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**Boorman  
Kroos  
Vogel**  
Group  
Inc.

222 North Second Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
Telephone: 612.339.3752  
Facsimile: 612.339.6212  
[www.bkvgroup.com](http://www.bkvgroup.com)  
EOE

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Contact: Susan Andre  
Marketing and Communications  
612.339.3752  
[sandre@bkvgroup.com](mailto:sandre@bkvgroup.com)

### **Southwest Minnesota State University Planning for the Future: Architect selected for Pre-Design and Building Assessment**

Minneapolis, Minnesota — April 20, 2006 —Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) has selected BKV Group to provide building assessments and programmatic visioning for 7 residence halls and 3 commons buildings.

To address shifting demographics and changing lifestyles of students, SMSU leadership is exploring the possibility of remodeling, demolition, and new construction on campus. They selected BKV Group to analyze 10 buildings and provide options consistent with SMSU's future enrollment, academic programs, campus master plan, and phasing of future new construction and remodeling.

"The pre-design study seeks to enhance communal, social, and academic aspects of residence hall life" explains Victor Pechaty, Senior Project Designer with BKV Group. "We intend to preserve the intimate scale of the outdoor spaces in the existing residence hall neighborhood while improving accessibility, access to technology, and communal spaces."

The 216 acre campus in Marshall, serves over 7,000 students annually and is ranked the No. 1 regional public liberal arts college in the Midwest for eight consecutive years by U.S. News and World Report.

Founded in 1978, BKV Group is an award winning 85-person multi-disciplinary firm providing services for a wide range of market segments including Community Development, Corporate, Education and Government. For more information visit [www.bkvgroup.com](http://www.bkvgroup.com).

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