We Are the University of Minnesota

Key Points from the 2016 University Plan, Performance, and Accountability Report

For more detail about the following statements, please see the full report at z.umn.edu/accountabilityreport.

We are accessible.

- The University Promise Scholarship (or “U Promise”) provides scholarships to over 13,000 low-income and middle-income Minnesota undergraduates system-wide. Effective fall 2016, the upper income limit for eligibility was raised from $100,000 to $120,000, expanding eligibility for U Promise scholarships to an additional 1,400 students system-wide (p. 38).

- The total amount of gift aid to undergraduate students on the Twin Cities campus has increased, while the percent of students who graduate with student debt has decreased. For those who do borrow, the average and median loan debt amounts have decreased (p. 38).

- The Link program on the Duluth campus provides a pathway for interested Lake Superior College students to complete their undergraduate degrees through UMD (p. 45).

- In fall 2016, 19 percent of Morris students are American Indian students—the highest percentage of Native students at a four-year, non-tribal institution in the upper Midwest (p. 52).

- Forty percent of Morris students and 46 percent of Crookston students are the first in their family to attend college (pp. 52, 57).

- Crookston currently offers 14 of its 34 majors fully online as well as on campus, and more than half of all degree-seeking students are online students (p. 57).

- Rochester’s unique academic and life coaching program makes the campus accessible to a wider range of students than many other health sciences programs (p. 63).

- The Graduate Admissions Office offers application fee waivers to active duty members of the military, veterans, and McNair Scholars (p. 67).

- The Law School has sharply increased scholarship support for its students, with more than 90 percent of the most recent entering J.D. class receiving grant aid (p. 75).

- The Office of Human Resources formed a new Diversity and Inclusion Recruiting Team to create a network of community contacts to bring more job candidates from underrepresented groups to the University and help hiring managers build more diverse candidate pools (p. 109).
We attract outstanding students.

- The average ACT composite scores for the incoming Twin Cities class have improved significantly over the past ten years, from 25.9 to 28.3. New fall 2016 honors students showed an average ACT of 32.7 (p. 39).
- Through a holistic application process, Rochester recruits and admits students with a passion for health sciences, who will benefit from the distinctive UMR education model and who have a high probability of graduating in four years or fewer (p. 30).
- The Duluth campus has made strategic investments in seven programs, providing additional resources to meet student demand. The goal is to increase enrollment by 350 students across these programs within four years (p. 45).
- In spring 2015, two Morris students won Fulbright scholarships and another earned a Fulbright in spring 2016 (p. 53).
- Seventy-eight percent of new Crookston students surveyed in fall 2016 indicated that attending Crookston was their first choice (p. 58).
- One hundred eighteen graduate students on the Twin Cities campus are National Science Foundation Fellows, an all-time high (p. 70).
- The most recent entering class of J.D. candidates had a median LSAT at the 89th percentile nationally (p. 76).

We offer a great student experience.

- Twin Cities undergraduate students have the opportunity to enroll in new Grand Challenge Curriculum courses, which bring a solution-driven, interdisciplinary approach to important global issues (p. 40).
- Between 150 and 200 Duluth students participate each year in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, and several departments have nationally recognized summer undergraduate research programs (p. 46).
- The Morris campus offers the same focused experience as the upper Midwest’s many excellent private liberal arts colleges, but at half or a third of the price (p. 53).
- Crookston’s focus on experiential learning means students learn concepts and actively apply them through projects, simulations, field trips, site visits, community engagement and service learning projects, and interactions with professionals in the field (p. 60).
- Juniors and seniors on the Rochester campus engage in community-based learning through capstone experiences tailored to their interests (p. 63).
- A record number of entering graduate students of color and students from underrepresented backgrounds took part in the seven-week DOVE Summer Institute, designed to help create a welcoming and inclusive climate on campus (p. 69).
We graduate students prepared for success.

- First-year retention rates for students of color on the Twin Cities campus have improved significantly, and for the fall 2015 entering class, have exceeded the rate for other students (p. 41).
- Graduation rates on all campuses continue to improve (pp. 42, 49, 55, 62, 65), including the three-year graduation rate for transfer students (pp. 39, 57).
- The University continues to increase the number of undergraduate degrees conferred. The Crookston campus awarded 92 percent more degrees, Duluth 23 percent more, and Twin Cities 22 percent more compared to ten years ago (pp. 61, 49, 42).
- Ninety-five percent of Morris students who graduated in 2014 indicated that they were employed and/or in graduate or professional school one year after graduation (p. 54).
- To date, 100 percent of Rochester’s Bachelor of Science in Health Professions graduates have passed the exams for their professions and are employed in their chosen fields (p. 65).
- A 2016 survey showed a 97 percent placement rate for students receiving graduate degrees in 2014–2015 from the Duluth campus (p. 72).
- The University is the state’s primary source of well educated professionals for many industries, granting 1,385 health professional degrees, 327 legal-related degrees, 536 master of education degrees and 606 M.B.A. degrees in 2016 (p. 81).

We conduct breakthrough research that moves us forward.

- The University ranks eighth among U.S. public universities in research spending and generates an estimated $8.6 billion annual economic impact for Minnesota (p. 88).
- The MnDRIVE initiative is producing research and public-private partnerships in areas key to Minnesota’s economy and quality of life, such as global food ventures and the environment. The initiative has hired 511 people, including 31 faculty, and has involved more than 800 researchers from across the University’s five campuses. The state’s investment of $71 million has been leveraged with $167 million in outside funding. MnDRIVE-supported researchers have submitted 184 disclosures for inventions and helped launch 13 startup companies (pp. 90–91).
- The University responded to 166 online “Front Door Requests” in 2016, connecting business and community partners to University research and talent resources, a 70 percent increase from 2015 (p. 93).
- For the seventh consecutive year, the University launched a record number of startups and passed a milestone of 100 startups since 2006. More than 80 percent of University startups are still active (p. 93).
- The Minnesota Innovation Partnerships (MN-IP) program, designed to streamline University-industry partnerships, has led to 261 agreements with over 159 companies since its inception (p. 93).
We engage with communities.

- Twin Cities students in the Community Engagement Scholars Program provide a minimum of 400 hours of community service and produce a capstone project with a community organization (p. 40).
- The Morris campus partners with 44 area agencies and organizations to enrich student learning and meet community needs (p. 54).
- Through the Kris Nelson Community Based Research Program, the research and technical needs of community organizations are matched with graduate student research assistants to carry out community-defined and guided projects (p. 72).
- The Minnesota Collaborative Rural Oral Health Project increases access to oral healthcare in underserved rural Minnesota (p. 83).
- The Crookston, Morris, and Twin Cities campuses were listed on the 2015 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition an institution can receive for its community and civic engagement (p. 97).
- The University won a 2015 Innovation and Economic Prosperity Universities Award, which recognizes efforts by universities to advance the engagement and economic well-being of their regions (p. 98).
- The Northside Job Creation Team is more than halfway toward its goal of creating 1,000 sustainable jobs in North Minneapolis by 2019 (p. 99).
- Extension’s Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships serve Greater Minnesota with 145 active sustainable development projects across the state (p. 100).
- Twin Cities campus employees raised $1.2 million as part of its Community Fund Drive (CFD), which benefits seven nonprofit federations representing nearly 500 organizations. In the past 20 years, CFD has raised more than $20 million to benefit the community (p. 112).

We are a productive, efficient organization.

- Results of the 2015 employee engagement survey show that a large percentage of faculty and staff continue to be committed and dedicated to the University and feel motivated to go beyond their day-to-day responsibilities. Survey results indicate that faculty and staff experience the University as a respectful and empowering environment, and they report high levels of pride in working for the University (p. 107).
- The University’s self-insured health care costs are projected to be below the national average for the seventh year in a row (p. 111).
- In the three years since launching, the UMarket tool has saved University an estimated $2.7 million in procurement costs (p. 114).
- After four years, the University has achieved and/or specifically planned $70.5 million toward its committed $90 million goal of administrative cost reductions (p. 118).