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Contact

Melissa Weber, Director of Communications
Phone: 320-589-6414, weberm@morris.umn.edu

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer
Phone: 320-589-6068, jrray@morris.umn.edu

Morris Receives College Success Grant from Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation

Summary: Morris receives grant that will help 45 first-year students achieve success in college.

(August 15, 2013)-The University of Minnesota, Morris recently received a *College Success* grant in the amount of \$155,555 from [Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation](#). This grant will help 45 first-year students achieve success in college by helping them develop campus connections to increase their odds of completing their programs of study.

Morris was one of 28 organizations to receive some of the \$4.5 million in *College Success* grant funds awarded by Great Lakes. Morris's "College Success Program" was funded based on the support services it provides to help students overcome obstacles that prevent them from staying in and completing college. The program will provide specialized services during the 2013-2014 academic year to students through holistic faculty advising, peer tutoring, scheduled interaction activities, and personalized goal setting.

"With the *College Success* grant, Morris will be able to bring together a suite of services that will allow us to be proactive and intentional in our support for first-year students from underrepresented backgrounds," says Hilda Ladner, assistant to the chancellor for equity and diversity. "The Morris College Success Program will also provide opportunities for upper-division students to work as mentors, tutors, and writing consultants, keeping them engaged and moving towards their own college completion."

Great Lakes' *College Success* grant is designed to support and reward programs that give such students specialized help, such as tutoring, mentoring, intensive advising, and access to learning communities—help that is known to keep students enrolled and on track academically and socially for program completion. For the students served, earning a degree, diploma, or certificate opens the door to the many benefits of higher education.

Twenty-eight programs across Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin will serve more than 4,000 undergraduate students at two-year, four-year, and technical colleges during the 2013-2014 academic year and will focus on those students with the most to gain.

Knowing that education has the power to change lives for the better, Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation & Affiliates helps millions of students pay for college and repay their student loans. Through Community Investments, Great Lakes leads initiatives and funds programs that help students from traditionally underserved backgrounds start and complete a two- or four-year degree or other credential. For additional information, visit mygreatlakes.org/community.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.