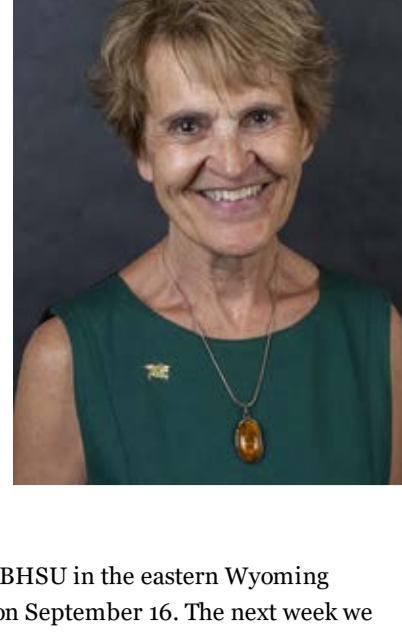


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Each student comes to Black Hills State University from a different background and with different goals for their education. Through extensive campus "meet and greet" sessions with faculty and staff, I am learning that BHSU is a university where students can customize their learning experiences with strong support and mentoring from faculty.

In this month's report, I'm excited to share with you a few stories of young alumni who did just that. Their degrees from BHSU were a catalyst to begin their careers in their desired field. Read on to learn about recent BHSU alumni like Kerry, who is running a research lab focused on better understanding addictions and Nathan, who performed highly intricate surgery of the eye on someone very important to BHSU.



It's been an honor to meet educators, leaders, and alumni and friends of BHSU in the eastern Wyoming communities of Sundance, Upton, Moorcroft and Hulett—which we did on September 16. The next week we visited Lead and Deadwood communities—and plan to visit Sturgis on Oct. 15 and Belle Fourche on Oct. 16. We are calling these community visits "BHSU day in _____" and we not only visit a wide variety of community organizations and people, but also share the news of BHSU as we reaffirm our partnership in providing access to an affordable education and supply an educated workforce to build the local economy. As a regional public university, our commitment is to the communities and citizens of western South Dakota.

This week is homecoming at BHSU and I hope to see you during the week's festivities.

Go Jackets!

Laurie S. Nichols

Interim President, Laurie S. Nichols



Nichols

NICHOLS SHARES PRIORITIES DURING STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

Before the fall semester officially began Aug. 26, faculty and staff gathered with Interim President Laurie Nichols as she shared her plans and goals for the university this academic year. Nichols said this is an important year for Black Hills State and the perfect year to make good progress on the highest needs and priorities. [Read more](#)

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES GRADS SHARE THEIR EARLY-CAREER EXPERIENCES

Behavioral sciences degrees including psychology and human services are some of the fastest growing and most popular majors at BHSU. Five recent graduates share their early-career experiences in the field. [Read more](#)



Kerry Tarrant graduated from BHSU in May 2018 with degrees in psychology and mathematics. He quickly landed a job as a research assistant in a lab studying addiction, learning and memory, and sleep.



Johnson

REP. DUSTY JOHNSON VISITS CAMPUS

South Dakota Rep. Dusty Johnson visited BHSU Sept. 6 where he met with Interim President Nichols and spoke with students and community members during an informal town hall with ice cream, "Inside Scoop with Dusty: Student Edition." [Read more](#)



Steinle

ALUM SAVES FORMER BHSU PRESIDENT FLICKEMA'S EYESIGHT

Dr. Tom Flickema, who served as President of Black Hills State University from 1994-2006, still remembers the moment BHSU graduate, Dr. Nathan Steinle, walked into his exam room at Black Hills Regional Eye Institute.

It had been 13 years since the two last saw each other, when Steinle gave the honors graduation speech as the valedictorian of the Class 2001 and shook hands with President Flickema at commencement.

Now, the two shook hands again, with a reassurance from Steinle that he could restore his university president's eyesight. [Read more](#)



The BHSU Alumni Association hosted an alumni and friends gathering from the Golf Club at Devils Tower Sept. 16 during BHSU Day in eastern Wyoming.

NICHOLS MEETS WITH STUDENTS AND LEADERS IN NEARBY COMMUNITIES

Interim President Nichols held "BHSU Day" events in Lead, Deadwood, and eastern Wyoming communities this month. She and other representatives from BHSU visited high schools and local organizations to discuss educational opportunities at BHSU. The next BHSU Days will be held in Belle Fourche and Sturgis.



Black Hills State University was recently certified as a Bee Campus USA in commitment to creating sustainable habitats for pollinators.

BHSU NAMED A BEE CAMPUS USA (TO THE CHAGRIN OF YELLOW JACKET MASCOT, STING)

Black Hills State University was recently certified as a Bee Campus USA in commitment to creating sustainable habitats for pollinators. BHSU joins more than 150 Bee Cities and Bee Campuses across the country. Eva Chase, BHSU sustainability coordinator, said BHSU will plant a pollinator garden, coordinate efforts with sustainability leaders in the community, provide community education, and celebrate Pollinator Week next June. [Read more](#)

TRANSFER STUDENT SHARES HOW HE FINANCES COLLEGE, FOUND HIS STRIDE AT BHSU

Adan Munoz says transferring to Black Hills State University his sophomore year of college helped him find his career path. A mass communication major with emphasis in photography, Adan is already applying his education through work-study positions in BHSU Athletics and Marketing & Communications. Adan graduated from Rapid City Stevens High School. He attended an out of state school for a year-and-a-half before transferring to BHSU to be closer to family.



Munoz

"If I had to do it all over again, I'd still transfer to BHSU," says Adan. "The academic programs are stronger here and I found my passion for photography." [Read more](#)



Hemmah

BHSU ALUM REFLECTS ON "KEEP NEW ZEALAND BEAUTIFUL" RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Originally from Sturgis, Cole Hemmah graduated from BHSU in 2018 with a degree in outdoor education. Visiting the country of New Zealand was at the top of Cole Hemmah's bucket list. Just months after graduating from BHSU, Cole was offered a rare opportunity to live and work in the country known for its diverse natural beauty. [Read more](#)



Carda

BHSU ALUM RUNS ONE-OF-A-KIND MEDIA FIRM IN RAPID CITY

Create ideas, consult with the boss, and execute the plan. This is the formula led Jenna Carda to produce content for seven profitable magazines just three years after graduating from Black Hills State University (BHSU).

Jenna is the managing director of Evergreen Media in Rapid City, a team of professional photographers producing nearly 1 million printed copies of magazines per year. She started at the company as an intern and was quickly promoted to a full-time marketing strategist handling social media one month later. Since then, she has earned four promotions, leads a team of nine creatives, and manages 32 social media platforms in addition to planning content for their publications. [Read more](#)