



ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 14, 2012

1:15 P.M.

MCCORMICK ROOM

30 7TH STREET EAST

SAINT PAUL, MN

Please note: Committee/Board meeting times are tentative. Committee/Board meetings may begin up to 45 minutes earlier than the times listed below if the previous committee meeting concludes its business before the end of its allotted time slot.

- (1) **Minutes of October 17, 2012 (pp.1-2)**
- (2) **Proposed Amendments to Board Policy 2.9 Academic Standing and Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (Second Reading) (pp.3-6)**
- (3) Reflections on Information Technology Strategy for the Future (pp.7)

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Duane Benson, Chair

Louise Sundin, Vice Chair

Margaret Anderson Kelliher

Alexander Cirillo

Cheryl Dickson

Dawn Erlandson

Maria Peluso

Bolded items indicate action required.

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 17, 2012**

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Members Present: Chair Duane Benson; Trustees Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Cheryl Dickson, Dawn Erlandson, Maria Peluso and Louise Sundin.

Committee Members Absent: Alexander Cirillo

Other Board Members Present: Trustees Ann Anaya, Brett Anderson, Clarence Hightower, Philip Krinkie, Alfredo Oliveira, David Paskach, Tom Renier and Michael Vekich.

Leadership Council Representatives Present: Chancellor Steven Rosenstone and Vice Chancellor Douglas Knowlton.

Leadership Council Representatives Absent: Presidents Earl Potter and Cecilia Cervantes.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Academic and Student Affairs Committee held a meeting on October 17, 2012 at Wells Fargo Place, 4th Floor, Board Room, 30 East 7th Street in St. Paul. Chair Benson called the meeting to order at 9:48 am.

1. Minutes of June 19, 2012

The minutes from June 19, 2012 Academic and Student Affairs Committee were approved as written.

2. Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 2.9 Academic Standing and Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (First Reading)

This proposed amendment clarifies that certain aspects of each college and university Academic Standing Policy may differ from the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy.

Federal financial aid regulations require that an institution's Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy be as strict as, or stricter than its policy on academic standing. The Board took action in 2006 to require that the grade point average requirements and percentage of completion requirements be the same in each institution's policies. This has led to some questions about whether other aspects of the policies must be the same or may differ.

The proposed amendment provides clarification by establishing that other elements of these policies may vary. An example would be recognition of academic amnesty, Vice Chancellor Knowlton said.

Trustee Dickson said she was concerned that the amendment indicated that elements may vary, but does not specify how they would vary. The policy amendment does not offer clear direction, she said.

Chancellor Rosenstone said the amendment may be clearer if it states elements may vary according to college or university policy.

Trustee Dickson said adding that language would be helpful.

Associate Vice Chancellor Mike López said policies do differ from institution to institution so the chancellor's suggestion clarifies the intent of the policy. The suggested change will be incorporated into the amendment for the second reading.

Policies and policy revisions are first reviewed and discussed by members of a policy committee, Vice Chancellor Knowlton said. The review process allows for input from presidents, campus leadership and student leaders. The policies are then brought to the Committee for a first reading, allowing for input by Trustees. In a later meeting, the policy or policy revisions are brought before the committee for a second reading and approval before going before the full Board for final approval.

- In other business, Chair Benson told trustees that they have received a report on degree credit caps that will be sent to the Legislature. If any trustee has questions about the report, he or she should contact Vice Chancellor Knowlton.
- As the new chair of the committee, Chair Benson said he wants the committee's focus to be sharp. There may be more joint committee meetings since academic affairs are often closely tied to the workings of other committees, such as finance and diversity.

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 am
Respectfully submitted,
Margie Takash, Recorder

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

Agenda Item Summary Sheet

Committee: Academic and Student Affairs

Date of Meeting: November 14, 2012

Agenda Item: Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 2.9 Academic Standing and Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (Second Reading)

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

Cite policy requirement, or explain why item is on the Board agenda:
Policy amendments require Board action.

Scheduled Presenter(s):
Douglas Knowlton, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:
The proposed amendment clarifies that certain aspects of each college and university Academic Standing Policy may differ from the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy.

Background Information:
The Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy and the Academic Standing Policy at each college and university are required to have the same grade point average requirements and completion percentage requirements. This has led to questions about whether other aspects of the policies must be the same or may differ. The proposed amendment helps to resolve those questions. Language that further clarifies that these policies are institutional policies has been added as a result of trustee discussion at the first reading.

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

BOARD ACTION ITEM

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BOARD POLICY 2.9 ACADEMIC STANDING AND FINANCIAL AID SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SECOND READING)

BACKGROUND

Federal financial aid regulations require that an institution's financial aid satisfactory academic progress policy be as strict as, or stricter than, its policy on academic standing. The Board took action in 2006 to require that the grade point average requirements and percentage of completion requirements be the same in each institution's policies. This has led to some questions about other aspects of the policies. The proposed amendment provides clarification by establishing that other elements of these required institutional policies may differ.

RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE ACTION

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends the Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

RECOMMENDED MOTION

The Board of Trustees approves the proposed amendment to Policy 2.9 Academic Standing and Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress.

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

BOARD ACTION

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BOARD POLICY 2.9 ACADEMIC STANDING AND
FINANCIAL AID SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SECOND READING)**

2.9 Academic Standing and Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress

Measurement of student satisfactory academic progress toward achievement of an academic award is an important activity in higher education. Such measurement provides feedback to students and ensures responsible action by colleges and universities regarding effective use of state resources.

Student academic progress must also be monitored to ensure effective and responsible management of federal and state student financial aid. Students within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities are often enrolled in more than one institution. Students also transfer frequently among colleges and universities. Therefore, institutional financial aid satisfactory academic progress policies shall be as uniform as possible, consistent with individual institutional missions.

Part 1. Academic Standing Policy. Each college and university shall develop a policy requiring students to maintain good academic standing and describing the academic performance standards students must meet to maintain good academic standing. This policy shall apply to all students, whether receiving financial aid or not. At each institution, the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy and Academic Standing Policy shall have the same grade point average requirement and percentage of completion requirement. Institutional policies may provide for reinstatement to enroll in classes following academic suspension under conditions different from those required for financial aid reinstatement. Each college and university may determine the maximum timeframe, recognition of academic amnesty, and other factors incorporated in its Academic Standing Policy and Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Policy, provided that the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy imposes terms as strict, or stricter than, the Academic Standing Policy.

Part 2. Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy. Each college and university shall develop an institutional satisfactory academic progress policy that shall apply to all students receiving federal or state financial aid. The Chancellor shall develop a system procedure for Board Policy 2.9 that shall contain required elements and parameters for these institutional policies, and each college and university satisfactory academic progress policy and procedure shall conform to the requirements of the system procedure.

1 **Part 3. Annual Review and Report to the Board.** The system office shall annually review each
2 college and university financial aid satisfactory academic progress policy and procedure to ensure
3 continued compliance with the system procedure. Significant exceptions shall be reported to the
4 Board of Trustees.

Date of Adoption: 09/20/95,

Date of Implementation: 09/20/95,

Date and Subject of Revision:

11/16/11 - Effective 1/1/12, the Board of Trustees amends all board policies to change the term "Office of the Chancellor" to "system office," and to make necessary related grammatical changes.

05/17/06 - amended the title to include Academic Standing and added new part 1, Academic Standing Policy. Also repealed Carry Forward Community College Policies III.02.06 Academic Standards and IV.07.01 Academic Suspension.

03/17/04 - replaced almost all policy language.

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

Agenda Item Summary Sheet

Committee: Academic and Student Affairs

Date of Meeting: November 14, 2012

Agenda Item: Reflections on Information Technology Strategy for the Future

Proposed
Policy Change

Approvals
Required by
Policy

Other
Approvals

Monitoring

Information

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

Academic and Students Affairs continually creates useful partnerships with Information Technology Services to better serve students, faculty and staff. This agenda item is an opportunity to consider the ways information technology can be positioned as an enabler for future improvements.

Scheduled Presenter(s): Darrel Huish, vice chancellor, information technology

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

Background Information: