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Σ ary

Newsletter of the Minnesota State University Moorhead Mathematics Department

Mathematics Awards for Outstanding Students

The faculty of the mathematics department annually selects outstanding students in mathematics and the elementary math specialty for recognition of their achievements. This year's Outstanding Senior Awards go to Michael Erickson, Dustin Holmes and Samantha Notch.



> Michael Erickson

Erickson is from Ada, Minn., and is the son of Tammy and Bruce Sargent and Roger Erickson. Mike plays Club Baseball for MSUM and is the vice president and treasurer for the club, as well as being their center fielder. He is a Math Learning Center tutor and participated in the NCS/MAA Team Competition. He plans to teach secondary mathematics for several years and then pursue a graduate degree in mathematics or mathematics education. He would like to teach at a university one day.



> Dustin Holmes

Holmes is from West Fargo, N.D., and is the son of Sharon and Bill Holmes. Dustin is the active president of the Actuarial Club, and under his leadership, the club was awarded the Outstanding New Organization of the Year. Dustin has passed three actuarial exams and will be working with Millman, an actuarial firm.



> Samantha Notch

Notch is from Melrose, Minn., and is the daughter of Tom and Lori Notch. Samantha is a tutor in the Mathematics Learning Center and presented her research on Bezout's Theorem and its Applications. Samantha intends to teach at the middle-school or high-school level after she graduates and may later pursue a master's degree after teaching.



> Samuel Erickson

Junior mathematics major, **Samuel Erickson**, was awarded the Rothmann Family Scholarship. Sam is from Fargo, N.D., and is the son of Jim and Sheri Erickson. Sam participated in research on Aphid Sequences and presented his research at the Pi Mu Epsilon Conference for undergraduate mathematics scholars in April. Sam will be participating in a Research Experience for Undergraduates at Valparaiso University this summer, where he will be working on pattern avoidance in trees. He will also be studying in Budapest at a Budapest Semesters in Mathematics in the fall of 2014.



> Max Johnson

Junior mathematics education major, **Max Johnson**, was awarded the Garland Scholarship. Max is from Fergus Falls, Minn., and is the son of Mary and Gary Johnson. Max has been a tutor in the Mathematics Learning Center and played intermural basketball this year. His basketball team went to the semi-finals. He plans to teach middle school or high school after he graduates.



> Monica Maus

Sophomore mathematics education major, **Monica Maus**, was awarded the Shelda Warren Endowed Scholarship. Monica is from Osakis, Minn., and is the daughter of Dennis and Rita Maus. Monica has been a tutor in the Mathematics Learning Center for three years and has been awarded a STEM outreach internship for this summer. She also participated in a yearlong study of uses of technology in the classroom. This work led to a presentation at the Minnesota Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Duluth, Minn.



> Josiah Reiswig

Senior mathematics major, **Josiah Reiswig**, was awarded the Leonard Scholarship. Josiah is from Moorhead, Minn., and is the son of Kim and Cheri Reiswig. Josiah is a tutor in the Mathematics Learning Center, active in Chi Alpha Campus Ministry and is the secretary of the Math Club. Josiah participated in research on Aphid Sequences and presented his research at the Pi Mu Epsilon Conference for undergraduate mathematics scholars in April. He will be participating in the Summer Undergraduate Mathematical Sciences Research Institute at Miami University in Ohio. Josiah plans to pursue a Ph.D. in mathematics and teach at the university level.



> Kelsey Schaefer

Junior mathematics major, **Kelsey Schaefer**, was awarded the James P. Wallen Scholarship. Kelsey is from West Fargo, N.D., and is the daughter of Cindy and Jim Dokken and Mark and Linda Johnson. Kelsey is the secretary of



> Ashley Borchardt



> Katie Byer

the actuarial club and one of its founding members. She recently passed her first actuarial exam and will be pursuing a career as an actuary after graduation.

Mathematics majors **Ashley Borchardt**, **Katie Byer**, **Monica Maus** and **Samantha Notch** were awarded a Tim and Kathy Peil Endowed Scholarship.

Borchardt is a freshman mathematics education major and is an Honors Apprentice. Ashley is from Thief River Falls, Minn., and the daughter of Joe and Julie Borchardt. She participated in a yearlong study of uses of technology in the classroom. This work led to a presentation at the Minnesota Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Duluth, Minn. She is also a member of the Emerging Leaders program on campus. Ashley plans to teach at the high-school level and eventually earn a master's degree.

Byer is a junior mathematics education major. Katie is from Frazee, Minn., and is the daughter of Mike and Cary Byer. She has been a tutor in the mathematics department and a resident assistant for two years. Katie is the president of Math Club and organized a very successful trip to the Pi Mu Epsilon Conference for undergraduate mathematics scholars. She would like to teach at a small-town high school when she graduates and give her students the same passionate learning experience that she received.

Other awards: Junior Mathematics Awards: **Jordan Cieslak**, **Jacob Moe**, **Megan Sanford**; Sophomore Mathematics Awards: **Holly Amundson**, **Aaron Moser**, **Taeyoung Choi**; Freshman Mathematics Awards: **Ashley Borchardt**, **Bailey Wieberdink**, **Ngon Haynh**, **Tyler Meheels**, **Jason Thompson**, **Netsai Ngongoni**; and Elementary Education with Math Endorsement award to **Carol Braschayko**, **Kelsey Amundson**, **Sarah Kinrade**. ■

Faculty & Department News

Student Achievements

Holly Sullivan, an actuarial science major, was offered a paid internship position at Mercer Consulting, one of the largest human resources and financial services consulting firms in the world.

Dustin Holmes, who will graduate this semester, has passed three actuarial exams and has been offered a full-time job working as an actuary at Millman, one of the world's largest providers of actuarial products.

Andrew Nelson secured an internship position at BMS Group. He will be working as a catastrophe modeler. Headquartered in the City of London, the financial district in the heart of London, UK, BMS is a specialist insurance group built around teams of experts in the fields of Wholesale, Reinsurance, Direct Insurance and Underwriting.

Melissa Montbriand, a math education graduate, who returned to study actuarial science, successfully passed Actuarial Exam 1-P. She was offered employment at Auto Owners' Insurance.

Brittney Lind, a mathematics major with actuarial emphasis, successfully passed Actuarial Exams 1-P and 2-FM.

Wesley Teo, a physics graduate who is working on his math degree with an actuarial emphasis, successfully passed Actuarial Exam 1-P.

Josiah Reiswig and **Samuel Erickson** did research on aphid sequences this year with Adam Goyt. They used the reproductive behavior of aphids to determine Fibonacci-like sequences and their growth rates. They presented their research at the Pi Mu Epsilon Conference, at the Minnesota Undergraduate Scholars Conference and the Student Academic Conference.

Loza Tadesse is a physics major, mathematics minor who will be participating in a research experience at MIT this summer. She will be studying physics applications in biology.

Iwnetim Abate is a physics major, mathematics minor who will be participating in a research project with IBM this summer. He will be studying lithium ion batteries. ■

More Department News

Technology in the Classroom

“Technology is an integral part of our society today, and it continuously develops. Using technology in the classroom helps keep students engaged while helping them understand deeper applications of the knowledge they’re gaining. This is especially true in the Mathematics Classroom. “ – Monica Maus (co 2016)

Holly Amundson, Ashley Borchardt, Monica Maus, and Joanna Rogness participated in a year-long study of technology in the classroom and how it can be used effectively. They used robots to demonstrate mathematical concepts. Some of the robots rolled, some flew and some moved other objects. They learned very basic programming languages that are accessible to ages ranging from elementary to high school. They presented work on developing a jeopardy template for helping students prepare for exams. They learned paper folding and its relationship to geometric objects and real-world applications. Finally, they took on apps for tablet computers and how they can be used by teachers and students for work in the classroom.

Their experiences turned into an opportunity to present at the Minnesota Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference, which is the largest conference for mathematics teachers in the state of Minnesota. They shared their work with robots, apps, jeopardy and paper folding during an hour-long session with teachers in attendance. ■

Math Student Tapped To Start a Baseball Team

In the Fargo – Moorhead area, where the winter is long, high school baseball has a very short season. Luckily there is American Legion Baseball. A highly competitive league for serious players, American Legion gives opportunities for talented young athletes to practice and perfect their skills before going on to college or minor league ball.

Until recently, there was only one American Legion Opportunity, called Post 2, which only recruited the very dedicated who were willing to spend every day on the field practicing and playing. Many students and families, however, want an opportunity to play without the full summer commitment.

Jordan Hughes, a mathematics education major, was tapped to build a new American Legion team with more flexibility that gives students an opportunity to play at a high level and still go on the occasional summer vacation.

Thus, the Fargo Post #400 team was born. “It’s a great opportunity for the students to play, have fun, and enjoy their summer,” says Hughes.

Hughes played club baseball at MSUM for his first four years here, and now during his super senior year, he has been an assistant and pitching coach. The MSUM club team is ranked 14th in the nation and made it to nationals this year in Paducah, Ky.

Hughes and MSUM Elementary Education graduate **Matthew Peck** have been building the Fargo Post #400 team from the ground up. They have been responsible for fund raising, attracting players, finding places to practice, scheduling games and tournaments, and even designing uniforms.

The first season for Post #400 kicks off on June 6. They will play about 40 games, a couple of which will take place at Newman Outdoor Field. For more information, please see leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=post400baseball. ■

Faculty Professional Activities

Sayel Ali gave a talk on his paper “General Phi-Ratio Tests” at the MAA NCS meeting in St. Cloud, Minn., in April.

Adam Goyt gave the talk “A Stanley-Wilf type result for ordered set partitions” at the Eleventh Annual Permutation Patterns Conference in Paris, France, this summer. He also gave a similar talk at the Enumerative and Algebraic Combinatorics Conference at the University of Florida in March.

Tammy Fitting participated in the MCTM conference as a MinnMATYC member and presented as part of the “Developmental Mathematics Panel Discussion.”

Tim Harms presented “Technology Tools for the Secondary Classroom” at the MCTM Conference in Duluth, Minn. The presentation was done with students Holly Amundson, Ashley Borchardt, Monica Maus and Joanna Rogness.

Justin James was elected Treasurer of the North Central Section of the Mathematics Association of America.

Mike Miller attended the Minnesota Numeracy Conference in October and presented at the North Dakota Council of Teacher of Mathematics conference in March. In April, he presented at the Minnesota Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference. Both conference presentations involved two elementary education students.

Carol Okigbo attended the MCTM conference in the spring and presented the talk “Enhance your teaching of fractions with hands-on” with student Brittney Bunn.

Wally Sizer gave a talk on his work on difference equations at the MAA NCS meeting in St. Cloud, Minn., in April. ■

Alumni Σary

2014 Mathematics Department Alumnotes

'60, **Frank Franson**, continues to reside in Tower, Minn., and reports, "Well I made it to 81. Things are happening in this area. Two companies are exploring and drilling a huge formation of copper and nickel. They also are finding gold, platinum, iridium and cobalt. It is probably the biggest deposit in the world. Mining it will be of great benefit to local schools, cities, county, state and country. We can export instead of import."

'60, **Loren Lee**, resides in Dilworth, Minn., but winters in Texas. He taught junior high for 36 years – two years in Detroit, Mich., one year in Fisher, Minn., and 33 years in Alexandria, Minn., retiring in 1996. lorenlee@yahoo.com



'61, **Jon Olson**, has now been retired 12 years. He is able to maintain a good lifestyle, largely due to studying math and science (BS Math Education at MSUM, then known as MSC) and later MA Physics at USD) which enabled him to obtain good jobs with reasonably good salaries, and commensurate good savings. Other benefits followed, e.g., Jon was able to teach USAF dependents at Military bases out of country (Canada, Portugal and Japan) after only two years teaching experience (in Wolford, N.D.) because of the demand for/supply of math and science teachers. This was a life-enhancing experience for him. JQOLSHEN@aol.com

'66, **Michael J. Thibodo**, is still retired and living in Estero, Fla. He is looking forward to the 50th reunion. thibodomike@gmail.com

'68, **Gerald V. Erickson**, retired in 2008 and is now busy with the grandchildren. He started painting in watercolors in 2009 and has been to a number of workshops, the latest was last October in Lacrosse, Wis., with professional artist, Janet Rogers. In March of 2013 he and his wife went on a pilgrimage to Israel with a group from his church. It was an incredible journey, and they are hoping very much that they will be able to go back again. Jerry resides in Minnetonka, Minn. erijerry@gmail.com

'69, **Jerome A. Degerness**, reports that 2013 was a very good year for him with a wonderful family, lots of travel, many great experiences and a day-to-day lifestyle that is

great fun. Children Megan and Mitch continue to reside in Sioux Falls. Grandson Chandler turned four and continues to be a joy to everyone. They are expecting a new addition to their family in April. Daughter Jillian found a new place to live, but still is trapped by the sun in San Antonio. And children John and Carrie are planning an October wedding next year. Jerome resides in Woodbury, Minn., and attended homecoming at Minnesota State University Moorhead for the first time since he graduated. There were a number of special reunion events for Dragon baseball alumni. It was interesting to participate in the homecoming events and lots of fun to engage with old friends he'd not seen for over 40 years. His brothers and he had another fantastic October family reunion at their farm with lots of food, a bunch of fix-it projects and many nieces, nephews, cousins and neighbors coming and going for the better part of a week. However, damp weather pre-empted the usual bonfire. Traveling was frequent during the year. In addition to the above, Jerome spent a week in Chicago in January at the American Baseball Coaches Association Convention, a week in Ft. Myers in February playing baseball and two weeks in Las Vegas in March playing baseball. He was all over the Twin Cities metro this past summer with the two baseball teams he coached and the one he played on. Jerome played two weeks of baseball in Arizona in October and another two weeks in Ft. Myers in November. He exceeded his goal of playing in 60 games during 2013, finishing with 63. Being part of the 2013 Roy Hobbs AAA 60+ Champion Minnesota Bees team was frosting on the cake. He is rehabbing his right elbow for another go at 60 or more games in 2014. The Thanksgiving week was spent with his children in Sioux Falls. Jerome is enjoying the \$10 million of renovations Vail Resorts has invested in their newly acquired ski property at Afton Alps which is 12 miles from his house. He got in between 80 and 90 ski days during the 2011/2012 season, but only about 20 during the 2012/2013 season. But he is off to a much better start for 2013/2014 ski season. There is a ballroom or swing dance just about every night. These skill sets travel well with many places to go in every major metropolitan area. Jerome's volunteer activities include the Woodbury Youth Athletic League (WYAL), the Woodbury Youth Resource Connection (WYRC), the Woodbury Association Leadership Counsel, the University of Wisconsin Stout



Submit your news to sheryl.jones@msntate.edu.

alumni summary

Applied Math and Computer Science Advisory Council and the Metro Sr. Babe Ruth Board of Directors. The WYAL is close to a full-time commitment with management duties of president, coaching, and the inevitable political posturing that goes with being part of an organization using city and school district facilities. He expects the WYAL will have 10 baseball, five softball and three basketball teams in 2014. Jerome has joined the Lions Club and has had a good time scooping yogurt for the pancake breakfast, distributing signs for the garage sale and bell ringing for the Salvation Army. He has officially retired as an actuary. tsdgrns@gmail.com

'71, Vince Felchle, resides in Dallas, Texas, and retired from Texas Instruments in 2004 after 31 years of service. He had worked in Addison, Texas, as a wine consultant for a retail store, Sigel's, for six years, and has effectively retired after December 31st. Vince is only working during the vacations of other wine consultants, or other special events. And now, he is preparing for the best years ahead. vfelchle@swbell.net

'72, Jon Nygard, is a math teacher at the Adult Learning Center, Roseville Public Schools, Roseville, Minn. He works with all levels of ability in his math classes. Jon resides in St. Louis Park, Minn.

'74, Steven Gerjets, retired in March of 2012 from Lockheed Martin, located in Eagan, Minn., after almost 39 years as a software engineer. During those 39 years, his employer also went by the names Sperry-Univac, Sperry, Unisys, Loral, and Paramax. Steven's last position was as lead software integration and test engineer on the Common Submarine Radio Room program. He has been filling his time since then with hunting, fishing and traveling with wife Gail; also babysitting their three grandsons. In 2012 Steven was honored when the 1972 Moorhead State 'College' Track and Field Team, of which he was a member of, was inducted into the MSUM Athletic Hall Of Fame. In 2013 Steven was again honored as the 1973 Moorhead State 'College' Track and Field Team, of which he was also a member of, was inducted into the MSUM Athletic Hall Of Fame. He and his wife live in Lakeville, Minn. jetstwo@charter.net

'75, Elaine (Spielman) DeGroot, retired May 31, 2013, after 30 years of federal service (both active duty USAF and federal civil service). Since that time, she has self-published a children's book, "The Little Cloud's Busy Day" and is in the process of writing a romance series. Elaine lives in Lonsdale, Minn. falcon2af@lonstel.com

'80, Dave Jacobson, after almost 31 years as a statistician and quality/reliability engineer with IBM Rochester, he will be retiring on July 31. Dave has accepted a statistics faculty

position in the Department of Mathematics at Metropolitan State University in Saint Paul beginning in mid-August. His wife Deb will continue her part-time position as a biostatistician at Mayo Clinic. They will be relocating to the Twin Cities in the upcoming months. Their son, Justin, is an analyst with Wells Fargo in Dallas, and their daughter, Emily, is entering her fourth and final year at Dartmouth Medical School. Dave reports that they are becoming more and more familiar with the culture and fascinating history of both the American Southwest and New England. djake@us.ibm.com, jakefam04@msn.com

'82, Cheryl (Loidolt) Prososki, resides in Richville, Minn. Two years ago, she and husband, Vince, became owners of Northern Lights Resort in West Central Minnesota in Ottertail County. The resort has 10 cabins and eight RV/Campsites and is open year round. Prior to that Cheryl, was parish business administrator for 12 years at St. Peter and St. Joseph Catholic churches, along with St. Peter School K-8 and full daycare called Cherub Corner in Delano, Minn. cprososki@gmail.com

'84, Susan Haller, married her long-time partner, Kris Peterson, on October 19, 2013. She and Kris live in Clearwater, Minn., with their two miniature Australian shepherds. Sue is a math professor at St. Cloud State University and Kris is an administrator at St. Cloud Hospital. skhaller@stcloudstate.edu

'86, Katie (Carlson) Noel, is currently working as the director of the Harlem Senior Center in Harlem, Mont., and loving every minute of it. Her son, Trent, is getting ready to graduate from high school in May 2014. Then Katie's nest will be rather empty. They continue to live on their small farm and truly enjoy the quiet of rural living. ktbugnoel@yahoo.com

'87, Stephanie (Davis) Berns, is a math teacher and faculty leader at Mesa Ridge High School, Widefield School District #3 (located just south of Colorado Springs, Colo.); she is also a district math leader. Stephanie has been working with WSD#3 for 20 years (teaching math for a total of 26 years). With the implementation of the Common Core State Standards and PARCC Consortium, she was chosen to be a district math leader and has been working with a small group to lead a change in mathematics teaching for their school district, K-12. They present district inservices, teacher classes, attend conferences, and basically just do whatever they can to help their elementary and secondary math teachers become more familiar with the CCSS, improve their teaching using the Standards for Mathematical Practice, and prepare teachers and students for the new state assessment (called CMAS in Colorado,

Alumni Σary

Colorado Measure of Academic Success). Stephanie is still teaching high school mathematics full-time, faculty leader for the mathematics department, and teaching a class at University of Colorado - Colorado Springs for non-math teachers in an alternative licensure program (Math Across the Curriculum). She just wants to make a difference in math education within the next decade before she retires. It has been hard work the past few years, but Stephanie thinks changes are finally starting to make an impact on both teachers and students. teacher_berns@msn.com

'90, Veronica (Johnson) Lunde, has been teaching high school mathematics in St. Cloud, Minn., since 2006 at Apollo High School. Prior to that, she taught high school mathematics in Fish Creek, Wis., for five years. Veronica has three boys ages 18, 15 and 9. Her husband, Heath, is also an MSUM graduate. They live in Sartell, Minn. Veronica also works for the AP College Board grading AP Statistics Exams in June. "Education is what is left over when you forget all the facts that your teacher made you memorize when you were in school." (Mark Twain) Veronica.Lunde@isd742.org



'93, Debra (Frank) Haglund moved to Denver, Colo., in August '93 and married Dave Haglund in April '94. She was hired by the Colorado Department of Transportation in December '93; and is assisting the Human Resources office as a technician IV. Her duties include updating their website, data analysis, and supporting enhancements to SAP Human Capital Management (HCM). They moved to Parker, Colo., in June 2012. They have one cat. deb.haglund@comcast.net

'97, Denise (Danielson) Murken, is an 8th grade math teacher at Discovery Middle School in Alexandria, Minn. She also coaches the junior high math team. Denise has three children, Cody, 13 (8th grade), Elizabeth, 11 (6th grade), and Leslie, 8 (3rd grade). She and her family live in Starbuck, Minn.

'02, Angie Hodge, '02 is in her first year as a tenured member of the University of Nebraska Omaha's mathematics faculty. She's been keeping busy learning how to teach calculus using inquiry-based learning. Angie has started a blog column with Dana Ernst for the MAA called MathEd Matters: <http://maamathedmatters.blogspot.com/>. She also ran her first 100-miler this January. amhodge@unomaha.edu

'06, Laura Lee Finstrom, taught high school math for six years after graduation at Aurora Christian School in Aurora, Ill. She is now in her second year of teaching high school math at the International Christian School of Budapest in Hungary. This year, Laura is teaching geometry, pre-calculus and calculus.

'07, Jessica (Trautwein) Myxter, resides in Fargo and is in her seventh year teaching math at Fargo South High School. She also coaches girls track there. jessicamyxter@gmail.com

'10, Kathryn (Bergee) McIntire, resides in Moorhead and is currently working at Border States Electric in Fargo as a data support specialist in the Supply Chain Services department. Her husband, Jon ('11 math ed.), is presently a long-term sub at Moorhead High School, teaching geometry and algebra II. They are very excited to announce that they are expecting their first child in the middle of May. Kathryn hopes all is well in the math department. mcintire.kathryn@gmail.com

'12, Heather Johnson, lives in Fargo and is currently the aquatics coordinator at the YMCA of Cass and Clay counties. She is thoroughly enjoying her role as the coordinator of swimming lessons and other aquatic activities. Heather's extra-curricular activities throughout college set her up well for this position. heather.johnson5590@gmail.com

'13, Brittany Valentien, is in her first year at New London-Spicer Middle School teaching 7th grade math and pre-algebra in New London, Minn. This year, she is putting a lot of effort into incorporating technology into the classroom lessons and assessments. Brittany was featured in a local newspaper article regarding an iPad app she has implemented called Buzz Math. brittany.valentien@gmail.com

'12, Christopher Mehl, is in his second year of graduate school at the University of Oregon, and was recently awarded the Heidi Arnold Early Teaching Award. This award is given to a first or second year graduate student who has demonstrated excellence in teaching. He'd like to thank the faculty in the Mathematics Department for providing him such good examples of teaching.

New Hires & Retirements

New Hires

The mathematics department welcomes Dr. Erdenebaatar Chadraa to a permanent position in the department.

Dr. Chadraa, who is affectionately known by his students as Aggie, has been working a fixed-term position in the mathematics department for the past two years teaching our statistics courses. Under his leadership, we've seen the number of graduates passing the actuarial exams increase dramatically and the actuarial science program grow. He has helped his students establish an Actuarial Club and has helped many of them land important summer internships. We are very excited to have him on board.

Retirements

The mathematics department will say goodbye to three long-time members of the department who will be going on to more relaxing endeavors.

Wally Sizer will be retiring after 34 years in the department. Wally's research interests started in abstract linear algebra and eventually morphed into difference equations. He is an active member of the North Central Section of the Mathematical Association of America and has travelled the world, teaching in far-reaching places such as Ghana and Malaysia, and will be attending a conference in Turkey this summer. We wish him many more years of mathematical study and relaxing travel.

Wayne Chen will be retiring after 26 years in the mathematics department. Wayne has been one of our most versatile department members, with training in statistics and mathematics. He's been able to reach many students with many different interests. Wayne

spent the last six years leading our department as chair and has overseen many changes that have strengthened us in difficult times. Wayne will be moving to California upon retirement to be closer to his children and grandchildren. We wish him many relaxing years of gardening and fishing.

Tim Peil will be retiring after 24 years in the mathematics department. Tim has spent his time in the department with one foot in the mathematical world and one foot in the education world. His research interests are difference equations, and he is an active athlete. Having run many marathons and biked across the United States, Tim keeps everyone on their toes. Tim will be retiring to his lake house with his wife and has many projects planned for his time away from teaching. We wish him many years of relaxation and intellectual stimulation.

In Memorium

Marion Smith, the mother of the mathematics department passed away in September 2013. She was a professor in the mathematics department from 1945 until 1982. For much of this time, she was the mathematics department, when she taught and created many of the classes offered. During her tenure, the mathematics department was formally created and the number of faculty increased from 1 to 19.

Warren Thomsen came to Moorhead State College in 1965 from the Mankato State Mathematics Department. In his early years here, he served a term as department chair. He retired in 1986. Warren and his wife, Dorothy, served in the Peace Corps in Ecuador, and volunteered in the community in a variety of capacities, both before and after retirement. After retiring, they were volunteers in a Quaker House in Mexico before settling in the Twin Cities to be closer to children and grandchildren. Warren was active with Habitat for Humanity, local tutoring programs and as a volunteer with the legal system.

Carl Carlson came to Moorhead State College in 1968 after teaching junior high school and then getting his master's degree from Boston College. He completed his Ph.D. at Iowa State University. He taught in the mathematics department for thirty years, focusing on mathematics education and was department chair from 1966-1971. While at Moorhead State, Carl served for a while as faculty union president. After retiring, he spent time with family, gardening, traveling, and indulging in photography. ■





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We encourage you to make a contribution to the MSUM Alumni Foundation when they contact you in their annual appeal. Please consider designating your donation to a mathematics department scholarship (there are several) or to the mathematics department discretionary fund. In fact, we now have an endowed fund for actuarial among them. The phone volunteer may not ask if you want to designate, but your expressed wishes will be honored. Thanks.