Capital Campaign Update – We continue to meet with donors to secure the match for our new Automotive/Diesel Technology Center. MSU Northern is on track to begin the building process in the spring of 2015. We have been conducting news conferences almost weekly to accommodate the generous gifts. This campaign has served as a vehicle to unify our staff, faculty, alumni, and supporters.

State of the University Address – I addressed the campus on January 29, and outlined my vision for MSU Northern’s future. This presentation included an update on our enrollment and our fundraising efforts, a look at the potential for growth along the hi-line, and a challenge for everyone to get involved in recruiting and retention.

Strategic Planning – My Core Leadership Team has been meeting with representatives from every department on campus. We have been asking them to come up with ways they can improve recruiting and retention in their area without any additional funds. The process has been very productive and insightful. We are now starting to hold all of the departments accountable for recruiting and retention.

Rodeo Fundraiser - The MSU Northern Rodeo Booster Club and team held their annual Cowboy Christmas Dinner/Auction. The event is the rodeo team's primary fundraiser and attracted 450 people this year and brought in over $40,000.

PAS Club Jackets - Torgerson’s, a fourth generation Montana farm implement company, recently provided MSU Northern’s Postsecondary Agriculture Students (PAS) Club with club jackets. The National PAS motto is: Uniting Education and Industry in Agriculture, and this is an excellent example of an industry partnership at work.

New Pool Tables - The newest addition to the lounge area in Mackenzie Hall consists of two brand new pool tables. Housing and Residence Life provided the funds for the equipment and installation.

Nationally Ranked Athletics – MSU Northern currently has 2 winter sports teams ranked in the NAIA top 10 in the Nation. The MSUN Skylights are currently ranked #10 and have a 20-2 record. They are led by 6-5 center A’jha Edwards who has been a 2X NAIA National Player of the week and a 3 time Frontier Conference player of the week. The MSUN Lights Wrestling team is currently ranked #3 in the NAIA and are led by 3X All-American Ethan Hinebauch who is currently ranked #1 at 165 pounds. Other Lights wrestlers that are currently ranked are Riley Miller #14 at 125 lbs., Drew Randall #11 at 149 lbs., Jared Miller #2 at 174 lbs., Willie Miller #3 at 184 lbs., Garrett DeMers #3 at 197 lbs., and Toby Cheff #8 at 285 lbs.

We Love Northern Ball - The 29th annual "We Love Northern Ball" took place on February 7th. The theme was "the Roarin' 20's." and featured 20's cuisine and dancing to the band of "Blind Luck." This is one of Northern’s best scholarship fundraisers.

Todd Defends Dissertation - Joseph Todd, one of MSU Northern’s Elementary Education Instructors, successfully defended his dissertation entitled, “Archetype of Freedom: The Dialectic of the Phantastical Imagination,” on December 19, 2014. His Ed.D. in pedagogy and philosophy from Montclair University is now official.