



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Dakota State's New MBA for New Era**

BROOKINGS, S.D. – Dakota State University in Madison has received the go-ahead to offer a specialized master of business administration degree that reflects the university's unique information technology mission and is designed to provide a flexible approach specifically for the Sioux Falls region. It will be offered starting this fall at University Center in Sioux Falls.

“Because of Dakota State's reputation for innovation and our distinct mission, this degree is different from other MBA programs offered in the area,” said DSU President Doug Knowlton. “Two information technology courses will be required of all students, and the students will be able to work with faculty to design specializations that would recognize unique courses and fields of study: logistics or sustainability, for example,” he said.

The Dakota State program will prepare entry-level and lower middle-management professionals for advancement or a career change. People who are currently employed will be able to enroll and complete the degree in Sioux Falls on a part-time basis through face-to-face instruction.

A 2008 market study in the Sioux Falls area indicated a growing demand for employees with graduate degrees in business. Over the past two years, University Center officials have fielded an average of 15 inquiries a month asking about MBA programs. The MBA is considered an ideal foundation for management positions in a wide array of organizations and business structures.

An estimated 35 students will be admitted into the program each year, reaching a steady-state enrollment of 90 students by the fourth year.

#### **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.