

**2013 Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference**  
**A Strategic Funding Process: Emphasizing Shared Governance and Transparency**  
**Minnesota State University, Mankato**

<http://www.mnsu.edu/planning/spfunding.html>

## **Minnesota State University, Mankato**

Minnesota State University, Mankato is a comprehensive public Masters Large institution located approximately 85 miles southwest of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

- The University serves more than 15,000 students, including more than 750 international students from approximately 80 countries.
- The University provides more than 130 undergraduate programs of study, including 13 pre-professional, 46 undergraduate and graduate certificate, one associate and 134 bachelor's degree programs; and more than 70 graduate programs including master's, specialist and doctoral programs.
- The University's programs are offered through six academic colleges: Allied Health and Nursing; Arts and Humanities; Business; Education; Science, Engineering and Technology; and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

## **The Purpose**

Provide an opportunity and seed funding for innovative ideas to emerge from the campus community in support of the Institution's strategic priorities.

## **The Process**

The Strategic Priority Funding process that exists at Minnesota State University, Mankato today has roots extending back to pre-2004 as an innovation fund.

- Pre 2004 – An Innovation Fund
- 2004 – Strategic Priority Funding – Administrative
- 2006 – Strategic Priority Funding – Administrative/Planning Sub-Meet
- 2011 – Strategic Priority Funding – Joint Open Process

The process has primarily changed in ways that reflect greater shared governance, transparency, and assessment of results.

## **The Results**

During the past six years, 53 Strategic Priority Funding proposals have been awarded funds. Funded proposals have represented every division of the institution over the life-span of two University Strategic Plans.

## **Presenter**

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