Developing the Vision for MSU

• Definition 1:
  – Our Mission explains what we do. Our Vision explains why we do it.
• Definition 2:
  – If we successfully follow our Mission, where do we end up? Our Vision tells us.

Gain consensus, or at least buy-in to the principle visions.

Some principle visions

As our vision in the next five years we will:

• work to eliminate physical, cultural, economic, social, or knowledge barriers that separate individuals from their dreams and aspirations.
• integrate our MSU community of scholars, students, faculty and staff in order to learn, discover and serve together.
• leverage examples of success in research and engagement to invigorate new opportunities throughout MSU.
• invest in enhancing the contribution potential of each individual, believing that no one has a monopoly on good ideas.
• educate, inspire, empower and prepare members of our MSU community to be active participants, professionals and leaders in local and global societies.
• integrate the values of personal, one-on-one attention to the education and emotional well-being of our students.
• cultivate an appreciation and perspective of the world at large and the importance of each individual’s place in it.
• engage in hands-on learning that extends from our classrooms and laboratories of our campuses to all corners of the earth, depths of the ocean and outer space.
• embrace our beautiful mountain (Montana) home. Our past, present, and future is intrinsically linked to this place.
• honor our Land Grant heritage believing in inclusivity rather than exclusivity. When given a choice we act to include rather than exclude.
• provide new and original opportunities to incorporate engagement opportunities throughout our learning and research activities both within our MSU community, the state and the world at large.
• create opportunities to provide access to underserved populations both into and out of the MSU community.
Draft a vision statement based on our principle visions.

A couple of tentative, draft vision statements:

“Created as a land-grant university that is set in a remarkable place, Montana State University is dedicated to expanding the horizons of students and enhancing the human prospect through our shared commitment to excellence in teaching, learning, discovery, and civic responsibility.”

“MSU exists to provide personal, integrated learning opportunities that inspire and enable our students to be active members, professionals and leaders within society. With a developed sense of value, place and purpose, local and global perspectives our students are prepared to apply their experience of learning, research and engagement to the world around them.”