

DATE: October 24, 2003  
TO: Faculty, Staff, and Students  
FROM: David C. Danahar, President  
SUBJECT: STRATEGIC PLANNING DAY

As you know, MnSCU and our accrediting agency the Higher Learning Commission – which will visit us in February for reaccreditation of the University – require that we engage in strategic planning. We are in the second year of our planning cycle. At the heart of our plan is our responsibility to do everything we can to better serve our students, community, and region.

On Wednesday, November 5, 2003, we will hold a very important Strategic Planning Day. Our objectives on this day will be to:

- 1) Understand and critique the current Strategic Plan paying attention to the goals, objectives, and progress presented in the report.
- 2) More fully integrate into the plan issues related to Student Affairs and Athletics.
- 3) Provide for alignment of our plan with the Strengths, Concerns, and Recommendations from the Self-Study Report for the Higher Learning Commission.
- 4) Make suggestions for the present, immediate future and long term for the next two-year planning cycle.

To facilitate addressing these objectives, we have made available on-line and in hard copy:

- The Progress Report of the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 Strategic Plan
- The Strength, Concerns and Recommendations from the Self-Study for the Higher Learning Commission
- A worksheet to facilitate critiquing the plan and aligning the plan with the Self Study

Please review all of the above cited materials. We will be reporting to the HLC on the results of the Strategic Planning Day. I look forward to working with you on November 5<sup>th</sup>.