



Minot State University selected to participate in national higher education project

During the coming year, Minot State University will participate in a national higher education project known as “Foundations of Excellence® in the First College Year.” The project, sponsored by the Policy Center on the First Year of College, will utilize a model of excellence for the first college year. This model can be used by colleges and universities to develop and refine their overall approach to educating first-year students.



Research has long indicated that new students who are successfully integrated into college are much more likely to succeed. Many colleges, therefore, work especially hard to create a first-rate experience for new students. According to Randy Swing, co-director and senior scholar of the Policy Center, attention to the first year will benefit students by helping them to meet their educational goals and will benefit institutions by helping them retain students through graduation.

In response to the selection, Gary Rabe, Minot State University vice president for academic affairs said the institution is “absolutely delighted and honored” to be selected for participation in the two-year program.

“I have been saying that this is a pivotal year for Minot State University. First, we have to be successful in our reaccreditation by the Higher Learning Commission,” said Rabe. “Second, this is the year that we need to grow legs on Vision 2013, our new strategic plan. We have to take start taking action on its priorities. Participating in Foundations of Excellence fits perfectly with MSU’s strategy to foster engaged learning and place for the benefit of students. One of the priorities contained in that strategy is planning and developing a first-rate comprehensive program to support first-year students, their retention and their success. This is, indeed, a perfect fit.”

Since February of 2003, the Foundations of Excellence project has involved over 300 two- and four-year colleges and universities across the country in developing the standards (“Foundational Dimensions®”) that constitute a model first year. Minot State University is one of 13 four-year institutions that will work with the Policy Center and its technology support and educational survey partner, Educational Benchmarking, Inc. in 2007-2008. Member institutions will measure their effectiveness in recruiting, admitting, orienting, supporting, advising, and teaching new students. They will then be able to make programmatic improvements that will increase student learning, success, and persistence.

Speaking from personal experience as a former project liaison and currently as the associate director of the Policy Center, Kathleen Morley remarked, “I have been most impressed by the extent to which project leaders are finding the Foundations of Excellence® process impacting institutional culture – something most would agree is a true challenge at institutions of higher education.”

August 22, 2007

Sherve starts NAC lectures for 2007-2008

Margaret Sherve, assistant professor of English, will give the semester’s first Northwest Art Center lecture, “The Changing Faces of China,” Thursday.

Sherve was one of four Minot State University leaders of a group of 46 people that visited mainland China May 14-20. The travelers included MSU faculty, students and community members from Minot and the surrounding area. Sherve’s presentation will include slides of the trip and her observations about Chinese culture. Other tour participants will also be there to share experiences and answer questions.

All NAC lectures are held in Aleshire Theater, 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public; refreshments are served afterward.

NEXT ISSUE

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In describing the importance of this project, John N. Gardner, executive director of the Policy Center on the First Year of College, located in Brevard, N.C., said, "While much is known about how a campus can improve new student learning and retention, this information has never been synthesized or translated into aspirational standards that are reflective of best practice. The absence of clear standards has powerful educational and financial consequences. This project brings together a number of highly credible researchers, reformers, and practitioners, who are creating the blueprint that for too long has been missing."

Betsy Barefoot, co-director and senior scholar, adds that the standards are not only aspirational, but they can also be used to measure an institution's current level of excellence in its approach to the first year. Barefoot is the senior staff member who will serve as the primary advisor to Minot State University.

Along with 13 two-year institutions, the following four-year institutions will be participating in the 2007-2008 Foundations of Excellence cohort: Bethune Cookman University in Florida, Buena Vista University in Iowa, California State University-San Marcos, Centenary College New Jersey, Fayetteville State University in North Carolina, Framingham State University in Massachusetts, Minnesota State University-Moorhead, Morgan State University in Maryland, Salem State College in Massachusetts, State University of New York at Stony Brook, University of Texas at El Paso and Western New Mexico University. Support for this project has been provided by Lumina Foundation for Education.

Welcome SIAS students!

Minot State University is pleased to welcome the first group of Chinese exchange students from SIAS International University. Fifteen students arrived Aug. 12 and have since been getting acclimated to MSU and the community. Beginning Aug. 14, two days of special orientation took place. The group was welcomed by President David Fuller and College of Business Dean JoAnn Linrud.



They have since met their instructors and their domestic counterparts in the Intercultural Graduate Management

Cohort. This specialized on-campus version of the COB's Master of Science degree in management (MSM) will be completed in 12 months. The program consists of five eight-week terms, and students will take two courses per term. Classes are taught on evenings or weekends to accommodate graduate students from the Minot area who are working professionals.

In addition to completing the objectives of the MSM program to develop leadership, management and communication skills in an applied context, a domestic and a



Chinese student will team up on work-related projects.

The Chinese students have also toured Minot, rode horses and visited out-of-town attractions including the N.D. Heritage Center and Knife River Indian Village.

Gary Ross is the director of the IGMC program.

Important notes from PIO

The Office of Public Information would like to share some important changes with the campus.

This will be the last paper or "hard" copy of "Inside" for distribution to on-campus faculty and staff. Beginning Sept. 5, "Inside" will be published and distributed in an electronic format only for on-campus readers. The office will still print a selected number of copies that are mailed to off-campus constituents including retired faculty and staff. However, we will also be reviewing that list and attempting to obtain e-mail addresses to allow electronic distribution to them as well.

A Web-based common campus calendar has been launched and is now available. The main links to the calendar on the MSU home page are from the calendar icon located at the bottom left-hand corner and from "What's Happening" on the upper selection bar.

The common calendar is important because we will be better able to assist visitors to campus, campus members can look for scheduling conflicts, and changes to events can be immediately input.

Please explore the link and become familiar with the calendar. The PIO loaded all of the summer events from the back end to make the link live over the summer. We are in the process of adding the fall events. In the future, those scheduling campus events will be responsible for inserting their own information.

Some informal training sessions were held over the summer and more will be scheduled very soon. If you want to submit events, you will need a User-ID and Password. Contact the PIO at 858-3298 if you need to be added as a user.

The public information office thanks Darren Olson in ITC for his assistance in establishing the Web-based calendar.

Soon to come ... changes in the delivery of campus e-mail messages. (You asked for it!)

New mentors wanted

New students enrolled for fall 2007 will be invited to participate in the mentor program. Consequently, willing faculty, staff and administrators to serve as their mentors are needed.

The MSU Mentor Program was established in fall 2006 to help new Minot State University students make a smooth transition to university life. The MSU Mentor Program started with 147 students and 42 mentors. Students in the program, referred to as “mentees,” are offered the option of earning priority registration and are asked to sign an agreement which lists program requirements. These requirements include:

- meeting with their mentor three times per semester
- meeting with their academic advisor once per semester
- attending two life skills workshops per semester (workshops include topics such as time management, money management, financial aid, study skills and much more)

Mentors in the MSU Mentor Program:

- serve as a resource for new students (the number of students assigned to you is based on how many you feel you can handle given your schedule)
- meet with mentees at least three times per semester.
 - Some mentors/mentees found it helpful to meet weekly or every other week while others were satisfied with the three times per semester.
 - You must also be willing to have students stop in when they need help because not all situations can wait until the next meeting.
- help students identify campus and community resources to assist with problems that arise (tutoring, job searches, roommate problems and financial aid)
- be willing to listen to their problems and guide them in the right direction
- encourage your mentees to complete other program requirements (attending workshops and meeting with advisor)
- communicate with mentor program coordinator regarding your students
- most importantly, be a friend to a new MSU student

To find out more about the mentor program, call Debra Chandler, mentor program coordinator, at 858-3144 or email her at (debra.chandler@minotstateu.edu). You can also visit the program’s website at (<http://www.minotstateu.edu/mentoring/>). In addition, for more information, feel free to ask one of our current mentors. A list of mentors and their contact information can be found at (<http://www.minotstateu.edu/mentoring/MeetourMentors.shtml>).

If you are willing to serve as a mentor in the program, please go to (http://www.minotstateu.edu/mentoring/mentor_app.shtml) and complete the online application. It is helpful if as much information as possible is included since this will be used to match mentors and mentees!

Finally, if you know of any students starting next semester, encourage them to sign up for the program. They can do so by clicking on the application link on the MSU Mentor Program Web site (<http://www.minotstateu.edu/mentoring/>).

Mark your calendar

These important dates are slated for fall semester:

- Sept. 17–22—Homecoming Week
- Oct. 5—Gala
- Oct. 24—Assessment Day

Additional details will be forthcoming.

Announcements

Library extends hours

The Gordon B. Olson Library is now open until midnight—the entire library, not just the computer labs—Sunday through Thursday. Here is the schedule:

- Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.–midnight
- Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
- Sunday, 1 p.m.–midnight

— *Patty Hunt, reference and instruction librarian*

Chartwells foodservice locations and hours

As we are opening our foodservice locations across the Minot State University campus, we would like to share our areas of operation and hours.

Beaver Creek Café (Student Center, second floor, all buffet service), Monday–Friday:

- Breakfast, \$4.50, 7–9 a.m.
- Lunch, \$6.15, 11 a.m.–1:15 p.m.
- Continental Lunch, \$5, 1:15–4 p.m.
- Dinner, \$6.90, 4–7 p.m.

Buckshot’s Snack Bar (Student Center, first floor), Monday–Friday:

- Lunch, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Student meal transfer, 10–11:30 a.m.
- Student meal transfer, 12:30–2 p.m.

Beaver Dam (Student Center, second floor):

- Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.–10 p.m.
- Saturday-Sunday, noon–6 p.m.

Starbucks (Beaver Dam, now serving continental breakfast items):

- Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.–10 p.m.
- Saturday-Sunday, noon–6 p.m.

Sandella's (Beaver Dam):

- Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.–10 p.m.
- Saturday-Sunday, noon–6 p.m.

Symbols (Student Center convenience store, second floor, now serving house coffee):

- Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.–7 p.m.

— *Brad Damm, director of dining services
for Chartwells Dining Services*

Student contact information needs updating

Faculty: Please inform your students about Address Update Week, Aug. 22-24. In an effort to correct bad contact information (addresses, phone numbers, e-mails, etc.), MSU is enlisting the help of the Student Ambassadors and the Student Association to man computer kiosks throughout the campus.

Students will be asked to log onto CampusConnection to review their contact information and make any necessary updates. All students who participate in this campaign will have their names placed in a drawing for an iPod shuffle, portable DVD player, digit camera and various other gifts.

Instructors and staff are asked to encourage students to update their contact information. Locations of address update stations are:

- Residence Halls, Aug. 22-23, 7:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.
- Beaver Creek Café (Dining Hall, Student Center, second floor), Aug. 22-24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Club Day in the Quad, quad, Aug. 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Memorial Hall, first floor, Aug. 22-24.
- Registrar's Office, Aug. 22-24.
- Beaver Dam, Aug. 22-24.
- Olson Library, main floor, Aug. 22-24.
- Old Main, study zone and third floor, Aug. 22-24.
- Student Center Atrium, Aug. 22-24, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

— *Tania Balas, registrar*

Class drop recording policy changes

Faculty: Please communicate to your students during the first week of school that there has been a policy change in the class drop recording process.

Starting fall semester, a "W" will be recorded on a student's official transcript after the 7th class day of semester classes and the 4th class day of summer and eight-week classes (100 percent drop date).

Students will still be able to drop themselves from a class via CampusConnection up until the 42nd day of the term for semester classes and the 21st day of the term for summer or eight-week classes. However, a "W" will appear on a student's official transcript if a class is dropped after the 100 percent drop date.

Also, please remember that all but the last course can be dropped via CampusConnection. Students who wish to completely withdraw from the University must file a

Withdrawal Notice with the Office of Financial Aid or on the MSU Web site at Student Services>Financial Aid>Withdrawal Procedures.

If you have any questions regarding this change in policy, please contact the Office of the Registrar at 858-3345.

— *Tania Balas, registrar*

Bookstore extends hours

Books for fall semester 2007 can be credited to financial aid through Aug. 29 at the Minot State University Bookstore. The bookstore will be open for extended hours of operation will be from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. on Aug. 22-23 and from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Aug. 24.

— *Sandy Foley, bookstore manager*

Assessment Day scheduled

Fall Assessment Day is Oct. 24. Our speaker is Richard Hersh, co-director of the Collegiate Learning Assessment project and former president of William and Hobart Colleges and Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. Hersh also co-edited the book "Declining by Degrees."

I will send detailed information about this event soon.

— *Rita M. Curl-Langager, professor of psychology.*

Final request for MSU directory information

The Office of Publications and Design Services is compiling information for the official campus directory. The deadline for information to be received in our office was Aug. 17. Please make your changes in red pen by doing the following:

- copy each session of your current directory pages
- cross out any deletions in each section
- make changes next to the current entry in each section
- include new entries on an additional sheet of paper

We prefer not to receive this information by telephone or e-mail.

— *Sandy Nordstrom, director of publications
and design services*

Kuh not coming

George Kuh, director of the Center for Postsecondary Research at Indiana University, is not coming to MSU on Sept. 12. He will be coming spring semester.

— *Kim Thompson, director of public information*

In the galleries

Aug. 28-Sept. 26—"Young Universe" by Maureen Crowe, Gordon B. Olson Library Gallery

Aug. 28-Sept. 26—Americas 2000: All Media, Hartnett Hall Gallery.

The public reception for both exhibits is Thursday, Aug. 30, 6:30-8 p.m., Hartnett Hall Gallery.

Calendar

Aug. 22–Oct. 5, 2007

August

- 22 Welcome Week: club fair, quad, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 23 Last day to add a first eight-week class.
- 23 Welcome Week: food, quad, 11 a.m.
- 23 NAC lecture: “The Changing Faces of China,” by Margaret Sherve, English, Aleshire Theater, 7 p.m.
- 23 Welcome Week: dance, plaza in front of the Dome, 10 p.m.
- 24 Welcome Week: food, quad, 11 a.m.
- 24 Spring 2008 student teaching applications due to Field Placement Office by 4 p.m.
- 24-25 Volleyball at MSU-Billings tournament.
- 25 Doug Lockrem Memorial Motorcycle Rally, Pure Honda, 11 a.m.
- 28 Master Plan architects on campus, Westlie Room.
- 28 Graduate School: last day for fall graduates to file admission to candidacy and application for graduation with advisers.
- 28 Graduate School: noon deadline for fall graduates to file thesis proposal in Graduate School Office.
- 28-Sept. 26 NAC exhibit: “Americas 2000: All Media,” Hartnett Hall Gallery.
- 28-Sept. 26 NAC exhibit: “Young Universe,” by Maureen Crowe, Detroit, Mich., Olson Library Gallery.
- 29 Last day to add a 16-week class.
- 30 Mandatory orientation for student teaching spring 2008, Main 106, 12:30 p.m.

September

- 1 Football at Rocky Mountain College, Miles City, Mont.
- 3 Holiday, Labor Day, university closed.
- 4 Volleyball vs. Dickinson State U., Dome, 7 p.m.
- 6 Cross Country hosts Minot State Invite, Souris Valley Golf Course, women at 4:15 p.m., men at 5 p.m.
- 7 Undergraduates: fall semester applications for graduation due to advisers.
- 7 Graduate School: fall graduates admission to candidacy and application for graduation due in Graduate School Office.
- 7-8 Volleyball at U. of Great Falls Invite.
- 8 Alumni gathering in Boise, Idaho.
- 8 Football at Bemidji State U.
- 11 Curriculum Committee, Jones Room, 12:30 p.m.
- 14 Admission to teacher education seminar, Main 106, 3 p.m.
- 14 Cross Country at U. of North Dakota Ron Pynn Invite.
- 14 Volleyball vs. Jamestown College, Dome, 7 p.m.
- 14-15 The Mind/Brain Myth-busters seminar, Conference Center.

- 14-15 Theatre: “24-hour Play Festival,” Aleshire Theater, performance Saturday, 8 p.m.
- 14-16 Concert: Western Plains Opera, “Mikado,” Nelson Hall, Friday and Saturday 8 p.m., Sunday 4 p.m.
- 15 Football at Jamestown College.
- 15 Volleyball vs. Dakota State U., Dome, 3 p.m.
- 17-22 Homecoming 2007: “Beaver Boot Camp: Can You Handle It?”
- 18 Last day to drop a first eight-week class.
- 18 Staff Senate, Jones Room, 9 a.m.
- 18 Lyrical Lunch: Erik Anderson, cello, Olson Library, noon.
- 19 University Cabinet, Westlie Room, 9 a.m.
- 19 Brown Bag Book Talk: Margi Coxwell, education and Graduate School, on “1491: New Revelations of the Americas before Columbus,” by Charles Mann, Olson Library lower level, noon.
- 20 State Board of Higher Education meeting, Conference Center.
- 20 Cross Country at Dickinson State U. Invite.
- 21 Fall semester applications for graduation due in Registrar’s Office.
- 21 Volleyball at Valley City State U.
- 21 Homecoming: Greek reunion, Holiday Inn, 7 p.m.
- 22 Homecoming: Football vs. Black Hills State U., introduction of Homecoming royalty and Athletics Hall of Fame inductees at halftime, Parker Stadium, 1:30 p.m.
- 22 Volleyball at Mayville State U.
- 27 Seminar to student teach spring 2008, Conference Center, 8 a.m.
- 27 MSU Alumni Association Golden Awards, Conference Center, 6 p.m.
- 27-29 Theatre: original plays written and directed by MSU student Al Fairey, Black Box, 7:30 p.m.
- 28 Seminar to student teach spring 2008, Conference Center, 8 a.m.
- 28 Webinar: “How Faculty Can Respond to Students in Distress,” Westlie Room, noon-2 p.m.
- 28 Volleyball vs. Black Hills State U., Dome, 7 p.m.
- 29 Football at South Dakota Mines.
- 29 Volleyball vs. South Dakota Mines, Dome, 3 p.m.
- 29 Cross Country at Roy Griak Invite, Minneapolis.
- 30 International Artist Series: Jeni Fleming Acoustic Trio, Nelson Hall, 3 p.m.

October

- 2 Incomplete grades of “I” from spring and/or summer semester roll to “F.”
- 2 Concert: Percussion Ensemble, Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- 5 Cross Country at Jamestown College Invite.
- 5 Board of Regents, Conference Center.
- 5 MSU Alumni Association Gala dinner and auction, Dome, 5:30 p.m.