

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

**Agenda Item Summary Sheet**

**Committee:** Advancement

**Date of Meeting:** March 21, 2012

**Agenda Item:** Report on Connecting with Campus Initiative

Proposed  
Policy Change

Approvals  
Required by  
Policy

Other  
Approvals

Monitoring

Information

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

Review progress on Connecting with Campus Initiative

**Scheduled Presenter(s):**

Trustee Cheryl Dickson

**Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:**

Initiative undertaken to establish collective understanding among trustees of unique contributions of each campus and provide informed context for decision making.

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**INFORMATION ITEM**

**Report on Connecting with Campus Initiative**

**BACKGROUND**

The Connecting with Campus Initiative was introduced by Chair Scott Thiss and launched in the fall of 2010. It was designed to establish a collective understanding among the trustees of the distinctiveness of each college and university, and their unique contributions and challenges toward achieving the system's mission and strategic plan. This understanding will provide the trustees with an informed context for making strategic and policy decisions on behalf of the System.

**GOALS**

There were four levels of results to determine success of this program.

Level 1 – Each Trustee will visit one campus. Result: fifteen visits.

Level 2 – Each Trustee will visit two campuses. Result: thirty visits.

Level 3 – Each President will receive at least one visit. Result: thirty-two visits.

Level 4 – Each campus within the system will be visited once. Result: all fifty-four campus/campus locations visited.

Trustees visited campuses throughout the year and periodic updates were presented to the Advancement Committee, chaired by Trustee Cheryl Dickson. At the end of the first year, and reported during a Study Session of the Board on July 2011, 30 colleges and universities had not been visited. The board agreed to continue the initiative in FY2012, with the goal to “visit all of them.”

**PROGRESS**

After the study session, Trustee Dickson revised the guidelines which were sent to the trustees along with a list of the remaining colleges and universities to be visited. As of February 29, 2012, trustees had visited 15 more institutions. Three more campus visits are scheduled in March, and several trustees have indicated their preferences for visits later in the spring. It is expected that the goal of “visiting all of them” will be achieved by June 30, 2012, the end of the current fiscal year. A list of the campuses that have not yet been visited is attached to this report.

**Connecting with Campus Initiative  
Year Two, FY2012**

**Visits to be scheduled:**

Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge

Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Coon Rapids

Bemidji State University

Dakota County Technical College

Hennepin Technical College, Eden Prairie

Inver Hills Community College

Lake Superior College

Metropolitan State University

Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Detroit Lakes

Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Moorhead

Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Wadena

Northwest Technical College

St. Cloud Technical and Community College

South Central College, Faribault