

2006

## Dragon Wellness Center (Russell and Ann Gerdin Wellness Center) Prospectus

Minnesota State University Moorhead

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*Affirming the Legacy of Promise for a Great University*



## TODAY

Students are busier than ever, balancing their studies *and* work.

Students crowd into a temporary space that is located several blocks from the campus.

Students support a semester fee to help fund a permanent Wellness Center.

## TOMORROW

A campus Wellness Center that's convenient for busy students.

40,000 square feet of space for individual and group activities with state-of-the-art equipment.

Students congregate in a landmark that celebrates wellness.





# THE DRAGON WELLNESS CENTER

There's more to higher education than books, computers, and exams. At MSU Moorhead, we also teach the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

It isn't a hard-sell. Our students understand the value of regular exercise. There is a complication, though. These days most of them work to help pay for their education. As a result, it can be a challenge to find the time for a workout.

MSUM students have voted to assess a semester fee to help maintain a wellness center that's conveniently located on campus. That's why we're asking for your support for the Dragon Wellness Center Initiative. The goal is a state-of-the-art fitness facility that will instill healthy habits for life.

Research has shown that positive recreational and fitness experiences add greatly to success in the classroom. In addition, attractive and convenient campus recreational facilities improve the recruitment of new students and the retention of continuing students.

Imagine a new campus landmark that symbolizes a holistic approach to self-improvement. Imagine how our students' commitment to their education, their work, and their health will benefit our region for many years to come.





**West Elevation**

**North Elevation**



**East Elevation**

**South Elevation**



**Wellness Center viewed from 14th Street South**

**Kise Commons**

**Comstock Memorial Union**

**A NEW CAMPUS LANDMARK**







**Roland E. Barden**  
President

"Wellness is an important issue for people of all ages. Our students overwhelmingly support a Wellness Center, because it will provide services that will benefit them for a lifetime."

**DONOR LEADERSHIP**

**A husband and wife, both Dragon alumni, are challenging other alumni and friends of the University to contribute a total of \$3,400,000. When that goal is reached, they will respond with a \$2,000,000 gift.**

*Affirming a Legacy of Promise for a Great University*



**Tammy Miller**  
Dragon Wellness Center  
Initiative Chair

"This is an investment that will improve the lives of generations of students."



**Warren Wiese**  
V.P. for Student Affairs

"We've spent years planning the right kind of wellness center for our students— a highly-used landmark facility."



**Penny Klein**  
Health & Wellness Director

"The health and wellness of our students is key to their academic success, now and in the future."



**Leigh Wilson-Mattson**  
Student Senate President

"Students are committed to the Dragon Wellness Center. We've voted to assess a fee to help support it."



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## WHY IS THE DRAGON WELLNESS CENTER IMPORTANT TO MSU MOORHEAD?

- Fitness is part of MSU Moorhead's holistic approach to student development.
- Students want it. The Dragon Wellness Center will play a role in the university's recruitment and student retention efforts.
- It will provide additional collaboration opportunities with Moorhead and Fargo for summer youth and adult programs.

## THE PLANNING PROCESS

Cost, Planning & Management International, Inc. (CPMI) facilitated the pre-design process, providing program and cost analysis.

The university's Health and Wellness Task Force has met regularly since September 2002 and includes representation from the student body, residential life, health center, athletics, facilities management, administration and the community.

- Task Force members surveyed the campus community, prioritized program needs, and developed budget estimates. They also toured other wellness centers in the region.
- Students were polled and voted to increase fees to help support the center. The current semester fee is \$65.
- CPMI met with the Task Force to review priorities and space allocations and to collect other planning data.
- Based on administrative feedback, CPMI made final adjustments to the pre-design report.

## PLANNING ISSUES

Parking, the use of natural light, space efficiency, visibility and way-finding, the size of fitness rooms, courts, and multipurpose rooms, the size of locker rooms, future growth, and partnerships.

## PROJECT FEATURES

- A two story structure with 42,000 square feet.
- The first floor includes a gymnasium with two playing courts, a rock climbing wall, women's and men's locker rooms, a large group exercise room, a massage room, a classroom, a conference room, offices, and a lobby atrium.
- The second floor has a jogging track and three large fitness areas with exercise equipment.
- There will be naming opportunities for donors.

## PROJECT TIMELINE

Construction could begin in 2007, with completion by fall 2008.

## FINANCIAL PLAN

- Total cost: \$12,000,000
- MSUM and MnSCU will support a construction loan, MSUM student Wellness Center fees will support half of the cost, the remainder, \$5,400,000, will come from the Dragon Wellness Center Initiative.





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