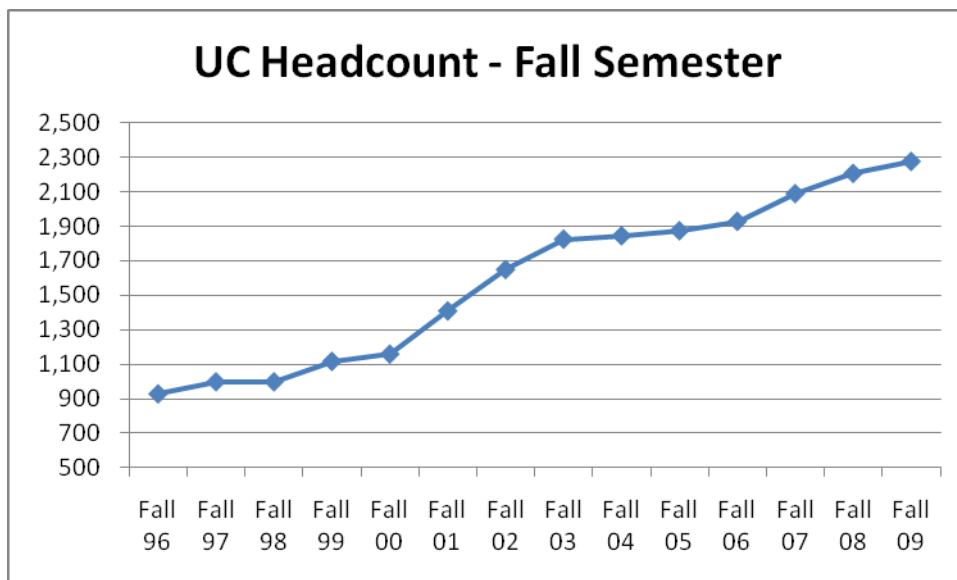


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### University Center Enrollment Increases for Fall 2009

SIOUX FALLS, SD – October 5, 2009 – Enrollment at South Dakota Public Universities & Research Center (University Center) is up 3.1% for the fall of 2009. Total enrollment at UC this fall is 2,275 students, an increase of 69 students over fall 2008.

“This fall continues the consistent pattern of growth we have seen over the last several years” said Mark Lee, University Center Executive Dean. In the past five years, University Center has grown from 1,845 students in the fall of 2004 to 2,275 today – an increase of over 23%. Since fall 2000, the last fall term at the Bergeland Center in downtown Sioux Falls, University Center has seen significant enrollment growth. In this time, headcount has grown by 96% and the number of credit hours delivered has increased by 178%.



For the fall 2009 term, the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students at University Center is 1,217. This is determined based on credit hours taken at undergraduate and graduate levels. The difference between University Center’s headcount enrollment and FTE points to the type of students who study at University Center – individuals attending part-time while working full or part-time jobs. Lee noted, “Our continued growth confirms our mission to serve the unique needs of adult learners in the Sioux Falls community.”



Enrollment growth in recent years created the need for more space to deliver classes. University Center operates out of a new classroom building and research center at N. Career Avenue and 60<sup>th</sup> Street while continuing to use space on the STI campus. Classes were first offered in the new building beginning in January 2009.

### About University Center

South Dakota Public Universities & Research Center, or University Center, provides the greater Sioux Falls community with convenient local access to public higher education programs from in-state partner Universities. University Center offers programs from the University of South Dakota, South Dakota State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University and Black Hills State University. At University Center the focus is on the adult learner and academic programs and courses that foster and support the economic development of the Sioux Falls area.

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