

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

**Agenda Item Summary Sheet**

**Committee:** Diversity and Equity

**Date of Meeting:** November 14, 2012

**Agenda Item:** Access and Affordability

Proposed  
Policy Change

Approvals  
Required by  
Policy

Other  
Approvals

Monitoring

Information

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

The Diversity and Equity committee agreed to conduct three study sessions. The topic of this study session is access and affordability.

**Scheduled Presenter(s):**

Rassoul Dastmozd, President, Saint Paul College

Sue Hammersmith, President, Metropolitan State University

Whitney Harris, Chief Diversity Officer

Douglas Knowlton, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

**Goal:**

Committee members will assess the current and planned strategies to maintain affordability and enhance access to higher education for all Minnesotans.

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MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

<b>INFORMATION ITEM</b>
Access and Affordability

**BACKGROUND**

The Diversity and Equity committee will engage in a study session on access and affordability of higher education. Information regarding relevant facts, current trends and the accompanying challenges will be reviewed. Committee members will assess current and planned strategies that Minnesota State Colleges and Universities are utilizing to increase higher education accessibility and keep it affordable to determine if these are the correct approaches. Committee members may also suggest other ideas and strategies be explored by the staff.