

Initiative Fund Staff Development Grant

FY08 Final Report

Submitted by Minnesota West Community and Technical College

The annual League of Innovations conference was held in Denver, CO, March 2 – 5, 2008. Minnesota West was represented by eight individuals: two faculty, two advisors, one campus administrator and three college administrators. The over 300 sessions provided opportunities for each in their area of interest.

The college is thankful for the initiative fund staff development grant in the amount of \$5,000 and combined that with institutional money of \$7,073.32 to support development opportunity.

Highlights of the conference included not only the presentations attended, but also the access to educational vendors as well as evening meals discussing new and emerging ideas from sessions attended. Minnesota West attendees concentrated on online learning, advising and leadership and organization. General sessions regarding current trends in the relationship between architecture and learning provided a perspective that we don't normally think of in our geographic area. A session on financial aid and its role in enrollment management reinforced that office's relationship within the college. Presentations of various online tools provided inspiration to the faculty in attendance.

We are currently developing an evaluation tool and looking at opportunities for those in attendance to provide presentations or participation on a panel at fall workshop. Those in attendance found the conference to be useful in their responsibilities at the college. The administration will revisit opportunities for continued participation in the League of Innovations Conference, promoting preparation of presentation by our attendees.