

# SCSU expands sex education

Grant allows university to step up campaign to prevent AIDS, STDs

By Jerry L. Carter

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Many college students have pencils, pens, notebooks and new clothes on their back-to-school list, but one group at St. Cloud State University encourages condoms also be jotted down if students plan to be sexually active.

As school opens next week, a two-year, \$45,000 grant from the AIDS/STD Prevention Service Section of the Minnesota Department of Health will give students more information on preventing sexually transmitted diseases as they go from high school to college.

"We want to continue to provide students with the information they need to make the most informed and hopefully safest decisions they can," said Tara Treglowne, the HIV/STD prevention project coordinator at St. Cloud State University. "If students, after knowing the risks, still want to be sexually active we want them to know what their options are and how they can protect themselves from getting sexually transmitted diseases."

Treglowne, a graduate student, wrote a proposal last year to bring sex-related disease prevention trainers to St. Cloud State and the six other state universities.

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HEALTH SERVICES ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

STDs. What we want to do is continue to let them know that they can make safe choices," she said.

The project will start with student counselors, who have been trained to teach prevention techniques, handing out condoms and literature about STDs Tuesday as part of the Mainstreet Celebration on the campus.

The counselors also will speak to freshman students during their orientation classes, demonstrate how to apply condoms and talk about the risk associated with sexual intercourse.

The project fits the mission of the health services office on campus because it helps students prevent getting possibly life-threatening diseases, said Lynda Gans, associate director for student health services.

"We would rather help students learn how to prevent getting diseases if we can, but if they do get them we have the services to help them," Gans said.

It is not clear whether the state will continue funding the project, but organizers would like to see it stay.