Overview: Minnesota West (MN West) is employing a developmental and inclusive process to create a clear, measurable, and manageable strategic plan that will strive to elicit action and innovation. The four-phase process will provide opportunities for all MN West community members to connect, provide feedback, and develop a shared understanding of the College’s future.

Input & Guidance: A variety of opportunities will be available for students, employees, and other stakeholders to engage in the planning process, including sharing ideas, feedback, and insight. The Strategic Plan Leadership Team (SPLT) will be a cross-divisional and -college team that will lead and champion the strategic planning process. To ensure an effective and efficient strategic planning process, MN West has contracted with Dr. Jane Vangsness Frisch to work collaboratively with the SPLT.

Nominations Requested: Strategic Plan Leadership Team
SPLT will be comprised of one cabinet-level member, two deans, two directors, two faculty members, a student, and two ‘at-large’ members. The Provost’s office will solicit SPLT interest from the Deans and Directors. MSCF will solicit and provide a list of interested faculty members to the Provost’s office. ‘At-large’ members will be solicited through a college-wide nomination process (an online nomination form will be available in early August 2023). Individuals serving on the SPLT must commit to actively participating in all activities, including at least two meetings per month. President’s Cabinet will determine the final composition of the team based on nominations and interested individuals, seeking broad representation across the College community.

Process Overview and Timeline

Phase 1: Data Review and Community Understanding
Timeline: Mid-September – Mid-October 2023
This phase will focus on sharing and reviewing MN West data, information, plans, and metrics to create a common understanding of the College’s strengths and opportunities.

Phase 2: Priority Identification, Feedback, and Synthesis
Timeline: Mid-October – December 2023
College-wide discussions will be facilitated to confirm the mission/vision and identify priority opportunities. Feedback and ideas will also be solicited from external stakeholders during Phase 2. Based on all the collected data, discussions, and feedback, SPLT will identify salient themes and areas of focus.

Phase 3: Goal Identification and Feedback
Timeline: December 2023 – February 2024
SPLT will translate themes into 3-5 draft strategic goals. Feedback on draft strategic goals will be solicited from internal and external stakeholders. Strategies, assessment metrics, resources required for accomplishment, and responsible areas, groups, and/or individuals will be identified for each goal.

Phase 4: Adoption, Education, and Promotion
Timeline: March – May 2024
The Strategic Plan will be shared internally and externally. Priority goals and strategies will be identified for immediate action.

*Timelines may change slightly to accommodate schedules | 7.25.23