

... Scholars,

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As a Presidential Scholar, Chad enjoyed opportunities to meet people and establish friendships with faculty and other students. He also gave campus tours, participated in an occasional photo shoot and helped with the annual phonathon. "This scholarship was a huge factor in getting my four-year degree," he emphasized. "Financially, it's incredible. And it's also inspiring. I found President Rush to be an incredible, down-to-earth person and I enjoyed knowing him."

Executive Lecture Series

The College of Business Executive Lecture Series, established in 1985, continues to offer new perspectives to students of the College and interested regional businesses. The series is designed to facilitate interaction between students and top-level executives from both the public and private sectors. Speakers share personal experiences, insights and perspectives on current issues in business. During the 1999-2000 academic year, the series included the following speakers:

Sharon Bredeson, owner and Chief Executive Officer of Staff-Plus, Inc., delivered the first Executive Lecture in September 1999. Bredeson founded Staff-Plus in 1973 to provide personnel services to businesses in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. In 1990 she received the highest honor in the staffing industry; the NATSS Leadership Award. She is a past president of NATSS, the National Association of Temporary and Staffing Services, has been named "Entrepreneur of the Year" by the YWCA Leadership Program and received a Career Achievement Award from the Sales and Marketing Executives of Minneapolis and St. Paul. She has also served as Vice Chair of Community Affairs for the Greater Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce; is a past trustee of her alma mater, the College of St. Scholastica; has served as Chair of the Minnesota State University, Mankato College of Business Advisory Council; is Chair of the Advisory Council for Women's Athletics at the University of Minnesota; and is a member of the Governor's Workforce Development Council. Bredeson was recently elected Chair of the Better Business Bureau of Minnesota.

Jeffrey Hamiel began his career with the Metropolitan Airports commission in 1977 as Manager of Noise Abatement and Environmental Affairs. He has since worked within the same organization as Director of Operations, Airport Director, Deputy Executive Director and, currently, Executive Director. Jeff earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, has a Masters in Public Administration from Northern Michigan University, and has completed additional graduate study in accounting, mathematical statistics and public administration. Jeff is also a Multi-Engine, instrument rated, licensed commercial pilot. He began his career as an Air Force pilot, accumulating more than 8,000 hours of flight time flying several types of high performance and transport aircraft. Jeff is active in the American Association of Airport Executives, has served on the Airport Council International - North American Board of Directors since 1995 and was elected ACI-NA Secretary Treasurer in 1999.

Dennis Miller has more than 13 years of telecommunications experience. He began with Motorola and rose to the ranks of zone sales manager, responsible for land mobile sales. In 1990 he joined Pacific Telecom Cellular, where he served as Vice President of Operations until 1996, when that group of independent telephone companies became self-managed under the name Midwest Wireless Communications. Since that time, Miller has served as President of Midwest Wireless, aggressively managing current service offerings and exploring new opportunities for future growth and diversification. He currently serves on the boards of the Global Wireless Educational consortium and Rural Cellular Association. He is also Chair of the Board for the Institute for Wireless Education. Active in his local community, Dennis works with the Mankato Area Chamber and Convention Bureau, and serves on the South Central Technical College Foundation Board and the YMCA Board.

Daniel McGrath, Chief Operating Officer at MICO, Incorporated, is a Mankato native. He earned undergraduate degrees from St. Mary's, Winona, Minnesota in 1982, majoring in religion, philosophy, history and psychology. He is also a commercial multi-engine instrument pilot. Dan has spent his business career at MICO, a North Mankato manufacturer of hydraulic brake components for heavy duty off-road vehicles and equipment. While in school, Dan began working summers at MICO in production, accounting, materials control and advertising. After graduation from college he moved to marketing, customer service, international sales, sales and general management. Dan is active in industry associations and is past president of the Brake Manufacturer's Council. MICO is a family firm that has been a generous contributor and supporter of University endeavors.

Kim Schwickert is President and CEO of Schwickert's of Mankato, Inc. and a co-member of Tecta America Corporation Presidents' Council. He has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Schwickert Company since 1977, and President of Schwickert's of Mankato, Inc. since 1979. He is a Director of Schwickert's of Mankato, Inc., Schwickert Holding Company, Schwickert Company, Schwickert Land Company and K&K Development. He serves as a Director of RCI LIMITED, a Cayman Island-based corporation, whose business is providing workers' compensation insurance to roofing contract owners of RCI affiliated owners. Schwickert serves as a Director of Valley Industrial Development Corporation and Roofers Mart of Minnesota. He also serves as Chairman of the Technical and Research Committee for the Midwest Roofing Contractors Association. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business from the University of Minnesota in 1975.



NEW GRADUATES CHAD KLOSTERMAN & JEREMY HORNER
CELEBRATE WITH MSU PRESIDENT RICHARD RUSH
1ST ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS BANQUET, MAY 2000

... Executive Lecture Series, continued

Richard R. Schmitz received his BA in Accounting from MSU in 1964, and has spent his entire career in the retail food industry. He began as an auditor for Red Owl and moved through the ranks of that company. In 1981, he and his wife Mary decided to explore the other side of the food retailing industry and purchased their first store in Olivia, Minnesota. Since then they established Schmitz Enterprises, Ltd. and have owned numerous stores throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin. In a volunteer capacity, Richard serves as a member of the MSU Foundation Board, the Wisconsin Grocers Association, and the Bank St. Croix. He also serves on the Hudson Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, and the Supervalu Advisory Group based in Hopkins, Minnesota. In 1999 the Schmitzes established the Richard R. & Mary L. Schmitz Endowment for Opportunities in Food Retailing at MSU. The Foundation provides MSU College of Business Students with an opportunity to explore the food retailing industry via an annual executive lecture by an industry leader, a preceptorship opportunity and an academic scholarship.

Mark Erickson is a graduate of Minnesota State University, Mankato who earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting in 1976, and his CPA designation in 1978. Erickson worked as Controller for Home Value and as a CPA for Deloitte and Touche before becoming President and Chief Operating Officer of Thomas Engineering Company (TEC), Brooklyn Park, Minnesota and Santa Teresa, New Mexico. Thomas Engineering is a privately held, custom metal stamping company that specializes in micro-miniature and medium-sized stampings. TEC's products and customers represent the telecommunication, electronic, computer, automotive and medical markets. The firm has annual sales of 25 million dollars and employs 150 people. Mark has served his industry's trade group, the Precision Metalforming Association, as Treasurer and Vice-Chair, board member and Trustee of the PMA Education Foundation. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Ronald McDonald House in the Twin Cities and has served as Chair of that organization.

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