

ADVANCEMENT SECTION

REPORT OF A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION VISIT

TO

MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD
Moorhead, Minnesota

March 5-7, 2007

FOR

The Higher Learning Commission

A Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

EVALUATION TEAM

Dr. John R. Campbell, President Emeritus and Professor of Animal Sciences,
Oklahoma State University, 357 Crown Point, Columbia, MO 65203-2202

Dr. Tamera S. Jahnke, Dean, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Missouri
State University, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897

Dr. Michael R. Shirley, Dean, College of Business Administration, University of
Central Oklahoma, College of Business Administration 100 University Drive,
Edmond, OK 73034

Dr. Joaquin Villegas, Associate Professor, Teacher Education, Northeastern
Illinois University, 5500 N. St. Louis Ave. CLS 3024, Chicago, IL 60625

Dr. Susan E. Wright, Associate Provost, Drake University, 2507 University Ave.,
Des Moines, IA 50311

Dr. Robert S.P. Yien (Chair), Immediate Past Vice President for Academic
Affairs, Saginaw Valley State University, 7400 Bay Road, University Center, MI
48710

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I. Overall Observations about the Organization

The Team finds strong evidence that Minnesota State University Moorhead is a mature teaching institution under a capable leadership team and was highly regarded within the system of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Faculty, staff, and students considered the University their home and showed strong attachment to the university mission and goals.

The University has in place a well-thought strategic planning process that is tied to budgeting process. Its comprehensive campus plan would be poised to provide excellent learning facilities if the state of Minnesota continues to respond to the physical needs of the University.

II. Consultation of the Team

- A. **University Advancement**—Develop a detailed plan for university advancement by actively soliciting support from alumni and regional business people to build a sustainable level of endowment.
- B. **Enrollment Management**—Explore the targeting of specific graduate programs for enhancement and support. Such programs might attract specific student populations and also identify business partnerships for future university advancement relationships. Actively recruit international students as the University may offer them in-state tuition and fees.
- C. **Collaborative Programs**—Encourage the development of other collaborative programs like the Nursing consortium. The sharing of courses can result in program enhancements as well as improvements in university and community relations.
- D. **University Marketing Plan**—Develop a theme to take advantage of existing strong sense of enthusiasm, commitment and dedication among faculty, staff, students, and alumni to promote and market the university.
- E. **Support for Student Research and Discovery** – The Assurance report notes the positive contributions that MSUM faculty make in providing opportunities for students to participate in research/discovery of original knowledge under the direction of faculty mentors. If this accomplishment is to be sustained the strategic planning and budgeting process must consider the value of this activity and how it might be more significantly rewarded with load reductions, awards, or other forms of encouragement.

III. Recognition of Significant Accomplishments, Progress, and/or Practices

A. Tri-College University, a consortium of Concordia College, Minnesota State University Moorhead, and North Dakota State University that serves as a center for higher education in Fargo-Moorhead for 23,000 students. Minnesota State University Moorhead plays a crucial role in the efforts to share classes, facilities, events, and faculties among three campuses. The hallmark of Tri-College University course exchange agreement allows any student registered at one of the three schools to take classes on the other two Tri-College campuses at no extra cost and without going through separate admission procedures.

B. The Dragon Core Curriculum

The Dragon Core is a signature curriculum for life-long learning. It is a general education that is designed to: enhance academic success by structuring the first-year curriculum around core skills that will be needed for future courses; Provide ample opportunities in subsequent semesters for students to select courses that complement their interests; Connect learning through courses that provide a general overview of the academic disciplines.

C. A Comprehensive Campus Facilities Master Plan

The Campus Facilities Master Plan and MSUM's strategic Capital Bonding Requests are highly commendable efforts of the university to support and enhance the learning environments necessary to achieve the mission of the institution.

*Team Recommendations for the
STATEMENT OF AFFILIATION STATUS*

INSTITUTION and STATE: Minnesota State University Moorhead, MN

TYPE OF REVIEW (from ESS): Comprehensive Evaluation Visit for Continued Accreditation

DESCRIPTION OF REVIEW: The institution requests to have no prior Commission approval required for offering existing master's level programs in education, the bachelor's degree in bioscience, the bachelor's degree in construction management at in-state sites approved by MNSCU, and for offering existing courses at new sites or by interactive television within the state leading to a bachelor's degree in business administration.

DATES OF REVIEW: 3/5/07 - 3/7/07

Nature of Organization

LEGAL STATUS: Public

TEAM RECOMMENDATION: No Change

DEGREES AWARDED: A, B, M, S

TEAM RECOMMENDATION: No Change

Conditions of Affiliation

STIPULATIONS ON AFFILIATION STATUS: Accreditation at the Specialist's level is limited to the Specialist degrees in School Psychology and Educational Administration

TEAM RECOMMENDATION: Accreditation at the Specialist's level is limited to Specialist degrees in School Psychology and Educational Administration

APPROVAL OF NEW DEGREE SITES: No prior Commission approval required for offering existing courses at new sites or by ITV within the state leading to a bachelor's degree in Business Administration offered at Fergus Falls Community College.

TEAM RECOMMENDATION: No prior Commission approval required to offer existing master's degree programs in Education, the bachelor's degree programs in Bioscience, Special Education, Operations Management, and Construction Management at in-state sites approved by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and for offering existing courses at new sites, or by interactive television within the state of Minnesota leading to a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

APPROVAL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION DEGREES: No prior Commission approval required for programs offered through MnOnline.

TEAM RECOMMENDATION: No Change

REPORTS REQUIRED: None

Team Recommendations for the
STATEMENT OF AFFILIATION STATUS

TEAM RECOMMENDATION: No Change

OTHER VISITS REQUIRED: None

TEAM RECOMMENDATION: No Change

Summary of Commission Review

YEAR OF LAST COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION: 1996 - 1997

YEAR OF NEXT COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION: 2006 - 2007

TEAM RECOMMENDATION: 2016-2017

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

INSTITUTION and STATE: Minnesota State University Moorhead, MN

TYPE OF REVIEW: Comprehensive Evaluation for Continued Accreditation

Note: No changes made in the OP, but the stipulation allowing the offering of degree programs throughout the State will lead to more comprehensive reporting on the next Annual Institutional Data Update

Educational Programs

	Program Distribution	Recommended Change (+ or -)
Programs leading to Undergraduate		
	Associate	1
	Bachelors	74
Programs leading to Graduate		
	Masters	13
	Specialist	2
	First Professional	0
	Doctoral	0

Off-Campus Activities

<p>In-State:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Campuses:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Sites:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Course Locations:</p>	<p>Present Activity:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">None</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Fergus Falls (Minnesota St Community/Tech Co)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">10</p>	<p>Recommended Change: (+ or -)</p>
<p>Out-of-State:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Campuses:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Sites:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Course Locations:</p>	<p>Present Wording:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">None</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">None</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">None</p>	<p>Recommended Change: (+ or -)</p>
<p>Out-of-USA:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Campuses:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Sites:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Course Locations:</p>	<p>Present Wording:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">None</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">None</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">None</p>	<p>Recommended Change: (+ or -)</p>

Distance Education Certificate and Degree Offerings:

Present Offerings:

BSN in Nursing: RN to BSN Track offered via Internet; Certificate in Teaching & Learning with Technology offered via Internet

Recommended Change:
(+ or -)