An analysis conducted by consulting firm Parker Philips estimates the contribution of Minnesota West Community & Technical College to the regional economy to be $128.6 million and 1,140 jobs.

The analysis considered the direct spending on operations, pay, benefits, and capital projects by Minnesota West and the estimated increase in demand for goods and services in industry sectors that supply or support the college. The study also measured the effect of student spending and the induced effect of increased household income.

A key result of this activity is that Minnesota West supports and sustains 1,140 jobs including direct employment by the college, as well as indirect and induced jobs created by supply and equipment vendors, contractors, and laborers for the construction and renovation of facilities, and jobs created in the community at hotels, restaurants, and retail stores in support of the college’s faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

The study also calculated tax revenues generated by this level of economic activity, including sales, property, personal income, and corporate income taxes. The study concluded that Minnesota West generates about $7.5 million in tax revenues for state and local government.

The study further estimated the value of the increase in productivity that the degrees awarded by Minnesota West yield throughout the careers of the graduates. Assuming a 40-year work life, the education received by these graduates will yield additional state income of $2.5 billion (future value, discounted and adjusted to account for such factors as foregone income while attending school and outmigration).

“Minnesota West makes a long-term contribution to the regional economy with every graduating class because the productivity improvements from higher education last for the worker’s entire career,” said Dr. Terry Gaalswyk, President of Minnesota West.

Statewide, all Minnesota State operations, including all seven state universities and 30 community and technical colleges, plus the spending of its faculty, staff, and students, had a total economic contribution of $8.0 billion. This activity generated an estimated 67,717 jobs in the state.
From the **PRESIDENT**

Ufta! It’s a good ol’ fashioned winter here in southwest Minnesota, and the winter blues can easily set in. However, each day I encounter students who persevere in the face of personal challenges. Each day, I witness faculty and staff focused on service to our students. Each day, I learn of students whose financial duress has been reduced through the generosity of our donors. Each day, I hear from our industry partners and healthcare providers regarding how much they value the talents of our graduates. These are what provide me with energy - the personal student stories, the commitment of our faculty & staff, the support of our alumni, and the success of our graduates – Each Day!

Recent news regarding the economic impact of our talented graduates and the operations of Minnesota West also provides me with great assurance. As you may have already read, Minnesota State’s system office engaged an independent consultant to assess the financial impact of our college. Minnesota West’s highly-skilled graduates and college operations generate $128.6 million annually in economic impact. Each day, this impact of our college’s purpose touches virtually every corner of our regional economy including agriculture, healthcare, education, hospitality, manufacturing, child day care services, and retail.

Of course, winter will give way to spring, and we will quickly transition into “graduation mode.” But until that great celebration, each day, the cheers of students at an athletic event, the sights of students as they climb our powerline poles, the teaching talents of our faculty, the commitment of our staff, and the support of our alumni will continue to provide me great energy and assurance.

Thank you for your care of Minnesota West and all that we do; your support is critical in the success of our students – Each Day!

Sincerely, Your President

Terry Gaalswyk

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**ONLINE EXCELLENCE**

Minnesota West was recently ranked in the top 10 percent of all online colleges nationwide for its leadership in distance education. The ranking from BestColleges.com earned the college a School of Distinction designation and a bronze standing among award winners. Minnesota West was one of only five community colleges receiving this honor.

Minnesota West was also ranked in the 2019 Most Affordable Online Colleges for Information Technology. This ranking, provided by SR Education group, recognizes colleges across the nation that are working to provide economical options with fully online offerings. Minnesota West is ranked 18 in the top 25 of schools across the nation.

**MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL**

Minnesota West Community & Technical College was once again named a Military Friendly School for 2019 by VIQTRY, an organization focused on connecting the military community to civilian opportunities. The college was also ranked second in the nation among small community colleges.

According to VIQTRY, the Military Friendly® Schools list has come to set the standard for higher education institutions to provide the best opportunities for veterans and their spouses. Institutions earning the Military Friendly® School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey completed by the school.
LAMB & WOOL GRADUATION
Minnesota West’s Lamb and Wool program held its annual Fall Kickoff meeting on our Pipestone, MN campus in November, providing the opportunity for Lamb and Wool students to network with each other and with Minnesota West faculty and administration. Instructors awarded diplomas and recognized an Outstanding Producer as well as students who have been involved in the Lamb and Wool program for 20 years. The Lamb and Wool program at Minnesota West is a sheep management education/consulting program with the goal of helping sheep producers increase income and profit through the production of quality lamb and wool. They do this by maximizing the profit per ewe and by realizing the full potential of all sheep through use of modern management practices, new technologies, and new approaches to marketing.

SOCIOLOGY INSTRUCTOR RECEIVES AWARD
Minnesota West Sociology instructor, Dr. Jay Vargas, attended the NEXUS: Liberal Arts Research Symposium in Brownsville, Texas where he and his classmates presented “Decoloniality: From Theory to Praxis. Nepantlerxs Comprometidxs con el Conocimiento.” Jay and his peers were awarded Most Outstanding Graduate Student Presentation at the Symposium! This presentation was part of Dr. Vargas’s sabbatical work during spring semester 2018.

NURSING PROGRAM PROSPERS IN THE NEW YEAR
The Minnesota West Nursing program continues to strengthen its program through funding and collaboration in 2019:

• The Minnesota West Nursing program has secured $48,000 in funding through two new grants: 1) the Culturally Relevant Teaching Praxis in Nursing Education grant in collaboration with Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) and Minnesota State University Mankato for $10,000, and 2) the Foreign Born Nursing Student Success grant for $38,000.

• Nursing students in the Minnesota West Professional Nursing (RN) Associate Degree Program are provided with an expanded application timeframe to the SMSU RN to BSN Program. This will allow Minnesota West nursing students to apply to the SMSU BSN program at the beginning of their Minnesota West Professional Nursing (RN) Associate Degree Program.

• Renovation of the nursing labs on the Pipestone Campus is currently in process along with $10,000 in new equipment for clinical experience and virtual simulations.

• Minnesota West hosted the MN Board of Nursing and the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) in February 2019.
Dear Alumni and Friends of Minnesota West,

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of the Minnesota West Foundation, I am pleased to present this annual report for fiscal year 2018. This report recognizes the many supporters of the students and programs at Minnesota West, and it provides a snapshot of our Foundation’s fiscal health.

2017-18 was a solid year for the Foundation. We awarded more than 100 scholarships totaling almost $100,000, and we grew our net assets by over 6% from the previous fiscal year. We also received over $400,000 in equipment donations, which went toward strengthening our college programs.

The purpose of the Minnesota West Foundation continues to be to support the mission of Minnesota West. We do that through funding for scholarships and development opportunities for students, and through support of our college programs. Although we are a small Foundation in comparison to what you might find at a four-year university, we have fervent supporters and a growing, vibrant college that we are honored to be a part of.

We hope you enjoy the newsletters, and we thank you for your continued support of Minnesota West!

Sincerely,

Kevin Paulsen, Board Chair

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**INCOME**

- Cash Contributions: $271,882 (32.99%)
- Non Cash Contributions: $422,952 (51.32%)
- Net Investment Income: $38,762 (4.70%)
- Other Income: $90,499 (10.98%)
- Total Income: $824,094

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**EXPENSES**

- General Operating: $118,112 (15.88%)
- Student Scholarships: $95,440 (12.84%)
- Program and College Support: $107,061 (14.40%)
- Non-Cash College Support: $422,952 (56.88%)
- Total Expenses: $743,565

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The complete 2018 financials for the Minnesota West Foundation can be found at [www.mnwest.edu/foundation](http://www.mnwest.edu/foundation)
We thank the following donors for their generous support of the Minnesota West Foundation!

Great care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you see any discrepancies, please contact the Minnesota West Foundation.

This list includes both cash and non-cash donations (non-cash are in italics).

FRIENDS ($1 - $99)
- American Sheep
- Avis Freitag
- Barry Nienhaus
- Bart & Peggy Cavanaugh
- Blake Meshke
- Bonnie Habeck
- Bruce Amundson
- Carolyn Weber
- Catharine McCann
- Deborah Bierbaum
- Dennis Hampel
- Dona Noble
- Dorothy Sietsema
- Douglas & Talana Mathiowetz
- Janet Full
- Jason and Jennifer Braun
- Jason Ourada
- Jodi Christensen
- John Olson
- Karen Miller
- Karsten Piper
- Kevin & Betty Oeltjenbruns
- Kile Behrends
- Larry & Dede Burlingame
- Laurie Johnson
- Leola Weets
- Lisa Smith
- Marco
- Mark Anderson
- Michael and Stacy Chaffee
- Minka Farm, LLC
- Murlaine Rieger
- Pamela Davids
- Paulette Wiesen
- Peter & Jeanne Suby
- Randy & Theresa Holinka
- Rebecca Weber
- Richard and Dianne Dalrymple
- Rita Christianson
- Riverside Stock Farms Inc.
- Robert & Bonnie Bents
- Robert & Margaret Willardson
- Robert and Jane Benson
- Robert Nervig
- Roger Knudson
- Ryan Gravenhof
- Scott Anderson
- Scuttlequip Farm
- Shirley Frisch
- Travis Ling
- William and Phyllis Henderson

SUPPORTERS ($100-$499)
- Cherri Fjermestad
- Amber Luinenburg
- Angela Hoffman
- Brad Christensen
- Brian Johnson
- Brian Winsel
- Casey’s of Sherburn, MN
- Cody Cannon
- Dan Roos
- Debra and John Oberfeul
- Denise Sik
- Dr. Rita Miller
- Farmers & Merchants State Bank Alpha
- Gary & Marie Hoffmann
- Gary Bice
- Greta Pullman
- Jack Talley
- Jackie Lage
- John and Julie Bush
- John Iverson
- Jon Orlando Vigi
- Joyce Burns
- Kevin Paulsen
- Kip Thorson
- Kirby Baumgard
- Le Lucht
- Leslie Bauman
- Linda & Burdette DeGriselles
- Lori Alderson
- Lynn Vanderplas
- Mara Beth Van Orman
- Martin Marietta Materials
- Micha Armitage
- Michael & Tami Wesselink
- Michael DeVries
- Michael Dierks
- Michael and Donna Van Keulen
- North Star Mutual Insurance
- Pamela Jensen
- Paul Lanoue
- Paula & Jeff Orthaus
- Peter Girard
- Raymond Louwagie
- Richard & Dianne Dalrymple
- Roger & Marlyn DeVries
- Rolf Mahlberg
- Runnings of Canby, MN
- Sally Vogt
- Sandi Mead
- Scott and Theresa Bennett
- Sharon Balster
- Suzanne Iverson
- Terry Peterson
- Thomas Williams
- Tim Buysse
- Triumph State Bank
- Valerie Klumper
- William Roney and Joanne Kelley

BENEFACORS ($500-$999)
- Alberta Lamb Producers
- Alliant Energy
- Annie Magnuson
- Arthur Frame
- Bank Midwest
- Bruce Peterson
- Canby Farmers Grain Co.
- Clifford & Karen Vrieze
- Compeer Financial Services
- Daily Globe
- Dawn Regnier
- Deb and Greg Peterson
- DeMuth Insurance Agency
- Farmers State Bank of Trimont
- Federated Rural Electric Trust
- First National Bank of Lakefield
- Fulda Area Credit Union
- Gerald and Marja Norris
- Gerald Parks
- Jeff and LouAnn Williamson
- Jodi Landgaard
- Joel Kunze
- Lucht Law Offices
- Minnesota Elks Association
- Minnesota Rural Electric Association
- MN Rural Electric Fishing Tournament
- Muth Electric Inc.
- Odin State Bank
- Paul Strom
- Premier 1 Supplies LLC
- Ronald Schwint
- Rotary Club of Canby
- Roxanne Hayenga
- SD Retail Lumberman’s Association
- Sears Electric Association Trust
- Teresa Noyes
- Teresa Quintal
- Tom Wacholz
- Deb Ladner
- Duke Energy
- East River Electric Power Coop
- Fresco, Inc.
- Gaylin Zeigler
- Granite Falls Bank
- Jeannette and Curt Olson Foundation
- Jody Olson
- Katherine Gallagher
- Lake Country Power
- Lee-Noonen/Minnkota Sales
- Linda Vos
- Minnesota Energy Center
- Myron Moser
- Northern Growers, LLC
- Otter Tail Power Company
- Peter Leto
- Sanford Health
- Southern District Dental Society
- Southwest Initiative Foundation
- Terry Gaalswyk
- Tim Hansen Memorial Ride
- Tolomatic
- Ziegler Cat

CHAMPIONS ($10,000 - $99,999)
- Appletree Institute
- Chris Svoboda
- Donna Meidinger
- GSI Group
- Hartfiel Company
- John W. Mooty Foundation Trust
- RDO Equipment
- Redwood Electric Cooperative
- The Specialty Manufacturing Co.

PLATINUM CHAMPIONS ($100,000+)
- Pipestone County Implement

PATRONS ($1,000-$9,999)
- Ben and Meeta Baliga
- Benco Electric
- Blair and Julie Metzger
- Carr Family Foundation
- Connexus Energy
- Crow Wing Power
- Crystal Valley
- Dale & Joanne Carlson
- Dean’s Construction
March 21st – **Canby Xtravaganza** – Highlighting Programs on the Canby Campus! Raffle all day; Burger Feed 11 am - 7 pm; Program Shadowing of Diesel Technology, Dental Assistant, Electrician and Wind Energy Technology from 10 am to 12:00 pm; RSVP at www.mnwest.edu

March 26, 28 – **Early Registration Event** for students planning to start in the fall of 2019; Canby Campus, Jackson Campus, or the Luverne Center – March 26; Granite Falls Campus, Pipestone Campus, Worthington Campus - March 28; More information and RSVP at www.mnwest.edu


**Campus Graduations**
- Canby - May 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Canby High School Gymnasium.
- Granite Falls - May 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Yellow Medicine East High School Auditorium.
- Jackson - May 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Jackson County Central Performing Arts Center.
- Pipestone & Luverne - May 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pipestone High School Gymnasium.
- Worthington - May 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Minnesota West Center for Health and Wellness

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**Join Our Board of Directors**

We are Growing Our Team! We have openings for our Minnesota West Foundation Board of Directors!

We are seeking individuals who:
- Have a passion for our mission
- Will represent our college and our communities
- Are looking for an opportunity to give back and to help others do the same

For more information, please contact:  
**Michael Van Keulen, Executive Director**  
michael.vankeulen@mnwest.edu • 507-223-1329

**Foundation Board of Directors Job Description:**

The Foundation Board is composed of selected persons who represent positive leadership and influence and who have an interest and desire to assist the College through the Foundation Board. Board members are elected to three-year terms of office and have the following responsibilities.

- To provide leadership, develop policies, and help to set goals for the organization.
- To attend and actively participate in quarterly Foundation Board meetings, committee meetings, and special events.
- To assist in implementing various fundraising programs such as annual campaigns, capital campaigns, planned giving programs, donor recognition programs, special projects, and special events.
- To identify and assist in recruiting others who can effectively serve on the board.
Itemizing Charitable Contributions on Tax Returns

As income tax return season moves into full swing, you are likely seeing the result of changes to the federal income tax laws enacted by the US Congress in late 2017. Among other changes, the standard deduction for single filers is now $12,000 for single filers and $24,000 for married couples filing jointly. For many filers, itemizing deductions such as home mortgage interest and charitable giving won’t make as much sense... unless you reside in Minnesota.

According to the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, “Minnesota taxpayers who do not itemize deductions on their federal income tax return may subtract a portion of their charitable contributions from their taxable income on their state return. Minnesota’s charitable deduction, also known as the non-itemizer charitable deduction, provides a 50 percent tax deduction for total charitable contributions over $500, which can include contributions to 501(c)(3) organizations that are not located in Minnesota.” So, hold onto those receipts for the 2018 tax year. They can still come in handy for state income tax filing.

If you don’t reside in Minnesota, be sure to research your state’s rules around itemizing deductions.

Alumni Updates

What have you been up to? We would love to hear from you! Go to www.mnwest.edu/profile-update and let us know! Be sure to check us out on facebook at www.facebook.com/minnesotawest and post a selfie!

1960s and 1970s

Linda (Murphy) Cole (1966, Secretarial) – Linda was part of the first graduating class from the newly opened Southwest Minnesota Vocational School in Jackson, MN. After graduation, she worked for John Morrell in Sioux Falls, SD, at the South Dakota State Capitol in Pierre, SD, then at Honeywell and General Mills in the Twin Cities. She and her husband Cliff now live in Charlotte, NC. She would love to reconnect with any of her classmates and can be reached at ccole12013@aol.com.

Wayne Wyffels (1970, Plumbing) – Wayne retired in February 2018 from the plumbing industry after 47 years. He owned and operated Wayne’s Plumbing for the past 37 years. He & his wife Kathy live in Minneota, MN, and have three grown children.

Todd Pack (1974, Liberal Arts) – After a 30 year teaching career, Todd went on to work for Education Minnesota, where he has been since 2008. He is currently located in the St. Cloud, MN office. During his time at Worthington Community College, he participated in football, basketball, and baseball. Throughout his teaching career, he coached football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball. He and his wife Debi live in St. Cloud.

1980s

Kerri Holt (1984, Accounting) – Kerri currently works for Caswell Cycle in Mora, MN. She and her husband Brad live in Brook Park, MN.

1990s

Doug Zemler (1996, Electric Utility Substation Technology) – Doug is the Program Coordinator for the Electrical Technology Program at Iowa Lakes Community College. He also teaches the Department of Labor Electrical Apprenticeship courses and Iowa Electrical Continuing Education courses. He lives in Spirit Lake, IA, with his wife Tammy and two daughters.

Lisa Bents (1997, Liberal Arts/Human Services) – After graduation, Lisa went on to complete her B.A.S. in Psychology from the University of Minnesota Duluth in 2001. Today she is the Program Director of the In-Home Family Support Program for the Duluth Regional Care Center. She lives in Lake Nebagamon, with Remington (her Husky), and three cats.

Kyle Stumpf (1998, Electric Utility Substation Technology) – Kyle works for EPC Services, an electrical utility project company. He lives in Gresham, OR.

2000s

Neil Frodermann (2002, Liberal Arts) – Neil was recently hired as the Plattsmouth, NE Public Works Director. Since 2004 Neil had worked for the Public Works Department in Fulda, MN, where he lived with his wife and three children.

Karen Tvedt (2005, Nursing) – Karen is currently the Director of Nursing at Sanford Medical Center in Chamberlain, SD.

2010s

Michele Stein (2012, Medical Secretary) – Michele works at Stevens Community Medical Center in Morris, MN as a ward secretary. She and her significant other Reed live in Chokio, MN.

Jordan Behr (2013, Law Enforcement) – Jordan was recently promoted to a full time deputy for the Jackson County, MN Sheriff’s Office. He and his wife Edith live in Worthington with their two children, Zoraya and Mahteo.

Parker Sandhurst (2013, Liberal Arts) – Parker was recently hired as Communications Coordinator for Independent School District 518 in Worthington, MN. In his new role, he will be communicating with district employees, parents, students and district residents across a variety of messaging systems.

Kara Honius (2014, Liberal Arts) – Kara is currently enrolled in the University of South Dakota Occupational Therapy doctorate program, with a goal to complete her degree in 2020.

Abdi Mohamed Nur (2016, Business Management) – Abdi and his family live in Marshall, MN where he is a customer service manager at Walmart. His wife is a current Minnesota West student.

Morgan LeBrun (2018, Nursing) – Morgan is a Labor and Delivery Registered Nurse with Avera in Marshall, MN.

Nery Garcia (2018, Law Enforcement) – Nery was sworn in on November 5th as a new officer recruit with the Sioux Falls, SD Police Department.

Nick Ahrens (2018, Liberal Arts) – Nick is currently a student at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, where he transferred after playing football for Minnesota West. He is an Industrial Distribution major and also works as a drone camera operator for the university football team.
Star gazing parties at Minnesota West could become a whole lot more exciting. A recent gift to the college of a 10-inch telescope from Grand Forks, ND resident Gregg Swanson, should help with that.

According to Minnesota West Math, Physics, and Astronomy instructor, Dr. Paul Seifert, he and Swanson are friends from their time in the Fargo-Moorhead astronomy club in Fargo, ND. When he moved from Fargo to Grand Forks, Swanson upgraded his personal telescope and observatory and decided to donate his current setup to his old friend. The telescope is a 10-inch Meade RCX400, completely automated and computer-controlled. It includes a SkyShed Pod observatory so that the entire unit can be stored outside.

The next step will be to find a permanent location on the Worthington campus for the telescope, build a concrete slab, and then install the observatory. “Until then,” says Dr. Seifert, “I will just set up the telescope outside for student viewing sessions and public star parties.”