

Strategic Plan for United Methodist Campus Ministry at Kansas State University

UMCM at Kansas State University is a campus-centered faith community serving the spiritual needs of KSU students by providing a place of hospitality and community that fosters a commitment to God in Christ. The ministry prepares participants to go forth in service to others and the larger world empowered by the Spirit. UMCM at KSU is committed to:

- Being inviting and welcoming to all who come to our events
- Seeking to establish strong relationships with each other
- Asking hard questions rather than relying on easy answers
- Preparing a generation of spiritual leaders for the 21st century church
- Learning about and acting out the core beliefs of Christianity, and more specifically, United Methodism
- Inviting people to participate in Christian ministry
- Helping students as they grow in their relationship with Christ

Our goals for the future are (1) to maintain the strong core programs and activities that are central to our mission, and (2) to evolve the UMCM structure so that we may reach a larger number of students, while maintaining our unique character as a faith community with a strong sense of self-identity and cohesiveness. We think it is imperative that we maintain the core strengths of the UMCM at KSU program (e.g., the student associate program, small group activities, Sunday Night Praise service, etc.) as we expand our program. We will also strive to maintain a wide diversity of UMCM activities, which provides many options for student participation, and allows us to meet the different needs of a diverse community.

Our vision includes connecting to an increasing number of United Methodist students on the KSU campus and to the broader campus community. We will achieve this through a variety of mechanisms, including e-mail, the UMCM KSU web site, flyers and other media to promote UMCM on campus, and UMCM activities designed to reach out to the KSU community (e.g., Beginnings classes). In order to continue the current UMCM at KSU program, we need a “multi-staff” system that includes a campus minister and a strong student associate program. As our program continues to grow, we will need a full-time campus minister by July 2006 or 2007. However, to maintain the breadth and vitality of UMCM at KSU, it will be essential that we also maintain the strong student associate program (currently six student associates), which will require additional funding.

Beginning in 2006, we would like to progressively pursue a few “UMCM graduate interns”. These interns would be former students that elect to provide an additional year of service to the UMCM program. Funding for these position could be raised by the prospective interns (e.g., by private donations). Finally, in order to accommodate the planned growth in UMCM participants and activities, our longer-

term goals include developing new funding for two key additional program staff (a small group coordinator and outreach/evangelism coordinator) plus support staff. Fund raising for these positions will be achieved by the new Foundation for UMCM at KSU.

One of the biggest problems we are likely to face as our UMCM program continues to grow in both size and scope is the availability of adequate, high-quality space. Our vision for the future of UMCM includes greatly increasing the number of students participating in our core activities, such as the Sunday Night Praise (SNP) service. Currently, participation in SNP is limited for some students due to the off-campus location (College Avenue United Methodist) and our inability to transport large groups of students to and from the service. There are two short-term options for addressing this limitation to future growth: Each of these options has potential benefits and costs. Moving the SNP service to an on-campus location would potentially allow more students to participate, but this has potential costs... we could lose some of the connection we have to the local churches, as well as the fellowship of a smaller worship community, the intimacy of worship in a sanctuary, etc. Developing a better system of mass transportation for UMCM participants (e.g., vans or a UMCM bus to transport students to and from SNP and other activities) is another option.

A third option, and one that we would like to see developed as we outgrow our current facilities, is to acquire a facility near the KSU campus that would accommodate a large number of UMCM participants. The recently purchased facility on Anderson Avenue will provide office space for the UMCM minister and staff and for small group programming. Our goals for 2006/2007 are to complete improvements needed to expand the use of the house for UMCM activities (i.e., additional parking, room renovations, etc.). This house will serve our needs for a while, and could serve as a bridge to our longer-term goal of a larger UMCM facility near the KSU campus.

Meeting the goals outlined above will require significant additional funding and community support. The newly formed Foundation for UMCM at KSU will serve as the fund-raising arm for UMCM at KSU. This Foundation will provide support for a capital campaign and other fund-raising activities as needed. We will also implement an annual fund drive for UMCM at KSU, which will be in addition to current fund-raising activities.

Our local fund-raising activities will help to support our staff, program, and space needs, but financial support from the conference is crucial for us. That is the primary way the conference can support our ministry at this time. Other ways include networking throughout the state to build an alumni base, and structural support to aid us in our upcoming capital campaign. The renewed support that has come with our new bishop is a welcome and needed resource that we hope will

continue. Finally, if a statewide vision of campus ministry can be adopted by the UMCM in KS group, yearly evaluations and ongoing financial support have the potential to help us greatly.

SUMMARY:

Our time-table for implementing our strategic plan is as follows. Some aspects will be overseen by our Foundation, some by our Staff, and others will be overseen by the Board. These goals will be evaluated annually, and revised as necessary.

<u>Goal implement</u>	<u>Overseen by</u>	<u>Date to</u>
Purchase property (1741 Anderson) (completed)	BOARD	9/11/05
Launch Beginnings ministry (completed)	STAFF	Fall 05
Launch Foundation at UMCM, KS process)	FOUNDATION	Fall 05 (in
Prepare for Capital Campaign/Fund Drive	FOUNDATION	Fall 05
Complete house/parking renovations	BOARD	Spring 06
Expand Beginnings ministry (2+ classes)	STAFF	Spring 06
Launch Capital Campaign/Fund Drive	FOUNDATION	Spring 06
Pursue Graduate 1-yr Interns	BOARD/FOUN.	Spring 06
Move to Full time campus minister '07	BOARD	July '06 or
Pursue additional program & support staff	BOARD	Fall '08
Be ready to purchase large facility	ALL	Fall '10