



2010

Great Grads



MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD

Great Grads

“We’ll help you. If you follow the plan, you will be successful too.”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Minnesota State University Moorhead is known for faculty-student engaged learning. This is evidenced by our record of more Carnegie Foundation state or national Professors of the Year than any other university in our system, state or region.

Additional evidence is our composite scores on the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). Our NSSE composite engagement score is the highest in the system. Further, our seniors rated us higher than state and regional comparison groups (which include the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, University of North Dakota and North Dakota State University) on three of the five major indicators: student-faculty interaction, active and collaborative learning, and supportive campus environment.

We provide our students with a wealth of opportunities to challenge themselves and to discover and realize their potential. This publication features just a few of the great graduates of the 2010 MSUM class.

Sincerely,



Edna Mora Szymanski
President, MSU Moorhead



College of Business & Industry



Internship Parlays into Full-Time Bobcat Job

Research project conducted with Professor Sheri Erickson and Dean Marsha Weber, *Using Communication Theory to Analyze Corporate Reporting* expected to be published

Zach Lukes, Finance
Cum Laude, Winter 2010

Lukes’ research project (a study of the health care industry), his broad understanding of financial practices and his summer internship at Bobcat Company led to a full-time financial analyst position at Bobcat, the most extensive compact equipment distribution network in the world.

“I am fortunate to have a job this quickly given the uncertain economy. I believe having both accounting and finance experience made me stand out as a prospective employee.”



Paralegal Graduate Attending Top 20 Law School

Paralegal program and internship provided solid foundation for law school

Amy Schutt, Paralegal
Summa Cum Laude, Honors Program, Spring 2010

Schutt liked the flexible options offered through MSUM’s American Bar Association approved Paralegal major. Her research and writing skills were honed through coursework and tested during an internship at a local law firm.

“MSUM offered the best of both worlds for me. It has the feel of a small, friendly campus where it’s easy to talk to people, and the opportunities of a larger campus, including more internship and networking opportunities.”

More About The College Of Business & Industry

- Facts**
- > Students rank high in national ETS Major Field Test in Business: Accounting & Finance students—top 5%
All Business students—top 25%
 - > Paralegal program one of 74 in nation approved by the American Bar Association.
 - > 80-85% of Paralegal graduates employed in law professions.
 - > Offers the only American Council of Construction Education accredited Construction Management Program in Minnesota.
 - > Construction Management graduates enjoy 100% job placement.
 - > Operations Management program accredited by the Association of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering.
- Companies who hired MSUM interns or graduates:
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| American Crystal Sugar | Hinrichs & Associates | Phoenix International |
| Bank of North Dakota | Hormel | Polaris |
| Best Buy | Integrity Windows | RDO Equipment |
| Bobcat | Jenny-O | Sanford Health |
| Cargill | Medtronics | Scheels |
| Case New Holland | Microsoft | UPS |
| Eide Bailly | Monsanto Molokai | US Bank |
| Enterprise Rental Car | Nodak Mutual Insurance | Waddell & Reed |
| Fiebiger, Swanson, West and Co. | Northwest Mutual Insurance | Wells Fargo |

Achievements

- > Mass Communication students consistently win Emmys and other top honors in the Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Awards, placing MSUM among the four best performing programs in the country, including Arizona State University, University of Maryland and University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.
- > Construction Management students placed first at regional competition, advancing to national competition.
- > School of Business earned AACSB International accreditation – the highest achievement for an educational institution that awards business degrees. Less than 5% of world’s business schools earn this distinction.

More 2010 Great Grads

- > **Dallas Morin**, Operations Management, earned his degree online while living in Iowa. He was recruited to be a materials management director at Essentia Health in Fargo. The company was impressed by his LEAN skills, learned through MSUM.
- > **Samantha Grosz**, Mass Communications, landed a highly competitive internship with Padilla Speer Beardsley, a prestigious, award-winning public relations and marketing firm and that led to a full-time position at Olson, which Ad Age calls one of its “Next A-list Agencies to Watch.”
- > **Peter Weiderholt**, Accounting, was one of first MSUM students to study at Chongqing Technology and Business University in China and completed a short-term international internship at Shineray Motorcycle Company.
- > **Nathan Matson**, Mass Communications, won an Emmy award for producing the documentary, *Inspired by Nature*.

College of Education & Human Services



Education Student Won Minnesota Student Teaching Award

Named 2010 Outstanding Student Teacher by the Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures

Katie Shorma, Elementary Education & Spanish
Summa Cum Laude, Spring 2010

While at MSUM, Shorma was a student teacher at a Moorhead elementary school. That experience resulted in Shorma winning the 2010 Outstanding Student Teacher Award. During her final semester, that same elementary school hired her as a long-term substitute teacher in the Spanish immersion program.

When Shorma applied for a teaching position, she was hired after only one interview as a full-time first grade Spanish immersion teacher in Northfield, Minn.

"Many universities lack what MSUM provides its students: practicum experience early and often throughout one's college career and involved, interested professors who strive to build connections and hone skills in their students as future educators and professionals."



Exercise Science Grad Accepted Into Competitive Master's Program

Accepted to University of Minnesota's Master of Nursing program

Casey Wangen, Exercise Science
Distinction in Engagement, Cum Laude, Spring 2010

Wangen was one of 64 students (from 534 applicants) to be accepted to the University of Minnesota's competitive Master of Nursing program. While at MSUM, Wangen gained a solid foundation in exercise science and he applied his skills as a personal trainer at the Wellness Center.

As a wellness educator at MSUM's Hendrix Health Center, Wangen worked with a team of healthcare professionals, fine-tuning his communication and organizational skills and confirming his desire to work in the medical field. He credits his broad experiences at MSUM for helping him stand out in a field of highly skilled and talented graduate school applicants.

"The camaraderie and experience I gained working with doctors, nurses and community health professionals can't be mimicked anywhere else."

More About The College Of Education & Human Services

- Facts**
- > Over 50 MSUM alumni have been named Teacher of the Year in their state or district. MSUM has more awardees than any other North Dakota or Minnesota university.
 - > In 2010, a team of nursing students completed the ninth annual medical trip to Nicaragua. This experience gives students the opportunity to practice a variety of procedures without the benefit of modern medical equipment.
 - > 100% pass rate on the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination by Counseling and Student Affairs graduates.
 - > 97% pass rate by Social Work graduates on the licensure exam.
 - > Only MnSCU* university offering an undergraduate degree in Health Services Administration.

More 2010 Great Grads

- > **Sara (Schulze) Delaney**, M.S. Speech-Language Pathology, turned her internship into a full-time job as a speech-language pathologist for Pediatric Therapy Partners, Fargo.
- > **Billie Madler**, Doctorate of Nursing Practice, appointed Director of the Nursing Graduate Program at the University of Mary in Bismarck, N.D.
- > **Karmen Ternes**, M.S. Speech-Language Pathology, spent two years as a grad assistant and contracted with a long-term health care provider before graduating.
- > **Jessica Arneson**, Social Work, through her internship experience established a network and coordinated a collaborative initiative to prevent discriminatory immigration legislation in the states of North Dakota and Minnesota. Jessica has been accepted into a graduate program studying Community Development and Non-Profit Leadership.

* MnSCU—Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System

College of Social & Natural Sciences



Alum Earns \$400,000 NIH Grant

Earned a \$400,000 grant through the National Institutes of Health

Craig Kutz, Biology and Chemistry
Summa Cum Laude, Winter 2009

This grant funds tuition and provides an annual stipend for Kutz to attend the Medical Scientist Training Program (M.D./Ph.D.) at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. Kutz is the fourth MSUM student to receive such an award.

Kutz credits strong academic preparation, extracurricular involvement and supportive recommendations for getting him into a highly competitive medical school program.

"Medical/graduate program interviewers consistently commented that my biomedical knowledge and approaches to solving problems were well beyond typical undergraduate educations. I completely and 100% attribute this to the courses offered in my majors, the faculty mentors who constantly pushed me to succeed, and the opportunities that MSUM created outside the classroom."



Goldwater Scholar Pursues Doctorate in Astrophysics

One of two Goldwater Scholars graduating in 2010

Heather Cegla, Physics
Summa Cum Laude, Spring 2010

Cegla is pursuing a Ph.D. in Astrophysics at Queen's University Belfast (Ireland) in a joint program with Vanderbilt University.

Since enrolling at MSUM, Cegla has studied astrophysics around the world—first using computers at MSUM to simulate galaxy formation, then setting up telescope software in Hawaii, and later operating a world-class telescope in Chile. She gained the confidence to pursue these extraordinary opportunities from her MSUM faculty.

"Operating a famous telescope by myself was an awesome experience. The faculty assistance here is the best. Everyone really does believe in you."

More About The College Of Social & Natural Sciences

- Facts**
- > 90% student applicants accepted into medical school
 - > 85% student applicants accepted into pre-professional and graduate schools
 - > 75% Economics graduates accepted to graduate school or law school including:
 - Claremont Graduate School
 - University of Utah
 - Purdue University
 - William Mitchell Law School
 - University of Illinois
 - > Only university in the tri-state region offering an undergraduate degree in Gerontology.
 - > Political Science and Legal Studies graduates went on to attend:
 - Creighton University Law School
 - Drake University Law School
 - Harvard Law School
 - St. Thomas College Law School
 - University of California Riverside Political Science Ph.D. program
 - University of Georgia International Studies Master's Program
 - University of Georgia Political Science Master's Program
 - University of Minnesota Law School

Achievements

- > Russ Colson named U.S. National Professor of the Year, first in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa & Wisconsin.
- > Student Mathematics team placed ninth out of 92 teams at 2009 North Central Section of Mathematical Association of America Team Contest.
- > Model United Nations team earned nine awards at 2010 Arrowhead Model UN Regional Conference, including Best Delegate award.
- > Four students presented at national American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology meeting.
- > One student presented at national Developmental Biology meeting.
- > Psychology students made 17 presentations at local and regional conferences.

More 2010 Great Grads

- > **Haewoong Jeon**, Mathematics, received full teaching assistantship in the mathematics doctoral program at Louisiana State University.
- > **Tabb Prissel**, Geosciences, interned at NASA while at MSUM and attends Brown University on a fellowship in the Geological Sciences Ph.D. program.
- > **Morgan Elfelt**, Biology, another Goldwater Scholar, attends North Carolina State University for an advanced degree in Biosciences.
- > **William Rohla**, Political Science, received a Federal Public Service Fellowship for his public and community service.

College of Arts & Humanities



Theatre Arts Major Selected by National Company

Member of the 2010-2011 Actors Theatre of Louisville's (ATL) Acting Apprentice Company

Sean Michael Palmer, Theatre Arts
Spring 2010

Palmer was one of 22 young artists (from nearly 2000 auditions) ATL chose for a season-long residency at the Tony Award-winning home of the Humana Festival of New American Plays.

Originally from St. Cloud, Minn., Palmer came to MSUM as a broadcast journalism major, but gravitated to the performing arts. He was a three-time nominee and a partner in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region 5. He also directed an original one-act play that received national commendations.

Palmer performed with The Straw Hat Players the past four summers and participated in more than 30 productions onstage and behind the scenes. Also, he was the assistant director and assistant choreographer for *Cats*, performed at West Fargo High School.

"I really owe it all to my professors and peers in the Theatre Department that have come and gone over the years, for getting me to where I am today."



Making Marks at Colle + McVoy Ad Agency

Scholarships and internships lead to full-time position as Junior Interactive Designer

Alex Ehlen, Art & Design
Magna Cum Laude, Spring 2010

Ehlen was awarded two competitive scholarships (the Larry Gauper Scholarship and the Larsen Design Scholarship) during his senior year. The Gauper award was presented at the local ADDY awards, where Ehlen also won a silver Student ADDY and two Gold ADDYs—one of which went on to win a Gold ADDY at the district level.

MSUM equipped him with the fundamental design skills that bring order, hierarchy and purpose to his work. It also prepared him to receive and evaluate feedback from others, like art directors and clients. He credits his design sensibilities, software proficiency, work ethic and overall passion for art and design to his MSUM education.

"MSUM professors provided excellent feedback and recommendations on students' work, pushing us to achieve our greatest potential."

More About The College Of Arts & Humanities

- Facts** > Leadership Studies Minor is an excellent complement to a major and prepares students for a variety of careers.
> Study Abroad opportunities are available for semester-long programs or shorter faculty-led tours.
> Only four-year MnSCU* university offering graduate certificate in Publishing.

Achievements

- > Theatre Arts students won awards at regional Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Two students won at national festival in Washington, D.C.
- > Two book cover designs created by Art & Design students won 2010 American Inhouse Design Awards; only 15% of 4000 entries are recognized with awards of excellence.
- > **Kaylyn Gerenz**, Art, awarded third in International Contemporary Textile and Fiber Art Competition Exhibition, and has a sculpture exhibited in Maniago, Italy.
- > Art & Design students received five student ADDY Awards presented at the North Dakota 2010 ADDY competition.
- > History, Philosophy, English students presented papers at various regional conferences.

More 2010 Great Grads

- > **Mary Huyck Mulka**, MFA Creative Writing, teaching writing and TOEFL preparation in China.
- > **Erin Malkowski**, Art & Design, Artist-in-Residence at Minnesota Center for Book Arts.
- > **Jen Scheuer**, Art & Design, attending prestigious Tamarind Institute in New Mexico.
- > **Matthew Sprung**, Art & Design, interning at Highpoint Center for Printmaking in Minneapolis, and working on upcoming shows in New York City and Minneapolis.
- > **Tyler Michaels**, Theatre Arts, awarded the Dell' Arte International School of Physical Training Program Fellowship and The Mark Twain Scholarship for Comic Performance.
- > **Tatiana Gracyk**, Philosophy, received full scholarship at Bowling Green State University for doctoral program in Philosophy.
- > **Nate Logan**, MFA Creative Writing, awarded teaching fellowship at University of North Texas where he is pursuing a Ph.D. in English.
- > **Amanda Cashman**, Communication Studies, received YWCA Young Woman of Today and Tomorrow award. Attends graduate school in Western Illinois to pursue a student affairs degree, where she also received an assistantship.

* MnSCU—Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System

Great Grads

Facts from 2010 Graduating Classes

Total Graduates	1,339
Men	514
Women	825
Minority	61
International	64

1359 Degrees Awarded	
Baccalaureate	1,258
Masters	89
Doctorate	4
Specialist	8

30% Graduated With Honors

Summa Cum Laude	109
Magna Cum Laude	132
Cum Laude	159

Graduate School Acceptance

- 90% Of Pre-Med Applicants Admitted To Medical School Of Their Choice
- 85% Of Applicants Admitted To Professional Programs In Health Related Areas
- 90% Of Applicants Accepted To Ph.D. & Master's Programs In Social And Natural Sciences

Average Amount Of Debt For Graduates: \$28,800

In 2009, the National Survey of Student Engagement ranks us higher than state/regional comparison groups on student-faculty interaction, active and collaborative learning and supportive campus environment.

73% Of Classes Have Fewer Than 30 Students

7,477 Total Enrollment

385 International Students Representing 53 Countries

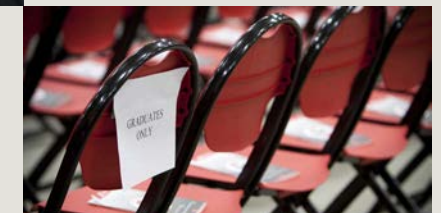
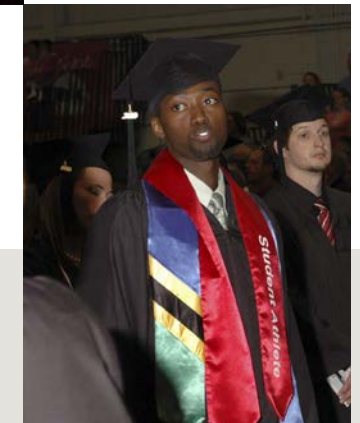
71 Undergraduate Programs

98 Emphases

15 Pre-Professional Programs

12 Graduate Programs

31 Teacher Licensures



Minnesota State University Moorhead

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www.mnstate.edu



Education impacts lifetime earning potential. College graduates with bachelor's degrees earn nearly twice that of high school graduates.
– U.S. Census Bureau