

# Prairie Business

northern plains business resource

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## COVER STORY: 40 UNDER 40



It is finally here: our list of business leaders who our readers are saying make a difference in our region. Helping us make the selections for 2011 was Lisa Gulland-Nelson, Communications Coordinator for the Greater Fargo Moorhead Economic Development Corporation in Fargo, ND, and Dwaine Chapel, Executive Director, Lake Area Improvement Corporation in Madison, SD. After browsing through many submissions, here are the young leaders that have been selected for the fourth annual celebration of the top business professionals under the age of 40:

Dr. Steve Shirley (39)  
President  
Valley City State University  
Valley City, ND

Dr. Steve Shirley became the President of Valley City State University in July, 2008. Under his leadership, the University has seen several significant accomplishments including: three consecutive years of enrollment growth to the University's largest enrollment in 40 years; the largest number of on-campus residential students in over a decade; legislative appropriation in 2011 of \$10.3 million for the Rhoades Science Center capital construction project; the creation of two new academic centers: the Great Plains STEM Education Center, and the Prairie Waters Education and Research Center.

