As North Dakota shifts and evolves within the energy revolution of the 21st century, Bismarck State College also must shift and evolve. We are putting our innate innovation to work in navigating these changes. Looking beyond to new horizons, new landscapes – thanks to unprecedented economic growth in North Dakota. How we educate our people and partner with industry is changing. Whom we educate is changing. Young people are foregoing or putting off traditional college to work in high paying jobs. Mid-life students are looking to extend their careers and deepen their skills. Our job is to provide education that fits their lives.

And so we’re adjusting, building, changing and growing. We’re adapting and, always looking beyond what we know to what is coming. We, along with thousands of native North Dakotans and thousands of new North Dakotans are mapping as we go.

Dear Friend of BSC,

Within these pages, you will find the trailblazing, landmark-making, adventurous forays that defined our last fiscal year. It’s been another year of navigating our beyond – a limitless place very much tied to the momentum of North Dakota. Whenever I talk to young people I make this point very forcefully: At no time in the history of North Dakota have young people had such opportunity as they have today. Whether one wants to go quickly into the workforce after receiving a technical degree, or pursue a four-year or professional degree, opportunity abounds in our state. And the role of Bismarck State in nurturing that opportunity has never been more relevant.

You'll see that our accomplishments ranged widely last year. From travels to Rome with students, to telling North Dakotans’ stories of 9/11 back home, we are taking our unique North Dakota energy to the world. We’re branching out via new programs and ramped-up social media activity, but we’re also shoring up our foundation by improving upon our processes, and updating the campus. We’re looking ahead as well with plans in place for our BSC Communications and Creative Arts Center, and the benefits of our Title III grant.

We couldn’t do any of this without the dedication and excellence of our employees. You will find in 2011-12 that they never stopped striving – for more education and better results. Of course, our students are the heart of Bismarck State and they truly blazed trails with their energy and drive this past year.

Looking ahead, we know that students’ ability to embrace the unknown will lead North Dakota into its bright future. Things have never been more exciting in North Dakota than they are today, and I am proud to be at BSC’s helm as we look to the horizon.

Thank you for supporting this great institution. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about where Bismarck State has been or where we’re going.

Larry C. Skogen, Ph.D., President, Bismarck State College
Students break trails wherever they roam

Skilled students
Sixteen students earned awards during the annual Skills USA State Leadership and Skills Conference held on the BSC campus in April. Once again Lee Friese, associate professor of Automotive Technology, coordinated the conference in which more than 600 students from across the state competed in more than 40 areas. Eight BSC students went on to the national Skills USA competition in Kansas City.

Lights, camera, action!
BSC’s Advanced Video Production class capped the second season of its television show, MystiCast, with a live broadcast that aired on bismarckstate.edu/live and Dakota Media Access channel 12.

The students also conducted a live broadcast of a BSC Mystics basketball game earlier this year. Episodes from both seasons of MystiCast can be found on the BSC MystiCast YouTube channel.

BSC students dominate symposium
Six computer science students staged a stunning upset at the Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium (MICS) this year. The students racked up first place wins in the robotics and programming contests, beating dozens of teams made up of juniors, seniors and graduate students from four-year colleges across the region.

Gilliss named to NJCAA 2012 Basketball Hall of Fame
Buster Gilliss, BSC athletic director, was named by the NJCAA Men’s Basketball Coaches Association to the 2012 Basketball Hall of Fame.

Gilliss has been coaching for 30 years. Gilliss was named Region 13 Coach of the Year 11 times and was a three-time NJCAA District Coach of the Year.

Women’s teams honored for academics
The Mystic volleyball and women’s soccer teams both earned NJCAA Academic Team of the Year honors for 2011-12.

Nine Mystics earn NJCAA academic awards
Five student athletes earned NJCAA Superior Academic Achievement awards – meaning they had GPAs of 3.80-3.99. The students include Nicole Fisher, Mandan (women’s soccer); Markie Henry, Bismarck (volleyball); Kristen Hill, Bismarck (volleyball); Jenna Maas, Hazen (volleyball); and Sheldon Weisbeck, Herreid, S.D. (basketball).

Another four athletes earned GPAs of 3.60-3.79, earning NJCAA Exemplary Academic Achievement: Lacey Brilz, Bismarck (soccer); Macie Harris, Kenmare (golf); Joey Schuler, Bismarck (baseball); and Steve Serr, Mandan (baseball).

Baseball players named all-conference
Brett Bryan, a sophomore from Mandan, was selected for the Mon-Dak All Conference and All-Region XIII Baseball Team. Sophomore Steve Serr, Mandan, and freshman Brad McArthur, Sturgis, S.D., were named to the All Region XIII Baseball Team.

BSC launches women’s softball and soccer
The inaugural season of the BSC women’s fast pitch softball kicked off March 31 with their first game against Dawson Community College. The team is coached by Kylee Wilson.

Women’s soccer is also new. An up and coming women’s sport in North Dakota, Coach Mel Fischer, looks to build a successful program in the next couple of years.
Armchair travels – events that took us places

9/11 Symposium
BSC’s 9/11 Symposium brought together the history and stories of the most infamous day of the 21st Century. A BSC-produced documentary, 100 Stories, collected the 9/11 stories of North Dakotans and visitors; speakers provided historical and sociological context of the event and students and the community interacted with state and national figures. Learn more at impactontheheartland.org.

Investigating Hammett
Each year the BSC Campus Read committee chooses one book and encourages students, employees and the public to read it and engage in a variety of activities that encourage discussion. In 2011, the Campus Read was The Maltese Falcon by Dashiell Hammett. The author’s granddaughter, Julie Rivett, and Hammett scholar Dr. Richard Layman visited campus and inspired vigorous conversations about literature, intrigue, exotic locales, and, particularly, Hammett.

The energy of North Dakota
BSC was the site of three major energy events this past year. In November researchers, entrepreneurs, policy makers and industry leaders gathered for the 5th Annual Great Plains & EmPower ND Energy Expo. The conference brought together energy experts to promote North Dakota’s current energy development and its potential for further growth.

June brought both the 5th Annual Renewable Energy Action Summit and the North Dakota Governor’s Pipeline Summit to BSC.

A worldview through diversity
The BSC Embracing Diversity Committee hosted a visit from filmmaker Patrick Mureithi who commented upon and showed his movie ICYIZERE: Hope. The film explores the reconciliation activities going on in Rwanda since the genocide of 1994.

A world of art
ArtsQuest is an annual series of creative and artistic activities, shows and engagements held on the BSC campus and focused on the advancement, awareness and celebration of the arts at BSC. This year’s events included author and zombie expert Max Brooks, musical group Kansas and much more. The 2012 event also incorporated a Tumblr blog as part of BSC’s ever expanding social media presence.

Forays into the world (wide web)
BSC significantly expanded its social media presence in the past year. In addition to sharing dozens of new program-specific videos with potential students and the public, the college ramped up its presence on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube. Find us, friend us and engage with us.

Conversations at BSC
In its fifth year, Conversations at BSC is a series of conversations designed to enrich the community’s understanding of historical and contemporary topics. Each conversation begins with a presentation by Clay Jenkinson, BSC distinguished humanities scholar, followed by discussion with BSC President Larry C. Skogen, an historian, and their occasional guests. This past year they discussed Henry Thoreau, Sitting Bull, and sacred places; brought in distinguished scholar Dr. Herman Viola and discussed human trafficking with God’s Child Project founder, Patrick Atkinson.
Global connections and collaborations

Utah students can earn BAS
BSC signed an articulation agreement with Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) for students planning to enroll in BSC’s Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Energy Management online program. Graduates of SLCC’s two-year program in Energy Management now can feed directly into the BAS program.

Connected to Connecticut
A new partnership with Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) and the Connecticut Community College System (CCCS) provides online Electric Power Technology classes to students enrolled in the CCCS. Currently, 14 CCCS students are enrolled in three different classes. Qualified candidates will be prepared for a career as an electric power utility line mechanic or cable splicer.

Ghana partnership explored
BSC is exploring the possibility of an energy technology education partnership with Takoradi Polytechnic of Ghana. Last August, Rev. Daniel Nyarko, president of Takoradi Polytechnic, visited BSC as a follow up to the 2009 visit to Ghana by Kari Knudson, vice president of the BSC National Energy Center of Excellence, and BSC president Dr. Larry C. Skogen. The partnership is in the early stages, but could involve both an exchange training program and online courses.

University of Mary & BSC enhance ties
An articulation agreement with University of Mary ensures that general education classes and ten specific program areas at BSC are wholly integrated with University of Mary’s programs. BSC students now can even more easily transfer to the University of Mary to earn bachelor’s degrees.

The degree programs included in the agreement include Athletic Training, Exercise Science, Physical Education, Respiratory Therapy, Sport and Leisure Management, Music, Music with Emphasis in Sacred Music, Music Education, Political Philosophy, Management and the Computer Support Specialist Program which will transfer to the University of Mary’s Information Technology Management Program.

A titanic production
University of Mary and BSC produced their first joint theatre production, “Titanic the Musical” last spring. Set on the ocean liner the RMS Titanic, which sank on its maiden voyage on April 15, 1912, the musical took on the epic proportions of its namesake, with 38 cast members and more than 50 other students on the musical, technical and production teams, in addition to extensive faculty and staff involvement.
Bismarck State College is the third largest institution of higher learning in North Dakota – after UND and NDSU. We are larger than Minot State University, Dickinson State University and Valley City State University. And yet, our physical footprint remains conservative. But, like every other impacted area of ND, our growth demands some brick and mortar response. We are proud that our work in this realm is highly collaborative, conservative and fiscally responsible.

MDU Resources Community Bowl
The renovations kicked off in June and completion is expected by Spring 2014. The Bowl improvements include new locker rooms, updated concessions, improved stands, suite seating and more.

The Bowl is operated by the Community Bowl Authority made up of Bismarck Public Schools, BSC, the City of Bismarck, University of Mary, St. Mary’s Central High School, and Bismarck Parks and Recreation. The facility is managed by BSC.

NECE fourth floor
BSC received legislative funding in 2011 to finish the fourth floor of this landmark facility. The finished space will include a large stateroom, a laboratory, a classroom, storage space, a catering kitchen and workforce training rooms. Completion is expected by late 2012.

Robert A. Kuntz Physical Plant Building
Upon completion in early 2013, the new physical plant will house physical plant staff, vehicle, equipment and supply storage, and mail center operations.

Communications and Creative Arts Center
A grant of $108,000 from the North Dakota Office of Management and Budget allowed BSC to invest in a structural integrity analysis of the current library as well as preliminary plans for a Communications and Creative Arts Center on campus.

Initial results show that the current library (built in 1964) has major structural and safety issues – making replacement necessary. If the center is approved, it would not only benefit BSC, but also expand Bismarck-Mandan’s role as the cultural center of central and western North Dakota.

The Center would host college and community events, house galleries for art and artifacts, include studios, production facilities and classrooms, shared space for creative learning, offices, and a learning commons – the 21st century version of a library.

Mapping BSC in 3D
Tyler Paul, ’08 and ’11, is volunteering his time to create a 3D model of the BSC campus that will be uploaded to Google Earth within the next year. He is working closely with BSC professors Jean Rolandelli, Mark Steele and Scott Agnew on the project. The map will provide a birds-eye, multidirectional view of the campus, fly-through videos as well as building and landscaping details all stamped onto a terrain model of Google Earth.

“MIT and Boston University have done it. It’s like a living map; you add more buildings as needed. The infrastructure helps people know where to go,” Paul says.

Read more about Paul and the mapping effort in the July 2012 issue of Connections bismarckstate.edu/Connections.

Former BSC president honored
Dr. Donna S. Thigpen, BSC’s fifth president, received the college’s highest award at the 72nd commencement in May. Thigpen accepted the Distinguished Service Award from President Larry C. Skogen for guiding BSC from a traditional campus to a forward-thinking institution that offers on-campus and state-of-the-art online education.

During her 11 years at BSC, Dr. Thigpen excelled at creating partnerships with business and industry, and collaborating with other colleges. Dr. 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 a successful $18.3 million capital campaign to build it.
Meanwhile, back at the ranch...

100 percent outstanding
Not only is demand high for graduates with health-related degrees, the quality of BSC’s graduates is high. Students taking their professional exams in emergency medical tech, surgical technology medical lab technology, and phlebotomy achieved 100 percent pass rates this past year. Surgical technology has achieved 100 percent for four years; and medical laboratory technology has a 100 percent first-time pass rate for all graduates since 1998.

Excellence across programs
Three programs, Agriculture, Technology and Natural Resources; Power Plant Technology; and Process Plant Technology, earned Director’s Awards of Excellence from the N.D. Career and Technology Education Department.

Military friendliness recognized
BSC was included in the magazine Military Advanced Education in its 2012 Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities Honorees.

Three new programs
BSC added three new programs in the past year – Petroleum Production Technology, Petroleum Engineering Technology and Sustainable Construction Technology.

Three named to annual 40 Under 40 list
BSC is well represented in the annual 40 Under 40 listing compiled by the Bismarck Tribune with two current and one former employee cited as “ones to watch.”
• Kyren Miller, associate professor, NECE
• Jeanne Masseth, training manager for BSC CETI
• Kari Bitz, former BSC admissions counselor

Baby friendly
BSC was one of the first North Dakota businesses to be recognized as infant-friendly by the N.D. Department of Health. BSC’s breast feeding policy offers flexibility, storage and locations that support breast-feeding mothers.

Bob Arso takes part in 9/11 event
Robert Arso, a BSC department chair and native of Brooklyn, N.Y., was named an official stitcher of the National 9/11 Flag. Arso was among a handful of North Dakotans chosen from nominations by the New York Says Thank You Foundation to sew a restorative patch to the 9/11 flag. The foundation brought the flag to the N.D. Capitol in August of 2011 as part of a tour in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the World Trade Center attacks.

Blazing a trail – new class developed
Mark Steele, assistant professor of Engineering Technology and Geographic Information Systems, has been working with the Instructional Technology department to create a new hybrid CAD course combining the traditional on-campus class with the use of Blackboard software to bring distance students into the virtual classroom. The entire class period is recorded and will be available immediately after the class has ended for online playback. According to Steele, this delivery evolution provides a new style of learning for online students, allows time for more material, is more appealing to industry and the content appeals to specific industry roles.

Karen Bauer receives $25K Jack Fellowship
Karen Bauer, assistant professor of journalism, is the tenth recipient of the Jack Fellowship Award from the BSC Foundation. The $25,000 fellowship helps BSC employees further their education, conduct research or pursue other professional development.

Bauer plans to use the fellowship to complete a master’s degree in journalism education from the University of Missouri - Columbia. The online program will allow her to remain full time at BSC, where she has taught since 2000.
More news from the homefront

College fair at BSC
Each year the high schools in Bismarck and Mandan host a college fair in which BSC participates. This year the fair was held at the Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy for the first time, bringing 572 regional students to the BSC campus.

BSC students travel to Italy
Barb Jirges, visual arts instructor, BSC President Larry C. Skogen and humanities scholar Clay Jenkinson, led BSC students on a ten-day educational tour of Rome and Florence, Italy. Hosted by the University of Mary’s Rome campus, the group had a private tour of the Sistine Chapel, saw the Coliseum and visited Michelangelo’s tomb in Florence.

Monster speaker sighted
Monster Ideas and Brainsqualling blew through campus during World Creativity and Innovation Week April 15-21, 2012, when the BSC Office of Innovation brought graphic and creativity guru Stefan Mumaw to BSC. The author of “Caffeine for the Creative Team” and “Chasing the Monster Idea,” regaled nearly 150 people during three presentations.

A record smashing splash
The 2012 U.S. Paralympic Swimming Trials were held at the BSC Aquatic & Wellness Center in June 2012. At the conclusion of three days of competition, a total of 99 American, 37 PanAm and 12 world records were set.

Managing boom times together
An informal mentoring program sprang up last winter between Williston State College (WSC) and BSC with an initial visit to WSC by a group of BSC team members. The Williston team returned the visit a month later. Due to the number of professionals moving into energy industry roles, WSC has a young administrative team who appreciated the chance to share information with BSC’s more seasoned team. BSC’s employees gained valuable insight into the challenges and opportunities WSC faces due to the oil boom.

Music to our campus
The 2012 NDHSAA State Class B Music Contest was held May 5 at BSC. More than 1,600 students representing 115 high schools participated in the event. Performances included vocal and instrumental solos and groups of up to 12 students.

National Day of the Deployed
BSC hosted a special ceremony marking the first National Day of the Deployed. Beginning as a statewide event to acknowledge the service of military members and their families who deploy to the far corners of our world, the day has gained momentum around the country. Sen. John Hoeven sponsored legislation to recognize the Day nationally.
The BSC Foundation pursues grants available to community colleges from federal, state and private sources. Those grants are used to support special strategic initiatives such as new programs, specialized equipment, new buildings and other major efforts. In the past year, the BSC Foundation awarded $591,686 in grants and awards to BSC.

**Outside grants**

BSC received several large federal and private grants throughout the year. In 2011-12, the Bremer Bank Foundation provided $167,955 for nursing equipment which was matched by a grant from the North Dakota Department of Commerce Workforce Enhancement Division.

U.S. Department of Education Title III, Part A: Strengthening Institutions Program granted nearly $2 million to achieve three objectives at BSC:

1. Identify and centralize BSC campus data to assist in strategic planning and decision-making.
2. Identify and develop data to assess student success by tracking the student life cycle and program outcomes.
3. Train BSC employees to use collaborative technologies to access data and contribute to data-informed decision making.

The Title III grant includes an endowment of $322,091 that will be matched through funds raised by the BSC Foundation.

**Foundation grants**

The BSC Foundation provided funding for several worthy projects across campus this past year, including:

- 2012 Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference and Competition
- 42nd Annual BSC Graphic Design and Communications ‘Spring Show’ Student Design
- BookTalk at BSC 2012
- BSC NECE Summer Academy
- BSC Sing Appeal
- BSC Summer Ag Academy
- BSC Visiting Writers Series 2012-13
- Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival
- Commencement ceremony upgrade project
- Theatre Arts program collaboration with Capitol Shakespeare

The Foundation also supports individual employees in their educational and professional development pursuits. The individuals who benefited from these grants include:

- Mary Eisenbraun, student finance operations manager – Tuition and books for a bachelor’s degree
- Kristin Ellingson, scholarship and verification specialist – Tuition toward a bachelor’s degree
- Susan Hartley, CETI administrative assistant – Tuition toward a bachelor’s degree in organizational innovation
- Jeanne Masseth, CETI training manager – Tuition toward a doctorate in educational leadership and management
- Mary Morrell, administrative assistant – Tuition toward a bachelor’s degree
- Deidre Pugh, OSHA assistant – Tuition and books toward a master’s degree in forensic psychology
- Darcy Roberts, admissions assistant – Tuition for bachelor’s degree
- Kristi Tetzloff, Customer Support & Transcript Request Assistant – Classes in pursuit of a bachelor’s degree in University Studies at Dickinson State University
- Vickie Volk, associate professor of computer support specialist – Summer courses for doctorate in teaching and learning

With support from a BSC Foundation grant we were able to purchase brand new, versatile choral risers. New equipment doesn’t just make life easier at face value, but boosts morale, confidence and camaraderie! ... for going “beyond” for our students, I extend my deepest appreciation to BSC.

– Andrew Miller, assistant professor of music
Navigating the next leg of the journey

In 2011-12, a 30-member BSC task force consisting of representatives from BSC and the community met monthly as a group, and in frequent work sessions. The result of the immeasurable effort of this team is a five-year strategic plan that will keep our college on track to grow, innovate and go beyond in every possible way from 2013-2018.

As President Larry C. Skogen says, “a strategic plan is as necessary as a flight plan on a cross-country flight, a game book for a football game or a score for an orchestra.” Or as important as a map in the wilderness.

The 2013 Strategic Plan has five goals and dozens of strategies with those.

Strategic Plan goals

- Brand BSC for Beyond
- Enhance student experience
- Strengthen collaborative relationships
- Ensure high quality education
- Use technology effectively

Achieving the strategic plan goals will bring BSC to the journey’s destination, Bismarck State College circa 2018. We’re calling this our future perfect state. It is what BSC will look like in 2018 if this plan is leveraged for the next five years. The team felt this was a realistic future, one that shows BSC beyond its current status, achieving its promise thanks to the hard work of hundreds.

Future perfect

BSC is the first choice for traditional students in the area and non-traditional students from everywhere.

BSC’s integrity and excellence are the foundation for our partnerships and collaborations with people, organizations and educational institutions that support and drive North Dakota’s economy.

We provide an affordable, high quality education based on an innovative and dynamic approach to teaching, learning and life. Leveraging best practices and innovative new approaches, we successfully launch well-rounded, well-prepared and much sought-after graduates into the world.

Our students have a vibrant college experience, take great pride in the college and are prepared for personal and civic success.

As the crow flies

The strategic planning process produced more than just a strategic plan. Even in working through the process, the campus has seen results and benefits.

Part of strategic planning included using a process mapping tool to identify gaps and changes to current activities. Mapping the lifecycle of our employees was one early effort that almost immediately changed BSC’s hiring practices. The college has streamlined how hiring is done and made it possible for new hires to hit the ground running.

The mapping process is so popular, that several members of the team looking at employee lifecycles, went back to their department and identified 14 additional ways to make their work more efficient. These changes were enacted immediately.

Thanks to process mapping, employees are able to get from point A to point B as the crow flies, rather than taking the long way.

Giving back along the way

In addition to receiving, BSC employees also give. During the 2011-12 fiscal year employees gave generously both to the BSC Foundation, the local United Way and various organizations through BSC Denim Days. Employee contributions to the Foundation were $48,764, and BSC exceeded the 2011 United Way campaign goal by more than 20 percent, collecting $10,493. Denim Day contributions were $5,450 for 2011-12.
### OPERATING REVENUES

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### NON-OPERATING REVENUES/(EXPENSES)

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### OPERATING EXPENSES

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Mission
Bismarck State College, an innovative community college, offers high quality education, workforce training, and enrichment programs reaching local and global communities.

Vision
Bismarck State College, a national model for innovative education and workforce training