



News Release

Contacts: Robert T. Tad Perry, Executive Director
tadp@sdbor.edu

Janelle Toman, Director of Information & Institutional Research
janellet@sdbor.edu

T: 605.773.3455

F: 605.773.5320

www.sdbor.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, June 27, 2008

Another History-Making Year for University Center

BROOKINGS, S.D. – In another history-making year for University Center, the Sioux Falls higher education center broke enrollment records and saw construction begin on two buildings housing classrooms, graduate education, and applied research.

In his annual report to the South Dakota Board of Regents, Executive Dean Mark Lee reported that University Center served a total of 3,405 unduplicated students over the past three semesters that ended this spring. The fall semester showed an 11 percent increase in total credit hours delivered, and an 8.4 percent increase in unduplicated headcount over the previous fall.

This year's spring semester was also up by 4.2 percent in unduplicated headcount numbers. Last summer's enrollment and credit hours equated to an 18.7 percent increase over the previous summer.

“Enrollments hit new all-time highs with strong enrollment demand evidenced across the board,” Lee said. “This success and progress are indicative of the commitment made to public higher education in the Sioux Falls area by the Board of Regents and the University Center partner universities.”

As further evidence of that progress, Lee pointed to a historic \$500,000 investment by Avera McKennan Hospital to support construction at University Center's new location, a private fundraising effort to target student scholarships, and delivery of new programs for mature learners through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

Degree programs approved for delivery in Sioux Falls over the past year included a doctor of science in information systems from Dakota State University, a master's degree in speech-language pathology from the University of South Dakota, bachelor's degrees in entrepreneurial studies and media production from South Dakota State University, and an associate degree from Black Hills State University in industrial technology.