2006

RETIREMENT PROGRAM

Thursday, May 4, 2006
Retirement Luncheon Program

Centennial Student Union
Minnesota State University, Mankato
Mankato, Minnesota

11:30 A.M. Luncheon
12:00 P.M. Program
Comments by President Richard Davenport

4 May 2006

Dear Retirees:

I wish to express to you on behalf of the Minnesota State University, Mankato community our appreciation for your many years of dedicated service to this University. I am particularly thankful for all of your roles in promoting a successful student-oriented learning environment.

I extend my personal appreciation for your valuable years of service and wish you well as you begin new directions. I hope that you will remember fondly your many Minnesota State Mankato friends and remain in contact with your University. It has been a pleasure to work with people who care so much.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Davenport
President
Mavis Anderson
Mavis Anderson retired on October 3, 2005 from the Office of the Registrar. She worked at Minnesota State Mankato since 1985. Since retirement, Mavis and her husband, Wayne, have traveled to several destinations: they enjoyed the sights and a Western Caribbean cruise experience; enjoyed the music in Branson, Mo; enjoyed a quick trip through sleet and snow to the Black Hills, SD; a short week of communing with nature and listening to wolves in Ely, MN; and, a trip to upstate New York to see their loud and boisterous grandsons who have never ending energy. Mavis and her husband plan to continue their travel into the future, and continue “winging it” to “see what happens next.” While here, Mavis enjoyed the sense of accomplishment she found in working with students. She enjoyed working with student-athletes, coaches and Office of the Registrar staff. She will cherish the many conversations with all of these individuals.

Mary Jane Bair
Mary Jane retired in January 2006. She is enjoying her retirement, having a marvelous time and has loved the many travel opportunities she has found. Mary Jane says that “as long as the money holds out, she will be traveling.” Mary Jane worked in the Office of Student Affairs and enjoyed her time working with staff and with students. She hopes everyone enjoys retirement as much as she does.

Patricia Earle
Pat is retiring from the School of Nursing as an Associate Professor. She began working at Minnesota State Mankato in 1982 and has served with distinction throughout her tenure.
Maureen Fenrick
Maureen Fenrick is a Professor of Mathematics and has been at Minnesota State Mankato since 1987. In retirement, Maureen plans to travel, spend time enjoying her lake house and pursue her hobbies of nature photography and stained glass. While here, Maureen most enjoyed her work with upper level and graduate mathematics students and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics collegiality.

Elaine Fossen
Elaine is retiring from Building Services and has served Minnesota State Mankato as a General Maintenance worker since 1989. After retirement, Elaine has no special plans but will probably go to work somewhere on a part time basis to keep busy.

Mary Ellen Kamas
Mary Ellen retired on January 4, 2006 from the Office of Human Resources. She had been in the Office of Human Resources since 1979. In her retirement, Mary Ellen is spending time with family and grandchildren and is traveling. She plans to catch up on reading and play lots of golf, as well as doing some volunteer work with Hospice.

Keith Klein
Keith retired from the Department of Biological Sciences in 2005. Since then, he and his wife Susan moved to France and reside in rural Burgundy. They will be traveling, working in their garden, and enjoying the French life style of good food, great wine, and warm friends. Keith will continue to be active in research, at least for a while, and has several projects in population genetics planned for the near future. Keith will also pursue his hobbies of cycling and woodworking. His favorite experience at Minnesota State Mankato includes working with colleagues and students, and especially working with the students in his research lab. Many of the people he met here remain in contact and have become
cherished friends. He is particularly honored that many of the students were inspired enough to enter careers in biological research and have gone on to enjoy success in their mutual field. Most rewarding of all of his moments here were those when a student came into his office or lab brimming with enthusiasm for some project and happily told him what he could to do help. That transition from student to colleague is what kept him coming back each day to lectures and quizzes knowing that there would be something exciting going on, even if it was sometimes hard to see.

Chan Lee
Chan is retiring as a Professor and Program Director in the Department of Finance. He has worked at Minnesota State Mankato since 1982. Chan does not yet know his future retirement plans, but hopes to seek part-time teaching opportunities in other states. While at Minnesota State Mankato, Chan found it exciting to observe a steady growth of the certificate program in Financial Planning. The courses were offered in the Metro area and the enrollment increased rapidly since the program’s inception in 1998. He was particularly proud that the student’s passing rates for the Certified Financial Planning Board exam far exceeded the national average.

Mary Ann Lee
Mary Ann is retiring as a Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. She has been at Minnesota State Mankato since 1989. In her retirement, Mary Ann plans to spend more time with family and friends, reading, writing, walking and hiking. Her favorite experiences at Minnesota State Mankato include working with teachers in grant-supported math institutes.
**Leland McCormick**

Leland is retiring as a Professor in the Department of Sociology. He has been at Minnesota State Mankato since 1973. Leland plans to write, travel, and spend winters in warmer climates during his retirement. His most memorable experiences were developing the Metro Corrections Graduate program in the 1970’s, serving as Chair of the department from 1983 through 1989, and being awarded the Social and Behavioral Sciences Teacher of the Year Award.

**David Neve**

Dave is retiring from Student Financial Services where he has served most recently as the Assistant Director for Collections and Cash Control. Dave has been at Minnesota State Mankato since 1970. During retirement, Dave will continue to work at Minnesota State Mankato part time in Student Financial Services, spend time at the lake, and work on household projects.

**Gwyn Outka**

Gwyn is retiring as Assistant Director in Office of Human Resources after being there since 1978. Gwyn plans to continue to work part time in Human Resources while making the transition to retirement. Gwyn states it is just too big of an adjustment to totally leave the work that she has enjoyed as well as to leave the many cherished friendships she has created. Gwyn feels privileged to have shared her many years with an outstanding office team that work hard together and truly care for one another. Gwyn is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, Joel, or just sitting on the patio listening to the birds and hoot owls. She is particularly looking forward to spending more time with her granddaughter, Jessica, her family in Colorado, and her grandson, Derek (who is looking forward to more homemade chocolate chip cookies).
Bonnie Pautz
Bonnie is retiring as the administrative assistant in the Department of Geography. She has been there since 1976. During retirement, Bonnie plans to complete several projects around the house and yard and devote more time to her grandchildren and their activities. Bonnie immensely enjoyed working in the Department of Geography and wishes to extend her appreciation to many staff throughout the university who have made her years here rewarding and enjoyable.

Mary Ellen Pearson
Mary Ellen is retiring as Professor in the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education where she has served since 1974. During retirement, Mary Ellen is headed north “to the cabin” where she will spend the summer planning her retirement. While at Minnesota State Mankato, Mary Ellen greatly appreciated receiving an Outstanding Faculty award in the College of Education and the recognition she received from the Special Education: Early Childhood graduates and teachers.

David Popowski
David is retiring as Professor in the Department of English where he has served since 1965. During retirement, David and his wife plan to continue traveling. They are headed for the Mediterranean in September, and in December they hope to visit the island of Kauai. David has been catching up on his reading, but still has a backlog of books that he would like to get to read. He has been teaching film for many years, but there are still a number of films in his collection he would like to view. David has been keeping a journal since 1981 and hopes he will have the time to edit it and to keep it “going.” David and his wife, Sharon, have five grandchildren (Fletcher, Brayden, Jamison, William and Alivia) and they look forward to each moment when they can be with them.
Doris Selover

Doris retired in 2005 from her position as Support and Training Specialist for PALS. She had been with PALS since 1986. After retirement, Doris and her husband, Bill, moved to their home on West Norway Lake, which is about 15 miles north of Willmar, MN. Doris is enjoying spending time with her grandchildren, reading, gardening and traveling. Doris states that working with PALS was one of the most rewarding experiences of her life, both personally and professionally. She states that the PALS staff is an exceptionally talented, hard-working and creative team, and she was privileged to have known and worked with them.

Geraldine Skarphol

Geri is retiring from her position as Instructor/Lead Teacher in the Children’s House where she has worked since 1986. After retirement, Geri and her husband, Milan (who retired two years ago), plan to spend more time with their little granddaughter, Siri, and other members of their family. Geri’s mother is now 86 and her father-in-law is 90. Geri has dreams of traveling, reading, writing, volunteering in the community, and gardening with more time to smell the roses. Geri has loads of fond memories of the 20 wonderful years of working with all the exciting young children and their families at the Children’s House. She also enjoyed presenting at state, regional and national conferences.