Food for Thought — and a Career

Heather Nelson BS ’01, MS ’03 has always had an interest in food. No, she doesn’t have an unusually voracious appetite. Her interest is in the name of science, specifically food systems and technology. This first-generation college student came to UW-Stout expecting to graduate with a bachelor’s degree in food systems and technology.

“While a student at Stout,” she said, “I had the opportunity to work in the food and nutrition department office, where I got to know professors in the field and learned about opportunities for internships, which I took advantage of every summer. Over time, the people I met and the experiences I had at Stout inspired me to further my education.”

Nelson went on to earn her master’s degree in food and nutritional sciences at Stout, and then enrolled in a Ph.D. program in food science and technology at the University of Georgia. Currently she is working toward her doctorate, pursuing a concentration in food processing/engineering.

“Food science is a rapidly growing field,” said Nelson. “Consumers will always want more food, better tasting food, and healthier food. The work itself is an amazing combination of chemistry, microbiology and physics.”

While earning her doctoral degree at the University of Georgia, the UW-Stout graduate teaches an online class in food processing to UW-Stout students who are 1,000 miles away from her home in Athens, Ga.

“Teaching online is much harder than I anticipated,” she said, “and it’s a learning experience for both myself and my students. But we are able to have some lively discussions about various topics, and I do get to return to Wisconsin and interact with the students personally.”

To complement the online learning, Nelson comes back to the UW-Stout campus for four days during the semester to teach 32 hours of laboratory activities.

“There is one graduate student in the course who is in the position I was in three years ago. She asks for advice about her future, and I can really relate to what she is going through,” says Nelson. “I feel very proud and honored to think that I can in some way help her.”
For the past 40 years, Kazukiyo “Jiggs” Kuboyama ’57 has been building, and teaching others to build, ukuleles. Kuboyama estimates he’s taught more than 400 people how to build the uniquely Hawaiian instrument, refining his own skills to the point that the process is nearly error-free.

In November 2005, Kuboyama was recognized for his contributions to the craft with a “Ukulele Treasure” award from the Ukulele Guild of Hawaii. The award was presented to Kuboyama at the 4th Annual Exhibition and Conference held at the Sheraton Waikiki. The award states:

The Ukulele Guild of Hawaii proclaims Kazukiyo “Jiggs” Kuboyama a Ukulele Treasure for his dedication and commitment towards perpetuating the craft of the ukulele. For the past 40 years he has unselfishly taught hundreds of students that yearned to build their own instrument, all for the satisfaction of witnessing the joy and pride each student has when holding a uke they made with their own hands.

Chancellor Charles W. Sorensen Meets Stout Alumni in Hawaii

While attending a conference, Chancellor Charles W. Sorensen took some time to visit with Stout graduates living in the Honolulu area.

Alumni Recognized at Founder’s Day Event

Bill Burmesch BS ’72, MS ’80; chancellor emeritus Robert Swanson BS ’49, MS ’50; and Jay Libby ’84 (left to right) were recognized during the Founder’s Day program on April 30. Burmesch received the Service Award for his dedicated service to the UW-Stout College of Technology, Engineering and Management Advisory Committee.

The prestigious James Huff Stout Award was presented to Swanson for his significant contributions to the university and students.

Libby, a graduate of the College of Arts and Sciences, was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for his continuous support of UW-Stout.
ALUMNI NEWS

Artist Richard Hutter ’87 is in the midst of a busy year. He has had two shows this spring alone, a solo show, “Ten Years of Paper,” at Lisa Harris Gallery in Seattle, and “Platform Gallery’s Portfolio One — 2005,” a group show at Coos Art Museum in Coos Bay, Ore.

The Lisa Harris Gallery, where Hutter’s show opened on May 4, represents contemporary Northwest and West Coast-based artists, many of whom have developed national and international reputations.

Through the years, Hutter’s work has been included in numerous solo and group exhibitions, including shows juried by senior curators from well-known institutions such as the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Museum of Modern Art, and Houston’s Contemporary Arts Museum.

Hutter gives UW-Stout credit for helping get his career moving forward. “Stout was perfect for me at that time in my life,” said Hutter. “I don’t think I would have been exposed to as much personal attention or been as involved in college life if I had attended a large university. It prepared me well for life as an artist.”

The reader is invited to view artwork at www.richardhutter.com, or to contact the artist at richardhutter@hotmail.com.

A Free Lifetime e-ddress

Kay Barnard BS ’41, MS ’67, former faculty member and alumna, called the Alumni Services Office for more information about the new Stout lifetime e-ddress as soon as she received her promotional magnet in the mail. She was one of the first graduates to take advantage of the free Stout lifetime e-ddress and its accompanying 50 MB of server space.

In Barnard’s case, the offer is timely. She is moving this summer and has to give up her local account. Rather than select another free service that may one day be paid-subscriber only or send annoying pop-up ads, she plans to use the Stout service.

Barnard would like to see other graduates adopt the e-ddress system, too, so that it will be easier to find former classmates.

Graduates may find their e-ddress username or e-ddresses of other alumni by visiting phonebook.uwstout.edu/alumni.asp.

To help with identification purposes, graduation years are reflected in the usernames. An example of the e-ddress format is smithj2004@alumni.uwstout.edu.

Alumni may use the e-ddress service via the Web at www.uwstout.edu/alumni; click on Stout lifetime e-ddress. Alumni are encouraged to change their passwords through the Webmail Options page the first time they log in.

“I hope graduates embrace the Stout lifetime e-ddress system as a valuable service to them,” says Sue Pittman, alumni director. “Through their Stout e-ddresses, alumni will be able to reconnect with fellow graduates, former friends and professors. Most importantly, this account is free for life.”

Graduates who have questions about their accounts may visit the frequently asked questions page at www.uwstout.edu/alumni/lifetimeEdress_FAQ.php or call the Ask 5000 Help Desk at 715-232-5000.

Now Showing

Above (left to right) Maggie Foote ’74, Paul DeLong, Jeff Maynard ’87, Noreen Spraner Tyler ’87, Peter Wright ’89, Richard Hutter ’87, Vicki Gaylord, MS ’84, Sue Pittman ’82

STOUT OUTLOOK SUMMER 2006

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Teacher of the Year

Although her students live behind prison walls, Sharon Abel MS ’98 has been helping expand their intellectual horizons since 1991 at the Sheboygan County Detention Center.

Her efforts to provide quality education in a prison setting were recognized this year when the Executive Board of the Correctional Education Association – Wisconsin (CEAW) selected her as Wisconsin’s Correctional Teacher of the Year 2006.

Abel is employed by Lakeshore Technical College to teach adult basic education to the prison population of Sheboygan County. She is responsible for providing GED/high school equivalency diploma preparation, basic skills review, college prep, and other programs to more than 200 inmates each year.

CEAW recognized Abel for the quality of her educational programs, her efforts to expand educational opportunities beyond the classroom, and her work as an advocate for education as a pathway to success for inmates re-entering society. She has published articles on the topic of correctional education in professional journals, and presented workshops at state and national conferences.

Abel received an M.S. Degree in Vocational Education from UW-Stout.

COLLECTING MEMORIES

Bill Brandvold ’49, has the kind of dedication to a job you don’t see much anymore. After graduating from Stout in 1949, Brandvold began his career as a shop instructor for the Mattoon Illinois public schools. His teaching career lasted 36 years, and he left the classroom in 1985 as athletic director and vocational director. During that same period, Brandvold served as head clerk of course for the Illinois High School Association boy’s track and field championships, a position he held for 50 years.

His commitment to sticking with a job extends to his hobby. In 1963, Brandvold initiated a project with the Jefferson Junior High School “J” Club that entailed collecting used NFL pro football helmets. The project got off to a slow start, but gained momentum through the years and, by 1967, Brandvold had a complete set of AFC and NFC helmets, along with information on who wore the gear in action. Contributors included Buffalo Bills quarterback turned politician Jack Kemp and Hall of Fame fullback Jim Taylor of the Green Bay Packers.

Brandvold’s collection of helmets was on display at the Green Bay Packer Hall of Fame in Green Bay for nearly 30 years.