

Bismarck State College

Connections

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CELEBRATING



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On the corner of ...

If we learned anything researching and writing this special issue of *Connections*, it's that change is constant and necessary. In these (changed) pages you will read about BSC, the college on the corner of Schafer Street and College Drive. You'll read of our milestones and hear the voices of our leaders, students and legends. This issue celebrates the present and future, but it is the people of our past who set us up for the wonderful here and now – the first graduates of BJC in particular. For our 50th anniversary in 1988, the college brought back the class of 1941, and their sentiments are our sentiments.

We'll let longtime *Connections* editor Jordis Conrad's remembrance of our first alumni set the stage:

"For the 50th anniversary we brought the first class back ... They were just an exceptional group of people. Every last one of them was so appreciative of what BJC did back at that time and what it had done for them in their life. Many said 'I could not have gone to college if it hadn't been for BJC.' They were ever so grateful for leaders in the community and the state for what they did to get the college started."

And we are grateful for them. This issue is dedicated to the class of 1941.

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Then and now



"Most of us freshman were struck by the accessibility, teaching skills, and downright friendliness of our teachers."

I had always had an innate love of history, but the Colonel, as we all called him, channeled it into an academic mode. Though his lectures were less than charismatic, and his tests less than challenging, his after class office lectures beguiled us with his experiences in both peacetime and military combat not found in the textbooks.

About this time, thanks to the continuing generosity of "Mr. Bubble" and philanthropist extraordinaire Harold Schafer, our little campus community exploded from its cramped quarters on Boulevard to the new "cathedral of two-year learning" overlooking the Missouri.

I remember the grand opening of Schafer Hall and the throngs of proud Bismarckers touring their new BJC campus. We told them that the building would fulfill our needs for at least 20-25 years. Little did we know! We were blessed with new science and language labs, modern classrooms and a massive "Guthrie Jr." auditorium and full stage. Our more intimate dances could now be held in the bronze fire-placed student lounge, and what passed for athletics at that time had their own small locker room on the first floor. Life was good.

But, all good things must pass, and my tenure at BJC was ending. A concert on campus by the famous UND Varsity band impressed me, and I became even more impressed when they adopted me to sing with them as they took over the piano bar of Jerry's Supper Club one fine spring evening. UND, where I could become both singer and historian, was my choice, and the die was cast.

A few years later, while working my usual summer job in the paint department of the old Montgomery Ward store in downtown Bismarck, Dean Ralph Werner recognized me as a recent history major alum, and asked how things were going at UND. I told him I

entered the hallowed halls of old BJC in 1960 because the dear nuns at St. Mary's had seen me as a potential priest and first Irish Pope. As such, I was shoved towards St. John's in Collegeville, Minnesota, for which I, though academically prepared, was financially unprepared. My plan B was to sully the halls of a state university. The lateness of my UND paperwork made BJC a last moment choice, and one of the best decisions in my life.

Bismarck Junior College was founded by the far-sighted citizens of Bismarck as a community college in 1939. And, as a student body, we were a community, academically and socially. Our big dances and socials were held at the Bismarck Municipal Country Club, where the house band consisted of English teacher Cal Heine on piano and sociologist Ray Heid on bass. Many of the BSC faculty moonlighted at a variety of jobs from dance bands to farming. The student community was mostly from local or neighboring county high schools, with a sprinkling of back-to-school vets, older than average adults, a small minority of Native Americans, and unclassified masses.

Most of us freshman were struck by the accessibility, teaching skills, and downright friendliness of our teachers. My fondest memories as a student, and later as a colleague, were of "Lady Jane" Grey Smith. Having trod the actor's boards at St. Mary's, I soon became acting cannon fodder and indentured servant for this charismatic, demanding, charming and perfectionist 5'2" dynamo. I've never regretted a moment spent with her and miss her to this day.

While Lady Jane mentored my thespian life, what was to become my professional life at BSC was mentored by the gentlemanly old soldier and scholar Colonel (later Ph.D.) Wesley Wilson, graduate of West Point and WWII and Korean War veteran.

was completing my graduate program in history and teaching part time at a parochial high school. He responded, kiddingly I thought, "good for you, maybe you can replace the Colonel when he retires."

The next time we spoke, Dean Ralph Werner told me that my dear mentor had died suddenly and asked me to replace him. Once again, the good Colonel had influenced my life, by leaving his. So I broke my high school contract, loaded up my STP-burning Chevy with a new wife, rocking chair, and 12-inch GE black and white TV, and once again entered the hallowed halls of BJC, this time as a freshman instructor of History.

My first day of class, wearing my well-worn UND fraternity blazer, with six quickly written class preps in hand, I met my new boss, Dean Werner, in his unimposing office, where he introduced me to my new colleagues. Dressed identically in dark suits, white shirts, and bland ties (IBM dropouts?), I met my fellow historian and later dear friend Warren Henke, and business instructors "Easy Ed" Bollinger and Art Davis. After a short tour of a place I already knew, they took me to the Colonel's former office – now mine. His books, class notes, and office memorabilia were still in place. I wondered if I could ever, in any way, fill his larger-than-life shoes.

As the semester progressed (one lecture ahead of my students), I was reminded that we were a community college funded by the good citizens of Bismarck and "benignly" controlled by the elected Bismarck Public School Board. As such, I was expected to become a visible member of the community whose taxes paid my salary! So, I joined a church, became a Rotarian, joined the Elks and Elks Chorus, was on the board of the March of Dimes, and purchased locally.

The yearly gandy dance of salary and fringe negotiations were the most unpleasant part of being a community college. As faculty, we chose our own negotiators (not a popular job!) and joined the North Dakota Education Association for advice and intervention

in our salary conflicts. In some cases tempers flared, but diplomacy usually won out.

Among my best friends were the "vocies" who taught the blossoming technical education at BJC. I was always in awe of the discipline and skills they lovingly imparted to the students so important to our community workforce. My favorite testament to the vocational students' skills applied to the arts came when I found myself short of multi-skilled stage hands for Lady Jane's musical "Gigi." I contacted my Ag department friends who lent me students skilled in basic construction and allied fields. I ended up with a magnificent set, and they ended up appreciating the music, dancing and acting skills of the actors, especially the ladies! They later staged their own version of the musical, called "Gigli." It was one of the college's finest melding of Ag and the Arts.

This community college culture that had drawn me to BJC, nurtured me as a student, and given me my life's work would, in 1984, be challenged by the monumental transition of becoming a part of the Higher Education System of North Dakota. The transition process was far from seamless. I had the dubious distinction of helping write our new state-mandated Faculty Senate Constitution, presenting it for approval to the State Board, and then being elected the first president of the Faculty Senate. Implementing and fine tuning a hybrid constitution that first year, gave us all a new appreciation of the founding fathers. What looked good in committee and finally on paper proved our constitutional amendment process more than worthwhile!

That institution that popped out of the higher education egg could not retain all of the characteristics of the old BJC of 1939-1984, but I believe the old BJC could not have survived the incredible changes, technological and global, of the 21st century. As an historian, we tend to base our teaching on the inevitability of change, and how human society has attempted to adapt to past changes.

In the last few years I've thought a lot about why I have stayed the course here; as well as how and why the old community college culture that drew me in and nurtured me, as both student and professor, will survive in the brave new world of constant technological and global educational challenges.

Will the old-timer faculty that celebrated births and marriages, socialized as friends as much as colleagues, helped out and intervened in times of personal or family crisis, and buried their colleagues with love and the dignity accorded an educator, be able to adapt to the academic and technological realities of the present and future? Will we continue to find presidents of integrity, vision, and respect for our diverse student body? Can such diverse faculty, administration and staff adapt to the challenges of the future?

What better profession to record, interpret and explain those vast changes than that of an historian? Perhaps that's why this historian has had such a long career at the ever-evolving BSC. That, and above all, the love of both my real and technologically-assisted classroom and the students (customers doesn't do them justice) that inhabit it keep me here and keep me engaged.

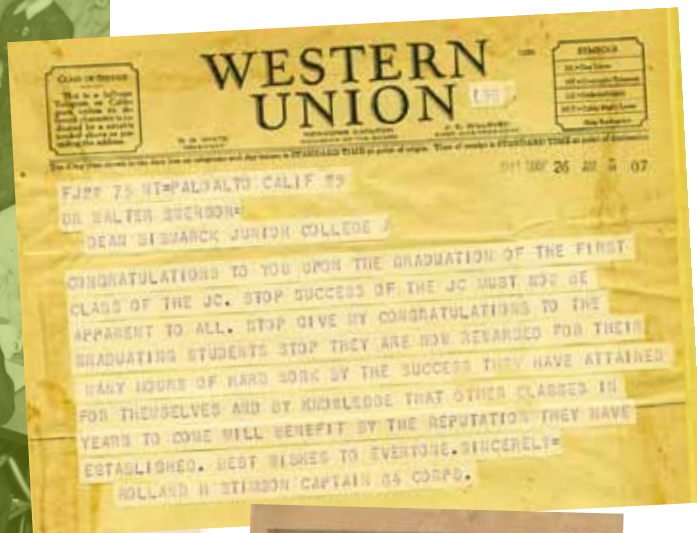
"... and above all, the love of both my real and technologically-assisted classroom and the students (customers doesn't do them justice) that inhabit it."

*J. Michael McCormack, '62,
is Professor of History at BSC
and in his 47th year of teaching
at the college.*

[Click here to read the full essay.](#)

THE BJC/BSC STORY

1939-1950



Letter to the editor
of The Bismarck Hi Herald Spring 1939

"Don't Let it Die"

I am a high school senior. Circumstances in my home will prevent me from obtaining the necessary funds to attend college this fall. Along with the fact that it is quite discouraging to hear my classmates talk about their future scholastic days in some college or university, I also realize that I cannot help but be handicapped in my future life by not going on with my education. I have worked hard and obtained a fine scholastic average. I have also been inquiring about obtaining work for the summer, which I hoped would enable me to save enough money in a couple of years to attend some college. However, it seems that the heavy hand of depression is still overshadowing our city of Bismarck as far as a job is concerned.

The first ray of hope I have had for some time has been this announcement that there may possibly be a junior college established in my own city. I know I could raise the tuition money necessary. With two years of study at an accredited junior college, you couldn't stop me from climbing up that ladder of success which seems awfully steep at the present time.

Citizens of Bismarck, don't let such a splendid idea die when such an idea is possible!

— Author Unknown



When this letter was written, Bismarck was, like the rest of the nation, in the grips of the Great Depression. We don't know who the author was, but he or she knew that a community college education could change the course of his/her life. Fortunately, the city leaders realized this as well and passed a bill establishing Bismarck Junior College in June 1939.

On September 4, 1939, 107 students – 74 general students and another 33 nursing students from the Bismarck Hospital School of Nursing – were present on the third floor of Bismarck High School on the morning that started it all.

The wind behind their ... pipes

BJC's greatest accomplishments were often family affairs and the Bagpipe Band was no exception. About 10 years ago, Beth Larson, band director Clarion Larson's widow, shared her remembrances of the band with alumna and former adjunct instructor, Virginia George. Established as a women's group originally, the Bagpipe Band became co-ed early on:

"Clarion was training the [women] on the pipes, but he was having problems. Pipes are not easy to play because you have to be able to keep the bag full of wind all the time. Finally, several [men] were recruited and the sound came to full strength."

"There is no way you can play a bagpipe secretly! Clarion used to practice in the alley next to the house after dark."
– Beth Larson

Unlikely band beloved, long lasting

One of BSC's most memorable and unique activities – The Bagpipe Band – was born from an offhand comment by a music teacher. After WWII, some Bismarck High School (BHS) and Bismarck Junior College faculty were talking in the boardroom at BHS about how to offer something for girls. Clarion Larson had heard a story about a women's bagpipe band at the University of Iowa. Dean Sidney J. Lee embraced the idea with great enthusiasm not shared by Larson, who nonetheless became the founder and first director of the BJC Bagpipe Band in 1948. His first charge was to purchase pipes, drums, uniforms and music.

Larson wrote the U-Iowa band director for advice and received some music back and the address of a pipe maker in England. Pipes were ordered at \$150 each plus import duty. Larson then set out to learn an instrument he knew nothing about. He contacted a man in eastern North Dakota he heard was a piper. They met, Larson felt better, and he began practicing as uniform jackets, caps, knee-length socks and sporrans (purses) began to arrive.

The Buchanan clan tartan was chosen for the kilts and the wool ordered from Winnipeg, Manitoba. Clarion's wife, Beth, took on the job of sewing 15 kilts over the fall and early winter, while her husband began training the girls. Larson later had to recruit some stronger male students to get the sound up to full strength. The BJC Bagpipe Band was an immediate success, performing for local parades, athletic events and conventions. They took part in celebrations in Minot, Jamestown and other towns, represented North Dakota at the World's Fair in Seattle, marched in the Minneapolis Aquatennial Parade, attended the Highland Games in Moose Jaw, Canada, and performed at halftime for a University of North Dakota football game.

Their program was embellished with Scottish dancers after Larson found a local woman who knew the Highland fling. Other directors were Harold Kepler, Erv Ely and George Anderson. The activity ended in the 1970s when BJC decided to refocus resources and musical talent to form a concert band directed by Erv Ely.



First Hobo Days

1948

Bagpipe Band
started

1948

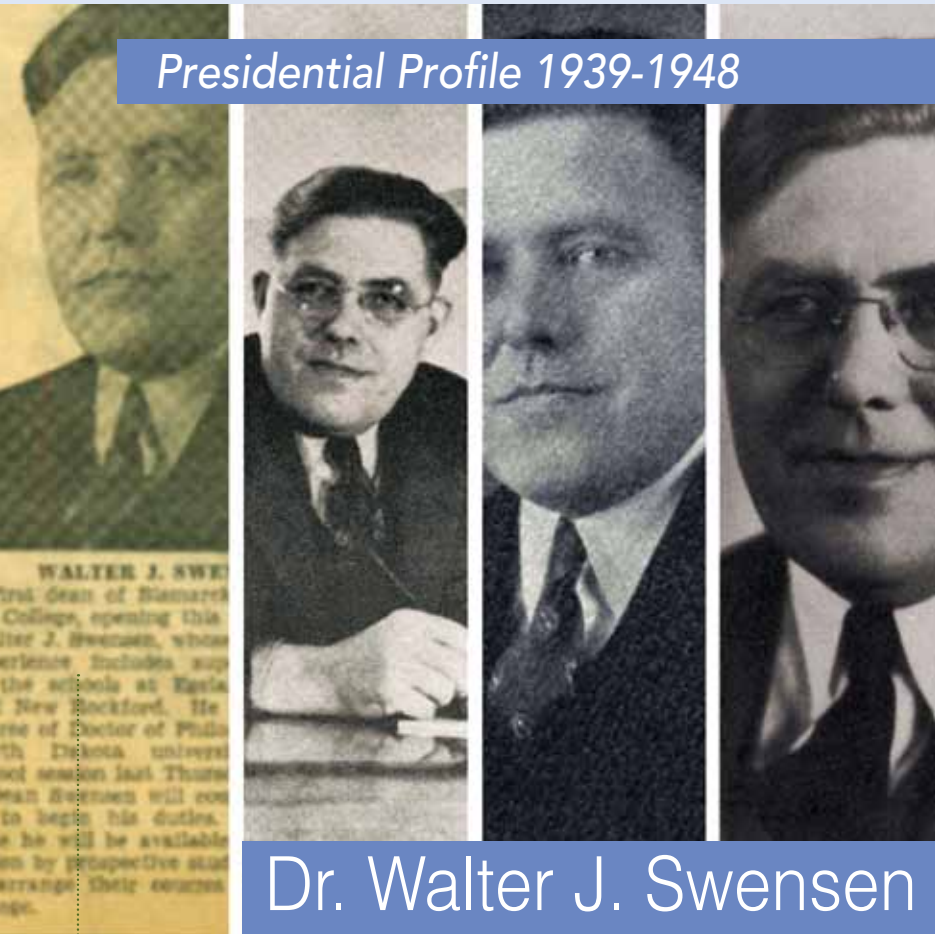
BJC officially becomes part
of Bismarck Public Schools

1949

For more photos and stories, visit bismarckstate.edu.

In fall of 1945, very few veterans had come back yet. [We had] about 78 students so we had very small classes. A typical class was eight or nine students. I had a class at 7:30 a.m. called Economic Geography from Dean Swensen. There were three of us in the class and we met in his office. You either came prepared or you didn't show up. And you'd need a pretty good reason to not be there! – Myron Atkinson, '47

Presidential Profile 1939-1948



Dr. Walter J. Swensen

Bismarck Junior College's first leader, Dean Walter J. Swensen, is described by alumnus Myron Atkinson, '47, as a "scholarly individual" and remembered as a "nuts and bolts guy" who quietly inspired students.

A professor of economics, psychology and history (among other subjects), Swensen was not an outgoing person, but was an inspiring instructor, "so much so that I made up my mind to be an economics professor," Atkinson said.

"[I]n a one-on-one situation he could really get to you and raise your hopes. And, it was a time in my life where I needed a little bit of that. That was his nature," he continued.

Swensen earned his bachelor's degree from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and his master's and doctorate from the University of North Dakota. Recognized nationally for his work in education and psychology, personal papers donated by his family in 2010 illustrate his studiousness and his dedication to his role.

The bound book – part record, part personal journal – includes minutes of early BJC board meetings, lists of faculty and students, class schedules, events, photographs, programs, news clippings, cards of congratulations from the governor and officials of the time, and a 1944-45 college catalog.

The papers depict a very different time and a more intimately connected faculty, noting not only the addresses and educational background of the early faculty, but also their marital status and the church they attended.

Swensen saw the college through early, very limited budgets and rapid enrollment growth with 107 students in the first class and 216 in the fall of 1947.

Swensen left BJC in 1948 to become the state director of mental hygiene, a division of the North Dakota Department of Health. He died January 15, 1956 at the age of 59. He is remembered at BSC today in the women's residence hall, Swensen Hall, and through a perpetual scholarship established in his honor in 1986.

I didn't go to college for the first couple years out of high school. Then I worked at the bank while going to BJC. At age 29 I was elected president of a small bank, and for the next 35 years served as a bank president. I credit BJC for my two-year associate degree. That's all I had and I did pretty well with what I picked up at BJC. I've always been proud of it. – Bert Gerhardt, '61

THE BJC/BSC STORY

1951-1960

THE FREEDOM SHRINE

The Freedom Shrine was given to the college by the Bismarck Exchange Club in 1956. The documents depict historic moments in the country's heritage from 1776 to the present time. Included are copies of the Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, Francis Scott Key's "Star Spangled Banner," and the Gettysburg address by Lincoln in his own handwriting. Today the documents hang in the hallway of the BSC Library.

followed and finished the instruction in three months. In each class of 10 pilots, Civil Aeronautics Administration regulations allowed one woman to participate.

Returning WWII veterans without high school diplomas had a chance for college when BJC began offering pre-college courses – the only school in North Dakota to do so, the Mystician reported in March 1948. Students who completed the course received an equivalency diploma from the state Department of Public Instruction and could apply for college admission. That fall, veterans who graduated from high school in 1946, swelled regular enrollment to more than 300, aided by passage of the G.I. Bill in June 1944.

An active Veterans Club formed early and continued until the early 1960s. Korean veterans organized in 1952, and in 1951 the Military Wives Club organized to host social events. The 1957 yearbook, the Jay-Cee-An, showed 29 members of the Veterans Club. The 1958 Jay-Cee-An pictured 17 veterans with advisor Herbert Schimmelpfennig and the caption: "Occasionally something of value is derived from war. An example of this at BJC is the Vet's Club, organized by and for the former GIs." The club was credited over the years for solving the parking problem on campus and contributing to Hobo Daze festivities during homecoming. In the mid-1950s, many veterans were playing on BJC's football team. Several

► Military minded through war and peace

Veterans and military education have always been part of BSC. The college was military-minded when it opened its doors in 1939 at the start of WWII. The 1941 yearbook, *The Markota*, said BJC was among a few schools nationwide with a federal program to give men and women opportunity to receive basic air training at little cost. The School of Aviation offered courses in practical air navigation at BJC until 1945.

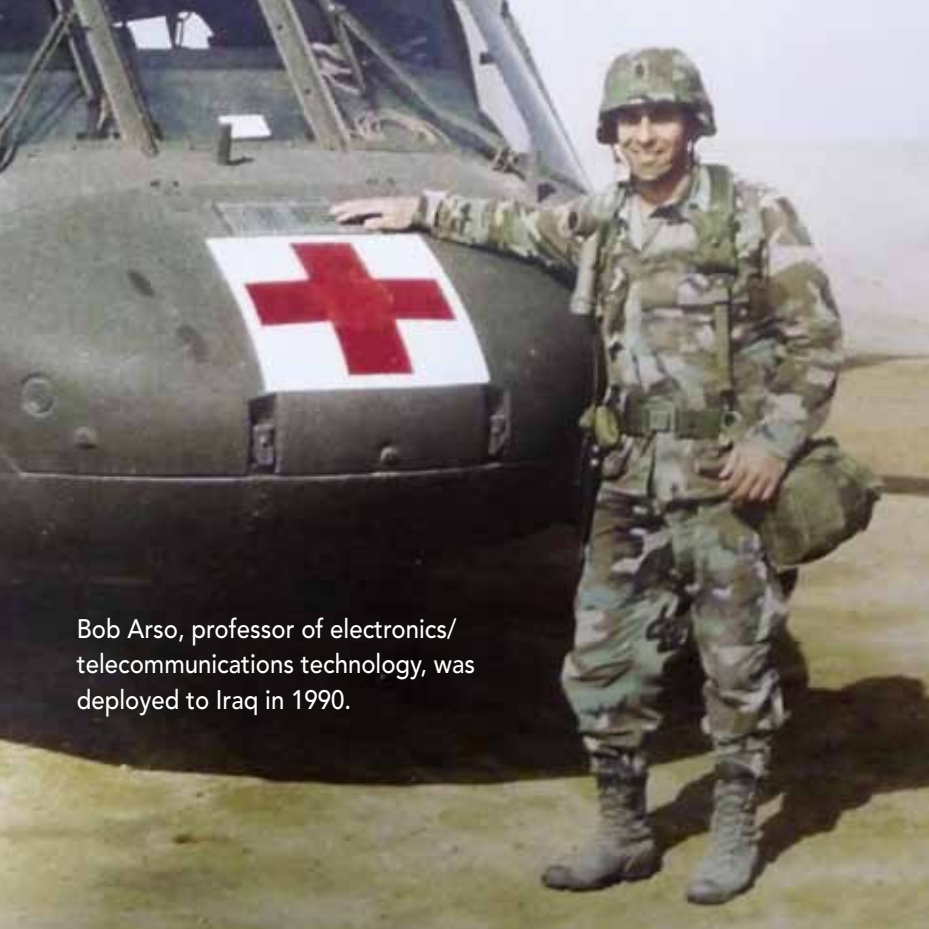
The first class of 10 men went up in a two-seat, Taylorcraft trainer plane. They completed training between October 1939 and May 1940 from Bismarck Airport flight instructors Vince Cavasino and Harry Potter and ground school instructor Charles Hook. A class of 15 fliers

V
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Back row: B. Schwartz, R. Anderson, S. Jablonsky, R. Kupper, N. Agrey, Jack McGrory, R. Hoffman, D. Yantzer, R. Beardsley, Mr. Schimmelpfennig.
Front row: L. Massa, J. Gilbraith, J. Dunn, L. Grosebauer, J. Bittis, M. Weisenberger, D. Peterson, E. Weber.

The 1958 Jay-Cee-An pictured the 17 members of the Veterans Club with advisor Herbert Schimmelpfennig.



Bob Arso, professor of electronics/telecommunications technology, was deployed to Iraq in 1990.

offered to show classes how people lived under Communism, arriving on campus in full combat uniform and carrying weapons to demonstrate.

By 1968, campus talk about the Vietnam War reflected the national conversation of a generation questioning the draft and duty to serve. The Mystician reported no sit-ins, riots or demonstrations at the Burleigh County Selective Service board, but anti-war sentiments circulated among students. A small Mystician (student newspaper) survey found opinions of resignation and "let's get it over with" to opposition of the war. Two male students organized The Draft Forum, a research and action group to find draft alternatives, start a movement to end the draft and act against conscription within a legal context. On Dec. 1, 1969, the December draft lottery drawing took place at BJC.

"BJC's most immediate contribution to the war effort is the CPT elementary course. BJC is doing its part to Keep 'em Flying." – 1942 Markota (the yearbook)

BSC remained supportive of the military over the years, establishing an official office of Veterans Services, sharing the Armory with the National Guard from 1962 until 1988 when the building was transferred to BSC's ownership and supporting staff and students called to serve their country.

Bob Arso, professor of electronics/telecommunications technology, was deployed to Iraq in 1990 as part of the federal mobilization of 200,000 National Guard and Army Reserve units to support a coalition for Operation Desert Shield, also known as the first Gulf War.

In October 1990, Arso received a call an hour before one of his classes was to begin. As a senior officer, his activation was immediate and he was required to report to the National Guard Armory without delay. "BSC was great about it," he said. An adjunct was hired to cover his classes on a temporary

basis, and he remembers administration reassuring him that everything he needed was covered. Arso's unit, the 818th Medical Battalion, included one of his students at the time. Both of them returned to BSC the next fall.

"That war ended as fast as it started and I was home by May," Arso said.

In 2007, BSC President Larry C. Skogen, a retired Air Force officer, began initiating talks with branches of the U.S. military about BSC providing online classes and degrees to service members. His first success was announced with Gov. John Hoeven in November 2008: BSC would provide general education classes to Airmen through the Community College of the Air Force, one of three partnering schools to pilot the program with the CCAF. Agreements with the Navy and Army to deliver energy and criminal justice programs were negotiated in 2009, the year BSC established its Military Affairs office. Contracts followed with the Coast Guard in 2010 and Marine Corps in 2011. BSC military offerings now total nine energy programs and 10 technical programs.



1940s BJC flight training

It was my opportunity to go to college. It was the first year at the Highway building. Wonderful spot because it was new, small enough, [and I] knew everyone. It was like one big family. You were known by all teachers. Sometimes that wasn't so good because if you wanted to skip a class, they'd just come and find you.

– Irene Tschider, '57



"Jet Propulsion" Style Review

1954

Moved to Boulevard Ave. location

1955

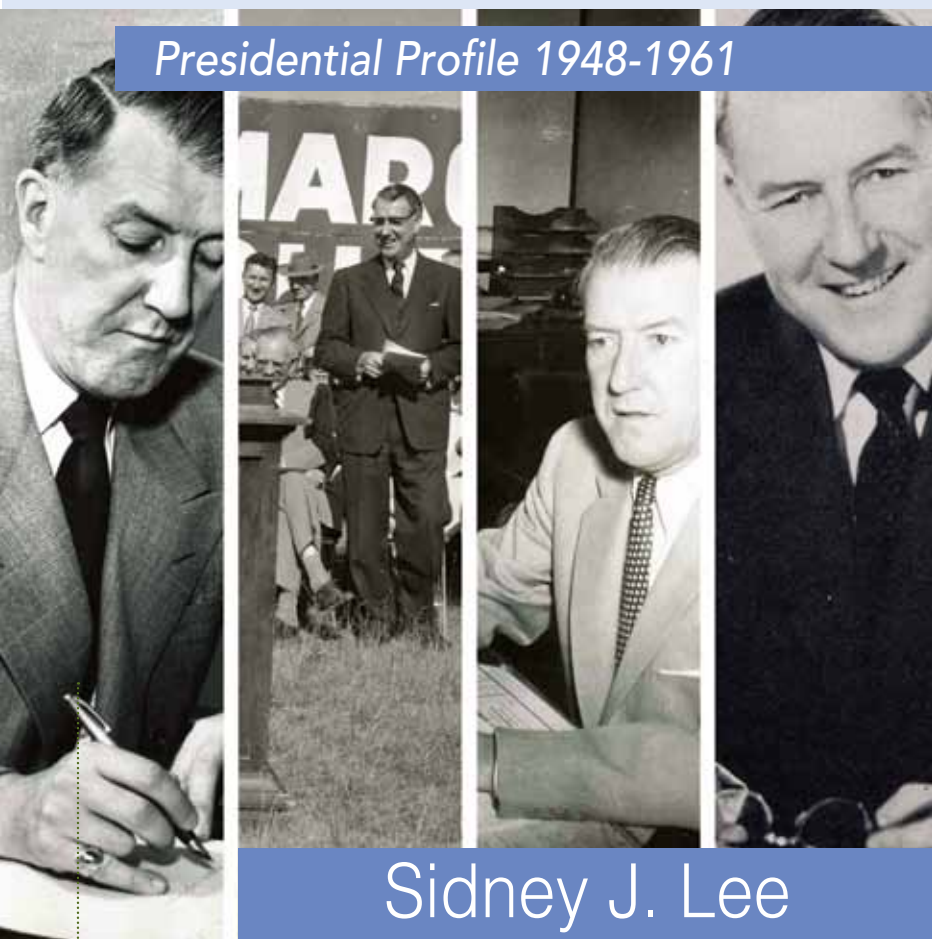
First Homecoming

1959

For more photos and stories, visit bismarckstate.edu.

We were the only college with a state capitol building on its campus! We had only one teacher in each department and the entire full-time faculty would meet in Dean Sidney Lee's office. I was coach of the football team in 1956. We drew some government frowns when we set up practice football goalposts on the capitol grounds. – Paul Swanson, former BSC football coach and math instructor

Presidential Profile 1948-1961



Sidney J. Lee

Remembered for his approachability and support for the arts, Dean Sidney J. Lee led the college from 1948 to 1961. During his tenure, the college moved from the third floor of Bismarck High School to its own building near the Capitol in 1955, and then to the present location in 1961. Like Dean Swensen before him, he faced funding challenges.

“He had enthusiasm, but had the same problem as Dean Swensen. You didn’t get much money from the Bismarck School Board to run Bismarck Junior College,” said Myron Atkinson, ’47.

With a tuition-only funding model, Lee was innovative in his funding efforts. One year, he organized a Christmas tree sale in order to make payroll.

“He was ferocious,” former president Kermit Lidstrom said. “You couldn’t turn him down. I’m

sure there were times the college would have disappeared without his energy and focus.”

Retired BSC librarian Lois Engler appreciated Lee’s ability to raise funds, but not all of the choices he made for using the funds – particularly when it came to library acquisitions. “He would use some of my money to buy some esoteric thing like a book on English gardens. Well, we didn’t need a book on English gardens.”

His choices might not have been universally embraced, but they were both bold and lasting. It was Lee’s idea to establish a bagpipe band even though the band director at the time, Clarion Larson, didn’t know how to play the pipes. The band garnered national attention for BJC during its 20-year run.

Lee also established the music department and the Young Artist Series designed to bring promising young musical talent to Bismarck. The Sidney J. Lee Auditorium was dedicated in 1962 during an intermission of a Young Artist Series concert. The guest performer was the Lees’ daughter-in-law, pianist Patricia Taylor.

Alumnus Ev Miller’s first wife, Laura, worked for the dean, whom he remembers as a “wonderful man.” Miller said Lee was particularly supportive when he and his wife adopted their first child. “His only son was adopted and so he was enthusiastic about it. He wrote letters and made phone calls for Laura and me. The day we picked up our oldest daughter, that day we heard on the radio that he’d died of a massive heart attack.”

Lee earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Valley City State College in 1929, and a master’s degree in 1934 from the University of Washington, Seattle. He did further graduate study at Harvard and taught high school in Williston and Bismarck. Lee died on August 28, 1961, at the age of 56.

In addition to the Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, a BSC Foundation scholarship was established in his honor in 1962.

I thought BJC was the place to start. I had a job when I got there and I worked all the time. I had a great opportunity to go to school, make money and not be in debt because I knew I had a long way to go. – Morris Tschider, ’52

Building BSC



Building projects 1961-2010

- 1961 Schafer Hall
- 1965 Werner Hall
- 1968 Library
- 1972 Swensen Hall
- 1974 Technical Center
- 1974 Student Union
- 1979 Mystic Hall
- 1997 Bismarck Community Bowl
- 1998 Jack Science Center
- 2001 Leach Music Center
- 2007 BSC Mandan Campus
- 2008 National Energy Center of Excellence
- 2008 Lidstrom Hall
- 2010 BSC Aquatic & Wellness Center
- 2010 Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy



1961-1970



► Community outreach from the community college

Since community colleges were established more than 100 years ago, they have focused not only on providing a traditional college education, but also serving as a source for lifelong learning. Bismarck State College is no exception.

For-credit classes were always available to non-traditional students, but in 1974 BSC established the office of Community Services, cementing the college's role as an accessible educational resource for the entire community. Those early offerings were focused on community courses and one day seminars. The 1977 catalog included Beginning Golf, Yoga, Know Your Sound System and Genealogy, as well as Auto Tune-up, Meat Cutting Fundamentals, Macramé, a Visiting Scholars Series and Programs for Women Series.

In 1979, Jennifer Gladden became the director of community services and offerings expanded to include several seminars annually, as well as workforce development courses such as Certified Nursing Aid, Welding certifications, and Commercial Driver's License.

"Our workforce training and professional development offerings meet vital needs for area businesses and professionals, but our focus on lifelong learning goes beyond those things. As a community college, BSC helps people explore how arts and leisure and changing technology affect their lives." – Carla Hixson, associate VP for Continuing Education, Training and Innovation

In 1980, Community Services helped BSC's Power Plant Technology and Process Plant Technology instructors coordinate the Energy Generation Conference, which had expanded from an event for students to a full-fledged conference for energy employees and vendors. Today, the EGC is one of the conferences managed annually by the department and draws 2,000 energy workers and 250 manufacturers and service providers from across the United States to Bismarck each year.

Other annual events also became community traditions. In 1992, the first "College for Kids" program geared towards 9- to 12-year-olds was established. Program offerings included carpentry, computers, volcanoes and forensic science for more than 100 school-age children each summer.

At the other end of the lifelong learning spectrum, BSC partners with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute of the University of North Dakota (OLLI@UND) to offer classes and experiences to people age 50 and better. Extremely popular, those quarterly classes bring in hundreds of participants for classes ranging from the history of rock-and-roll to a geo-political look at mineral resources.

In 1996, as part of a State Board for Vocational and Technical Education grant, Community Services began offering contract training to businesses. That effort expanded in 1999 when the North Dakota Legislature established TrainND. Today, as a TrainND partner, BSC annually offers and coordinates training, professional development and apprenticeships to 300 businesses and 8,000 workers in the southwest part of the state.

In 2002, the North Dakota Occupational Safety and Health Consultation program moved from the North Dakota Department of Health to BSC Continuing Education. About that time, the department also became the incubation center for BSC's online energy programs.

The online programs began with the Electrical Power Technology Program (ELPW) in 2001, followed by the Power Plant Technology and Process Plant Technology programs. By the fall of 2003, thanks to grant funding from the National Science Foundation, Electrical Transmission Systems Technology and Nuclear Power Technology were added. In 2007, with the national designation from the US Department of Energy as a National Power Plant Operations Technology and Education Center, the energy programs became their own department.

In 2007, the department was renamed Continuing Education, Training and Innovation to better reflect its offerings as well as its newly established Office of Innovation. The Office of Innovation provides BSC employees with the tools and opportunities necessary to be innovative in their daily work. Programs include the Wild Endeavors program which funds employee-driven innovative projects on campus.

"I would much rather be in a position in which we are doing the innovations that other folks in the country are interested in, rather than running around trying to figure out how to catch up. I am so proud of the people at Bismarck State and the way they've picked up on the challenge of being innovative and creative." – Larry C. Skogen



The new building, completed in 1961 for \$1 million, was three stories and designed to hold all college classes and activities within roughly 56,000 square feet. This first structure on Schafer Heights was called the "main" building as others were built. Eventually, the structure was named the Harold Schafer Academic Center and finally Schafer Hall.



▶ Harold Schafer donates land for new BSC campus site

BJC moved from the 3rd floor of Bismarck High to 900 Boulevard Avenue on the state capitol grounds in 1955. A local initiative by the Bismarck Chamber of Commerce had resulted in the Legislature approving the sale of 15 acres for \$6,000 to give BJC this new building. A local mill levy funded construction but, after four years, both the college and state government needed more space, and BJC once again sought a new campus site.

In 1959, the future home of Bismarck Junior College was open prairie atop a high bank overlooking the Missouri River. Local entrepreneur and businessman, Harold Schafer, had a barn there for his horses, which grazed the windy, rolling sweep of pasture and farmland. Schafer heard about the need to expand Bismarck's growing community college and donated 70 acres that year for a campus.

On May 19, 1960, Schafer turned the first shovelful of dirt on what was called Schafer Heights. He and BJC Dean Sidney J. Lee spoke at the groundbreaking ceremony, where a large number of seated spectators formed a backdrop behind the podium flanked by a large American flag. Among the attendees was Gov. John E. Davis.

The story is that Harold met a man about the time his oldest girl was in high school. The man said, 'I guess your daughter will go anywhere she wants to, but my daughter will go to the new college they're going to build by the penitentiary.' Harold thought, 'well that doesn't seem like a very good place to have the college.' So he went to the dean and said, 'I've got some better land than that.' And he gave them every bit of land he had up there.

– Sheila Schafer, '10



Sidney J. Lee dies,
Werner named dean

1961

Werner Hall built

1965

Library completed

1968

For more photos and stories, visit bismarckstate.edu.

Original score for BSC written by Jaki Byard.

THE BJC/BSC STORY

1971-1980

The Jazz Celebration ran for 22 years with as many as seven top musicians performing on stage together. Some made repeat visits, such as Alan Dawson (drums), Larry Ridley (bass), Herb Ellis (guitar), and Chuck Florence (saxophone). Jaki Byard sustained the celebration by returning every year.

By 1990, the instrumental focus began to include vocal jazz, which was becoming popular and had become part of BSC's Music program. For a few years, two Jazz Celebrations were held for vocal and instrumental. The Jazz Celebration ended due to several changes. Funding began to dry up, Erv Ely retired and Anderson left administration to teach.



► Jazzfest warmed North Dakota winters

Bismarck State College gained national notice in jazz publications between 1975 and 1996 for bringing some of the country's best jazz musicians and vocalists to its annual Jazz Celebration. Downbeat, Billboard and Cadence magazines wrote about such major artists as Jaki Byard (piano), Dizzy Gillespie (trumpet), Doc Cheatham (trumpet), Phil Woods (saxophone) and others, who came to Bismarck to play the deep winter concerts and music education events.

The celebrations started as part of the Visiting Scholars Series administered by Dr. Lloyd Anderson, director of community services. His office handled the series scholar selection, funding and traveling arrangements. A music fan since childhood, Anderson scheduled Jaki Byard for the series in 1975 and legendary trumpeter Clark Terry in 1976. By then, he and BJC band director Erv Ely were planning an annual jazz festival of guest artists and the BJC Jazz Ensemble, so students could learn from them.

Series funding came from a Title III grant. Anderson obtained more funds from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1980 and later from the BJC Foundation. Grant support was successful, Anderson said, because of the residency format.

"We were doing something different — bringing jazz to the public in outlying towns, schools, nursing homes and college classrooms," Anderson said in a taped interview. "We didn't just bring musicians for a concert. They stayed three or four days and would play at different venues, open forums, and master classes. There were jazz clinics, discussions, lectures, rap sessions, but focus was always on the music."



BSC music student Rex Waddingham with Clark Terry.



Jaki Byard teaching from the piano in the music classroom.

... you could even smoke in your office when I started. Eddie Agre was dean of students when I started ... and smoked a cigar occasionally in his office. As soon as he'd leave, his secretary would be in there with an air freshener, chasing him down the hall with it.

— Linda Fossum, '93, BSC payroll accountant

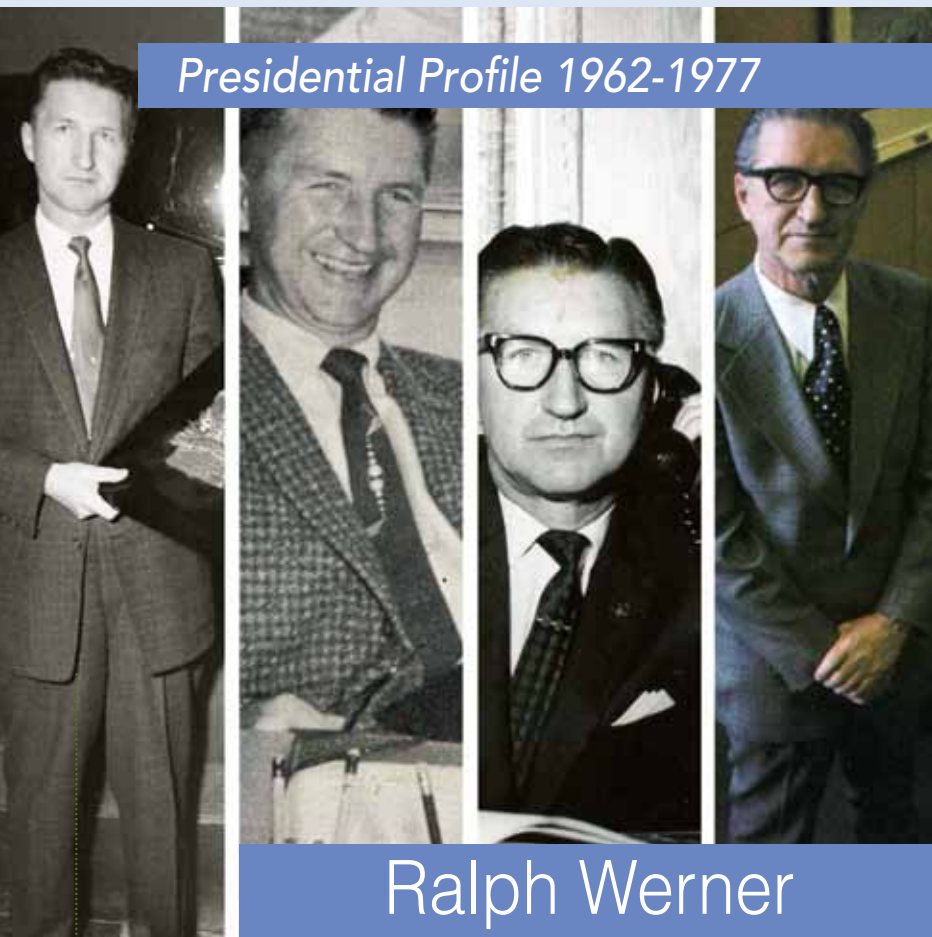
Visiting Scholars Series

The Visiting Scholars Series has a long history. The 1970s were particularly rich with presentations by scholars in science and other academic disciplines, musicians and authors – many of them from outside the state and of national renown. Most of the funding came from a Title III grant. A partial listing:

- 1967..... Gov. George Romney, possible presidential candidate
- 1970..... Dr. Otto Strasser, author and founder of the National Socialist Party in Germany after WWI, and one of the leaders of the Nazi movement who defected from Hitler in early 1930s to create The Black Front counter movement
- 1975..... Jaki Byard, jazz pianist and recording artist
- 1976..... Clark Terry, jazz trumpet player
- 1976-77 Susan Brownmiller, author of “Against Our Will: Men Women and Rape”
Era Bell Thompson, editor of Ebony magazine
Gordon Weiss, Broadway actor/mime and 1969 BJC graduate

- 1977-78 Dr. Benjamin Spock
Gen. William Westmoreland
- 1978-79 James Doohan, actor who played Scottie on “Star Trek”
Col. James Irwin, U.S. astronaut on Apollo 15
Dr. J. Allen Hynek, astronomer investigating UFOs and IFOs
- 1979-80 Thomas McGrath, poet and educator
Jean Michael Cousteau, oceanographer and son of Jacques Cousteau
Larry Woiwode, novelist
- 1984..... John Dean, former counsel to President Richard Nixon

Presidential Profile 1962-1977



Ralph Werner

Ralph Werner, third dean and first president of BSC, began his career at Velva High School in 1937. Hired by the Bismarck Public Schools in 1941, he taught business classes at the high school and college level, joining the U.S. Air Force in 1943. He became registrar in 1946 and continued teaching. In 1948, he was named business manager, assistant to the dean in 1958, acting dean in 1961, and dean the following year. The title was changed to president in 1967.

Extraordinarily well liked, Werner grew the college in budget, buildings and students. He successfully lobbied the state Legislature for funding and succeeded in landing a 10-mill levy from the city to support the college. Increasing the budget through state and city contributions substantially expanded BJC. During his tenure, BJC grew from one to six buildings and increased by more than 1,500 students.

Noted for his sense of humor, those who knew him also appreciated his warmth. Former librarian, Lois Engler, called him a humanitarian.

“Ralph Werner, without a doubt, was my very favorite. He was so good to everybody and, with his sense of humor, if there was a problem he was always able to get it straightened out.”

He was active in the community college movement nationally but always focused on the campus and individuals. Longtime BSC employee, Linda Fossum, remembers he was always ready with advice or a funny comment. “He told me once ‘if you’re walking in the hallway, at least have a pencil in your hand. People will think you’re working.’”

“I don’t think anyone has been more loved than he was – just a wonderful fellow; well-liked by everybody,” Carolyn Twingley, ’68, said.

Werner retired in 1977 after 36 years with BSC. In 1979, he received the BSC Distinguished Service Citation. The citation reads, “During his 16-year tenure as president of the college, Ralph Werner guided the institution to a position of stability and prominence among North Dakota’s Colleges.”

The Bismarck State College Foundation established a scholarship in his honor in 1979, and Werner Hall was named for him in 1989. Werner died March 15, 2009, at the age of 97.



Swensen Hall opens

1972

Student Union opens

1974

Technical Center opens

1974

For more photos and stories, visit bismarckstate.edu.

Celebrating 75 years all year long



- 9/15Faculty Recital, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 9/23-10/25BSC Alumni Art Exhibit
Gannon Gallery, BSC Library
- 10/16-20.....Fall Play, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium,
7:30 p.m. (2:30 p.m. Sunday)
- 11/5-7.....JFK Symposium
- 11/9Monster Concert, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- 11/7Baroque Concert, Leach Music Center Room 177, Noon
- 11/14.....Wind Ensemble Concert, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 11/16.....ChoirFest Concert, TBA, 3 p.m.
- 11/19.....Chamber Concert, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 11/26.....Jazz Concert, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 12/11-15.....Winter Play, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. (2:30 p.m. Sunday)

- 12/10 & 12Juries, Leach Music Center Room 177, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 12/17Annual Holiday Concert, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 1/9-11.....All-State Auditions
- 1/2375 Years Documentary Premiere, BSC NECE, Bavendick Stateroom, 7:30 p.m.
- 2/20Jazz Celebration, BSC NECE, Bavendick Stateroom, 7 p.m.
- April.....ArtsQuest events all month
- 4/2-6.....Spring Musical, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. (2:30 p.m. Sunday)
- 4/8Collage Concert with Figments Readings, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 4/14Wind Ensemble Concert, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 4/15Concert Choir Concert, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 4/23Recognition Ceremony, BSC NECE, Bavendick Stateroom, 7 p.m.
- 4/24Chamber Concert with Figments Artwork, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 4/25Chris Brubeck – Triple Play, TBA, 7:30 p.m.
- 4/27Student Recitals, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 3 p.m.
- 4/29Guitar and Percussion Concert, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 5/2Jazz Concert, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 5/3Sing Appeal, TBA, 7:30 p.m.
- 5/7-8.....One Act Plays, Sidney J. Lee Auditorium, 3:30 and 7:30 p.m.
- 5/6 & 8Juries, Leach Music Center, Room 177, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 5/12Rhythm Factory Experience, Leach Music Center Room, 177, All day
- 5/15BSC Alumni Awards, TBA
- 5/16Commencement, Bismarck Civic Center, 2:30 p.m.
- 8/23BSC Celebration/All School Reunion
- 9/4BSC is 75 years strong!

Check out more BSC
events at bismarckstate.edu/events.

THE BJC/BSC STORY

1981-1990



► BSC goes big on beautification

In the 1980s, a strong focus on beautification pervaded BSC. Projects included parking lot and landscape development, sidewalks, handicapped access, outdoor lighting, and permanent outdoor benches in some areas. Two BJC employees had special interest in beautifying the treeless prairie campus.

Herb Schimmelpfennig, assistant to President Kermit Lidstrom, retired in 1987 after 30 years of teaching and holding nearly every administrative job at the college. He spearheaded the early planting of trees and organized BJC's Arbor Day additions. Among his completed dreams was the winding row of Linden trees along Edwards Avenue.

The bare landscape also bothered Engineering professor Mike Wickstrom '53, a man of the land who farmed during his first nine years at BJC and loved trees. He was at the forefront of great change in the late 1970s and 1980s when the college developed its master plan and extended the campus beyond Schafer Heights. Wickstrom advanced such projects as completing the Student Union and was in charge of developing the Bismarck Community Bowl. As consulting engineer in 1978, he planned the field layout, earthwork, drainage and sprinkler systems and scoreboard. This preliminary work helped forge financial and management partnerships between BJC, the City of Bismarck, Bismarck Public Schools and Bismarck Parks & Recreation to complete the Community Bowl in 1997.

In the early 1980s, Wickstrom led efforts to green the campus after requests to the school district's maintenance department failed to produce any plantings. His group talked to architects working on campus buildings and offered to save money by having volunteers do the landscaping. Wickstrom obtained \$1,500 from service clubs and a \$1,500 college match to buy trees he negotiated for half price at a nursery. Faculty and business people spent a Saturday planting about 100 spruce and deciduous trees and shrubs.

"Before, it was prairie. Trees made the college so much more complete. I'm a farmer at heart and having just buildings wasn't enough," he said in a 2004 *Connections* interview.

There's a legacy that keeps going between presidents. Kermit was into campus signage and beautification, the Foundation and Alumni Association. Donna was really into distance learning and nursing which took us to another level; and now Larry with the military and partnerships – it just goes on and on.

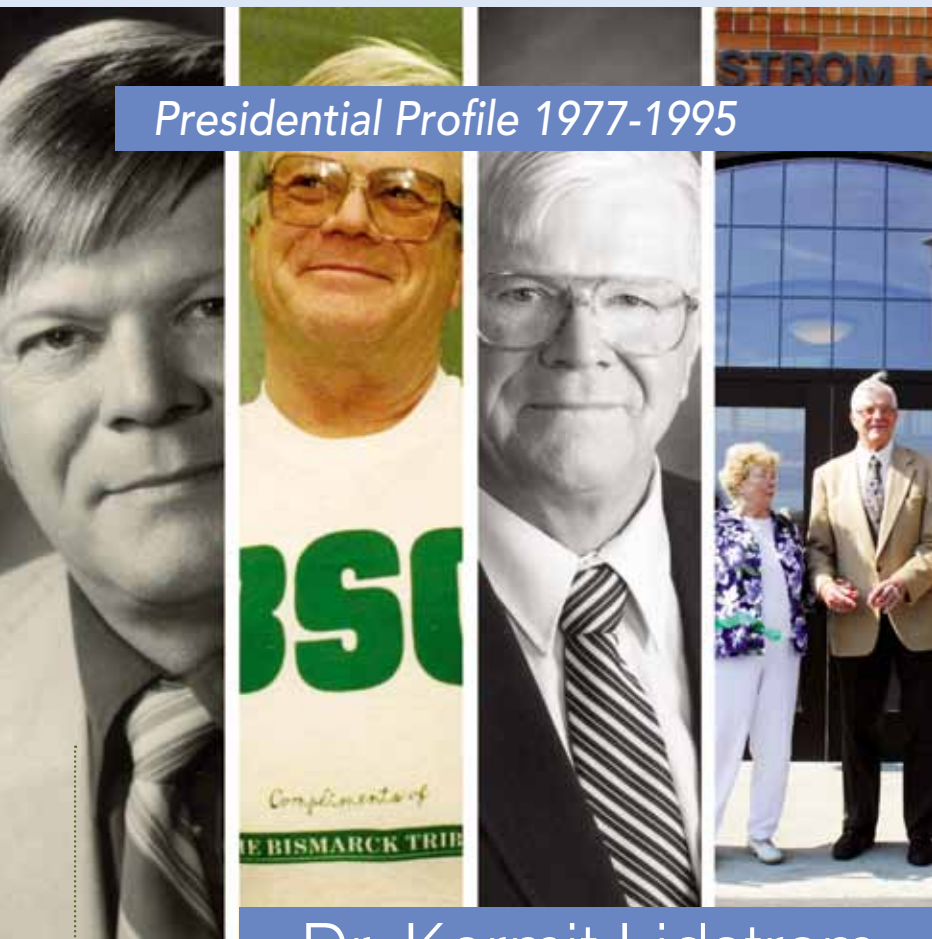
Every time we'd hire a new president I'd say, 'I don't know if I can do this again, this one might not be so easy to work with,' but I've learned so much from all of them. It's been a remarkable job. – Debbie Van Berkomp, '93, executive assistant to three BSC presidents

Big changes abound: BJC to BSCC to BSC

A major historical change occurred in 1983 when the 48th Legislative Assembly passed a bill to bring BJC into the North Dakota University System. On July 1, 1984, governance and control of BJC transferred from the Bismarck School Board to the State Board of Higher Education. The 50th Legislative Assembly changed the name to Bismarck State College, effective April 27, 1987.

Gov. George Sinner transferred ownership of the Burleigh County Memorial National Guard Armory to BSC on July 1, 1989. The Armory was built adjacent to campus in 1962, and the National Guard and BSC shared usage from that time until 1988.

Presidential Profile 1977-1995



Dr. Kermit Lidstrom

A Mandan native, President Kermit Lidstrom became president of BSC in 1977 and served in the role for 18 years. Described as a “difference maker,” Lidstrom is credited for improving the college in a variety of ways.

Lidstrom had a career in marketing before moving into higher education. In 1976, he received a doctorate in education from Nova University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and was named BJC president the next year.

“Kermit had the advantage of being an outsider. He came with a fresh view and ... new ideas. [It was] good for the college to have that,” alumnus Myron Atkinson, ’47, said.

That fresh view and his natural momentum made those first years a little rocky according to Lidstrom. “In retrospect, I should have moved a little slower,” he said.

But, once Lidstrom’s presidency hit its stride, he made a substantial mark on the campus and beyond thanks to his community viewpoint.

“His focus was on making BSC the best possible BSC it could be right here in Bismarck. He was a president who perfected things,” said Drake Carter, provost and vice president of academic affairs.

Lidstrom reorganized the BSC National Alumni Association, expanded the Division of Community Services, and developed a campus day-care center. He also established the Bismarck State College Foundation, an organization that began with \$69,000 and reached \$10 million in distributed foundation dollars in 2012.

The Foundation has supported students, employees and growth through its endowed funds, scholarships and grants. “Without the Foundation and Kermit germinating that initial seed, [BSC] wouldn’t be where we are today,” said current BSC President Larry C. Skogen.

Campus beautification was a priority of Lidstrom’s as well. During his tenure, hundreds of trees and flowers were planted on campus, enhancing the natural beauty of the college’s setting overlooking the Missouri River. He also was vital in getting legislative and community support for the Jack Science Center.

Lidstrom’s ongoing generosity to the Foundation and presence at BSC academic and athletic events provides a historic continuity appreciated by President Skogen.

“I enjoy him. He’s so supportive of campus, [and I] love talking to him ... he’s our biggest cheerleader,” Skogen said.

The Foundation established a perpetual scholarship in Lidstrom’s honor in 1995, and Lidstrom Hall, the co-ed residence named for him, was completed in 2008.



BJC joins NDUS

1984

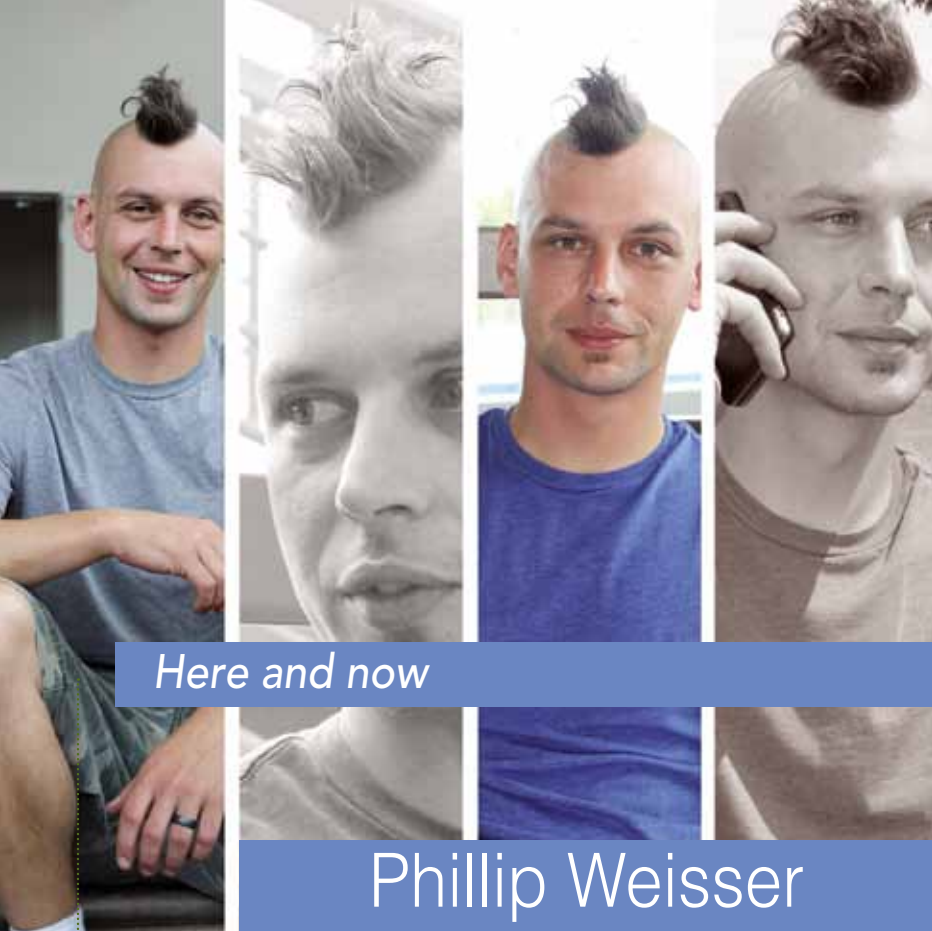
Name changes to
Bismarck State

1987

Armory building
becomes part of BSC

1989

For more photos and stories, visit bismarckstate.edu.



*"... how lucky I am, how lucky we all are to have BSC waiting on the hill, ready to welcome home the people willing to look up."
– Phillip Weisser, '11*

academic engagement, but the majority of the credit must go to the BSC faculty and staff. At every turn, professional, motivating professors have pushed me harder and further than I thought was possible, while an incredible staff of employees have demystified the administrative details of credit transfers, financial aid, and collaborative enrollment, allowing me to focus on schoolwork, not paperwork.

Each day, on the campus of BSC, I watch young 18- and 19-year-olds struggle with the same distractions and doubts I faced at their age. I sometimes want to grab them and make sure they know how lucky they are to be BSC students: how lucky I am, how lucky we all are to have BSC waiting on the hill, ready to welcome home the people willing to look up.

Phillip Weisser lives in Bismarck with his wife, Amber. He does custom metal work, and is pursuing an English degree through Dickinson State University on the BSC campus. He intends to earn his master's in library science.

I have a wife, a house, and two cats. I am a combat veteran. I am thirty-one years old, and I am a BSC student. I attempted to go to college a decade ago, but I was plagued by a lack of focus, adolescent distractions, and a nebulous grasp on my future goals. After fits and starts, I found my vocation in philosophy, only to have war supply me with a new one, as a Squad Leader in Afghanistan. So, my vocation became my avocation, and war derailed my academic pursuits.

I was twenty-four when I went to war; I was twenty-nine before I re-entered my life. I wasn't deployed for that long, of course. I simply woke up one day, years later, and realized that I was working at a job I disliked, that I was not going where I wanted, and something had to change. I wish I could say that I was willing to do anything to improve my life, but the fact is that I was scared and confused. How much would school cost and could I afford it? Was I too old? Was I really going to return to school after all those years? If the path back to education had been difficult, there is every possibility that I would have chosen inaction. As it turned out, my fears were eliminated in a single afternoon. I left work, walked into the admissions office at BSC, and by the time I left, I was a student.

To be honest, I never expected to attend BSC. When I was eighteen, I could think of nothing worse than spending a nineteenth year in Bismarck, and, frankly, I thought BSC was a joke. BSC was the school people went to when they couldn't do better. At 29, however, Bismarck was home and BSC was the school that offered me the greatest flexibility to pursue my goals. As for my previous notions, about the quality of education at BSC, I readily admit my stupidity. The academic challenges I've faced at BSC have been more rigorous and more enriching than anything I experienced during my first foray into college. My age probably contributed to my



THE BJC/BSC STORY

1991-2000

► Iconic Jack Science Center changes campus

Construction of the Jack Science Center significantly improved the student learning experience at BSC and gave the campus its first iconic building. At 74,340 square feet, the Jack Science Center increased instructional space by 30 percent and gathered BSC's math, science, computer and engineering programs into a three-story complex chock full of technology and state-of-the art laboratories. At its opening in February 1998, it was the most advanced science facility in North Dakota.

While approval to build was an extended process, the need for the facility was long recognized. Science, business and other programs in Schafer Hall suffered with inadequate wiring and overloaded circuits, failing lab equipment, poor ventilation and stifling classrooms with no air conditioning or unreliable cooling units. Lab sinks leaked water to the floor below and gas seeped from the chemistry lab. When a worn out water distiller constantly popped circuits and broke, a frugal business manager told longtime chemistry professor Frank Koch, '62, "Couldn't you just go out and melt snow?"

"Faculty complained quite frequently. We had a lot of issues," Koch said. "With the new building, the change was like night and day."

Opportunity to build came in 1991 with a \$250,000 lead gift from Thomas and Margaret Jack, the largest individual pledge at that time. The Bismarck-Mandan community supported the BSC Foundation's \$1.2 million capital campaign from the beginning with \$1 million pledged in the first three months of the drive launched Aug. 26, 1994. Among the major donors were 13 local, regional and international corporations including banks, health care enterprises, media and energy companies, and retail/wholesale businesses, plus five individuals and couples. BSC employees and 200 students contributed \$75,000.

Area legislators championed funding for the building through three legislative sessions starting in 1991. Gov. Ed Schafer boosted support when he included money for the building in his budget recommendations for the 1995-97 biennium. The 54th Legislative Assembly finally approved funding in 1995 and the state appropriated \$7 million toward the \$8.2 million building. Construction began in summer 1996. Housed on first floor are mathematics, computer science and engineering. Second floor contains biological sciences, clinical lab sciences and physics. Third floor holds physical sciences and astronomy.

In the mid-1990s, the BSC Board of Governors (BOG) led an initiative to build student and legislative support for the new science building. Some of the BOG members, from left: Angie Binstock Milakovic; Melissa Miller Karabensh; Mike Bumann; Gary Sullwold; unknown; Heather McCormack; Venetia Wolf; Becky Han Bailey; Angie Clement; Mary Klecker Miller; Judith Roberts.

Students made the difference

The new science building rallied students as well as BSC faculty and administrators. Between 1993-95, members of the Board of Governors (BOG) led an initiative to build student and legislative support.

"A science center was a need recognized on campus. I remember the lab being hot, crowded and all the windows open," said Mary Klecker Miller, '95, then president of BOG and now communications director at Basin Electric Power Cooperative.

BSC had been trying for years, Miller said, and BOG decided that student investment might help sway the Legislature to fund the building.

"I testified at the Legislature in support, but what we really did was launch a student-run public relations campaign with a little advocacy."

BOG printed the capital campaign logo on envelopes and about a dozen members fanned out to speak in every BSC classroom about the need for a science center. They left envelopes and encouraged students to contribute, even if just loose change. A pile of envelopes came back. BOG took a picture and sent it to the Bismarck Tribune, which did a story about students investing in their college.

"As a student, having that exposure and those types of experiences were invaluable," Miller said. "People were given a sense of ownership, which made it more meaningful to have an impact. It was really fun and today it is so gratifying to see that building and to have been on campus before a shovel was turned and have a part in that time."

Timeline 1939 - 2014

75 years of BJC/BSC



BJC/BSC



Walter Swensen, first dean at BJC



Aviation, WWII



Boulevard location completed in 1955



"The King and I"



Wrestlers at the Pan American games in Quito Ecuador



1941 graduating class



1967 campus



Homecoming

Electric Lineman's School



1939

1950

1960

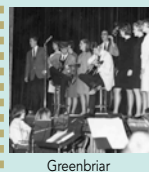
1970

1939-40 Enrollment 104

1949-50 Enrollment 312

1959-60 Enrollment 512

1969-70 Enrollment 1400



Greenbriar Singers



Frost Festival 1968



"George M"



Recording at KFJR Radio



Bagpipe Band



Schafer Hall completed in 1961

Alumnus Gordon Weiss in "Stop the World"



Celebrating 75 years

Established in 1939, Bismarck State College was a bold, Depression-era experiment. As North Dakota's first two-year city college, BSC was an example for others. Over the years we've grown at a pace likely unforeseen by the early promoters, or the 104 students and 12 instructors who first gathered on the third floor of Bismarck High School.

Today, BSC is the third largest college in the North Dakota University System with nearly 4,000 students online and on-campus. Throughout 2013-14 we will celebrate 75 years of the educational excellence, innovation and community support that brought us to today and our limitless beyond.

For more information visit bismarckstate.edu/75years.

past, present and beyond



1940 graduating class 50th reunion



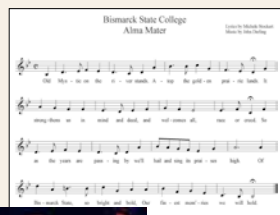
Jack Science Center was completed in 1998.



Jack Science Center fundraising campaign



"The Laramie Project" by BSC Theatre



"Man of La Mancha"



Dr. Larry C. Skogen,
Dr. Donna S. Thigpen,
Dr. Kermit Lidstrom,
Ralph Werner



BSC and Bismarck Public Schools partner in completing the BPS Career Academy



1980

1990

2000

2014

1979-80 Enrollment 2237

1989-90 Enrollment 2400

1999-2000 Enrollment 2700

2011-12 Enrollment 4392



Snow Daze



Brock Lesner, 1998
National Heavyweight
Wrestling Champion



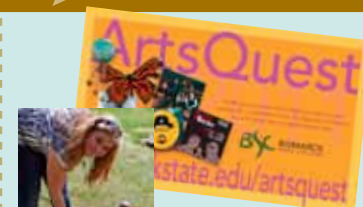
Mike McCormack teaching history class



The National Energy Center of Excellence was completed in 2008.



Multicultural Club



BJC football



Hotel-Restaurant Management



Architectural ornamentation on the Jack Science Center has become an identifying image for the college. The metal sculpture and glass accent contains three linked circles that symbolize the interconnection between the programs taught in the building – mathematics, biological sciences and physical sciences. On top, the rotated letter “C” is symbolic of the computer. The rays extending upward through the circles represent fiber optic cables connecting the three programs to the world of technology.

I came here three years after high school. My idea was no college for me – then reality kicked me in the face. When I decided to go to school, I didn't want a big four-year campus where I was just lost in the mix. I was a little bit older, didn't have any school for three years. Thought I would need some help. Instead of being a number, I would have a name at BSC. – Kevin Kyes, '95, BSC collaborative process and degree coordinator

ArtsQuest celebrates art and artists



Dr. Amy Juhala with author Sherman Alexie in 2002.

ArtsQuest began in 1998 as a project of the Arts and Communications Department to highlight the talent of BSC students and bring performances and presentations by guest artists to campus. The entire month of April, and a few days in May, are now dedicated to showcasing the arts and humanities both inside and outside the BSC campus. Guest artists generously give time and talent to the campus and community, and students and faculty work double time to perform and promote their work.

Guest artists have included writers Sherman Alexie, Max Brooks, Chuck Klosterman and Roxana Saberi; musicians Leo Kottke, Will Weaver, Chris Brubeck and Kansas; artists like John Offut, Greg Blair and many, many others.

This year's ArtsQuest will take place in April. For more information visit bismarckstate.edu/artsquest.



"All of our department, every discipline is involved one way or another. We bring in big names so students can see that getting into these kinds of fields is worth it. People love to see student artwork and hear the music. It's tiring and exhausting, but worth it for sure."
– Michelle Lindblom, BSC associate professor of art



First Figments publication

1992

Lidstrom retires, Thigpen takes over

1995

Jack Science Center opens

1998

For more photos and stories, visit bismarckstate.edu.

I think up until I got to BSC, I was shy. I didn't have the opportunity to do what I wanted to do because I didn't know what was out there. When I got here, the faculty and staff were so supportive and they just encouraged like crazy – get involved! My academic advisor was Lynn Severson, she was great. Encouraged all of us on the Mystician to do what you want. Having those faculty mentors was great. They led me to believe I could do a lot of things I didn't know I could do. And then I did them! ... And now I'm out of control. – Angie Milakovic, '97, BSC assistant professor of geographic information systems

Presidential Profile 1995-2006



Dr. Donna S. Thigpen

Her “backbone of steel” and entrepreneurial spirit ensured that BSC grew in leaps and bounds during Dr. Donna Thigpen’s years as president. Thigpen excelled at creating partnerships with business and industry and collaborations with other colleges. Under her leadership, 14 baccalaureate programs became available through distance learning on the BSC campus and more than 20 new programs were added to BSC’s transfer and technical offerings. As a result, enrollment swelled between 1995 and 2006, increasing 53 percent.

According to provost Drake Carter, Dr. Thigpen was a “ball of fire.”

“[She] was a real change agent. Her interest was in driving BSC forward – not only to be the best we can be in Bismarck-Mandan, but any place in the country [or] around the world.”

As a key player in implementing the state workforce training model, Thigpen was instrumental in the creation of industry-driven programming, particularly related to the energy industry. Her leadership in this area resulted in establishment of the National Energy Center of Excellence and success of the \$18.3 million capital campaign to build it. BSC has since become a national leader in online and on-campus education for the energy industry.

“What Donna brought to this college was a view of creating programs in response to community, business and industry,” said current BSC president Larry C. Skogen. “[Because of] the culture she created in developing programs, people are used to developing new programs.”

In addition, she led development of the Dakota Nursing Program, a collaboration of North Dakota’s four community colleges, whose combined resources offer much-needed statewide nursing education and training.

Thigpen embraced and leveraged technology, equipping all faculty members with laptop computers and encouraging use of technology in teaching. She also became the driving force for enhancing student services to increase retention.

Upon her retirement, then University Chancellor Robert Potts said, “Her tenure has been an unqualified success.”

Thigpen received the Distinguished Service Award at BSC’s 72nd Commencement Ceremony in 2012 for guiding BSC from a traditional campus to a forward-thinking institution that offers on-campus and state-of-the-art online education.

Cheeseburgers and knoephla soup are our number one sellers. Free ice cream started in 1991. We had to update to a larger machine because we couldn't keep up with the demand. We do up to 400 servings a day. Some people come to the union just for the ice cream. – Mike Wavrin, BSC Food Services Manager

THE BJC/BSC STORY

2001-2013



► Energetic decade drives change

During the 2000s, BSC's new Energy Technology Department added a total of seven programs to meet critical workforce demand in the power industry. By 2005, BSC had three more energy specialties beyond the core Power Plant Technology (1976) and Process Plant Technology (1981) programs, all developed through partnerships with utilities and energy associations nationwide.

With the department's launch of Electric Power Technology (2001), Electrical Transmission Systems Technology (2003) and Nuclear Power Technology (2004) — all completely online — BSC became the first institution to offer its energy programs for online study and degrees. The high profile led to recognition of BSC as a national leader in energy education. Instrumentation & Control Technology and Mechanical Maintenance Technology on the Mandan campus, were added in 2006, followed in 2008 by the online Bachelor of Applied Science in Energy Management, BSC's first and only four-year baccalaureate degree. Renewable Energy Technology came online in 2010.

By the close of the 2009-2010 academic year and the 2010 summer session, students were taking 672 classes online.

This growing program roster was made possible by BSC's entry into online and distance education in 1998 with classes in business, English, social science, humanities and computer-related disciplines. Online options for Power Plant and Process Plant began in spring 1999. Courses increased from six to 56 online classes by fall 2000 with nearly half the classes taught in energy programs. During the decade, BSC founded its Online Campus with course listings and student services and developed the college website.

Powering the expansion of energy programs and online development was a series of grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), first awarded in 1999. A total of \$2.3 million bought state-of-the-art, interactive curriculum developed by BSC for delivery over the Internet through Pearson's eCollege™. More development funding came from a \$1.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, which named Process Plant Technology as a national outstanding vocational program.

BSC hired course developers to create a standardized teaching model across all energy programs, which led to BSC owning its own curriculum. The Instructional Systems Design model was based on government and military safety compliance training and replicated job task skills needed in the workplace. The design team eventually included five multimedia Web developers, who created animations of complex processes and simulations, interactive lecture functions and other instructional modules. In 2004, a \$75,000 NSF grant funded a BSC initiated technology called the WebLab Power Grid for use by all energy programs. The software suite allows students to access BSC's lab equipment through the Internet.

BSC's energy programs received a boost from Great River Energy in 2000 when the North Dakota utility donated a \$1 million power plant simulator for the BSC Technical Center. However, with energy enrollment surging, along with faculty hiring, the energy department needed more space. Planning began for the Career and Technology Institute (CTI) east of the Student Union, which would house the energy department's National Energy Technology Training and Education Center, the workforce training division and BSC's higher education partners.

BSC launched its largest capital campaign through the BSC Foundation in 2003 after securing a \$1.5 million Economic Development Administration federal grant. The institute site changed after the City of Bismarck donated seven acres of greenway south of campus valued at \$1.2 million. Basin Electric Power Cooperative's lead gift of \$2 million gave Basin the opportunity to name the building, known today as the National Energy Center of Excellence (NECE).

In 2005, the future NECE was among the first four economic development projects chosen by Gov. John Hoeven's Centers of Excellence Commission, which awarded BSC \$3 million. Many other donations from individuals, government, business and industry and BSC employees brought the total raised to \$18.3 million. Construction began in May 2006 and the NECE opened in September 2008 as the North Dakota University System's first green building — incorporating fly ash FlexCrete in the structure as well as geothermal heating and air conditioning systems.

Dramatic changes in the 2000s fueled by enrollment

The BSC campus changed dramatically between 2000 and 2010 with the construction of five new buildings. Spurred by enrollment that jumped 52 percent during the decade, the college balanced its need for space by structuring community partnerships and obtaining funds from the BSC Foundation, Leach Foundation, state Legislature and elsewhere. BSC also leased all or part of three buildings within campus boundaries, leased space in downtown Bismarck, and established a Mandan campus.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

BSC Mechanical Maintenance Mandan Campus – 2007

The 12,500 square foot building at 1831 Twin City Drive S.E., houses the first program of its kind in the region. The structure cost \$1.4 million and was funded by sale of bonds, a federal earmark, City of Mandan Vision Fund and contributions from industry.

National Energy Center of Excellence – 2008

This four-story showpiece overlooking the Missouri River serves as a national center of education and training for the energy industry. Within its 106,200 square feet are BSC's division of Energy Technology Programs, Continuing Education, Training & Innovation Department, Great Plains Energy Corridor office, conference center, and faculty and administrative offices.

Lidstrom Hall – 2008

BSC's third residence hall is named in honor of President Emeritus Dr. Kermit Lidstrom. The 35,000 square foot, co-ed facility has suite-style living for 76 students, a large lounge, kitchen, and meeting room.

BSC Aquatic and Wellness Center – 2010

Located north of the library and MDU Resources Community Bowl, the 50,000 square foot complex contains the highest caliber competitive swimming facility between Minneapolis and Seattle. Financed by Streamline Foundation, the \$9.4 million center was authorized through a joint powers agreement between BSC, Bismarck Park Board and State Board of Higher Education. Bismarck Parks and Recreation manages it.

Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy – 2010

A companion to BSC's Technical Center, this 97,000 square foot complex allowed expansion of several BSC technical programs as well as the Bismarck Public Schools' Career and Technical Education program on campus. The partnership undertaking allocated 40 percent of the space to BSC. The rest serves high school students. Construction cost totaled about \$13.3 million.

ADDITION

Leach Music Center – 2001

This 6,000 square foot addition to Schafer Hall provided much needed space for BSC's instrumental and choral music program. It was funded by a grant from the Tom and Frances Leach Foundation, state money and other private donations.

Best thing I ever did coming to BSC. If I'd gone to a larger school I'd probably have been lost. We used to joke about it, but we really were family in Werner Hall. I've got some classic Werner Hall stories I probably shouldn't share as a faculty member – lots of history there. – Craig Kleven, '98, BSC associate professor of agriculture, technology & natural resources



National Energy Center of Excellence

LEASED

Horizon Office Building – 2003-2013

Private developers completed the three-story office building north of the Technical Center in 2003. For 10 years, BSC rented two floors for a variety of departments including BSC administrative offices, BSC Foundation, finance, marketing/communications staff, and the Continuing Education, Training and Innovation Department.

BSC Allied Health Campus – 2005

In the fall of 2005, several health-related programs moved to a city-owned building at 500 E. Front Ave., downtown Bismarck. The second floor was remodeled for the Surgical Technology and Certified Nursing Assistant programs, and the Dakota Nursing Program's Associate Degree Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse degree options.

Meadowlark Building – 2010

A former office building, the one-story brick structure at 1700 Schafer Street was remodeled to house BSC human resources, payroll, accounting services and institutional research. It was remodeled again in 2013 to add the North Dakota Safety & Health Consultation Program and finance.

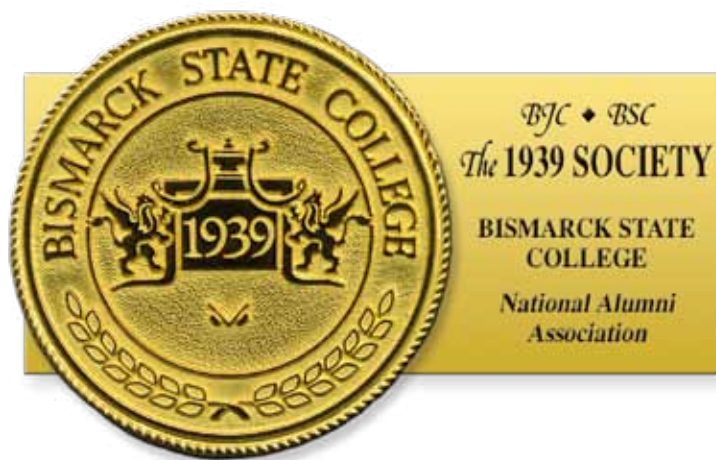
REMODELED

Mystic Hall – 2010

This brick structure known as The Annex was re-purposed from BSC staff offices into its original designation as student housing. The dwelling at 1309 Schafer Street provides living space for 30 students in eight apartment-style units.

Student Union Remodel 2013-14

A 14,800 square foot addition and an extensive remodel will provide new student social gathering spaces, more food service areas and a larger bookstore.



Remembering a teacher and friend through the 1939 Society

Bismarck Junior College opened for classes on September 4, 1939. Since then BJC (later Bismarck State College) has played a vital role in the lives of thousands of students, employees and community members. In recognition of that legacy and in honor of the future, the BSC National Alumni Association established the 1939 Society in 2006. Donations support an endowment that sustains alumni programming and campus projects.

This summer, Robb Boyd, '78, honored the late Paul Johnson (former BSC speech instructor) through a donation to the 1939 Society. Johnson, who taught at BJC from 1975 to 1982, came to BSC from a student teaching position at the Royal Russell School at Croyden in England. Johnson taught voice and diction, basic technical production and speech.

"If we're fortunate, we'll meet one or two great teachers in our lives. Paul was one of those people. He was passionate about theatre and literature, he successfully passed that passion to his students and he had the unique ability of developing and challenging us to learn and to reach a little further each time," Boyd said. "He was a cultured man. In addition, he was kind, considerate and the best friend I had. He was taken from us too early. It is a pleasure to do a little something to add to his legacy. I know I speak for many of his students and friends."

When you get to a larger university, you lose some of that connected feeling. On a campus of this size, it's large enough that you get a good education and good number of students, but it's small enough you recognize faces every day. You see your friends every day and faculty recognize you whether you've been in their classes or not. So there really is just a connection all around. – Brandon Wetsch, '13

To learn more about the 1939 Society
visit bismarckstate.edu/alumni/1939.



Leach Music Center
built

2001

Allied Health
moves downtown

2005

Skogen becomes
president

2007

BSC Mystics: a proud tradition

BJC/BSC ATHLETICS



Memories of the 1985 men's basketball team

In 1985 we had two Nigerian players, Godwin Owinje and Masai Ujiri. We also had Chris Gerving, Jesse McLaughlin and Nick Runck, a hard-nosed kid from Towner, as starters on that team.

[We had] real good team chemistry that year. That was the year we were beat by one to go to the national tournament down in Oklahoma. It was a unique situation. We had last position, ran a play, and Masai ran a shot at the buzzer. They said it was too late, but that was a three pointer at the buzzer and they waved it off. So I went to the score guy ... found the refs and they told the teams to get redressed, come back out and they'd get three seconds to get it.

That other coach was a tough type, and he told me in some real explicit-type language, that we better not win this game. Well, we didn't win it. He shot and the ball actually rimmed out. That was a long ride home, but that was a team that could have really competed for a national championship – it was a national caliber team.

– Buster Gilliss, BSC director of athletics

BJC football back in the day

When the Korean War ended, we were flooded with good athletes and students. We had to go out and buy equipment. We had over 35 men go out for football – which was unheard of at the school. The only teams we'd ever beaten were Ellendale and Bottineau Forestry – never one of the four-year schools. But we had the talent and we developed a pretty good football team, and we surprised Minot State on the opener.

Dale Brown, who later coached LSU, was a running back on that team and we beat them 25-7. We had the talent to do it. We had older guys. Some played military football. We went on, but the trouble was most people at BSC had part time jobs. My starting half backs for example never practiced together. Dobie Dwyer worked at Greengards clothing and Eddie Agre worked at KFJR. They met passing in the locker room and at games.

Our final game that year against Jamestown College, led them 13-6 before half time. But we lost.

– Paul Swanson, former BSC football coach and math instructor



Mystic mascot updated in 2012

A new Mystic logo was designed in fall 2012 and was quickly incorporated into all athletic wear, promotional items and marketing – including the Mystics bus. The new Mystic is fierce, strong and streamlined, reflecting the strength of BSC's student athletes. "Our Mystic has grown up," said President Larry C. Skogen.

Keep up with the Mystics on the athletic website, bscmystics.com.

Men's basketball	Men's football	Men's and women's bowling	Men's track	Fencing	Men's golf	Men's baseball
1941	1946	1947	1948	1957	1957	1958

First teams:



BSC family loses longtime coach and athletic director Ed Kringstad



Ed Kringstad

Longtime coach and athletic director Ed Kringstad died in May 2013, at age 76. Born in Fairdale, N.D., Ed graduated from high school in Hoople. He went on to Valley City State University, earning 13 letters in sports. It was there, not long after being voted Ideal Couple at a campus dance, that Ed asked Faye Moore to marry him. That beginning was auspicious. Ed and Faye Kringstad taught ballroom dance for more than 20 years through BSC's continuing education program teaching dozens of couples and plenty of employees and students how to dance — including a number of his wrestlers. Ed

often said, "If you can walk, you can dance."

Ed began his coaching and teaching career at BJC in 1965 after a couple of years teaching and coaching high school in Illinois. Dean Ralph Werner put him immediately to work that day, but not coaching. Instead, Ed dug holes, hauled dirt and planted trees around the few buildings on the campus at that time. He considered that work great fun, and like many other early staff and faculty, a financial necessity. He later recruited his children to help during the summer months — mowing, building the stairs into the Bowl, and erecting storage buildings and the first coaches' box in the Bowl. Over the years he was a key player in carving out a true college campus where only prairie had existed before.

Ed worked hard at his day job, too. He served as BJC Athletic Director for two decades, coaching everything except basketball over those years. In his 23 years as wrestling coach, Ed coached 10 national champions and 59 All-Americans. Ed's 301-69-1 coaching record ranks him sixth among NJCAA wrestling coaches. He was named NJCAA Wrestling Coach of the Year in 1974 and 1986, as well as United States Wrestling Coaches Association Coach of the Year in 1984. Ed was selected to the NJCAA Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1979, named NJCAA Wrestling Man of the Year in 1984 and inducted into the Valley City State University Hall of Fame in 1993. His commitment to students and his love for wrestling took him around the globe. Ed was selected to assist on the rules committee with the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team during the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich, Germany.

In 1977, Ed was the Coach Leader of the Junior Pan American Wrestling Team, Quito, Ecuador, and in 1978, he was the Chief of Mission at the Junior Pan American Games in Caracas, Venezuela. With Ed as athletic director, Bismarck State College hosted the NJCAA National Wrestling Tournament from 1990-98.

His interest in people and politics, along with encouragement from colleagues and friends drove his desire to run for office. He was elected to the North Dakota Senate in 1995 and served until 2006. A Republican, he was proud of the work he and other colleagues representing North Dakota's colleges and universities did for higher education.

Kringstad retired from BSC in 1999.

Wrestling with the inevitable

We hosted the national wrestling tournament from 1991-98. It was a huge undertaking. There were 65 teams from all over the United States, their coaches and fans. As soon as one of those ended, we started preparing for the next one.

"It was hard when wrestling ended, but there were no other junior colleges with wrestling. We didn't have competitors."

Brock (Lesnar) was our last national champ. One of the most exciting days I've ever had in this department was watching that match and watching him be crowned national champ, knowing we were dropping wrestling after that.

— Dee Bertsch, '91, BSC administrative assistant - athletics



Men's wrestling

1961

Women's track

1970

Tennis

1971

Women's gymnastics

1971

Women's volleyball

1972

Men's and women's soccer

2009

Women's fast-pitch softball

2012

Hall of Fame inductees



Community supports student athletes

Each year, the President's Cup Golf Classic brings BSC fans, coaches, friends, alumni and athletes together to raise money for student athlete scholarships. This year, the event took place on June 21 at Prairie West Golf Course in Mandan where 39 teams and 156 golfers raised more than \$14,000.

The Golf Classic is capped by the annual Mystic Hall of Fame induction ceremony in which past athletes are recognized for their contributions. This year, Alan Kunick (1973-74 baseball), Pamela Carlen Ihmels (1977-78 track) and Frank Bavendick (1949-50 track), were honored.

Warren Arman	1992	Basketball athlete
Gary Hoffman	1993	Wrestling athlete
Michael Blaske	1993	Wrestling athlete
Rich Patchen	1993	Wrestling athlete
Becky Clairmont Ziegler	1994	Basketball, cross country, volleyball, and track athlete
John Campagna	1994	Basketball and Football athlete
Al Lick	1994	Basketball athlete
Kent Ness	1994	Wrestling athlete
Russ Anderson	1994	Basketball coach
Robert "Goose" Johnson	1994	Basketball and baseball coach
Dick Karlgaard	1994	Football, baseball, and basketball coach
Cliff Nygard	1994	Basketball and baseball coach
Dave Albrecht	1995	Basketball and golf athlete
Bob Upgren	1995	Basketball and tennis athlete
Brock Lesnar	2005	Wrestling athlete
Marvin Dutt	2006	Baseball athlete
Rob Ford	2006	Baseball athlete
Don Prouty	2007	Basketball, football, baseball athlete
1953-1954 Men's Basketball Team.....2007		
Team included: Warren Arman, Gene "Rusty" Cook, Ev Miller, John Campagna, Jim Anderson, Dick Addington, Jerry Schafer, Dean Koon, Gene Koon, Neal Buechler, Perl Keys, and Burt Siems. Head Coach was Cliff Nygard. Assistant coach was Dick Karlgaard.		

Ralph Werner	2007	Contributor
Dr. Kermit Lidstrom	2008	Contributor
Edroy Kringstad	2008	Athletic director, retired
James "Katz" Kautzman	2008	Staff member, retired
Ed Hasche	2009	Cross country, track, wrestling, and football coach
Darrell Anderson	2009	Cross country and track athlete; cross country and track coach
Susan Ekberg Risher	2009	Basketball athlete
Paul Swanson	2010	Football and basketball coach
Don Bigwood	2010	Football coach and contributor
Bruce Meland	2010	Basketball, baseball and golf coach
Nancy Hardy Fischer	2011	Track & field athlete
Donna Wallin	2011	Basketball athlete
Enos Baker	2012	Basketball athlete
Al Kunick	2013	Baseball athlete
Pam Ihmels	2013	Track, basketball, volleyball athlete
Frank Bavendick	2013	Track athlete and contributor

"I always try to instill in them that they need to graduate. We want them to have success in the classroom, as well as on the court."

– *Buster Gilliss, BSC director of athletics*

To see a list of the President's Cup sponsors, go to bismarckstate.edu/connections.

In good company: A tradition of theater



► The show always goes on at BSC

Theater came with the founding of Bismarck Junior College in 1939 and remains robust today under the 21-year direction of Daniel Rogers. Since those early years, theater has enriched campus life and the connection BSC has to its home city through its mission as a community college. Many Bismarck area residents, adults and children, have embellished BSC's stage productions and performed alongside its students. In hundreds of performances over 75 years, the Theatre Arts program has strived to present its best talent, often in collaboration with area artists and arts or civic organizations. More recently, shows and theater students compete for honors at the regional American College Theater Festival, where BSC productions, actors and stage crew teams have won several awards. In 2007, Theatre Arts added a technical theatre option to expand curriculum choices for students.

Early on, a club called the Women's League organized in September 1939 under Edith Ramstad (rhetoric, speech and dramatics instructor) and quickly became the Miraikay Club. This group sponsored the first production, "The Rehearsal," a one-act play presented Nov. 8, 1939. Three more plays followed with the first all-college production staged in April 1940 — "And Let Who Will Be Clever" by Alden Nash, a three-act comedy.

After several feasibility meetings, BJC's first dramatics club — the Masquers Club — was organized and officers elected January 1941. Theater continued sporadically under four different directors through 1950, with no plays undertaken in 1943 and 1946-48. Charles Schoregge Jr. produced the first musical comedy in spring 1949 ("Good News") followed by "No, No, Nanette" in 1950. With the hiring of Robert Stuckenbruck in 1951, BJC began adding a fall play or other stage event to its theater offerings and the Masquers became the Dramatics Club.

What many remember as BJC's golden age of theater began in 1956 with the hiring of Jane Gray Smith (Stewart), a phenomenon who stayed 29 memorable years. She is associated with staging Broadway's finest shows, plays that challenged BJC students and delighted Bismarck audiences year after year.

BJC's first lady of theater

BJC's first lady of theater was a petite package of big ideas and dynamic energy, brimming with charm, wit, class, verve, smiles and reassurance for her students.



Jane Gray Stewart

As her frequent master of ceremonies and cohort, Pat Conmy, said, "[She had] a core of carbon steel" that always got Jane Gray Smith Stewart what she wanted as a director. Stewart was known for her ability to pluck future student performers from her classes or the hallways and cajole them with a sweet hard sell few could resist.

Her encouragement and direction inspired legions of aspiring young actors, several of whom went on to great things. Those she "coaxed" into dramatics often came away with unforgettable experiences and a lifelong interest in theater. Others in her speech classes gained confidence to know that speaking before an audience could be exhilarating.

Stewart's influence touched the lives of nearly 10,000

Those she "coaxed" into dramatics often came away with unforgettable experiences and a lifelong interest in theater.

students in 35 years of teaching, 29 of those at BSC (1956-85). Remarkably, she never intended to teach. She told an interviewer that her youthful goal was to be an actress. But serendipity intervened. Stewart never applied for her three college teaching jobs, but always was asked to fill a vacancy — the first time at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., while earning her master's degree in oral interpretation and radio broadcasting at Northwestern University in Chicago. When she and husband Maurice Smith moved to Bismarck in 1955, she consented to teach an American literature class at BJC. A year later, she was teaching speech full time. Two musicals and an opera followed in 1957 and 1958, and one-act plays directed by students in her play production class in 1959. She dubbed her theater machine the Campus Players.

"I'm happy I was pulled this way; it has been well worth it," Stewart said in the fall 1985 edition of Update, BJC's alumni newsletter. "I would never have had the opportunity to work with young people, and talented ones at that. It's been



Jane Gray Stewart

satisfying to see students improve, especially if they had never acted before.”

Stewart often pulled out all the stops with large casts of 40 to 60 students and community members (“Annie Get Your Gun” and “George M!”), full orchestra and chorus (“Gigi”), and a 12-foot revolving set covering more than half the stage (“Look Homeward, Angel”). Variations were a dinner theater at the Municipal Country Club (“Life with Father”), the 1978 “Hello Dolly” show at Belle Mehus City Auditorium with Sheila (Mrs. Harold) Schafer as Dolly Levi, and plays such as “Tartuffe” to display the talents of Gordon

Weiss, ’69, one of her inspired protégés who built an acting career in New York City.

In 1982, three years before she left teaching, BSC awarded her its highest honor, the Distinguished Service Citation. Because retirement was not in her vocabulary, Stewart said she was changing careers, launching Backstage, Inc. in 1983 with Shirley Staiger. They produced and costumed a variety of shows and events until Stewart’s death in 1990. Her legacy includes 20 years producing and directing the Miss North Dakota Pageant and preparing the winner for national competition, judging other state pageants, directing benefit shows for the Mental Health Association and a wide array of other public service.

Her energies created 58 theater productions including 26 major musicals, 18 comedies and several dramas, melodramas, a mystery and allegory.

Impacting students for life – faculty in the spotlight

BSC’s faculty are renowned for their engagement with students. It’s a tough job driven by a love of teaching and the reward students provide.

The commitment of BSC faculty, as well as the influence they have on students, was clear when Associate Professor of Engineering, Scott Klingenstein, ’86, died in Feb. 2013. He had been at BSC for 22 years, teaching the core engineering curriculum with a memorable, personal style.

Klingenstein took great pride in his students’ success after BSC and became a mentor to many. He gave freely of his time to his family, friends, engineering students and colleagues. Before BSC hired his replacement, colleagues and professionals – some who were former students – stepped forward to continue his classes.

Scott Zainhofsky, PE, ’95, former student and secretary of the North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers, said Klingenstein had an unstated principle that nothing impacts the world as much as sharing your knowledge with those that follow.

“By his actions in the classroom, professor Klingenstein taught us that, too. Years later, we recognize it as his silent motivation,” Zainhofsky said in a tribute. “He was the kind of teacher who expected the most of his students and accepted nothing

less. Those of us who went through his classes will never forget [his words] – ‘If it was easy, everyone would do it.’ A good teacher and mentor can impact a student for life.”

Teaching, inspiring, launching

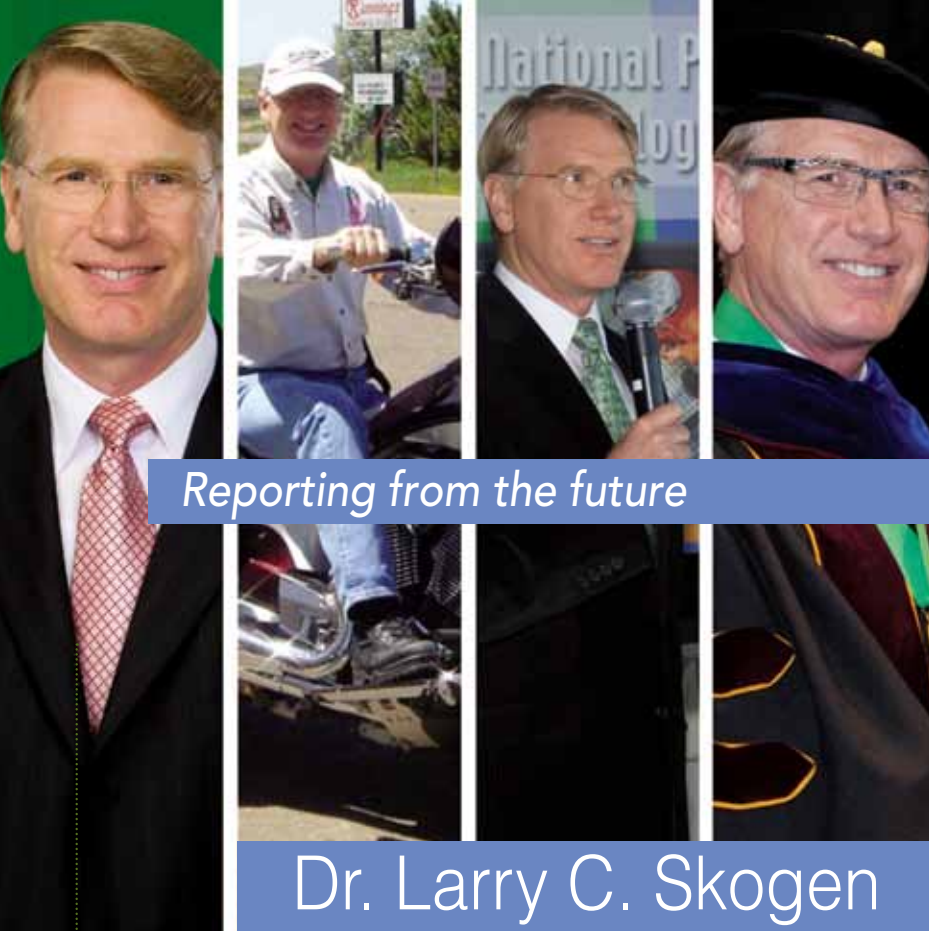
“[We get] so many types of students, different skill levels, backgrounds, cultures, etc. Some with no art and then some with plenty of it. Art, music and theater are ways you can express yourself without being condemned. It’s quite open. We get nursing, science students who balance out the brain – and need other ways to think of things besides linear. Power plant, automotive... the mix is wonderful. Everyone benefits all around.” – Michelle Lindblom, BSC associate professor of art

“From an instructor’s standpoint, getting to work with students is the best thing I do ... taking that specific group and helping them discover their abilities, hone their skills and then allowing them an employment opportunity to make a darn good living in a relatively short training time? That’s probably the most fulfilling thing I do.”

– Keith Landeis, ’96, BSC associate professor of electrical lineworker



Scott Klingenstein gestures while instructing engineering students in 2011.



Reporting from the future

Dr. Larry C. Skogen

► Dr. Larry C. Skogen became Bismarck State College's sixth chief executive officer March 1, 2007. Retired from a career in the U.S. Air Force, and a native of Hettinger, N.D., Dr. Skogen holds an undergraduate degree from Dickinson State University, a Master's in History from University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg; and a Ph.D. in History from Arizona State University, Tempe.

From day one, his energy and ideas have inspired the campus. He shows up in classrooms and faculty meetings, talks to students between classes, and regularly attends the concerts, games and events that are the fabric of BSC. He's always thinking and he's always looking forward.

Whether in a speech to the energy industry, a casual conversation with a parent or in one of his frequent blog entries, Skogen vividly paints a picture of BSC's current achievements and the unlimited potential he sees. In 2089, when the BSC he reports on here is a reality, he will be remembered for that vision.

Flash forward to 2089

In the year 2089, Bismarck State College is continuing to meet the educational and training needs of the Bismarck-Mandan area and central-western North Dakota. But BSC also has a national and international footprint in its very robust educational programming. BSC has led the nation in developing technical certification programs delivered via the Internet. As a result students from all over the country and world enroll in BSC's advanced technical programs for certifications that will get them great paying jobs in a highly technological world.

Bismarck State has also led national and international experiential education and training programs that provide hands-on experience through advanced technologies and internship and apprenticeship programs. Industries worldwide regard the innovative pedagogies developed at Bismarck State as the premier standard of technical education and training.

BSC led the national effort to create students adaptable to an ever-changing work environment.

To achieve these great accomplishments, Bismarck State looked backwards to look forward. Harking back to Henry David Thoreau's Walden, BSC established as its guiding principle of education that which Thoreau described in what is known as Jackknife University:

"If I wish a boy to know something about the arts and sciences, for instance, I would not pursue the common course, which is merely to send him into the neighborhood of some professor, where anything is professed and practiced but the art of life; to survey the world through a telescope or a microscope, and never with his natural eye; to study chemistry, and not learn how his bread is made, or mechanics, and not learn how it is earned; to discover new satellites to Neptune, and not detect the motes in his eyes, or to what vagabond he is a satellite himself; or to be devoured by the monsters that swarm all around him; while contemplating the monsters in a drop of vinegar. Which would have advanced the most at the end of a month – the boy who had made his own jackknife from the ore which he had dug and smelted, reading as much as would be necessary for this – or the boy who had attended the lectures on metallurgy at the Institute in the meanwhile, and had received a Rodgers penknife from his father?"

So to achieve greatness in establishing educational programs, Bismarck State has become the standard of excellence in providing students the opportunity to use hands-on education in all its programming. Through the use of adaptive learning software, simulations, and experiential learning, Bismarck State ensures a quality of education second to none.

In addition to its recognized technological education and training programs, BSC

has also gained a renowned reputation for its world-class humanities programming, including musical concerts, visual arts galleries, and theatrical performances. Furthermore, BSC has become an online and electronic book-publishing house that releases multiple monographs and collections each year. As such, the Bismarck-Mandan area has become a haven for a growing community of artists, performers, scholars, and others who seek to break-in to their respective professions by an association with BSC. Annual national and international awards won by individuals in this Bismarck-Mandan community

demonstrate the quality and value of BSC to these original contributions in the arts, humanities, and other intellectual pursuits.

After 150 years of serving students, credit and non-credit, Bismarck State College continues to lead in educational innovation, in student satisfaction, and in high-quality education and training. The foundation laid in the late twentieth century and early twenty-first century positioned BSC well to assume a leadership role in education as it became a national model of innovative education and workforce training.



Jack Science Center and the proposed BSC Communications and Creative Arts Center

2013 Retirements



Carolyn Twingley



Dr. Jane Schulz

Two longtime employees chose to retire this summer. Library archivist Carolyn Twingley, '68, had 38 years with the college. Dr. Jane Schulz, a former BSC librarian and associate vice president for institutional effectiveness and strategic planning, retired after 35.5 years and working in several top administrative positions.

Twingley was the go-to person with the institutional memory, whose legacy will be her advocacy for and creation of the BSC Archives. In the early 1990s, Twingley secured seed money from Dr. Kermit Lidstrom to catalog boxes of items stored under a stairway and acquire a room to build the collection.

"We're finding the archives are coming in handy for the 75-year celebration," Twingley said. "It has been a joy to work on and is proving its worth right now. The college has been very good to me and it's been really fun watching the success of the students."

"I've loved our students. I get a bigger kick out of them every year. I've loved helping them."
– Carolyn Twingley

Hired in 1974, Twingley was asked by librarian Lois Engler to fill a part-time position. She stayed on, eventually taking charge of interlibrary loans and serials and displays, in addition to the archives. Teaching a night class in English Composition 120 for six years was a rewarding challenge. Twingley received the

Staff Achievement Award in 1996. She was president of the BSC National Alumni Association and a board member for seven years.

Her plans include gardening, learning to quilt, organizing the family photos, traveling with her husband Dale to see her sons and friends, and becoming active again in the Bismarck Historical Society and local art organization. In the past, she participated as a laundress in reenactments at Fort Lincoln State Park.

"I won't be bored," she said, "and I plan to get up when I want to."

Schulz has led several initiatives that advanced the college. She started at BSC in 1977 to develop the North Dakota Vocational Curriculum Library for career and technical educators. Her work over 14 years earned her an Award of Appreciation from the North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education. She advocated BSC's entry into the AQIP accreditation process and led documentation efforts toward quality improvement that resulted in preparing BSC's Systems Portfolio for the Higher Learning Commission. She also managed the strategic planning process and development of BSC's new strategic plan.

"I will definitely miss the environment where there is challenge and stimulating conversation and thought and seeing the students." – Jane Schulz

As dean of instruction and assistant vice president for academic affairs, Schulz was involved in developing more than 15 new academic programs. She started the department review process and BSC's popular BookTalk discussion series. She served on numerous BSC committees and received several staff award nominations.

"I've worked with so many great and helpful people," Schulz said. Outside BSC, Schulz was president of the local American Association of University Women and state AAUW vice president, and member of the North Dakota Mental Health Association Board and Helpline volunteer.

She and husband Gary plan to travel and spend time with daughter Amanda and family. Schulz hopes to improve her golf game, do more needlework, exercise, become a better photographer, keep her mind busy, read, play bridge, and enjoy their California winter home.

Enriching BSC through the BSC Foundation

In the late 1970s, then BSC President Kermit Lidstrom saw a need for a funding source that was outside of the state, federal and tuition support that ensured the operations of the college.

"We needed a permanent and continuous source to do enriching kinds of things," he said. In 1978, the Bismarck College Corporation was reorganized as the Bismarck Junior College Development Foundation with total assets of \$69,000. The first annual Foundation dinner brought 12 people together. In 2013, what is now the President's Club dinner brought 266 people together to honor their support and generosity.

"They say that if you plant an acorn you'll get an oak tree at some point. That's what we have with the Foundation," Lidstrom said.

The Foundation's sole purpose is to assist the college in performing its mission. The entity is separate from the college, but according to Gordon Binek, BSC vice president for college advancement and executive director of the BSC Foundation, the relationship is symbiotic. The Foundation is supported generously by alumni, businesses and friends, and also by employees.

"Employees are great supporters and our relationship is truly hand in glove," Binek said. "They are able to see the ROI from their gifts – the scholarships and grants – and that makes everyone feel like we have a partnership."

As envisioned by Lidstrom, gifts to the Foundation support programs and activities are not funded through traditional sources. Over the years, the Foundation has supported everything from lab equipment and visiting writers to the completion of the National Energy Center of Excellence. The 2012-13 grants show how truly enhancing the Foundation continues to be at BSC.

Today, the Foundation is the third largest higher education foundation in the state with \$31 million in assets.

Two roles, one goal: Binek's time as interim president



Gordon Binek

The strong, symbiotic relationship between the college and the BSC Foundation was illuminated in 2006 when Foundation executive director Gordon Binek became interim president.

While Binek wore two hats during the eight months between Donna Thigpen's resignation and Larry Skogen's

appointment, the roles were complementary rather than conflicting.

"It takes a strong, cooperative team to keep the college successful and folks were ready to help make a smooth transition," Binek said. "The same attitude is necessary to have successful fundraising for BSC; we can't succeed without the support of the college, we're partners."

It was a busy time that included standard presidential issues, but also the continued fundraising for the National Energy Center of Excellence – a goal that leveraged both of Binek's roles.

"Moving between the two worlds wasn't a problem; it just required changing hats for some duties," he said.

Keeping you connected to BSC

Originally, the alumni organization was primarily a social organization. Renamed and rejuvenated in 1983, the Bismarck State College National Alumni Association provides the growing family of more than 18,000 BSC alumni with a wide array of services and benefits. For more information, visit bismarckstate.edu/alumni.

For more information on making a donation or contribution to the BSC Foundation, go to bismarckstate.edu/Foundation.

Meeting our potential

The BSC Foundation ensures that the campus community has what it needs to reach its potential. One of the ways this occurs is through the BSC Foundation Grant Program. The BSC Board of Trustees Programs Committee meets in the spring and fall each year to respond to funding requests for student scholarships, employee professional development, and employee and student recognition. Additionally, the grants support BSC staff, faculty, and student organizations by awarding funds for a wide variety of projects that emphasize innovative teaching and creative learning projects. The funds come both from Foundation endowment and from partner funding, “allowing programming and opportunities at BSC that could not otherwise be achieved,” said Gordon Binek, BSC vice president for college advancement and executive director of the BSC Foundation.

In 2012-13, the BSC Foundation Programs Committee awarded a total of \$463,512 in scholarships and \$449,597 in grants. The grants given this year are listed below. To learn more about scholarships, visit bismarckstate.edu/foundation/scholarships.

Endowed Grants

- Sheila Schafer grant for the Clay S. Jenkinson Endowment for the Humanities – supports Conversations at BSC.
- IQ Fund – Support for the commercial driver's license program.
- Music master classes – Enrich the learning experience of music students.
- Holt National Chemistry Week Grant – Promotes chemistry in our daily lives through faculty-led activities.
- The Sheila Schafer Drama Endowment – Provides students with professional theater exposure.
- Agri-Bash – Supports BSC Agriculture, Technology & Natural Resources Club.
- ONEOK – Purchase of lab equipment to support Process Plant Technology, Petroleum Production Technology and Instrumentation & Control programs.
- ProjectCare – Emergency fund for students experiencing financial issues.
- Whiting Petroleum Corporation – Supports Conversations at BSC.
- BSC National Energy Center of Excellence Workforce Enhancement Grant – Addresses emerging workforce training needs in North Dakota.
- Nordic Fiberglass samples – Hands-on learning for Lineworker students.
- NECE Summer Career Academy – Allows 14- to 16-year-olds to explore energy careers.
- CHS Foundation Grant – Supports development of a precision agriculture program at BSC.
- Great Plains Energy energy curriculum project – Sponsored by the EmPower North Dakota Commission, the project develops energy curriculum for students in fourth and eighth grades across North Dakota.
- Summer Ag Academy – High school students explore agricultural careers through agriculture-related activities.
- Servers/switches from Basin Electric Power Cooperative – Hands-on learning for Instrumentation and Control program students.
- Valves from Challenger Industries – Hands-on learning for Mechanical Maintenance Technology students.

Campus Grants

- 43rd Annual BSC Graphic Design and Communications Spring Show Student Design Exhibit
- N.D. Postsecondary Ag Student State and National Conference
- BookTalk at BSC 2013

- BSC Board of Governors membership in the American Student Association of Community College (ASACC)
- Regional Science Olympiad
- BSC Sing Appeal concert
- Student and faculty participation in Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival
- 2013 Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference and competition
- Andreas Klein master music class
- Phi Theta Kappa regional conferences
- BSC Certified Nursing Assistant program
- Visiting Scientist Series
- Staff Development Day
- “In a Thousand Pieces” theatre residency by The Paper Birds
- BSC ChoirFest
- Capitol Shakespeare production, “The Tempest”
- Integrated Geospatial Education and Technical Training Workshop
- MystiCast news set/TV studio
- National Chemistry Week
- American Advertising Federation awards
- On-campus orientation for new students
- 2013-2014 Visiting Writers Series
- Fignments of Imagination
- 2013 Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference
- Peter Jankovic master music class

Professional Development Grants

- Karen Arlien, associate professor of computer science – Tuition for doctorate in Teaching and Learning, University of North Dakota
- Kevin Cavanagh, assistant professor of management – Tuition for doctorate in Business Administration, Walden University
- Katrina Eberhart, assistant professor of mathematics – Tuition for doctorate in Teaching and Learning, University of North Dakota
- Mary Eisenbraun, director of student financial services – Tuition for bachelor's degree in university studies, Dickinson State University
- Matt Frohlich, associate professor of computer information systems – Learning conference on IPv6
- Yvette Matthews, associate professor of science – National Association of Biology Teachers Conference
- Carmel Miller, associate professor of agriculture, technology and natural resources – National Cattlemen's Beef Association Conference
- Carla Sivesind, payroll account technician – North Dakota State Staff Senate meeting
- Vickie Volk, associate professor of computer support specialist – Tuition for doctorate in teaching and learning, University of North Dakota
- Anita Wirtz, assistant professor of psychology – Tuition for doctorate in psychology, Capella University; pursuit of national level certification, Association for Applied Sport Psychology

BSC Foundation fundraisers make a difference



Neither wind nor rain ...

Despite the rain and road construction, the 6th Annual President's Run on Friday, July 12, raised more than \$10,000 for the Dean D. Gunsch Toolbox Program. The 55 participants had lunch provided by BlackRidge BANK and Cloverdale Foods, followed by a tour of Garrison Dam, and refreshments at Security First Bank in Center.

For more information on making a donation or contribution to the BSC Foundation, go to bismarckstate.edu/Foundation.

► From galas to golf: Foundation fundraisers make a difference

Fundraising is a fun business. Excellent stewardship and a good cause are vital to securing donors, and it doesn't hurt to show donors a good time as part of the just cause. The BSC Foundation has been the beneficiary of a number of annual events and good times over the years. The Foundation Ball (1981-2005), the first gala event to assist the Foundation, was made beautiful by the Commercial Art faculty. The Madrigal Dinner raised money for art and theater scholarships, with costumed students entertaining in Renaissance style. While today's events are, perhaps, less time and energy intensive, they are none-the-less vital in celebrating and honoring the BSC Foundation's generous donors.



The Madrigal Dinner musicians from the mid-1980s.



Guests at the 1983 Foundation Ball.

Student Recognition

Celebrating our most outstanding students

Every spring, BSC honors our most exceptional students for their academic achievements, involvement in student government and all around excellence at our Student Recognition Ceremony. Students receive the public accolades they deserve as well as certificates and a \$100 cash award from the BSC Foundation. The students honored represent nearly every discipline and program at BSC.

** Indicates Foundation scholarship award recipient*

Outstanding Students

Brittany Anderson Art (Visual)
 Mason Auck Power Plant Technology (online)
 *Kenneth Bahm Agriculture, Technology, Food and Natural Resources
 Noele Blevins Speech
 Kyle Bonnet Auto Collision
 Regan Brilz BAS in Energy Management
 Arin Buringrud Engineering Technician
 Angela Carter Phlebotomy Technician
 Courtney Cheramie Microbiology
 Christopher Colby Petroleum Engineering Technician
 Daniel Deck Farm and Ranch Management
 *Steven Deutsch History
 Elizabeth Doll Nursing, PN
 Samantha Enzminger Administrative Assistant - General (Online)
 Daniel Faris Sociology
 Justin Farrington Electrical Transmission Systems Technology (online)
 *Kelly Feigitsch Technical Theatre
 *Michelle Flesness Graphic Design & Communication
 *Kaitlyn Fueller Foreign Languages
 Holli Glass Economics
 *Jesse Goehring Lineworker
 Tanner Garen Philosophy
 *Abbigael Gutierrez Organic Chemistry
 *Abbigael Gutierrez Physics
 *Nicholas Haakenson Carpentry
 *Nick Hansen Web Page Development and Design
 Derek Hanson Mechanical Maintenance
 *Gabriel Hartfield Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning
 James Hatzenbuehler Management
 Lucas Hennessy Agriculture Industry and Technology
 *Gabriel Kent Music (Instrumental)
 *Boyce Kluting General Chemistry
 *Alex Kottre Music (Vocal)
 Laurie Linnertz Surgical Technology
 *Michael Little Auto Technology
 Jason Lundy Water & Wastewater Technology
 Vitus Maduako Petroleum Production

*Owen Makelky Welding
 Michael Maurer Renewable Generation (on campus)
 Mariah Michaelis Power Plant Technology (on campus)
 Lindsey Miles Anatomy and Physiology
 *Cole Miller Engineering
 *Cole Miller Mathematics
 Sara Miller Social Work
 Cody Morrell Process Plant Technology (on campus)
 Nathan Murray Nuclear Power Technology (online)
 Jennifer Nagel Administrative Assistant - Medical
 Theresa Newman Geography
 Levi Nistler Information Processing Specialist
 *Austin Nodland Computer Science
 Mark Perius Information Processing Specialist
 Elma Peterson Business Administration
 Elisha Placek-Solomonson Education
 Courtney Reiswig Administrative Assistant - Legal
 Angela Rislov Nursing, RN
 Lindsey Ruscheinsky Administrative Assistant - General
 Jillian Ryan Web Page Development and Design (Online)
 Jordan Schell Geology
 *Steven Schild Computer Support Specialist
 Emily Schumacher Human Services
 Kayla Shea Biology
 Kimberly Stewart Accounting
 Catherine Sullivan Electric Power Technology (online)
 Joshua Taghon English
 Jordan Taghon Introductory Chemistry
 Adam Tollefsrud Geographic Information Systems Technician
 *Aaron Vinje Instrumentation & Control
 Tonya Vogel Medical Lab Technician
 *Brandon Wetch Theatre

All USA Academic Team Nominees

*Breann Harm

*Kalyn Retterath

Phi Theta Kappa

Antonio Alamo
Cherelynn Allard
*Karleigh Allard
Charles Ammons
Rachel Bachmeier
Jason Baggett
Danielle Bailly
*Austin Balk
Carol Ballantine
Robin Barfield-mcginnis
Kaleb Barstad
William Bates
Jennifer Beach
Heidi Belohlavek
Kylie Berger
Christopher Blevens
Eileen Boulden
Regan Brilz
Robert Bruno
Lucas Buchholz
Arin Buringrud
Eden Butler
*Ashlie Carnes
Matthew Cartier
Kenny Castaneda
Frances Chaney
Courtney Cheramie
Jessica Church
*Jerika Cleveland
Scott Crawford
*Alistair Crockett
Stuart Dahl
*Paul Dalzell
*Brandi Davidson
Tory Dehlin
Forrest Dockter
Victoria Douglas
Anthony Duffy
Kelly Dugan
Alexander Duppong
*Vernon Eckel
Brienne Engelhart
*Bethany Erickson
Michael Estes
Jodie Ewert
*Tiffany Fletschock
Timothy Floyd
Keely Fogarty
Jack French
Stacy Fritz
Nicole Frohlich
Tanner Garen
Jimmy Goodrich
Phitroy Gordon
Christopher Gorrie
*Sarah Gregg
*Sierra Hall
*Phillip Hamilton
*Kyle Hanson
John Hart
Holly Haynes
Jesse Herre
Austin Hilzendeger
Harold Hoadley
*Jordan Hochhalter
*Kellie Hoffman

Jessica Hollingsworth
*Dakota Hoots
Adam Howe
Henry Howell
Rocky Hushcka
*Sean Hushagen
Brian Jeppson
Joy Jochim
*Shelby Johnson
Brooks Keegan
Kaitlin Keeler
*Godfried Kenah
Matt Kerzman
Clare King
Collin Kittelson
*Alaina Kloster
Edward Kowalczyk
Merry Kraft
Kristen Kramer
Hanna Kuhnley
Alonzo LaBarr
Cyndy Laber
John Landry
*Garret Larson
Jeffrey Layton
*Jacob Legreid
Mark Lobberecht
Derek Lockrem
*Tausha Lowe
Zachary Magstadt
*Joy Manning
William Martin
Christina Massey
Christopher McArthur
Brian McNaughton
*Scott Meeker
Amy Meyer
*Sarah Morris
Daniel Moscatiello
James Myers
*David Neff
Thereasa Newman
Timothy Olszowy
Kayla Papka
Joshua Papsan
Jesse Peterson
Kate Peterson
Tessa Peuser
*Jayme Pischel
Joseph Polise
Josiah Pruitt
Bethany Rants
Charles Rebhun
*Kaitlin Regan
*Jared Reinisch
Kimberly Reiss
Michael Remour
Edward Rhodes
Shea Roberson
Timothy Roy
Layn Sabot
Sarah Sanborn
*Cale Schafer
Devin Schaner
*Elizabeth Schaner
Amy Schiff

Anna Schmidt
David Schofield
*Courtney Schumacher
Charles Schwols
Alison Serr
Eli Severson
Jennifer Shaff
*Marete Snortland-Banks
William Spruill
*Brett Steele
Kimberly Stewart
Eric Stockie
Catherine Sullivan
Bryan Swindell
Amy Taylor
Russell Trotman
Chris Umana
*Robin Van Huis
Morgan Vandal
Connie Vaught
Jamie Vetsch
*Mary Wagner
Melissa Wagner
Nathan Wagner
*Taylor Wanner
*Brandon Wetch
Lucas Winterberg
*Christopher Wolf
*Allison Wolf
Paul Zane
Phillip Zaragoza

Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges

*Kenneth Bahm
*Courtney Hausauer
*Desirae Messer
*Cole Miller

Emily Paul
*Jared Reinisch
*Kalyn Retterath

*Meagan Veitz
*Christa Werlinger
*Brandon Wetch

Board of Governors

Daniel Deck
*Breann Harm
Jessica Harmel
*Courtney Hausauer
Dustin Jundt

Zachary Magstadt
Kyle Olson
Aaron Polensky
Megan Presser
*Jared Reinisch

Chase Renner
*Kalyn Retterath
*Taylor Wanner

"I didn't come here willingly. I said, I'm coming for a year and I'm leaving. I'm glad I didn't. I don't have any student loans and I'll have my school paid off when I leave here. It's super nice just to say that. Thinking about not coming here ... it would have been a missed opportunity. I'm glad I'm here." – Alyssa Myer, current student

Courtney Hausauer receives her Board of Governors Award from Dr. Drake Carter, provost and vice president for academic affairs



Phi Beta Lambda Chapter Who's Who

Kayla Crook

*Kalyn Retterath

Donors make a difference

Donors make an incredible difference to BSC. Their support allows the

Foundation to provide scholarships to students, fund campus equipment needs and support activities that help make BSC a great place for education and training.

The Foundation welcomes new and renewing President's Club members for April 1 through June 30, 2013.

Associated Builders
Patrick Atkinson
AVI Systems
Brad and Claudia Ballweber
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Frank and Joanne Bavendick
Jay and Jean Beyer
Bismarck Title Company
BlackRidge BANK
Border States Electric
Robb and Mary Boyd
CenturyLink
Cody Oil & Gas Corporation
Daffinrud & Heinert CPA's
Dakota Bumper & Body Supply
Ralph Dockter
Domino's Pizza
Bryan and Cynthia Dvirnak
EAPC
Frontier Precision, Inc.
Gate City Bank
GOJC, Inc
Great River Energy
Irish Oil & Gas
Loren Kopseng
Dr. Eugene and Carol Kralicek Bequest
Magi-Touch Carpet One
McQuade Distributing
MDU Resources Foundation
Midwest Motor Express, Inc.
Missouri Valley Petroleum
ND Council on the Arts
Joan Nordstrom
North Dakota Agricultural Association
North Dakota Ethanol Council
Northern Plains Plumbing & Heating
Pine Petroleum, Inc.
Quality Title
Ramkota Hotel
Red Trail Energy, LLC
Roughrider Electric Cooperative
Barry and Susan Schuchard
Southridge Chiropractic Center
State Legislative Leaders Foundation
Jeffrey and Tamara Ubl
Verendrye Electric Cooperative
Scott Wegner
Wells Fargo Bank

The Foundation welcomes new and renewing Executive Club members for April 1 through June 30, 2013.

D & E Supply Company Inc
Dakota Eye Institute
Eastgate Funeral Services
KEM Electric Coop Inc.
Al and Karen Wolf

In memoriam

Contributions were made to the Foundation in memory/honor of: Given by:

Clementine Ehlis Dr. Kermit Lidstrom
Lucille "Lucy" Emter BSC Employees
Dean Gunsch..... Ronald and Kathleen Gappert
RBR Motorsports, LLC
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Dr. Kermit Lidstrom
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Richard Weber
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Joe and Nancy Woodmansee
Andrew Zachmeier
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Robert "Bob" Kuntz EAPC
Jeffrey and Tamara Ubl
Henry and Agnes Miller Everett and Bev Miller
Robert Nordstrom Ashley Medical Center
Dakota Eye Institute
Bryan and Betty Erickson
Dr. E.B. and Lynne Grossmann
Lolly Kadrmas
Joan Nordstrom
Mary Peterson
Sara Pic
James and Evelyn Spangler
Employees of St. Alexius Medical Center
Women's & Children's area
Steven and Barbara Stickley
Ray and Kathleen Thompson
Hilary and Lisa Wald
Margaret Olson Bismarck-Mandan Retired
Teachers Association
Robert "Bob" Peterson Dr. Kermit Lidstrom
Donald Russell Loren Kopseng
Tollie Schaumberg Bismarck-Mandan Retired
Teachers Association
Mary Lou Shriver BSC Employees
Joy Simon BSC Employees
Earl Skogley Dr. Kermit Lidstrom
Robert "Bob" Stenehjelm State Legislative
Leaders Foundation
Norman Stromstad BSC Employees
Marjorie Thorne
Larry Swenson BSC Employees
Peggy Wipf ND University System Foundation

For more information on making a donation or contribution to the BSC Foundation, go to bismarckstate.edu/Foundation.

Alumni Award recipients through the years

The BSC Alumnus of the Year Award is the highest honor given by the BSC National Alumni Association. The award was created in 1978 to honor members of the BSC alumni family who have demonstrated exceptional professional and personal success. In selecting recipients, the Alumni Association considers not only professional achievement, but also each nominee's community service, volunteerism and leadership.

The Rising Star award was established in 2006 to recognize the accomplishments of alumni who have demonstrated exceptional achievements in career, public service or volunteer activities unique for someone so recently graduated.

Alumnus of the Year Award Recipients

1978.....	Ted Boutrous '41
	Mary Moses Schwichtenberg '43
	Myron Atkinson '47
1979.....	Tom Baker '41
1980.....	Beulah Hedahl '41
1981.....	Tom Jordan '54
1982.....	Dr. Curtis Juhala '61
1983.....	Ev Miller '55
1984.....	Gordon Weiss '69
1985.....	Dennis Meyer '58
1986.....	Patricia Higgins Caudel '51
1987.....	Lee Gurke '66
1988.....	Dr. Lawrence Watson '67
1989.....	Rod Tjaden '61
1990.....	Edwin Edlund '41
	Dorothy Mueller Edlund '41
1991.....	Barbara Gibbons Evanson '64
1992.....	Dalles Krause '53
1993.....	Warren Arman '54
1994.....	J. Michael McCormack '62
1995.....	Harley Swenson '56
1996.....	Bert Gerhart '61
1997.....	Morris Tschider '52
	Irene Boehm Tschider '57
1998.....	Frank Koch '62
1999.....	LaVonn Boehm Steiner '62
2000.....	Gerald Skogley '54
	Linda Juhala '62
2001.....	Tony Welder '58
	Tim Holtan '74
2002.....	Pat Dirk '69
	Rich Karlgaard '74

2003.....	Dr. Charles E. Murry '79
2004.....	Mike Wickstrom '53
2005.....	Gary E. Johnson, Ph.D. '63
2006.....	Linda Hansen Falkman '68
2007.....	Chuck Suchy '68
2008.....	Dr. Cheryl Elsbernd '81
	David Farnsworth '75
2009.....	Al Jaeger '63
2010.....	Dr. Michael R. Brown '82
	Dr. Ron Tello '70
2011.....	Wayne Stenehjem '72
2012.....	Tamra Halmrast-Sanchez '79
2013.....	William Goetz '64

Rising Star Award Recipients

2006.....	Alison Fallgatter '94
2007.....	Ken Bischof '92
2008.....	Chad Ellingson '91
	Julie Schaff Ellingson '93
2009.....	Jon Fornshell '93
	Troy Sterling Nies '96 and '04
2010.....	Amanda Lewis '98
2011.....	Preston Schmidt '07
2012.....	Mick Miller '99
2013.....	Sam Coleman '99

To learn more about the
BSC National Alumni Association,
visit bismarckstate.edu/alumni.

Class Connections

Send Class Connections to:

Marnie Piehl

BSC, PO Box 5587

Bismarck, ND 58506 or e-mail to:

Marnie.Piehl@bismarckstate.edu



Lee Gurke



Ellen Stanton-Nelson



Paula Marschner

Retired U. S. Navy Captain and 1987 Alumnus of the Year, **Lee Gurke**, '66, received the Outstanding Alumni Award from the American Association of Community Colleges in April.

Ellen Stanton-Nelson, '63, retired after 34 years of civil service with Grand Forks AFB, Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Postal Service. She now enjoys traveling and training horses in Warden, Wash.

Jill Rosenow, '69, was honored for 40 years of service to the City of Bismarck. Rosenow works in the finance department.

Colleen Pearce, '73, recently was honored for 35 years with the N.D. Department of Health.

David Wald, '81, has been named advisor of the year by Securian Financial Advisors of North Dakota.

Sue Heidt Bacon, '82, was named Director of Technology of the Year for Minnesota School Districts – the first woman to receive this award in Minnesota.

Kari Warberg-Block, '82, was selected as the U.S. Small Business Administration Small Business Person of the Year and was honored in Washington, D.C., in June. Block is CEO of Earth-Kind, Inc., which manufactures Fresh Cab Rodent Repellent, all-natural air fresheners and private label products for the professional pest management industry.

Doreen Streyle Riedman, '83, recently accepted the position of associate state director-community outreach with AARP North Dakota. She will work with volunteers across the state, engaging

them on issues related to AARP. For the past 16 years, she has served as the executive officer of the North Dakota Association of Builders.

Joe Kalvoda, '86, was named the new South Central High School principal by the Bismarck School District.

Gloria (Sorenson) Reiss, '90, is the owner and sole employee of Buffalo Creek Art Studio, a picture frame shop and photography studio. She is also the office manager for her son-in-law's construction company. Along with her husband, **Jerry Reiss**, '90, she gardens on a small farm in Cass County, North Dakota. She can be found online at GloriaBCAS.smugmug.com.

Paula Marschner, '94 and '09, earned her master's degree in management info systems from Minot State University. She also received the 2013 MSU Citation of Excellence award given to the outstanding graduate student in the college's post-graduate degree program. Her accomplishments include holding a 3.75 cumulative GPA average through all her graduate study, while holding down a full time job and publishing an article in the International Journal of Innovation and Business Strategy. Marschner lives in Bismarck and is employed by the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System.

Masai Ujiri, '94, was named the NBA's executive of the year. The former general manager of the Denver Nuggets moved to the Toronto Raptors soon after.

The art of **Sam Coleman**, '99, is on display in the state offices of the governor, first lady and attorney general as part of an ongoing program between the N.D. Council on the Arts and the governor and first lady. Coleman received the 2013 Rising Star Award from BSC.

Stephanie Gray, '99, has been hired as a marketing coordinator with AE2S in Bismarck.

Nikki Bushaw, '04, joined Brady Martz & Associates, PC, in the outsource services department.

Karen Stenehjelm, '04, is working in the accounting and tax departments at Ritter Adair & Associates PC in Bismarck.

Heather Dever, '05, was hired as the office coordinator at G&R Controls and Balancing Professionals.

Luke Gardiner, '05, was promoted to the rank of sergeant with the Bismarck Police Department.

Justin Weninger, '05, was hired as a business banker with Bremer Bank in Bismarck.

Ashli Horner, '09, recently joined Brady, Martz & Associates.

Luke Torgerson, '09, is the new youth director at Charity Lutheran Church in Bismarck.

ShaLee Schoch, '10, is a collection officer II in student loan services at the Bank of North Dakota.

Jarrold Auer, '11, was promoted to internal auditor at Kirkwood Bank & Trust, Bismarck.

Darrel Kempel, '12, was hired by Basin Electric Power Cooperative as an operator/technician at its Pioneer Generation Station near Williston.

April Wald, '12, joined the accounting staff at Miller Insulation. She has an associate's degree in administrative assistant-general.

The N.D. Stockmens' Association has hired two BSC alumni. **Annie Allen**, '13, was named communications director, and **Michael Dettmann**, Jr., '97, is the west river fieldman.

Thank you for being part of the story

Within this publication you will find the stories of BSC's past. The stories of BSC's future are happening every day – during advisory board meetings, at basketball games, in classrooms and in chance meetings in hallways. New students and employees arrive, classes are added, students become graduates, and higher education requirements and our processes evolve.

We'll keep telling you these stories and others, but we don't have much of a story to tell without you. We need you to comment, share, teach, volunteer, enroll, donate, participate, be proud, and be there as an alumnus, advisor, employee, student or friend of Bismarck State. Thank you for your engagement. Please keep in touch and keep the stories coming.

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