UW-Stout is a monument to a man and his ideas. The university is the only campus in the UW System that honors its founder in its name. James Huff Stout wouldn’t recognize most of the campus if he were to return today, nor would he be familiar with the university’s specialized majors. Yet he would undoubtedly find that the spirit of his forward-looking institution lives on.

The Stout University Foundation, the Stout Student Association and the Dean of Students Office sponsored the first Founder’s Day celebration in more than a decade on April 30 to reaffirm the educational legacy of Stout.

The celebration showcased the achievements, involvement and accomplishments of students, and honored the university’s outstanding faculty, students and alumni.

The events opened with student organization displays in the Memorial Student Center. A catered reception was held prior to an awards program, the highlight of the evening.

The Alumni Association recognized the personal, professional and community contributions of the following faculty, staff and alumni:

- **Merle Price Faculty and Academic Staff Award of Excellence**: Laura McCullough, College of Arts and Sciences
- **Merle Price Academic Staff Award of Excellence**: Bill Wikrent ’80, Learning Technology Services
- **Outstanding Alumni Award**: James B. Libby BS ’84
- **James Huff Stout Award**: Robert S. Swanson BS ’49, MS ’50, chancellor emeritus
- **Volunteer Service Award**: William L. Burmesch BS ’72, MS ’80

For more information on the Alumni Awards, see page 19.

The university recognized its faculty and staff through the following awards:

- **Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award**: Kathleen Deery, College of Human Development
- **Outstanding Teaching Award, Educator of the Year**: Hector Cruz ’72
- **Outstanding Teaching Award, College of Arts and Sciences**: Jeanne Foley and Martin Ondrus
- **Outstanding Teaching Award, College of Technology, Engineering and Management**: Robert Hendricks ’75 and Jerry Coomer ’65
- **Outstanding Teaching Award, School of Education**: Judith Herr ’65 and Hector Cruz ’72
- **Outstanding Service Award**: Holly Demarce, University Recreation and Tracy DeRusha, School of Education
- **Outstanding Service Office Award**: Career Services

For more information about next year’s awards and program, visit the Web site at www.uwstout.edu/founder

The Stout Student Association honored the following individuals and organizations:

- **Best Event by an Organization**: International Dinner, International Relations Club
- **Service Project of the Year**: Hearts and Hammers Program Day, Sigma Chi Lambda
- **Adviser of the Year**: Vickie Kuester ’80, International Relations Club
- **Samuel E. Wood Medallion Award**: Adam Duffenbach, Adam Enerson, Stephanie Hennick, Ashley Howard, Quentin Lenz, Shawn Peter, Jenny Schuh, Justen Willemon and Tom Zinkle Jr.

The celebration will become an annual event to remind the campus and community of its rich shared history.
**Stout University Foundation Awards Scholarships**

Many individuals personally know the difference scholarships can make. Scholarships are more than financial assistance. They are confidence builders. They nurture students’ ambitions. Scholarships show that a student’s education is worth believing in.

“The Stout University Foundation Scholarship Program represents a strong tradition of helping students, and the program is continually growing with new scholarships established each year,” says Bob Heuermann, assistant chancellor. “The best and the brightest students shouldn’t be denied access to higher education simply because they can’t afford it.”

This spring, approximately 600 students were selected for more than half a million dollars in scholarship funds. The awards will be presented Sept. 13. Thirteen of the scholarships, totaling $13,500, will be awarded for the first time.

**John G. Vranak Memorial Scholarship**

On Tuesday, March 14, 2006, Dr. John G. Vranak passed away at his home in Menomonie. Dr. Vranak served UW-Stout as a director of the product development concentration program and an instructor in the operations, construction and management department from 1979 until his retirement in 2005.

The well-liked Dr. Vranak taught classes in architectural and construction drawing, as well as site engineering. He was repeatedly ranked in the top 25 percent of all teachers throughout his tenure at UW-Stout. He will be remembered for his passion and willingness to help students maximize their potential.

Affectionately known as “Dr. V.” or “Johnny V.,” Dr. Vranak was beloved for his endless enthusiasm. Knowing the impact he had on those he touched, the family and faculty of the construction program are creating an endowment that will serve as the program’s flagship scholarship for years to come. We have set a target of $50,000. Once we reach this goal, a scholarship of $3,000 will be made annually for a junior or senior who demonstrates the values and work ethic professed by Dr. Vranak during his tenure at UW-Stout. To demonstrate the commitment of the family to this memorial, a scholarship in the amount of $500 will be offered for the 2006-07 school year.

To ensure we reach our target balance, we are requesting contributions in the amount of $100 or another amount to the Stout University Foundation, P.O. Box 790, Menomonie, WI 54751 in the name of the John G. Vranak Ph.D. Memorial Scholarship. The family and faculty would like to extend their sincere appreciation to those who already have contributed.

This scholarship is the best way for us all to remember Dr. Vranak’s legacy. We hope you will find it in your heart to contribute to this worthwhile cause.

Sincerely,

The Family of Dr. John Vranak, Ph.D.
Lena, Nick and Jeff Vranak

For more information on creating or establishing a scholarship, visit www.uwstout.edu/foundation and click on “scholarships” or call 866-716-6685.