This past year has been one of tremendous success for Student Affairs. From our increase in applications to the opening of our new indoor climbing wall, more students discovered all that is exciting about Minnesota State University, Mankato. In the pages that follow, you will learn more about how each of our offices helped students achieve their big ideas. Central in all of these stories and accomplishments is the deeply dedicated Student Affairs staff. We truly are working to develop real-world solutions to deliver the best collegiate experience possible.

Among our greatest accomplishments this past year was the creation of our Student Affairs Strategic Plan. Drafted by a core group of our student affairs leaders with campus community input, this plan defines our direction and how we will go about supporting the University in achieving even greater heights.

- Be a leader in nationally recognized enrollment management practices that increase student recruitment, retention and timely degree completion.
- Provide opportunities for students to develop attributes and transferable skills that will enable them to achieve lifelong success in a global community.
- Support academic success through collaboration with faculty.
- Promote a diverse, engaged and civil campus community.
- Deliver effective services that use innovative technologies and value personal connections.

These five goals drive our purpose and efforts in the learning laboratory that is our campus. As you learn about the many achievements of this past year, I ask you to celebrate these successes and more importantly, look ahead to the future. We continue to invest in programs, technology and our staff to realize even greater successes, so stay tuned. Our Maverick pride grows exponentially each year, and we invite you to discover how you can get involved with Student Affairs.

Yours in Maverick Spirit,

David P. Jones, Ph.D.
The mission of the Office of Campus Recreation is to promote long-term healthy lifestyle behavior through participation in multi-faceted recreational, educational and leisure opportunities.

In August 2012, Campus Recreation opened the new indoor climbing wall in Myers Field House. The indoor and outdoor rock climbing walls have hosted more than 14,000 climbers.

Otto Recreation Center has reached an all-time high usage with 392,941 card scans by students checking in to exercise.

Funding secured from student activity fees created an opportunity to hire a Program Coordinator for Facilities and Marketing for Campus Recreation. In addition, the funding provided an opportunity to hire a Graduate Assistant for the Adventure Education Program.

Mavjobs continues to grow among employers, students and alumni. This past year, there were more than 700 new employers that registered and 3,774 distinct jobs and internships postings. In addition, 9,313 résumés and job applications were submitted through Mavjobs to employers from students and alumni.

The Career Development Center administered 858 career assessments to students and alumni.

In 2012-2013, the Career Development Center conducted 2,296 individual counseling appointments where students sought advice for résumés, cover letters, interviewing skills, strategies for internship and job searches, graduate school planning and more.

More than 7,000 students were reached through career-related educational sessions in academic classes and through student organizations. The Career Development Center administered 858 career assessments to students and alumni.

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The Career Development Center equips Minnesota State Mankato students and graduates with the tools and resources to successfully explore, develop and manage their career paths for a lifetime. We provide essential connections between individuals, academics, employers and the global community.
The Counseling Center offers confidential help to assist students in resolving personal, social and educational concerns that may be interfering with their ability to succeed at the University.

In an effort to uphold the mission of the CSU, programming continued to be a main focus. Student involvement increased through the following activities: seminars, educational series, musical performances, Stomper cinema, school-sponsored events, Greek life, community engagement and volunteer opportunities.

The CSU advanced student outcomes by identifying the tagline, “pleasant surprises that INVITE, INVOLVE and INSPIRE.”

By switching to student-to-student contact, information between the CSU and the student population has increased. This model has served as a resource for other departments on campus.

During the 2012-2013 academic year, Minnesota State Mankato purchased OrgSync and branded it as MavSync. MavSync is an interactive organizations manager that allows students to log on to their own profiles and interact with various departments and recognized student organizations through this online community.

The Counseling Center received full accreditation from the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS).

Programming and campus outreach events became more popular. Over the course of the year, the Counseling Center delivered more than 33 programs and events for the campus and community. Some examples of these include the “Discovering Yourself” outreach series which offered 27 presentations. There were also two counseling groups offered: Assertiveness Group and Academic Success Group.

The Counseling Center staff was able to engage in significant University services, professional services and scholarly activities.

A highly respected and successful training program was offered to graduate students in psychology, counseling and social work.
The Office of New Student and Family Programs offers programs and services for first year students, advocates and the campus community, with a focus on student success and retention.

Student Health Services reassigned staff medical duties to help address mental health needs on campus. In doing so, new relationships have developed with Accessibility Resources (formerly known as Disability Services), and the Assessment Clinic within the Department of Psychology.

This past year, the Student Health Services Pharmacy has continued to work on reaching new customers by increasing visibility. In 2012-2013, the Pharmacy completed 707 total fills (164 new prescriptions and 678 over-the-counter prescriptions). During FY13, the laboratory completed 6,797 labs.

Health Education has also been a primary focus for Student Health Services. There were 87 presentations given throughout the year with 1,884 attendees. “Here to Help” (H2H) is a program designed to help students recognize signs of alcohol poisoning and to make the appropriate response in that situation. Another longstanding educational program is the annual Mock House Party. This event is held on campus in a dry fraternity house with more than 50 student volunteers and has fostered a relationship with the Mankato community.

New Student and Family Programs implemented the MavCARES system. MavCARES is an online resource for the Minnesota State Mankato community to look out for the well-being of students.

During the past year, New Student and Family Programs hired a Family Program Coordinator. The purpose of this new role is to increase communication with the families of students and to encourage those families to be involved.

The Common Read program, a shared reading experience, continued to grow on campus and across the Greater Mankato area. The North Mankato library offered reading materials and led discussion groups. The author visit had a great turnout with more than 500 attendees.

The learning community program continues to support approximately 250+ first-year students in their academic and social transition to college and 50+ sophomore students as they solidify their major selection and make connections with faculty. Year after year, learning community students earn higher GPAs in their first year than students who don’t choose to be in a learning community. They also stay at the University at a significantly higher rate, even beyond just their sophomore year.

The author visit also participated in the 2013 Common Read, using the book in its 10th grade English curriculum.

Minnesota State Mankato
Student Health Services
provides quality and affordable medical services and health education to students to enhance their learning experience and support their academic success.

mnsu.edu/shs

mnsu.edu/newstudent
RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Residential Life facilitates students’ academic and personal success by providing educational opportunities and convenient accommodations.

The 2012-2013 year was a turning point for Residential Life in terms of housing and staffing. Housing options were transformed through the new Margaret R. Preska Residence Community and several building renovations. The new renovations allow housing with card access, updated doors and locks and air conditioning. In addition, on June 29, 2013, Gage Towers were imploded. Residential Life also signed an apartment master lease, making the housing mix more diverse. The housing mix consists of 10 percent apartments, 32 percent semi-suite configurations, 32 percent renovated rooms and 26 percent basic rooms.

Residential Life also adjusted to a new staffing model during the year. There are now nine full-time Hall Director positions and four student Service Coordinator Graduate Assistantships. This staffing model change has allowed the Maverick Mentor academic coaching program to serve 30 percent more students.

University Security successfully created an emergency preparedness template for faculty members to include in their syllabuses for fall semester 2013. This template will instruct students on what to expect in the event of an emergency.

In April, Security participated in a few educational events. One of the events involved partnering with Minnesota State Mankato Environmental Health & Safety, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Blue Earth Country Emergency Management and Mankato Emergency Management to present Severe Weather Awareness Week. During this week, information about severe weather was provided for students in the Centennial Student Union.

Another event that took place at the end of April was the Share the Road campaign. This campaign was designed to increase pedestrian safety by spreading information at major pedestrian intersections and through residential communities.

Another Security initiative was to create and lead a Campus Tobacco Free Monitor Team. Student members were trained on positive methods for approaching individuals using tobacco products. Over eight weeks, the student monitor team interacted with 1,656 individuals.

SecurityTrax Application was designed and implemented to notify department chairs of open, unattended offices or rooms after office hours. This will increase communication between Security and departments on campus to address problem areas.

The Security website video library was updated with personal safety information.
To promote and enforce student responsibilities in accordance with state, federal and local laws as well as policies within Minnesota State Mankato and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System.

Mary Dowd lead the Strategic Planning Team in conducting constituent surveys, leading focus groups and identifying emerging themes that translated into goals for the division. The plan will serve as a roadmap for the next five years as we strive to align divisional priorities with the institutional and system mission.

The Office of Student Conduct launched an academic integrity seminar in the fall, covering proper citation, definitions of cheating, ethics and moral decision-making.

The Office of Student Conduct received an award in the Innovative Student Affairs Programming category for the 2013 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Academic and Student Affairs award. MnSCU honored our cross-disciplinary efforts to assist struggling students. Awards were judged on the following criteria: adaptability, collaboration and enhanced student development.

National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education selected Mary Dowd from “a record number of outstanding applicants” for participation in the 2013 Institute for Aspiring Senior Student Affairs Officers. During January, Dowd successfully completed advanced training in strategic planning, crisis management, resource efficiency and leading in times of change.

A collaborative orientation session designed in cooperation with staff members from the Kearney International Center and Information and Technology Services received a national award from NASPA for transforming higher education through outstanding programs, innovative services and effective administration. Recipients were announced in March at the 2013 NASPA Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida.