

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Agenda Item Summary Sheet

Committee: Audit Committee

Date of Meeting: May 19, 2010

Agenda Item: Follow-up to the OLA's Evaluation of the System Office

- Proposed Policy Change Approvals Required by Policy Other Approvals Monitoring
- Information

Cite policy requirement, or explain why item is on the Board agenda:

Board Chair David Olson has assigned certain responsibilities to the Audit Committee for addressing the findings cited in the February 2010 program evaluation conducted by the Office of the Legislative Auditor *MnSCU System Office*.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

John Asmussen, Executive Director for Internal Auditing

Beth Buse, Deputy Director for Internal Auditing

Craig Schoenecker, Director of Research and Planning

Shannah Moore Mulvihill, Director of University & System Relations, Minnesota State
University Student Association

Jessica Medearis, Director of Public Affairs, Minnesota State College Student Association

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

- The two student associations have surveyed students about their transfer experience and will present the final report.

Background Information:

- The evaluation was requested by the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees Chair, and it was authorized by the Legislative Audit Commission.
- The two student associations have surveyed students about their transfer experience and presented preliminary results to the Audit Committee in April.
- The Office of Internal Auditing is analyzing system data on student credit transfer.

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MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

BOARD INFORMATION

FOLLOW-UP TO THE OLA'S EVALUATION OF THE SYSTEM OFFICE

BACKGROUND

On February 10, 2010, the Audit Committee met with Legislative Auditor Jim Nobles and his staff to review and discuss their program evaluation report, *MnSCU System Office*. Based on that discussion, the Audit Committee Chair made several recommendations to the Board Chair on how to address the report findings. In a letter to the members of the Board of Trustees dated February 17, 2010, Board Chair David Olson acted on those recommendations and assigned responsibilities to the board committees for addressing the findings cited in the report.

Chair Olson assigned this responsibility to the Audit Committee in his February 17, 2010 letter. At the April 2010 meeting the Audit Committee received preliminary results from the survey administered by the two statewide student associations. The student associations plan to present a final report, including their recommended improvements, to the Audit Committee at its May 2010 meeting.

The Office of Internal Auditing is testing fiscal year 2009 student records to identify the extent that credits may not have transferred between MnSCU colleges and universities and the reasons for any unsuccessful credit transfers. Part of the testing focused on a stratified random sample of students entering a MnSCU college or university after having earned credits previously at another MnSCU college or university. A second test analyzed the transfer experience of students who earned a baccalaureate degree in either Psychology or Accounting in 2009. The office will present the final results from its research at the May 2010 Audit Committee meeting

The Audit Committee will consider the research results from both student associations and the Office of Internal Auditing and determine whether there are policy issues that should be referred to other board committees.

Date Presented to the Board of Trustee: May 19, 2010