

MSU/Normandale partnership formally launched

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Minnesota Valley Education Partnership Normandale Community College & Minnesota State University, Mankato

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One of the highlights of this new partnership is that [a number of 4-year degrees](#) from MSU, Mankato can be taken entirely at Normandale. (One of these degree offerings, for elementary education, has already received a national award for excellence from Phi Theta Kappa national honor society and the National Science Foundation.) Other courses for new programs offered this academic year at Normandale include special education certification/licensure; urban planning and local government management graduation certificates; professional development for teachers; and a Master of Arts degree in Public Administration.

New programs in the planning process for fall 2007 include Bachelor of Science programs in math, science, and engineering; technical communications program certificates; communication arts/literature teacher licensure; and undergraduate secondary education.

Participants at the signing ceremony included President Kathi Hiyane-Brown of Normandale Community College, President Richard Davenport of Minnesota State University, Mankato, representatives of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, Normandale student and program participant Trudy Lynch, Leanne Wasleske a 2004 graduate of the Mankato State Program at Normandale, staff from the respective institutions, and "Stomper," the Minnesota State, Mankato mascot.

The formation of the Minnesota Valley Education Partnership strengthens the quality and variety of academic programs in the Twin Cities and throughout the southwestern corridor of Minnesota. "This is a tremendous move forward as we fulfill our mission to be responsive to our community in the way of education options," said Normandale President Kathi Hiyane-Brown. "Working with like-minded partners like Minnesota State, Mankato is important to provide ways for students to be better prepared for the competitive marketplace, and ultimately contributing to the economic growth of our metropolitan area."