Creating a Distinctive Mission Focused on Engagement and Place

Create and promote a distinctive mission, vision and premier institutional character based on curricula and services known for high quality, engagement, relationship to place, and the integration of knowledge, theory and practice.

- History department is taking the lead on MSU’s Centennial 2013 commemoration efforts. Projects include: MSU history book, producing an audio datebook, an oral history project, and research of the adjacent cemetery and celebrating the connection of those interred there with MSU. Most of these projects incorporate student participation.
- The Humanities Division and the Music department are integral in sharing the mission of MSU through art exhibitions, lecture series, musical productions, and theatre productions with the community that help to share ideals of engagement and place.
- Biology developing a new interdisciplinary program in Bioinformatics, building on a course developed by Dr. Lepp. The new program involves faculty from Mathematics, Computer Science, and Biology and will take advantage of the Centers of Excellence project. MSU will distinguish itself by being the only university/college in the NDUS to offer this program at the forefront of current developments in bio sciences.
- History department developing the Stage Two portion of their Public History Program. (to be offered 2009)
- Foreign language and English departments made significant changes to align better with student needs and provide cohesiveness throughout the departments.
- Communication disorders developed a speech pathology service delivered over the internet that not only provides a service to the region but also allows our students to gain valuable experience in this form of therapy.
- Other new programs include: addiction studies in Bismarck, athletic trainer, Center for Applied Study of Cognition and Learning Sciences (CASCLS), expanded social work programs, and plans for a Nursing clinic for the elderly.
- Developed the Bachelor of Science in Energy Economics and Finance major program; Stage 1 proposal was approved at the NDUS Academic Affairs Council on May 6, 2008; program to be offered fall 2009; program is one of very few in the country; will address growing needs of energy industry in western North Dakota; focused on educating business and project analysts at corporate or independent operator levels or for financial institutions.
- APEX (Aspirations for Professional Excellence) program initiated to foster the professional and personal growth of students; now in planning stages; $25,000 of private funding received for initiation and first year of operation; implementation in Fall 2008 for College of Business seniors.
- Implemented the first cohort of the MSM Intercultural Cohort program in Fall 2007 with 26 graduate students, 15 Chinese and 11 domestic students, resulting in growth in our graduate programs and a stronger connection between our programs and the community; in this program, students were required to conduct business projects for a local business enterprise, creating value for businesses in our community.
- CEL added the following events to their schedule Autism Institute, Women’s Heritage Month, Marketplace for Kids. (2007)
• Offered 8-week sessions online and on ground to support the CCAF degree. This change supports the CCAF degree as well as BSC’s BAS in Energy Management students. (On-going)
• CEL conducted a survey of the Bismarck and Mandan area to determine student interest in new programs and community interest in graduate programs. (2008)
• CEL along with UND and DSU developed a community survey for electronic distribution to the Bismarck Chamber of Commerce. (2008)
• Developed degree support courses for online delivery: BIT 123, Gen Ed; POLS 116, needed for social work majors.
• CEL explored offering the addiction studies degree in Dickinson by meeting with Drs. Michels, Burke and Nordquist March 2008. Consensus was that a 2+1+1 agreement will be explored.
• IVN courses in social work to begin Fall 08.
• MOU in progress that would outline the responsibilities of a part-time social work advisor on the DSU campus. A complete degree is not available through DSU and could be completed through a DSU and MSU agreement.
• College of Business Dean’s Advisory Board assembled to engage the business community, inform them of our mission, direction, and programs, and to solicit their input and support; met October 3, 2007 and April 24, 2008.
• CEL held an open forum to seek feedback on services offered as well as inform campus of services that are available. (2007)
• History internship programs with the RR Museum of Minot, Ward County Historical Society, Eastwood Park Association, Downtown Business Association, Heritage Center, etc., all foster student engagement with place.
• Sociology major and Geography minor produced a superior portfolio of thesis quality and quantity focusing on the importance of place in society.
• With research and laboratory experiences, biology students continuously integrate knowledge, theory, and practice.
• History program rated “best in the state” by outside program reviewer.
• College of Education and Health Science programs continue to focus on using authentic, engaging activities as part of their program. Almost all programs within the college require extensive practicum or clinical experiences.
• Implemented College of Business central advising process for entire academic year 2007-2008; based on student surveys in fall to ascertain advising weaknesses, followed by spring survey to identify progress.
• Grad School discussions with selected graduate program directors regarding certificate programs (repackaging of current options, concentrations, emphasis) to create more attractive option for those now taking selected classes as non-degree students. (May 2008, ongoing)
• Surveyed program directors regarding current program and desired student capacity, resource needs, potential recruiting markets. (February-March 2008)
• Grad School investigated options for improving service by increasing office efficiency and effectiveness through added staffing and redesigning physical space allowing for more efficiency. (2008)
Strategy 2: Fostering Engaged Learning and Place for the Benefit of Students

Raise academic standards and expectations exceptionally high for quality teaching and engaged learning; create and sustain a dynamic place and engaged campus atmosphere and design conducive to high-quality learning and student support.

- The Biology department fosters a sense of community among faculty and students by including students in an annual off-campus retreat. The retreat allows for students to get to know faculty on a personal level and for an informal exchange of ideas.
- Students participated in Red River Valley History Conference.
- Mathematics education majors continue to work with Larry Goodman as teaching assistants, gaining valuable hands-on teaching experience.
- Composition classes use the HH 316 lab heavily as do our creative writing and tech writing courses. Students often make Web pages or multi media projects. For example, a web site/PSA was made this year in English 120 as a persuasive document. For an example, see: http://mail.misu.nodak.edu/~patti.kurtz/multimediaspring2008.html
- In English 305, 290 and 499 (linguistics courses) students do fieldwork projects. In 317 Teaching Writing, students also do a 20 hour practicum and observe teachers in the field.
- English students have been involved in The River Walk Journal Collegiate issue.
- Training and hiring student tutors in the writing center also fosters engaged learning — students apply what they learn in class to their work in the center.
- Nursing's community health efforts focus on serving the communities and providing valuable data through community health surveys.
- Various clinics are offered—Reading clinics in the summer by both Elementary Education faculty and Special Education faculty; Speech Language Pathology and Audiology courses include the operation of a clinic that serves the surrounding community and served over 1000 patients this past year.
- Psychology faculty and students have developed a Behavioral Research Institute where they assist local agencies in determining the effectiveness of counseling procedures and at the same time gather data for our own research purposes.
- Faculty have been very good in involving students in presentations at conferences. Shirley Cole-Harding and Terry Eckmann have helped students present at national and international conferences.
- Social Work students in Minot and Williston participate in “freezing for a reason” to raise funds and awareness to help eradicate homelessness. (2007-2008)
- College of Business continues to expand its internship program in all discipline areas; gained new opportunities at international organizations. (KPMG and IRET)
- MSM Intercultural Cohort Program students participated in intercultural activities in the community; engaged students in speaking at local civic organizations and participating in business projects in the community. (2007-08)
- Initiated program of internships for first-year students in computer science. (2008)
- Piloted tutoring program for remote campus sites using WACOM writing tablet and Adobe Acrobat Professional which is a web-conferencing service (2007)
- Sixty “smart” classrooms are fully equipped with technology components that complement the classroom academic experience to create a dynamic and engaged learning experience. (2007)
- Increased availability of computer kiosks to facilitate collaboration and teamwork. (ongoing)
- Creation of learning lab to foster student projects and engaged learning. (2007)
• A two-day SMART Board and Qwizdom workshop and a two-week mathematical technology course were taught to North Dakota teachers. (2007)

• SMART Boards (interactive white boards) were added to three classrooms and used by multiple faculty members. (2007)

• IT Central provides internships for business and computer science majors. Students receive practical experience working with computer hardware, software, and peripherals, and setting up and troubleshooting networking and server systems. Software skills such as teamwork, communication skills, friendliness, are honed also.

• Began integrating Qwizdom personal response system technology into the mathematics curriculum. (2007-08)

• Utilized technology to enhance learning in MSM Intercultural Cohort Program. (2007-08)

• Offered three formal opportunities for students to engage with area business practitioners through Professional Aspirations Seminars (The Reality of Virtual Business, November 9, 2007, and Ethics at the Crossroads, April 10, 2008) and Entrepreneur Seminar on March 26; events included state of the art technology podcast to our educational partners in Norway, Sweden, China, and around North Dakota at tribal colleges, community colleges, and high schools; practitioners included Microsoft, Choice Hotels, N.D. Attorney General, N.D. State Insurance Commissioner, INS, and a variety of area businesses. (2007-08)

• The campus help desk continues to evolve in response to rapidly changing technology innovations and the high demand for quality technical support and services. Help desk staff is committed to the values of customer service, mutual respect and trust, teamwork, and continued improvement. Additional student workstations were added to accommodate increased traffic and collaborative work. (ongoing)

• Career Services hosted a “Major Fair” to help undeclared majors explore opportunities.

• The Information Commons at the library will engage the students and their learning by interweaving technology with traditional print materials. The main floor area will be reconfigured to provide group and individual work areas. Reference librarians will be available in the Information Commons to provide research assistance. (2008)

• The Library lengthened the schedule and changed hours to accommodate student schedules in the evening. (2007)

• Student Government Association sponsored a blood drive for a local blood services agency. (2008)

• The Biology faculty actively support the student-run Biology Club. The Biology Club regularly engages in school outreach programs and initiatives fostering a sense of community among biology students.

• Student Computer Club took first place in the autonomous robotics competition at Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium, La Crosse, Wisc. (2008)

• Faculty from Humanities and College of Business conducted a China Study Tour. (2008)

• Art Club has been active with a Minneapolis trip, MSU at the Mall, and various art shows.

• Within the college of Education and Health Sciences, there exist professional student organizations to help students’ transition into their chosen profession. (SNDEA, MSCOPE, Social Work, Psychology, Nursing, Special Education, and Speech Pathology)

• Supported four student organizations through College of Business Student Advisory Council; provided funding for organizations’ competitive events at the state and national levels; SIFE, DEX, and PBL gained national recognition for students’ outstanding performance.

• Offered “Student Support Week,” in the College of Business with beverages and snacks for students and statements of positive affirmation posted on walls (2008)

• Library hosts book talks and lyrical lunches enhancing faculty, staff, and student engagement on campus

• President and Mrs. Fuller host an annual picnic at their home for all Student Government Association officers to emphasize the importance of student involvement and leadership on campus.

• President Fuller conducts regular student chat sessions in the Beaver Dam and hosted lunches with the students in the cafeteria throughout the year to allow for candid discussions on any issues and concerns the students may want addressed.
Throughout the Biology curriculum the acquisition of critical thinking skills is emphasized in every course by incorporation of the analysis of scientific data. Many upper level Biology courses also incorporate specific and extensive writing expectations for students.

All history classes foster critical thinking and research skills and all are writing-intensive.

Guest speakers are invited to writing classes to show students how “real world writers” work and expose them to learning that takes place beyond the classroom.

Most classes do in-class presentations and sharing — like the senior seminar conference which also promotes engaged learning and critical thinking.

Many courses include critical thinking and communication experiences — Art 110, Art 210/211, Art 311, and Art 219 included thinking critically about art and artists through critique of work and personalities, synthesis of the work in relation to exterior social and political experiences, experiences of non-traditional artists and the ability to communicate opinion and evaluation in classroom setting.

Gerontology minor & Sociology major (Track on Aging) emphasized in Sociology Capstone. One student completed two capstones in this area with excellent employment opportunity offered to student.

An Education Technology professor maintains a close working relationship with Minot Public Schools as he monitors the needs of the K-12 schools to ensure our students are prepared for work in the schools of the region.

Dr. Lisa Borden-King is conducting a study of reading disabilities (reversals) and utilizes her reading students and other faculty in a study that looks very promising as far as finding answers to why these reading problems exist and what might be done to help them.

The College of Education and Health Sciences had four faculty complete their doctorate program during 2006-2008. Seventeen additional faculty are in the process of completing their doctorates.

The College of Arts and Sciences had five faculty complete their doctorate program during 2006-2008.

Established “College of Business Faculty Development Endowment Fund” for supporting faculty development in areas of pedagogy with requirement that new pedagogical techniques, skills, and practices will be shared with all CoB faculty; funded by dean and donor. (Spring 2008)

Sponsored College of Business faculty seminar on “immediate response systems,” conducted by the Math Department, for engaging students in active learning in the classroom; allocated funding for the purchase of this technology (2008)

Blackboard Summer Institute was held on May 21 and 22, 2008. Ten MSU faculty participated in this intense two-day skills and application institute.

Instituted a “community mentor’ program that teamed up new faculty with community members, helping them become acclimated to the community and region.

Faculty attended a webinar on “How faculty can respond to students in distress” sponsored by the office of Student Affairs. (2008)

Vice President Rabe conducted monthly book talk luncheons for new faculty which allowed them an opportunity to meet as a group and share suggestions, concerns, and general assessment of their role at the university in a neutral environment.
Valuing Faculty and Staff within an Engaged Community

Recruit, retain, and support well-qualified faculty and staff as valued members of an inclusive community, dedicated and devoted to the institutional mission, to engaged learning, and to student support and success.

- Business Office developed current job description for all direct reports. Also, took advantage of employee turnover to reassign duties to align employee strengths with the needs of the university. (March 2008)
- Faculty have very high expectations of each other, including substantial research, presentation, and publication output.
- All Biology faculty share exceptionally high expectation for student learning and collectively combat grade inflation in the department. Across the board, biology courses have an exceptionally high level of academic rigor.
- All Biology faculty actively engage students in their research program and have excellent teaching credentials.
- History faculty recognized university-wide and by program reviewer for excellence.
- History faculty engage in a focused research/presentation/publication agenda. Research incorporated into history classes. Students collaborate on a number of history initiatives.
- Several MAT: Math and MEd: Elementary/Middle School Math Concentration graduate students gave presentations at the spring 2008 North Dakota Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference.
- College of Education and Health Sciences has a committee that meets to review the policies and procedures of our annual faculty evaluations with the goal of improved feedback to improve teaching and learning in our programs.
- Business Office staff attended a professional development workshop. (June 2007)
- MAT: Math program director, Laurie Geller, attended a regional Math and Science Partnership conference related to the grant that supports the MAT: Math program. (March 2008)
- Several faculty attended workshops on grant writing and that has paid off with a large grant to support two faculty in psychology with addiction studies research.
- Established “College of Business Faculty Development Endowment Fund” for supporting faculty development in areas of pedagogy with requirement that new pedagogical techniques, skills, and practices will be shared with all CoB faculty; funded by dean and donor. (Spring 2008)
- College of Business supported faculty development with at least $1,000 per faculty member dedicated to professional development funding for travel, workshops, etc.
- Graduate School supported program directors resources (materials and funding) to attend and represent MSU Graduate programs at Graduate Fairs, school visits, conferences, etc. (2007-2008)
- Office of Research and Sponsored Programs supported faculty in various grant proposal writing, submission, and follow up (including COE, Xcel Energy) as well as providing training to faculty and staff to assist them in locating and applying for internal and external grant and contract opportunities. (Ongoing)
- Biology faculty form a diverse community (gender and national origin) and actively foster a very positive working environment, which helps in recruiting and retaining faculty.
- Attracted four new faculty members for the College of Business for 2007-08 in business education, marketing, management information systems, and economics; in all four cases, the CoB signed its highest-ranked candidates.
- The small grants committee supports faculty research.
- Disability Services provides and coordinates testing accommodations and other accommodations (e.g., audio text format and note takers) for on-campus and online faculty.
- College of Arts and Sciences meetings acknowledge accomplishments of faculty and staff on a regular basis.
- Continue to write and distribute via e-mail the Dean’s “Monday Message,” to increase awareness and communicate with faculty about relevant current events; used to recognize faculty and staff for their contributions to the CoB. Hold monthly College of Business meetings to enhance open discussion about relevant CoB topics and recognize faculty and staff for their contributions to the CoB.
Strategy  Building a Diverse and Multicultural University Climate

Develop and support a diverse, multicultural, and inclusive campus community.

- Native American and international students are well-represented in the pool of research students advised by Biology faculty.
- INBRE faculty built relationships with Native American colleges and involve large numbers of Native students in their summer research.
- College of Business has met on several occasions with representatives of the business programs at UTTC, TMCC, BSC, and WSC to prepare curriculum for 2+2 agreements in business (BAS in Applied Business Information Technology and in Applied Management).
- Developed professional connection with grant writers for both TMCC and FBCC; goal is to collaborate on one or more external funding opportunities to support Tribal students matriculating to MSU. (ongoing)
- NDCPD plans to submit a Demonstration Projects to Ensure Students with Disabilities Receive a Quality Higher Education Program CFDA 84.333A grant.
- The MSU Native American Cultural Center secured a $4,000 monetary donation and the donations of a buffalo from the Three Affiliated Tribal Business Council for the 2008 Honor Dance and Spring Pow Wow.
- Residence Hall staff are expected to plan at least one activity annually that fits the category of open-mindedness.
- Students from one of the GWS courses are spearheading the Safe Zone initiative.
- Study Tours are promoted to expose students to various cultures.
- Humanities classes incorporate international music, holidays, and art into classes.
- Reinvigorated the University Diversity Committee and provided clear mission and vision for the committee. (2005-2006)
- NDCPD hosted a regional Autism Symposium. (2007)
- Theatre departments hosted variety of plays and films to promote tolerance (Laramie Project, V-Day events, and French Film Festival). (ongoing)
- Current recruiting practices in athletics include attracting individuals from diverse cultures and ethnic backgrounds.
- The Adopt-A-Beaver program for our women's basketball program provides "host families" for all of our women's basketball players including our international and diverse students.
- Biology faculty is comprised of 50% females as well as 50% of international origin.
- Native American Studies program participates in MSU Pow Wow.
- Continued to organize the annual Peace Garden Conference.
- Established the International Faculty Association.
- Math 511 Trends in Mathematics Education includes a diversity practicum. (2007-08)
- Training and hiring student tutors in the writing center also has a diversity component since considerable time is spent talking about ESL and diverse writers.
- For many years the need to learn about and work with diverse populations has been incorporated into the teacher education programs on campus and this has resulted in a three course requirement for Teacher Ed majors.
- Placement of student teachers is guided by factors that work to ensure all candidates for teaching have as diverse a field experience as possible.
- School Psychology recently developed a special course that focuses on diversity as it relates to the work of a school psychologist.
- Faculty in Special Education have been able to have American Sign Language offered as a general education class and that exposes many students on our campus to that diverse segment of the world’s population.
- Faculty Senate passed curricula diversity requirements.
Strategy  
Focusing on Student Success and Future Achievements

Provide students with a strong and engaging academic experience for intellectual and personal growth, formation of sound character, and development of abilities and skills required for success in future careers and endeavors.

- Revised and extended use of Graduate School Toolkit; incorporated as part of orientation provided to each graduate program. (August 2007-June 2008)
- College of Arts & Sciences has developed a more comprehensive advising and assessment program to enhance student success.
- Many programs of study provide ways for students to produce a body of work (art shows, theatre experiences, musical experiences, scholarly conferences, publication opportunities, etc.) that can look impressive on a resume, making that student more marketable in job searches, while providing valuable experiences to add to confidence and professionalism.
- The College of Education and Health Sciences has a very strong advising arrangement with mandatory advising prior to registration required in many programs to ensure that students make choices that will allow them to complete their studies in an efficient and effective way.
- Revised the College of Business advising function and implemented a “centralized” advising approach whereby a staff member serves as advisor to all undergraduate business students for course information, course sequencing, prerequisite fulfillment, General Education fulfillment, and other course-related advising; faculty retain advising for career and major program information. (fall 2007)
- All College of Business program outcomes were evaluated in spring 2008 using two direct and two indirect assessment measures for each program.
- APEX (Aspirations for Professional Excellence) program initiated to foster the professional and personal growth of students; now in planning stages; $25,000 of private funding received for initiation and first year of operation; implementation in Fall 2008 for College of Business seniors; focus will be on preparing students for work-place readiness in this extra-curricular program for 25 seniors; sessions will include topics of self-assessment, motivation, teaming, social responsibility and ethics, leadership, communication and etiquette, social skills, etc.
- Career services staff are enrolled in an academic advising graduate certificate program which provides an opportunity to gain an understanding of a variety of issues and skills needed to deliver effective academic advising at the post-secondary level of education.
- Career services staff serve as advisors for undecided (general studies) students. The goal is to not only assist these students with registration for classes, but also provide career exploration assistance to help these students explore and declare a major field of study.
- Recognized 17 students at the annual Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Luncheon. This event recognizes full-time juniors or seniors who have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and have shown achievement in five areas of selection criteria. (ongoing)
- The athletic department was named as a Champion of Character institution for the sixth consecutive year. Certain criteria need to be met in order to reach this distinction. These items include, but are not limited to the following: public address announcements regarding the importance of positive character and good sportsmanship at games, code of ethics and student-athlete pledge, and community service projects involving all teams. Community projects included: community wide clean up in conjunction with the city clean up activities during May 2008; Christmas/Giving Tree for victims of domestic violence (Nov. and Dec. 2007); A Read With the Beavers program for area elementary school children (Feb. 2008); Character Development Presentation at a local middle school (Jan. 2008); and Food Drive for a local food pantry (Oct. 2007).
- All deans send a letter to those students that achieve a GPA of 3.5–3.8 congratulating them on their efforts and success; those students with higher GPA receive special recognition from the President.
• MSU @ BSC — Held graduation reception in Bismarck to recognize recent graduates. (May 2008)
• The Biology program focuses on developing in our students the skills required for success in future careers in the medical, biomedical, or environmental fields. The department succeeds in those goals as evidenced by the high levels of placement of students in medical school, veterinary medical school, other medical fields or graduate school.
• Internships on and off campus involved 12 computer science students. (2007-08)
• Mathematics students staffed Math Clinic, assisting students in introductory courses. (2007-08)
• Initiated program of internships for first-year students in computer science. (spring 2008)
• Mathematics education majors continue to work with faculty as teaching assistants, gaining valuable hands-on teaching experience. (ongoing)
• Sociology majors completed internships at senator’s office and a variety of service agencies; Gerontology minor completed internship at local aging facilities and was offered professional position following graduation; Sociology student volunteered at local agencies and received management position at Dakota Boys Ranch following graduation. (2008)
• Continued to expand internship program in all business discipline areas; gained new opportunities at international organizations. (ongoing)
• The Title III grant committee is incorporating initiatives into the grant application to increase the levels of engagement among our students through internships and field experiences.
• Many programs have identified the dispositions necessary to function well in the student’s chosen profession and teach what these dispositions are and how they are manifested in a professional setting.
• Completed preliminary study to determine faculty interest in supporting undergraduate/graduate refereed research journal. (April 2008)

Strategy  
Creating a Commitment to Civic Engagement, Service, and the Common Good
Enhance and strengthen the university’s mission and purview to include civic engagement, experiential learning, and activities focused on collaboration, partnerships, community relations and involvement; complementing the institution’s educational function through a concerted and deliberate effort to connect higher education and the common good.

• The athletic department hosted several athletic skills camps in the sports of basketball, football, baseball, track and field, volleyball and softball. Over 2000 youth from the Minot area participated in these camps during the summer of 2007 and the 2007-08 academic year. We conducted several “satellite camps” at regional schools across northwest North Dakota.
• The MSU Women’s Basketball team made visits to the Trinity Nursing Home during Oct. 2007 to engage residents in conversation and card playing.
• Several of our squads participated in local elementary school “fun nights” in which we supervised booths and conducted games for the youth of each school. (2007-08 academic year).
• The MSU Baseball team held a “Dream Catchers Day” at the MSU Dome. This evening saw over 20 disabled children participate in a baseball game during the month of Nov. 2007. A pizza party was held following the game for the children.
• The MSU Baseball team held a “Tough Enough to Wear Pink” game for their fall scrimmage game to raise money and create awareness for breast cancer. They also sold raffle tickets during the annual Y’s Men’s Rodeo in support of breast cancer research. (Oct. 2007)
• The MSU Baseball and Softball teams participated in a “Dodge Drive for Kids” evening to help raise money for Edison and Perkett Elementary Schools. (April 2008)
• The MSU Men’s and Women’s Basketball teams held a Coaches vs. Cancer night to raise money for cancer research. Players wore pink warm up shirts for breast cancer awareness and money was raised through program sales and free will donations. (Feb. 2008)
• Over 40 student-athletes parked cars for the MSU Gala held at the Dome. (Oct. 2007)
• The MSU Track and Field team participated in the 4th annual work-a-thon in Oct. 2007. Members of the team did yard work for elderly individuals and supporters of the program.
• During lab and research involvement the students in Biology learn by doing and are continuously asked to apply their knowledge. Most lab and research experiences also require collaboration with other students to complete a project
• Partnerships with ND Historical Society and other entities.
• Public History collaboration with Art and Teacher Education.
• The MAT: Math program partners with school districts and local education agencies as part of the grant that funds its activities. (2007-2008)
• MSM Intercultural Cohort Program students participated in intercultural activities in the community; engaged students in speaking at local civic organizations and participating in business projects in the community, enhancing their learning about our community and enabling our community to learn about their culture.
• Many of the College of Business undergraduate courses included connections with businesses in the area, through speakers in class and class projects developing solutions for business problems, for example, contributing to the students’ learning and creating value for area businesses.
• College of Business students participated in Marketplace for Entrepreneurs in Grand Forks on January 16 and 17 in the business plan competition. (2008)
• Seven students on the CoB Dean’s Advisory Board interacted with members of the Board during its meetings on October 3 and April 24; the Board also participated in discussion about internships and strategic planning for the CoB. (2007-08)
• Students in SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise), a CoB student organization, added value by creating and participating in several projects for community development throughout the academic year, including a marketing plan for the Minot Skyrockets, acquisition of a grant from AIG Insurance to provide credit counseling services for the next three years, seminars presented on financial literacy, success skills such as resume writing and interviewing for the community and college students, and free market economics to junior high and elementary school students; they are also working to establish a SIFE chapter at Sias International University.
• Through the Prairie Community Development Center several projects contributed to development of North Dakota communities and counties. College of Business faculty members conducted housing studies for the communities of Williston, Tioga, and Northwood, and for McHenry County. They also addressed the growth of the petroleum industry and its impact on housing as well as conducting analysis for the Three Affiliated Tribes and for Turtle Mountain communities. (2007-08)
• A College of Business faculty member continued the tradition of offering MSU Tech Day to area high schools for competitions in business office skills. (2007-08)
• INBRE faculty formed active partnerships with tribal colleges. (ongoing)
• Initiated a course in environmental mathematics. (2008)
• Work with the arts in the community (Täube, summer theatre, Mouse River Players, Minot Chamber Choral, etc.)
• Sociology major participated in state political activities and MSU advising and orientation program.
• Gerontology minor engaged in nursing home activities and events.
• Nursing students in Community Heath Nursing exemplify civic engagement as they conduct community health surveys that are shared with community leaders who use the information to improve local health services.
• Nursing Department’s work with tobacco legislation is also a wonderful example of civic engagement.
• Nursing students also offer free screening at the Pow Wows on campus and offer this same service to schools in our area.
• Speech-Language Pathology interacts with 1,000 people each year in their speech and hearing clinics.
• The Elementary Education faculty offer a reading clinic and do diagnosis of reading problems along with remedial work to help many youngsters improve their abilities.
• Special Education faculty offer a clinic each summer that provides needed educational programs for children in the community who are handicapped.
• Social Work has been involved in several service learning endeavors that not only provide our students with a life changing experience but also help those who receive the services whether it be in North Dakota or El Salvador.
• Through VTTA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance), nine accounting students provided tax services to the community throughout the 2008 tax season; more than 160 tax returns completed for a value of over $65,000 to the community.

**Strategy Ensuring Future Institutional Viability, Vitality, and Growth**

Ensure MSU’s future viability, the vitality of its campus proper, and its success and competitiveness

• By being visible in the community and active in outreach activities in area schools, the Biology department also does its share of recruiting.
• The writing center helps with retention and support of first year students through tutoring, presentations to first-year comp classes and workshops.
• Work in recruitment in Art department; collaborative ventures with other universities and schools around the state (Arts and Humanities Summit, work of the Northern Plains Writing Project).
• Reaching out to other communities with our programs as we do in Social Work, Psychology, Addiction Studies, and our Master of Education delivered using IVN.
• Enrollment Services hosts various counselor breakfasts throughout the region to discuss MSU programs with high school counselors in a more welcoming setting.
• Faculty members of the College of Business made visits to area and regional high schools throughout the spring of 2008 to make presentations on critical career areas in which the CoB provides (or will provide) programs: forensic and fraud accounting, energy economics and finance, virtual business, and marketing.
• CEL developed a brochure that explains the difference between AP courses and dual credit courses and continued their school visits to Minot High School, Des Lacs, Glenburn, Velva, and Kenmare.
• Faculty maintain contact with local and regional economic development agencies. (ongoing)
• Several faculty are integrally involved with their professional organizations within the state.
• Maintained a booth at the Williston Basin Petroleum Expo on April 27-29, 2008, at which the College of Business gained good industry connections for developing its proposed Energy Economics and Finance program; one connection resulted in follow-up meetings at MSU for developing workshops to be held at MSU for the energy industry as early as Fall 2008.
• The CoB is initiating a new Energy Economics and Finance program proposed to attract high-potential students to careers in energy project analysis and addresses the need for work-force development for an industry crucial to the livelihood of North Dakota; program is to be initiated in Fall 2009.
• RCJC maintains partnerships with law enforcement agencies throughout the region.
• NDCPD maintains established partnerships with state and federal human service agencies.
• CEL is exploring the possibility of creating collaborative online degree programs within the NDUSO. Meetings were held in Bismarck and in Minot.
• Continue to work with Washington junior colleges to develop 2+2 agreements for online BAS degree.
• Business Information Technology faculty member represents the Fifth Legislative District, part of Ward County, in the North Dakota State Senate; as such, he also represents the College of Business and MSU as a spokesperson at local, regional, and state functions.
• Faculty Senate invited legislators on campus for a first hand look at how a faculty member spends their day. (2008)
• Humanities faculty went to Washington, D.C. to promote Northern Plains Writing Project and gain support from North Dakota delegation. (2007)
• Various members of MSU faculty and staff belonging to MACIV went to Washington, D.C. to promote international visitors in Minot.
• Sponsored a College of Business table at the Homecoming “tailgating” event in Dome parking lot for engaging alumni and students in a social event. (Fall 2007)
• The CoB mailed approximately 4,500 newsletters to CoB alumni in January to create awareness of CoB programs, cultivate linkages with our alumni, and build a foundation for solicitation of future alumni participation in our programs and activities.
• The MSU Beaver Booster Club raised over $280,000 for scholarships during the 2007-08 academic year.
• By pursuing external INBRE funding the Biology department has been able to considerably lower its demands to the university for equipment purchases (both teaching and research) and travel expenses.
• The successful grant-funded Master of Arts in Teaching: Mathematics program and Elementary/Middle School Mathematics Concentration continue to grow, seeing almost a 50% increase in enrollment between spring and summer sessions. (2008)
• Phon-a-than efforts by several MSU departments maintain contact with their alumni and also provide an opportunity for advancement efforts.
• The College of Business received full accreditation for our undergraduate and graduate business programs by its accreditation agency, the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education at the April 5 annual meeting of the IACBE.
• CoB faculty members participated in development of and beta testing the Comprehensive Business Exam for assessment of functional business skills of business students nation-wide; development of the exam was supported by the IACBE (International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education), the CoB’s accreditation agency; exam is now available to all business schools in the U.S. and internationally.
• Secured assessment plans from 100% of graduate programs. (December 2007)
• Advancement office developed and implemented an on-going program of communication with donors which recognizes past & current commitments and foster support for future efforts.
• Piloted tutoring program for remote campus sites using WACOM writing tablet and Adobe Acrobat Professional, which is a web-conferencing service.
• Business Office implemented year-end early cut-off procedures. This allowed better year-end budget estimating while meeting system deadlines. (June 2007)
• CEL evaluated current marketing practices at Minot Air Force Base. General information flyer with coordinator contact information, CCAF information, degree information, was created and placed in welcoming packet distributed by Minot Chamber of Commerce. (2008)
• CEL held registration day on the BSC campus. Involved Bismarck students in face to face event with enrollment services staff. (ongoing)
• Completed Western ND Consortium appropriation request. (May 2008)