

Alumni Spotlights

Perry Giese '79 did not plan on providing the decorative trim and hardware for automotive glass replacement parts when he started his company, Polymer Process Development (PPD), but sometimes you go where the market takes you.



Giese

Originally driven to be a development/tryout business for new plastic injection molds and molded parts, the need for value-added auto replacement glass grew. Giese and his business partner previously worked for Pilkington Libbey Owens Ford, producing encapsulated glass products. This process adds flexible trim to the outer edge of glass, or other value-added trim or hardware for auto glass. From an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) point of view, these types of parts are very appealing as the assembly is complete with no secondary operations required. The after-market replacement glass distribution is captive to the company providing the OEM part, typically due to high tooling costs.

A major force in the aftermarket is PPG Industries. With contacts developed in this industry, PPG solicited PPD to produce low volume after-market parts for their distribution network. Along with this, PPD developed low-cost tooling to produce these parts. The market has grown significantly for PPD and PPG. Some 125 different tools have been produced and sell more than 260 part numbers, selling approximately 175,000 assemblies per year.

After-market work is much lower volume than OEM work, profits are generally higher than OEM, and quality requirements are less stringent. Currently 90 percent of PPD's work is for aftermarket products. This volume fits in with the niche of low volume, encapsulated products. The tooling systems, injection molding equipment, and people development PPD have instilled has made them successful. In business for five years, they recently moved into a new 38,500 square-foot building to accommodate growth. There is room to expand, but the space will soon be filled. PPD has had steady growth since their start-up. "Controlled growth into the right market is key in today's economy," Giese says. "We have been fortunate to have the resources to make it happen. Developing a network of contacts, associates and suppliers has been key to business success." Perry suggests visiting their Web site at <http://www.ppdllc.com> for more information.

The future for PPD is developing their products into markets that typically would not use the process.

Giese, his wife Cynthia, son Nicholas, five, and daughter Emerson, three, live in Clinton Township, Mich., on the north side of Detroit.

Bob Hartig '73 Throughout my teaching career, I have constantly evaluated my teaching style and made modifications to meet the needs of my tech ed students. When I first started hearing about the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, I knew the certification process sounded too difficult to pursue. However, I could not stop thinking about the opportunity for self-evaluation and professional growth provided by this evaluation. As a way to see just how difficult



Hartig

the process was going to be, I volunteered to pilot a videotaped portion of the portfolio. This involved making a 20-minute video of myself giving a demonstration lesson to a class. The portion also involved completing a written commentary in which I described, analyzed and reflected on how I used a demonstration lesson to promote student learning and inquiry.

After seeing the amount of work needed, I prepared for the actual certification procedure by clearing my schedule for a year. There were no home-repair projects or any activities that would provide a distraction. As a result, the making of my certification portfolio was my top priority and an excellent professional development opportunity. The final part of the process was the written evaluation at an assessment center in mid-April. The entire procedure had taken about a year and 360 hours to complete.

I was informed in November 2001 that I had completed all requirements and had earned National Board Certification in Early Adolescence Through Young Adulthood Career and Technical Education. After achieving this certification, I learned that I was the first technology education teacher in Wisconsin to reach this level. I would be glad to work with any teachers interested in working for this certification.

We have one daughter, Alissa, who is graduating from New York University with a degree in French. (*She lives 10 blocks from the World Trade Center and was right in the middle of the action on September 11.*) She is entering the Peace Corps in July and will probably be working on the northwest coast of Africa.

My wife, Ruth (*Sveen '70*), is currently enjoying teaching elementary-level special needs children at James Madison in Sheboygan, Wis.

Michelle Querhammer Goggins '78 and **Kari Stapleton Staus** '97 are employed by the largest producer of cooking school promotions in North America, Homemaker Schools. This organization represents a group of nationally recognized food companies including Blue Bonnet, Campbell Soup, Cool Whip Whipped Topping, Jell-O and Nestle Toll House Morsels, just to name a few.

Goggins works as a home economist for the Taste of Home Cooking School, travels throughout Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan conducting approximately 40 cooking schools each year. Graduating from UW-Stout in food service administration, Goggins has also worked as a personal chef and catering manager in southeastern Wisconsin.

She may also be remembered for her participation on the woman's basketball team while on campus. Also, while on campus, Goggins was the assistant editor of the *Stoutonia*. She and her three children reside in Milwaukee.

Staus, a food systems and technology graduate, is a field staff coordinator for the Taste of Home Cooking Schools. Staus travels throughout the United States as a home economist and trainer. She



Goggins



Staus

previously traveled the Midwest as a territory manager for Homemaker Schools and served as a food service director for two school districts in southeastern Wisconsin.

During her junior year at UW-Stout, Staus was a member of the newly formed women's soccer team, a sport she continues to enjoy today. She and her husband Jeff reside in Hartford, Wis., with their puppy, Coach.

Donald L. Clark B.S. '61, M.S. '62, professor emeritus, Texas A&M University, was recently honored at the 52nd annual meeting of the Association of Texas Technology Education, when he was inducted into the association's Hall of Honor. He joins 28 other individuals who have received this high honor in the history of this professional organization.



Clark

Clark received his Ph.D in 1967 at The Ohio State University, where Donald G. Lux B.S. '49, M.S. '52 served as his major professor. While at Ohio State, Clark was a research associate on the Industrial Arts Curriculum Projects—especially on *The World of Construction*. He served as the field center director for the testing and implementation of this innovative program in Texas.

Excerpts from the nomination papers that were submitted by two of his former doctoral students and supporting letters, referenced many specific examples of his leadership and influence in the professions. He is well known and respected at both the state and national levels for his professionalism, especially as a change agent as the program evolved from traditional industrial arts to technology education. There were also many references to his commitment to students as they prepared for leadership positions in the profession. As one individual referenced, "His students form a cadre of who's who in the profession."

Clark joined the faculty in the department of industrial education at Texas A&M University in 1967. When the College of Education at Texas A&M was established in 1969, he was invited to join the leadership team that provided the foundation for this strong administrative unit. Several faculty members at Stout, as well as numerous Stout graduates received their advanced degrees at Texas A&M.

Kit Hoffman Werner '78, a member of the instructional academic staff at UW-Stevens Point says she is getting a broader perspective of campus issues as an administrative intern in the Office of Academic Affairs.



Werner

Werner, a specialist in nutritional sciences in the department of health promotion and human development, is spending the academic year working with Provost and Vice Chancellor Bill Meyer and his staff in the position of special assistant to the provost/vice chancellor of Academic Affairs. This is the second year the half-time position has been made available in Academic Affairs. One of the things Werner says she appreciates about UWSP's administrative culture is its collaborative nature. "Decisions on complex issues are not made top down," Werner says. "UWSP administrators are

committed to involving others in decision-making. Discussion, negotiation and information are important to everyone at UWSP."

Some of the projects Werner has taken on include writing for and speaking on behalf of the vice chancellor, attending Chancellor's Cabinet meetings, coordinating with committee members to plan a diversity teaching conference, serving on the assembly committee, writing grants, planning future academic seminars, presenting at the recent orientation session for academic staff, facilitating faculty/staff mentoring, coordinating retired volunteers and attending dean's council meetings.

Cooperation with the UW System Institute for Global Studies proved to be productive for Werner and for the campus. Thanks to her efforts, UWSP was chosen as one of 16 sites in the nation for a video conference on the war on terrorism, featuring U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Marc Grossman.

Since coming to UWSP seven years ago, Werner has been involved with governance, including service on the Academic Staff Council. She has directed the College of Professional Studies food laboratory and is involved with the American Dietetic Association and Wisconsin Women in Higher Education Leadership (*WWHEL*).

Jennifer Homer Rudiger '95 never would have thought that the part-time job she had as a student would lead to her current position with Stout University Foundation as Director of University Fund and Marketing.



Rudiger

Rudiger started working with the foundation while still in high school. To pick up extra hours, she offered to help the Alumni Association director with a telephone fund-raising project. Little did she know at the time that talking with Stout alumni and sharing stories about Stout would be the start of her career path.

Though her undergraduate degree isn't directly related to what she is doing today, she believes the classes, professional organizations, faculty encouragement and other opportunities that she was able to experience as a student aided in shaping who she is today. Rudiger works with many students in a given year. She always tells them that classes come first, but you need to be involved with professional organizations, your residence hall community, a part-time job and other 'college life' experiences. It is important to learn to balance your time, meet new people and learn about yourself. Many of the experiences faced by young college students really test their values and self-judgment.

It was that first week-long telephone fund-raising project which Rudiger participated in as a student that really sparked her interest in fund-raising for such an exceptional university. Rudiger states, "Fund-raising has expanded greatly in ten years. The one thing that hasn't changed is the loyalty UW-Stout graduates have to the university."

Working with the Stout University Foundation helps Rudiger feel like she is ensuring that future students will be able to experience a successful college education.

We encourage you to submit an update on your employment situation. All stories will be held for three years and all efforts will be made to publicize your story.