

May 28-29, 2009

ITEM 143-2851-R0509

Updated Mission Statement; Montana State University - Great Falls College of Technology

THAT:

The Montana Board of Regents approves Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology (MSUGF) revised mission, vision, values, and core themes statements.

EXPLANATION:

Earlier this year, the MSUGF campus community collectively embarked on a journey re-affirming the core purpose of the campus as the community's college. Through various presentations, conversations, and working meetings, individuals across campus were touched by a shared commitment to refocusing on improved effectiveness as an institution and the success of our students and communities. In both the State of the College address and Faculty Convocation last fall, the campus announced the intent to revisit its existing Mission statement to see if (1) it resonated with what individuals believe they are here to do at MSU-Great Falls, (2) was articulated in a way that conveyed our vision, mission and values across campus, and (3) was well understood and easily communicated. Beginning with the information provided by a survey of the campus community, an integrated team of faculty, professional and classified staff spent numerous hours and meetings working through feedback and their collective belief of our purpose as an institution. The result of their work, having gone through various iterations, being vetted by numerous groups and individuals, and receiving the endorsement of the College Planning, Budget & Analysis Committee (shared governance committee) is attached for Regent approval.

In addition to the Vision, Mission and Values, this document incorporates the campus' Core Themes of operation under the community college model – workforce development, transfer, academic preparation, and community development. These identify the core areas of operations, and have set the stage for assessing institutional effectiveness and future accreditation review by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

**Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology
Vision, Mission, Values & Core Themes**

Tagline

Changing Lives – Achieving Dreams

Vision

In the next decade, MSU-Great Falls will play a leading role in transforming the lives of our students, their communities and the economic prosperity of Montana by responding to learner and community needs through the use of partnerships, innovation, outreach and technology.

Mission

Our Mission is to foster the success of our students and their communities through innovative, flexible learning opportunities for people of all ages, backgrounds, and aspirations resulting in self-fulfillment and competitiveness in an increasingly global society.

Values

- **Accountability** –We ensure our decisions are data-informed and grounded in the best interest of our students and their communities.
- **Integrity** – We value civic responsibility, high academic standards, ethical practices, and the courage to act.
- **Lifelong Learning** – We believe education is a lifelong necessity and commitment; we personify this belief by engaging and reengaging students from all generations in learning opportunities.
- **Respect** - We value differences and treat others with civility, encouraging open and honest communication.
- **Responsiveness** – We recognize and act upon opportunities to be innovative, flexible, and adaptable to our students' and communities' needs.
- **Student Success** – We are dedicated to student success and achievement; we strive to meet the educational needs of our students and their communities.

Core Themes

At MSU-Great Falls we live the community college experience through an open-access admissions policy, a comprehensive educational program, a focus on teaching and learning, and a philosophy of student-centeredness. We strive to attain our Mission through the core themes and goals of:

1. **Workforce Development:** Through applied programming our students successfully attain a credential leading to life sustaining careers;
2. **Transfer Preparation:** Our students complete transfer programming and successfully transfer toward a four-year degree;
3. **Academic Preparation:** We prepare individuals for success in college coursework through developmental (remedial) education and adult basic education; and
4. **Community Development:** As the community's college, we support social and economic development through outreach, lifelong learning, and active partnership.