

Fall 2016

Profile: Inspiring Alumni Leaders

University Relations

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Profile

Volume XXI
Edition I
Summer/Fall 2016

For Alumni, Parents, and Friends of the University of Minnesota, Morris

PRESIDENTS
CLUB WELCOMES
NEW MEMBERS

DISTINGUISHED
ALUMNI AWARD
WINNERS
ANNOUNCED

Who,
What,
When,
Where,
Why:
Spring
Campus
News

INSPIRING
ALUMNI
LEADERS



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University of Minnesota, Morris Mission

The University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM) provides a rigorous undergraduate liberal arts education, preparing its students to be global citizens who value and pursue intellectual growth, civic engagement, intercultural competence, and environmental stewardship. As a public land grant institution, UMM is a center for education, culture, and research for the region, nation, and world. UMM is committed to outstanding teaching, dynamic learning, innovative faculty and student scholarship and creative activity, and public outreach. Our residential academic setting fosters collaboration, diversity, and a deep sense of community.

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.



It's been 50 years! The class of 1966 will celebrate its 50th reunion during Homecoming—Friday and Saturday, October 7 and 8.

Above: The 1966 men's basketball team poses with the cougar mascot in a photo from the '66 yearbook. Row One: Norman Feig '67, student manager; Delbert Gerdes '68; Keith Wiger '68; David Wiesner '67; John Hellie '68; James Brenner '70; Lee Boraas '67; Harvey Kraabel '67, student manager. Row Two: John Norlander '66, freshman team coach; Dennis Flesner '67; Douglas MacIver '69; Roger Schnaser '67; Alden Hofstedt '66; Allen Williams '68; Wayne Brabender '68; James Drealan '68; Noel Olson, coach.

On the cover: Bush Fellow Eileen Briggs '92 is just one of the many inspiring alumni leaders featured in this issue. To learn more about Briggs and other alumni Bush fellows, award winners, and hall-of-fame inductees, keep reading!

Profile
Summer/Fall 2016
Volume XXI, Edition I

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Carla Riley '85

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A Message from Chancellor Jacqueline R. Johnson

A quick Google search shows three separate “farewell tours” for the singer Cher. I feel some sympathy for her path as I write my *second* farewell column for *Profile*. Searches for new chancellors and presidents are anything but predictable, and that was the case this year at Morris. The chancellor search committee has re-engaged and is hard at work, and the intention is to have a new chancellor named around Thanksgiving. In the meantime, I agreed to stay in this office for a few more months, and while I am ready to move on, I am also grateful to have this opportunity to ensure a smooth transition in leadership for this institution that I have led and loved for the past 10 years.

This issue of *Profile* and my impending departure have given me another opportunity: the chance to think about leadership. Why does it matter? What are the elements of effective leadership? And how is it present in Morris alumni? In the pages that follow we focus on several alumni who provide examples of leadership for the rest of us to study and emulate. As we emerge from a summer of violence in this country and around the world, and as we bear witness to an extremely polarized political election season, it seems appropriate to take some time to reflect on what we value in leaders and in leadership.

Several phrases and words come to my mind when thinking about positive leadership attributes:

Thick skin. A leader has to have skin thick enough to deflect criticism, sometimes, and to learn from it at other times; a leader has to recognize that listening and learning when others speak their particular truths to power are essential parts of the leadership role.

High road. This year we have witnessed presidential campaigns replete with personal and often vicious attacks, not only by the candidates, but also by their followers. The low road has great popular appeal, and it has become an increasingly rare phenomenon to witness a leader who refuses to stoop to this level even in the most emotionally charged situations. Taking the high road—“the road less traveled”—is an important element of leadership.

Dreamer. Effective leaders have to understand why things are the way they are, and they have to be able to imagine how they could be other. This willingness to dream and to envision, to imagine and create, accompanied by the ability to act and work with others to move things along, is another vital leadership attribute.

Humility. Leaders matter, but no effective leader goes it alone. Every group, each organization, has many leaders, and each of us at varying times plays not only the role of leader, but also that of follower. A humble approach—recognizing and valuing the efforts of others and the importance of how we all fit together to create the whole—matters greatly in leadership.

Passion combined with **compassion.** Deeply held conviction about mission and purpose is a necessary element of leadership, but it can get in the way of maintaining compassion for those whose passions lead them in a different direction. Finding the right balance is critical.

The alumni who are featured in this issue of *Profile* exhibit these attributes of leadership... and much more. As I prepare to move aside to welcome a new leader for Morris, I am proud to have been part of an institution that has contributed to the development of these individuals—and the many other Morris alumni just like them—who continue to make a positive difference in the world.



Heppners Commission Sculpture to Honor Morris's Sense of Place

Gift celebrates transformative power of education

A new gift from Mary Soehren Heppner '76 and Punccky Heppner '73 will reflect the breadth of human experience in the prairie landscape of west central Minnesota.

The Heppners will commission a sculpture to convey “the strength, resilience, compassion, and heart of the indigenous peoples on the UMM campus,” they write in their donor statement. The sculpture will also show the power of education to prepare all students “to be strong, resilient, and compassionate.”

The Heppners' gift reflects their long commitment to fostering intercultural awareness in higher education. It's also a tribute to the liberal arts experience. “We believe that art can play a vital role in the transformative experience of education, and in one's life in general,” they write, nurturing “human connection, interaction, and understanding.” They envision a public work of art that could become a center of campus life, a gathering spot, a place for meaningful rituals and ceremonies.

A steering committee of campus stakeholders will be convened later this year to select an artist.

Shaped by the Liberal Arts Experience

Mary and Punccky, who both graduated from high school in Saint James, were first-generation high school and college students. None of their parents had the opportunity even to go to high school.

Mary majored in sociology at Morris, and Punccky majored in psychology. Punccky was mentored by Eric Klinger and Ernest Kemble, professors emeriti of psychology. “They held the bar so high and were such good teachers,” Punccky says. “They motivated us to work hard, and that foundation was so useful.”

Punccky and Mary earned PhDs and went on to have distinguished teaching and research careers in counseling psychology at the University of Missouri. Punccky, 65, retired in 2015 as a Curators' Distinguished Professor of Educational, School, and Counseling Psychology. He has written nine books and more than 200 refereed articles and book chapters and has served as president of the Society of Counseling Psychology and editor of the scientific journal *The Counseling Psychologist*. He has received numerous awards for his research, teaching, mentoring, and leadership.

Mary, 64, retired in 2015 as a professor of counseling psychology and assistant director of the University of Missouri Career Center. She has also received many career awards, including the university's highest awards for both teaching and mentoring. She is the author of four books, two assessment measures, and more than 100 journal articles. A Fulbright Research Scholar, she has presented her work more than 200 times to national and international audiences.

These achievements “couldn't have happened without our foundational education at Morris,” Mary says. “We still think about how transformative Morris was for both of us and how it truly changed the trajectory of our lives.”



Photo: Steve Adams, University of Missouri

Champions for Diversity

The Heppners, who now divide their time between Columbia, Missouri, and Taos, New Mexico—plus a couple of months abroad each year—have long been leading voices for cross-cultural education and research. Their commitment to diversity grew from exposure to other cultures and worldviews.

Early in their careers, Mary says, the counseling psychology field was overwhelmingly white and male, and research findings were usually drawn from a narrow slice of middle-class white culture. When the Heppners went to Asia and Africa to teach and conduct research with their international colleagues, they found their cultural assumptions being challenged.

“It was a lot of little events,” Punccky says, “the accumulation of experiences that opened our eyes to a much bigger world.” One experience stands out for both of them:

They were in southern Taiwan visiting the home of one of Punccky's PhD students, Yu-wei Wang. The student's family had prepared an elaborate meal for them. After dinner they stepped outdoors. The night air was filled with mesmerizing music and the sharp smell of incense.

“We walked toward the music,” Mary says, and came to a temple full of people, a place that was “unlike any church.” This temple was where people went to make important decisions, Wang told them. “It was here that she and her mother had gone to decide if she should go to the United States to study,” Mary says. “For us, it was a very profound and powerful moment.”

A liberal arts education is one of the best ways to connect with other cultures and ideas, the Heppners say. Their gift, they write, is meant to honor the work of all who have helped prepare Morris students, faculty, and staff to “work in a diverse world with respect, compassion, and integrity.”



Photo: Steve Adams, University of Missouri

The Power of Place

"We believe in the power of ritual to provide greater meaning to life events," write Mary Soehren Heppner '76 and Punccky Heppner '73, "and we believe public art can be a very important and central part of that ritual."

This belief is one of the impulses behind the Heppners' recent gift to Morris, a commission for a public sculpture. The Heppners point to an example of the power of place and ritual from the University of Missouri, where they taught for more than three decades:

The Columns, remnants of "Mizzou's" first administrative building, are a popular campus landmark. Each fall, in a ceremony that draws the wider community, freshmen walk through the columns and toward the main part of campus, "symbolizing their entrance into the Mizzou family," the Heppners write. As seniors about to graduate, students once again walk through the columns, this time leaving campus, in a ritual that symbolizes "sharing their knowledge with the world and also their lifelong connection with the university."

In the same way, the Heppners envision a sculpture that could become a defining place and "one of the many attractions of the UMM campus."



Chancellor Jacqueline R. Johnson with the Heppners

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESIDENTS CLUB

With gratitude, we welcome these new members to the University of Minnesota Presidents Club and recognize those Morris donors who reached a new giving level.

Trustees Society

Drs. Punccky and Mary Heppner

Richard and Catherine Tate

James Togeas

Chancellors Society

Russel M. and Margaret M. Fischer

Karla and Jeremiah Konz

Randy and Deb Koopman

Mary and Bob McDonald

MDM Rubicon Inc.

Jim Odden and Ann Carrott

Myrna Anne Itzen Stahman and Robert W. Stahman

Heritage Society

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James and Mei-Ying Hoppie

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Johnson-Lisk Family Fund for the EcoStation

Join us in thanking Chancellor Jacqueline R. Johnson for her service to the University! Gifts in honor of Chancellor Johnson's retirement from Morris can be directed to the Johnson-Lisk Family Fund for the EcoStation. This fund will be endowed to provide ongoing support for Morris's EcoStation.

DIVISION UPDATES

From Brazil to Nepal, from cancer research to science policy, from poetry to pedagogy, Morris faculty and students are adding to our understanding of the world.

Education

Accreditation received. The Morris teacher education program was accredited for another seven years under the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) standards.

New sport management group formed. A new sport management student group, Sport Leadership at Morris (SLAM), has been approved and will begin work in the fall under the direction of Mike Bryant, assistant professor of education.

Teacher of the Year visits campus. In April Amy Hewett-Olatunde, 2015 Minnesota Teacher of the Year, was on campus to meet with education students and present "Reinventing the Narrative: The Cultural Diversification of Practitioners and Pedagogy."

Humanities

Poetry book published. English Teaching Specialist Athena Kildegaard's newest book of poetry, *Ventriloquy*, was published in 2016 by Tinderbox Editions. Kildegaard is the author of several poetry collections, including *Bodies of Light*, a Minnesota Book Award finalist.

Brazilian journalist subject of research. Tom Genova, assistant professor of Spanish, received a Fulbright Scholar Award to do research in Brazil for a book on Euclides da Cunha, a Brazilian journalist.

Art history scholar to do archaeology research. Jimmy Schryver, associate professor of art history, has been named a Margo Tytus Visiting Scholar at the University of Cincinnati Classics Department.

Science and Mathematics

Cancer cell research underway. Rachel Johnson, assistant professor of biology, is working with Morris students to investigate how a cancer cell protein, DC80, allows tumor cells to kill human immune cells.

Program fosters STEM students. Professor of Geology Jim Cotter, Professor of Chemistry Nancy Carpenter, and Associate Professor of Chemistry Jennifer Goodnough are leading a five-year program to encourage rural and American Indian students to participate in the interdisciplinary environmental science program.

Science and technology policy studied. Timna Wyckoff '94, associate professor of biology, and Pete Wyckoff, professor of biology, received American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science and Technology Policy Fellowships to work on science and technology policy in Washington, DC.

Social Science

Nepali women's health examined. Jennifer Rothchild, associate professor of sociology, received a grant to do research in Nepal. She is studying women's health issues and how they have been affected during the post-earthquake period.

African history expert joins faculty. Elliot James joined the Morris faculty as an assistant professor of history. James, who earned his PhD from the University of Minnesota, specializes in modern African history and black American studies.

Property rights to seed genetics studied. Sheri Breen, associate professor of political science, received a grant to do research in China on intellectual property and seed genetics.

Morris Researchers Lead Study Finding Increased Crash Risk among Truckers Who Do Not Adhere to Mandated Sleep Apnea Treatment

The comprehensive study could influence new rulemaking process on sleep apnea standards

Truck drivers who fail to adhere to treatment for obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) have a fivefold increase in the risk of serious, preventable crashes, according to a new study led by Morris faculty, staff, and student researchers and supported by the Roadway Safety Institute at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Published in the May 2016 issue of the medical journal *Sleep*, the study compared 1,600 drivers with sleep apnea to a similar number of controls, making it the largest study of sleep apnea and crash risk among commercial motor vehicle drivers to date.

“To put our findings in context, if we look at 1,000 truck drivers each working for a year, the drivers with OSA who refuse mandated treatment would have 70 preventable serious truck crashes, compared to 14 crashes experienced by both a control group and by drivers with sleep apnea who adhered to treatment,” said Professor of Economics and Management and lead author of the study Stephen Burks.

Burks, assisted by Professor of Statistics Jon Anderson and Research Coordinator Rebecca Erickson Haider '13, organizes Morris's Truckers & Turnover Project (T&T), a multi-year research effort involving faculty co-investigators at other institutions both in the United States and internationally; it also has provided intensive research training for several generations of Morris students. T&T performed the statistical analysis of the study data, acquired from Schneider, the first major motor carrier to institute an internal OSA program, and its sleep apnea services provider, Precision Pulmonary Diagnostics (PPD).

“I expect our sleep apnea findings will be carefully considered in the exploratory rulemaking process on sleep apnea standards for truck drivers and train operators launched on March 8, 2016, by the US Department of Transportation,” said Anderson.

“The paper's results suggest putting OSA screening standards in the medical exam commercial truck drivers take every two years,” Burks added. “I am very pleased that Morris students have helped add to the scientific evidence that will be used in this important public policy-making process.”



Derek Toso '16, Little Falls, and Duan Liu '16, Zhengzhou, Henan, China, present a poster featuring their work on the T&T project at the spring 2016 Undergraduate Research Symposium.

The paper has nine Morris student co-authors, including three who served on the project after graduation, as well as co-authors from Harvard Medical School, Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, University of California San Diego, and the sleep apnea services firm PPD. The senior medical co-author is Dr. Stefanos Kales, Harvard School of Public Health.

Funding for the Truckers & Turnover Project was provided by Schneider; the Roadway Safety Institute (the USDOT Region 5 University Transportation Center); the University of Minnesota, Morris; the MacArthur Foundation; and the Sloan Foundation. Additional funding came from the Harvard Catalyst/Harvard Clinical and Translational Science Center of Harvard University, and from the National Surface Transportation Safety Center for Excellence at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute.

Campus Accolades

Campus Cleantech Pilots

According to the White House blog, Morris is “leading the clean-energy transformation.” That’s because the campus is one of 12 inaugural participants in Campus Cleantech Pilots, a new effort by the Climate Leadership Network, Clean Energy Trust, and Second Nature to accelerate clean-energy technology commercialization by opening universities as first-of-a-kind testing and demonstration platforms for startups.

College Choice: Best LGBT Friendly Colleges and Universities

Morris is one of the nation’s Best Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Friendly Colleges and Universities, according to College Choice. The ranking highlights 50 universities that have strong histories of creating quality programming for the LGBTQ community by committing time and resources to equipping students, staff, and faculty with tools that encourage education, support, safety, and inclusion campuswide.

Laura Hoppe '16 Receives Fulbright Grant

Spanish major will bring the Jane Addams Project to Colombia

Laura Hoppe '16, Wyoming, has been awarded a Fulbright U.S. Student Award for 2016–17. Hoppe, a Spanish and Latin American area studies major, is the third student from Morris to receive a Fulbright award in the last two years.

Hoppe will spend her Fulbright year teaching English at San Buenaventura in Bogotá, Colombia. She also plans to launch the Jane Addams Project in Bogotá. This cultural exchange program brings people who speak different languages together in a social setting. It's an informal way to share culture and conversation, practice English and Spanish, and forge friendships, says Hoppe, who has been a leader in Morris's student-run Jane Addams Project since her freshman year. "At Jane Addams, we like to say everyone's a teacher and everyone's a learner."

As a student at Morris Hoppe was deeply involved with the Morris area's growing Latino community, as a teacher in the Community ESL program, and as an ESL program assistant in the Office of Community Engagement. She was also a volunteer translator and interpreter in the local schools.

Hoppe received the 2015 Campus Compact Presidents' Student Leadership award for her contributions to civic life. She was named a Morris Scholar and was a recipient of the Theodore S. and Tone H. Long Scholarship, the John Q. Imholte Scholarship, and the David C. Johnson scholarship.



Windy González Roberts Receives President's Award for Outstanding Service

Morris teacher recognized for exceptional dedication to students, Latino community

A Morris Spanish teacher has won the University's highest service award.

Windy González Roberts received the 2016 President's Award for Outstanding Service. The President's Award honors exceptional commitment and service beyond the regular duties of a faculty or staff member.

Roberts, a teaching specialist, was recognized for her extraordinary dedication to Morris students and the local Latino community. "She exemplifies to the highest degree a commitment to global education and citizenship," says Pieranna Garavaso, professor of philosophy and chair of the humanities division.

Roberts has taught Spanish language and culture at Morris since 2008. She also is the faculty advisor for the Spanish language student organization *Vamos Juntos* and oversees Morris's Spanish outreach programs: Community English as a Second Language; the Jane Addams Project, a program that fosters intercultural conversation and friendship; and The Spanish Conversation Table, *La Mesa de Conversación*. She also helped launch *Lazos*, a Latina women's support group, and a bilingual book club.

The Morris area is fortunate to have a growing Latino population, Roberts says, which lets students practice Spanish with native speakers and form friendships with newcomers from Mexico. For Roberts, helping her students learn to "value other cultures, to develop curiosity and tolerance for differences, to grow as individuals...are the greatest rewards."



Heather J. Peters Earns Teaching Award Honors

Peters is known for her profound commitment to social justice



Heather J. Peters, associate professor of psychology, has received both the Horace T. Morse - University of Minnesota Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education and the 2016 University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association (UMMAA) Teaching Award. These honors call attention to Peters's profound commitment to social justice: the driving force behind her teaching, advising, research, and service work.

"Social justice underlies everything I do," says Peters. "I'm very aware of diversity within my community and how it gets played out around me. I don't want to live in a community where we tolerate each other; I want to live in a community where we value difference, and that's something I can do through my work."

Peters's passion for social justice has earned her the admiration of students and colleagues alike. Nominators write that she is "an outstanding classroom instructor...and is a potent force in student academic life." Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean Bart Finzel adds, "Heather's passion for bringing people together and creating a just society are obvious to all of the students lucky enough to intersect her path. This passion is infectious."

Peters is the 21st recipient of the UMMAA Award and the 44th Morris faculty member to receive the Horace T. Morse Award. She will be honored by the UMMAA during the 2016 Homecoming celebration.

Lackey Named Distinguished McKnight University Professor

Literature scholar breaks new ground in biofiction criticism



A Morris teacher, writer, and editor has been recognized for his innovative literary scholarship.

Michael Lackey, professor of English, was named a 2016 Distinguished McKnight University Professor. The mid-career honor comes with a \$100,000 award. Lackey is one of seven University of Minnesota faculty members to receive the honor and the only scholar recognized from a system campus. Lackey, who has taught at Morris since 2007, also received the 2015–16 UMM Faculty Distinguished Research Award.

Lackey is a scholar of 20th- and 21st-century intellectual history and a leading critic of the biographical novel, a rising literary form that names the protagonist after an actual historical figure. His research probes the role of literature in exposing oppression and finding pathways toward social justice.

Lackey's most recent book, *The American Biographical Novel*, published in March by Bloomsbury, traces the origins and development of "biofiction." Lackey charts the shifts in ideas that led to the genre's growing popularity and acceptance by the literary establishment.

Lackey's work offers "new perspectives on the history of race, religion, and literary form," says Bart Finzel, vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean. "Professor Lackey has changed the way critics approach texts, and he has initiated significant scholarly conversations both culturally and across the humanities."

Lackey is also the author of *The Modernist God State: A Literary Study of the Nazis' Christian Reich*, *African American Atheists and Political Liberation: A Study of the Socio-Cultural Dynamics of Faith*, *Truthful Fictions: Conversations with American Biographical Novelists*, and the forthcoming *Biographical Fiction: A Reader*.



A Spring in Our Steps

Each year as spring rolls around, there's a certain buzz in the air on the Morris campus. It's a feeling that's hard to explain, but we all recognize it. The scent of apple blossoms blankets the campus, and the mall turns from snowy white to dormant brown to lively green. Students prepare final presentations, write papers, study for exams, perform in groups, and hang art shows. Traditions are taken out, dusted off, and given a new spin. Friends support us as we meet new challenges. Faculty, staff, and parents watch with pride as graduates cross the stage at Commencement. Accomplishments abound. We relish the sense of a job well done and the air of infinite possibility.

However you define this end-of-year feeling, we hope that looking at this collection of spring photos reignites a bit of it for you. Whether you're just starting out or haven't been on campus in 50 years, we trust that this feeling inspires you to go forth with a spring in your step and do great things!



World Touch Cultural Heritage Week Closing Dinner

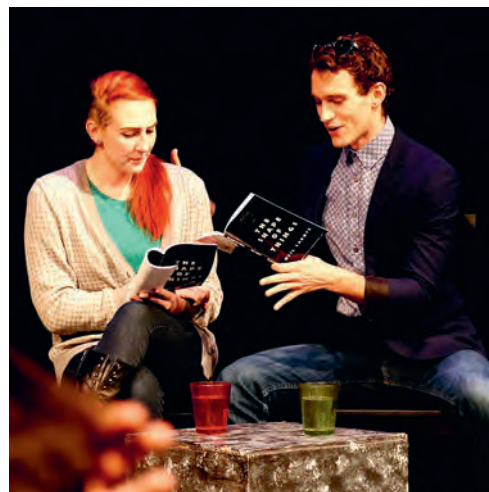


Native American Garden Blessing Ceremony



Faculty and Staff Retirees and Award Winners

Pictured, left to right: retiree Professor of Biology Christopher T. Cole; retiree Chancellor Jacqueline R. Johnson; retiree Professor of English Vicki Graham; Windy Roberts, President's Award for Outstanding Service; Michael Lackey, Distinguished McKnight University Professorship and UMM Faculty Distinguished Research Award; retiree Registered Nurse Corrine Larson; Heather J. Peters, Horace T. Morse-Minnesota Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education and UMM Alumni Association Teaching Award; Delores Rathke, Outstanding Support Staff Award Teamster Recipient; retiree Environmental Health and Safety Specialist Dale Livingston; Marie Hagen, Outstanding Support Staff Award Civil Service Recipient; Judy Korn, Morris Academic Staff Award; Lacey Fahl, Outstanding Support Staff Award AFSCME Recipient; Stephanie Ferrian, Mary Martelle Memorial Award.



*Founders Forum on the Liberal Arts Featuring a Staged Reading of *The Shape of Things**



Jazz Fest



Multi-Ethnic Mentorship Presentations



*F*Word Conference*



World Touch Cultural Heritage Week Keynote Billy Mills



Fashion Trashion



Undergraduate Research Symposium



Senior Presentations





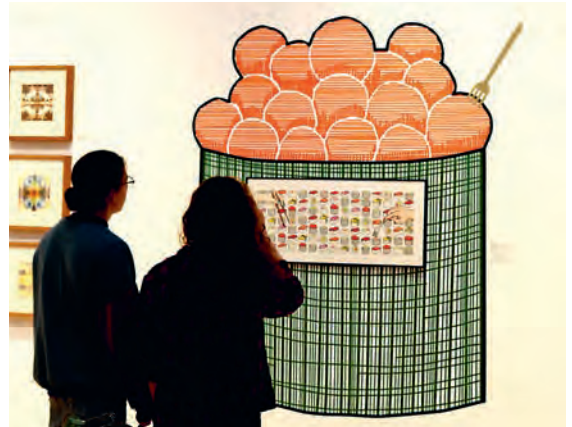
Circle of Nations Indigenous Association
Powwow



Festschrift
Remembering
Chancellor Emeritus
Sam Schuman



Lavender Celebration Honoring LGBTQ graduates



Senior Art Exhibit



Celebrating Chancellor Johnson's tenure
and wishing her well in retirement



Student Leadership Banquet



International Graduates Reception



American Indian Honoring Ceremony



Photos and video are available at morris.umn.edu/commencement and flickr.com/ummmorris.

A Lis

“We need thoughtful and highly skilled communicators in this world. It is so important for us to understand each other, to find our strengths and build on them in respectful ways.”

Listening Ear

When Eileen Briggs '92 returned to her birthplace, the Cheyenne River Reservation, to work for her home tribe, she spent the first 18 months visiting every community on the sprawling reservation.

She was listening to her people.

"Those 18 months were the hardest work I've ever done, traveling and listening," says Briggs, executive director of Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Ventures in Eagle Butte, South Dakota. "I was learning so much about why things were the way they were, what were our challenges, what were our strengths. It was a privileged time for me, a huge gift."

Now Briggs will spend the next two years listening to indigenous people all over the world, thanks to a 2016 Bush Foundation Fellowship.

She is one of 24 leaders of "extraordinary potential" who were awarded the prestigious fellowships in 2016. Bush fellows receive \$100,000 for "learning experiences that will increase their knowledge and develop important leadership skills and attributes."

Briggs's goal is to learn how other indigenous communities have overcome adversity. She's especially interested in studying women's healing ceremonies. She'll use those experiences to "clarify [her] own purpose and intentions to create change in the world."

A Foundation for Leadership

Briggs grew up in tiny Eagle Butte, where her parents were active in the community and with the tribe. Although her parents hadn't gone to college, "it was always assumed that [she] would."

Briggs earned her undergraduate degree in liberal arts for the human services and communications at Morris. She lived in Pine Hall, Morris's smallest dormitory, which "was the best place for [her]," she says. "I felt like I was living with 40 or so relatives! That really grounded me in relationships at school, so when I struggled, I had support."

She also worked in the student activities office all four years, another formative experience. "It was people like Sara Haugen and Sandy Olson-Loy who helped me develop confidence in myself."

Briggs's liberal arts education at Morris "created a good foundation for becoming a leader," she says, teaching her critical thinking and problem-solving skills and introducing her to a wider world.

After graduating from Morris Briggs worked in youth development and public health outreach. She began to take on leadership roles, serving as president of the Wisconsin Indian Education Association.

Briggs received a master of education in youth development leadership from the University of Minnesota in 2000, then joined the Sacred Circle National Resource Center to End Violence Against Native Women in Rapid City, South Dakota—work that put her "on the front lines" of social issues in Indian Country.

Eileen Briggs '92 will use her Bush Fellowship to listen to indigenous people around the globe

Rooted in Traditional Culture

In 2003 Briggs went back home to the Cheyenne River Reservation to help create a comprehensive plan to reduce poverty on the 4,300-square-mile reservation, where nearly half the population is unemployed. The two-year planning effort resulted in a \$9.5 million investment from the Northwest Area Foundation.

Today Briggs leads Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Ventures, which aims to boost economic opportunity on the reservation through education and workforce training, job creation, and community development.

Briggs believes that such initiatives must be "rooted in traditional cultural values and strengths." As a Bush Fellow she will have the chance to learn how other indigenous communities are pursuing successful changes, including the Maori people of New Zealand, Aboriginal communities in Australia, and First Nations tribes in British Columbia.

"I feel like I was called to do something in this world," Briggs says. "The Bush Fellowship will let me discover old and new ways to effect change and then turn around and help my people."

Inspiring Leaders

In addition to Briggs, several other Morris graduates have won prestigious Bush Foundation Fellowships, which “inspire, equip, and connect leaders to effectively lead change.” Two are featured here.

Cy Thao, 2000 Bush Fellow, chronicled Hmong diaspora in paintings



Cy Thao '95 lived for six years in a Thai refugee camp before he and his family came to Minnesota in 1980, when he was eight years old—part of the Hmong migration to the United States. His artistic vision grew from those experiences.

Thao, a painter and entrepreneur, used his 2000 Bush Fellowship to create a series of 50 richly colored oil paintings, which recount 5,000 years of Hmong history.

The narrative begins with Hmong creation stories, depicts the Hmong genocide and diaspora, and chronicles daily life in America, ending with a world map showing the many countries where Hmong people now live.

The paintings express the Hmong people's identity and preserve their story for future generations, Thao says. They were modeled on traditional “tapestries, or story cloths,” he wrote in an artist's statement. “These were like picture books without words. I thought it would be a great idea to use oil paint to continue this tradition of telling stories without words.”

All 50 paintings are now part of the permanent collection of the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

Thao earned his bachelor's degree in political science and studio art at Morris, where he first conceived his epic history on canvas and began the series of paintings. Growing up an immigrant and a minority person, “you don't feel you belong in one world or the other,” he says. “At Morris I reflected on that a lot. Part of my goal in the paintings was to help Hmong kids understand their identity and to teach others about us.”

After college Thao co-founded the Center for Hmong Arts and Talent in Saint Paul and served as its first director. In 2002 he became the first Hmong person elected to Minnesota's House of Representatives, where he served for eight years.



Thao and his wife, Lee Vang, now run their own company, Sunlight Senior Living, which operates a 69-bed assisted living facility in Saint Paul and is building a 100-bed assisted living facility in Sun City, Florida. They divide their time between Saint Paul and Bradenton, Florida. One day, Thao says, he hopes to have the time and a studio, so he can “pick up the paint brush again.”

Photo and painting credits: Cy Thao



Becoming a Leader

Eileen Briggs '92 tries to lead with humility, “from within the group. I am my people; their struggles are my struggles,” says the Cheyenne River Reservation community leader.

“Eileen is a thoughtful and dedicated leader,” says Justin Kill Huenemann, president and CEO of Notah Began III Foundation, who has worked with Briggs. “By leader, I mean someone who cares deeply about her people, walks humbly among them, works tirelessly on their behalf, thinks strategically, has a vision, and gets things done.”

In addition to leading Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Ventures, Briggs serves on several boards, including the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy; the South Dakota Budget and Policy Project; and Ta-te Topa Energy, Inc.

“It's a critical time for leaders,” Briggs says. “More than ever, we need thoughtful and highly skilled communicators in this world. It is so important for us to understand each other, to find our strengths and build on them in respectful ways.”



Photo credits: top, Dawn LeBeau
bottom, Bush Foundation



Teresa Peterson, 2011 Bush Fellow, strengthened leadership capacity at Dakota Wicohan

Minnesota is the traditional homeland of the Dakota people, and their language is preserved in dozens of place names—Minnewaska, Minnetonka, Anoka, Mendota—including the state’s name.

Yet, today there are only a handful of native speakers of the Dakota language.

That prompted Teresa Luckow Peterson ’91, an educator and tribal leader, to co-found Dakota Wicohan, a nonprofit organization that is working to renew and sustain the Dakota language: the lifeblood of Dakota culture.

Peterson used her 2011 Bush Fellowship to strengthen leadership capacity within the organization she helped launch a decade earlier and recruit allies to support its mission.

“Nurturing others to become leaders” is an often neglected aspect of leadership, Peterson says; another is achieving a balanced life. The Bush Fellowship helped her develop those skills and discover her strengths as a leader. “I have a knack for bringing people together to lay out a vision and discover how we can all work together.”

The leadership capacity Peterson helped foster at Dakota Wicohan has resulted in new initiatives. One example: Dakota Wicohan created a middle school curriculum built on Dakota storytelling. Mnisota Makoçe aims to connect students with Dakota history and instill “a sense of belonging for native students,” who often feel like outsiders in school, Peterson says.

The curriculum project became the basis of Peterson’s research for her PhD in education, which she earned in 2015 from the University of Minnesota, Duluth. Mnisota Makoçe was pilot tested recently at a rural public school and is now being prepared for distribution.

Peterson grew up on a farm near Foley and earned her undergraduate degree in sociology and liberal arts for the human services at Morris, where she was active in the Native American Student Association.

After college she worked for her home tribe, the Upper Sioux Community, and earned a master of science in educational leadership. Now Peterson is a tribal planner and grant writer for the Lower Sioux Community. She lives on a bluff of the Minnesota River Valley between the Upper and Lower Sioux communities near Belview, where she tends a huge garden. The garden, which feeds her family all year long, is an important part of the work–life balance she strives for, she says. “Learning to live in balance, to be healthy and well—that’s one of the biggest things I learned as a Bush Fellow.”

Photo courtesy of Teresa Peterson

We always want to hear about the great things our alumni accomplish! Whether you’ve received an award, worked on a world-changing project, or made an impact in your daily life, share your story at alumni@morris.umn.edu.



THE BIG PICTURE

Students signed a section of the AIDS Memorial Quilt on display in Oyate Hall in October 1995. Panels of the quilt were hung in the Edward J. and Helen Jane Morrison Gallery again this past fall, 20 years later.

Are you shown in the photo above? Do you remember the AIDS Memorial Quilt's 1995 visit to campus? Tell us about it! 320-589-6066 or alumni@morris.umn.edu



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Online Alumni Networking Opportunities

LinkedIn

Connect with other alums in the workforce, find a Morris alum who is perfect to fill a position or one who wants to hire you!

1,611 members!

Morris Connect

Our exclusive online networking tool offers participating alumni and students the ability to connect 24/7/365. alumni.morris.umn.edu/morris-network

1,130 participating alumni!

Daniel Moore '07, President of the UMM Alumni Association



The best part of the drive to Morris from my home near Minneapolis is that transition around Sauk Centre from billboards and freeway speeds to a double-nickel limit—rolling down the windows and soaking in the horizontal grandeur of west central Minnesota. I'm fortunate to make the drive often, and I'm honored to be a part of recognizing some of the tallest minds and highest accomplishments the prairie has to offer: giants who stand in the middle of everywhere and see only possibilities.

"Morris is where vision begins," R.T. Rybak reminded the Class of 2016 during commencement ceremonies this spring. Sure, it's a little flat, but you can see everything from Morris.

In May we welcomed the Class of 2016 to the Morris alumni family and honored Associate Professor of Psychology Heather J. Peters with the 2016 UMMAA Teaching Award. Soon we will honor future alums (and their families) as they move onto campus for the first time.

Homecoming 2016 is looking better than ever, with many athletic teams at home, a Saturday afternoon concert, an evening football game, and a host of incredible Distinguished Alumni Award winners and Cougar Hall of Fame inductees. Please join me in honoring Distinguished Alumni Thomas W. Mahoney '70, Sharon Stewart Reeves '68, and Mark Schuller '96 as well as Cougar Hall of Famers Mari Sandom Destache '05, Donnay Green '05, Rebecca Witters Gunn '04, Roger Schnaser '67, and Brad Svea '73 on October 7.

And as you make your way to Morris this fall, take an extra minute to enjoy the view.

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

- September 1 **Pre-Game Gopher Football Event**—McNamara Alumni Center
- October 7–9 **Homecoming**
 - **Reunions:** Classes of 1966, 1996, and 2001; Cougar Football Alumni; and "Celebrating a Decade of Sustainability Progress at Morris"
 - **Cougar Alumni Athletic Games:** Baseball, Men's Soccer, and Women's Basketball
 - **UMM Alumni Association Board Meeting**
- December 3 **Community of Scholars Competition**
- December 9 **Senior Banquet**
- January 20–21 **Men's Basketball Alumni Reunion**
- February 3–4 **Community of Scholars Competition**
- February 14 **Morris on the Move**—Mesa, Arizona
- February 16 **Midwinter Alumni Gathering**—Minneapolis

For the most current event information, visit alumni.morris.umn.edu/opportunities-connect. Events take place on campus unless otherwise noted.

UMMAA HONORS THREE MORRIS ALUMNI

Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes professional achievements, public service

Thomas W. Mahoney '70,
Sharon Stewart Reeves '68,
and Mark Schuller '96
are recipients of the
UMM Alumni Association's
2016 Distinguished Alumni Award.
They will be honored
for their professional
achievements and public
service at a reception
and banquet on
Friday, October 7,
as part of
Homecoming.

Grants Boom
Tom Mahoney '70 built Morris grants development, sparked college turning point

Tom Mahoney of Hancock was the creator and founding director of the Grants Development Office at the University of Minnesota, Morris. During Mahoney's 25-year tenure, average grant awards rose sixfold to nearly \$1 million a year in public and private funds.

Mahoney—beloved on campus for his sense of humor and amiable personality—worked with faculty to develop and write research grant proposals. He also helped obtain and manage funds to support many special projects, among them the Violence Prevention and Response Program, the AIDS Memorial Quilt exhibit in 1995, the biomass gasification plant, and the campus's historic building preservation efforts.

Mahoney's work sparked a turning point in Morris's early history, says Elizabeth Blake, dean and vice chancellor emeritus. In 1982 he helped the college win a United States Department of Education grant, which provided nearly \$1 million to revise and enrich the curriculum, start a computer science major, and establish a distinctive undergraduate liberal arts program, which is now considered one of the best in the country.

Mahoney grew up near Belle Plaine and earned a bachelor of arts with distinction in psychology from Morris. As a student, he co-founded the UMM Drug Information Center. He also worked as a researcher for Professor Emeritus Eric Klinger's Project on Fantasy, co-authoring one of the project's first publications, a book chapter published in 1976.

Mahoney, who retired in 2009, has received the Exemplary Adult Educator Award from the Minnesota Association of Continuing Adult Education, the Outstanding Civil Service Award from the University of Minnesota, and the inaugural Morris Academic Staff Award.

He has made many contributions to civic life, especially environmental causes. He is a longtime water sediment sampler on the Chippewa River and has served on the boards of Pride of the Prairie local foods initiative, Walden Township, and the Chippewa 10% Project, which seeks to increase perennials on agricultural lands.

"Tom Mahoney has served his campus and his community at the highest level with great care, skill and heart," says Sandra K. Olson-Loy, vice chancellor for student affairs, who has known him for three decades. "His belief in the promise of the University of Minnesota, Morris and his dedication to helping the campus realize the best of our vision and mission are unrivaled."



Keeping Track of News

Sharon Stewart Reeves '68 a pioneer in online newspaper archives

Sharon Stewart Reeves of San Diego, California, spent 38 years as a special collections librarian in both newspaper and corporate settings. As director of library services for the San Diego *Union-Tribune* newspapers, she was a pioneer in creating online, searchable newspaper archives for staff and the public.



Reeves took the helm at the *Union-Tribune's* news library in 1975, when the book collection was uncataloged, and news stories and photos were indexed and filed by hand. Under Reeves's leadership, the *Union-Tribune* became the third major United States newspaper to establish an online news archive. "With knowledge, skill, and persistence, Sharon built a department worthy of praise," says Nancy Wyle, her boss at the *Union-Tribune*.

"News libraries are exciting places to work," Reeves says. "There is always something going on, and deadlines come at all hours of the day and night." During her 31 years at the newspaper Reeves and her staff contributed to many significant news stories: "Olympics, Super Bowls, school shootings, 9/11, crooked congressmen, fires, and floods." One of the biggest stories was the 2006 Pulitzer-prize winning coverage of bribe-taking by former Representative Randy "Duke" Cunningham.

A native of Balaton, Reeves earned a bachelor of arts in history from Morris and a master of library science from the University of Washington. Before joining the *Union-Tribune*, she was a librarian at *The Seattle Times*, Battelle Northwest, Boeing Aerospace, and the James S. Copley Library at the University of San Diego, where she cataloged a collection of Revolutionary War materials. "For a history major, this was a fantastic opportunity." At Boeing, Reeves worked at the reference desk and did in-depth literature searches for the engineering staff. During her tenure there, she did the original pilot project that introduced online searching. She found that she "could produce...results in less than an hour that would have taken most of a week to produce manually."

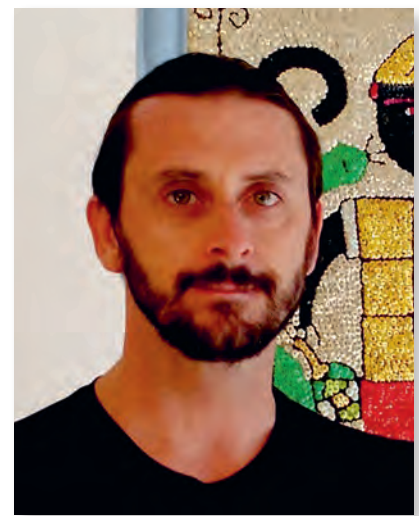
Reeves is past president of the San Diego Chapter of the Special Libraries Association and a recipient of the Distinguished Alumna Award from the Information School at the University of Washington. She also serves on Morris's Archives Advisory Council.

When she retired in 2006, Reeves turned her love of knitting and crocheting into her "way of giving back." She has made thousands of baby caps—more than 3,000—which she donates to hospitals.

Killing with Kindness

Mark Schuller '96 examines humanitarian aid to Haiti

Mark Schuller, associate professor of anthropology and NGO leadership and development at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, researches why humanitarian aid efforts failed to relieve the poverty and suffering of the Haitian people following the 2010 earthquake.



"Six years ago, the world wept with Haiti," says Schuller. "And along with our tears came one of the most generous humanitarian responses in history." Nongovernmental aid organizations (NGOs) received billions in donations for Haiti, but this well intentioned aid produced few benefits.

Schuller scrutinizes these failures and suggests new approaches for foreign aid in two books: *Humanitarian Aftershocks in Haiti*, published in 2016, and *Killing with Kindness: Haiti, International Aid, and NGOs*, which won the 2015 Margaret Mead Award from the American Anthropological Association and Society for Applied Anthropology. He has authored 30 scholarly articles and book chapters and has co-edited five books. He co-directed the documentary film *Poto Mitan: Haitian Women, Pillars of the Global Economy*, which was based on his field research in Haiti and has been screened all around the United States—including a showing at Morris in 2009.

Schuller, who grew up in Des Plaines, Illinois, earned a bachelor of arts with honors and distinction in anthropology, sociology, and philosophy from Morris and a PhD in anthropology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Before joining the faculty at Northern Illinois University, he taught at City University of New York and Vassar College.

As a student at Morris Schuller was active in student groups and received the 1994 Outstanding Student Leadership Award. After graduating from Morris he worked as a Twin Cities community organizer, winning the Nelda Rhoades Clark Street Worker of the Year award from the Saint Paul Area Coalition for the Homeless.

Schuller's Haiti research grew out of a seminar in anthropological methods taught by Donna Chollett, professor emeritus of anthropology. "Mark researched the political processes that engendered devastating levels of poverty in Haiti," she recalls. "I was most pleased that Mark took this class project and turned it into an illustrious professional career!"

Schuller's growing body of published work is "recognized nationally and internationally," says Chollett, who calls him "one of the most influential young voices in contemporary anthropology." Adds Sandra K. Olson-Loy, vice chancellor for student affairs, "He clearly demonstrates that Morris alumni can—and do—change the world."

LOOK WHO'S BACK!



Rachel Balzar '14, Sara Butterfass '12, Dominic Scheck '11, Kim Ukura '08, and Eric Wardell '08



Adam Girtman '05



Nicholas Solberg '15



Dori J. Maddox '94



Melissa Swenson Baker '05



Erica Mumm '14



Eva Christiansen Marthaler '89, Keith Marthaler '91, Dave Harbeck '90, Julie Hayer Harbeck '90



Dr. Sue A. Ravenscraft-Lynch, Dr. David J. Lynch '80, Julianna Sweet, and Dave Sweet



Teaching Specialist Kevin Flicker '74 and Professor Emeritus Jenny Nellis with Kristin Majji Peterson '84



Deborah Tomasetti Holt '80 and Zachary Tomasetti '20, Eagle Bend



Professor of Computer Science Nic McPhee with Elijah Mayfield '09



Dan Moore '07 with Chancellor Jacqueline R. Johnson



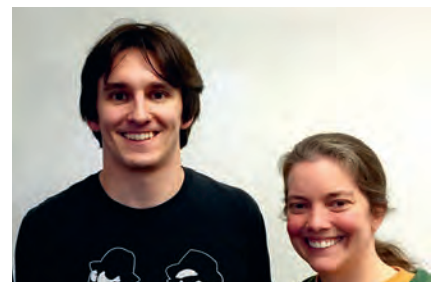
Dr. Katie Cannon '05 with Associate Professor of Biology Timna Odegaard Wyckoff '94



Derek Lind '93 and Hannah Godzala '20



Olivia Steffl and Bill Steffl '92



Geoff Schumacher '15 with Associate Professor of Computer Science Kristin Kaster Lamberty '00



Morris on the Move to Palm Springs

In March alumni and friends gathered at the home of E. Dennis '69 and Sue Guter Zahrbock '71 in Palm Springs for an evening of reminiscing. Left to right: E. Dennis Zahrbock '69, Sue Guter Zahrbock '71, Marty Fluegel '71, Linda Schmidgall, Kay Nelson, Keith Schmidgall, Ron Nelson '65, Paul Reeves, Sharon Stewart Reeves '68, Dana Crosby '84, Chief Development Officer Susan Schmidgall, Development Officer Bill Robb, Senior Director of External Relations Carla Riley '85.



All That Jazz

Alumni Jazzers returned to campus for the 38th annual Jazz Fest in April. The Alumni Jazz Band performed, and the group adjourned to Old No. 1 for socializing after the concert. Far left: Adam Bestler '92. Left: Matt Johnson '88, Joe Johnson '88, and Kelly Crom '90.



Women's Soccer Reunion

Women's soccer alumni and current players got together in late April for a fun 7 v 7 tournament.

Large group photo, back row (left to right): Lindsay Clay '18, Tiffany Oren '18, Kali Cordes '12, Justine Wolf '15, Emily Moore '17, Ivie Brooks '16, Emma LaChance '16, Carly Denler '17, Sarah Timpane '14, Kailyn Anderson '19, Janaya Caines '19.

Middle row: Molly Hancuh '18, Yu Ito '19, Lauren Eckert '19, Juliet Olson-Batista '18, Sydney McAdam '17, Torri Jordan '17, Crystal Zastrow '12. Front row: Marie Jakubowski '19.

Above, at right: Kali Cordes '12, Justine Wolf '15, Emma LaChance '16, Ivie Brooks '16, Sarah Timpane '14, Crystal Zastrow '12.



Morris at the Saint Paul Saints

Morris alumni and friends enjoyed opening day at the Saint Paul Saints in May. Shown above at left are Linda Hedlund Hewitt '72 and Al Hewitt '73. Above at right are Kelley Swanlund Patriot '10 and Remi Patriot '10.



Morris on the Move to DC

Morris people from the Washington, DC, area got together at Gordon Biersch in June.

Above, at left—First Row: Madison Anderson '14; Megan Jacobson '18, Bloomington; Elizabeth Thoma Torkelson '11; Maria Brun '08; Jelena Kmezic '03; Erin Schellin Christensen '05, associate director of alumni relations and annual giving. Second Row: Bill Robb, development officer; Rachel Brand '95; Tamir Elnabarawy '14; Janie McKenna; Adam Torkelson '08; Holly Gruntner '13; Karen Smith Armbrust '01; Susan Schmidgall, chief development officer. Third Row: Bart Finzel, vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean; Christopher La Londe '73; Gabbie Crain '16; Kerri Torney '98. Back row: Alex Murphy '09, Joel Deuth '07, Brian Williams '97.

Above, at right: Holly Gruntner '13, Karen Smith Armbrust '01, Elizabeth Thoma Torkelson '11, Madison Anderson '14.



Cougar Alumni Golf Classic

In July Cougar alumni and friends came together for a day of golf at Geneva Golf Club in Alexandria.

Above, at left: the full group. Above, at right: Al Doering '82, Gordy Leaf '81, John Rice '81, and Gary Frogner '79.

In Memoriam

Wilbert “Bert” Ahern, professor emeritus of
history and American Indian studies

Claire Moen '65

Carolyn Marie Moe Pederson '65

Charles Roy Zimmerman '70

Janet Olsen Nordstrom '71

Esther Larson Odland '71

Daniel Daly '84

Class of '65

Claire Moen, Starbuck, passed away in January 2016. He was born in Madison. Growing up, he often helped his father on the family farm. He was married in 1964 and moved to Appleton to raise a family. Claire continued to farm until his retirement. In 2002, the family moved to a lake home near Starbuck. Claire enjoyed outdoor activities like hunting, fishing, and gardening. He is survived by his wife, Sylvia; three children; and seven grandchildren.

Carolyn Marie Moe Pederson, passed away May 1, 2016. She was born and raised in Morris and graduated from Morris High School. She earned an honors double major in math and psychology, with a minor in music from Morris. In March of 1965 she married **James Merle Pederson '76**. Shortly thereafter, Control Data Corporation in Saint Paul hired her as one of its first computer programmers. She worked there evenings and weekends while raising her two children. Carolyn was preceded in death by her parents, twin sister **Carol Larson '65**, and one brother. Carolyn is survived by her husband, two children, six grandchildren, a sister, brother **David Moe '64**, and many nieces and nephews.

Class of '68

Gary Lickfett writes: “I find myself spending a quiet spring following unexpected heart surgery—bypasses, valve repair, pacemaker—all rather sudden. I was not overwhelmed with enthusiasm, but the doctors assured me that alternatives were limited! As it is, the procedures preempted planned travel to London with grandchildren.”

Class of '70

Charles Roy Zimmerman passed away in March 2016. He grew up on a farm near Chokio. In 1971 he was married to **Dorothy Youso '72**. He worked for Ecumen services for 35 years, and he also chaired the school board for Chisago Lakes School District. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, camping, and supporting his daughters’—and later his grandchildren’s—school activities like sports and arts. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, and loving friends and family.

Class of '71

Janet Olsen Nordstrom, Donnelly, passed away in January 2016. She was born in Morris and grew up on the family farm near Donnelly. She graduated from Morris with honors and a major in elementary education and a minor in English. After graduating she spent eight years teaching in Strandquist. In 1979 she became a part-time employee of the US Postal Service in Morris. After 30 years, Janet retired as Postmaster of the Donnelly post office. She was married in 1990. She is survived by her husband and many other friends and family.

Esther Larson Odland passed away in December 2015. She was born in Traverse County and grew up in White Rock and, after 1939, Wheaton. She was married in 1950. After attending both Saint Cloud State University and Morris, she taught school for 30 years, first in Brooten and later at rural schools in the area. She retired in 1989. Esther is survived by three children and other friends and family. She was preceded in death by her husband of 51 years.

Class of '74

Paul Anderson and **Faith Sumption Anderson '73** write that “Paul is currently serving his fourth term in the Minnesota House of Representatives, where he serves as the chair of the Agriculture Policy Committee. He has announced his intent to run for reelection this fall.” Faith is director of communications/public relations at American Solutions for Business, a nationwide company headquartered in Glenwood. The Andersons own and operate their 800-acre farm and live in the house where Paul was raised. As fourth-generation family farmers, they raise wheat, corn, and soybeans. Their oldest son, **Luke '03**, works at the Monticello Nuclear Plant.

Florence Bartels writes: “After working in the software field for 2+ decades in three different states (Minnesota, Colorado, and Ohio), my husband, Russ, and I are retired and living in south-central Iowa. I enjoy cooking, running, wildlife, and traveling. I’m blessed with three perfect grandsons! A bonus of going to UMM is the wonderful friendships I made there and still have.”

Class of '81

Phil and **Marla Fredrick Coffin** write: “We have returned to the US after a five-year work adventure in Singapore and Australia. Phil has joined a commodities trading company in Stamford, Connecticut, as an agricultural trader. Marla is busy with community organizations and is getting serious with the brush and canvas. We are digging into the history and culture of the East Coast.”

Class of '84

Daniel Daly passed away in January 2016 after a long battle with cancer. After graduating from Morris he served for eight years in the United States Air Force. Then he had a distinguished career with the US Geological Survey, working on Minnesota flood monitoring and control. He is survived by a wife, two boys, his parents, siblings, and other friends and family.



It was Teacher/Student Swap Day at Washington Elementary in New Ulm. Four Morris alumni teach together at the school. Left to right: **Lori Geske-Krugger '82**, **Amanda Hoffman Zimanski '02**, **Lisa Lande Brown '99**, **Kevin Maudal '88**

Class of '87

Shirley Helbach Guse writes: "We have moved to Saint Croix, US Virgin Islands. I am still working for the Veterans Administration at a community-based outpatient clinic. Working in a rural clinic is interesting due to the geographic challenges, but the beaches and warmth make things much easier."

Class of '88

Tim Spielman has been promoted to editor of the Minnesota edition of *Outdoor News*, a publisher of locally written fishing and hunting outdoor newspapers in the Great Lakes states. He has been working with the publication as a reporter or associate editor since 1999, and he looks forward to his new leadership position.

Class of '89

Kathy Hanson writes: "**Dale '83** and I are both retired from teaching. We moved to Salina, where our daughter and her family live. I have been substitute teaching in the Salina elementary schools while Dale fixes things and landscapes around the house."

John VanKempen is the 2015–16 West Central Area Secondary Teacher of the Year. VanKempen teaches high-school science at West Central Area Secondary School in Barrett.

Class of '94

Jennifer Hengel Harting, chief financial officer/chief operating officer at Deerwood Bank, has joined the bank's board of directors. She first joined Deerwood Bank in 2002 and has helped the bank grow from four locations and \$140 million in assets to 14 locations and more than \$500 million in assets.

Class of '95

Sander Grotjohn and **Anissa Brandt Grotjohn '96** write, "Sander is in his 20th year of teaching bands in the Greenway Schools in Coleraine. He completed his master's degree in education at Saint Mary's University in 2012. Anissa is currently teaching 6th and 7th grade band in the Grand Rapids school district and completed her master's degree in education through Augustana University in 2015. We have two boys, ages 14 and 16, who are passionate fishermen and keep us busy with their many activities."

Class of '98

Amy Roorda Albrecht, PhD writes that she "continues to be an associate professor of biochemistry at Charleston Southern University and has recently received tenure."

Ryan Stotesbery writes, "I have started my first year as high-school principal at Dawson-Boyd High School and currently live in Dawson with my wife, Danielle; daughter, Emma; and son, Jacob."

Class of '00

Shannon Tanghe won the 2016 Teaching English to Speakers of English as a Second Language (TESOL) Teacher of the Year Award. Shannon is currently in her 16th year of teaching in South Korea. She teaches English for a master's degree program in which the students are also working to become teachers.

Class of '01

Shannon Lambert Cooper joined Roe Law Group as an associate focusing on employment counseling and litigation. Shannon previously worked in civil and business litigation. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband and son.

Doll-Wohlers '90 Honored with Judicial Appointment

This spring Amy Doll-Wohlers '90 took her passion for justice one step further when she was appointed a district court judge in Minnesota's Eighth Judicial District by Governor Mark Dayton. This appointment affirms her commitment to public service and to greater Minnesota.

Prior to her judicial appointment Doll-Wohlers served as an associate attorney at Fluegel, Anderson, McLaughlin and Brutlag, Chartered, where she began her career by practicing personal injury law. In her new role she hopes to "improve the judicial process and systems to better address the needs of children and adults with mental and emotional difficulties."

Doll-Wohlers has a history of service to the people of west central Minnesota. Since returning to the area after completing her JD at William Mitchell College of Law, she has served on the Morris Area Community Education Advisory Council and the Board of Education for the Morris Area Public Schools and St. Mary's Catholic School. Doll-Wohlers also has volunteered with the Minnesota State Bar Association Mock Trial Program and Pioneer Public Television.

"I have always had a strong belief in giving back to the community," she says. "I see my new position as a continuation of that goal, but on a larger scale."

Doll-Wohlers has a history of service to the Morris campus, too. She is first vice president of the University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association Board of Directors and has returned to campus for events like Community of Scholars and Alumni and Students Networking Day. She also is a proud supporter of Cougar athletics.



Molly Rowan writes, “Upstate New York is a great place to live!”

Lori Bucheim writes that she has worked for the Cottonwood County Attorney’s Office as the assistant county attorney for more than five years. In the last year she has successfully argued in front of the Court of Appeals and obtained guilty verdicts in several jury trials, most of them drug cases. In April 2016 she was awarded the Faces of Hope Award from the Southwest Crisis Center for her work with victims. She lives in Redwood Falls with her husband, Chad, and three children: Lola (6), Logan (4), and Luke (2). Lori is hoping for a good turnout for the 15-year reunion for the Class of 2001 in October.

Class of ‘02

Mark Kreie received the 2016 Daktronics Outstanding Mathematics Teacher Award for the state of South Dakota. Mark received the award at the South Dakota Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference in February.

Class of ‘03

Nate Becker co-wrote the 2016 *DMV Handbook for Colorado Attorneys*. He worked with the Colorado Criminal Defense Bar. Currently he is the director of operations for Tiftickjian Law Firm.

Schmitz ‘91 Brings Mindfulness to K–12 School Systems



Mary T. Brual Schmitz ‘91 is making waves through her efforts to introduce K–12 students to mindfulness. Schmitz, who has served Elk River Area Schools for more than 21 years as a school social worker, now works as a mindfulness education specialist.

After her four years at Morris Schmitz earned a master of social work at the University of Iowa. In 2015 she completed Oasis Training through the Center for Mindfulness, located at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, where she became endorsed to train educators about Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction techniques. She is also one of eight Nationally Certified “Yoga Calm” Teacher Trainers.

In addition to her work as a school social worker, Schmitz began leading workshops and education sessions with educators and students to promote mindfulness. Her efforts have been rewarded with reports of increases in positive behavior, classroom focus, and academic success among students.

“I began to train teachers on how to teach students to deliver the Yoga Calm strategies,” says Schmitz. “They are so professional and do everything [they can] for their students. I wanted to support them in their [mental health], to bring them to their best teaching, which ultimately brings kids to their best learning.”

Schmitz’s present work with students stems from her dedication to education beyond typical certification. From 2012–15 alone, she completed numerous programs in mindfulness education, including Mindful Education Institute Advanced Graduate Training, registered yoga teacher training, and certification in “Yoga Calm” Instruction for both teachers and youth. Schmitz’s work has been recognized by a variety of sources, including Minneapolis/Saint Paul news outlet Kare 11.

“I truly have learned from the best of the best. I’m so, so incredibly blessed. I couldn’t be more pleased with the value the district has placed on the health and wellness of our staff and students.”

Hakala ‘98 Earns Fellowship in Japan

Siri Hakala ‘98 is one of just 10 fellows selected this year for The Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program, in which she will study Japanese approaches to marine science and government policy. This fellowship affirms Hakala’s longstanding commitment to and passion for marine biology, which she credits Morris with fostering, despite its being 2,000 miles from an ocean.

Hakala has long demonstrated her passion for marine biology. After her graduation in 1999 she pursued her interests in animal behavior, ecology, and literature and credits numerous faculty members for her educational growth.

“I’d say my career aspirations were nurtured and strengthened by my years at Morris,” Hakala says. “I was greatly supported and challenged by my professors. They passed along their love of their specialty to their students and made learning fun.”

During the summers after her freshman and sophomore years Hakala worked at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science through a National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates. Inspired by these internships, she pursued graduate study in marine biology and earned a master’s degree in psychology, with an emphasis on marine mammal behavior and biology, at the University of Hawaii, Manoa.

“I’m a ridiculously proud Minnesotan. And I think of the prairie as a land ocean. It might be that my years at Morris contributed to my comfort on ships in the middle of the Pacific.”

Hakala acts as the deputy director of the Protected Species Division at the Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center (NMFS/NOAA) in Honolulu. Her work at this institution is instrumental for research and assessment of populations of protected marine mammals, including whales, dolphins, sea turtles, and Hawaiian monk seals.





Morris alumni living in the DC area got together at a Twins versus Nationals game in May 2016. Back row: **Adam Torkelson '08**, **Elizabeth Thoma Torkelson '11**, **Holly Gruntner '13**, **Brian Williams '97**, **Kerri Torney '98**. Front row: **Kari Stevermer '12**, **Katie Jacobson '14**, **Delfina Arce**, **Maria Brun '08**.

Tanner C. Johnson writes that he “was hired at Platinum Bank, Oakdale, as a vice president of commercial banking and relationship manager. He brings 13 years of experience in business banking and will focus on commercial credit and relationship management. Platinum Bank was the only de novo Minnesota bank chartered in 2007 and was named one of the fastest growing companies by *Minneapolis–St. Paul Business Journal*.”

Class of '04

Sara Mennen writes that she “accepted a position as a clinical supervisor/family therapist at the Leo A. Hoffman Center in March 2016. This is a residential treatment facility, located in Saint Peter, for adolescent boys who have both mental health diagnoses as well as sexual acting-out behaviors.”

Joe Ruud, aka. **Erick Rowan**, rang the opening bell with the Wyatt Family group for the NYSE WrestleMania on March 29, 2016.



Peter Ray '09 and **Jenna Reiser Ray '10** write that they “welcomed their first child, **Max Fitzgerald '38**, on March 10, 2016. Everyone is happy and healthy, enjoying their time together.”

Class of '05

Robyn Lampert and her husband Mark were named Stevens County's Outstanding Conservationists by the Stevens Soil and Water Conservation District. On their 1,100 acre farm, of which 600 acres are certified organic, they raise a variety of crops, including blue corn, alfalfa, sunflowers, barley, soybeans, and yellow corn. Diversity is a key to their operation, and among their main crops they also include cover crops like radishes, rye, and clover. They were honored at the Minnesota Association of Conservation Districts State Convention on December 8, 2015, in Bloomington.

Class of '07

Kate Hunt graduated from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln on May 6 with a doctorate in political science (with specializations in women's and gender studies and human rights and humanitarian affairs). Kate successfully defended her dissertation in November 2015. She has accepted a position as assistant professor of political science at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee, where her husband, **Mike Gruszczynski**, is also a professor. Kate's parents, Penny and **Bill Hunt**, professor emeritus of political science at Morris, were able to attend her dissertation defense and graduation ceremony.

MORRIS LEGACY WALK

In recognition of your gift to the Morris Legacy Walk fund, a paver will be personalized with your name and graduation year and installed as part of the walkway that runs behind the Welcome Center. Your tax-deductible gift of \$125 will cover the inscription and installation of the paver, with the remaining funds (approximately \$100) used to support student scholarships.

Visit morris.umn.edu/alumni/pavers or contact Alumni Relations at 320-589-6066 or alumni@morris.umn.edu to learn more.



Left: **Matteus Johnson '12** and **Leah Parker '12** celebrated their 66-month anniversary by surprising friends and family with a “GraduWedding” on May 13, 2016, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. An hour earlier Leah had attended Commencement ceremonies celebrating the completion of her master’s degree in clinical psychology. Leah’s graduation party turned into a BOGO when she and Matt announced that they had acquired all the paperwork necessary to marry that day! Celebration with friends and family will continue into the summer with receptions in both Colorado and Minnesota. This fall Leah will join Matt in Douglas, Arizona, where he is the assistant coach of the women’s soccer program at Cochise College.



Luke Beck '14 and **Kaitlin McGee '14** got engaged on campus in March.



Jennifer Schmidt '12 and **Garrett McCormack '12** were married in July 2015 in Saint Cloud. The couple are both pursuing their PhDs. Jennifer is a graduate student in chemistry education at the University of Iowa, and Garrett is doing his graduate work in neurobiology at Iowa State University.

Faculty/Staff

Ron Hamm, former University Relations employee, has published a new biography, *Ross Calvin: Interpreter of the American Southwest*. It is his third book about New Mexico-based themes.

**Send us your Class Notes.
Please include high resolution photos!**

Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving,
Welcome Center, 600 E 4th St, Morris, MN 56267

alumni@morris.umn.edu or
alumni.morris.umn.edu/submit-class-note

Next Class Notes Deadline: January 3, 2017



About half of the alumni who work on campus were able to come together for a photo. See if you can spot any familiar faces in the group!



Women's Basketball

Morris finished 14–12 this winter with a conference record of 9–7. Morris had three players named to the UMAC All-Conference Teams. Elli Stevenson '19, Hayti, South Dakota, was named to the UMAC Second Team. Cori Becker '16, Sauk Rapids, was named to the UMAC Defensive Team. Tori Holt '17, Rapid City, South Dakota, was named UMAC Honorable Mention.

During the course of the season both Mauren Thiesen '19, Sauk Centre, and Holt were named UMAC Players of the Week. Stevenson and Holt both averaged more than 10 points per game in 2015–16.

Five players led the Cougars in scoring during a single game in 2016, three of them freshmen.

Morris made 17 three-point field goals in a win versus Bethany Lutheran College. It was the most for a Morris team since 2012. The team made a total of 206 three-point field goals on the year, the most since 2002–03 and the second-most in school history.



Men's Basketball

Morris reached the UMAC semi-finals last season and finished with a 13–14 overall record. Morris was 9–7 in UMAC play, thanks to five straight conference wins in January.

CD Douglas '18, Marshall, and Tyler Ukkelberg '18, Clitherall, were named UMAC All-Conference. Douglas was named to the UMAC First Team and earned the UMAC Player of the Week award four times during the year. Ukkelberg was named to the UMAC Defensive Team.

Douglas finished the year with 577 points and had a career-high 37 points against the University of Wisconsin–Superior—the third-most points in a single game in team history.

Morris scored 109 points in a four-point win over Crown College, the highest-scoring game since 2004.



Introducing the COUGAR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

"I'm honored to compete for the Cougars, and I am grateful for all the support that comes from our students, fans, and community. Thank you for all that you do for me and all other student-athletes"

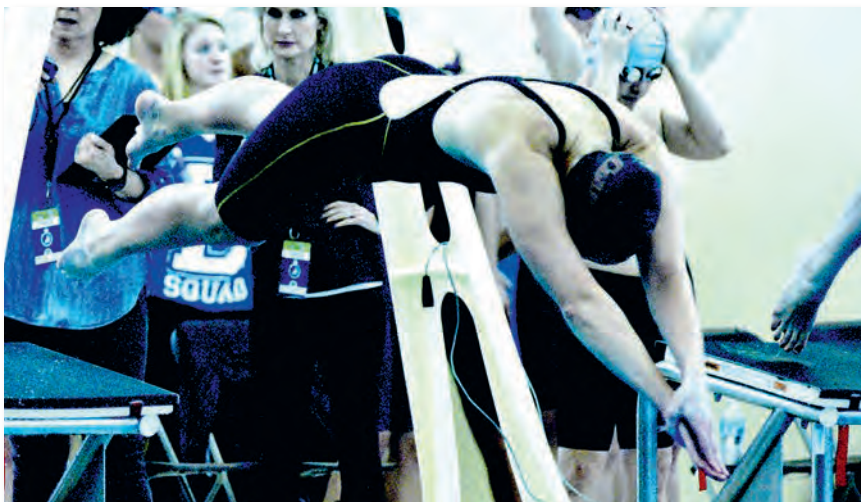
—Kelsey Wattenhofer '18, Litchfield, women's golf and swimming and diving

In partnership with the University of Minnesota Foundation, all gifts designated to the Morris campus are received by and invested in the Morris campus.

Planned to roll out this fall, the Cougar Athletic Association will provide opportunities for the nearly 400 student-athletes and 19 athletics teams at Morris as well as high-quality equipment and facilities for these student-athletes.

To get involved or learn more contact Jason Herbers, director of intercollegiate athletics, at 320-589-6425.





Swimming and Diving

The Cougars finished third at the Liberal Arts Championships for the third straight season. They had 32 career-best finishes during the three-day meet. Kaitlin Kamm '16, Kasota, won the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle. Carissa Fuller '16, Zimmerman, won the 1-meter dive and qualified for the NCAA Regionals.

Kamm set school, pool, and meet records in the 50-yard free; her time of 23.82 was good enough to meet the NCAA B Cut mark. Fuller set pool and school records in the 1-meter dive, with 440.10 points in the finals.

Both Kamm and Fuller were named to the Liberal Arts Championship Team.



Baseball

The Cougars made the UMAC Tournament for the first time since 2007, finishing fourth in the UMAC, their highest finish since joining the conference. Morris clinched the playoff spot with a walk-off win in the second-to-last game of the season.

Five Cougars were named to the UMAC All-Conference Team. Chandler Erickson '17, Chokio; Jackson Gessell '18, Cohasset; and Joey Hyde '17, Kasson, were named to the UMAC First Team. Tyler Hannan '18, Montrose, and Zach Kuefler '19, Annandale, were named to the UMAC Second Team.

Erickson led the team with a .370 batting average with a team-leading 51 hits in 2016. Gessell hit .355 and led the team with a .511 slugging percentage. Sam Melchior '18, Fridley, led the pitching staff with four victories. Hannan led the team with a 1.14 ERA in 23.2 relief innings.

Softball

The Cougar softball team was one of last three teams standing at the UMAC Tournament in 2016. Morris won eight of its final 12 UMAC games to qualify for the UMAC Tournament.

Eight Cougars hit over .300 this season; they were led by Autumn Mahoney '18, Frazee, and Paige Larson '18, Mora, who each hit .350. The offense averaged 5.5 runs per game. Larson was named the UMAC Player of the Week on April 26. Elli Stevenson '19, Hayti, South Dakota, was the UMAC Pitcher of the Week on April 19.

Alex Anderson '16, Osakis, was named UMAC First Team. Mahoney and Meghan Pomeroy '17, Arden Hills, were UMAC Honorable Mentions. Gina Downie '17, White Bear Lake, and Bret Hulett '19, Monticello, were named to the UMAC Defensive Team.

Tennis

Michael Maudal '16, New Ulm, led the Cougar men with five wins in singles matches. Paul Leslie '18, Minneapolis, had four singles wins. The women's team just missed making the UMAC Tournament, finishing with three conference wins. Emily Johnson '18, Circle Pines, and Kayla Kraemer '16, Brainerd, each had six singles wins to lead the team. Kraemer was named UMAC All-Conference.



Track and Field

Indoor

During the indoor season the women finished in second place, while the men were third. Jess Devine was named the women's Coach of the Year following the meet. Eight women and two men were named to the UMAC All-Conference Indoor Team.

Devan Griffin '19, Iraan, Texas, won the triple jump and Justin Terry '18, Saint Paul, won both the 60-meter and 200-meter races. Sami Brinkman '18, Hamburg, won the weigh throw, and Teja Foy '16, Crete, Illinois, won the 60-meter. Laura Borkenhagen '16, Truman; Tanna Boyle '17, Simla, Colorado; Hannah Goemann '17, Wells; and Rachel Wingenbach '16, Mandan, North Dakota, teamed up to win the Distance Medley Relay at the indoor championships.

Outdoor

The women's outdoor track and field team won its first UMAC Championship since 2004. The men finished third at the Outdoor Championships. The women had a dozen All-Conference honorees, and Jess Devine was named the Outdoor Coach of the Year. Teja Foy '16, Crete, Illinois, was the Track Athlete of the Meet, and Sami Brinkman '18, Hamburg, was named the Field Athlete of the Meet. On the men's side,

Chalmer Combellick '17, Chokio, was named the Track Athlete of the Meet and was one of four All-Conference performers.

Foy won the women's 100-meter and 200-meter races; she was also part of the 4 x 100-meter and 4 x 400-meter champion relay teams. Brinkman won the women's discus and hammer events. Combellick was the men's 800-meter and 1500-meter champion. Justin Terry '18, Saint Paul, swept the sprint races, winning the men's 100-meter and 200-meter.

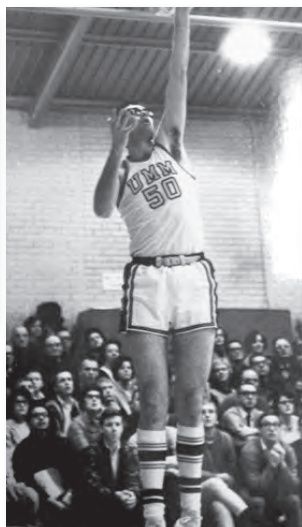
Other individual champions included Sidney Paulson '17, Knoxville, Tennessee, (women's 400-meter); Emily Ciesynski '19, Ham Lake, (women's 400-meter hurdles); Carly Denler '17, Champlin, (women's pole vault); and Devan Griffin '19, Sheffield, Texas, (men's triple jump).

Joining Foy and Brinkman on the women's All-Conference Team were Paulson; Ciesynski; Denler; Kassidy Przymus '19, Balaton; Nicole Deziel '16, Eagan; Elisabeth Anderson '18, Bloomer, Wisconsin; Alicia Doerr '16, Stillwater; Laura Borkenhagen '16, Truman; Hannah Goemann '17, Wells; and Katherine Novak '19, Champlin. Griffin; Terry; and Shamund Gordon '19, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, joined Combellick on the men's All-Conference Team.

Anderson, Doerr, Borkenhagen, Goemann, and Novak were part of winning relay teams for the Cougars.

Five Inducted into Cougar Sports Hall of Fame

Outstanding athletes in men's basketball, women's soccer, and football have been inducted into the Cougar Sports Hall of Fame. Athletes will be honored at a reception and banquet Friday, October 7, as part of Morris's Homecoming.



Photos: Courtesy of Roger Schnaser

Roger Schnaser Holds 50-Year School Record in Men's Basketball

Roger Schnaser '67 was the first Morris player to be named to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics District 13 Team in 1965-66.

Schnaser came to Morris from Willmar Junior College. He averaged 23.2 points per game his junior year and 16.9 points per game his senior year, scoring a total of 956 points in two seasons. In one memorable weekend in 1966, the 6'6" center scored 41 points on Friday night against Jamestown College. The next day he scored 51 points against Ellendale College—a school record that has stood for 50 years.

Schnaser grew up in Appleton and had ambitions to be a cartoonist. He started out as an art major at Morris, but "as [he] played basketball, [he] decided [he] wanted to coach," so he switched his major to physical education.

After college he served in the National Guard, then coached at Morris for a year under Noel Olson before becoming a physical education teacher and head basketball coach at Morris Area High School. After earning his master's degree, Schnaser served as head men's basketball coach at Peru State University in Peru, Nebraska.

Schnaser left coaching in 1975 and became a State Farm Insurance agent in Saint Paul. He retired in 2009. Now Schnaser and his wife, Linda Wieweck Schnaser '71, divide their time between homes in Poinciana, Florida—where he enjoys making palm bark art—and Big Sandy Lake in McGregor.



Brad Svea Named Three-Time Men's Basketball All-Conference Player

Brad Svea '73 was a three-time Northern Intercollegiate Conference (NIC) All Conference athlete, in 1969-70, 1971-72, and 1972-73. He was the only Cougar—and the only freshman—named to the 1969-70 all-NIC team. The 6'6" forward was voted the Cougars' Most Valuable Player three times and scored 1,159 points in his career. He was a primary ball handler, described by his teammates as a dominant player and praised for his quick hands and defensive talent. Svea, who grew up in Benson, worked in Facilities Management at Morris until retiring in 2016. He and his wife, Holly, live in Starbuck.



Photos: Savannah College of Art and Design and Gerald Witters

Rebecca Witters Gunn Posts Women's Soccer Conference Highs

Rebecca Witters Gunn '04 holds the fourth all-time Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) record for women's soccer career goal assists with 21 and NSIC's 11th-place record for single-season scoring with 2.67 points per game in 2000. She helped Morris capture the 2003 UMAC regular season championship.

The Morris midfielder notched 10 conference assists in 2000—the second-most in NSIC history—and nine conference assists in 2001—fourth in NSIC history. She was NSIC's second-leading scorer in points per game in 2000, fourth in 2001, and third in 2002. Gunn ended her Morris soccer career with 55 goals, 41 assists, and 153 points.

Gunn was named to the NSIC All-Conference First Team in 2000, 2001, and 2002, and to the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) All-Conference First Team in 2003. She was UMAC Co-Player of the Year in 2003 and UMAC Player of the Week twice that year. Gunn also received Morris's Female Athlete of the Year award in 2003.

Gunn went to high school in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where she was recruited by then-Morris women's soccer coach Christian DeVries. She majored in sport management at Morris and served as assistant women's soccer coach for a year after graduation. In 2005 she became assistant women's soccer coach at Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia, and in 2014 was named head coach.

Gunn and her husband, Keith, have two daughters: Jordan, 7, and Ryanne, 5.



Photos: courtesy of Mari Destache

Mari Sandom Destache Notches Women's Soccer Career High-Score

Mari Sandom Destache '05 holds Morris's career high-score record in women's soccer, with 70 career goals, 42 assists, and 182 career points. The standout midfielder helped Morris win the 2003 UMAC regular season championship. She was named UMAC Co-Player of the Year in 2003.

Destache was named to the NSIC All-Conference Team in 2001 and 2002 and to UMAC's All-Conference First Team in 2003 and 2004. She was a UMAC Player of the Week three times in 2003 and two times in 2004. She received Morris's Willis Kelly athletic award in 2005.

Destache grew up in Hudson, Wisconsin, and was recruited to play soccer by then-Morris women's soccer coach Christian DeVries. She majored in management at Morris, then earned a master of arts in human resources from Saint Mary's University. She is controller for Kraft Mechanical in Woodbury.

Destache and her husband, Travis Destache '05, live in Baldwin, Wisconsin. She plays in a Twin Cities-area summer women's soccer league.



Donnay Green Leads in Career Rushing

Donnay Green '05 finished his Morris football career with 3,281 rushing yards, 38 rushing touchdowns, and 232 career points—the most in Morris history. The running back, a walk-on for the Cougars, was named to the UMAC All-Conference First Team in 2003 and 2004.

In 2003 Green rushed for 267 yards and six touchdowns against Crown College, a school record. Green also set several other Morris records, including 20 rushing touchdowns and 1,669 rushing yards in 2003. He scored 122 points that year, another school record. In 2004 he scored 18 rushing touchdowns, the second-most in Morris history. In 2003 he was named to the AP Little All-American Third Team. He was twice named UMAC Player of the Week in 2003 and 2004. He received Morris's Arnold Henjum Scholar Athlete award in 2005.

Green, of South Holland, Illinois, is founder of DJG Consulting, which helps prepare high school students for the transition to college. He works primarily with immigrants, students of color, and first-generation college students. "Many first-generation college students feel ill-prepared for college," says Green, who was himself the first in his family to go to college. Once students start college, "it's sink or swim. I developed my consulting firm to assist students earlier," starting in junior high.

In addition to running DJG Consulting, Green serves as a program manager for a global coaching and leadership development organization.

Before starting his own company Green earned master of arts degrees in business administration and organizational management and served as assistant director of financial aid at Concordia University in Saint Paul.

Green grew up in Chicago and earned his undergraduate degree in speech communication. During his time at Morris Green was a leader in the Multi-Ethnic Student Program, served as a peer mentor, tutored elementary school students, and worked in the financial aid office. He is a past president of the Morris alumni association and currently serves on the board of directors.



2016 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD AND COUGAR HALL OF FAME BANQUET

Friday | 5 p.m. Reception, Student Center
 October 7 | 6 p.m. Banquet, Oyate Hall

RSVP AT ALUMNI.MORRIS.UMN.EDU/HOMECOMING



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

- 5 p.m. Alumni Reception
- 6 p.m. Distinguished Alumni Award and Cougar Hall of Fame Homecoming Banquet
- 7 p.m. ... Celebrating a Decade of Sustainability Progress at Morris
A Reunion and Networking Event for Sustainability-Inspired Alumni
- 8 p.m. Dessert and Drinks in Morrison Gallery

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

- 10 a.m. Class Reunions Brunch (*all alumni welcome to attend*)
- 10 a.m. Cougar 5K Run
- 10 a.m. Women's Basketball Alumni Game
- 12 p.m. Annual Residence Halls Tug-O-War
- 12 p.m. Cougar Baseball Alumni Game
- 12 p.m. Campus Tour
- 1 p.m. Green Tour
- 1 p.m. Men's Soccer versus UW-Superior
- 2 p.m. Homecoming Concert
- 2:30 p.m. Coffee & Cookies with Pounce
- 3 p.m. Women's Soccer versus UW-Superior
- 3 p.m. Volleyball versus Bethany Lutheran College
- 4 p.m. Cougar Football Alumni Reunion
- 4 p.m. Tailgate
- 6 p.m. Cougar Football Homecoming Game versus Martin Luther College

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

- 12 p.m. Cougar Men's Soccer Alumni Game



**VIEW UP-TO-DATE SCHEDULE AND EVENT LOCATIONS AT
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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MORRIS

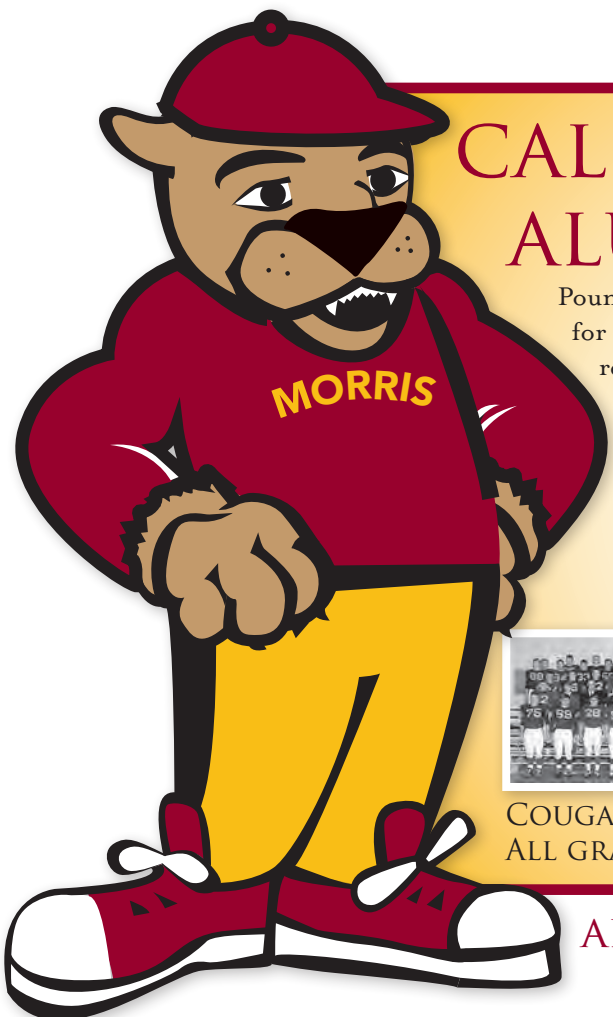
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CALLING ALL ALUMNI!!!!

Pounce wants to see all of you on campus for a fun-filled weekend of reunions and reminiscing. Special reunions have been arranged for the groups highlighted below. Find the schedule of events inside.



CLASS OF '66
50 YEARS!



CLASS OF '01
15 YEARS!



COUGAR FOOTBALL
ALL GRAD YEARS!



CLASS OF '96
20 YEARS!



SUSTAINABILITY
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!

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