Affirmative Action Officer chosen
Donna Weber has been named Affirmative Action Officer at UW-Stout, following a one-year temporary appointment, Chancellor Charles W. Sorenson announced Weber, a former member of UW-Stout’s psychology department, originally began her duties in August 1995.

Sorenson said that Weber was selected for the permanent position upon recommendation of an advisory panel appointed. "Donna has done a superb job during her one-year appointment," Sorenson said. "The feedback from the campus has been extremely positive. I look forward to her continued service to the administrative team."

Weber received a bachelor of arts degree in sociology and psychology from Viterbo College in 1964, and a master of education degree in professional development from UW-Stout in 1987.

"She has taught at UW-Stout since 1984. She has previous experience in accounting, human resources and public relations, and was an employment interviewer and counselor for the Minnesota State Employment Service. She is also a certified instructor of the Dale Carnegie Course. Weber has been a member of the NCA Study Team, the program community, as part of the team. She has previously conducted project studies. She is a member of several professional and academic associations.

Weber received the Teaching Excellence Award at UW-Stout in 1992 and the Ethnic Services Outstanding Teacher Award in 1990.

Industrial technology degree offered through UW-Stout
UW-Stout has been given the green light to offer its bachelor of science degree in industrial technology across Wisconsin. Three UW-Centers, Manitowoc, Marathon and Fox Valley, and two technical colleges, Fox Valley and Valley Technical Institute, have agreed to serve, program development was halted.

"With the advent of better and more economic means to reach students across the state through distance education, interest in offering the degree statewide heightened," Stewart said. "A needs assessment indicated a continuing education need along with a B.S. degree to position technical workers for advancement and to learn skills needed to compete in the global marketplace. As a result, the "70s fit perfectly with this program."

Stewart said the UW-Center campuses will provide advisement and site coordination for students. UW-Marathon, Fox Valley and Manitowoc will also offer specific courses needed for the program on their campuses, or advise students where they can take the courses to meet the needs of the program. Center campuses may design a required course and offer it through teleconferencing, audographs or compressed video. In some cases, they will collaborate on the content and methodology of delivery with UW-Stout faculty.

The WONDER Network distance education facilities at Northcentral and Fox Valley technical colleges, and at UW-Stout, will be used for the UW-Stout courses.

The required UW-Stout courses will begin this fall with offerings on Monday and Tuesday evenings.

Manufacturing assistance available by phone or on the Internet
Whether it's dialing an easy-to-remember telephone number or clicking a mouse to surf the Internet, small and medium-sized manufacturers in West Central Wisconsin, looking for assistance in solving real-world technical and business problems, now have improved access to the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, a program of the Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology. Dailing 800-MEP-4MFG (637-4634) will directly link a smaller manufacturer with the nearest MEP affiliate, such as the one located at UW-Stout, or to the MEP headquarters office at NIST in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The MEP is a national network of locally managed centers in all states and Puerto Rico offering technical assistance and the newest business practices to smaller manufacturers.

All centers rely on experienced field agents who provide hands-on assistance to address manufacturers' most critical needs. Typical MEP services include helping manufacturers access information on new equipment such as automation systems, finding high-quality advice for optimizing manufacturing processes, reduce costs by lowering waste, improve quality, expand markets for products and find financing for modernization efforts.

Those with access to the World Wide Web can find information on the MEP and its affiliate centers and services through the newly revised MEP home page at a http://www.mep.nist.gov. Called “The MEP Source,” it includes a list of locally managed centers in all states and Puerto Rico offering technical assistance and the newest business practices to smaller manufacturers.

Bamhart, a member of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, and the National Academic Advising Association. The Phi Upsilon Omicron board of directors, a chapter of the National Actuary Council for Actuarial Practice, has approved the establishment of a new chapter at UW-Stout.

Barnhart began her term at the close of the Phi Upsilon Omicron biennial Convocation held June 25 at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Barnhart was co-chair of Convocation when it was held at UW-Stout in 1994. She is currently adviser to the Tau Chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron at UW-Stout.

Barnhart is also a member of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, and the National Academic Advising Association. Phi Upsilon Omicron is the national honor society in the home economics and business education which will be used to meet student needs for instructional and financial aid and debt services.

We are delighted with the outcome of the Frykland Campaign, surpassing our $10 million goal by more than $1 million. This kind of special support that will help keep our programs up to date and dynamic.

Getting approval of three new majors will make a major impact in addressing changing needs of the marketplace.

Graf Communications
Management, Telecommunication Systems and New Services in Applied Psychology are all natural extensions of the UW-Stout mission. Yet each represents a new direction, based on what employers tell us they need. I know that these new majors will enjoy the outstanding placement rate of our other programs.

Congratulations to the Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute on receiving a multimillion dollar grant to serve the training needs of about a third of the nation’s community-based rehabilitation programs. SVRI’s national and international reputation continues to grow.

We continue to improve the appearance of our campus. Ray Hall, a prominent landmark for decades, has been torn down. Michelli Hall, opened last January, is the replacement space for Ray Hall, and is an attractive and functional addition to the campus. The new administration building, a dramatic new corridor, pictured on the cover of this edition of Outlook, provides a pleasing and safe area for the campus.

Meanwhile, we continue to foster our close relationship with our alumni, including a variety of social and conference-related activities both in and out of state.

As I write this column, the opening of the fall semester rapidly approaches. Soon students and faculty will be hard at work again carrying on the fine Stout tradition. We are looking forward to another busy year. Keep us informed about what you are doing, and we will do the same.

Operating budget figures released
An operating budget for UW-Stout, totaling $78 million, was approved recently by the UW System Board of Regents. The budget covers the fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30, 1997. Of the total operating budget, fewer than half of the funds come from state tax dollars. The balance is funded by fees, gifts and grants.

This year’s budget contains $51 million in salaries and fringe benefits for the university’s 1,034 permanent employees and graduate assistants. The 1996-97 uncompensated compensation plan includes a 2 percent average increase effective July 1.

Such investments, of which $3.6 million has been approved, will be used to meet student needs for instructional and financial aid and debt services. The budget also includes a fee of $40 per year to fund a new recreation complex.

The approved budget continued funding for the instructional laboratory modernization, general computer access and classroom modernization programs, with annual funding of $430,000.

Promotions and tenure announced
Promotions in rank and tenure designation for UW-Stout faculty and staff members were announced recently by Chancellor Charles W. Sorenson, following action by the UW System Board of Regents.

Promotions from associate professor to professor are Sharon Giroux, hospitality and tourism; Robert Meyer, technology; Darshan Perusek, English; Judy Romness, human development, family living and community educational services; and Helen Swanson and Richard Tafalla, psychology.

Promoted from assistant professor to associate professor are Gladys Earl, food and nutrition; Robert Foley, physics; Judith Green, education, school counseling and school psychology; Sheri Klein, art and design; Ken Parejko, photography; Sherry Shiel, English; and Randall Uphus, hospitality and tourism.

Tafalla was also granted tenure, along with J. Mark Pruett, speech communications, foreign languages, theatre and music; Alan Block and Amy Gillette, education, school counseling and school psychology; Bharath Josam, hospitality and tourism; Bruce Kuehl, human development, family living and community educational services; and Jerome E. Johnson and Norman Zhou, technology; Julie Furst-Bowe and Carol Mooney, communication, education and training; and Sheryl Johnson and Donna Stewart, industrial management, and Karen Ferrer, business administration.

Fahm appointed to new position
Esther Fahm, formerly dean of the School of Human Environmental Sciences at UW-Stout, has been appointed to a two-year term as interim associate vice chancellor, provost George DePuy announced.

"We have restored a commitment to all four schools to three colleges. The new colleges are Arts and Sciences, Human Development, and Technology, Engineering and Management.

In her new position, Fahm will serve as a key member of the Provost’s Office, according to DePuy. Her duties will include overseeing professor professional development. UW-Stout administrative assistant to the UW System Undergraduate Teaching Improvement Council, planning activities related to North Central Association accreditation, and academic program review. Fahm serves as a member of the Provost’s Council and the Chancellor’s Advisory Council.