

November 2006

Greetings,

Another academic year is in full-swing here at Dakota State University with the fall semester quickly rushing by. The following is a brief update on some campus happenings that have occurred over the past few months:

- The fall 2006 semester has seen a **record enrollment** at Dakota State University. The student head count at DSU rose from 2,329 in fall 2005 to the current 2,439 this fall. This 4.7 percent increase in students over last year represented the **largest percentage enrollment increase** of any of the six public SD universities.
- In August 2006, U.S. News & World Report named DSU the **Number One Public Comprehensive College – Bachelor’s Division – in the Midwest Region**. This ranking in the publication’s annual analysis of “America’s Best Colleges 2007” saw DSU move up from the second place ranking last year to the top spot this year.
- DSU is implementing its **first-ever doctoral degree** this fall. The Doctor of Science in Information Systems program currently has 14 enrolled students representing a new step in the evolution of DSU academic offerings.
- In September, DSU chartered a **new first-year Honor Society**. The Society is affiliated with the national Phi Eta Sigma society which is the largest and oldest such society in the U.S. The Phi Eta Sigma chapter at DSU recognizes those students that have performed at a very high academic level during their first year at DSU.
- The year-long **125th Anniversary Celebration** for DSU continues throughout fall 2006. In September, the Homecoming theme was, “Flashback Birthday Bash,” with a special emphasis on the 125th Anniversary.
- The DSU Football, Volleyball, and Cross-Country teams are wrapping up their 2006 seasons. Men’s and Women’s Basketball teams are beginning in early November, with the Women’s Team looking to defend their 2005-06 Dakota Athletic Conference title and advancement to the **NAIA National Tournament Elite Eight**.
- The DSU Bookstore website continues to add new merchandise regularly. Check www.dsubookstore.com for Holiday and winter graduation gift ideas including DSU apparel and 125th Anniversary gifts.
- This is now the third year of the Wireless Mobile Computing Initiative at the DSU campus meaning **every student has Gateway Tablet laptop computers**. This Initiative has been a great success and transformed the way students learn at DSU.
- As always, if you would like to receive future mailings of **this newsletter via email** (rather than a paper copy), please send an email to DeanOfStudentAffairs@dsu.edu . Include your student’s name in the subject line and in the text of your email, please indicate the email address to which you would like to receive the newsletter.

Please stop by the Student Services office in the Trojan Center if you are ever on campus. Learn more about the campus and keep in touch via the website at www.dsu.edu. Have a wonderful winter and Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

Steven W. Shirley, Ph.D.
Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs
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