



# VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

## SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

JANUARY 19, 2021

ALAN LAFAVE, D.M.A.

PRESIDENT



**VALLEY CITY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY



## President Alan LaFave Experience and Bio

### **Administrative Experience**

Valley City State University, Valley City, N.D. (2018– )

- President

Northern State University, Aberdeen, S.D. (1991–2018)

- Provost, Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Dean, School of Fine Arts
- Interim Dean, Graduate and Extended Studies
- Associate Dean, School of Fine Arts
- Department Chair, Music



# Serving North Dakota since 1890

Past, present and future

- 65 undergraduate programs
- 13:1 faculty-to-student ratio
- Ranked “Best Colleges” for 23 consecutive years by U.S. News
- Ranked "Most Beautiful Campus in North Dakota" by BuzzFeed
- 21% growth in headcount in 10 years
- National Register of Historic Places
- Capital campaign underway

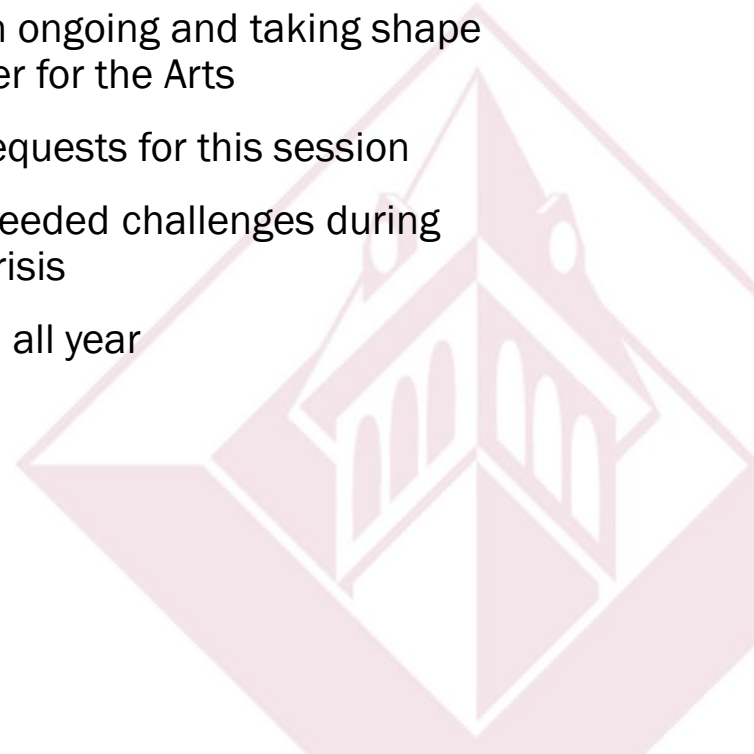




# Introductory Remarks

## Key Takeaways

- We support the NDUS needs based budget request
- We support the new funding formula and budget appropriations
- Construction ongoing and taking shape for the Center for the Arts
- No capital requests for this session
- Met and exceeded challenges during the health crisis
- Stayed open all year

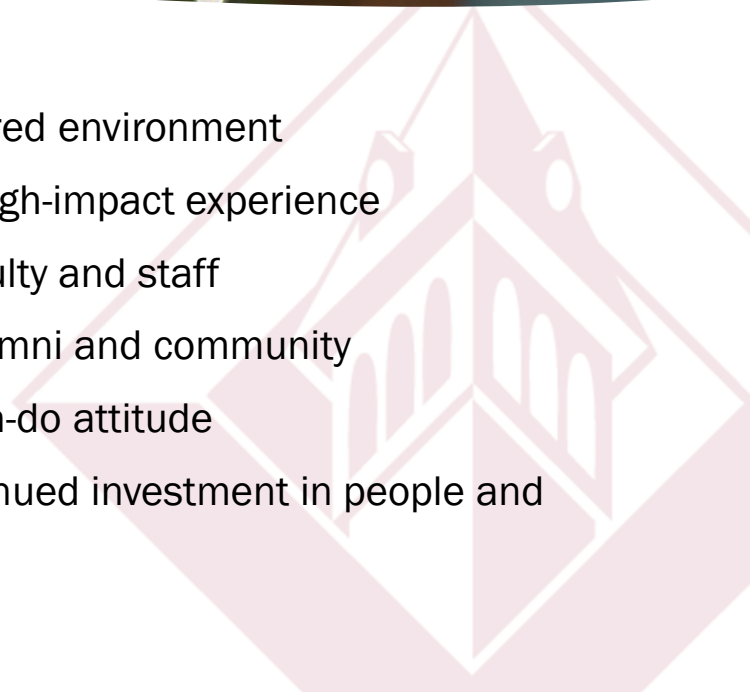




## We All Row!

Our success is  
a team effort.

- Student-centered environment
- High-quality, high-impact experience
- Dedicated faculty and staff
- Supportive alumni and community
- Innovative, can-do attitude
- Need for continued investment in people and infrastructure





# Academic Success

## Student Opportunity for Academic Research (or SOAR)

### Matthew Lein, Software Engineer

- Did research for the Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment
- Published a computational physics paper
- Graduate BS Software Engineering
- Minors in Computer Science, Math, Physics
- Fergus Falls, Minn. native
- Joined the VCSU campus in 2016 as a freshman
- Now works at EPIC, the nation's largest healthcare software firm



# Academic Success

## SOAR Faculty Research Spotlight

### Dr. Emily Fenster

- Expert in sociology, gerontology (the study of old age), and human services
- A total of 9 academic departments have hosted 34 distinct undergraduate research projects for 34 students and 20 faculty mentors as a part of the SOAR program since 2014
- Mentors students on how to conduct research
- A student researched Billboard hit songs from 2006 to 2016 and the societal trends



# Academic Success

## North Dakota Teachers

"Survey data from North Dakota schools found that 97.8% either 'agree' or 'tend to agree' that VCSU first-year teachers effectively teach the subject matter in his/her licensure area."

- *Dr. Alan Olson, VCSU Ed. Professor*







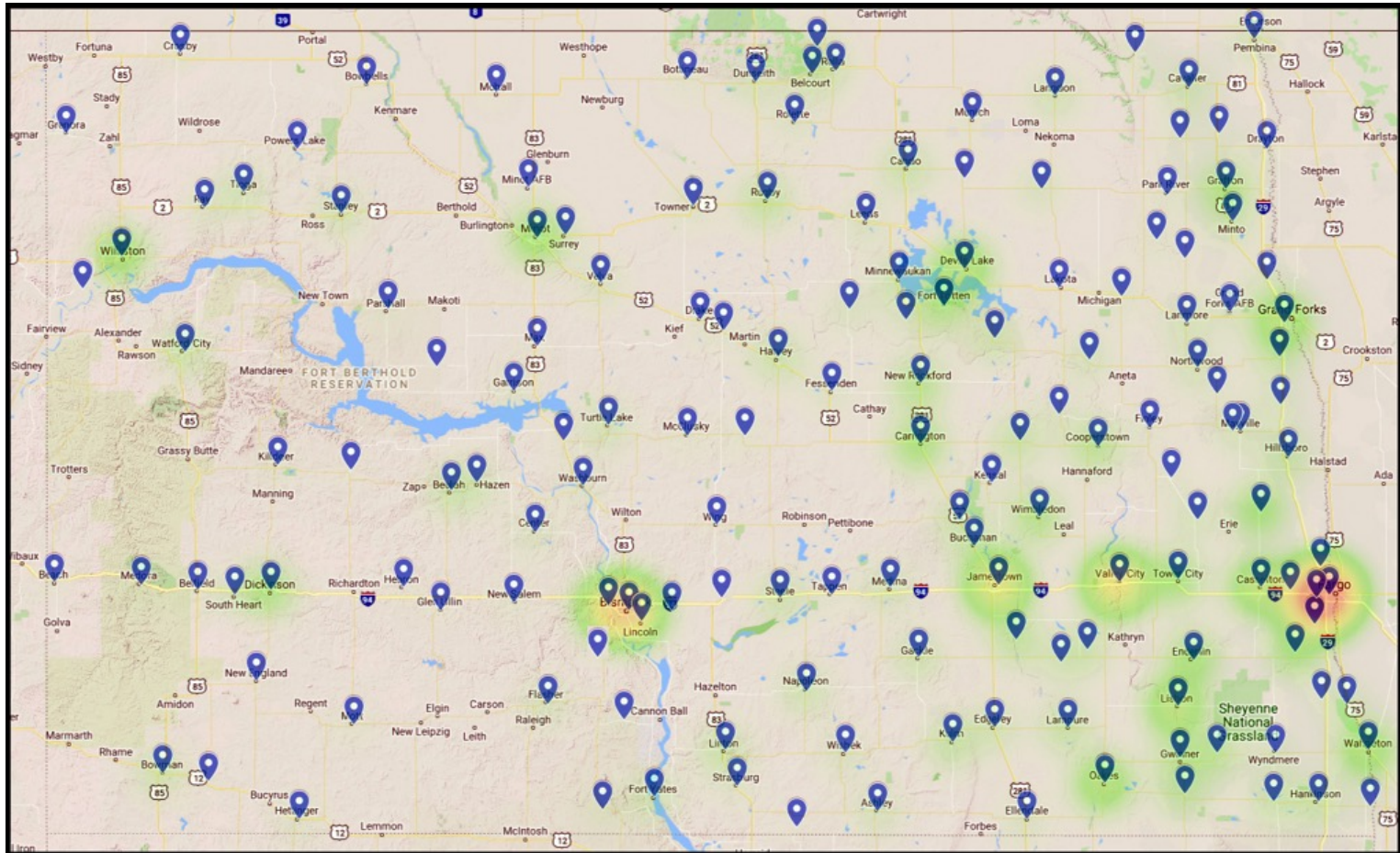
# Academic Success

## Education Programs

- 130 years of service to the state
- Training teachers who are serving all over North Dakota, the U.S. and abroad
- Multigenerational teachers making an impact such as the Lentz family
- Elementary Education majors created “Viking Time” (for virtual caring and support)

# Preparing Teachers for North Dakota

1,438 VCSU alumni teachers and administrators at 336 schools  
in 157 North Dakota communities





## Academic Success

### Student Highlights

- VCSU fisheries and wildlife students helped relocate mussel bed in major research project
- VCSU computer science and software engineering student Shane Hitch became 1 of 8 interns at NASA and played a key role as a security expert



# New Initiatives

## Rural School Partner Benefit Program

- Partnership between regional school districts and VCSU to assist rural North Dakota schools attract and retain their teacher workforce
- Waivers for teachers pursuing a Masters
- Discussions began in 2018 and finalized in 2019
- VCSU reduces rates for district teachers pursuing graduate credits for dual-credit certification or master's programs
- Districts provide field experiences and student-teacher placements and assessments for VCSU preservice teachers and assist with teacher preparation through participation in panel discussions, mock interviews and guest speaker presentations on campus
- First two programs started in Lisbon High School and Valley City High School in 2018, added Central Cass, Kindred, Elgin/New Leipzig in 2019



## New Initiatives

### Indians into STEM (INSTEM) Partnership

- This initiative, just underway this year, is the Indians in STEM partnership
- Plan to develop vision, project outcomes, assessment measures in spring 2021
- Forming stakeholder steering committee
- Continue Middle School STEM Academy at VCSU in summer 2021 as transition to INSTEM project



# New Academic Programs

## Digital Design Program

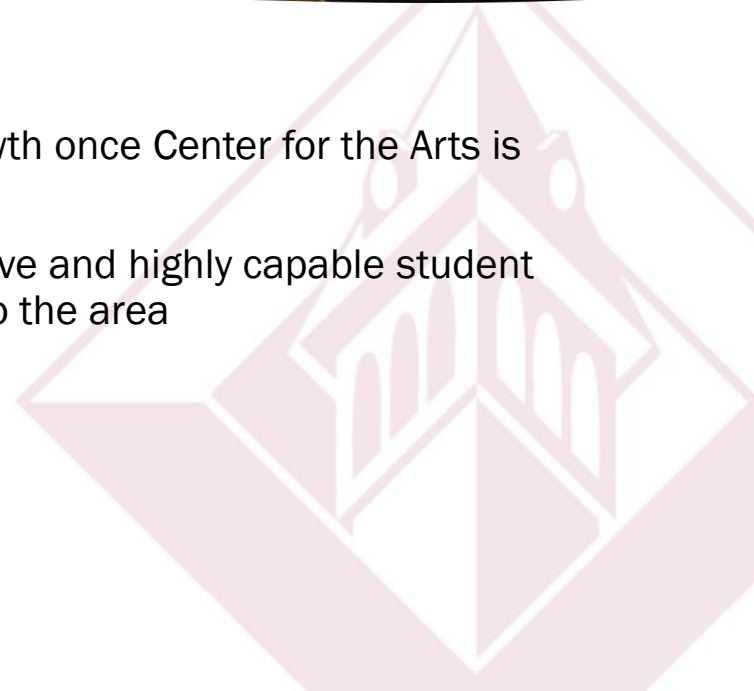
- Provides students with a well-rounded digital design experience
- Students gain skills in visual communication, creative problem-solving, and an understanding of the theories of visual communication
- Students can pursue graphic design, digital imaging, photography and illustration, web design, and time-based art.



## New Academic Programs

Sound Production Program

- Expecting growth once Center for the Arts is complete
- Draws a creative and highly capable student population into the area



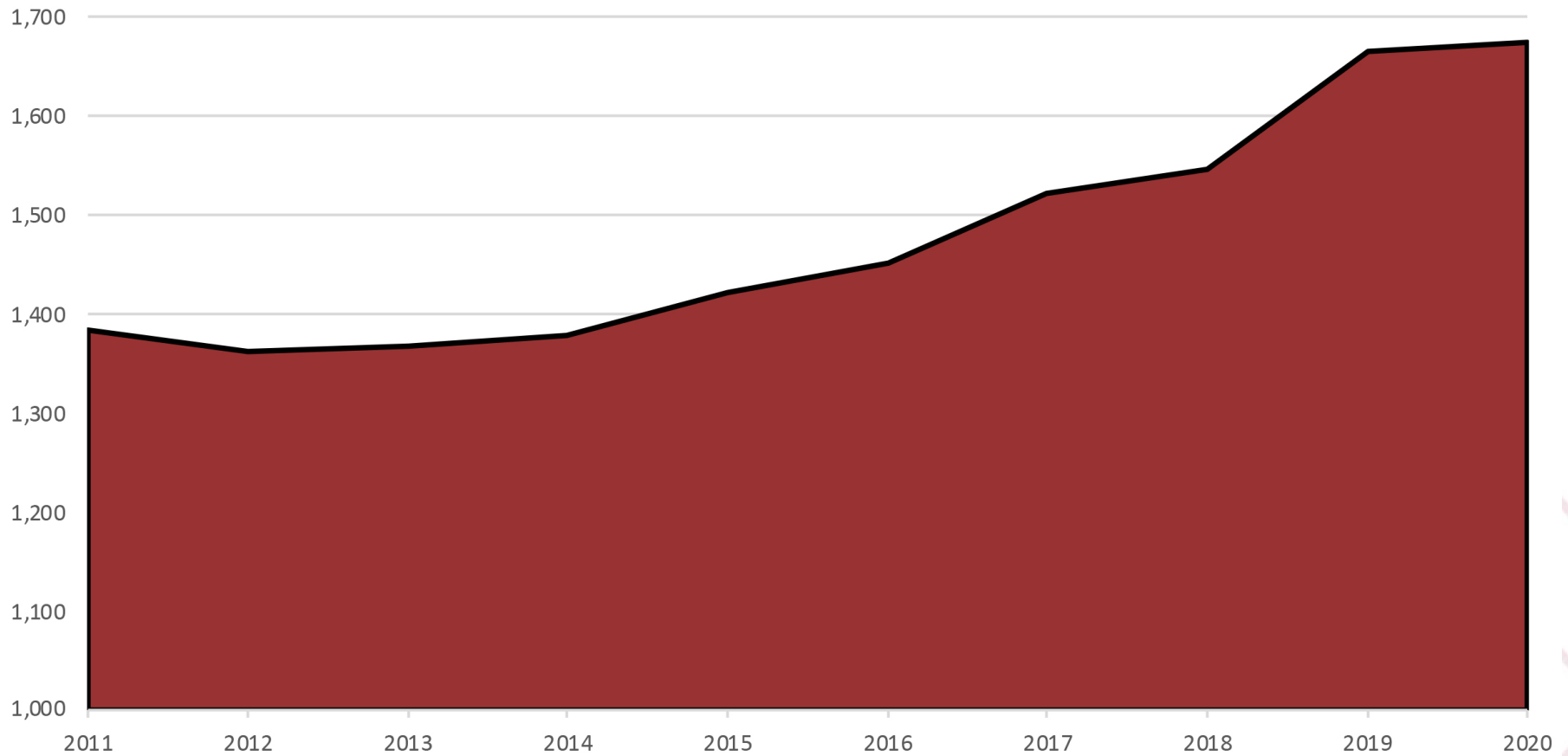
# National Recognition





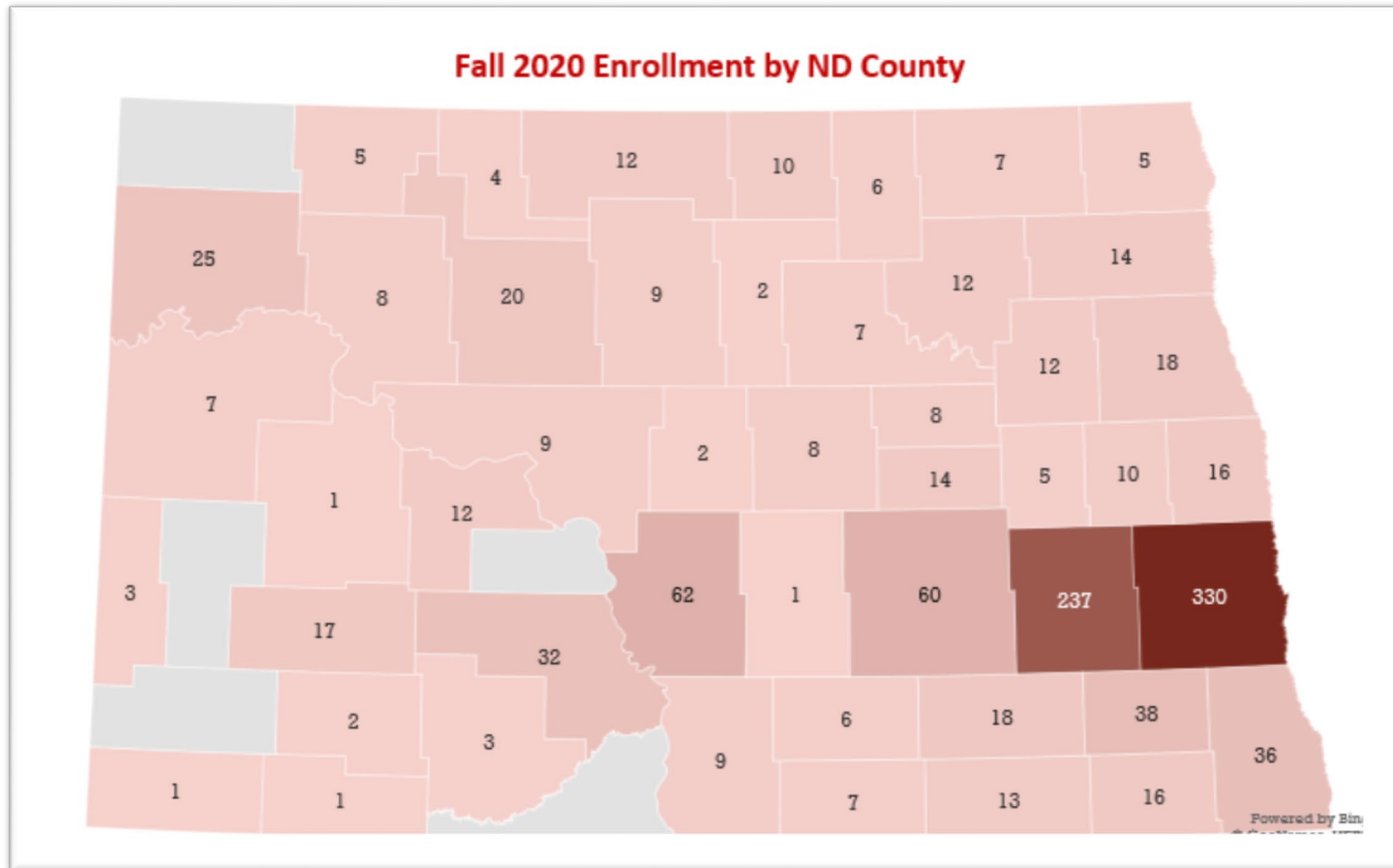
# All-Time Record-Breaking Success

## Enrollment Growth 2011-20



# North Dakota Success

69.2% of all VCSU students are from North Dakota  
68.7% of freshman are from our state

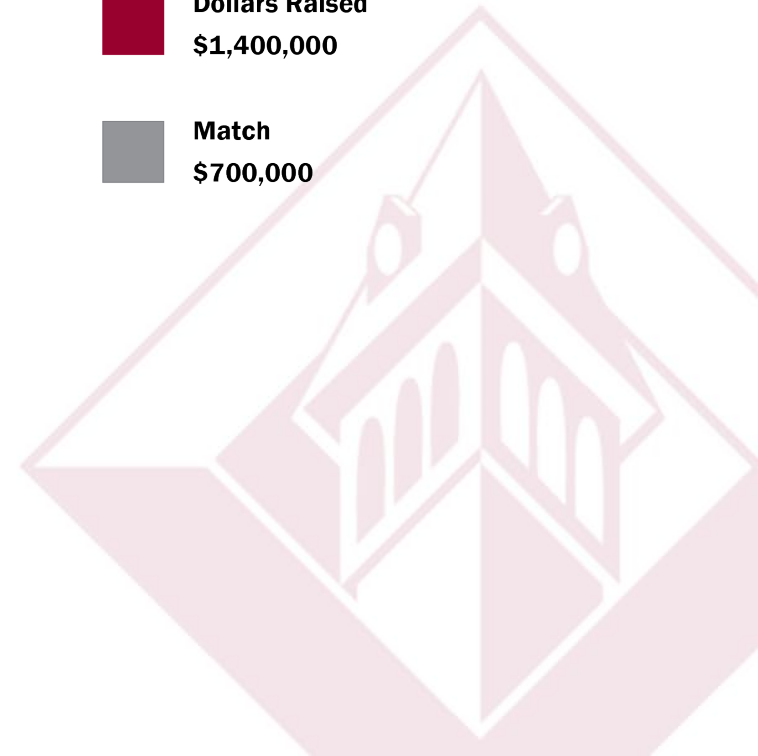
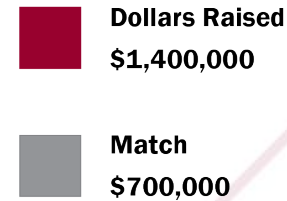
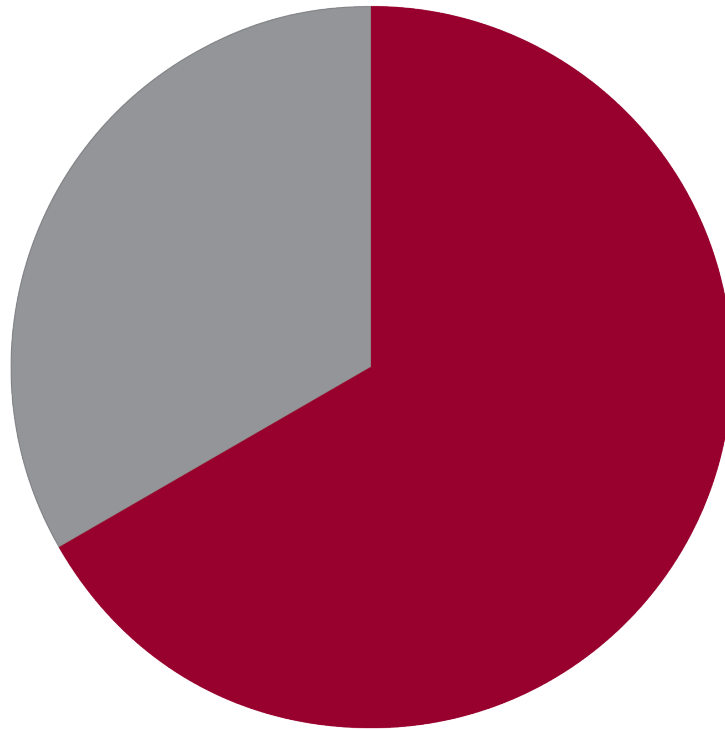


# Support from Our Constituents

## Challenge Grant

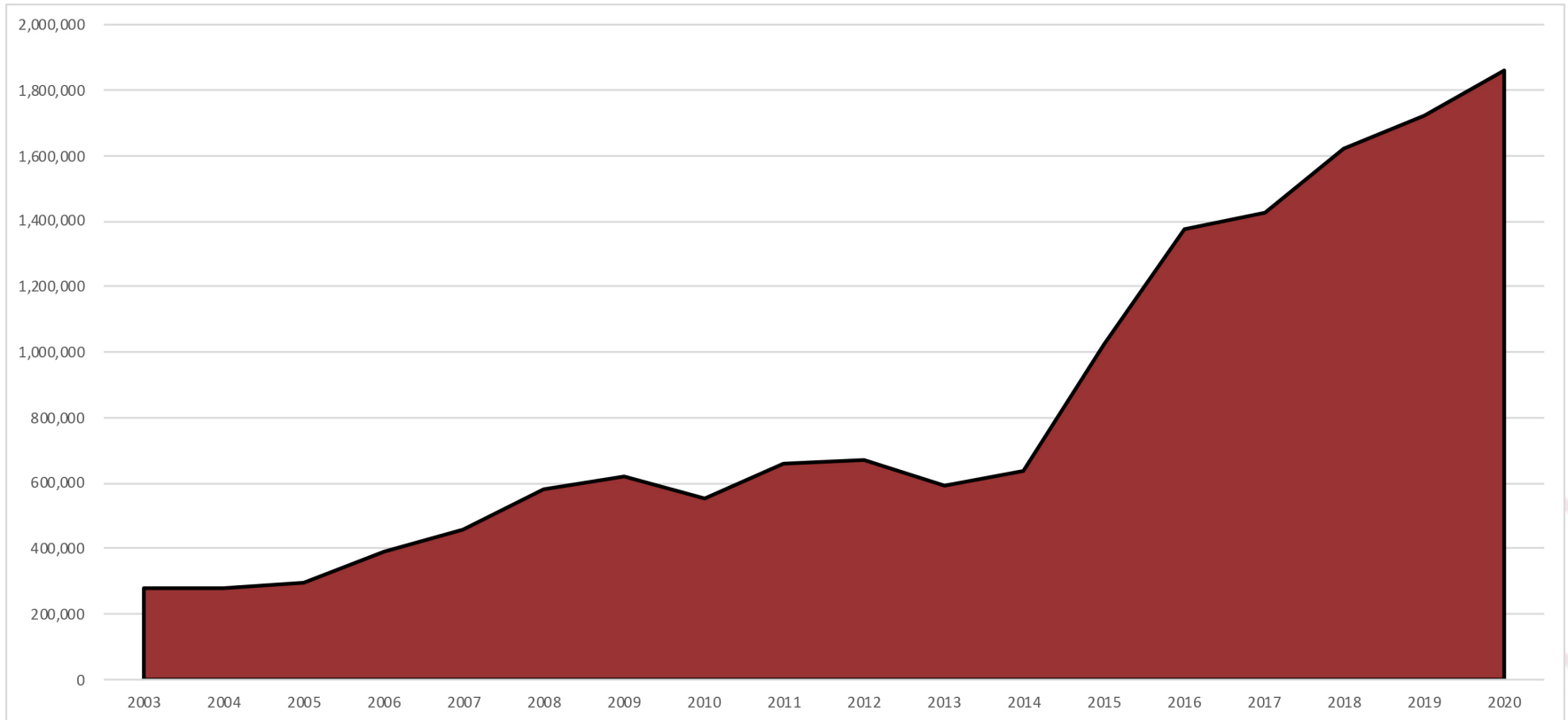
Timeline: July 1, 2019 – December, 2020

VCSU raised \$1,400,000 to receive a match of \$700,000 from the State of ND



# Support for Our Students

## Scholarship Allocation Growth 2003-20



# Accreditations

- Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
- Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)
- American Association of School Librarians (AASL)
- Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE)
- National Association of Schools of Music (NASM)
- IACBE – International Accreditation Council for Business Education (in process)





# High-Impact Practices

Faculty-mentored student research





## High-Impact Practices

Music Production and Recording Studio

- Students can access the latest cutting edge recording equipment
- Professors available to help with creative projects outside of class
- Training future musicians, music production experts, and recording technicians



## High-Impact Practices

Faculty member comment on  
subbing program

“This has been a great learning experience for the students. It also allows our faculty to see what is being done in schools for management, curriculum, and more.”

- *Angela Saxlund, VCSU Ed. Professor*







# High-Impact Practices

## New in 2020: Emergency Substitute Teacher Program

- Partnership with local schools
- Demonstrates adaptability and innovation during the health crisis
- Covid-19 created a need for substitute teachers
- 32 students involved
- School district assists with their substitute teaching license





# High-Impact Practices

Internships and Career Readiness





## High Achievers

### Three Year Graduates

- Students who excel in their coursework finish a full year early
- Many of these high achievers become difference makers in their communities

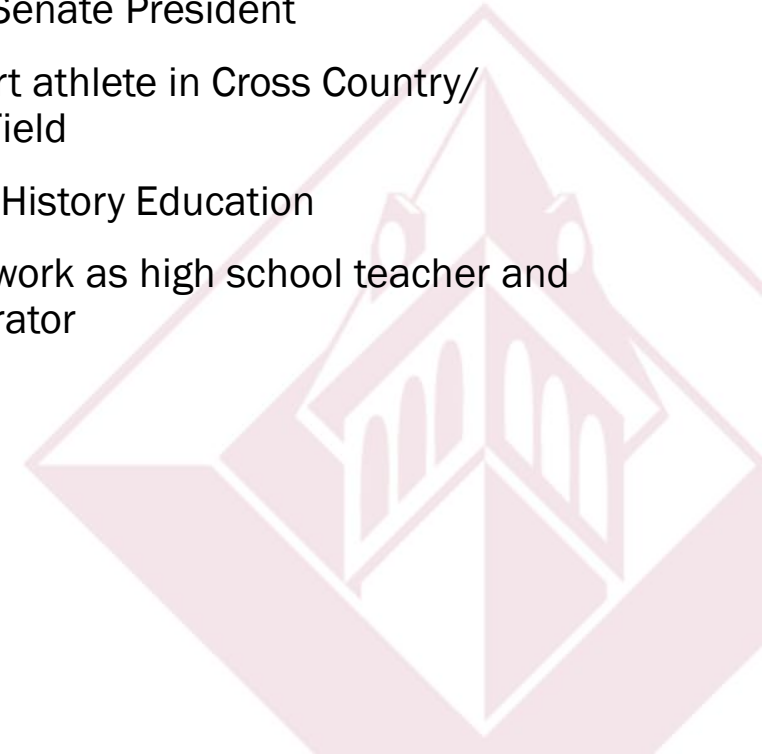


# Immersive Campus Experience

Students become involved

Angeline Gannon

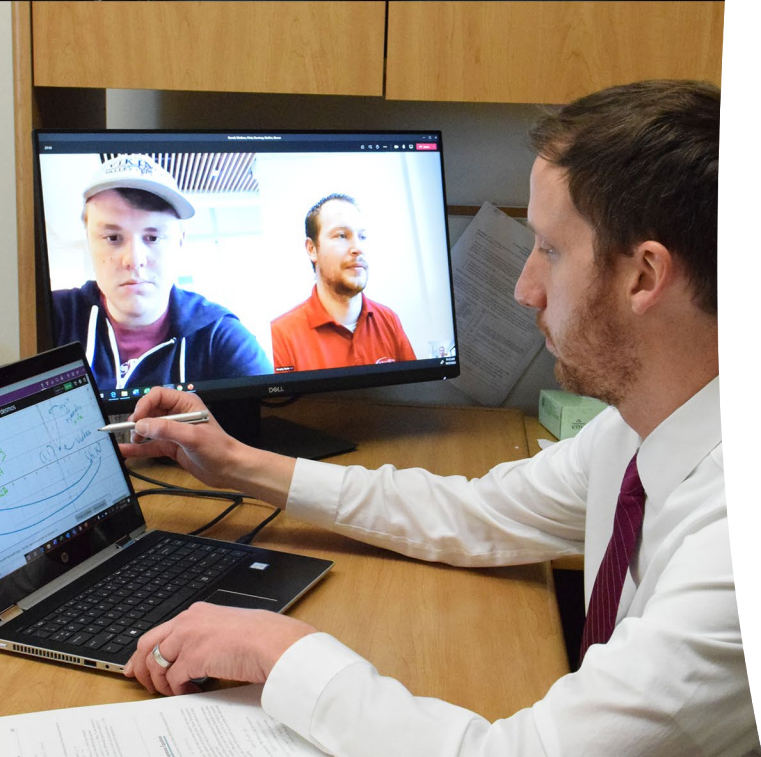
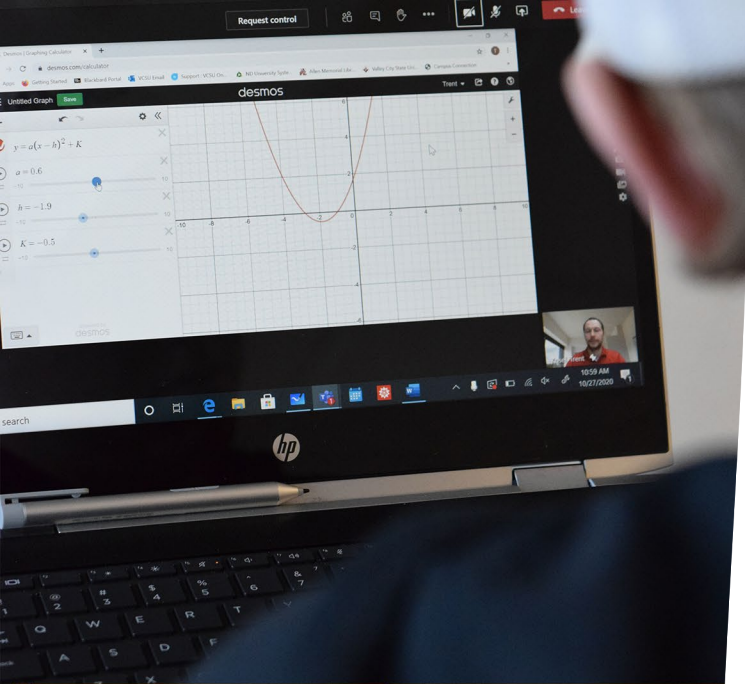
- Hometown: Bismarck
- Graduate of Bismarck High School
- Student Senate President
- Dual-sport athlete in Cross Country/  
Track & Field
- Studying History Education
- Plans to work as high school teacher and administrator





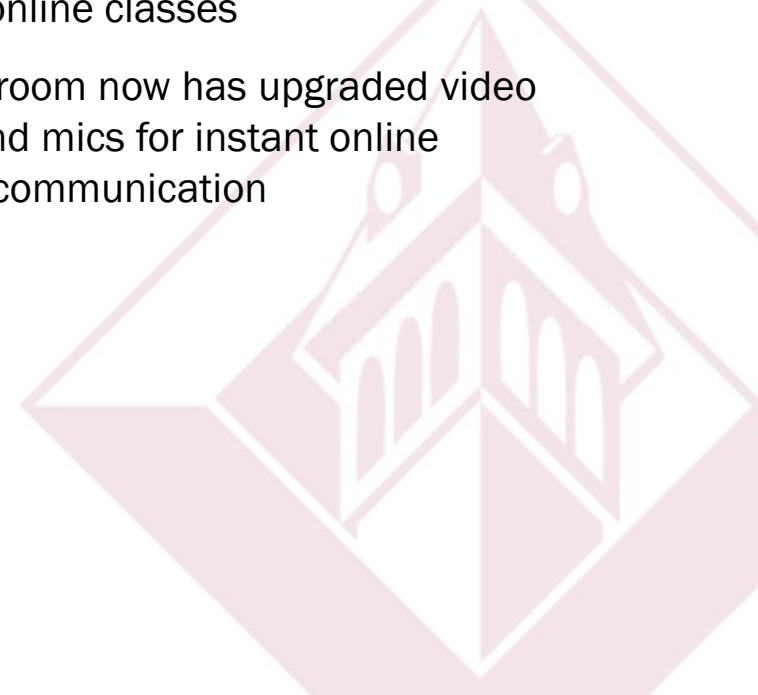
## Athletics Success

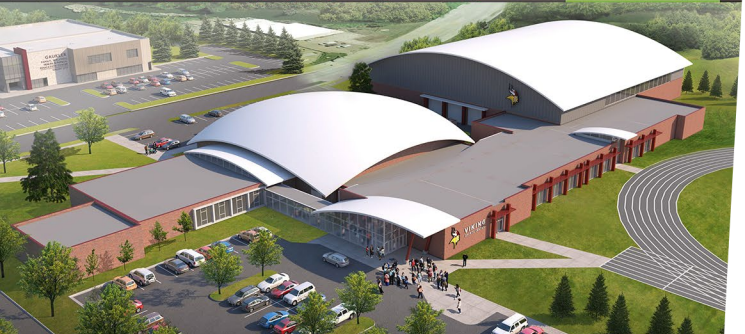
- 2019 NSAA Commissioner's Cup Award
- Mackenzie Huber – two-sport athlete and athlete of the year in 2020.
- 10 of 14 teams were NAIA scholar-teams with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher
- Travis Joseph – 2020 National Champion in high jump
- Coach McCulloch named President of NAIA Football Coaches Association



# Technology Success

- Implemented mobile device management (MDM) software, which vastly improves our cybersecurity posture
- Deployed Wi-Fi 6 for improved bandwidth on campus for media streaming, academic apps, and online classes
- Every classroom now has upgraded video cameras and mics for instant online classroom communication





# Forward Together

## The Campaign for Valley City State University

- \$25 million capital campaign for facility upgrades and scholarship enhancements
- First capital campaign in school history
- Phase I
  - \$18 million expansion of athletic facilities
  - \$1 million for scholarship enhancements
- Phase II
  - \$2 million renovation of McCarthy Hall
  - \$1 million renovation of Student Center
- Additional \$3 million in unrestricted gifts





## Forward Together

Update on Center for  
the Arts

- Center for the Arts is nearing completion, thank you for your support!
- Recent "topping beam" placement ceremony
- Students, faculty, staff, and community members all signed the beam
- This space will provide outstanding educational and performance opportunities for all students





## Academic Centers

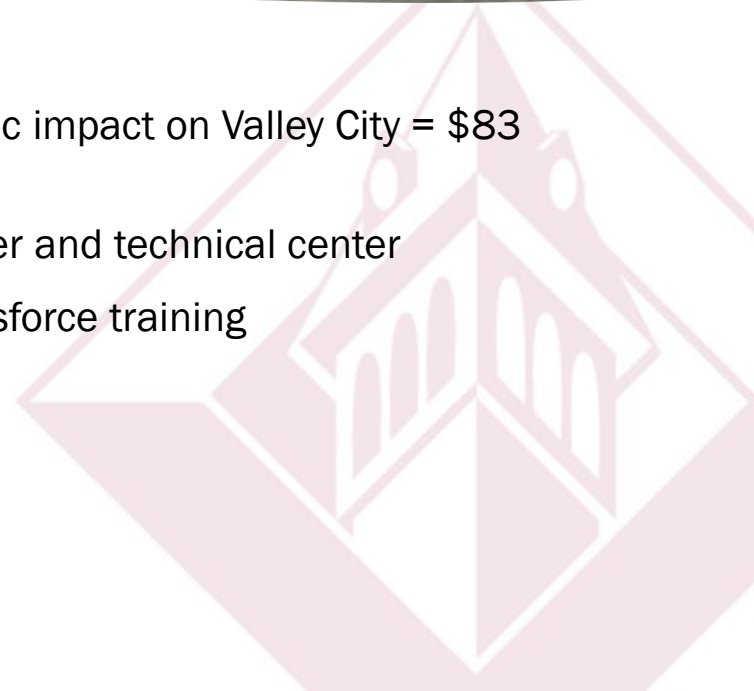
- Prairie Waters Education and Research Center
- Don Mugan CTE Leadership Center
- Great Plains STEM Education Center





## Community Collaboration

- VCSU economic impact on Valley City = \$83 million (FY19)
- Potential career and technical center
- Providing salesforce training





## Community Collaboration

- Partnering with Valley City/Barnes County Economic Development Corporation to help efforts in job creation and workforce needs
- Partnership with Valley City on COVID-19 testing
- Rural school collaboration with neighboring towns
- Subbing program in the Valley City school district
- Partnership with the Dakota College of Nursing

# Career and Technical Education (CTE)

- Works with Trade, Industry, and Allied Health professionals getting them certified to teach their respective occupations.
- Seeks to actively recruit, train and retain Trade, Industry and Allied Health Teachers in North Dakota.
- Recognized as one of the leading programs in the United States.
- 43 graduates over the last 5 years.





# Tuition and Fees

## Lowered Costs

- Granted authority for a 4% increase but our Fall 2019 increase was 3%
- Meal plans only increased by 1.75% this year and 3% the year before
- Room rates were kept even for Fall 2020 to help students
- Valley City State University remains one of the most affordable colleges in North Dakota and the Midwest



# Financials

## Budget Comparison

### Valley City State University

#### Comparison of 2019-21 Base Budget to 2021-23 SBHE Request and Executive Recommendation

	2019-21 Base Level	Requested Adjustments	2021-23 SBHE Needs-Based Budget	Executive Recommendation	Difference from 2019-21 Base Level	Difference from SBHE Needs-Based Budget
Campus Operations	\$ 48,176,928	\$ (355,531)	\$ 47,821,397	\$ 46,391,297	\$ (1,785,631)	\$ (1,430,100)
Capital Assets	\$ 455,823	\$ -	\$ 455,823	\$ 510,455	\$ 54,632	\$ 54,632
Plant Improvement Carryover						
Capital Projects - Non-State Funded						
Capital Projects - Non-State Carryover						
Operating Carryover						
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 48,632,751</b>	<b>\$ (355,531)</b>	<b>\$ 48,277,220</b>	<b>\$ 46,901,752</b>	<b>\$ (1,730,999)</b>	<b>\$ (1,375,468)</b>
General Fund	\$ 22,658,933	\$ (355,531)	\$ 22,303,402	\$ 20,551,560	\$ (2,107,373)	\$ (1,751,842)
Special Funds	\$ 25,973,818	\$ 395,311	\$ 26,369,129	\$ 26,350,192	\$ 376,374	\$ (18,937)
<b>Total Funding Sources</b>	<b>\$ 48,632,751</b>	<b>\$ 39,780</b>	<b>\$ 48,672,531</b>	<b>\$ 46,901,752</b>	<b>\$ (1,730,999)</b>	<b>\$ (1,770,779)</b>

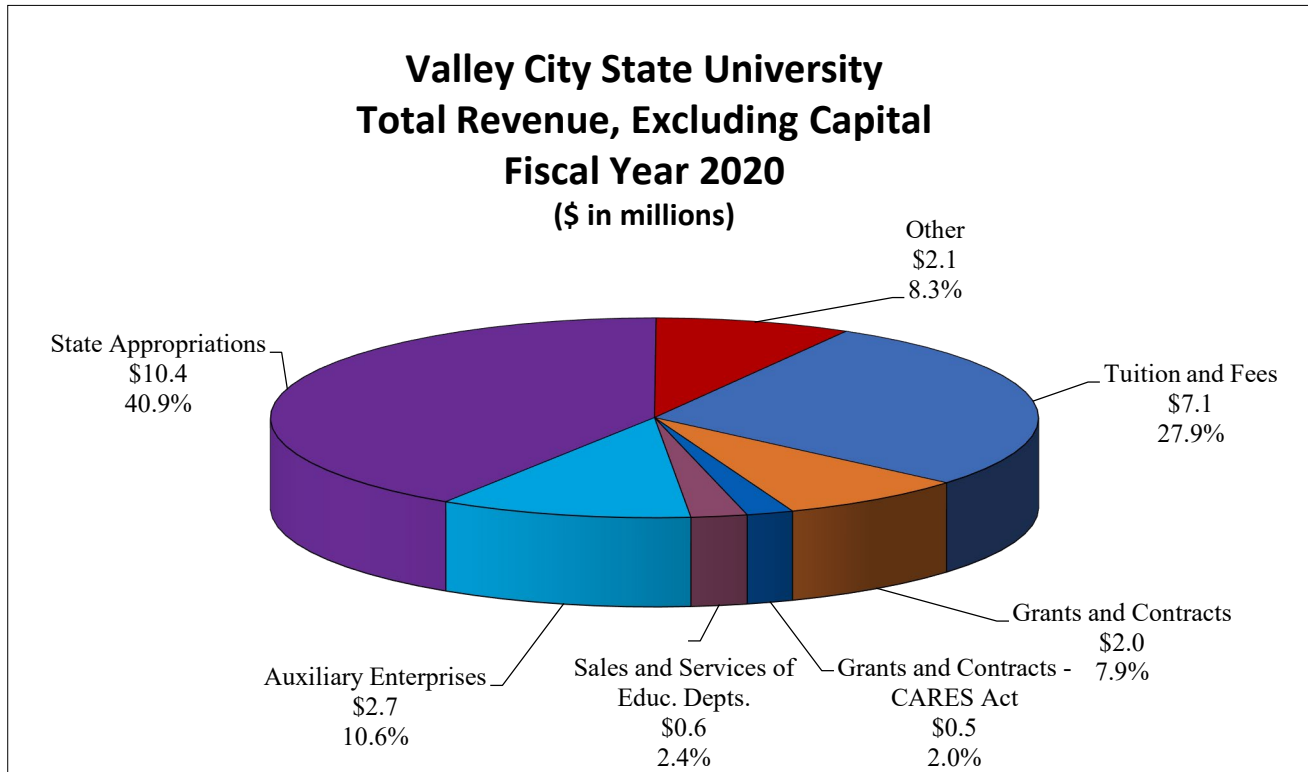
# Financials

- We support New funding formula bill and NDUS Optional Requests
  - New Funding Formula Bill
    - Current Formula would cut our funding by \$860,398 because of our growth.
    - New Formula would restore Base budget to \$23,755,151 - A difference of \$1,451,749 from the needs-based budget proposal
  - NDUS optional requests of moving 3% raises paid by tuition increases and other funds - \$395,311
  - NDUS optional request of increase in per Credit rate of 2.5% - \$544,963
- Employee FTE Counts
  - 2019-20 - 180.68; 2020-21 - 202.77
  - Fueled by student growth and strategic decisions
  - Positions in education (Computer Science and Art), health services, mental health counseling, diversity officer, COVID response, facilities services, and dual credit.



# Financials

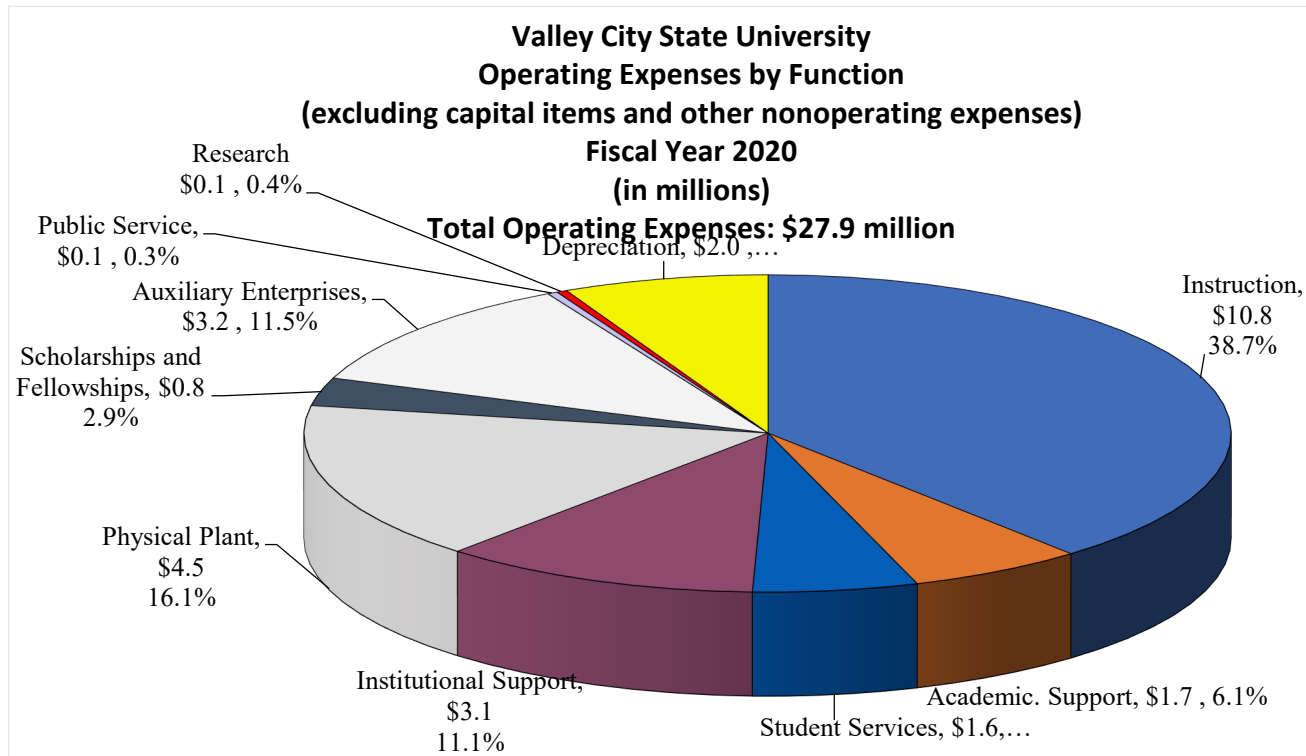
## FY20 Total Revenue





# Financials

## FY20 Total Expenses

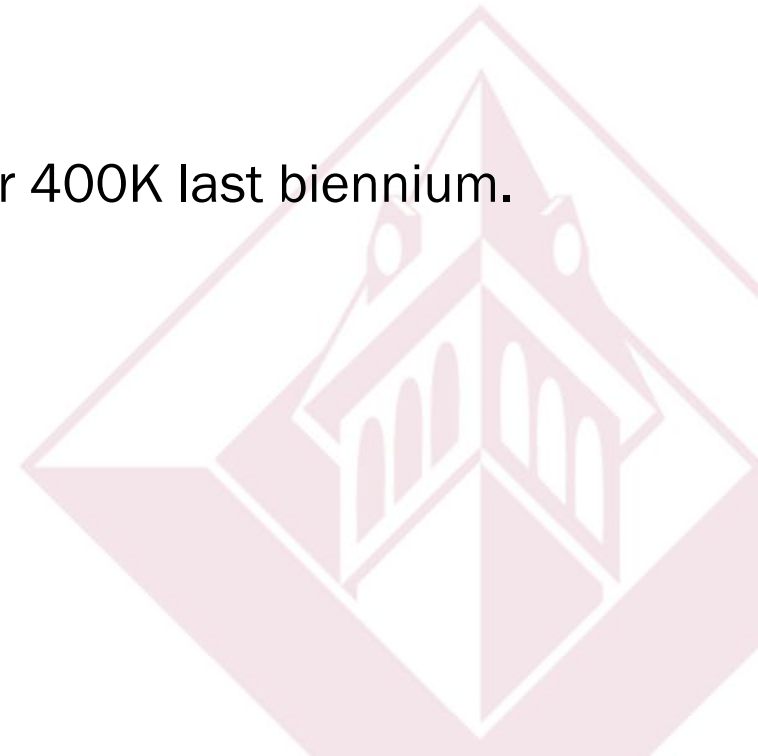


# Financials

## One Time Funding Requests

**NONE**

Deferred maintenance spending of over 400K last biennium.



# Financials

## Financial Audit Recommendations

**NONE**



# Financials

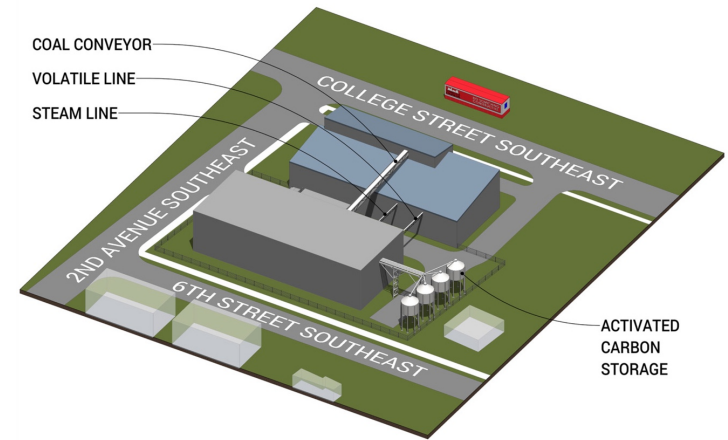
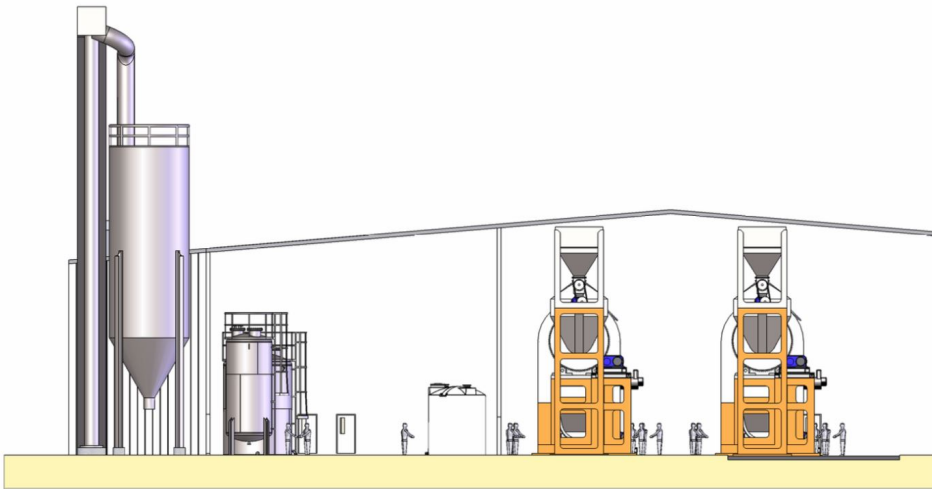
## Federal Funding for COVID-19

<b>COVID Dollars through 12.30.20</b>		
	Funded	Spent
COVID CARES and FIPSE Federal dollars	500,000	500,000
Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) through state Emergency Commission	740,353	413,020
Governor's Emergency Relief Funds (GEER)	85,096	85,096
NDUS/CTS Funds	7,430	7,430
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,332,879</b>	<b>1,005,546</b>



# Investment in Infrastructure

## Activated Carbon Plant





# What's Next?

Where do we go from here?





Thank You!

Questions?

