

After announcing our new name, University of Northwestern – St. Paul, we held a Tweet Chat on May 9, 2013 to talk about becoming a university! We've created this summary of the chat, arranged by topic so you can easily jump to the answers you're looking for.

HOST

Dr. Alan Cureton @prezcure (President)

CO-HOSTS

Drew Shepp @drewshepp (Assoc. Director, Campus Ministries)
Emily Herman @emilyrherman (Asst. Director, Alumni & Parent Relations)

Tweet Chat Topics

Big Picture

Why university status?
When will the name be official?
Why University of Northwestern - St. Paul?
Will our mission statement and purpose change?
Why is university status important to global initiatives?
What campus changes will students see next year?

How does the name change affect me?

Current students Future students Alumni

Logistics

Will we get new email addresses?
Will the institutional logo change?
What about new diplomas?
What will the school's new abbreviation be?
How should we update our resumes to reflect the new name?

Miscellaneous

Can you tell us more about the new nursing program?
Why is "St. Paul" abbreviated, not spelled out: "Saint Paul"?
Will we have other campus locations?
When is Northwestern making the move to D1?
Will we still have Bon Appetite food?

Big Picture

@drewshepp

Q: Why did Northwestern seek university status?

@prezcure

A: The switch is a natural progression for us - we already offer 70 undergrad & 5 grad programs, including our new BA of nursing. We feel it more accurately represents the broad-based experience we offer students through undergrad & grad programs. And it shows our commitment to equipping Christ-centered learners & leaders to invest in others and impact the world. University status also is important in supporting our global initiatives. Evolving to a University helps avoid confusion associated w a college title, which translates into greater international credibility.

@drewshepp

Q: When will the name University of Northwestern - St. Paul become official?

@prezcure

A: The new name will be effective on July 1. We're announcing it now because we want to celebrate the status change with our students are still in Spring session.

@drewshepp

Q: Why was University of Northwestern - St. Paul chosen as the new name?

@ryanvanasse

How do you think you could have handled the name change process better?

@ryanvanasse

Why was name change necessary? What about Dartmouth and William and Mary?

@prezcure

A: Northwestern chose the new name following a process that began in March 2011. The 1st step was creating a "Presidential Commission on University Status" to explore the change. The group – composed of faculty, senior administration & alumni – gathered input from constituents. They also commissioned research on reactions to a variety of possible new names. We wanted a new name to accurately reflect the breadth of our education offerings & rigor of our academic programs. And we heard from students & alumni that Northwestern must remain in the name...it's our culture.

@kellvatlovewell

Q: What was the thinking behind adding "St. Paul" to the University of Northwestern name? Why not just UNW?

@prezcure

A: St. Paul is in the name, as it reflects not only our location, but also the strength of hi ed in the St. Paul region.

@GoatFeeder

Q: Will there be any changing/modification with the mission statement and purpose with the name change?

@prezcure

A: regarding the question on mission...name is changing BUT the mission is not changing. The "why" will not change.

@drewshepp

Q: Why is university status important to Northwestern's global initiatives

@Panda_fizz

If the name change help with international credibility, other than just the name, how can being a U attract more international?

@prezcure

A: With this change we'll continue to be a historic university ... one with a new name and a growing global reach. Having 'university' in our title translates into greater credibility on the international front. It elevates our profile as a destination for foreign students and faculty. This exposure will help as we grow relationships w/ places like QDaystarUni in Kenya & Qkarunyauniv in India. International programs allow students to learn about various cultures firsthand & this opens more doors when going abroad

@drewshepp

Q: What campus changes will students see next year as a result of the name change?

@prezcure

A: Visible changes that will reflect the new name include signs, letterhead, business cards, and clothing. But these changes won't happen overnight - students & alumni can expect to see a progression of changes over time

How does the name change affect me?

@drewshepp

Q: In your view, how does the name change benefit current students?

@prezcure

A: The name change won't necessarily change day-to-day life for our students...But we see this as a great opportunity to tell our story & show the world what we have to offer. It gives students one more reason to be proud they're part of a dynamic, global, academically rigorous institution. And a university status brings an added degree of credibility when applying for grad school or employment

@EmilyRHerman

Q: What does the name change mean for future students?

@prezcure

A: There's a growing trend in higher education for colleges to become universities. The change helps us continue to attract the best & brightest future students with broad educational goals. Future employers & graduate schools tend to look more favorably on a university degree. And a university title often brings increased enrollment, especially in professional & graduate degree programs. This growth will allow us to continue strengthening our flexible learning opportunities including traditional, online & hybrid programs

@EmilyRHerman

Q: What about alumni... what does the name change mean for them?

@AmySavaria

How does the University change affect alums?

@prezcure

A: The change is exciting for alumni... It shows our dedication to continued growth of broad educational offerings, always with a focus on service. We want alumni to look back fondly on their time at Northwestern and to be proud of where we're going in the future. The university status change is also a time for alumni and the community to learn some surprising facts about Northwestern:

- Northwestern is proud to have produced 10 Fulbright scholars over the last decade.
- We are the largest provider of post-secondary enrollment options among MN private colleges & universities
- We own and operate 15 radio stations in 6 states.
- And we have unique opportunities to learn from experts rare in Minnesota on topics like marine biology and hieroglyphics

Logistics

@drewshepp

Q: Will the institutional logo change?

@prezcure

A: Yes. There is a new institutional logo. it's online at nwc.edu

@krissiekramer

Q: Will we get new email addresses?

@drewshepp

A: @krissiekramer asked about what will happen to with email addresses for current students, staff and faculty. New email addresses are effective July 1. Old email addresses will remain active for a time and then be forwarded to the new.

@EmilyRHerman

Q: @cmwahl asks if she is will get a new diploma with the new name

A: Our policy for replacing diplomas remains the same... Make requests to the Registrar's Office (registrar@nwc.edu). Fees will apply.

@ryandembeck

Q: Why is "St. Paul" abbreviated, not spelled out: "Saint Paul"?

@prezcure

A: the "St. Paul" is our current form...staying with that form for consistency

@rjheyer

Q: What will the school's new abbreviation be?

@prezcure

A: the new abbrev is UNW, our domain will be unwsp.edu after July 1

@EmilyRHerman

Q: Our first question has come from a number of alums, "How should we update our resumes to reflect the new name?"

@sandraposton

How will the name change affect alumni, such as resumes, applying to grad schools and so forth?

@EmilyRHerman

A: For May 2013 grads, job seekers & grad school applicants, use "Northwestern College" until the name change is official July 1. After July 1, use "Northwestern College (now University of Northwestern - St. Paul" OR "University of Northwestern - St. Paul"

Miscellaneous

@drewshepp

Q: Can you tell us more about the new nursing program that coincides with the university change?

@prezcure

A: We're excited to launch a new baccalaureate nursing program this month! It will incorporate the latest technology in nursing education. Our students will work with simulation "patient" dolls that cry, sweat, talk & simulate a variety of healthcare responses. Transcultural learning is critical to our new nursing program. There's growing population diversity both w international study & metro area experiences in diverse cultural settings. Our clinicals will reflect today's health care environment including both home health care and long term caring.

@Tess_OConnor

Q: Will there be other future campuses outside of St Paul? ie: UNW - Rochester, - Duluth, etc?

@prezcure

A: we may have other campuses outside of St. Paul in the future, but have no plans at this time

@AOMinnesota

Q: When is Northwestern making the move to D1?

@prezcure

A: UNW will never be DI when we already have the best situation as a DIII institution....Go Eagles!

@abkswan18

Now that we are a university will we still have bon appetite food or will we change to healthier food? #nutrition #moneywasted

@NorthwesternMN

A: We will stay with Bon Appetite...have you tried their roasted vegetables? #delicious