2007

RETIREMENT PROGRAM

Thursday, May 3, 2007
3 May 2007

Dear Retirees:

I want to express to you on behalf of the Minnesota State University, Mankato community our appreciation for your years of distinguished 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 to you for your work in making our University a place “where people expect to go further than they thought possible.” 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. I wish you well as you begin new directions.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Davenport
President

Richard Davenport
2007 Retiring Faculty and Staff

D. Daryl Adams
Daryl was a Professor of Biological Sciences since 1987. We wish him the best in his retirement.

Sandra Baynes
Sandra has been a GMW in Building Services since 1999. We wish her the best in her retirement.

Dudley Berger
Dudley has worked in Physical Plant as the Power Plan Chief Engineer since 1981. During retirement he plans on enjoying the summer sunsets on Lake Mary and the cool evenings of the Arizona desert in the winter.

Thomas Bliese
Tom has been a Professor of the Department of Theater and Dance since 1977 and also served as Department Chair. Tom is actively pursuing retirement plans, having already been involved in the creation of a Venetian Themed Holiday Inn and Waterpark in Maple Grove that opened in February. We wish him the best in his retirement.

Lynn Blumenshein
Lynn was an Electrician in Physical Plant since 1989. We wish him the best in his retirement.
Darrol Bussler
Darrol has been a Professor in the College of Education, Educational Studies: K-12 and Secondary Programs since 1992. During retirement he plans to spend extended time in Europe, researching and writing, and reflecting on the “next stage.” Darrol’s fondest memories at Minnesota State Mankato include spending time with students outside of class time.

Garnet Cafourek
Garnet has worked in Student Financial Services as Director of Accounts Receivable since 1966. During retirement Garnet intends to enjoy lake activities, family, friends, hobbies and reflection on his 45 years at Minnesota State Mankato from Crawford to Davenport and everything in between.

LeeAnn Christian
LeeAnn has served as an Office Assistant in the Department of Dental Hygiene since 1969. During retirement she intends to play with her favorite people – her grandchildren. Her most vivid memory of Minnesota State Mankato is the student protest march against the Viet Nam war that flowed past Old Main in a sea of blurred but determined faces. As she watched the students stream by, she had a sense of awe and pride. She has always appreciated that Minnesota State Mankato has done what it is intended to do – teach students.

Corinne Dickey
Corrine was the Assistant to the Dean of the College of Business from 1999 to 2006. We wish her the best in her retirement.
Harry Dunscombe
Harry has been a Professor in the Department of Music since 1987. His retirement plans include moving south to Georgia where he and his wife already have a home, and where he hopes to have lots of time for reading and contemplation. One of Harry’s outstanding experiences at Minnesota State Mankato was the Upper Midwest String and Chamber Music Conference since it acquired a fine faculty and excellent reputation within the state. Harry will greatly miss his colleagues in the Music Department who have all been wonderfully supportive. He will also remember with pride some of his cello students who he has seen go on to careers as professional musicians.

Theresa Evers
Terry has served as an Administrative Assistant in the College of Business since 1987. In retirement, Terry plans to travel, garden, read and volunteer. Some of her proudest moments include acquiring her B.S. Degree, attending Leadership Mankato, serving on the President’s Commission on the Status of Women, being designated a Woman of Courage and Vision, and working with so many fine people.

Nancy Hallett
Nancy served with distinction as the Executive Assistant for the Division of Finance and Administration from 1989 to 2007. Nancy’s retirement ceremony in January was attended by who appreciated her varied talents and friendship. Nancy plans during retirement to spend more time fixing up her house, exercising, gardening, reading, volunteering, and visiting family. While at Minnesota State Mankato she greatly enjoyed meeting and working with some wonderful people, helping others, and learning new things.
René Hersrud

René was a Professor in the College of Education, Department of Educational Studies: K-12 & Secondary Programs, as well as having served in other administrative appointments throughout her tenure from 1988 through 2006. We wish her the best in her retirement.

N. Doran Hunter

Doran has been a Professor in the Department of Political Science and Law Enforcement since 1969. We wish him the best in his retirement.

Kent Kalm

Kent has been an Associate Professor in the Department of Human Performance since 1980. During retirement, Kent plans to spend more time with grandchildren, travel more, volunteer in the community and consult in the area of Performance Enhancement. His favorite experience at Minnesota State Mankato occurred just about every day he was here – just being an educator and working with students in their preparation and seeing them succeed and graduate. Knowing he has had a small part in this process is a reward that will last Kent a lifetime.

Eileen Kivi

Eileen was an Office Assistant in Student Affairs from 2001-2007. We wish her the best in her retirement.

Barbara Lamont

Barb served in the Office of the Registrar since 1983 in various roles. During retirement Barb will enjoy more flexible time for many “to do’s” that have been put on the back burner for years – especially photo albums and new flower beds. While at Minnesota State Mankato, Barb has enjoyed the day-to-day work with students and greatly appreciated being recognized by the university for her role in developing DARS as its encoder.
Lance Leipold
Lance worked in Library Services since 1964. During retirement he plans to read, do some part-time volunteer work, travel and enjoy his varied musical interests.

Rose Marie Ley
Rose Marie was a Cataloging Technician in Library Services from 1969 to 2006. We wish her the best in her retirement.

James Lindberg
Jim worked in IT Services since 1981. During retirement he plans to enjoy life, spend time in warmer climates (Arizona), enjoy family activities and just have fun. Jim has enjoyed working with great people and establishing friendships and relationships with many during his years at Minnesota State Mankato.

Gael Mericle
Gael has served as the Director of the Center for Academic Success and has been at Minnesota State Mankato since 1986. During retirement she plans to travel, return to volunteer work, participate in Elderhostels, quilt, enjoy her first grandchild, reconnect with extended family in the East and have adventures to be determined. Her most cherished memories at Minnesota State Mankato surround her connections with students and making a difference in their lives. She feels fortunate to have been part of a program at Minnesota State Mankato that appreciates, values and guides the youth in our communities.
R. Bruce Mericle
Bruce has been a Professor of Mathematics at Minnesota State Mankato since 1970. During his retirement he intends to travel, hike, garden and generally “putter.” We know he will enjoy doing this with Gael.

Edward Micus
Edward was the Assistant Director of the Center for Academic Success since 1988. We wish him the best in his retirement.

John Murphy
John has served as a Graphic Arts Specialist in Printing and Photocopy Services since 1978. Prior to this, he worked at Southwest State University beginning in 1974. We wish him the best in his retirement.

Steven Olinger
Steve was an Electrician in Physical Plant from 1976 to 2006. We wish him the best in his retirement.

Patricia Peterson
Pat has been a Professor of Modern Languages since 1988. After retirement, she is moving to St. Paul to be closer to her daughters and their families. She looks forward to sailing on Lake Superior, gardening, and exploring the multicultural opportunities in the Twin Cities. Pat has been very pleased with the growth of the programs in English as a Second Language which were established during her time here.
Richard Roiger
Richard has been a Professor in the Department of Computer and Information Sciences since 1979. During retirement, he plans to write and play music semi-professionally, continue to write textbooks for computer science, travel, and enjoy his grandchildren. He fondly remembers the CSET Excellence in Research award, entertaining at the Indian Day Celebration, faculty-grams from former students, and many great conference experiences.

Thomas Schmid
Tom has been a Professor in the Department of Sociology and Corrections since 1976. He plans to “give up the job but keep the profession” in that he has many projects on social psychological dimensions of globalization, and will continue his research and writing in this area. He also plans to do some mountain biking. Tom claims that he has had too many phenomenal experiences to enumerate at Minnesota State Mankato, but significantly remembers working with graduate and undergraduate students who are now in the profession working on a fascinating array of inspired sociological projects.

Janice Schmidt
Jan worked in the Office of the Registrar since 1994. During retirement she plans to spend more time at their second home in Chamberlain, S.D. and work in her flower gardens and yard. In the winters, she hopes they find someplace warmer than Minnesota. During her spare time she will continue to help her friends with special projects. During her years at Minnesota State Mankato she enjoyed working on special projects that kept her challenged.
Regina Smith
Regina has served as an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing since 1989. During retirement, Regina plans to travel and spend some time in the mountains of Wyoming. She will also spend time working at a medical mission in Guiamaca, Honduras and also teach gerontology in Lithuania. Regina is very proud of developing the Gerontology Nursing segment of the curriculum and winning the first ever award for Exceptional Curriculum in Gerontologic Nursing given by the John A. Hartford Foundation. Her favorite experience has been that of working with new students every semester and observing the transformation of their attitude toward older adults and the caring they provide. She is confident we will all be in good hands.

Jeanne Steil
Jeanne has been a Pharmacist in Student Health Services since 1973. We wish her the best in her retirement.

Phyllis Tiedeken
Phyllis has served as an Administrative Assistant in the Social Work/Anthropology Departments since 1988. She initially plans to just enjoy having the summer off. Then, she and her husband hope to travel, and investigate volunteer opportunities. While at Minnesota State Mankato, Phyllis has greatly enjoyed working with all of the students.

H. Dean Trauger
Dean has served most recently as the Vice President for Finance and Administration and in many other roles since 1967. During retirement Dean plans to do more traveling to Bermuda to visit his two grandchildren, golf (there are many golf courses and he plans to “hit them all”), work on his neglected flower garden, do volunteer work and continue to support Minnesota State Mankato Athletics in fundraising efforts. He may also do some consulting work on environmental issues in
higher education. Dean feels privileged to have had the opportunity to provide leadership to an outstanding team of hardworking individuals in the Finance and Administration unit. He feels very satisfied knowing that the things they accomplished over the years have made Minnesota State Mankato a better place for students to learn.

Joseph Walsh
Joe has been a Professor in the Department of Human Performance since 1977. During retirement he will continue to travel to Ireland, visit Bali where his son lives, teach an occasional course and possibly do some writing relating to American Competitive Ethics in Sports. He remembers experiencing the growth and significant changes at Minnesota State Mankato through the years and working with graduate students. He has also greatly enjoyed working with Athletics and teams in mental training to enhance excellence.

Eugene Wytaske
Gene was a Painter in Physical Plant since 1980. We wish him the best in his retirement.