



EDITOR'S NOTE

The challenge and the strength of a community college is to serve the needs of the whole community – filling the workforce pipeline with technical graduates, offering an affordable start for transfer students, providing training to industry and holding classes for lifelong learners. Our mission is a rich one.

I was the most traditional of college students – earning a degree in four years, living on campus, highly involved in student activities, etc. Working at BSC has helped me understand that other routes to the prize are just as productive and sometimes more rewarding. On page 4 you'll learn about students training for the nation's fastest growing jobs. On pages 9-11 you'll meet students and young alumni whose entrepreneurial spirits are nurtured by their inventiveness (and our fantastic faculty). You'll also discover unique industry investment (page 18) and a Pulitzer Prize winner (page 22) inside.

On page 15, alumna Pinky Gilchrist is quoted saying, "it's pure gold up there" in reference to BSC. She's right, and we know that the value of BSC lies within the students we treasure.

Thank you for reading,

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Marnie Piehl, Editor

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bismarckstate.edu











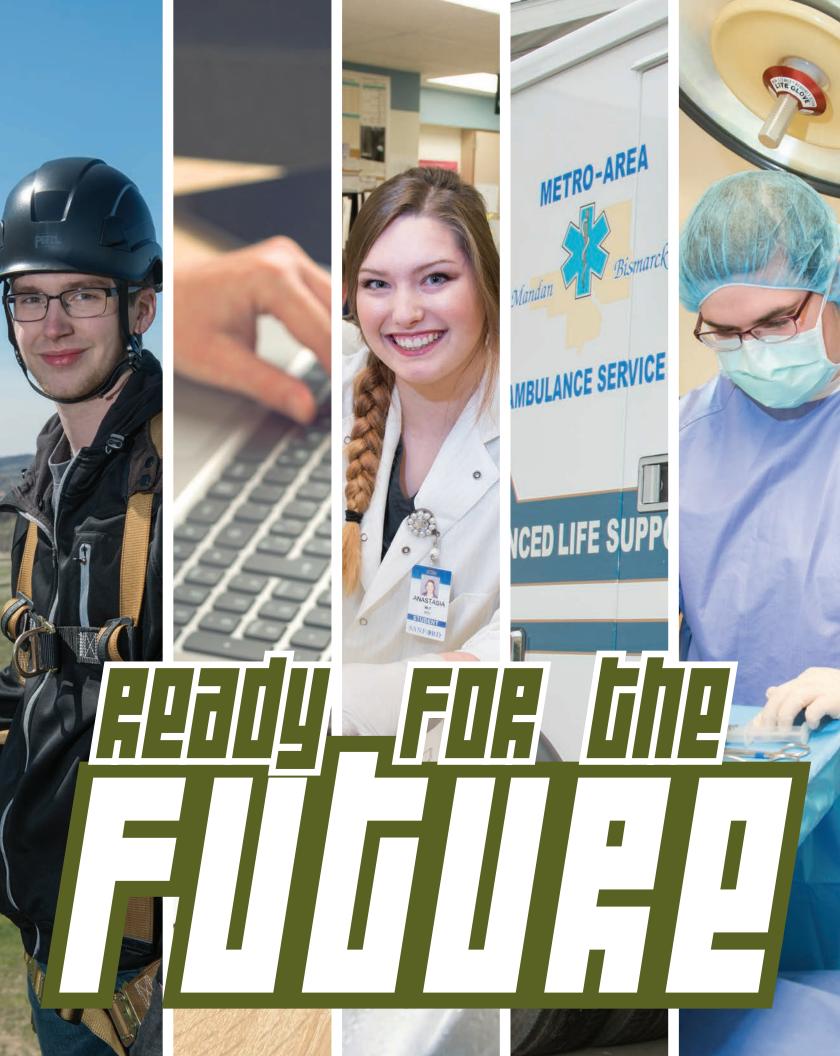








EDITOR/LEAD WRITER Marnie Piehl DESIGNER Kelsey Dahl
CONTRIBUTORS Lacey Lange Juanita Lee Caitlin Magilke
PHOTO CREDITS LPT Photography Glasser Images Nicole Weaver/Photostudio



FASTEST GROWING INDUSTRY **REPORT**

BY U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT

Nearly 40 percent of Bismarck State College students are enrolled in technical programs that ready them for some of the most indemand careers available today.

"Our technical degrees are highly relevant thanks to the expertise of our faculty and the advisory boards that ensure our students are not just job-ready, but future ready. In addition to the technical skills our graduates acquire, they are equally steeped in the ability to work on a team, to communicate effectively, and to think critically," says Larry C. Skogen, BSC president.

The following profiles showcase BSC students and graduates in five of the fastest growing industries in the United States as reported by the U.S. Labor Department.

wind burbine bechnician

#1 FASTEST GROWING INDUSTRY

Lucas Montag's favorite place in the world is the top of a wind tower. The view from such a lofty vantage point makes the 300-foot ladder climb worth it. "Once you go out and stand on top of the tower, nothing beats that."

It's a view the recent BSC graduate will enjoy regularly now. With a degree in Energy Services and Renewable Technician in hand, he'll return to NextEra Energy for one more stint as an intern before transitioning into a full-time role.

Montag first looked to the skies right after high school during a semester at Northland Community College studying aviation electronics. But aviation wasn't a fit. About that time, Montag's identical twin brother was studying wind at Lake Region State College and got an internship at NextEra.

"Since they liked him so much they hired me, too. After working there for the summer ... I decided to dive in," Montag says.

He enrolled at BSC, where he learned the theory behind the handson work he practiced on the job.

"Coming here I learned a lot about electrical theory and troubleshooting – what makes sense and doesn't. I could see the components inside the wind towers, and get my hands on them. We spent a lot of time discussing electrical – hydraulics, programmatic controllers, and lots of safety. This was a better step forward. I know more about things that would be tougher to learn on the job."



He likes the idea of climbing those wind tower ladders for a long time to come, but BSC also helped him find a route to the figurative ladders available to him. Montag is working on his BAS in Energy Management online, as he works alongside his brother.

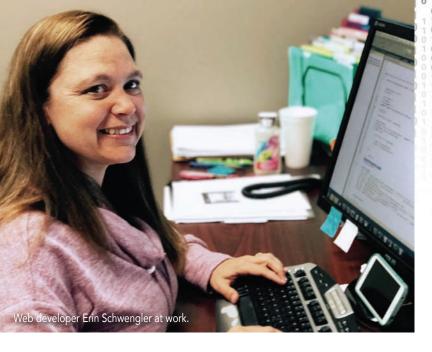
"I think the industry is really a good one, and I want to be able to move up someday," he says. The brothers will share an apartment near the NextEra Ashtabula site in Hope, N.D., not far from their hometown of Finley.

web developer

#23 fastest growing industry

Erin Schwengler knew she wasn't ready for college right out of high school. But, it wasn't until her office job showed her what she did not want to do for a living that she figured out what she did want.

Supported by her employer, Schwengler earned a Computer Science degree from BSC in her mid-twenties. Today she's the Interactive Director at Odney, an advertising agency in Bismarck.



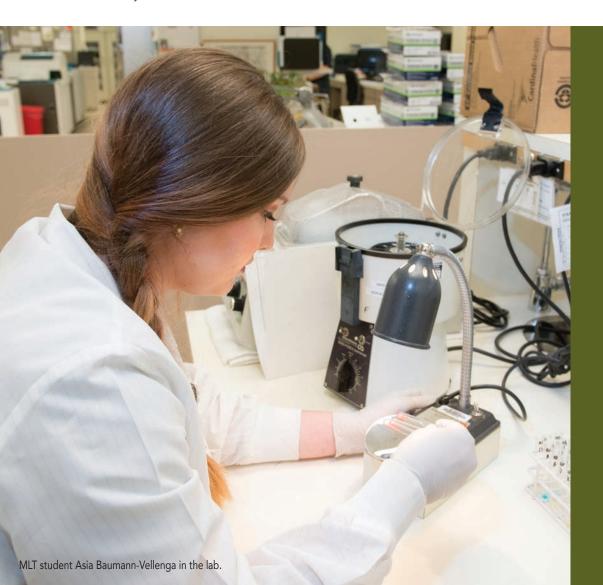
"I'd always been strong in math, and computer science follows that. I appreciate the problem solving. You write the code and there's the solution," she says.

An art background helps her ensure that not only does the backend of a website work, the site is also aesthetically pleasing and user friendly. She says the small BSC campus, and strong relationships she formed there were valuable as an older student. "I was married and pregnant by the time I graduated. All the way through, I felt supported. I wasn't just another kid, people knew me personally."

Schwengler is a proponent for her field. "With computer science you are always learning. In the computer industry, technology is continuously changing. We are constantly learning new apps or programming languages. Day-to-day is never the same, and always challenging. You'll never get bored. And there's always a need for application developers and programmers."

Through Odney, Schwengler has worked on BSC's website over the years, allowing her to bring her skills back to the place she first learned them.

To see her team's work visit the BSC website: bismarckstate.edu.



Thoughts from the boss

Amanda Sagsveen, Sanford Bismarck's Director of Laboratory Operations says her organization will "hire as many [BSC] graduates as we can get."

She describes medical lab technology as a field where the demand is great and the opportunities are expanding.

"In order to provide the best possible care, you need the lab. [Lab techs] affect everyone else's ability to do their job and give the best possible care to patients. If we do our job well, they do their job well."

She says the lab is a great outlet for those interested in the medical field, but not in direct patient care. "There's a huge variety of work within the lab. You can explore microbiology, blood bank, Chemistry, hematology and more."



medical and clinical laboratory bechnicians

#75 fastest growing industry

Anastasia (Asia) Baumann-Vellenga always liked medicine and science, but says she "stumbled upon" her chosen career in medical laboratory technology. She was studying biology at Minnesota State University Moorhead when she learned about BSC's Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) program. She transferred to BSC after her freshman year.

"I fell in love with it. What we do behind the scenes in the hospital makes a huge difference in healthcare. Eighty percent of healthcare decisions rely upon the lab work... we're figuring out what's wrong, and how to make people better."

Her current internship at Sanford Health in Bismarck verified her career choice, Baumann-Vellenga says. "My internship solidified that this job was for me. When you are in class learning about what you do, then you get to the workplace and it clicks. I got it. I love it and everyone at the hospital is awesome to work with."

Some of the medical lab staff at Sanford are also MLT faculty at BSC and this creates a strong bridge between the classroom and the workplace. "One of the biggest benefits I think is that we not only have those instructors in class, when we do internships we go to Sanford and work with them in the lab. They know what we need educationally. The program is awesome."

Baumann-Vellenga had no trouble finding a job. She starts at Sanford in Fargo on June 12. She's excited about her educational and professional future. She intends to go on to the University of North Dakota after working for a while to get her four-year degree, knowing all of her credits and classes will transfer easily.

"The nice thing about working in the lab is that there's always a way to keep moving up – you can be a PA [physician's assistant] or a pathologist. That's completely possible with this."

emergency medical bechnicians (emb) and paramedics

#29 fastest growing industry

At age 20, Tanner Arthaud wanted to better understand what was going on in the emergency room where he was a certified nursing assistant, so he took an EMT class from BSC, and found he much preferred the action he found there.

"It's more interesting to be where emergencies happen," he says. He graduated from the Paramedic Technology Program at BSC in 2016. Employed by Metro Area Ambulance in Bismarck, he likes the daily challenges he sees in emergency services.

"In EMS, we have two, sometimes three people on a call. It's us, the firefighters and police. You're on your own making decisions about patient care. You're the provider treating patients in different situations."

He learned about those situations and more at BSC where he was "over prepared" for the job.

"[BSC instructors] go above and beyond. They are really helpful and make sure you understand. It's fast-paced and challenging, because they understand how important it is to be properly educated."

In addition to education, being an EMT calls for calm under pressure, and a dark sense of humor. "The biggest part is learning to cope with everything that happens. Instead of the tragic, we look for humor. If you were to look at only the terrible things, you couldn't do it."

He says some days the good is hard to find. On those days knowing "we did everything we could do for the patient" is enough.

surgical bechnologists

#103 fastest growing industry

During her final week of clinicals Jessica Faul couldn't stop grinning. "I'm graduating May 12 and I'm really excited."

Before she graduated Faul had to take her certification exam – and the pressure was on. The class of 2016 was the eighth BSC Surgical Technologist class in a row to achieve a 100% pass rate in the certification.

She's ready, and already has a job lined up. The program's reputation, and the high demand for surgical technologists made her job hunt easy. Faul starts work at Sanford in Fargo in June.

"There are tons of job openings. In Fargo they are desperate for [surg techs]; Minot came down and offered us jobs. I got a job offer from every place I applied."

All her classmates were hired prior to graduation, most have jobs in the Bismarck-Mandan area. "There's a lot of opportunity as soon as we're done to get going," Faul says.

Surgical technology is a field the Wahpeton native didn't know she wanted to enter upon graduating high school two years ago. "My cousin became one and told me all about it. So I looked for programs and found BSC."

Throughout her training, and particularly during her clinical rotation, Faul discovered she loved the novelty and urgency of the work.

In surgery she is up close and personal – providing instruments to the surgeon, ensuring a sterile environment and engaging in the life and death decisions in the surgical suite.

"Every day it's something new, you have to know a lot. It was a lot to learn in a short time, but now it's a great place to start. I could become a first assistant, or a nurse. I can branch out from here."

During her orientation this summer, she'll spend time on different teams. She's hoping to specialize in cardiovascular surgery.

"I like the different instruments, and seeing a live beating human heart. Getting to experience that and be right up next to the surgeon and part of that team – I know that I'm helping the person having surgery."





Kevin Cavanagh's popular entrepreneurship courses at Bismarck State College typically have 20-30 students in them both Spring and Fall semesters. He finds that he's often teaching to already-established entrepreneurs.

"It surprises me how many students coming in already have a business. Right now I can think of students who are DJs, have a t-shirt company, and a fireworks stand. We have a lot of hair stylists and crafters selling goods online, too," he says.

He sees a greater fearlessness in today's students. "Maybe it is the culture they've grown up in. [They're] exposed to so much more.

Anything is possible and failure is not a big fear for them."

"As we get older, we get fearful. We aren't willing to risk it all. For them, the risk level isn't there. It's a prime time to do it, to take that risk."

It's a risk that's paying off for several current students and recent BSC graduates.









Determined to thrive

In five years Karissa (Hilton) Nichols ('17) will expand her one-woman hair studio into a larger salon. She's absolutely emphatic. "I will do this. It will happen."

No doubt. Nichols left school at 16 to work full time and support herself. She finished her GED at 17 and made her way to North Dakota ("for love" she laughs). She became a licensed cosmetologist at 21. After working in larger salons for a few years, she opened her hair studio, Funtastic Luxe Salon, in Mandan in 2016.

She enrolled at BSC about the same time because she wanted to ensure she had the skills to achieve her dream. She focused on entrepreneurship and business, and graduated this spring with the knowledge she needs to bring her plan to life.

"In our entrepreneur class, Kevin [Cavanagh] kept asking 'how do you make your business stand out?'" she says. "Now I know that everything I do over the next five years will focus on building my plan and standing out," she says.

Her classes showed her the support out there for entrepreneurs too. "As a sole proprietor and a woman, a lot more resources are available to me."

Resources that include BSC's professors. "Kevin says we can always come back and ask him for help."

A flare for business

While Alex Braun is committed to learning the family business (Braun Distributing in Dickinson) and working his way up there, he wants to flex his own business muscles, too.

So two years ago, at age 19, he established Fireworks by Braun.

"I did it out of my own pocket, and it's gotten bigger and bigger."

While his dad has given him a few tips, Braun does the work. "I work with a wholesaler down south and import fireworks from



China. I was the first in North Dakota to offer the ASW brand."

He handles the permitting, sales, set up, marketing and inspections at his fireworks stand. "I do it all alone. In the summer I work 7 a.m.to 5 p.m.

at the family business and then from 6-10 p.m. at the fireworks stand."

Braun doubled his sales last summer, and hopes to see them double again this summer. He's expanding sales to New Year's this year, too. He advises budding entrepreneurs to do plenty of research, and listen to those who know more than you.

"You see businesses that don't do the research fail. Take some caution, look at the numbers and figure out what you can actually do.



Find someone with experience and get tips from them. I wouldn't be here without my dad, grandpa and Kevin

[Cavanagh]. Take advice."

Capturing the moment

When Ethan Arlien ('12) graduated from BSC's Graphic Design & Communications program, he talked to a local advertising agency owner about available work, floating a salary he thought fair. It didn't fly.

"I had no idea how little you make in the real world."

That knowledge partly inspired his decision to go back to school. He headed to the University of North Dakota to study marketing and graphic design, switching midstream to a major in entrepreneurship.

or Ethan Arlien on a photo shoot. "I never wanted a boss," Arlien says. "I always planned to have an entrepreneurial life in Bismarck. It's less mainstream and a place where you can introduce new ideas. It's a good place for this."

At Photo Studio by Arlien Design - a light filled photography studio just down the hill from BSC - Arlien shoots weddings, senior and family photos. He also provides a full-service design option for bridal couples in which the invitation, settings and program accompany the photography.

While Arlien is the only full time employee at Arlien Design, he has plans to expand. To keep up with his current workload, he has pulled in an array of parttimers he knows he can work with because he spent a couple years with them at the BSC student news magazine, The Mystician.

"[Former Mystician editor] Alyssa Meier was the first to save me in a pinch. Basically, I took the Mystician staff and made a business with a goal to make some money."

Arlien is seeing the studio activity ramp up, and is almost completely booked for weddings this summer. "I started super small and didn't take out loans. I just worked, saved, bought equipment, repeat. It's going so well that I'm sticking with that plan for now."

Diversification drives success

Exposure Boutique and Photography (home of the Burleigh Beard Company) in downtown Bismarck smells like cedar and leather – it's small and eclectically appointed with displays of the popular line of beard oils near men's flannel shirts and denim goods. A gold painted bicycle overlooks a display of women's blouses, plus-size dresses and Frye leather boots. Jewelry sourced from artists in Minnesota is displayed alongside chunky knit beanies.

> "Most boutique owners go to market in larger cities, but I've been going to the Unglued Show in Fargo and finding iewelry makers and other products that are made closer to home," says owner and BSC graduate Ryanne Marie.

The Burleigh Beard Oil in the store is her invention - a product she launched in order to have lower price-point items for walk-in traffic. It ended up being the

biggest part of the business.

"It's evolved into its own thing and it's what we're most popular for. More sales happen local than online, but we do sell all over the U.S."

Marie graduated from Northwest College in Powell, Wyo., with a degree in photography, and then enrolled at BSC to study business planning to open a photo studio.

While developing her business plan in Kevin Cavanagh's entrepreneurship class she discovered that opening a photo studio would "drive me insane."

"It would have been a constant battle to attract the clientele that would allow me to be profitable, so I changed my game plan."

Exposure is one of several downtown boutiques run by women. Rather than compete, the business owners have made a conscientious effort to work collaboratively. They plan sales at the same time, point customers toward other stores and pool their marketing efforts. "We're focused on creating more community and less competition."

BSC's professors have been part of Marie's network of support. "I like that the business professors at BSC are business owners too. They've been more than happy to help me. They're great resources." 🚳

CONGRAT



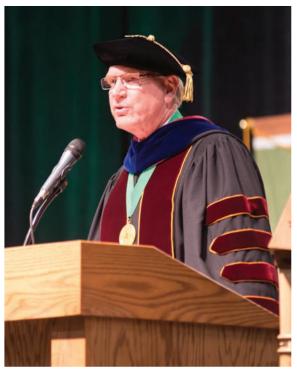




This spring 662 students graduated from BSC, and on May 12, 270 of them celebrated with their families, friends and professors, crossing the stage one by one, to receive their diplomas before they move on to jobs, to new academic challenges, to their beyond.

Speaker Greg Tehven works to ensure his home community of Fargo is a player on the world stage, and encouraged students to get engaged in the world around them.

"If we're going to change the world, we've got to think of all the reasons ideas can and will work."





SIGRATOS!



"My hope for you is that you would live a life of adventure, of curiosity, of wonder, of success and of failure. I just hope that you will live."

Student Commencement speaker
Matalyn Lund will attend Minnesota State
University Moorhead next fall to pursue
a degree in elementary education. She
spoke of the challenges of college life,
next steps and the importance of seizing
the day.

"Maybe it's my love of learning and schooling (hence the education degree) that made college a seamless transition from high school, but I know that when I look back at all the decisions that I made to get to where I am then I know that I will be very proud to have been a Mystic. And you, my fellow graduates, should be too."









LEGACY FAMILY

Pure gold

THE GILCHRIST FAMILY'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO BSC

All five Gilchrist siblings tell the same story about their time at Bismarck State College: The teachers were outstanding, and their years here were the most rewarding of their college careers.

Marie ("Pinky") Gilchrist, Kevin Gilchrist, Bridget (Gilchrist) Whittey, Chad Gilchrist and Martha Gilchrist all graduated from what was then Bismarck Junior College between 1973 and 1983. All went on to earn four-year degrees, and several earned advanced degrees. The siblings have all gone on to varied and successful careers. Kevin is a dentist, Bridget works in management, Martha and Chad both work in finance and Marie "Pinky" Gilchrist is a retired librarian and interior decorator.

Their father, Frank Gilchrist, spent a semester at BJC upon his return from the South Pacific in 1945 where he served as a U.S. Navy medic and triage officer. He then attended Creighton University in Nebraska on the

GI Bill, and went on to work for the state of North Dakota. Barbara Gilchrist didn't attend college, but was a lifelong learner, avid reader, and always encouraged her children's studies.

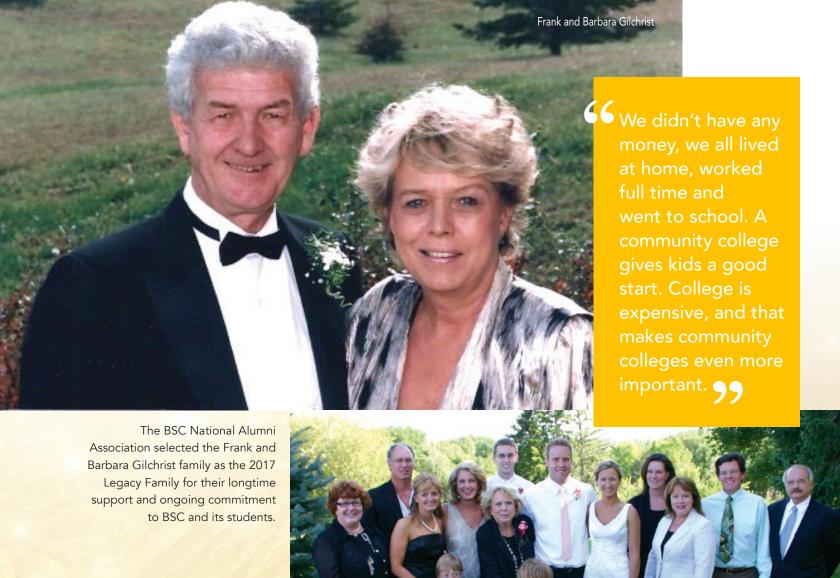
"With our parents there was the assumption that we were going to college," Bridget (Gilchrist) Whittey says. "BJC was a great value and a great education."

It was something of a home away from home also. The family had good friends on campus who became influential teachers to the siblings. All five cite the lasting influence of instructors like Paul Swanson (also known to them as "Uncle Swan"), Don Bigwood, Warren Henke, the "infamous Mike McCormack," Woody Wilson, Frank Heid, Frank Koch and Jane Grey Smith, as some of the teachers who impacted their lives.

"One of the benefits of a community college is the size of the classrooms and really being able to have great interactions with your professors," Martha says. The Gilchrist siblings felt well prepared to go on after BSC.

"I think that the level of instruction was unparalleled," Kevin says.





Graduation didn't dull their commitment to BSC. Bridget is a proud supporter of the college. Her older son, like his Aunt Martha, played basketball for the Mystics. Kevin has served on the BSC Foundation board since 1979 when he first returned to Bismarck to open a dentistry practice.

"I had to borrow money to give that year," he laughs.

Chad established the Frank Gilchrist Scholarship in 2002 for a basketball player with good grades. Frank was a well-known all-around athlete throughout his life. He made the Creighton University basketball team as a walk-on who started four years (1946-50), and was team captain for two years.

Frank went on to play with amateur basketball and fast pitch softball teams and was inducted into the North Dakota Amateur Basketball Hall of Fame in 1982 and the Softball Hall of Fame in 1985.

The thank you letters the family receives from the scholarship recipients reinforce their belief in the continued importance of an affordable, quality community college. Chad feels private businesses and citizens have a responsibility to help students attend college as costs rise.

"We didn't have any money, we all lived at home, worked full-time and went to school. A community college gives kids a good start. College is expensive, and that makes community colleges even more important," Chad says.

"Our whole family is a huge believer in BSC. It's pure gold up there," Pinky says.

The extended Gilchrist family.



Higher education is an investment in one's life. I think a good place to start is having dreams and aspirations, knowing that you want something good for your life, and then knowing college can help you get there.

A RISING STAR PURSUES HIS OCEAN DREAM

Justin Reinicke was uninspired in high school, and didn't go straight on to college. He worked in the concrete industry, but after a while began thinking about what might come next. "I knew in the back of my mind that I had potential, and I didn't want it to go to waste."

He decided to pursue his childhood dream of becoming a marine biologist. He enrolled at BSC, and took 18-21 credits per semester earning straight As. He drove the reintroduction of the honor society Phi Theta Kappa and served two years as president of the BSC chapter.

"A college degree isn't going to hand you your career on a silver platter. You get out what you put in... BSC is a great place with quality educators to continue your education or start a new path, but the individual must also be dedicated and driven to get what he or she wants."

Reinicke certainly was driven. He graduated with two associate degrees from BSC and went on to double major in biochemistry and marine biology at Hawaii Pacific University (HPU), graduating summa cum laude. Today he works as an instrument specialist for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. He also is in the early phases of starting up an aquaculture business. He's taking his sideline slowly, self-funding the project as he acquires the fish tanks, aquariums and stock.

He'd like to see fewer wild fish harvested for saltwater aquariums. It's an interest that developed at BSC, where he worked with biology professor Jean Rolandelli on the campus's saltwater aquariums.

"In landlocked North Dakota we don't understand reef environment and its importance to the globe. Fifty percent of oxygen is produced by algae in ocean – it's not all trees."

From a landlocked upbringing, Reinicke has embraced ocean life. In addition to his work, and his business, he spearfishes and free dives in the Pacific Ocean where "...it's just you, one breath of air and the ocean."

Reinicke is living his dream, and says the opportunities BSC provided were influential in that.

Read more about Reinicke in our Fall 2016 issue at bismarckstate.edu/bscmagazine.

LONGTIME FRIEND TO EDUCATION NAMED 2017 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

In 1972, the North Dakota Republican Party engaged in a big push to get "women and kids involved" in running for office, Bob Martinson says. That year, he was the kid.

In 2017, Martinson became the longest serving legislator in the state. A veteran of 22 legislative sessions, he still gets excited going into every session. "It's like the first day of school," he says.

A self-described "hometown guy", Martinson enrolled at Bismarck Junior College in 1965 after graduating from Bismarck High School.

"To me, BJC was a logical choice. It's always been a good school."

The faculty left a strong impression. He cites Mike McCormack, Doris Orr, Paul Swanson, Judy Engen, and of course Jane Grey Smith as teachers of note. He particularly remembers Smith's energetic force on campus.

He describes how she'd encourage the students to push themselves on stage, holding her hands about a foot apart noting "it's this big" then spread her arms as wide as they would go and tell the students "and it needs to be

THIS big."

The BSC

"If I had a gazillion dollars I'd have a center for the performing arts named after Jane Grey Smith," he says.*

He graduated from BSC in 1967, and says his education more than prepared him to go on to the University of North Dakota, and later the University of Mary where he earned his four-year degree in 1972.

Martinson enlisted in the Army National Guard in 1969, and retired as lieutenant colonel. He put in active duty time, and trained in Germany, Korea, Honduras, Panama and Ecuador.

"I'm a patriot, and thoroughly enjoyed the military."

He had a variety of staff positions in the Guard from maintenance officer to head of the state medical unit.

"Every time you learn your job they transfer you to another position."

He's applied that flexibility outside of the service as well. Over the years he's owned a pub, worked in sales, been involved in filmmaking, advertising, and photography. He's also worked in the oil industry as a land man.

Legislatively, Martinson was the North Dakota House Majority Leader from 1993-95. He serves on the Appropriations Committee as well as the committee's Education and Environment Division. He also chairs the House Procedural Committee on Employment.

He stepped down from office in 1997 to serve as the North Dakota Tourism Director, then ran again in District 35 in 2000. The behind the scenes nature of his role in the Tourism department was great fun, Martinson says.

"That was the best job in the world. It's a small ad agency and the state is your client. I loved everything about it," he says.



The BSC National Alumni Association selected Bob Martinson as the 2017 Alumni of the Year.

Martinson ('67) is the longest serving state legislator, representing the district in which BSC is located. He was honored for his commitment to the college and the community.

Martinson and his wife, Dr. Jodi Roller, travel widely, and Martinson engages people wherever he goes, Roller says. He doesn't just make nice with his neighbors in line, across the counter or across the aisle, he makes friends with them. "He really cares about people. He helps them out and goes the extra mile," Roller says.

As a legislator, Martinson believes in supporting children and elderly and in the importance of education.

He remains a fan and supporter of his alma mater. "A community college is more in tune with the community often than a big school is. Education is key to the future."



Hess Corporation has been a major player in the oil industry in North Dakota since the 1950s. The oil boom of recent years had the company racing to keep up with demand, jobs and production. As drilling has slowed down, training supervisor, Julie Vetter says the company is focused on building their bench strength in I&E, Reliability Operations, and Mechanical Maintenance.

"When I started, we had 135 employees in North Dakota. Over the course of 3.5 years we grew to over 500 which included both employees and embedded contractors. For us, this is an opportunity to sit back and look at what level of experience is missing. We have time to slow down and think about a long-term strategy for developing talent."

One of Vetter's first thoughts was how to deepen their ties to Bismarck State College in order to build the company's talent pool.

Over the years, BSC students have interned and job shadowed with Hess. The company has donated more than \$250,000 in equipment and money to support BSC's energy programs. BSC has provided training to Hess's current workforce, many of whom are BSC graduates.

"This is our fourth year working with BSC. On the journey we've figured out how to be creative in partnering with BSC's offerings to achieve what we need," Vetter says.

The latest result of that creativity is a pilot program launched this spring: Job Experience Training (JET).

"JET is an internship on steroids," Vetter says. "We'll be the learning lab for [BSC] students. We'll give them the hands-on experience needed to be successful and then, if it's the right fit, keep them on. They'll have a career with a world class organization."
Stacie Nachbaur, Operations Manager for Hess South of the River compares JET to the cooperative program she cut her teeth on as a student in Canada. "If you do it, it should result in a job at the end of the day. It did two things for me – provided income as a student and I came out with a job offer."

Students are eligible to apply once they complete a semester in the process plant, power plant or petroleum production programs at BSC. Those selected maintain their full-time student status, and spend one year on location at Hess. During this time they will engage in ongoing training and potentially will be hired as openings arise.

Michelle Slominski of Dickinson is one of the four students hired through JET this spring. She was a truck driver in the Bakken for several years before enrolling online at BSC to earn a degree in petroleum production technology. Her experience gives her a good sense of what's needed in the industry.

"Employers out here want the best people who know what they're doing," Slominski says.

That's BSC's goal for students, too, according to BSC National Energy Center of Excellence department chair Alicia Uhde. "We want our students to be job ready out of the gate. Working with Hess does that and more."

Vetter says that Hess is in North Dakota for the long term. "We want to help support North Dakota, and we want to grow programs by embedding in the infrastructure of state. The oil is here and we have the technology to retrieve it. When we begin to ramp up again, we want qualified individuals working for Hess."





COLLABORATION ON CAMPUS:



the fireplace, working with her classmates and

instructors on the installation.

STUDENTS LEARN FROM EACH OTHER



LESSONS IN MULTICULTURAL HEALTHCARE

Bismarck State College nursing faculty say that a challenge they see in healthcare today is the potential barriers that can occur when a nurse isn't culturally competent.

"They're seeing more and more of this in practice, where they're walking into a room and the patient doesn't speak English," said Annie Paulson, BSC associate professor of nursing.

Unsure of how to implement Spanish into their weekly mannequin-based simulations, Paulson enlisted the help of BSC Associate Professor of Spanish Ryan Pitcher and his dual-language learners.

In a hospital room lab on the BSC Allied Health campus, two nursing students were paired with two Spanish students. The scenario plays out with the nursing students providing nursing care and finding ways to safely communicate, while the Spanish students perfect their foreign language skills by communicating what ails them.

Pitcher and nursing faculty stood on the other side of a two-way mirror and watched, using iPads to listen and communicate with the students in the other room.

When all was said and done, 18 nursing and 12 Spanish students rotated through the simulation and met up with faculty for a debriefing afterward to evaluate the experience.

"We've seen our testing success rates and our retention rates increase because of the use of simulations," says Paulson.

TRUE TO HER WORD(S)



During a visit to North Dakota in 2016, BSC alumna Michelle Roberts interviewed fellow Pulitzer Prize winner, author Sonia Nazario, as part of the North Dakota Humanities Council Gamechanger event. When the two women hit the stage, Roberts listened hard, and asked the straightforward, simple questions that allowed her subject to tell her story in her own words.

It's the style that has characterized Roberts' journalistic career – an approach she calls "fresh-off-the-farm."

She says it was the naiveté of a rural upbringing – what she didn't know – that gave her an edge in a career that began at the Bismarck State College newspaper *The Mystician*, and included multiple journalism awards, including a Pulitzer Prize in Journalism.

She says her innocence helped her approach stories uniquely.

"Things that were obvious to everyone else, weren't to me. I'd ask questions that led to things no one else knew about."

Roberts was the first in her family to go the traditional college path. A high school teacher helped by directing her toward theater and journalism scholarships at BSC, where she "took off" becoming editor of *The Mystician*.

After BSC, Roberts headed to the Cronkite School of Journalism at Arizona State University to complete her degree. She was drawn to stories that made a difference. "I figured if I couldn't help someone, what was the point?" A series on girls and gang violence earned Roberts college journalism awards.

After earning her master's degree at Northwestern, she started working for a suburban Chicago paper. She earned national attention (and more awards) for a series on a neighborhood filled with small row houses, owned primarily by African Americans, and surrounded on all sides by a toxic waste disposal site.

"I thought, 'how can that be?' People were sick, and being driven out by fires at the toxic waste site. No one was paying attention. The residents owned the homes, but they were poor, and they had no property value. They were stuck."

The series of stories, the first to explore what later became known as environmental racism, put pressure on city government, leading to a neighborhood buyout by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

She moved on to the *Chicago Sun Times*, covering crime and the mob. In 1998, Roberts went to the *Oregonian* (in Portland, Ore.) where her investigative reporting of the inhumane practices and decaying facilities of Oregon's psychiatric hospital, led to the facility's closure and a Pulitzer.

Despite the awards, Roberts says journalism is a tough field, especially for women.

"Journalism is the worst boyfriend I ever had," she says. "I was so in love with him, but he's so bad for me! Journalism for women, especially if you want to rabble rouse, means you have to get over a million things to get anywhere."

As the journalism industry, and her love for it, began to change, she got laid off. Roberts realized what she'd loved as a journalist was leading her to a new career.

"My favorite part of reporting was immersion reporting with sources, having authentic conversations with people. I wanted that to be my career."

Today, Roberts is pursuing a Ph.D. in clinical mental health counseling at the University of Missouri - St. Louis, and serving as Creative Director of Health Literacy Media (HLM), an international non-profit that focuses on health care literacy by simplifying medical documents and training medical staff on how to talk to patients.

True to her word, Roberts continues to help people. 🛐







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TESORO FOUNDATION GRANT – \$700,000 for BSC National Energy Center of Excellence to develop and enhance curriculum for several courses used in the Process Plant program and other energy programs. The NECE will also develop a virtual simulation of a refinery.

ND COUNCIL ON THE ARTS – A grant of \$3,000 for the Blizzard Bluegrass concert in January 2017 at BSC.

ND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – A grant of \$328,376 for Energy (\$256,800), Agriculture (\$14,076) and Welding (\$57,500) programs.

ND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – A grant of \$184,028 for Energy (\$130,865), Cybersecurity & Computer Networks (\$25,375), Welding (\$20,578) and Auto Collision (\$7,210).

TREND GRANT BUILDS UP WORKFORCE

The Training for Regional Energy in North Dakota (TREND) is a consortium of community colleges funded by the Trade Adjustment Assistance and Community College Career Training (TAACCCT) grant program to address North Dakota's workforce needs in the oil and gas, construction, transportation, and utility sectors.

TREND received funding from the Round II TAACCCT program in 2012 (\$14.6 million) and Round IV in 2014 (\$9.9 million). The first four-year period of Round II TAACCCT funding ended in September 2016. During the grant period, TREND created new

and enhanced educational and training programs, student support systems, and partnerships with employer partners. Grant funding allowed the colleges to increase capacity with new equipment and supplies and offer a variety of industry-recognized credentials.

Bismarck State College serves as the lead institution in the consortium. The other members are Williston State College, Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College (Round II only), Sitting Bull College, and Turtle Mountain Community College. TREND is the state's first official collaboration of state and tribal higher education institutions.

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Submissions are eligible to win BSC and BSC Alumni prizes!

Contact the Alumni Association office for more information at bsc.alumni@bismarckstate.edu or call (701) 224-5692.



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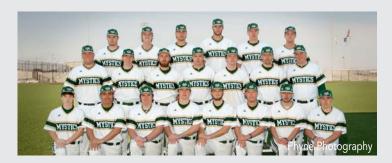
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SPORTS RECAP



MYSTIC BASEBALL

The Mystics are the 2017 NJCAA Region XIII Division II baseball champions, a title the Mystics haven't brought back to campus since 1992. After the tragic loss of their teammate Ben Berg in October, the Mystics dedicated their season to Ben and rallied for an incredible year finishing with an overall record of 33-13.

"These guys just battled through everything. They went through a whole heck of a lot this year, and I'm just so proud of everything they've accomplished," Mystics baseball head coach Corby McGlauflin said.

Spencer Gillund was named the NJCAA Region XIII MVP, Mon-Dak All Conference, and Ed Kringstad Athlete of the Year. Trever Leingang and Ty Oakland were selected Mon-Dak All Conference as well as All Region XIII. Jared Walters and Curtis Stahlecker round out the All Region XIII team and Beau Kary was also selected Mon-Dak All Conference. McGlauflin was named 2017 NJCAA Region XIII Coach of the Year.

Gillund and Leingang can be seen on the field this summer playing for the Bismarck Larks, a member of the Northwoods League, the country's premier summer collegiate baseball league.

The 2017 Mystics baseball team members are sophomores Seth Gilliss, New Rockford, N.D.; Jared Walters and Trever Leingang, Mandan, N.D.; Curtis Stahlecker, Rapid City, S.D.; Tyler Famias, Bismarck, N.D.; and freshman Spencer Gillund, Enderlin, N.D.; Zac Martin, Ty Oakland, Luke Leingang, Connor Friedrich, Beau Kary, Jaden Scott, Joel Thune, and Alex Horner, all of Bismarck; Benson Kramer, Dickinson, N.D.; Brady Warcken, LaMoure, N.D.; Brandon Pierce, Scranton, N.D.; Armand Pagano, Boynton Beach, Fla.; and Tyler Gravseth, Cooperstown, N.D.



MYSTIC SOFTBALL

The Mystics returned eight players from last year and added 11 freshman to the roster for a season that finished 10-16 overall, 5-11 in Mon-Dak conference play.

The season ended in May with recognition of multiple outstanding athletes. Sarah Salgado and Nicole Bunting were selected Mon-Dak All Conference, as well as NJCAA All-Region XIII. Cassidy Miller, a double sport athlete in volleyball and softball, was selected Mon-Dak All Conference and was the Ed Kringstad Women's BSC Athlete of the Year. Kara Langerud earned Mon-Dak All Conference.

The 2017 Mystics softball team members are sophomores Cassidy Miller and Morgan Menge, Bismarck, N.D.; Shelby Anderson, Mandan, N.D.; Tarynn Jacobson, Alexander, N.D.; Mikenzie Elliot, Mayville, N.D.; Kara Langerud and McKenna Mayne, Watford City, N.D.; and Courtney Mitchell, Beulah, N.D.; and freshman Allison Mischel and Kaitlyn Thompson, Bismarck; Alli Mogen, Watford City; Paige Hausauer, Wilton, N.D.; Syann Golus and Troyleah Fleetwood, Belcourt, N.D.; Paige Christ, Jamestown, N.D.; Mariah Sellon, Turtle Lake, N.D.; Megan Mills and Sarah Salgado, Stanley, N.D.; and Nicole Bunting, Redwood Falls, Minn.





MYSTIC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Mystics women's basketball team was strong in season play with an overall record of 20-6, 9-3 in the Mon-Dak Conference, but in the end were unable to get past the regional playoffs.

This season both first and second-year players were recognized for their athletic and student achievements on and off the court. Macy Lynch, Hannah Hanson and Nicole Bunting were selected as 2016-17 Mon-Dak All Conference. Lynch and Hanson earned All-Region XIII honors. Cassidy Wilhelm, a double sport athlete in volleyball and basketball was selected as the recipient of the Ed Kringstad academic scholarship for her outstanding work in the classroom.

The 2016-17 Mystics women's basketball team members are sophomores Ariana Zook, Bowman, N.D.; Cassidy Wilhelm and Macy Lynch, Bismarck, N.D.; Brittany Moser, Strasburg, N.D.; Rumor Stokes, Hewitt, Minn; McKayla Howling Wolf, Mandan; N.D.; Mikenzie Elliot, Mayville, N.D.; and freshman Syann Golus, Belcourt, N.D.; Mara Roteliuk, Sawyer, N.D.; Mariah Sellon, Turtle Lake, N.D.; Hannah Hanson, Mandan; Nicole Bunting, Redwood Falls, Minn.; Bailie Beer, Keldron, S.D.; Jaycee Walter, Bismarck; and Taylor Schmeichel, Jamestown, N.D.



MYSTIC MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Mystics finished a challenging season with an 11-15 record and a fifth place finish in the Mon-Dak Conference. Twelve freshman filled the roster at the beginning of the season. The Mystics earned the four seed for regional play-offs and were eliminated by Dawson Community College.

Brody Nieuwsma was selected as 2016-17 Mon-Dak All Conference, All Region XIII, and was a three-time Mon-Dak Conference Player of the Week during the season. Usman Haruna, a Kaduna, Nigeria native was selected Mon-Dak Conference Player of the Week. The Mystics seven-foot sophomore center, has signed a NCAA Division I Letter of Intent to play basketball next season at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C. Haruna broke the Mystic record of most rebounds in one game with 29 this season. Melvin Collins has signed an NCAA Division II letter of intent to play at University of Mary.

The 2016-17 Mystics men's basketball team members are sophomores Usman Haruna, Kaduna, Nigeria; Melvin Collins, West Fargo, N.D.; and freshman Peyton Gabrielson, Flasher, N.D.; Brody Nieuwsma, Strasburg, N.D.; Grant Kohlus, Eagle Butte, S.D.; Kiton Ademeso, Lagos, Nigeria; Michael Olson and Jared Walter; Bismarck, N.D.; Kaelen Johnson, Peoria, Ill.; Jesse Roberts, Minot, N.D.; and Jeremy Friesz, Mandan, N.D.



REMEMBERING BEN BERG

The 2017 Mystic baseball season was played in honor and memory of BSC Mystic Ben Berg who died in a drowning incident while hunting in October. Berg was a freshman at BSC ready to play baseball in the spring for the Mystics, on the pitching mound and in the outfield.

The Mystics have dedicated the next two seasons to their fallen teammate. They've embroidered BB (Ben Berg) and his number 13 on their hats, and they are wearing the number 13 on their backs.

Forever a Mystic. Rest in peace, Ben Berg.



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