Department Awards

The Mathematics Department has awarded the Ritchie Scholarship for graduate study to graduating seniors David Mathisen and Erin Olson. Selected as Outstanding Seniors were Hannah Altmann, Katie Jo Larson, Dave Mathisen, Alfred Ndungu, Erin Olson, and Amy Rogness. The Wallen Scholarship has been awarded to junior Kathryn Bergee.

Hannah Altmann is the daughter of Linda Embola and Jayson Altmann and is from Perham, MN. Hannah has been a tutor in the Mathematics Learning Center and has served as president of the Math Club. She plans to attend graduate school after MSUM.

Katie Jo Larson is the daughter of Sheldon and Julie Larson of Osakis, MN. Katie Jo has been involved in Campus Crusade for Christ, worked at Triumph Lutheran Brethren church and also at the MSUM parking office. She plans to continue her work at Triumph and to teach in a local school district.

David Mathisen is from Fargo, ND, and is the son of Sue Guttormson and Mark Mathisen. David has completed a research paper with Dr. Goyt on permutation statistics and has been accepted at NDSU to work on an advanced degree in applied statistics.

Alfred Ndungu is the son of Peter and Lucy Ndungu of Mombasa, Kenya. Alfred has served MSUM as a manager in the Comstock Memorial Union and a patrol officer at Campus Security. He will be attending NSDU to pursue a masters of statistics and is planning on pursuing a Ph.D. in statistics.

Continued on next page
Department Awards Continued

Erin Olson is from Moorhead, MN, and is the daughter of Roger and Nyla Olson and the late Marlene Olson. Erin has been a tutor for the Mathematics Department and is planning to attend graduate school to pursue a doctorate in mathematics. She hopes to become a professor of mathematics.

Amy Rognness is the daughter of Bert and Verna Rognness of Astoria, SD. Amy has been a tutor in the Mathematics Learning Center and has been involved in Campus Crusade for Christ. She has also played women's basketball and been a statistician for the Athletic Department Sports Information Director. Amy hopes to teach in the Fargo-Moorhead area and continue her work at Triumph Church.

Kathryn Bergee is the daughter of Rahn and Elana Bergee of Dilworth, MN. She has been secretary of the Math Club, a Peer Advisor in the residence halls, Math Peer Advisor for Dragon Days and a Mathematics Department tutor. Kathryn has also taken part in MAA competition and the Putnam Exam competition. She has also worked on a Human Development Index research project and a math placement research project. Kathryn plans on pursuing a graduate degree and hopes to become a university professor.

Other awards are

Junior Math Achievement Awards to Kayla Bergee, Fenner Colson, Kendra Nies;

Sophomore Math Achievement Awards to Tony Batesole, Alex Freed, Haewong Jeon, Tanya Rensvold;

Freshmen Math Achievement Awards to David Hirsch, Marin Moberg, Debra Monson;

Math Specialty Awards (elementary education majors) to Amy Porter, Becky Stevenson, Gina VanHavermaet.
Department Notes

When the Mathematics Department hired Mel Wahl for a one year appointment this year, we got an unexpected bonus. One of Mr. Wahl's many interests is mathematics-based art. Our renovated department is now accented with many of Mr. Wahl's creations. These works of art have added color and character to our department.

We also welcomed back Bonnie Schmidt to teach for the year. Mrs. Schmidt taught for the department previously but had been gone for some years.

Professors Lian Ng and Wally Sizer have been on sabbatical this year. Professor Ng taught at Minnesota State Community and Technical College this fall and took a cruise of South America this spring. Professor Sizer has been his usual globe-hopping self with trips to Bolivia, Turkey and Costa Rica. They will both be returning to their teaching duties in the fall.

Also rejoining the Mathematics Department next year will be Professor Ron Jeppson. For the past 12 years, Professor Jeppson has been serving the university as the Dean of the College of Social and Natural Sciences.

Professor Sayel Ali will be rejoining the Mathematics Department next year after teaching for three years at The Petroleum Institute in the United Arab Emirates.

Professor Wayne Chen was named the new chair of mathematics beginning July 1, 2008. Professor Chen began at MSUM in 1988.

Barb Rath is retiring in June after 20 years in the MSUM Mathematics Department. For the last eight years Mrs. Rath has been the director of the Math Learning Center. The Math Learning Center offers a lab experience for our beginning and intermediate algebra classes, where students work on problem sheets under the guidance of faculty members and math majors. She and her husband David plan on traveling during their retirement. We wish them well.

The Mathematics Department lost two long time friends and colleagues this past winter.

M. Charlene Schwert, 68, died at home in Fargo on February 22nd under the care of Hospice. Mary Charlene Behrens was born in Sioux City, IA, on January 21, 1941. She was the oldest of seven offspring of Jay Norvin and Gontran Eileen (Beaulieu) Behrens of Plymouth County, IA, and later of Spokane, WA.

In 1969 Charlene received her B.S. (Biology/Chemistry) from Viterbo College and entered into the preparation process for membership in the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration. During this period, Charlene taught sciences and mathematics in the parochial system of Provo, UT and Bozeman, MT. In 1973 Charlene earned an MAT (Mathematics) from Colorado State University. In 1974 she sought and was granted secularization from the Franciscan Sisters. Charlene continued her education at UND, where in 1976 she earned an MEd (Chemistry).

Charlene dedicated most of her long and distinguished teaching career to students of Moorhead (MN) High School, where she taught mathematics for 19 years before retiring in 2001. From 2001-2006, she taught mathematics part-time at MSUM. Charlene leaves her husband Don and their daughter Erin Ashley.

Dr. Sidney James Drouihlet II, 59, died under critical care at Innovis Hospital in Fargo on January 23rd after a short struggle following a heart attack. Known to his friends and colleagues as Jim, he was a tenured Professor of Mathematics at MSUM.

Jim grew up near Houston, Texas. He earned his Bachelors, Masters and Doctoral degrees from Rice University between 1966 and 1974. He served as an instructor in the Mathematics Departments of the University of Texas, Austin (74-75), the University of Utah (75-78), Yankton College (78-81), and MSU Moorhead (81-90).

In addition to publishing several journal articles, Dr. Drouihlet performed consulting and research for the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, primarily during the summer months beginning in 1989. He wrote several reports on space debris and developed computer software that helps to detect and avoid debris in space. This has become an increasingly important concern for NASA since space vehicles can be seriously damaged by “leftovers” from human exploration.

The Problem Corner 2009

The first two problems appeared in print in the years 1643 and 1299 respectively.

Currently they can be found in Sacred Mathematics: Japanese Temple Geometry by Hidetoshi and Rothman.

1. An oil peddler is hawking oil. One evening on the way home, a customer asks the peddler for 5 cups of oil. The peddler has 12 cups of oil left in a large tub (open on the top, but too large to move), which has a spigot for removing the oil. The peddler has no way to measure the amount of oil, except for the fact that the peddler has two empty ladies that hold 3 and 7 cups respectively. How does the peddler measure out exactly 5 cups for the customer? Note: The peddler can not give the customer any oil until the peddler has exactly 5 cups in one of the peddler’s ladies.

2. Find the radius of the largest circle that can be inscribed in a right triangle whose short sides measure 36 units and 27 units.

3. (Compliments of Mel Wahl!) Note $(2 - 3i)^2 = 4 - 12i + 9i^2 = -5 - 12i$ where $i = \sqrt{-1}$. If we let $x = |x|$ and $y = |y|$, then $x^2 + y^2$ equals a perfect square. Since $5^2 + 12^2 = 13^2$, it follows that $(5, 12, 13)$ is a Pythagorean triple. Show that if $a$ and $b$ are any integers and $(a + bi)^2 = c + di$, then $c^2 + d^2$ is always a perfect square and hence will lead to a Pythagorean triple.

To find solutions for these problems go to the MSUM website (www.mnstate.edu) and then go to the Mathematics Department’s webpage.
SUMMARY
2009 Alumnus:

'60, Frank Franson, resides in Tower, MN. He taught math, physics, and chemistry for 32 years, the last 23 in his hometown of Tower, retiring in 1992. Frank has had a stroke, cancer, and sections of artificial veins in both legs. He is doing very good physically and mentally. The only way you can kill a Finnlander is to lock one in the sauna and burn the sauna down! Frank doesn’t have a sauna and the toughest half of him is Swede, he reports.

'61, Daryl E. Olson, retired 10 years ago from Jackson County Central and resides in Jackson, MN. He is kept busy doing volunteer work for his community – he is a very active Jacksonian. Daryl enjoys spending his retirement with wife Ann Marie. He is a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran and they enjoy watching their grandchildren grow.

'61, Jon Olson, after graduating from MSC, taught high school in North Dakota and in the USAF Dependent Schools in Canada, Azoires and Japan for six years. He returned to the University of South Dakota as a National Science Foundation grantee and as a teaching assistant. Jon earned his Master’s Degree in Physics before starting work at Hughes Aircraft in 1969 and retiring in 2002 after 33 years there. Jon lives in Torrance, CA which is midway between Los Angeles and Long Beach. His wife works for Hartford Insurance in the downtown Los Angeles city center. He is now kept busy, with among other things, being grandpa, “Mr. Mom” and home maintenance grunt, golfer, overseas traveler and a conservation or “green” supporter about which he is particularly happy. Jon also owns a farm located seven miles south of Lake Park, MN which has over 500 contiguous acres for the enhancement of the rural environment, animals, water quality and prairie grassland, to name a few beneficiaries.

Jon would also like to encourage students at MSUM to enter or continue to study math or math-related fields such as physics or chemistry. First, your skills are needed to keep Team USA in front. Also, and this is important, in this age of electronics and easy communications, one can work and promote employment in your hometown and in the surrounding areas, and save yourself from being stuck in the anonymity and traffic of the major metropolitan areas. Second, the employment picture is nearly always good for workers in these disciplines. Third, the pay is, for the most part, better than in the “soft”-major arena. JQOOLSHEN@AOL.COM

'61, Darrell Zicafoose, lives in Spencerport, NY, where he has been working as a Data Processing Manager in a small, non-profit organization, New Yorkers Family Research Foundation, in Rochester, NY, since 1992. Currently he is working part-time (24 hr/wk). Previously, after graduating magna cum laude in Mathematics, Broad Science, and Physical Science with a minor in Biology, Darrell taught junior high math and science in the Dillworth Public School for three years. He was at the Hillcrest Lutheran Academy in Fergus Falls for one year, where he taught senior high math and chemistry. And before moving to NY, Darrell received his Computer Programming and Data Processing Diploma at the Metropolitan Automation School in Milwaukee, WI, during 1965-1966. His first job in Rochester, NY, from 1966-1991, was computer programming at Eastman Kodak. DRAJԥSCZIC@BLUEFROGM.

'64, Charles A Bass is a retired Air Force officer. He and wife Judy Skog Bass (MSC '64) moved to Tucson, AZ in 2002 after many moves to many places over the years. They love Tucson and are busy! They have two sons and one daughter, and three grandsons and three granddaughters. They travel, and life is good! CBAXE@COX.NET

'64, George Cowman had deep brain stimulation surgery on October 1, 2008 for Parkinson’s disease, which he has had for 50 years. He has been a patient at the Mayo Clinic since the 1960’s, participating in many drug studies. George retired from teaching mathematics, computer science and physics at Springfield, MN, in 1989, due to ill health. He and wife Sharon (’64 Elem. Ed.) reside "at the lake” in Sunburg, MN.

'66, Sharon (Renfrew) Johnson, after retiring twice, is doing some math tutoring in the Chandler (Phoenix), AZ area. She does private tutoring and also works for a company which provides math tutoring to kids in schools which are not performing well. All of the kids in these schools are entitled to free tutoring (actually, the money comes out of the Title funds for the school). Sharon also teaches piano, and mostly just enjoys the great weather there. She usually gets away from the hot summers in Sun Lakes, where she lives, by coming back to Minnesota for at least a month!! Sharon sends her greetings to Dr. Rothmann stating that she always enjoyed his classes. Do you have many students in the Math Ed programs?? They need about 400 new math teachers here. Hope all is going well with everyone! SHARONSHARONJ@AOL.COM

'66, Dian (Holthusen) Lopez retired in May, 2008, as a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Minnesota, Morris. She and husband Andy have three sons (two in Minnesota, one in California), and one granddaughter in Morris. They are planning lots of travel and camping, and are now living at Lake Ida in Alexandria and would enjoy hearing from you. LOPEZDR@MORRIS.UMN.EDU

'68, Gerald (Jerry) Erickson, resides in Minnetonka and retired on February 29, 2008. He is currently enjoying retirement, grandchildren, and learning how to paint with watercolor. ERIJERRY@GMAIL.COM
'68, David Jacobson, retired from the State of Minnesota on January 27, 2009, after 33+ years, and lives in Shoreview, MN. He has been a member of a choir since 1971 and enjoys golf, spectator sports and traveling. David is a member of the Disney Vacation Circle and visits Disneyworld once or twice a year. His daughter Kristin lives in Madison, WI.

'Mason Hjelle, lives in Mora, MN and is the City Clerk-Treasurer there. He ran in the Boston Marathon for the first time in April 2009. Mason.Hjelle@CityOfMora.com

'71, Cameron D. Kienenberger, lives in Georgetown, TX.

'71, Ted (Theodore) Saxman lives in Rochester, MN. He retired from IBM at the end of 1996. Ted volunteers in the Rochester school district helping English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) students with Math. He also provides free tutoring for Spanish and Somali students in Math on the weekends during the school year. Ted enjoys bicycling, putting in between 4,000 and 6,000 miles a year. He is active in his church, too. Ted and his wife have two sons in college, with the oldest one graduating this spring. tsaxman@charter.net

'72, Mary (Renken) Borman lives in Corvallis, OR, and is in her 15th year of teaching developmental math at Linn Benton Community College in Albany, OR. This past summer, two colleagues and she authored a text for their adult basic math course. maryrborman@peak.org

'73, Sharon Erljen Peterson and husband Jim live in Rice Lake, WI. She has taught at Rice Lake High School since 1978 as a mathematics teacher but has been teaching for 36 years. Sharon was one of the 100 recipients of the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Scholarship and Fellowship Program for 2008. The fellowship program recognizes and supports teaching excellence and innovation. This annual award of 100 Wisconsin teachers awards them and their schools each with $1,000 grants. Sharon currently teaches high school Algebra Readiness, Advanced Math, and Calculus AB & BC and Statistics (she developed these last three courses). She has been instrumental in the development of the high school’s Advanced Placement Math Program and the creation of the math team, which took second place at the UW-Superior Math Meet in 2007 and won the 2006 championship. Sharon has been a board member of the Rice Lake Area Scholarship Foundation for more than 15 years and a member of the high school scholarship committee for 25 years. She revised the high school awards program four years ago when she took over the position of statistician and has mentored three new math teachers at the high school. Sharon also keeps time or scores at volleyball and basketball games and gymnastic meets. petersons@ricelake.k12.wi.us

'73, Neil Widner, and his wife Leslie live in Stephen, MN, and have four children. Their youngest is a junior in high school. They operate a family farm with oldest son Tom. Leslie is a choir teacher at Heritage Christian School in Karlstad, MN. Neil is currently serving as Vice Chairman of the Board for American Crystal Sugar Company. He also serves on the Board of the American Sugar Beet Growers Association and United Sugars Corporation.

'74, Ken Welken, has been teaching mathematics for 40 years and will retire this year from Horizon Middle School in Moorhead. On March 14th he was recognized at the 2009 Minnesota State Mathcounts Competition for his terrific and impressive work with this competition. During Ken’s first year in 1986 his team took first place. The next year the Moorhead students took first place at State and also in the individual and written rounds at Nationals, which was the best any Minnesota student has ever done. Ken's commitment and on-going passion for this went on to bring students to State 16 more times, winning several trophies, including first place team in 2003, which entitled them to go to the Nationals in Chicago. The MATHCOUNTS Competition is a national middle school coaching and competitive mathematics program that promotes mathematics achievement through a series of fun and engaging “bee” style contests. The program exists in all 50 states, plus five U.S. territories and the Department of Defense and State Department schools. It is supported by the National Society of Professional Engineers at the state and local levels. Public, private, religious and home schools alike are eligible to participate, as long as registered teams consist of 6th, 7th and/or 8th grade students.

'75, Julie (Davies) Hansen, is the mathematics teacher at the Aitkin Alternative School. She enjoys working one-on-one with students ranging in age from 14 to 30. Julie is also a substitute teacher at the high school. She is married to Jeff who is a cabinet maker and they have one son who is now a junior in high school. They reside in Aitkin, MN. jjhansen@emily.net

'76, Leslie (Turner) Chapman is Vice President and Chief Actuary at Securian Financial Group in St. Paul, MN.

'77, Claudia Brainard Wiebold lives in Shoreview, MN, and is a Senior Systems Analyst at Securian Financial Group (a Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company subsidiary). She supports Individual Insurance SBU – actuarial financial reporting and claims payments.
"78, Gary Krenz, lives in Fox Point WI. In January he began his 25th year as a professor at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI. in the Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science (www.mscs.mu.edu). The department's graduate program was recently modified, and beginning fall 2009, they will offer M.S. and Ph.D. study in Computational Sciences. Gary hopes to see some Minnesota State University Moorhead graduates in the applicant pool! He completed the 2008 Boston Marathon in 3:00:24, missing the sub 3 by less than 1 second per mile. "Ah, nuts" wasn't quite what he said; but close. Well, there is always this spring when he plans to attempt his fifth Boston Marathon. gary.krenz@marquette.edu

"80, Dave Jacobson, recently celebrated his 25th service anniversary at IBM in Rochester, MN where he continues as a Senior Quality/Reliability Engineer. He is also an adjunct professor at Saint Mary's University Graduate Management and MBA program. He and wife Deb live in Rochester and will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary in July. Deb is a biostatistician at the Mayo Clinic. Their son Justin graduated in December from the University of Minnesota with a statistics major and a minor in Economics. Their daughter Emily is a sophomore pre-med student at Hamline University in Saint Paul. djake@us.ibm.com

"82, Kirk Scott is an Associate Professor of Computer Science at the University of Alaska Anchorage, where he also lives. He spent fall semester teaching at the Kazakh-British Technical University in Almaty, Kazakhstan. kirk_scott@yahoo.com

"87, Kevin Lindeman, is an Associate Professor of Operations & Management Science at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management, where he teaches and does research in the areas of Quality Management, Six Sigma, and Lean. After attending MSUM, Kevin went to Ohio and got a Masters degree in Mathematics from Miami University and a PhD in Operations Management from Case Western Reserve University. Kevin lives in Chanhassen, MN, has a son in third grade, and spends time in the summer at his lake cabin in Wisconsin. linde037@umn.edu

"88, Kenneth (Ken) G. Anderson resides in Cold Spring MN.

"89, Karla (Rothmann) Herz, has been employed with the Postal Service for 12 years and is currently serving as Postmaster in Page, ND. She also works as a Postmaster trainer/mentor, and part-time for her district Human Resources Department. Husband Glenn works for Satrom-Hiam Certified Seed and they live in rural Hope, ND. Their oldest daughter Kaitlyn is a third generation Mathematics Major at the University of North Dakota. Youngest daughter Morgan is completing her sophomore year in high school. Karla remarks she can't believe it's been 20 years since Dr. Rhoads' Math 300 (she still has nightmares -haha!) (Editor's note: Dr. Rhoads remembers the brownies!)

"90, Veronica Lunde, is currently teaching high school mathematics at Apollo High School in St. Cloud, MN. Her department consists of eight mathematics teachers. Veronica's current assignment is Geometry, Algebra II, and AP Statistics, noting that it seems like a long time ago since she was at MSU. Since graduation she has lived in Minneapolis, Door County, WI, and now St. Cloud. Veronica has three sons aged 13, 10, and 4. Her 13 year old just recently competed in a Mathcounts competition at St. Cloud State University. Veronica sends greetings and best regards to Dr. Mattson. Veronica.Lunde@isd742.org

"90, Michelle R. (Coleman) Mahoney completed a MS degree in Applied Statistics at NDSU (1994). Since then, she has worked as a Statistician within the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center (MCCC) at the Mayo Clinic, in Rochester, MN. In July 2008, Michelle was promoted to Assistant Professor of Biostatistics and was accorded recognition of her work and contributions to the Mayo Clinic, MCCC, and BS! She has two children, Chelsey, 17 and Jordan, 14, and lives in Chatfield, MN. Her hobbies include scrapbooking, music/concerts, camping, home projects, motorcycling, and more recently, fishing. mahoneymp@mayo.edu

"90, Karen (Wilharm) Toivonen, has spent the past 16 years living in Alexandria, MN, and is currently working at Edward Jones Investments as an Office Administrator. She is married to Greg (90 Elem Ed) and they have two sons, 9 and 12. Karen remarks that Dr. Denny Rhoads was her favorite professor at MSUM. www.edwardjones.com

"91, Fr. Kurtis Gunwall, currently serves as Associate Pastor at Sts. Anne & Joachim Catholic Church in Fargo, ND. After 10+ years of youth ministry and a call to something further, he began studies for the priesthood for the Diocese of Fargo. Father Gunwall was ordained May 24, 2008 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Fargo and is enjoying the new role and call in his life. kurtis.gunwall@fargodiocese.org

"91, Jessi Mithun, resides in Moorhead, MN, with her family, husband Doug and sons Zach, Jake and Joe. She reports that the biggest thing that has happened in their lives recently is that youngest son, Joe, had a liver transplant at age 8 after over 6 years on the national waiting list. He is doing magnificent!!! They
are now strong advocates for organ donation because it has so tremendously and positively affected their lives. Oldest son, Zach, is a senior in high school and is contemplating his post-high school educational options (his aspirations, although very admirable, haven't changed much since 1st grade - either a teacher, a fire-fighter, or an astronaut). They have no worries about middle son, Jake, because, as a high school freshman, he plans to become a drummer in a rock-n-roll band. Doug is a sales consultant with Corwin Auto in Fargo and a tennis pro with the Fargo Country Club. Jessi is nervously undertaking what she was too timid to do 18 years ago - taking math education classes. She's anxious to see where that goes. mithun@cord.edu

'92, Kim Fettig, lives in Burnsville, MN, with husband, Dan Golliet and their two children, Alex, 6 and Abby, 4. Dan's oldest son, Jon was married last summer, and Jon and Lindsay are currently in Mali, Africa working with Medicine for Mali for six months. His other daughters are both attending college this year. Heidi is a junior in the College of St. Benedict, and Laura is a freshman at Anoka-Ramsey Community College. Kim has been working at Delta Dental in Eagan for nine years, and is the manager of the software test analysts and a technical writer. Dan works for Wells Fargo as a technology manager. KFettig@decare.com

'93, Debra (Frank) Haglund moved to Denver, Colorado in 1993. She married Dave Haglund in 1994. Debra was hired by the Colorado Department of Transportation in 1993 and is currently working in the Human Resources office as a Technician III. Her current duties include service award program, website updates, data analysis, and monitoring Performance Appraisals in SAP. They moved to Greeley, Colorado in 2002, but she still works in Denver, and has two cats. deb_haglund@comcast.net

'96, Gretchen (Carlson) Kost, after eight years as a Statistician/Statistics Team Lead at PRACS Institute, Ltd., decided it was time for a change. At the end of August, Gretchen began her new position as Research Analyst in the Office of Institutional Research and Analysis at NDSU. She spends most of her time writing SAS code to analyze various institutional data and loves it. At the end of December, she and husband Rob welcomed a baby girl into their family. Hattie is their first child and the greatest joy of their lives. In February, Gretchen and Rob celebrated the 4th anniversary of her oncologist telling her to live a normal life again after treatment for a brain stem glioma. gretchenkost@yahoo.com

'96, Andy Martinson, is currently a 9th and 10th grade math teacher at White Bear Lake Area High School, where he's been for 11 years. He is also the school's youth development coordinator. In that capacity he oversees a service-learning and adventure program that serves over 100 kids in the school, coordinates and manages the climbing facilities throughout our school district, and works with students in various leadership roles throughout the school year. Next year, Andy will take a paternity leave from his teaching job to stay home with their daughter (born 12/4/08), while wife Phoebe does a fellowship, which will take them to Washington DC for one year. ajmart@wbl.whitebear.k12.mn.us

'01, Mindy (Hanneman) Fuder, lives in Fergus Falls and is currently the Executive Director of the Fergus Falls 544 Education Foundation. The Foundation acts as an alumni association for the school district and they raise funds to help support projects and programs in the district. She is married to Brian Fuder ('04) and they have a four year old son Charlie and a one year old daughter Ellie. bmfuder@ptel.com

'02, Angie Hodge resides in Fargo, and is in her second year as an assistant professor at North Dakota State University. She works in the Departments of Mathematics and Teacher Education. angela.hodge@ndsu.edu

'04, Ann (Johnson) Gustafson, is working at Fargo South Campus II teaching 9th grade math classes. Last year on June 7th, she married Jason Gustafson. annjohnson7@hotmail.com

'06, Jackie Doerr, works as an assistant actuary for Millman, an actuarial consulting firm in Minneapolis. She lives in Eden Prairie, MN.

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MSUM donations:
If you donate to the MSUM Foundation in the annual appeal, we encourage you to designate your donation to a mathematics department scholarship (there are several) or to the mathematics department discretionary fund. The phone volunteer may not ask if you want to designate, but your expressed wishes will be honored. THANKS!
'07, Lea Brandel is currently a graduate student at the University of Cincinnati studying Applied Economics. Her primary concentration is Economic Data Analysis, with a secondary in Business Economics. Lea is the president of UC's graduate Economics Society, as well as a member of UC's Graduate Student Health Insurance Committee. She is also working hard as a teaching assistant in macroeconomics. Lea is looking forward to her upcoming internship at the Center for Disease Control as a Statistician. Her duties include data processing and econometric modeling. Lea sends a "Hello" to Professor Rhoads! brandela@email.us.edu

'07, Jessica Trautwein is a second year math teacher at Fargo South high school in the Fargo Public Schools. trautwja@mnstate.edu

'08, Eric Eager, is in his second semester at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln taking courses in Analysis and Applied Mathematics / PPE's / Math Biology, and teaching. He enjoys teaching more than he thought. Eric also misses MSUM more than he thought as well. He looks forward to visiting the department in the near future to see how things are going. Eric's semester right now consists of reading research papers in Math Biology and preparing for his qualifying exams in June. God bless.

'08, Jill Rivinius is in her first year of teaching at Moorhead High School. She teaches 9th grade Algebra 1, Pre-algebra, and Explore, and thoroughly enjoys the education profession. Jill also taught summer school at the West Central Region Juvenile Detention Center, which came with countless rewards and showed her the great impact that educators have on the lives of young people. Jill hopes to continue her own education in the near future with graduate studies. Tell the math department "hi" from me! rivinij@mnstate.edu

'08, Harmony Venburg, has been working at the Minnesota School of Business in Moorhead (MSB) since July 1, 2008. Her official title is Mathematics Instructor. Harmony is teaching both Foundations of Math 1 and Foundations of Math 2. In addition to MSB, she is also a substitute teacher for the Moorhead Public School District about two days a week.