



Minnesota  
STATE COLLEGES  
& UNIVERSITIES

## QUARTERLY REPORT SUMMARY

April – June 2007

### Strategic Direction One: Increase Access and Opportunity

**Thirteen colleges and universities reported gains in the number of students of color enrolled or improvements in retention rates for students of color. Several also hired new minority faculty members.** Examples:

- At Anoka Technical College, the number of students of color increased from 446 in 2005-2006 to 530 during the 2006-07 academic year, an 18.8 percent increase.
- Dakota County Technical College added 31 students of color in FY 2007 over FY 2006 and four minority members to the faculty.
- Minneapolis Community and Technical College enrolled 243 students in the Power of You program in its first year. Over 75 percent of participants were students of color; 86 percent completed their first year of college with a cumulative grade point average of 2.23. The college also increased the percentage of employees of color by 0.7 percent, from 18.9 percent in FY 2006 to 19.6 percent in FY 2007.
- Inver Hills Community College IDEAS+ is a mentoring program for the most at-risk students taking developmental courses. More than 1,000 students participated in IDEAS+. Students exhibited a 77 percent retention rate fall to spring as opposed to 64 percent in the general developmental student population.
- Northwest Technical College increased the entering cohort enrollment of students of color in fall 2006 by 26.4 percent over fall 2005 and fall-to-spring retention rates for the same cohort by 15 percent.
- Enrollment of students of color at Northland Community and Technical College increased 61 percent from 240 students in FY 2005 to 396 students in FY 2007. Fall to spring retention of African-American students increased from 67 percent in FY 2005 to 73 percent in FY 2007.
- Winona State University enhanced programming for minority students resulting in gains in academic success. In both 2005 and 2007, there were 76 new entering first-year American minority students. The 2005 cohort had an average GPA of 2.11, and 39 were either on probation or suspension; the 2007 cohort had an average GPA of 2.76 with 13 on probation or suspension.

**Three colleges and universities reported that they received private funds to provide financial assistance to students.** Example:

- At Century College, foundation grants totaling \$100,000 paid for tuition and enhanced services for students in groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education. In 2006-2007, students in the program had an 87 percent retention rate from fall to spring.

*For the full report, go to [www.mnscu.edu/about/index.html#planning](http://www.mnscu.edu/about/index.html#planning) or call (651) 282-5518.*

**Six colleges and universities reported new or expanded outreach programs to help prepare students to graduate from high school ready for success in college.** Examples:

- Alexandria Technical College designed and implemented the West Central Minnesota STEM Academy. During spring 2007, this academy introduced 60 high school students to manufacturing and engineering programs. In addition, the academy provided an engineering learning experience to 15 summer camp students.
- The Center for Strategic Information Systems and Security Center of Excellence co-sponsored a summer math camp and “Computer Geek U” serving 70 K-12 students.
- North Hennepin Community College received a federal Classic Upward Bound Program, only one of three institutions in Minnesota to receive a new program in FY 2007. The five-year \$1 million program will assist students from three area high schools.

**Strategic Direction Two: Expand High-Quality Learning Programs and Services**

**A number of college and universities reported awards and recognition for high-quality education programs and improvements in student success rates.** Examples:

- Bemidji State University increased the six-year baccalaureate graduation rate by 6 percent over the past five years. The university also increased the total number of science majors by 111 from FY 2002 to FY2007, a 24.5 percent increase.
- Minnesota State University Moorhead graduated 26 STEM major licensed teachers in FY 2007 (15 in math education), five more than its goal of 21.
- Hennepin Technical College continues to make its emergency preparedness programs a program of distinction. In 2007, it earned international certification/accreditation for the fire science program.
- Normandale Community College increased unduplicated headcount enrollments in STEM courses by 705 this year, an increase of 8.9 percent over the 2005-2006 academic year.
- Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical partnered with Winona State University to pilot its early retention warning system that identifies and tracks information related to student success. They monitored the progress of 1,087 students in fall 2006, increasing to 3,732 students in 2007.
- Southwest Minnesota State University increased unduplicated headcount in STEM courses from 1,712 students in FY 2005 to 2,315 students in FY 2007. The university also increased teacher education graduates in math and science from 11 graduates in FY 2005 to 31 graduates in FY 2007 prepared for secondary teacher licensure in math and science.
- South Central College was chosen to participate in the Higher Learning Commission’s initial Academy for Assessment of Student Learning cohort. This four-year commitment will include events and interactions focusing on understanding, confirming and improving student learning.

**Nineteen colleges and universities and the system as a whole reported large gains in the number of students taking courses or programs online.** Examples:

- Minnesota Online offered more than 214 online programs in FY 2007, an increase of 42 percent over FY 2006. Total full-year-equivalent online enrollment was 9,902 for FY 2007, an increase of 26 percent over the previous year.
- Metropolitan State University will offer its entire MBA online in fall 2007, joining 13 other online programs serving 4,500 students.
- Minnesota State Community and Technical College developed military “virtual” education support services with funds from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Administration and the Office of the Chancellor. Online veterans services have now been opened to 42 states.
- Minnesota State University Moorhead enrolled 1,751 students in online courses in FY 2007, about four times its goal of 440 students.

- From FY 2006 to FY 2007, Rochester Community and Technical College increased online enrollment headcount by 28 percent, and Internet enrollment as a percentage of total full-year-equivalents from 8.9 percent to 11.8 percent.

### **Strategic Direction Three: Strengthen Community Development and Economic Vitality**

#### **Colleges and universities are working with businesses and organizations in their communities to expand customized training offerings and produce more graduates in fields in demand by employers. Examples:**

- The Anoka Technical College Corporate Center expanded into formerly unused space in March 2007, resulting in a 10 percent increase in customized training offerings from FY 2006 to FY 2007.
- Anoka-Ramsey Community College developed a new partnership with Minnesota State University Moorhead to deliver a bachelor of science degree in special education to the college's Cambridge campus in spring 2007.
- Hennepin Technical College has increased enrollments in STEM fields. With input from the Advisory Committee, the college revamped and renamed the automated machinery systems-packaging program. The new program, automation robotics engineering technology, had a 210 percent increase in credits taken in spring 2007.
- During FY 2007, Hibbing Community College's customized training department increased the number of students to 6,507 students, an increase of 1,002 from FY 2006. This encompassed more than 600 business/industry clients.
- Minnesota State University, Mankato received a \$5 million federal grant and with Minnesota West will lead other higher education partners and industry in developing training for new workers in emerging bioscience and renewable energy industries. The grant is part of the U.S. Department of Labor's Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development Program.
- Minnesota State University Moorhead enrolled 824 students in customized professional development in FY 2007, beating its goal of 795 students.
- Minnesota West Community and Technical College established the Luverne Health Career Education Center. For summer 2007, this includes a new surgical technician program with 16 new students and a new radiography technician program. The college raised over \$450,000 to establish a center in the former Luverne Community Hospital.

#### **Minnesota State Colleges and Universities are central to the civic and cultural lives of their communities sponsoring cultural events on campus and reaching out to the community. Examples:**

- Century College is one of five public two-year colleges in the country to be named to the first-ever President's Higher Education Community Service National Honor Roll with Distinction for its work in service learning. During the 2006-2007 academic year, Century College offered over 55 courses with service learning opportunities, and more than 1800 students participated.
- Riverland Community College implemented the new Generations program to serve active senior citizens. Some 276 individuals attended programs over eight months. This exceeded the headcount goal of 50 by more than 450 percent.
- Ridgewater College hosted the only greater Minnesota Super Sunday event with 40 attendees from five area bilingual faith communities.
- The Student Affairs Unit of the Office of the Chancellor partnered with Veterans Affairs and Military Affairs departments to offer veterans reintegration workshops around Minnesota.

## **Strategic Direction Four: Innovate to Meet Current and Future Education Needs Efficiently**

**The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system uses continuous quality improvement principles to keep the institutions and staff vital and flexible to meet the future learning needs of their students and communities.** Examples:

- Alexandria Technical College became the first college in the United States to successfully complete its second “Systems Portfolio” Higher Learning Commission accreditation project. This project provides system and national leadership on continuous improvement and performance measurement.
- The Diversity and Multiculturalism Division of the Office of the Chancellor provides diversity training to 39 diversity officers. They overwhelmingly reported that it increased their skills on diversity assessments, research, demographics, and data analysis.
- The Government Relations and Public Relations units of the Office of the Chancellor teamed up to garner support and successfully obtain a budget increase of \$151.8 million in state appropriations for FY2008-2009, a 12.7 percent increase over the previous biennium.
- The Government Relations in the Office of the Chancellor launched a successful pilot of the Friends Action Network. Through this network, 2,153 individuals signed an initial letter of support for the system’s budget request, which was sent to Governor Pawlenty and legislative leaders. In all, the network generated 3,000 messages to state leaders, about twice as many as generated by the University of Minnesota network.
- The Human Resources Division of the Office of the Chancellor created and implemented Labor Relations Symposiums for managers and Human Resource professionals throughout system. This was delivered through regional training sessions in 17 core topics for approximately 200 supervisors and managers.
- The Public Relations offices in the Office of the Chancellor significantly raised public awareness of the system’s presence and value with radio, television and newspaper advertising campaigns. The television campaign, for example, reached about 81 percent of adults in the Twin Cities and about 75 percent of adults in Greater Minnesota.
- The Development Division and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Foundation increased staff participation from 19 percent to 26 percent, raising nearly \$33,000. Giving by the Foundation board remained constant at 87 percent, raising nearly \$25,000. Giving by the Board of Trustees increased to 80 percent, raising nearly \$16,000 in pledges and cash.
- The first-ever Excellence in Teaching Awards, awarded by the Board of Trustees, recognized three outstanding faculty members from Rainy River Community College, Rochester Community and Technical College and Century College.
- Lake Superior College has increased the assessment of student learning and documentation across the college in many ways, including recognizing three faculty with the college’s Annual Excellence in Assessment Award.
- Saint Paul College completed the re-engineering of its student development and services areas, saving \$500,000 since 2000 and reducing students’ wait time from one hour to two minutes.

**Several institutions reported increases in fundraising, enabling them to invest in new or expanded areas.** Examples:

- The Pine Technical College Foundation beat its FY 2007 fundraising goal by 14 percent.
- The Northland Community and Technical College Foundation net income from all sources increased from \$28,611 in FY 2006 to \$182,449 in FY 2007, a more than 500 percent increase.
- Southwest Minnesota State University raised \$2,658,644 in private funds in FY 2007, an increase of \$859,029 over FY 2006.