

STUDENT AFFAIRS

MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO

2017-2022

STRATEGIC PLAN

Student Affairs at Minnesota State University, Mankato strives to provide excellent services and programs to support student learning, persistence, and degree completion. During the Spring 2017 semester, members of the Student Affairs Division actively engaged in the strategic planning process. The purpose was to examine the critical role of Student Affairs in creating learning environments that support student success.

The result is a forward-thinking strategic plan that honors meaningful traditions, validates core functions, identifies new initiatives, and encourages efficiencies. Special effort was made to align the work of Student Affairs with the mission, vision, goals, and new strategic directions of Minnesota State Mankato, the Integrated Academic Master Plan, and the Minnesota State System.

The 2017-2022 Student Affairs Strategic Plan provides a road map for the next five years to inform decision making, short- and long-term planning, investment, and resource allocation. Through partnerships with students, faculty, staff, and our community, we aim to create a student-centered environment that fosters student exploration, leadership, and the development of both big ideas and real-world thinking.



David P. Jones, Ph.D.
Vice President for
Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

Our Mission

Student Affairs advances the mission of Minnesota State Mankato by:

- > Fostering learning and development.
- > Supporting student success.
- > Preparing students to be leaders in a global society.

Beginning with admission and continuing through to the completion of the student's college career, Student Affairs impacts virtually every facet of student life.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

During the 2016-2017 academic year, a Student Affairs Division Strategic Planning Team gathered feedback from students and staff using a subsection of the following questions:

1. What will college students most want and need 5-10 years from now?
2. How does the Student Affairs Division advance the mission of Minnesota State University, Mankato and the Minnesota State System?
3. What does the Student Affairs Division do well?
4. What can the Student Affairs Division improve on?
5. What should the Student Affairs Division start doing and why?
6. What should the Student Affairs Division stop doing and why?
7. What are the biggest challenges for current students?
8. How can the departments within the Division of Student Affairs help students be successful?
9. What additional services and programs would students most like to see offered by Student Affairs departments?

The input gathered was used in combination with direction provided by University Strategic Directions to identify themes and shape the Division's strategic goals.

STUDENT AFFAIRS STRATEGIC GOALS

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- > Advance student retention and degree completion through collaborations with Academic Affairs and other partners.
- > Embed diversity in our work and prioritize the achievement of related University initiatives.
- > Enhance student wellness through the provision of holistic, integrated support.
- > Grow student career and life success skills by providing quality co-curricular programs and services.
- > Maximize emerging technologies to deliver convenient and flexible services, programs, and resources to all students.
- > Use timely, targeted, and effective communications to better serve students and divisional partners.

2017-2022

CAMPUS RECREATION

Campus Recreation offers state-of-the-art facilities, fitness equipment, intramural sports opportunities, sports clubs, fitness and wellness opportunities, and the Adventure Education Program with a ropes course and indoor and outdoor climbing walls. Long-term healthy lifestyle behavior is promoted through participation in multi-faceted recreational, educational, and leisure opportunities.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The CDC provides a variety of services to help students and graduates of all majors achieve career success by discovering their passion, developing their skills and experience, and launching their careers. Career counselors and resources are available to assist with choosing a major, finding part-time jobs and internships, conducting a successful job search, and planning for graduate school. Featured services include MayJobs.com (powered by Handshake), Career QuickStop walk-in hours, the Fall Career & Internship Expo, FOCUS career assessment, classroom and group career workshops, and the Minnesota State Job Search Handbook.

CENTENNIAL STUDENT UNION/ STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The Centennial Student Union is your "House of Serendipity". We Invite, Involve, and Inspire the University community to become the fabric of campus life. As an integral part of the CSU, Student Activities offers exciting opportunities including Community Engagement, Leadership, Greek Life, the Student Events Team, and over 240 student organizations. Priority #1 is our students!

COMMUNITY COLLEGE RELATIONSHIPS

The Community College Relationships unit is designed to strengthen relationships with community colleges and remove barriers that have the potential to impede students' seamless transition to the University. Responsibilities also include supporting military-affiliated students, chairing the Veterans Advisory Council, providing functional direction of the Military & Veteran Student Success area, and collaborating with a variety of partners to promote student success.

COUNSELING CENTER

Staffed with professionals who specialize in issues common to college students, the accredited Counseling Center provides a range of help and services, from short-term counseling to referrals. Free, comfortable, and confidential, the Counseling Center is here to help students navigate any difficulties going on personally, socially, or in school. It doesn't have to be crisis - no problem is too small if it's in the way.

NEW STUDENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

New Student and Family Programs connects students and their parents or family members to the resources, services, and opportunities needed to successfully transition to university life. Programs include academic advising, First Year Seminar, family outreach, high school enrollment options, orientation, and other retention initiatives.

RESIDENTIAL LIFE

By providing educational opportunities and convenient accommodations, the Residential Life program supports the academic and personal success of students living on campus. Students can choose from a variety of living options based on location, design, or the different academic learning community programs housed within. Residential Life staff are dedicated to making students' transition to campus life as smooth as possible, promoting student success.

OFFICE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

The Office of Student Conduct promotes and enforces the behavioral standards articulated in the University's Statement of Student Responsibilities. The disciplinary process is grounded in a philosophy of educational discipline. Students learn about their rights and obligations as members of an academic community. Students are guided and encouraged to make choices that support success and prioritize safety. Proactive initiatives of the Office of Student Conduct include publication of the Basic Staff Handbook, in-service trainings, and educational outreach presentations.

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Quality and affordable health care is conveniently located on-campus and available to every student. An accredited medical clinic with an onsite full-service pharmacy, lab services, and health education are all part of Student Health Services at the University. Doctors, nurse practitioners, and staff are committed to student success. The result is a place for students to get well while learning more about staying well.

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions serves students who have graduated or will soon be graduating from high school and plan to pursue a four-year undergraduate bachelor's degree. The Admissions staff is also eager to assist transfer students with transcripts, finances, housing, or other areas.

UNIVERSITY SECURITY

University Security collaborates with law enforcement in criminal investigations and supports the personal safety of Minnesota State Mankato students, employees, and campus visitors through 24-hour, year round vehicle and foot patrol of campus grounds and buildings. Services include a 24-hour Safe Walk program, Emergency Medical Technicians on duty, crime prevention education, personal safety alerts, and emergency notification systems.

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STUDENT AFFAIRS

 MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO

228 Wigley Administration Center
Mankato, MN 56001

507-389-2121 (V)
800-627-3529 or 711 (MRS/TTY)
student-affairs@mnsu.edu

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