The Masters of Science in Science Education (MSSE) program at MSU is now very nearly the largest masters program on campus. Each summer a new cohort of about 60 students enter the program and approximately 50 students graduate each year. Most of the students in the program graduate within three years after beginning their program with about 10% of them deferring or stopping out for a year and then graduating after either four or sometimes five years. The overall graduation rate exceeds 90% which is one measure of the success of the program. A second measure of success, of which the DGE and the program director, Dr. Carol Thoresen, are quite proud, is that new students entering the program indicate that they selected the MSU program because of conversations with their colleagues who have completed the program or conversations with their supervisors who are aware of and recommend the program. Since 80% of the students in the program are non-residents, it is clear the program has earned a nationally recognized reputation.

MSSE is now entirely self supporting, generating its budget from a portion of the tuition paid by the students when they come to campus in the summer as well as tuition developed from the distance delivered courses. The portion of the summer tuition that returns to the program is stated in a tuition distribution model set forth in a Memorandum of Agreement with MSU. Therefore, the base budget for FY07 will remain at zero.