

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 16, 2010**

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*Advancement Committee Members Present: Trustees Cheryl Dickson, chair; Jacob Englund, vice chair; Clarence Hightower; Alfredo Oliveira; Christine Rice; Louise Sundin.*

*Leadership Council Committee Members Present: President Don Supalla, Linda Kohl, Mary Davenport, Maria McLemore.*

*Other Trustees Present: Trustees Scott Thiss, Christopher Frederick, Phil Krinkie, Dan McElroy, David Paskach, James Van Houten.*

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Advancement Committee met November 16, 2010, at the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities office in St. Paul. Chair Cheryl Dickson called the meeting to order at 10:52 a.m.

**Approval of the Advancement Committee Meeting Minutes**

*The September 14, 2010 Advancement Committee Meeting Minutes were approved without dissent.*

**1. White House Summit on Community Colleges**

Dr. Eugenia Paulus, professor of chemistry at North Hennepin Community College, presented a brief overview of the White House Summit on Community Colleges. She was one of five faculty representatives invited to the Oct. 5 summit. The summit focused on improving community colleges' graduation rates, thus contributing to the revitalization of the American economy through a trained and skilled workforce. One hundred individuals were invited to the White House where they participated in breakout sessions designed to identify best practices and to discuss how community colleges can be better utilized in America. Dr. Paulus' input focused on providing a dynamic curriculum to meet the changing needs of the workforce; emphasizing the four R's – rigor, relevance, retention and responsibility; and empowering educators.

**2. Advancement Update**

Maria McLemore, executive director for system and foundation relations, reported the foundation received an \$800,000 grant from the Lumina Foundation to support the RAPID Completion project, an initiative that will encourage adult students with some college credits to re-enroll and complete their two- or four-year degrees. The Development Division hosted both a fall professional development mini-conference for the system's development and alumni relations professionals. The division also hosted a presentation by Minnesota State Demographer Tom Gillaspay and State Economist Tom Stinson for the Office of the Chancellor staff members. Maria McLemore shared news of other grants received by several system colleges and universities and informed the Board that more information can be found on the Development Division's Web page.

### **3. Progress on Committee Goals**

The committee goals of connecting with the campuses and connecting with the Legislature and governor were reviewed. At the time of the meeting, Linda Kohl, associate vice chancellor for public affairs, reported that five trustees had visited seven campuses. A second visit had been scheduled by one trustee.

Mary Davenport, director for government relations, discussed the Board's goal to increase legislative engagement. Trustees have received talking points to use in talking about the system with legislators. The three major governor candidates participated in videotaped interviews about their views on higher education; these videos were posted on the system's website. The interviews also were posted on Minnesota Public Radio, Minnesota State College Student Association and Minnesota State University Student Association websites. Meetings are being scheduled for Chancellor McCormick, Chair Thiss and trustees to visit with the new legislators.

### **4. Follow-up to OLA Evaluation of the System Office**

Linda Kohl reminded the committee that the Office of the Legislative Auditor report had no recommendations directly related to the Advancement Committee divisions. This committee, under the direction of former chair Christine Rice, reviewed a suggestion relating to the development function and concluded that the development function is needed.

### **5. Legislative Issues**

Mary Davenport shared information regarding election results. At the time of the meeting, the governor's race was undergoing a recount. Since the meeting, Mark Dayton was declared Minnesota's next governor. When the Minnesota Legislature convenes January 3, 2011, the House of Representatives will have 36 new members; the Senate will have 24 new members. Both bodies will have Republican majorities.

At the federal level, Minnesota will have one new member when Congress convenes on January 4, 2011. Chip Cravaack defeated incumbent James Oberstar in Minnesota's Eighth District. The U.S. House will have a Republican majority. The Democrats retained their majority in the U.S. Senate.

Christopher Halling, system director for financial aid, discussed current trends in student financial aid. Mary Davenport reviewed legislative issues that might come up during the 2011 Legislative Session.

Chair Scott Thiss shared his views on the new legislative visits with the committee and reported the meetings have been going well.

The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Candi Walz, Recorder