

**Strategic Priority Funding
Application Form
2007-2008**

#30

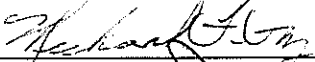
Project Name A Proposal to Improve Recruitment and Retention of Student-Athletes from Diverse Backgrounds by Adding Graduate Assistantships

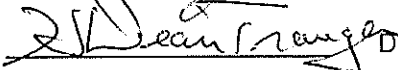
Applicant's Name Kevin Buisman Mailing Address 135 Myers FH

Applicant Signature  12/4/06

Email Address kevin.buisman@mnsu.edu Phone Number 389-1299

Dept. Chair Signature _____ Date _____

Dean Signature  Date 12/4/06

Vice President Signature  Date 12/4/06

Date Submitted to Office of Institutional Planning: _____
(Deadline is November 30, 2006)

Priority Number

Minnesota State University, Mankato

FY08 Strategic Priority Funding Request

1. Which Strategic Priority and Objective does this funding request support? See link for Strategic Priority definitions. <http://www.mnsu.edu/president/priorities/definitions/>

Strategic Priority _____ Promote diversity _____ Innovative Idea: _____

Strategic Priority Objective _____

_____ Strengthen recruitment and retention of a diverse student population. _____

2. Provide a brief description of your project. Please attach a one page project narrative:

_____ See attached. _____

3. How will the funding request support the Strategic Priority?

a. _____ See attached. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

4. Describe the measurable outcomes:

a. _____ See attached. _____

b. _____

c. _____

5. Assessment Measures – Define what methods will be used in assessing the effectiveness of the project.

a. _____ See attached. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

6. Reports Due:
Mid Year Report due _____ January 31, 2008 _____

7. Summary Report due _____ June 30, 2008 _____

8. **Budget Request:** From Strategic Initiative Funding

	<u>Request</u>	<u>Match</u>
Salary	_____	_____
Fringe	_____	_____
Grad Assistant	<u>\$18,000</u>	_____
Grad Assistant Stipend	<u>\$18,000</u>	_____
Non Salary (Specify)	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Equipment	_____	_____
Total Budget Requested *	<u>\$36,000</u>	_____

9. **Special consideration (e.g. room, building, office or any impact on other divisions):**

* Pending funding.

A Proposal to Improve Recruitment and Retention of Student-Athletics from Diverse Backgrounds by Adding Graduate Assistantships.

Provide a brief description of your project.

The university has identified diversity as a key strategic initiative and the proposed program assists in meeting that goal by providing a structure aimed at the improving the recruitment and retention of underrepresented student and employment populations.

The university is making significant progress is attracting students of diverse backgrounds to the campus. To continue this trend in a positive fashion, the university must be able to demonstrate its ability to retain and successfully matriculate these students to graduation.

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics in an established leader at the university in the recruitment and retention of students with diverse backgrounds from underrepresented student populations on our campus. This initiative would seek to improve upon those efforts by providing coaching opportunities for culturally sensitive graduate assistants.

The university currently lacks some of the resources necessary to improve efforts aimed at the recruitment and retention of students with diverse backgrounds from underrepresented student populations on our campus. The addition of graduate coaching assistants would have a positive effect on the recruitment and retention of student-athletes from diverse backgrounds by building better peer relationships.

In addition, these culturally sensitive graduate assistants are engaging in a pre-professional experience and we could effectively establish a pathway that would help prepare them for future professional coaching opportunities.

How will the funding request support the Strategic Priority?

The funding request provides the resources necessary to hire culturally sensitive graduate assistants which would have a positive effect on the recruitment and retention of student-athletics from diverse backgrounds.

Describe the measurable outcomes:

1. To improve measures of recruitment and retention for students of diverse backgrounds from underrepresented student populations on our campus.
 - a. Improve diversity enrollment measures.
 - b. Improve diversity enrollment retention measures.
2. To attract and retain culturally sensitive graduate assistants in support of this initiative and engage them in a meaningful pre-profession experience.
 - a. Improve diverse employment measures and outcomes within the department.

Assessment Measures – Define what methods will be used in assessing the effectiveness of the project.

Tangible goals for improvement (% increase, peer benchmarking, etc.) could be established for each outcome and the relative success of the program could be measured against these standard or criteria.