

# Elaina M. Bleifield

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## EDUCATION

University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

**Ph.D.**, Veterinary Pathobiology,

Title: Effects of alcohol and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* on rat alveolar macrophage production of TNF- $\alpha$

Minor: Psychoneuroimmunology

Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

**B.A.**, Biology,

## EXPERIENCE

### **2016-2025: Vice President – each college and role described below**

2025-present Vice President for Accreditation and Academic Integration, Inver Hills Community College and Dakota County Technical College. Inver Grove Heights and Rosemount, MN.

- Coordinate the merger of Inver Hills Community College and Dakota County Technical College on academic related concerns. Inver Hills and Dakota County colleges are located in Dakota county, in the southeastern region of the Twin Cities metro area. Each college serves about 3000 students. The two colleges share a President and many other college leaders and services. The merger will fully align the two colleges' programs and student life activities to provide students a seamless experience. Responsibilities include working with faculty and Deans to merge the curriculum of similar courses; representing the college in meetings with the system office, third party accreditors, ensuring merger related issues are addressed in a timely fashion for the start of the new institution on July 1, 2027.
- Supervise the campus merger coordinator who assists in meeting organization/agenda setting, process updates, and communication related to the merger.
- Member of the Cabinet, Joint Academic Affairs and Standards Council, Administrative Council, joint Bargaining Unit Leaders committee, faculty shared governance committee.

2022-2025 Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost, Inver Hills Community College, Inver Grove Heights, MN.

- Inver Hills is a community college serving 3000 students in 36 degree programs. Sixty two percent of the students are female, 45% are students of color, 63% are part time students.
- Responsibilities include providing leadership related to planning and resource management. Member of the Cabinet, Administrative Council, Academic Affairs and Standards Council, faculty shared governance committee.
- Accomplishments: Implemented new program review process, reviewed faculty evaluation forms, implemented DataWise improvement process as a part of ongoing quality project (part of HLC expectations), Additional site locations approved by HLC (Simley, Two Rivers and Burnsville High Schools) in spring 2024. Helped reduce structural budget deficit in 2022-2023. Added new programs and certificates. Part of the campus team for the Business building renovation (funding awarded in summer 2023, construction start May 2024, completion fall 2025).

2016-2022 Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, Anoka Technical College, Anoka, MN.

- Anoka Technical College is a stand-alone technical college serving 2600 students in 35 different programs. Fifty-four percent of the students are female, 26% are students of color, average age is 26.7. The college has about 100 faculty and 50 staff members.

- Responsibilities include providing leadership for the academic and student affairs divisions of the college, including strategic leadership related to planning and resource management (\$19 million expense budget). Chair the Vice President's council. Co-chair the accreditation task force and the Academic Affairs and Standards council. Serve on President's cabinet, Foundation Advisory board, College Advisory board, budget committee, faculty shared governance council, staff council, organizational climate committee, graduation committee, Equity and Inclusion committee.

- Accomplishments: Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation visit completed (2018) with no reservations; Cambridge additional site visit by HLC in 2021 approved; \$500,000 Surgical Technology suite renovation, completed 2018. Practical nursing program received ACEN accreditation (2019). Maintain ongoing program accreditation (ACOTE, CAHIIM, NATEF and CAAHEP). Opened a campus-based food pantry in partnership with Student Senate and HOPE for the Community in fall 2019. Added several new programs to the college offerings.

**2007-2016, 2025-present: Dean – each college and role described below**

2025-present Interim Academic Dean, Inver Hills and DCTC, Inver Grove Heights and Rosemount, MN.

- Responsibilities include hiring, evaluation and coordination of faculty and staff (36 full time, 35 part time) and course schedules for programs at both Inver Hills and Dakota County Technical College.

- Departments include: ENGL, PHIL, COMM, ADMS, SPAN, FREN; Programs include: Paralegal, Culturally responsive peace officer, Early Childhood, Education, Human Services/Social Justice Studies, First year communities, Library.

2007-2016 Dean of Sciences and Mathematics, North Hennepin Community College (NHCC), Brooklyn Park, MN. Previous title: Dean of Science, Math and Health Careers – change due to college re-organization.

- Located in a northwest suburb of the Twin Cities, NHCC is a vibrant, student-centered learning environment which enrolls almost 10,000 students annually. Fifty seven percent of the students are female, the average age is 26.7, 44% are students of color, and 45% are Pell-eligible.

- Responsibilities include hiring and evaluating faculty and staff (45 full time, 20 part time), course scheduling, budget management (\$128,00 annual operating budgets), providing guidance for continuous quality improvement, service to the college in various committees, aid in conflict resolution, support the completion of department annual work plans.

- Accomplishments include service to the campus as the point of contact for the construction of a 60,000 sq ft new Bioscience and Health Careers Center (completed fall 2014); continuous support for the Math department curriculum re-design; ongoing support for undergraduate research at NHCC; partnership to offer Bemidji State University Biology degree on the NHCC campus.

**1998-2007: Faculty – each college and role described below**

1998-2007 Biology Faculty, North Hennepin Community College, Brooklyn Park, MN. Granted full time unlimited status (tenure), 2003. Courses taught: General Biology, Anatomy and Physiology I and II, Microbiology, Human Biology, topics courses.

1999 (summer) Adjunct Biology Faculty, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Minneapolis, MN. Course taught: Human Biology.

National Secretary, Sigma Delta Epsilon/Graduate Women in Science

Pre-doctoral Fellow, Clinical and Population Sciences Department, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN, Advisor-Dr. Martha Mellencamp

Teaching Assistant, Veterinary Pathobiology Department, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

Junior scientist, University of Minnesota and Hennepin County Medical Center, St. Paul and Minneapolis, MN, Supervisor-Dr. Tom Molitor

## **INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

### **Minnesota State (formerly MnSCU)**

- Co-chair the Academic Affairs Council 2022-2023. The council serves in an advisory capacity to the Academic Affairs Senior Vice Chancellor on academic matters across the system.
- Member, Academic Affairs council, 2022-2026.
- Chair of Metro colleges Senior Academic Officers group 2018-2019.
- Member, Minnesota State Engineering Center of Excellence Advisory Board. 2018-2025.
- TPCT (Transfer Pathways Coordinating Team) member, 2016-2018. Served as a coordinating team member and as the liaison to the Early Childhood Education team and to the History team. The purpose of the TPCT is to implement the Transfer Pathways and to identify roadblocks to implementation, as well as provide leadership to evaluate the pathways.
- Search Committee Chair, Systems Director for Academic Planning, 2014. Worked with system office leadership as well as deans and academic leaders throughout the system to interview candidates for this position.
- Broad Field in Engineering AS work group, 2009-2011. Goal of the work group is to consider designing a broad field engineering AS degree. Work group consists of faculty from two year and four year institutions in Minn State, Deans, Chief Academic Officers and representatives from the Minn State Office of the Chancellor.
- MANE (MN Alliance for Nursing Education) Systems committee member, spring 2012-2014. The goal of MANE is to increase the number of baccalaureate prepared nurses in Minnesota. The MANE group has several committees working on different aspects of the project (e.g. curriculum, faculty development). The responsibilities of the systems committee are to remove barriers encountered by other committees in order to facilitate implementation of the MANE project.

### **North Hennepin Community College**

- Science Division Coordinator: responsibilities include assisting the Dean with hiring and scheduling, 2004-2006.
- NHCC chapter of the Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF), Secretary 2005-2006. Additional responsibilities included service on campus Shared Governance council.
- Committee service including: hiring committees, catalog review committee, nominating committee for NHCC MSCF chapter, organizing committee for state biology faculty discipline meeting, CSI workshop for junior high students, participation in AQIP training provided by the Higher Learning Commission, Student Success Day committee (2008-2015), strategic planning committee (2010-11), Strategic Enrollment Management committee (2012-present), chair of Faculty Excellence

Awards committee (2007-2009), member of presidential search committee (2009-10), member of AQIP leadership council (2010-11), Honors Committee (2013-present), Sustainability Committee (2013-present), Bioscience and Health Careers Center construction committee (2012-2014).

- Search Committee Chair: several faculty search committees, CIO search committee (2011), Dean of Health Wellness and Human Services search committee (2014).

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

- Dissertation Examination Committee member, Mike Mendez, Ed.D. Community College Leadership, Ferris State University, 2024
- Internship supervisor, Jared Scharpen, Ed.D. Educational Leadership, Bradley University, 2024

### **BOARD SERVICE**

- Member, National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Lab Sciences Board of Directors; 2021-present.  
Member, executive committee 2023-2024  
Member, finance, bylaws committee, 2024-present  
Chair, Review Process committee 2025-2026  
Member, apprenticeship workgroup, 2025-2026  
Member, nominations committee, 2022
- Member, Anoka County Workforce Development Board. 2016-2022.
- Member, Town Square Television Board, 2025-present.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- Brooklyn Park STEAM library: advisory committee member. 2014- 2016
- Holy Spirit school: served as a member of the strategic planning committee January - May 2011
- Holy Spirit school: served as assistant director, all-school play 2008-2015
- Sunny Hollow Montessori Board of Directors, St Paul, MN. Served as Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, 2002-2006. The Board of Directors serves as lead governance structure for a premier Montessori preschool. During my tenure, we expanded our fundraising efforts, hired two new Heads of School and worked toward expansion of the school to include an elementary program.
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, Integra Group, Brooklyn Park, MN. Fall 2006- 2007. I served as a community member for Integra's animal care committee.
- Macalester College, St. Paul, MN. Service on various alumni planning activities, including reunion planning and alumni fund committees in honor of reunion; class agent, 2012; 25<sup>th</sup> reunion co-chair 2014-15; 30<sup>th</sup> reunion co-chair, 2019-2020, 35<sup>th</sup> reunion co-chair, 2025.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- ACE Women's Leadership Forum, Washington, DC, 2015.
- Minnesota State Executive Leadership Program 2018-2019.
- NY Times Education forum, 2018.
- HLC annual meeting attendance 2016-present.
- Basic Life Support certification, present.
- Dale Carnegie course, 2019.
- COVID-19 Contact Tracing certificate, Johns Hopkins University, Coursera course, 2020.

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

#### **Professional Society**

- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Research Society on Alcoholism

- International Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism
- Society for Leukocyte Biology

### Honorary Society

- Sigma Delta Epsilon/Graduate Women in Science
- Sigma Xi Honor Society

### PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Lafleur RL, Malazdrewich C, Bleifield E, Jeyaseelan S, Maheswaran SK, Abrahamsen MS. 2001. Lipopolysaccharide enhances cytotoxicity and inflammatory cytokine induction in bovine alveolar macrophages exposed to *Pasteurella (Mannheimia) haemolytica* leukotoxin. *Microb. Pathog.* 30, 347-357.

#### *Selected Abstracts*

Bleifield, E.M. and Mellencamp, M.A. . Alcohol suppresses *Streptococcus pneumoniae* induced alveolar macrophage production of TNF- $\alpha$ . *J Leuk Biol*, suppl:10.

Bleifield, E.M. and Mellencamp, M.A. . Effects of ethanol consumption on TNF production by alveolar macrophages challenged with *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. *Alc Clin Exp Res*, suppl 21:45A .

Bleifield, E.M. and Mellencamp, M.A. . Short term ethanol consumption suppresses macrophage production of TNF- $\alpha$  in response to *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and gram-negative lipopolysaccharide. *Alc Clin Exp Res*, suppl 20:117A.

#### Presentations

Bleifield E, Yenny-Henderson C, Summer-Lambrecht J, 2015. NHCC STEM initiative: Inspiring the “C” student. MnSCU Academic and Student Affairs Leadership Conference, MN

Guelich J, Komoto C, Reinke J, Bleifield E, Paulson C, 2014. Statway: A Developmental Math and College Level Statistics Pathway. MnSCU Academic and Student Affairs Leadership Conference, MN

Bleifield E, Diedrich M, Wilson J, Schaaf L, 2011. Lecture-Capture Technology: Effect on Student GPA, Satisfaction and Persistence. International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence, Austin, TX.

Bleifield E, Longtine C, 2011. Undergraduate Research at Community Colleges: Challenges, Rewards, and Future Directions. Innovations 2011 Conference, San Diego, CA.

Bleifield E, Swenson J, 2011. Campus Civility. MnSCU Chief Academic and Student Affairs – College and Universities Deans meeting, MN.

Bleifield E, 2010. Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities at Community Colleges – why and how? MnSCU Chief Academic and Student Affairs – College and Universities Deans meeting, MN.

Longtine C, Jones M, Bleifield E, 2008. Undergraduate Research and the Two-Year College: Opportunities and Challenges. “Engaging Science, Advancing Learning” meeting of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, Providence, RI.

Bleifield E, . Effects of ethanol consumption of TNF production by alveolar macrophages challenged with *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. Sixth meeting of the Alcohol and Immunology Research Interest Group, Aptos, CA.

Bleifield E, . Short term ethanol consumption suppresses macrophage production of TNF- $\alpha$  in response to *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and gram-negative lipopolysaccharide. Fifth meeting of the Alcohol and Immunology Research Interest Group, Washington, D.C.

### **Invited participation**

Bleifield, E. 2025. "How to approach your administration to get what you want," NAACLS news article. <https://naacclsnews.wpcomstaging.com/2025/02/12/how-to-approach-your-administration-to-get-what-you-want/>

Bleifield E, Freeman A, Guelich J, Klipple K, 2015. Statway. AACC National Summit on the Redesign of Developmental Education, Washington, DC.

Noonan-Terry C, Paulus E, Siadat M, Bleifield E, 2010. Magic in the Classroom: Effective Practices in Teaching and Learning. International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence, Austin, TX.

"A student's perspective on the Preparing Future Faculty program," welcome panel member. Is graduate education preparing the future faculty? conference, University of Minnesota.

"Socializing future faculty to the values of undergraduate education," panel member. . 82nd annual meeting of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, Washington, D.C.

### **GRANTS**

- Guided Learning Pathways, MN State system innovation/collaboration grant, 2023-present (\$100,000)
- Z degree implementation, MN State system grant, 2024-present (\$150,000)
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant recipient to improve undergraduate science education, 2012-2018. Partner with Hamline University and Century College to implement undergraduate research experiences at the community college level.
- North Star STEM Alliance member representative (2007-2012). NHCC was one of 16 institutions participating in Minnesota's Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority participation NSF grant. Serve as the NHCC representative to the alliance and assist with coordination of student activities at NHCC.
- MnSCU Center for Teaching and Learning grant with Dr. Peggy LePage (\$10,000) to increase student learning in anatomy and physiology laboratories, 2004.

### **AWARDS**

- Faculty Excellence Award, 2006. Co-chaired the development of NHCC's Pandemic Plan.
- Quality Instructor Award by NHCC Student Support Services, 2003.
- Graduate student travel award for the Thirty-second National Meeting of the Society for Leukocyte Biology, Baltimore, MD, December 4-7, .
- Second place poster, graduate student competition, College of Veterinary Medicine Open House, fall . "Short term ethanol consumption suppresses macrophage production of TNF- $\alpha$  in response to *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and gram-negative lipopolysaccharide."
- President's Student Leadership and Service Award, and Award is given in recognition of leadership and service at the University of Minnesota.