Services to Region

Institute for Rural Human Services

The Institute for Rural Human Services (IRHS) is a unique project in which various human service entities collaborate. The Institute draws together various professional disciplines and service providers to address human problems of rural families and to seek solutions through a team approach. Its three-fold mission is to provide direct clinical and outreach services, technical assistance, and conduct educational activities that assist rural families in understanding and meeting their human service needs.

Interactive Video Network

The Interactive Video Network (IVN) offers statewide video conferencing providing distance education opportunities throughout North Dakota.

IVN utilizes Internet-based videoconferencing technology (H. 323) over the state network (STAGEnet) to significantly enhance communication and learning opportunities. Videoconferencing services extend beyond higher education and tribal colleges to include K-12 schools, NDSU Extension and Research Centers, and state government agencies.

More information about classes and meetings at MSU is available on the CEL website (http://www.minotstateu.edu/cel/ivn.shtml).

Minot Symphony Orchestra

The Minot Symphony Orchestra is a joint University/community/professional orchestra which presents three classical concerts, a family concert, a pops concert, and children's concerts each season. Membership is dependent upon the needs of the ensemble and is open to University students and community or regional members through audition. More information can be found at www.minotsymphony.com (http://www.minotsymphony.com).

North Dakota Geographic Alliance

The North Dakota Geographic Alliance is a statewide organization of teachers, professional geographers, and other persons interested in promoting geography education within the state of North Dakota. The Alliance administrative office is located in the Mount Vernon Building, 900 N. Broadway, Minot. The Alliance publishes a quarterly newsletter, holds an annual meeting and professional development programs, and offers other types of geography-related resources. Students are invited to join the Alliance, to submit articles for publication in the Alliance newsletter, and to participate in Alliance-sponsored programs.

Communication Disorders Clinic

Each year over a thousand children and adults with disabilities come to the clinic for assessment and treatment services and to take advantage of sophisticated equipment and expert faculty. A unique team of professionals provides assessment and designs individual habilitative programs which are carried out at home, in the public schools through cooperative planning with teachers and parents, or in the clinic itself. Undergraduate and graduate students, under the close supervision of faculty members nationally certified, work with clients. Services are free of charge to full-time MSU students and their immediate family and are reduced for part-time students. Call 701-858-3030 for additional information.

Western Plains Opera Company

The Western Plains Opera Company is a joint University/community opera which presents a major production each year. The Opera Company performs a variety of representative works. It is open to University students and community members through audition.

Great Plains Center of Community Research & Service

The mission of the Great Plains Center for Community Research & Service (GPCCRS) is to strengthen the quality of life in rural communities through community/University research and service partnerships that will identify, research, and take steps toward solving rural community quality of life issues and problems.

GPCCRS utilizes research activities to assist communities in identifying priority issues, engaging students and faculty in researching those issues, and collectively developing an action plan to address the issues. The development activities include disseminating information, grant writing support, and engagement of students in local communities with real purpose.

Faculty and students should use GPCCRS as a resource to enhance classroom activities by reaching out to local communities and addressing real life issues.

Centers of Excellence

The University has two established Centers of Excellence—the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities and the Rural Crime and Justice Center. The centers have developed from University areas of expertise and complement its research and service components.
North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities

The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities (NDCPD) is a University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities, Education, Research, and Services. We are part of a national network of 67 similar programs at universities throughout the United States called University Centers for Excellence on Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDS). NDCPDs mission is to provide service, education, and research which empower communities to welcome, value, and support the well-being and quality of life for people of all ages and abilities. NDCPD serves a diverse population of people with disabilities and their families, service providers and educators, and people in the public and private sector through the following activities:

- Providing interdisciplinary training to students in multiple disciplines.
- Providing evidence-based in-service training for practicing professionals and others serving people with disabilities and their families.
- Providing education to individuals with disabilities, families, and support providers that will allow them to practice greater self-determination and exert greater choice and control.
- Disseminating information and research findings through publications, presentations, and the internet.
- Providing direct services and supports to people with disabilities to minimize disparities in health care, enhance educational opportunities, develop work skills, and other services that will ensure that communities are accessible and responsive to the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.
- Providing technical assistance to public policy makers and entities serving the disability community.
- Conducting research, evaluation, and analysis in areas of importance to the field of disabilities.

NDCPD provides many opportunities for students to participate in its projects and activities. NDCPD offers an interdisciplinary training experience for MSU students. Working with traditional academic departments such as Communication Disorders, Psychology, Social Work, and Special Education, NDCPD faculty provide students with leadership experiences that supplement their discipline-specific coursework. NDCPD also provides training and educational programs for professionals and paraprofessionals in the disability community. Working with academic departments, NDCPD makes a variety of workshops, courses, and professional development programs available in communities throughout North Dakota. Students from all disciplines are invited to become involved in the NDCPDs varied research, service, training, and dissemination activities. For more information call JoLynn Webster, NDCPDs Pre-Service Interdisciplinary coordinator at 800-233-1737 or 701-858-3206, or stop at the NDCPD offices located in Memorial Hall 203.

Rural Crime and Justice Center

The Rural Crime and Justice Center (RCJC) is a self-contained research organization located at Minot State University in Minot, ND. The center was initially established in 1999 to explore the unique characteristics of rural crime and deviance. Over the years, RCJC’s role has expanded to include research and evaluation of various aspects related to criminal justice.

In February 2002, RCJC became a Center of Excellence on the campus of Minot State University. The North Dakota State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) defines “Centers of Excellence” as “…public/private partnership research /economic development efforts that will have a positive, long-term, measurable impact on the state’s economy and gross state product and may include the following components: creates private sector jobs; includes public/private sector partnerships; leverages other funding; stimulates new wealth; fosters and practices entrepreneurship; links to the New Economy Initiative clusters; grows North Dakota’s economy; addresses depopulation; supports bold aggressive initiatives; and represents major efforts intended to fund projects in the range of $1 million dollars each.”

The RCJC consists of three divisions including research, training, and business administration. Each division has a unique role and provides an organizational framework that allows RCJC to successfully manage and complete multiple projects, staff, and financial transactions.