

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

**BOARD INFORMATION ITEM**

**CAMPUS SHOWCASE:  
RIDGEWATER COLLEGE NURSING SIMULATION CENTER**

1 **SUMMARY**

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3 This presentation from staff at Ridgewater College is intended to share best practices and further  
4 acknowledge the work of those campuses receiving 2004 Exemplary IT Project awards.  
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7 **BACKGROUND**

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9 As part of a three year nursing workforce recruitment and retention project to improve nursing  
10 education for college students and currently practicing health care professionals, Ridgewater  
11 College Nursing Simulation Centers have been established on both the Willmar and Hutchinson  
12 campuses. As a result, nursing faculty have implemented new teaching strategies involving  
13 simulation and performance based instruction. The use of high-fidelity human patient simulators  
14 and various computer aided learning devices have been incorporated into the nursing curriculum  
15 which allowed faculty to provide students with realistic patient scenarios in a safe environment.  
16 Students receive instant feedback that models human responses to their interventions. The  
17 technology provides multiple practice opportunities and the opportunity to make mistakes and  
18 learn from mistakes in a way not possible with human subjects. Students actively learn as they  
19 re-play an educational scenario as many times as necessary for knowledge/skill mastery. The  
20 simulation centers provide students with multiple inputs and multi-method approaches to  
21 enhance critical thinking skills, use technology at the point of care, enhance cultural competency  
22 and practice effective decision-making to improve patient care outcomes.  
23

24 ***Presenters***

25 *Barb Peterson, Simulation Specialist*

26 *Kaaren Harris, Simulation Specialist*

27 *Jeanne Cleary, Simulation Specialist*

28 *Lynn Johnson, Director of Nursing*

*Date Presented to the Board of Trustees: June 15, 2004*