

MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 1-2, 2011

WELLS FARGO PLACE

ST. PAUL, MN

Trustees Present: Chair Scott Thiss, Duane Benson, Cheryl Dickson, Jacob Englund, Christopher Frederick, Clarence Hightower, Philip Krinkie, Dan McElroy, Alfredo Oliveira, David Paskach, Thomas Renier, Christine Rice, Louise Sundin, James Van Houten and Michael Vekich

Tuesday, February 1, 2011

Trustees Interview Finalists for Chancellor

The Trustees participated in small group interviews with the two finalists for chancellor, Dr. Steven Rosenstone and Dr. William Sederburg. They also attended a luncheon with Dr. Rosenstone and a dinner with Dr. Sederburg. The interviews, luncheon and dinner were open to the public.

Wednesday, February 2, 2011

Call to Order

Chair Scott Thiss called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. in the Board Room at Wells Fargo Place. He welcomed those in the audience and the people who were listening to the live audio-streaming. Trustee Jacob Englund participated by conference call all day, and Trustee Michael Vekich participated by conference call in the afternoon.

Preparation and Overview of Protocol

Lori Lamb, Vice Chancellor, Human Resources, and Steve Leo, Principal, Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, summarized the protocol for the interviews of the finalists. The Trustees reviewed the interview questions and selected those they would ask of each candidate.

Interview: Steven Rosenstone

Chair Scott Thiss welcomed Dr. Steven Rosenstone, Vice President, Scholarly and Cultural Affairs, University of Minnesota. Dr. Rosenstone thanked the Board for the opportunity to interview for the chancellor position. He appreciated the search process.

Dr. Rosenstone responded to a series of questions from the Trustees. At the conclusion, he thanked the Board, presidents, staff and Chancellor's cabinet. Dr. Rosenstone commented that he appreciated the candid conversations, the tough questions and willingness to let him ask tough questions. The system colleges and universities comprise a unique system that develops Minnesota's workforce. They are the key to the economic vitality and future of our state, and they are absolutely essential to the vitality of the communities and businesses across the state. He commented that he fully understands the magnitude of the decision before the Board, and the responsibilities of the position if he is asked to serve. He will serve as a steward of this system,

of the colleges and universities and on behalf of the students and on behalf of the people of Minnesota. He concluded that as the system's Chancellor, he will cherish the opportunity to collaborate for the quality of higher education in our state.

Interview: William Sederburg

Chair Scott Thiss welcomed Dr. William Sederburg, Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education. Dr. Sederburg thanked the Board and commented that the process has been invigorating and delightful.

Dr. Sederburg responded to a series of questions from the Trustees. At the conclusion, he expressed his appreciation for the hospitality shown him during search process. He said that the search was very well done, and he appreciated the confidentiality. He concluded that he is interested in the position for the opportunity to build a seamless system, work on collaborations and workforce development.

Discuss and Select Finalists to be Interviewed for the Chancellor Position

Chair Thiss thanked Chancellor James McCormick for his past service and for continuing to serve until August 1, 2011. Chancellor McCormick commented that he will do everything that he can to ensure a smooth transition. Chair Thiss also thanked Vice Chancellor Lamb, Executive Assistant Vicki Schoenbeck and Steve Leo, Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates.

Constituents' comments, based on their meetings with the candidates, were distributed to the Board. Chair Thiss called on General Counsel Gail Olson to explain the process for the Board to select the finalist for chancellor. Ms. Olson explained that a roll call vote is required because the meeting is by conference call. A simple majority is needed.

The board members commented on the positive attributes of each candidate and which one they would support. During the discussion, 13 members expressed support for Dr. Rosenstone and two expressed support for Dr. Sederburg.

Trustee Clarence Hightower moved that the Board of Trustees appoints Dr. Steven Rosenstone as chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities effective August 1, 2011, subject to the candidate's acceptance. The board chair is authorized to negotiate and execute an employment agreement with the chancellor-designate in accordance with the Personnel Plan for Administrators. Trustee Christine Rice seconded and the motion carried on a roll call vote with fourteen ayes (Trustees Duane Benson, Cheryl Dickson, Jacob Englund, Christopher Frederick, Clarence Hightower, Dan McElroy, Alfredo Oliveira, David Paskach, Thomas Renier, Christine Rice, Louise Sundin, James Van Houten, Michael Vekich and Chair Scott Thiss) and one nay (Trustee Philip Krinkie).

Adjournment

Chair Thiss adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Ingeborg K. Chapin
Secretary to the Board