Welcome to a new year!

Welcome to the 2017-18 academic year! It is wonderful to reconnect with everyone again as we begin another academic year. A special welcome to all those students, faculty and staff who are new to M State, and best wishes for a smooth transition to the college. I once again plan to be on each campus at least one day during the first week of classes to welcome everyone. It is one of my favorite things to do, and it gives me a chance to meet and greet both new and returning faculty and staff.

M State had a stellar 2016-2017. Highlights of our accomplishments include:

- Improved metrics in nearly every category – particularly in student persistence.
- Increased our CFI to 3.53 with great improvement in cash reserves and depreciation accounting.
- Accepted into the HLC Persistence Academy, plus we submitted our college-wide systems portfolio. We also acquired online program accreditation.
- Finalized migration to Microsoft systems.
- Implemented the college branding plan according to Board policy.
- Successfully completed five separate state and federal audits with clean reports and no fines – so far.
- Obtained a $100,000 grant to support women students of color and completed and submitted the college diversity plan.
- Implemented a cultural awareness and diversity professional development series in conjunction with the Campus Compact.
- Ranked the No. 1 Practical Nursing program in the state by practicalnursing.org based upon historical licensure pass rates.
- Expanded workforce solutions for our region with three new mobile labs for safety, precision manufacturing and CDL training.
- Developed a virtual Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology.
- Received nearly $2 million for bonding projects on our Fergus Falls and Wadena campuses.
- M State foundations raised more than $2 million to help support students and various projects on each of our campuses.

There is constant, meaningful activity taking place college-wide, all leading to the accomplishment of our mission and vision. Thanks to all of you who work tirelessly on behalf of M State and our students!

I am predicting another great year for M State as we focus on our priorities:

- Student Success and Learning
- Equity and Inclusion
- Workforce and K12 Partnerships
- Resource and IT Sustainability
- Distinctive and Excellent Teaching
- Continuous Improvement
- Talent Management

We have great momentum, and I have no doubt that if we keep moving forward in our efforts toward continuous improvement, learning and growth, we will succeed despite the many demands and responsibilities we encounter. I look forward to working and learning with all of you again this academic year.

Have a great year, and be sure to follow me on Twitter @MStatePrez!

Dr. Peggy Kennedy
President
Here’s to a Phenomenal Year, M State!

As our energy fades throughout the semester, as our energy fades throughout the academic year, it seems our hope fades, too. I believe we all have the ability to build a culture of positivity and hope.

Dr. Carrie Brinimal
Chief Academic Officer

Academics

August is one of my favorite months of the year. I love the weather, and I love the energy shift you can feel walking down the halls of our campuses. Phones are ringing, students are registering and families are genuinely excited to watch their loved ones take the next steps in their life journeys.

Academics

• Sense of Humor. Employees keep things in perspective, have fun and laugh.

• Compassion, Respect and Understanding. Kindness and understanding prevail when employees face challenges such as accidents, illnesses, personal tragedies and natural disasters.

• Flexibility. The company and its employees embrace change, accommodate new trends and technology, and incorporate new skills.

• Positive Reinforcement. Genuine compliments, rewards, bonuses, raises, promotions and certificates of achievement are oil in the machinery.

• Emphasis on Health, Family and Environment.

Positive Values. A positive mission statement outlines the goals and demonstrative behavior that exemplify the highest commitment to quality and service.

Relaxed and Productive Atmosphere. People enjoy coming to work and feel appreciated, acknowledged and rewarded.

Commitment to Excellence. Employees give 200 percent. They strive to be the best, and they take responsibility for their actions and decisions.

Open and Honest Communication. Everyone communicates in a cards-on-the-table manner, solving difficulties in a positive way.

Cooperation, Support and Empowerment. Can-do, go-the-extra-mile and win-win attitudes are evident. Employees have a sense of camaraderie, cooperation and empowerment.

Academics

Few things in the world are more powerful than a positive push. A smile. A world of optimism and hope. A ‘you can do it’ when things are tough.

- Richard M. DeVos

What’s Next in our AQIP Adventure?

We’re so close to the first day of fall classes starting, and anticipation is in the air. Each fall, we have the privilege of welcoming a new class to M State. They learn from us, and we learn from them as we listen to their stories and experiences, celebrate their successes, and help them through life’s challenges. Welcome to the start of the 2017-2018 year, and keep the passion for learning going! This is our calling, this is what we do. Relish in it!

On May 31, I relished joyfully in clicking on the upload button as M State’s AQIP systems portfolio was transported off to the Higher Learning Commission. Our AQIP systems portfolio represents the shared story of every M State campus, division, department, team and individual in upholding the mission, vision and values of the college. We have an incredible story to tell, and you can read it here: 2017 AQIP Systems Portfolio.

Along with addressing how we all work collaboratively to meet the core components of the accreditation criteria, the systems portfolio is structured so that we must explain M State’s processes, results, improvements and corresponding maturity level for six categories:

Category 1: Helping Students Learn
Category 2: Meeting Student and Other Key Stakeholder Needs
Category 3: Valuing Employees
Category 4: Planning and Leading
Category 5: Knowledge Management and Resource Stewardship
Category 6: Quality Overview

The submission of the 2017 AQIP systems portfolio represents one milestone in a continuous cycle of the college’s AQIP accreditation process, shown as follows:

Academics

• June 1, 2017 - Submit systems portfolio
• 2017-2018 - Possible comprehensive quality review
• 2018-2019 or 2019-2020 - Attend one Strategy Forum
• 2020-2021 - Submit systems portfolio
• 2021-2022 - Federal compliance filing and comprehensive quality review (final review of criteria for accreditation)
• Ongoing - Action Projects

Now that the college’s portfolio is submitted, you might be wondering what happens next in our AQIP adventure? Our next steps include attending to our feedback from the system portfolio review process and using that feedback to drive our continuous improvement efforts. This year, we will be completing the college’s strategic planning process, and I’m very happy to share that we have aligned the timing of our strategic planning process to better incorporate our systems portfolio feedback. As a college, this puts us in a fantastic position to align our continuous quality improvement efforts with our strategic planning efforts, which will kick off with the active involvement of faculty and staff at the August 16 in-service.

Authentically using our systems portfolio feedback may push us out of our comfort zone as a college. We may need to establish more benchmarks for performance so we can better understand where we’ve been, set more definite targets for where we aspire to be, do even more research and reflection about effective practices and incorporate student and stakeholder voices in shaping our work in different and deeper ways. In essence, what comes next in our AQIP adventure is more learning!

Fortunately, every employee at M State is an educator and a learner, so you are well poised for the work of continuous quality improvement. No matter what your role is at the college, the tasks you perform every day support learning and growth and the creation of a welcoming, engaging and safe learning environment for students and stakeholders. I’m confident we are ready to move beyond our current comfort zones as we continue our AQIP adventure.

Emily Abbott
Associate Vice President of Academics

Cover design by Katie Tysdal

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M State News | Page 3
How to Say Hi.

Meeting with regional high school principals and their superintendents over the summer months (see pages 6 and 7 for more on that initiative), I was surprised by the number who thought too many of their students believed that continuing on to college was an exercise in futility; that college is not out of their reach. Regional high school graduate data from 2007 - 2015 shows evidence of this - a consistent 30 percent of students do not continue on to a college or university in the fall following their graduation. Not only is there an over-inflated sense of the cost of higher education contributing to this, but there is also a sense that they do not view themselves as “college-worthy.” For two years, M State has been aggressively advertising our affordability, and we need to work with our regional high school partners to promote the variety of educational pathways available to students of all calibers. It did get me thinking though, while so many of our students have overcome considerable obstacles to enter our classrooms, many are walking our hallways as they start out, still wondering if they are “college-worthy.”

Each M State campus is a marvelous place. There’s a lot that allows hands-on learning experiences and serving opportunities for students. Imagine going to a party some evening, not knowing what to say, worrying that you might say something wrong. This must have an unintentional and negative effect on our students. Imagine going to a party some evening, not knowing many people, and having only one or two people acknowledge your presence. How long would you stay at that party?

Research shows that the biggest obstacle to college students forming relationships across boundaries isn’t lack of interest. No, the biggest obstacle is the perception that others lack interest. That “those people” aren’t interested in getting to know “people like me.” Simply saying “hi” is a welcoming gesture of inclusion; it sets a campus culture tone of positive engagement.

We must model the behavior we wish to see in our students, and there’s good reason to get them to adopt this behavior. A 2015 Miami Herald article, Beyond the Classroom: The power of saying hello, cites the following benefits of saying “hi”:

- Confidence and optimism. Most of the time when you say “hi,” that greeting is returned. This little success promotes confidence within and teaches that people don’t bite. It helps you feel good about yourself.
- Fun. A chance encounter with a student from another culture can lead to an interesting conversation that will have you thinking all day.
- Good karma. By saying “hi,” you are acknowledging someone, and having only one or two people acknowledge another person, providing recognition. In many cultures, this is the equivalent of giving someone a blessing for the day.

Don’t pass on this “hi” impact practice to promote student success. Please join me in saying “hi” more often in our hallways this year.
This year, M State is working to strengthen our relationships with regional high schools. With low unemployment rates limiting the pool of post-traditional students to attract, it’s important that we increase our “share” of the high school grads coming to M State if we want to pursue enrollment growth. We’ve initially targeted 18 high schools this year with the following goals:

1. Increase historical market share of high school grads coming to M State by 2 percent annually.
2. Enhance value proposition of recruiting relationship by sharing of high school M State First Time In College (FTIC) cohort performance data with high school administration.
3. Enhance M State’s value proposition within the community by sharing high school M State First Time In College (FTIC) cohort success data with media outlets.

The data displayed below comes courtesy of the Minnesota Statewide Longitudinal Education Data system (SLEDS). Currently, SLEDS provides access back to 2007 data. The matrix below highlights the historic and comparative “share” of west central Minnesota high school grads who come to M State (yes, I’m looking for the North Dakota data equivalent, but don’t have it yet). Here are some key interpretations:

- We are the leader in this region. No other school attracts more of this region’s high school grads than M State. Not even close.
- Over the past nine years, even though the percentage of regional Minnesota high school grads staying in Minnesota to go to college decreased by 3.6 points, the percentage of regional Minnesota high school grads choosing M State increased by 4.4 points!
- The data show that a consistent 30 percent of our regional high school grads don’t proceed right into college the fall following high school graduation – another opportunity for us to promote our affordability and quality to those students and their key influencers who think that college is beyond their reach.

The opinion of the high school administrators met with so far is consistent – M State is viewed positively, and too many of their students fall into either the category of thinking that a four-year route is the way to go (when they’d be better suited to complete their first two years at M State) or consider an occupational pathway; or into the category of thinking that college is an unattainable pursuit (when they ought to realize that there is an affordable educational pathway accessible through M State). Nine of the 18 have jumped at this opportunity so far (high school logos represented below); the other nine have been difficult to reach during the summer months, but we’re persistent!

Please look to my weekly Tuesday Topics email for updates on this initiative.

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### M State High School Partners Program Data Sheet

#### West Central Economic Region • High School Graduates to College: 2007-2015 Trend

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#### Top Regional Choices Among Those Enrolling in College/University the Fall Following High School Graduation

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This Month’s Hot Topics

Adobe Connect is now the supported MinnState web conferencing tool and is available for all faculty, staff and student use. If you or your colleagues would like a guided tour to familiarize yourself with this service, register for one of the three sessions scheduled in August. Additional opportunities will be scheduled for the fall and spring terms.

Video Overview: A short overview of how to access MinnState’s web conferencing service portal. Additional support materials are available when you login to the service.

NOTE: M State’s hosted WebEx service is still available for your use until June 30, 2018.

Patch Management ensures that your computer is actively kept up to date and patched with the latest versions of software and provides you, the end user, with the most control over when the patches get installed on your work computer. In May, a Patch Management Policy and Procedure for M State users was approved in accordance with Minnesota State Board Policy, supporting data security. One of the biggest frustrations users face with patch management is the requirement to restart their computer.

Here is what you can expect beginning October 2.

- On the 3rd Tuesday of every month, tested updates will be published and made available for all M State computer users to install and restart their own computers at a convenient time.
- You will be periodically reminded and have seven days to do the install and restart.
- If you have not installed and restarted your computer by 9 pm on the seventh day, the update will be published and install the software yourself with SCCM. You don’t need to contact your local Computer Help Center, it’s easy!

The trouble with passwords. It’s likely your passwords aren’t very secure and you forget them, but what makes it worse is you have a difficult time remembering your password. You might even have your password written on a sticky note under your keyboard.

We’ve been taught to use randomly generated passwords that contain more than eight characters. You may have a password like this: Zv38&x3$.

That kind of password is hard to remember and easy to hack.

To take a decent laptop and decrypting software around a day, at 1,000 guesses a second, to crack that. And yet most folks won’t even use a hard-to-remember password like the one above and will go an easier route of using a combination of personally meaningful numbers and letters based on birthdays, initials of loved ones or a house number to make them more memorable. The resulting password could look like this. CWh!1974. That password is even easier to crack since it contains easy to find personal information and again it’s only eight characters long.

How can we create a memorable and secure password? It’s actually pretty easy.

Mathematically speaking, four random words separated by spaces is harder to crack than the two passwords I listed above. Personally speaking, four random words are much easier to remember than whatever Zv38&x3$ is.

Let’s try it! Let’s pick four random words, and I bet you’ll have it memorized before the end of this article. horse rainbow lamb sandwich is your new password!

Say that password out loud a few times and I bet you’ve already have it memorized. Now you have a password that is memorable and much much harder to crack because of its length. The length of your password also adds complexity which takes longer to decrypt.

To a computer using decrypting software, a piece of software built to flip through character combinations as fast as it can so it can ‘guess’ your password, horse rainbow lamb sandwich means as much as Zv38&x3$ would but it would take it a lot longer to guess.

To you, horse rainbow lamb sandwich contains words that have meaning (even if they are random) so you’ll be more likely to remember it; at the very least it’s more memorable than Zv38&x3$.

What if your software or website password doesn’t allow spaces or it needs special characters, like punctuation, numbers and capital letters? No problem, have some fun with it!

horse rainbow lamb sandwich can now become Horse rainbow lamb sandwich 42! Which is the weirdest sentence I’ve ever written.

What if the software doesn’t allow for spaces? Simple. Remove them. Now your password is Horserainbowlamb sandbox42. That password would be more secure with spaces between each word but the length of that password will keep most decrypting software at bay for a very long time. It’s also easier to remember.

Quick tips for creating a more memorable and secure password:

1. Choose four random words.
2. Don’t use family or pet names, or anything personally identifiable.
3. Order the words into a memorable phrase or mnemonic device.
4. Choose six random words and make your password even more secure.

Other reading:

- https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-man-who-wrote-those-password-rules-has-a-new-tip-n3v-r-m1-d-150214418
- https://skd.ccm/936/

Fun Facts

- 90 percent of all hacks come from computers that are not patched.
- THC staff unboxed and got ready 190 new Lenovo computers for faculty, staff and computer labs over the summer.
- Installing just 1 Konica Print Queue lets users print and pick up their jobs at any 5 secure locations on the Fergus Falls campus.
- The AV guys packed 80 hours of work into the week of July 31, in order to get the new classrooms ready, college-wide.

Changes Are Happening

- July 6 – All system office employee email addresses changed to: firstname.lastname@MinnState.edu.
- August 14-30 M State and Minnesota State will freeze all computer network and system changes, including DDL.
- September 4 – The new web address for MoveIT Securely will be: https://securefilesshare.minnstate.edu
- October 1 – The URL for StarID will be: https://starid.mnstate.edu not https://starid.mnmscu.edu.
- October 2 – Patch Management Policy for M State users takes effect.

In the Spotlight

Each month we’ll shine a spotlight on a different IT staff member, putting a face with a name and letting you know what’s on the mind of IT.

1. When it comes to my career I absolutely love: Working with people smarter than me.
2. A piece of advice I received that has served me well: Meet people where they are, learn their story and don’t expect anyone to follow you.
4. People might be surprised to know I: Can beat match house and disco records (yes, actual records) and have slept on the continental divide.
5. Most memorable experience at M State so far: Being on a search committee for dean position.

Information Technology

IT 101: Tips for You

Are you missing software? Do you want to see what other software is already vetted and available for you to use? SCCM is what you need. Click on this link: Software Center. You can download and install the software yourself with SCCM.

If you have not installed and restarted your computer by 9 pm on the seventh day, the updates will be installed and you will go an easier route of using a combination of personally meaningful numbers and letters based on birthdays, initials of loved ones or a house number to make them more memorable.

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Updates and Reminders from HR

Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) Change Coming in 2018! Navitus to CVS Caremark!

On July 17, MMB informed state agencies that our PBM will be changing from Navitus to CVS Caremark on Jan. 1. The new contract with CVS will result in significant savings to agencies relative to our previous contract, resulting in lower-than-expected premium increases this year. MMB will work closely with CVS through the end of the year to ensure a smooth transition for State Employee Group Insurance Program (SEGIP) members. Please see attached for tract with CVS will result in significant savings to agencies relative to our previous contract, resulting in lower-than-expected premium increases this year. MMB will work closely with CVS through the end of the year to ensure a smooth transition for State Employee Group Insurance Program (SEGIP) members. Please see attached for tract with CVS.

Open Enrollment Dates Set: Thursday, October 26 – Wednesday, November 8

Open enrollment dates for 2018 have been set. Additional information will be coming in September. In the meantime, you are encouraged to make sure your home address is up-to-date in the self-service website; this will make sure any direct mail correspondence goes to the correct address.

Respectful Workplace Procedure 1C.0.2.

Chancellor Rosenstone approved the system’s Respectful Workplace Procedure 1C.0.2 prior to his departure at the end of July. The procedure can be found at: http://www.mnstate.edu/board/procedure/1C0P2.html.

The procedure is modeled on and is similar to MMB’s Respectful Workplace Policy in most material respects. Unlike the MMB policy, the procedure addresses and makes some allowances for academic freedom and faculty involvement in the evaluation process of other faculty. MMB anticipates making training on its policy available in the late summer or early fall. MMB’s training will be required for all employees covered by the policy which we understand to include all system employees. Thus, the system intends to rely on MMB’s training to provide our employees with an understanding of the important terms of both MMB’s policy and the system procedure. Should MMB’s training be unduly delayed, Labor Relations will work with Talent Management to find an alternative training solution.

Additional information regarding the training will be shared as soon as it is available.

WORKSITE WELLNESS

ReThink Your Drink! Every sip counts! Think of it this way: Go! Slow! Whoa!

Go! Drink plenty of zero-calorie water (tap water is easiest), tea/coffee without sugar, low-fat (1%) or fat-free plain milk.

Slow! Drink occasionally beverages such as diet drinks, reduced-fat (2%) plain milk and 100% fruit or vegetable juice.

Whoa! Drink rarely beverages such as soft drinks, sports and energy drinks, fruit drinks or punches, whole or flavored milk drinks, and other sweetened drinks.

WORKSITE WELLNESS

Worksite Wellness Team Members needed!

The M State Worksite Wellness vision statement: To empower employees to make healthy lifestyle choices and enhance their quality of living, working and serving. The Worksite Wellness Team will be reconvening this fall. If you are interested in being a team member and supporting the vision, contact Dacia Johnson at dacia.johnson@mnstate.edu or via phone at 218.736.1512.

Human Resources

Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) – Annual Reminder!

Did you know that any one of these six categories qualifies as a serious health condition and requires M State, as your employer, to notify you about your rights under the Family and Medical Leave Act? (1) Inpatient care (hospitalization); (2) continuing treatment of a health condition (primarily a period of incapacity of three or more days); (3) pregnancy-related incapacity or illness; (4) chronic serious health condition; (5) permanent or long-term condition without treatment; (6) multiple treatments or a condition that requires multiple treatments.

Both employees and supervisors should contact Human Resources immediately if a situation warrants (or may warrant!) FMLA information be provided to an employee. Also, if you have questions, please don’t hesitate asking so we can ensure qualified employees receive the required information in a timely way.

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides certain employees with up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave per year. It also requires that their group health benefits be maintained during the leave.

FMLA is designed to help employees balance their work and family responsibilities by allowing them to take reasonable unpaid leave for certain family and medical reasons. It also seeks to accommodate the legitimate interests of employers and promote equal employment opportunity for men and women.

FMLA applies to all public agencies, all public and private elementary and secondary schools, and companies with 50 or more employees. These employers must provide an eligible employee with up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave each year for any of the following reasons:

• for the birth and care of the newborn child of an employee;
• for placement with the employee of a child for adoption or foster care;
• to care for an immediate family member (spouse, child, or parent) with a serious health condition; or
• to take medical leave when the employee is unable to work because of a serious health condition.

Because of qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that the employee’s spouse, son, daughter or parent is a covered military member on active duty (or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty) in support of a contingency operation.

• to care for a covered service member who became ill or was injured as a result of active duty service.

Employees are eligible for leave if they have worked for their employer at least 12 months, at least 1,250 hours over the past 12 months, and work at a location where the company employs 50 or more employees within 75 miles. Whether an employee has worked the minimum 1,250 hours of service is determined according to FLSA principles for determining compensable hours or work.

Employees and/or supervisors should contact the Human Resources office with questions specific to an employee’s eligibility, rights and responsibilities under the FMLA.
Make better beverage choices

A healthy eating style includes all foods and beverages. Many beverages contain added sugars and offer little or no nutrients, while others may provide nutrients but too many calories from saturated fat. Here are some tips to help you make better beverage choices.

1. Drink water
   Drink water instead of sugary drinks. Non-diet soda, energy or sports drinks, and other sugar-sweetened drinks contain a lot of calories from added sugars and few nutrients.

2. How much water is enough?
   Let your thirst be your guide. Everyone’s needs are different. Most of us get enough water from the foods we eat and the beverages we drink. A healthy body can balance water needs throughout the day. Drink plenty of water if you are very active or live or work in hot conditions.

3. A thrifty option
   Water is usually easy on the wallet. You can save money by drinking water from the tap at home or when eating out.

4. Manage your calories
   Drink water with and between your meals. Adults and children take in about 400 calories per day as beverages—drinking water can help you manage your calories.

5. Kid-friendly drink zone
   Make water, low-fat or fat-free milk, or 100% juice an easy option in your home. Have ready-to-go containers available in the refrigerator. Place them in lunch boxes or backpacks for easy access when kids are away from home. Depending on age, children can drink ½ to 1 cup, and adults can drink up to 1 cup of 100% fruit or vegetable juice* each day.

6. Don’t forget your dairy**
   Select low-fat or fat-free milk or fortified soy beverages. They offer key nutrients such as calcium, vitamin D, and potassium. Older children, teens, and adults need 3 cups of milk per day, while children 4 to 8 years old need 2½ cups and children 2 to 3 years old need 2 cups.

7. Enjoy your beverage
   When water just won’t do—enjoy the beverage of your choice, but just cut back. Remember to check the serving size and the number of servings in the can, bottle, or container to stay within calorie needs. Select smaller cans, cups, or glasses instead of large or supersized options.

8. Water on the go
   Water is always convenient. Fill a clean, reusable water bottle and toss it in your bag or briefcase to quench your thirst throughout the day. Reusable bottles are also easy on the environment.

9. Check the facts
   Use the Nutrition Facts label to choose beverages at the grocery store. The food label and ingredients list contain information about added sugars, saturated fat, sodium, and calories to help you make better choices.

10. Compare what you drink
    Food-A-Pedia, an online feature available at SuperTracker.usda.gov, can help you compare calories, added sugars, and fats in your favorite beverages.

*100% juice is part of the Fruit or Vegetable Group.

** Milk is a part of the Dairy Group. A cup = 1 cup of milk or yogurt, 1½ ounces of natural cheese, or 2 ounces of processed cheese.
As we begin another academic year, I want to let you know the emphasis and strategies that the finance and facilities divisions will be undertaking during this fiscal year.

Although we made great strides during fiscal year 2017 to improve our facilities, we will continue using the same strategies as we are the first to work on forms used within the college with e-signatures required only to start with.

We will also be re-engineering our delegation of authority process. Several weaknesses were identified in the internal control audit last year, and we will be using the feedback from that audit to design our new process.

The emphasis in the facilities division will be to design and implement the renovation projects that were funded during the 2017 legislative session. These projects include the replacement of the boilers and hot water heaters in Wadena, the library and Student Development Services renovation in Wadena, and the Center for Student and Workforce Success project in Fergus Falls. We also will be renovating the nursing lab in Wadena and refurbishing F119 in Moorhead to be used for the Workforce Development lab. In addition to the above projects there are also several projects identified by the campus facilities committees and the campus academic plans that will be planned.

I hope everyone has a great year.

Pat Nordick
Chief Financial Officer

### Emphasis on Fiscal Health and Renovation

#### 2012-2018 M State Student Academic Calendar

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#### 2017-2018 M State Student Academic Calendar

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#### In the News

**M State's Kayla Simon will be recognized with the Veterans Voices award from the Minnesota Humanities Center in a ceremony in St. Paul on Sept. 11. The award recognizes military veterans who have honorably served and who go above and beyond to make significant positive contributions that improve the lives of people across the state. Simon, who is a social worker on M State's Detroit Lakes and Wadena campuses, was instrumental in bringing the Rusty's Pantry food pantry to the Detroit Lakes campus.**

**M State's Heidi King and Leah Trontvet were part of the 2017 graduating class of Cass-Clay United Way's 35 Under 35 Leadership Program, whose goals include encouraging and inspiring women to make a difference. King is the Moorhead campus food service coordinator, and Trontvet is an interim academic advisor on the Moorhead campus.**

The college’s K12 collaboration manager, Megan Adamczyk, was an invited panelist for the Minnesota Concurrent Enrollment Program’s summer accreditation institute at North Hennepin Community College in June. As an accreditation portfolio peer reviewer for the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships and as the director of M State’s NACEP-accredited concurrent enrollment program, Adamczyk was invited to provide advice and guidance for the other Minnesota State系统 institutions that are seeking NACEP accreditation.

**Pat on the back**

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