

Strategic Insights

A newsletter bridging industry,
alumni and academia at M State

2025 April Vol. 2, Issue 4



Moorhead reps visit the Capitol

M State's Vice President of Strategic Engagement, Craig Beytien, joined other Moorhead area community leaders in a visit to St. Paul in early March for the annual Moorhead Day at the Capitol, sponsored by the Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo Chamber of Commerce. The event featured presentations and discussions with several legislators, capped off by a brief visit with Governor Tim Walz. Most of the dialogue centered around the current legislative session and looming budget challenges.

Quick Links

[Corporate
Engagement
Program](#)

[Career
Services](#)

[M State
Foundation
and Alumni](#)

[Fergus
Area
College
Foundation](#)

[Small
Business
Development
Center](#)

[Workforce
Development
Solutions](#)

10 [C]hats

AI Solutions for Every Hat You Wear

AI Con 2025 is open for registration

The West Central Minnesota Small Business Development Center, headquartered on M State's Moorhead campus, is excited to launch AI Con 2025 – a practical, hands-on artificial intelligence workshop designed specifically for small business owners and entrepreneurs. The one-day event will help participants build real, usable AI chatbots for the many roles they juggle every day. The theme is, "10 Hats. 10 Chats... 10 [C]hats." Attendees will learn how to create custom AI assistants for marketing, human resources, customer service, planning and more.

Event details:

- Early bird tickets are \$99 (ends April 30)
- Participants will build up to three AI tools
- Includes lunch, snacks, workbook and swag
- Seats are limited to 120

AI Con will be happening on Tuesday, June 10 at M State in Moorhead. For more information, visit

<https://westcentralmnsbdc.com/ai-con-2025>.



M State cannabis courses featured on KVRR

On April 16, Craig Beytien the Vice President of Strategic Engagement at M State gave an interview with KVRR about M State's cannabis program. Click [watch](#) to view the full interview.

M State Foundation Promise Fund: Keeping education within reach



M State Foundation

Minnesota State Community
and Technical College

Unexpected financial hurdles can quickly derail even the most dedicated students in higher education. At M State, the M State Foundation Promise Fund stands as a critical safety net, providing emergency assistance to students when they need it most. Consider making a donation to the Promise Fund. Contributions—regardless of size—create a powerful resource for M State students in crisis.

To make a donation or learn more about how the Promise Fund supports student success, visit minnesota.edu/foundations or call 218.846.3697.

Your generosity today could be the difference that helps a student complete their education tomorrow.

As M State Foundation moves forward with its new identity, the organization is excited to strengthen its connections with alumni, donors and supporters. This fresh image will help the foundation tell the story of how donor contributions are transforming lives and fostering educational excellence.

M State Foundation and Alumni is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that supports the college's campuses in Detroit Lakes, Moorhead and Wadena.

Workforce Development Solutions partners with First

Community Credit Union to enhance leadership development

First Community Credit Union leaders recently sat down with Amy Hochgraber and Dana Haagenson from M State's Workforce Development Solutions (WDS) division to create a customized educational program to challenge and support the career development of credit union employees. After an initial meeting, WDS presented a proposal for training that aligns with the credit union's goals, and Haagenson led a "Leading Through Change" session for the credit union, which participants praised for fostering "real learning and growth."

Rod Braun, the credit's union's lake region retail manager, said the training, "was one of the best workshops I have ever been to, in regard to content, interaction, take-homes, thought processes, time, etc. I really appreciated it and liked it."

The partnership between the credit union and WDS represents a shared commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders and supporting those in leadership positions today.

SHARE YOUR PASSION AND GET PAID

Be a Trainer for Workforce Development at M State

CLASS-BASED TRAINING

Provide custom-designed trainings on-site at client facilities, online, or at one of M State's campuses in Detroit Lakes, Fergus Falls, Moorhead and Wadena. Training groups average about 20 people each.

COMPENSATION

Get paid by the hour, including training hours, development hours and one-way travel time when travel and travel expenses are required. Hourly rates vary depending on the training topic.

FLEXIBLE HOURS

Work as often or as little as you want. Make training your side hustle, or make it something more.

GROWTH POTENTIAL

Grow and expand your career, maximize your potential and achieve your professional goals. Being a trainer means you have options to pursue coaching and training certifications as well as opportunities to build facilitation, communication and technical skills.

NETWORKING

Work with a broad range of employers and employees in your field of expertise, from all across our west central Minnesota training area.



Ready to share your skills? Contact:

Amy Hochgraber, Director of Business and Industry
amy.hochgraber@minnesota.edu | 218.846.3766

minnesota.edu • 877.450.3322



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