Fryklund Campaign exceeds goal

UW-Stout celebrated the completion of a successful three-year fund-raising effort Friday, May 11. The campaign exceeded $11 million in equipment and cash for a technological state-of-the-art laboratory and learning center which is housed in Fryklund Hall.

The contributions will furnish the hall with equipment, attract new faculty, train existing faculty and provide scholarships for students enrolled in manufacturing engineering.

“We set out shooting for the moon, and we surpassed that,” Chancellor Charles W. Sorensen stated. “Until now it has been unusual for Wisconsin universities outside of Madison and Milwaukee to raise private funds.”

Sorensen attributed the success of the drive to those who helped design and lead the team of volunteers: co-chairs Robert Cervenka, CEO, Phillips Plastics, and James Johnson, retired 3M executive scientist and Stout professor; Patricia Resinger, executive director of the Stout University Foundation; and Bruce Siebold, dean of the College of Technology, Engineering and Management.

Sorensen noted that UW-Stout’s excellent reputation was an asset. “Those who invested in this campaign knew our capabilities,” he said. “They trust Stout.”

Cervenka noted, “It truly is, in my knowledge of colleges across the country, a very unique educational opportunity at Stout. Professors are very close to the students, and they also have a commitment to the students working with industry … Stout is a leader in this type of education.”

UW-Stout has a head start, Cervenka said, “because their professors and their students are closer to industry.”

Nearly half of the donations came from businesses, besides gifts from 1,300 individuals. As Heather Schorr, past president of the Stout Student Association, stated at the campaign dinner, “Stout students are grateful to all who have made this campaign a success. It validates our diploma. This university continues to create partnerships with business and industry and thus operates a learning environment which produces graduates able to compete in today’s job market.”

Katharine Lyall, UW System president, joined the chancellor and guests for the campaign celebration.

Fryklund Hall was named in honor of Verne C. Fryklund, third president of Stout.

Dahlgren and Hormel professors announced

Five UW-Stout faculty members have been approved for named professorships following action by the UW System Board of Regents.

Appointed Dahlgren Professors are Wayne Zero, business department; Leonard Sterry, communication, education and training department; and Susan Thurin, English department.

Appointed Hormel Professors are Lon Moergenb, technology department; and Robert Schuler, English department.

Selection for the professorships is made on the basis of an individual’s outstanding abilities and promise. The Dahlgren Professorships are two years in length and provide $7,500; the Hormel Professorships are one year in length and provide $4,500.

Reminiscing with Esther Micheels Lyders

A recent visit with Esther Micheels Lyders ’28 DIP, Minneapolis, was enchanting. She recalled so many of her teachers as she talked about her years growing up in Menomonie. She credited Dr. Harvey with creating a first rate faculty, all with the finest educational backgrounds. Beyond the laboratory experiences with the home economics teachers, she remembers fondly those teachers who enhanced the home economics curriculum. Louise Williams taught microbiology. She was a graduate of McGill University and Columbia University. Miss Williams was well known in the scientific field having worked closely with the scientists credited with the discovery of insulin.

Lyders’ husband was a talented musical conductor. When he enrolled in Columbia University’s music program, she enrolled in Columbia’s art program. “Stout Institute was a respected institution,” she said. “I was allowed to take many upperclass courses without the usual prerequisites.” She credited Mrs. Cuthbertson, a graduate of the Academy of Fine and Applied Arts, Chicago, and the New York School of Fine and Applied Arts, along with Gladys Harvey, for giving her an excellent background in art education.

Lyders explained, “Professor Mary McFadden not only taught psychology but she also led the suffrage activities on campus. Remember, this was still before women had the vote!” McFadden was a graduate of the University of Chicago and Columbia University. Ruth Mary Phillips taught English and public speaking. Lyders explained that the only men in her classes were either enrolled in English or chemistry.

There were opportunities to join sororities and fraternities. She was an active member of Phi Sigma Psi. Lyders said it provided her time to socialize with other students, as she lived at home while earning her degree.

Actually, Lyders’ experiences with Stout began when she was about five. The Stout Institute conducted early childhood classes, and she was one of the youngest to attend. At the request of school administrators in 1904, she joined her older sister, Lucille, in the class.

She remembers some details of her years at Stout with only moderate fondness. Female students had hours, and they had to be in their rooms in the residence hall by 7:30 p.m. each evening. Unfortunately, she said, “My mother abided by the same rules at home. And then there were the uniforms!”

She said her Stout experience was invaluable, and no matter where she and her spouse lived or traveled, her Stout education helped her enjoy the varied experiences. “Dr. Harvey knew how to create a powerful, educational culture, and his legacy is apparent even now,” she said. “I’m very proud of Stout’s continued educational successes, which included 10 years with my brother, William J. Micheels, as president.”
During the short history of the Stout Technology Park, it has impacted positively on the university and the community. There have been jobs in construction and jobs created by employment with the industries. There has been a favorable impact from sales, payroll and taxes on the community, and business for motels, restaurants and other community businesses. For the university, there have been practical experiences and internship opportunities for students, and research and development activities for university faculty. For industry located in the park, there has been the expertise of faculty to assist with projects, qualified students and part-time employment, and access to university laboratories.

Eight companies or businesses are located in the park including the Chippewa Valley Technical College; DBD International Ltd.; West Wind Graphics; Philips-Orgen™ Clean Room Injection Molding and Assembly; Orgen™ Center; Orgen™ Consulting Group; Metagen; and Powder Metal Molding.

The number of employees has increased from 14 in 1991 to 125 in 1995, including 89 full-time and 36 part-time employees. In addition, one company during 1995 employed an additional 95 temporary employees on special projects. In the year 2000, the total employment is predicted to reach 235 full- and part-time employees.