citation of Excellence Award from the National Band Association. Barney, a long-time

band teacher at Jim Hill Middle School in Minot, retired in 2021 after teaching for 24 years in the Minot Public School District. She and her husband, Chuck, enjoy traveling the country in their motor coach and spending time with their children, son-inlaw, daughter-in-law, and three grandchildren.

1981



Steve Perry retired from First Western Bank & Trust in August after 45 years of service.



Jeff Risk was inducted into the National High School Hall of Fame during the 103rd National Federation of State High School

Association's summer meeting. Risk was one of 12 inductees honored for their contributions to the NFHS and was inducted into the officials' category. Risk retired from officiating after 40 years, during which time he officiated more than 5,000 high school and college games in the sports of

basketball, football, and baseball, as well as another seven years and 1,000 games in professional baseball. He is a retired physical education teacher and athletic director. He continues to serve as statewide supervisor of basketball and football officials, director of summer basketball officiating camps, observes officials at NDHSAA football and basketball state tournaments, and assigns basketball state tournament officials. Risk is a member of the NFHS Football Rules Committee. He had his wife, Tammy, reside in Minot.

1983



Lynda Bertsch was presented the North Dakota High School Coaches Association's Special Recognition Award. This award recognizes

individuals for their services to coaching, the association's programs, and individual community athletic programs. Bertsch is the director of Career Services at Minot State.

1984



Mike Vendsel joined Cornerstone Bank Minot Office as vice president agricultural/business banker. Vendsel has over 30 years of banking

experience.

1986



Michelle (Pfau) **Dolan** retired from coaching the Ray volleyball team after 34 seasons. Dolan has been the head coach since volley-

ball started in Ray in 1988. She obtained the highest category of coaching wins at 750 this past season. Dolan and her husband, Stuart, reside in Ray and have two daughters, Paige and Maari, both attending college.

Glenys (Valtr) Holter retired after 26 years of full-time teaching in Parshall. Following retirement, Holter became a substitute teacher at Stanley, Parshall, and South Prairie School and then moved to Pierre, South Dakota. She was a substitute teacher at all the Pierre Public Elemen-

tary schools, at Georgia Morse Middle School, as well as Stanley County elementary, middle, and high schools.

1988



Deb (Whitson) Hochhalter joined NDSU Extension as an administrative assistant in Barnes County. Hochhalter previously taught

middle school for 25 years and worked as an administrative assistant in a variety of office settings. She resides in Valley City, enjoys spending time with her daughters and granddaughters, and likes to cook and garden.

1989



Patty (Telehey) Folk is teaching language arts at Jim Hill Middle School in Minot. Folk previously was an instructor

at Bel Air Elementary.



Tom Galgerud, an entrepreneur, started his own small business, Monarch Siding, Windows, & Roofing, located in Papillion, Nebraska,

26 years ago. The company has earned multiple local and national awards within the industry.

Mike Lucy, insurance agent with Michael A. Lucy Agency in Minot, celebrated 30 years with American Family Insurance in March.

1990



Theresa (Ellingson) Bolinske retired at the end of June as a mortgage loan officer with Aspire Credit Union. Over her 22-year career,

she received many awards and recognitions, including Affiliate of the Year from the Minot Board of Realtors and a Minot Chamber EDC Eagle Award.

Michael Casey was inducted into the Softball Hall of Fame by the McQuade Softball Board of Directors.

Brad Edwardson is the director of Wahpeton Parks and Recreation, where he previously served as park superintendent. Originally from Bottineau, he and his wife, Rhonda (Thingvold '90), have three children. Rhonda has been part of North Dakota State College of Science's dental department for 20 years. Edwardson is a U.S. Army veteran with experience as a linguist. Prior to his parks and recreation career, he was primarily employed in various leadership positions in the manufacturing industry and was also a house flipper.

Robbi Jo (Muller) Morgan is the principal at Max Public School.

1991



Cord Scott is serving as one of three overseas collegiate faculty in history for the University of Maryland Global Campus. Scott re-

cently moved from Osan, South Korea back to Okinawa where he teaches history, government, and art history (film) classes. Scott finished his third book, "The Mud and the Mirth: Marine Corps Cartoonists of World War I through the U.S. Marine Corps Historical Division." He also took part in a recovery mission in Okinawa for Kuentai-U.S.A. This organization searches for remains of U.S. servicemen and will resume efforts later this summer.

1992



Lana (Bruins) Clouser retired as a CRNA from the anesthesia department at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego. Captain

Clouser received her Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia from Georgetown University via the Navy Nurse Corps Anesthesia program. She served as the senior nurse and CRNA of Surgical Company, Marine Air Ground Task Force in Haiti 2004; served aboard USS Kitty Hawk, where she earned her Surface Warfare Medical Department Officer qualification; USS IWO JIMA in support of Continuing Promise 2010; and deployed on USNS Mercy to provide Defense Support of Civil Authorities dur-

ing the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to numerous unit and campaign awards, her personal awards include the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards).



Andrea (Limke) **Hedberg** received the Wings Award from John Hoeven Elementary School. The award recognizes a student or

staff member for going above and beyond the expectations of the school. Hedberg was honored for going out of her way to encourage reading beyond the walls of her classroom. The Hoeven Book Club sparked student readers internally and the Battle of the Books program took reading to a district wide level within Minot Public Schools.



Leanne (Olson) Schmidt is the human resource director for the city of Bismarck. Schmidt has 30 years of experience in human

resources in both the public and private sectors and has been a certified professional in human resources for 20 years.

1993



Sue (Rott) Gunderson-Kranz is the superintendent and elementary principal at Powers Lake School. Gunderson-Kranz grew up in

Anamoose and received her master's degree in educational leadership from North Dakota State University. She has been teaching and administratively employed with schools for the past 29 years. She and her husband, Chuck ('91), have six daughters.



Sabrina (Grover) Herrmann was elected to the Minot Public School Board. Herrmann, a Minot native, is the director of communica-

tions at Ackerman-Estvold, a full service architectural and civil engineering consulting firm.



Jodie Mjoen is the CEO/president of Impact Dakota. Mjoen plays a leading role in developing strategy for modernizing North

Dakota's manufacturing base and coordinating the interface of technology and growth strategies with the needs of small manufacturers. He joined Impact Dakota after working in supplier quality engineering and quality leadership roles with United Technologies Corporation Aerospace Systems, a Fortune 100 corporation, at the Jamestown location. Prior to that, he worked for Pemstar Incorporated, an electronics contract manufacturing organization in Dunseith. He received his Master of Arts in Leadership from the University of Jamestown. He is certified six sigma black belt, lean manufacturing practitioner, and quality management system auditor. Mjoen and his wife live in Jamestown with their two daughters. He is a U.S. Army veteran, former mayor, and enjoys traveling and adventures with his family.

1994



Wayne Benton, a retired 20-year veteran of the United States Air Force, is currently a supervisory police officer with the Department

of Veterans Affairs North Texas Health Care System in Dallas, Texas.



Tonya (Biberdorf) Hunskor was named North Dakota Association of Secondary **School Principals** High School Principal of the Year.

Hunskor served as principal at TGU Granville School and retired in May.



Kris Lien was promoted to assistant vice president information technology manager for First Western Bank & Trust. Lien joined

the bank as IT manager in 2017.

1995

Alyson (Solberg) Schepp is teaching pre-K through second grade special education for the Bottineau School District. Schepp was born in Bottineau and attended school in Bottineau until the fifth grade. She went on to graduate from Mohall High School. Schepp has been in education for 28 years and taught in Hope for three years, Langdon for one year, Valley City for one year, Dunseith for one year, and in Rugby for 21 years. She has taught first grade, third grade, fourth grade, sixth grade, Title 1, and pre-K special education.



Rhonda (Sniezek) Thiemann is a Canadian Certified Addiction Counsellor (CCAC). She began a new position in September 2022

with the Positive Living Program in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, based out of Royal University Hospital, doing HIV case management in an addiction counselling degree position. She has seven sons and six grandchildren.

1998



Brekka (Nybakken) Kramer is the Minot Area Chamber Economic Development Corporation's president and CEO. Kramer previously

served as the vice president and Minot general manager of Odney, a Bismarck-based advertising agency. Kramer also serves on Governor Burgum's North Dakota Military Commission and represents Minot as a civic leader for the Air Force Global Strike Command.

1999

Val (Tykeson) Stadick, owner of Main Street Books, the only local, independent bookstore in Minot, celebrated 16 years in business in April. After 16 years, Stadick said that she is thinking about possibly retiring. She doesn't have any exact plans to sell the store right now, but she'd like to spend more time on her hobbies, which include running, gardening, kayaking, and camping. She has spent three years renovating a 1965 camper that she'd like to finish and take on a trip.

2000



Linda Benson presided over the Dakota State Eagles Convention auxiliary meetings. During 2021-22, Benson raised funds for her

president's project of Home on the Range's canine program. Her secondary project was for the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities, a Center of Excellence on Minot State's campus.

Amy (Semmen) Makeef was promoted to chief credit officer for First Western Bank & Trust. Makeef joined First Western in June 2021. She is a native of Ryder, graduated from North Shore High School, and holds a master's degree from Liberty University.

2001



Paul Brunsdon is the director of development with the Winona State University Foundation. Brunsdon and his wife, Melanie,

reside in Winona, Minnesota.

2002

Valerie (Dunn) Heilman is teaching various business courses for grades seven through 12 in the Bottineau School District. Heilman, a Lidgerwood native, was a student teacher at Grand Forks Central before going on to instruct marketing and business education at the North Valley Vo-Tech Center in Grafton. She also managed North Valley's school store and was the advisor for DECA. From North Valley, she went to Dakota College at Bottineau where she started out as a program advisor and instructor for the advertising and marketing program, along with being the collegiate DECA advisor. Heilman later became DCB's financial aid director and then record specialist. She was employed with the college for 22 years.

Trisha (Solper) Schaefer, sixth grade mathematics teacher at Erik Ramstad Middle School. was named the Minot Education Association Teacher of the Year. Schaefer, a '02/'14 grad, is in her 20th year as a teacher, but

only her fourth year as a math teacher. She began her career as a music teacher, teaching for a year in Arizona and then in the Makoti, Ryder, and Plaza school district before joining the Minot school district. Schaefer taught for a year at Jim Hill Middle School and for a number of years at Bel Air Elementary before moving to Ramstad.

Larry Sebastian is the interim superintendent at Max Public School. As he let his superintendent credentials slip following a three-year retirement from the profession, he will serve as the school's academic dean until he gets his superintendent credentials back in order.

Alicia Hegland-Thorpe joined Prairie Public as the co-host of Prairie Public's "Main Street," the network's public affairs radio show. As one of the co-hosts, she chats with newsmakers and discusses issues concerning the region. Hegland-Thorpe's previous experience includes broadcasting overnight radio at two small stations, the first in Williston, and as a specialist for the office of public information at United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck. She is a citizen of the Spirit Lake Nation and most recently worked as a consultant organizing Native and cultural heritage tourism in North Dakota, working with representatives from all five of the state's sovereign nations.



Lisa (Harris) Thuner, executive mortgage officer with Town & Country Credit Union in Minot, received the Homeownership Perfor-

mance Award in recognition for the volume and quality of loans produced from the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency.

2006

Amanda (Nostadahl) Fett is the seventh and eighth grade social studies teacher for the Bottineau School District. Fett was a student teacher in St. John, a paraeducator in Bottineau, taught social studies to 10th-12th graders in Westhope, and served as a substitute teacher in the Bottineau School District prior to her current position.



Jessica (Haider) Henderson is vice president, finance and accounting for Town and Country Credit Union at the credit union's

Minot main office. Henderson is responsible for leading the finance and accounting department, analyzing and preparing financial statements, and strategic financial planning. She is a Burlington native and joined the credit union in 2020 and most recently held the position of assistant vice president, accounting. She has 20 years of financial institution experience.



Caisee (Price) Sandusky received a promotion to sergeant with the Minot Police Department. Sandusky started her career

as an officer in March 2008. She was promoted to senior officer in March 2012 and became one of the original two school resource officers assigned to Minot Public Schools in January 2014. She was promoted to master officer in January 2021. Sandusky played an integral role in the SRO Program in the community and across the state. She has a passion for helping youth in the community. Prior to her assignment to the schools, she was assigned to patrol where she was a field training officer and bike patrol officer.

named director of Trinity Health Transport Services. Thomas has experience as an ICU nurse with extensive critical care and flight nurse experience. Thomas oversees Trinity's First Response service line, a streamlined service that incorporates fixed-and-rotor-wing air ambulance, ground ambulance, First Call Dispatch Center, and EMS education. Thomas, a Granville native, joined Trinity Health in 2007. Soon after joining, she received flight nurse training and flew numerous missions as a crew member on NorthStar Criticair, Trinity's critical care helicopter. In 2009, she was promoted to ICU assistant manager and in 2018, began a new venture as nurse

Amy (Bacon) Thomas was

manager of NorthStar, which at

that time was a separate entity.

2007



Tony Fugleberg is leading the Fargo prep girls wrestling program. Fugleberg, a Fargo native and South High School alumnus, has served

in various coaching roles over the last several years. He serves as an assistant coach at Fargo Davies High School with the football, wrestling, and track & field teams. He's also coached with the Team North Dakota girls wrestling national program for four years.

2008



Brock DesLauriers was promoted to Minot president at First International Bank & Trust in June. DesLauriers started working at FIBT in

May 2005 while attending MSU. He has held numerous positions including teller, credit analyst, personal banker, consumer lender, mortgage loan officer, commercial loan officer, and most recently, senior vice president/North Hill branch manager. In his new role, he will oversee the entire Minot lending team, as well as the Minot Broadway, North Hill, and Arrowhead offices. He graduated from Bishop Ryan High School in 2003. He and his wife, Elly, have two daughters. DesLauriers and his family are very involved in the Minot community with numerous nonprofits, service clubs, and local boards.

Tom Warman is the superintendent at Burke Central School. Originally from Millinocket, Maine, he received his master's degree in educational leadership from the University of North Dakota. He completed a doctoral degree in 2022. Following a military career, he taught in Sawyer for four years before taking a job as a safety technician in the oil field. After the oil field slowed down, he decided to get back into education and served as the principal in Sawyer. He and his wife, April, have four children.

2009



Jonathan Lanser is the online services manager at First Western Bank & Trust in Minot. Lanser started at First

Western in May 2021 as a cash management specialist.



Melanie Moore was named Dakota State Auxiliary Mother at the Dakota State Eagles Convention.

2010



Derek Just graduated with a Master of Education in College Counseling and Student Development from North Carolina State

University in May 2022. He is the alumni career services coordinator at the University of North Carolina's Gillings School of Global Public Health.



Kris Neset joined the National Park Service at the **Denver Service** Center as a project manager/civil engineer based out

of Lakewood, Colorado. He was promoted this past year to Captain/06 with the U.S. Public Health Service.

Deseraye (Abernathey) Preskey

is teaching kindergarten in Newburg. Preskey grew up in Glenburn and Lansford. In the educational field, she has been a paraprofessional and substitute teacher for seven years.

2011

Laurie (Gienger) Davis is a human resource generalist for First Western Bank & Trust in Minot. Davis, a Garrison native, earned her master's in human resource training and development from Amberton University, Garland, Texas.



Kodi (Bullinger) Handeland was named Bottineau School District Teacher of the Year by the North Dakota Council for

Exceptional Children Unit #922. Handeland is a fourth-grade teacher in the Bottineau School District and has served the district for nine years. She is currently working on her master's degree in behavior science.



Stephanie (Pfeifer) Silverthorn is the vice president, human resources for Town & Country Credit Union. Silverthorn joined

the credit union in 2014 and has 11 years of human resources experience. She is a Society of Human Resource Management Certified Professional.

Aly Marie (Williams) St. Ours is a lead board certified behavior analyst in the Georgia region.

2012



Taylor Jensen received the Minot Police Department's Officer of the Year Award. Officer Jensen started with the police depart-

ment in August 2012. She is currently assigned to patrol as a K9 handler with her partner Caspian. She also took on the role as command of the Bomb Squad in June of 2021.

Sarah (Westby) Roses is teaching sixth grade for Stanley Schools. Roses taught first grade in Arizona for four years and taught sixth grade for four years in Tioga. She and her husband, Boomer, live in Stanley and have four children. She is a member of the North Dakota Literacy Association. Her hobbies include family time, shopping, camping, and traveling.

Trey Welstad unveiled his Watchdog Home Monitor sensor at the North Dakota State Fair. This sensor detects and tracks the water conditions of a home.

2013



Brittany Armstrong, digital media coordinator with SRT Communications in Minot, was recognized as a workplace campaign

leader during the Souris Valley United Way's annual campaign.



Ben Berg received the Instructional Performance Award at the Minot Public Schools Retirement and Recognition banquet.

Adam Beyer is the high school principal in the Bottineau School District. Beyer was born and raised in Bottineau and received his master's degree in education leadership from North Dakota State University. His first job as a teacher was as music teacher in Bottineau's elementary school. He then accepted a K-12 principal position in Towner prior to his current position in Bottineau.



Shane Engeland is serving as the executive director of the Prairie Village Museum in Rugby. Engeland brings a love of history

and deep roots to his new job. After attending schools in Rugby, Towner, and Minot State, he is now enrolled at North Dakota State University where he's studying for his master's degree. Engeland teaches online social studies classes at the Center for Distance Communication in Fargo.



Blair (Tande) Slaughter was promoted to retail operations supervisor for First International Bank & Trust in June. Slaughter

has been employed at FIBT for the past eight years. She has held numerous positions including teller, personal banker, and most recently, assistant operations supervisor. In her new role, she will oversee the entire Minot retail banking team at the Minot Broadway, North Hill, and Arrowhead offices. Slaughter graduated from Powers Lake High School. She and her husband, Chance, have two daughters, Berkley and Ivy. In her free time, Slaughter enjoys recreational volleyball, but mostly spending time with her family.

2014



KayLee (Fenner) Bourquin joined Town & Country Credit Union as a financial services officer based at the Minot location.

Bourquin has 11 years of financial services experience including retail operations, consumer lending, and new accounts. In her new role, Bourquin will assist members with their consumer

loan needs, as well as deposit accounts and related services. In her free time, she serves as the club administrator and second vice president for the Minot Lions Club.

Taylor (Owan) Klippen is teaching first grade for the Bottineau School District. Kippen was born and raised in Williston. Following college, she taught fifth and sixth grade at Newburg United School for four years and spent last year as a para-educator in the Bottineau School District.



Stephanie Little is an assistant professor of social work at Minot State (Bismarck State College campus). Little completed her

Master of Social Work degree in 2015 from Minnesota State University, Mankato. She is a licensed master social worker through the North Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners. Little is currently a graduate student at the University of South Dakota, in a customized dual doctorate in health sciences and Master of Public Health program. Little serves on multiple community outreach programs and com-



Mallory Lochthowe is the loan servicing supervisor for Town & Country Credit Union. Lochthowe leads the credit union's consumer

and business loan servicing teams across all markets. She joined the credit union in 2011 and has held multiple positions since then. Previously, she served as the loan servicing supervisor for consumer lending. She is based in the credit union's Minot main office.



Stacy Lorenz is a certified public accountant with Chad R. Strand, PC in downtown Bottineau. Lorenz has worked for Strand

for eight years. She was born in Grand Forks, raised in Bottineau, and also has a cosmetology license in the state of North Dakota. She and her partner have two children.

Amanda (Bacile) Messner

received master's degrees in health education and recreation educational administration from Emporia State University. Messner and her husband. Wade '06. live in Williston.

2015



Kayla Beck is the regional services manager for western North Dakota Great Plains Food Bank. Beck works out of the Great

Plains Food Bank Regional Service Center in Bismarck and previously worked as a licensed social worker at North Central Human Service Center. In 2020, she obtained her Master of Social Work degree with a specialization in community practice from Baylor University. Before joining the Great Plains Food Bank, she worked at Fargo Public Schools as a student wellness and family facilitator.



Mikel Cederstrom is the vice president of energy operations for United Quality Cooperative. Cederstrom most recently

worked for United Quality as an energy sales consultant. He and his wife, Molly, reside in Minot and have two children.



Kylee (Slaughbaugh) Lemieux is the marketing manager at North Star Community Credit Union. Lemieux,

originally from rural Wolford, now lives in Rugby. She has seven years of experience in advertising and marketing.



Abbie (Naze) Eads was named conductor-in-residence for NW Edvard Grieg Society. Following graduation from Minot State, Naze

set on a career as a conductor. She served as conductor of Pierce College Orchestra while an adjunct faculty member. Naze completed her master's in orchestral conducting at the University of Washington in Seattle. Naze joined the MSU Development Foundation as a development officer/data analyst July 2022.



Johanna Nelson completed a Master of Science in Child Development with a concentration in children's law and policy from Erikson

Institute in Chicago. Nelson is employed as the operations manager at the Wisconsin Association of Family and Children's Agencies (WAFCA) in Madison, Wisconsin.



Jarrett Peskey is serving as president of the Board of Directors for Companions for Children. He has been a member of

the board since July 2019 and served as a lunch pal mentor and is currently a pen pal mentor. Peskey, a Minot native, is a retirement plan administrator with Bravera Wealth.

2016

Hadlee (Schell) Brandt is the superintendent of the Newburg United School District. Brandt started her educational career in Newburg in 2018. In 2021, she accepted the position of assistant principal along with being a second-grade teacher. She and her husband, Dusty, have three children and live on a ranch near Maxbass.



Tessa (Goldade) **Grabow** joined Houston Engineering Inc.'s Minot team as an administrative assistant. A native of Minot,

Grabow previously worked as an administrative assistant for the forestry department at the Minot Park District.



Ian MacDonald is a business banking officer with First Western Bank & Trust, Bismarck office. MacDonald has been with the

bank for over nine years and has previous experience as a teller, customer service representative, cash management specialist, and online banking officer.

Jalisa (Andreasen) Tinnes is a mortgage loan officer with Aspire Credit Union in Minot.

2017



Aaron La Deaux was named the activities coordinator for Horace High School. La Deaux began his career in education in

2017 as a middle school health teacher for Grand Forks Public Schools. He became the activities director for Grand Forks Central High School in 2018, a role he held until making the decision to accept this position with West Fargo Public Schools.

2018



Brianna (Guttormson) Hanson was promoted to commercial loan officer for First International Bank

& Trust. Hanson joined FIBT as a personal banker in 2015 while attending Minot State. In 2018, she moved to Watford City, where she began working as a loan associate at the company's Fox Hills location and in 2020, she transitioned into a universal banker position.

2019



Sidni Kast was named 2022 Miss North Dakota. During her tenure as Miss North Dakota, Kast will be traveling across the state

giving presentations on mind, body, and soul to school children and business groups.



Kaitlin Walker represented the State of North Dakota at the Western Governors' Leadership Institute in July.

The Institute recognized and rewarded each delegate's history of leadership and celebrated their tremendous potential. Walker, along with 21 other young leaders, learned directly from governors and other leaders in the West.



Brooke Yaschyshyn is the director of development with Project BEE. Project BEE provides equity and anti-poverty services to rural

communities in North Dakota.

2020



Josh Berdahl was promoted to network analyst for First Western Bank & Trust, Minot region. Berdahl started with First

Western in 2018 as a part-time computer operator and in 2020 became a full-time system tech.



Ryan Clark is the Lake Region State College women's basketball head coach and assistant athletic director. Clark served as the

assistant coach for the Minot State women's basketball team from 2019-2021.

Alyssa Doering is a registered nurse in same day surgery at Trinity Health.



Cole Edwards was named director of basketball operations for the Minot State men's program. His most recent experience

was as the director of basketball operations and assistant men's basketball coach at Seward County Community College in Liberal, Kansas during the 2021-22 season. Edwards was an assistant coach at Our Redeemer's Christian School and at Bishop Ryan High School in Minot. In addition to his responsibilities as the new director of basketball operations, Edwards will join MSU women's basketball head coach Mike Brandt on the sidelines as an assistant coach.



Matt Flom was promoted to credit analyst III for First Western Bank & Trust. Flom has been with FWB&T since 2017 and is

serving the Minot region.



Reese Heinrich, a Lignite native, is a second-grade teacher at Tioga's Central Elementary. Heinrich previously taught at Lignite.



Zeb Pulkinen joined the Ackerman-Estvold Minot office as an environmental specialist. Pulkinen is also trained as a civil engineering

technician with a strong understanding in construction plans and inspection. He will focus on geographic information systems and will provide environmental expertise on projects throughout the region.

2021



Cole Brose joined First Western Bank & Trust's consumer lending team. Brose has two years of previous lending experience.

Krystal Heth is teaching kindergarten in the Westhope School. Heth was born and raised in Westhope. She was previously a substitute teacher in the Minot School District.

Victoria Obergfell is teaching second grade in Newburg and is the assistant volleyball coach. Obergfell was born in Sidney, Montana and raised in Plentywood, Montana, where she grew up on a farm and ranch. She played volleyball and basketball while attending Dakota College at Bottineau. Obergfell has been a teacher's assistant for a kindergarten class and a substitute teacher in Plentywood, Bottineau, and Newburg.

2022

Raylea Folstad is teaching seventh-12th grade math in Newburg. Folstad was born and raised in Glenburn. This is Folstad's first full-time job, but while she was in college she taught in a variety of schools throughout the state.



Joy Springer was promoted to computer tech 1 at First Western Bank & Trust. Springer joined the First Western team in

2018 as a customer service representative. Most recently she was a universal banker 1 at the main bank in Minot.

Attended

Hanna Grubb is teaching second grade for Stanley Schools. Grubb resides in Powers Lake and enjoys traveling, watching movies, reading, and spending time at the lake.



Megan McGinnity is a special education teacher at Tioga Central Elementary. Prior to the pandemic, Mc-Ginnity was work-

ing at KSI until the economic crash in the spring of 2020 resulted in a round of layoffs. She then began working at Central Elementary and received a grant to return to college full time while still working at the school.

Dale Niewoehner, owner of Niewoehner Funeral Home in Rugby, celebrated 50 years in business with an open house in February.



Steve Ragan was named 2022 Pembina County Teacher of the Year by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. Ragan

is an instructor in both Crystal, where he teaches fourth through eighth grades general music and instrumental programs, and Edinburg, where he teaches high school band and choir.

Friend



Bev Alex was re-elected as the Dakota State Eagles Auxiliary state treasurer.



Kevin Black was appointed by Governor Doug Burgum to serve on the North Dakota Higher Education Board. Black is a co-

founder of Creedence Energy Services, a company that creates specialized chemical solutions for the oil industry.



David Rolandson served as the director of the Minot City Band for its performances held in June. Rolandson is associate professor

of music, director of bands, music education coordinator, and low brass teacher at Minot State. He is serving as the principal tuba with the Minot Symphony Orchestra.



Tom Ross was elected mayor of the city of Minot. Ross served as a Minot City Council alderman since 2020. He serves as

the executive director for Elison Assisted Living of Minot and has over 25 years of experience in communications, community service, marketing, and sales.



Barbara Solberg recently released "What We Leave Behind," a book that navigates the twists and turns of a family saga

that intersects homesteading in Mountrail County with the lesser-known history of Norway in World War II. Solberg taught at Magic City Campus and was a writing professor at Minot State. She published a textbook with Harcourt College Publishers, was a freelance writer for the Minot Daily News, and has had articles published in North Dakota Horizon Magazine. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of North Dakota and currently serves on the North Dakota Humanities Board of Directors.



Roscoe Streyle was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Minot City Council.



Grant Wentz is the SVP market president for Cornerstone Bank in Minot. Wentz has over 30 years of financial ser-

vices experience. He has been a member of the MSU Board of Regents since 2013.

In memory

It is with honor we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away from approximately January 2022 through September 2022 or as submitted.

Graduates

- '41 Melhouse (Bostrom), Edith; Champlin, Minn.
- '44 Steinberger (Salvey), Elizabeth; Minot
- '49 McDonnell (Lissaman), Donnalee; Aiken, S.C.
- '49 Paulson (Huff), Dolores; Mandan
- '50 Woznick, Lawrence; Lodi, Calif.
- '52 Barnes (Henriksen), MaryAnn; Seattle, Wash.
- '52 Laugtug (Elverud), Inez; Fargo
- '53 Pretzer, Wallace; Longville, Minn.
- '54 Hall (Juve), Harriet; Antioch, Calif.
- '54 Kottsick, Jean; Bismarck
- '54 Ziegler, John; Hankinson
- '56 DeGree (Schmitz), Evelyn; Minot
- '56 Romine, Rod; Minot
- '58 Dendinger, Richard; Saint Cloud, Minn.
- '58 Lemer (Senger), Jenny; Drake
- '58 Miinch (Tofte), Marlys; Sarasota Fla.
- '59 Broadfoot (Smith), Judith; Boissevain, MB
- '59 Dagner (Geigla), Eloise; New Braunfels, Texas
- '60 Burns, Alton; Saint Paul, Minn.
- '60 Klein, Joseph; Minot
- '61 Frazer, William; Aiken, S.C.
- '61 Lunde, Monte; Pahrump, Nev.
- '61 Olson (Phipps), Shirley; Bismarck
- '61 Opstad, Melford; Big Lake, Minn.
- '62 Erdmann (Botten), Jeanette; Brownsville,
- '64 Martin, Francis "Jim"; Underwood
- '65 Olson (Haugen), Jeanette; Devils Lake
- '65 Ross (Thorson), Judy; Minot
- '66 Hall, Wayne; Hawley, Minn.
- '66 Herdt, Robert; Saint John
- '66 Larson (Adam), Geraldine; Minot
- '67 Sheldon, Charles; Washburn
- '68 Lavik, H. Richard; Minot
- '68 Riersgard, Daryl; New Braunfels, Texas
- '69 Kaylor, Henry; Velva
- '69 McNea, Terence "Terry"; Hatton
- '69 Vik, Robert; Langdon
- '69 Witt-Torgerson, Patricia; Lambert, Mont.
- '71 Anderson, Larry; Des Lacs
- '71 Gadsby, William "Bill"; Winnipeg, Manitoba
- '71 Kling (Michel), Pearl; Kenmare
- '71 Sackman, Gleason; San Antonio, Texas
- '73 Knudsvig, Gene; Alamo
- '73 O'Brien (Goodman), Lana; Fairfield
- '73 McLaughlin (Teigen), Corienne; Minot
- '74 Boldt (Torgeson), Debra; Williston
- '74 Henning, Tom; Dickinson
- '75 Abrahamson, Keith; Bismarck
- '75 Oeder, Gregory; Devils Lake
- '75 Rude, Arthur; Dunseith
- '76 Anhorn, Richard; Minot
- '76 Broten, Curtis; Minot
- '76 Olson, Bruce; Minot
- '77 Fogel (Monson), Charlotte; Southlake, Texas
- '77 Nelson, Wilma; Bismarck
- '77 Sehn (Witteman), Kay; Bismarck
- '77 Thorleifson, Julie; Carver, Minn.
- '77 Wald (Mack), Theresa; Grand Forks
- '79 DeGree (Bohmbach), Jill; Foxholm
- '81 Becker (Robinson), Judith "Judy"; Le Mars, Iowa
- '81 Hickman, Darryl; Minot
- '81 McLain (Neumiller), Julie; Stanton
- '81 Taylor (Lentz), Deborah "Deb"; Minot
- '82 Bloms, Sandra "Sandy"; Waddell, Ariz.

- '83 Koppelman (Siemers), Judith; Queen Creek, Ariz.
- '84 Heinz, Joseph; Rapid City, S.D.
- '84 Osteroos (Faleide), Theresa; Burlington
- '86 de Mello (Bertolini), Gloria; Everett, Wash.
- '87 Elhard (Reardon), Della; Bismarck
- '87 Kowalski (Grosser), Mary; Devils Lake
- '89 Bean, Margaret; Vegreville, AB
- '89 Eliason-Jensen, Lucinda; Anchorage, Alaska
- '89 Schimmelpfenning (Opstedal), Ilene; Minot
- '90 Preiss (Clendenen), Doris; Amidon
- '90 Tlustosch (McLachlan), Val; Great Falls, Mont.
- '90 Zietz (Aberle), Serena; Minot
- '91 Olson, Donald; Minot
- '93 Stolba-Ritzke, Andrea: Moorhead, Minn.
- '94 Thompson, Mark; New Baden, Ill.
- '97 Widdel, Thomas; Minot
- '01 Atkinson, Lorilie; Grand Forks
- '04 Wanner (Vaught), Denice; Minot

Attended

Anderson, David; Ray

Anderson (Young), Leona; Billings, Mont.

Askew (Schultz), Loretta; Fargo

Bennett, James; Harvey

Boyle (Dunham), Nancy; Fargo

Breaux, Brianna; Metarie, La.

Bruns (White), Kerry; Minot

Butterfield (Bedickson), Ruth; Minot

Carlson (Berg), Ellen; Powers Lake

Convis, Charles; Grass Valley, Calif.

Dame, Charles; Fargo

Erdman (Berends), Marlene; Minot

Feist, "Andy" Andrew; Bismarck

Harp, Richard; Williston

Hatzenbihler, Nicholas; Washburn

Hotchkiss, Gordon; Altoona, Iowa

Hove, Leland; Gillette, Wyo.

Howell, Joseph; Detroit Lakes, Minn.

Hundley, Phillip; Minot Johnson, Joshua; Mohall

Johnson (Rabbithead), Lucy "Janie"; Parshall

Kabanuk Soltis (Chelgren), Florence; Fargo

Milburn, Betty; Phoenix, Ariz.

Miller (Meyer), Dorothy; Bismarck

Mjoen, Jeremy; Bismarck

Nelson, Bernard; Garrison

Nelson, Ronald; Minot

O'Brien (Rosencrans), Sherri; Billings, Mont.

Papineau (Long Brevik), Lois; Williston

Plummer, Wes; Minot Prom, Tony; Harvey

Reimers, Stanley; Fredericksburg, Va.

Rossland, Timothy; Williston

Rude Tveter, Myrna; Bismarck

Sampson (Erickson), Delores; Bismarck Schnetter (Liska), Lorraine; Mason City, Iowa

Smith, Harry "Dwight;" Pullman, Wash.

Speidel, Del; Hazen

Stolz, Loren; Harvey

Strate (Pretzer), Almira; Peoria, Ariz.

Striefel, Lora; Minneapolis, Minn.

Peterson, Mark; Bowbells

Pratt, Jessica; Minot

Talley, Basil; Glenburn Tonneson, Jon; Bottineau

Traxinger, Owen; Rock Springs, Wyo.

Young, Cory; Minot White (Bulat), Frances "Annie": Caldwell, Idaho Williams (Bevers), Ruth; Spokane, Wash. Wyman, Ronald; Bottineau Zander (Swanson), Eileen; Minot Zieman (Thompson), Shirley; Garrison

Friends

Aase, Duane; Minot

Bakken, Lyle; Sun City West, Ariz.

Batterberry, Norman; Garrison Beck, Kevin; Minot

Berning, Wallace; Minot

Blade, Richard; Minneapolis, Minn.

Bodine, Paul; Minot

Engh, Robert; Minot

Fink, Craig; Scottsdale, Ariz.

Frantsvog (Hoffer), Sandra "Sandy"; Minot Gruenberg (Naumann), Theresa (Terry);

Anchorage, Alaska

Hall (Lautenschlager), Genoveive "Gen";

Berthold

Halvorson, Galen; New Town

Hornbacher (Elefson), Ellen; Verona, Wis. Johnson (Huso), Oveda; Minot

Klein, Albert; Minot

Kramer (Freeman), Cynthia; Minot

Langhans, Vernon; Minot Lybeck, Gary; Eden Prairie, Minn.

Neshaim, Mark; Palermo

Nitsch, Mike; Bismarck

Peterson (Vedvig), Joyce; Carpio

Ross, Howard; Grenora

Schultz, Richard "Dick;" Minot

Sinn, John; Minot

Stewart (Hoffman), Susan; Minot

Roen-Kraft, Lucille; Minot

Striefel, Wendlin; Minot

Terrell, Clifford; Montgomery, Ala.

Torno, Delton; Minot Wohlk, Nathan; Ryder

Faculty and Staff Crabbe, Larry; retired staff in facilities;

Bismarck Donovan, Andrea; faculty in art; Minot Goldade, Raymond; retired staff in

facilities; Minot Frantsvog, Dean; faculty in the College

of Business; Minot Froeber, James; retired Student Center director; Edina, Minn.

Leslie (Olson), Sheryl "Sherry"; former faculty in nursing; Burlington

Mosser, Donald; retired staff in facilities; Sayre, Okla. Munneke, Russell; former faculty in music;

Media, Pa. Loeffelbein (Reiner), Carolyn; retired staff in food services; Helena, Mont.

Stavem, Howard; former staff; Minot Weber, Robert; former faculty in education; Fond Du Lac, Wis.

In the 2021-22 President's Report, the Old Main Society listing was incorrect. We apologize for this error. The correct listing (as of June 30, 2022) is below:

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The Old Main Society recognizes donors who have an exceptional lifetime of giving to the Minot State University Development Foundation. This prestigious group includes the most loyal and generous of Minot State University alumni and friends whose vision and leadership enables the University to empower generations.

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inot State University has provided us with wonderful experiences and memories. Involvement with the Board of Regents, Alumni Association, MSU Foundation, Beaver Boosters, and supporting Summer Theatre renovations and the MSU Dome and Herb Parker Stadium have been exciting to participate in and promote. We are watching our University grow.

Both of us are MSU graduates — Rich in business administration and Vicky in special education and elementary education. We made many lifelong friends and gained experiences from campus life. Rich was a member of the TKE Fraternity and Vicky was a member of the Beta Theta Sorority.

We enjoy attending MSU sporting events and Summer Theatre. As a way of giving back to MSU for the education and opportunities afforded to us, the Vicky and Rich Campbell Scholarship was established to benefit students pursuing degrees in business or special education.

We are proud supporters of Minot State University!

— Rich '72 and Vicky (Bonsness) '73 Campbell

