

**Minnesota State Colleges and Universities**  
**Board of Trustees Minutes**  
**March 19, 2014**

Present: Chair Clarence Hightower, Trustees Ann Anaya, Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Alexander Cirillo, Cheryl Dickson, Dawn Erlandson, Philip Krinkie, Alfredo Oliveira, David Paskach, Maria Peluso, Thomas Renier, Elise Ristau, Louise Sundin, Michael Vekich and Chancellor Steven Rosenstone

Absent: Trustee Duane Benson

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**1. Call to Order**

Chair Clarence Hightower called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM and announced that a quorum was present. Trustees Ann Anaya, Alexander Cirillo, Alfredo Oliveira, David Paskach and Maria Peluso participated by telephone.

**2. Chair's Report: *Clarence Hightower***

**a. Minutes of Board of Trustees Study Session, Board of Trustees Accountability Dashboard, January 21, 2014**

**b. Minutes of Board of Trustees Study Session, Charting the Future for a Prosperous Minnesota, January 22, 2014**

**c. Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting, January 22, 2014**

The minutes listed above were approved as written.

**3. Chancellor's Report: *Steven Rosenstone***  
**MnSCU Selected by Gates Foundation**

Chancellor Steven Rosenstone announced that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation selected Minnesota State Colleges and Universities to join the State Post-Secondary Education Systems Partnership. Last October, the Gates Foundation invited MnSCU to express its interest in joining a small set of state systems of higher education to collaborate with the Foundation in a long-term partnership to transform higher education to better meet the needs of students. Following last November's board meeting, as part of MnSCU's application to the Partnership, Chancellor Rosenstone shared with the Gates Foundation information about the system and its plans for transformative change.

First: The system's three commitments to the students, families, and communities of Minnesota: to ensure access to an extraordinary education for all Minnesotans; be the partner of choice to meet Minnesota's workforce and community needs; and deliver the highest value/most affordable higher education option.

Second: The work which has already begun to redesign how we do things – including efforts to reduce costs through the Campus Service Cooperative, better align academic programs with Minnesota future workforce needs, and redesign the transition from secondary to post-secondary education, as well as our participation in the Multi-State Learning Outcomes Assessment Collaborative.

Third: The six recommendations for transforming the colleges and universities – recommendations that students, faculty, and staff articulated in *Charting the Future* – recommendations for changing how we work together in new ways to significantly increase collaboration to improve access, increase affordability and better serve students and communities across Minnesota. Forty higher education systems around the nation competed.

Chancellor Rosenstone stated that under this initiative, he will work collaboratively with Gates Foundation experts and other leading postsecondary systems to develop long-term strategies to provide more students the opportunity to complete an excellent, affordable education, tailored to their needs and designed to lead to successful lives and careers. Participation in the Gates Foundation initiative will help to increase student success, especially for our state's fastest growing populations – communities of color, first generation Minnesotans, and families of modest financial means. The system will benefit from this partnership in a number of ways: funding; engagement with Gates Foundation and other national expertise; the opportunity to work with other state systems of higher education; as well as the potential of a long-term partnership with the Foundation. Chancellor Rosenstone said he looks forward to sharing the knowledge gained through the system's own efforts as well as learning about the strategies that other higher education systems have taken to address the challenges that we all face.

Chancellor Rosenstone expressed his pride in the fact that Minnesota State Colleges and Universities was selected as one of twelve systems by the Gates Foundation to participate in this vital national endeavor. It is a powerful affirmation of the work undertaken and the vision that students, faculty, and staff have set in *Charting the Future for a Prosperous Minnesota*.

#### ***Charting the Future Update***

Chancellor Rosenstone briefly shared the *Charting the Future* progress, stating that he will provide a full report to the board at a study session in June. The process to create the Organizational Capability team, the eight Implementation teams, and the Steering Committee is well underway. Presidents have each expressed their preferences for the teams on which they would like to serve and have identified campus colleagues who can assist with the Organizational Capability team that will be supporting implementation.

Chancellor Rosenstone has asked the leaders of the faculty and staff bargaining units and the student associations to identify the individuals they would like to appoint to the Steering Committee and the Implementation Teams and submit their appointments by April 11. To ensure full participation by the students and faculty, a modest stipend will be provided to the students who will serve and faculty members will be compensated, under their contracts, for their work during the summer months. Chancellor Rosenstone anticipates that the Steering Committee and the first four Implementation Teams will be up and running by May 1.

Chancellor Rosenstone introduced Ms. Jaime Simonsen, who will be assisting with the day-to-day operations of the Steering Committee and Organizational Capability Team. Over the past few years, Ms. Simonsen has had a number of roles within the system. She managed the 55 employer listening sessions held across the state in 2012.

She supported a network of colleges and universities that applied for a \$5.5 million grant to support research in renewable energy – a grant that will be awarded later this spring. Most recently, she has helped support the Itasca Project Workforce Alignment effort and helped launch twenty pilot studies that are currently underway across the state to test new tools to help us better align our academic programs with workforce needs. Prior to joining the system office, she worked at North Hennepin Community College for eight years in a variety of roles focused on growing programs and enhancing services to meet the needs of adult learners and businesses in the area.

### **Legislative Update**

Chancellor Rosenstone thanked Trustee Michael Vekich for his testimony at the Senate Higher Education Committee hearings. He also thanked the trustees and presidents who attended the House and Senate Higher Education Committee hearings. Chancellor Rosenstone said that he is extremely grateful for Governor Dayton’s bonding recommendation of \$151 million. We continue to work with the Legislature to advance the board’s number one priority – HEAPR – as well as projects that are the board’s priorities but were not included in the governor’s recommendation. Chancellor Rosenstone thanked the colleges and universities for the great work they have done to engage their network of supporters on behalf of the bonding request.

Chancellor Rosenstone reported that Governor Dayton released his supplemental budget proposal which includes \$17 million in additional base funding in FY2015 for MnSCU faculty and staff compensation. The House higher education committee is recommending in their supplemental budget bill \$17 million of base funding in fiscal year 2015, and an additional \$14 million in base funding in fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

Chancellor Rosenstone thanked the presidents, bargaining units, and other statewide labor unions for being tremendous partners advocating on behalf of the system’s supplemental request. Chancellor Rosenstone was particularly grateful for the efforts led by the Minnesota State College Faculty and the Minnesota State University Association of Administrative and Service Faculty. Chancellor Rosenstone extended his sincere gratitude to Governor Dayton, Representative Pelowski, and to members of the House Higher Education Committee for their strong support of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

Chancellor Rosenstone noted the excellent discussion on Transfer at the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. Just as it is a top priority for the system, the Senate is also interested in transfer, and Vice Chancellor John O’Brien and Associate Vice Chancellor Lynda Milne will go before the Senate Higher Education and Workforce Committee to present the Smart Transfer Plan.

In addition to testifying on MnSCU’s bonding request before the Senate and House Higher Education Committees, Chancellor Rosenstone appeared before the Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development committee last week in his role of co-chair for the Itasca Project Workforce Alignment Team.

Chancellor Rosenstone, Cynthia Bauerly, Deputy Commissioner Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), and Karen White, Director of the 360 Manufacturing and Applied Engineering Center of Excellence, updated the committee on the work being done to better align higher education with Minnesota's workforce needs.

### **Social Media Update**

Chancellor Rosenstone remarked that when word of Governor Dayton's supplemental budget came, the Advancement team took to Twitter to broadcast MnSCU's gratitude for the governor's support. A tweet went out to the system's Twitter followers, many of whom re-tweeted the message, hitting a total of 34,884 Twitter accounts – many of which belong to Minnesota legislators. Twitter is only one component of the system's social media presence. Followers are on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, YouTube, Google+, Pinterest, and Vine – for a total of 256,247 followers. Chancellor Rosenstone thanked the campus communicators across the system and the Advancement team for building this statewide social media network.

### **Grants Update**

In January, Chancellor Rosenstone reported on the great success of the Access to Excellence scholarship campaign, which has raised over \$9 million in new scholarship funds. Over the past eight months, the colleges and universities have received \$70.3 million in federal grants, \$22.4 million in state grants, and \$21.8 in private grants. The Minnesota Department of Health and Human Services' Assets for Independence program has awarded a \$1 million grant to six community colleges that have collaborated to create the TuitionMatchMn network. Under this program, every dollar a student has saved is matched by both AFI funds and funds raised by the college foundation, for a total match of 3:1.

The Minnesota Job Skills Partnership has selected thirteen colleges and universities to receive eighteen grants totaling \$3.3 million. The Partnership is a DEED program that works with businesses and educational institutions to train or retrain workers, expand work opportunities, and keep high-quality jobs in the state. The \$3.3 million from the program comes with a 100% match from the colleges and universities, but the match was offset by an \$8.1 million contribution from the businesses that partner with our campuses. An excellent example of a private grant, the Charles & Ellora Alliss Educational Foundation Grant, continues to award need-based scholarships to students at the seven state universities. This year alone, the Foundation awarded \$668,000 in scholarships. Chancellor Rosenstone expressed his thanks to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership, and the Charles and Ellora Alliss Educational Foundation for their generous contributions to the success of our students. He also thanked the MnSCU foundation, development, financial aid, and continuing education staff on all of the campuses for their great work behind the scenes.

### **Update on Presidential Searches**

Chancellor Rosenstone stated that at the April board meeting, he anticipates making recommendations on the Rochester Community and Technical College and Minnesota State University Moorhead presidents. In May, he anticipates making his recommendation on the Normandale president.

### **Ridgewater College Wins ACT Award**

Chancellor Rosenstone announced that Ridgewater College in Willmar received the Minnesota Community College Career Preparedness Award for success rates greater than predicted, including one-year retention or transfer to a four-year institution and three-year graduation rates. The award is part of ACT's work with Commissioner Brenda Cassellius to celebrate achievement and create awareness around the goal of career and college readiness for all. In addition to Ridgewater, four other colleges were nominated for the award: Alexandria Technical and Community College; Itasca Community College; Northland Community and Technical College and Riverland Community College. The award comes with an invitation to attend a recognition gala in Washington, D.C., in June, where the national winner will be announced. Chancellor Rosenstone congratulated President Allen and the Ridgewater faculty and staff on their great work on behalf of our students.

### **Passing of Trustee Andy Boss**

Chancellor Rosenstone concluded his remarks on a sad note. This past week marked the passing of former Trustee Andy Boss, who succumbed to a long battle with Parkinson's disease. Chancellor Rosenstone remarked that all who knew Andy Boss are well aware that he epitomized the word "gentleman." He touched many parts of our community. He was not only a civic and business leader, but one of our community's great champions of higher education, research, theater, libraries, ceramics and the arts. He inspired the people and institutions he touched. On so many fronts, Minnesota and our state colleges and universities are better because of Andy Boss. He will be missed.

## **4. Consent Agenda**

- a. 2016-2021 General Obligation, Capital Budget and 2015 Revenue Fund Guidelines (Second Reading)**
- b. Acquisition of Property Related to Metropolitan State University Parking Ramp Construction**

Chair Hightower stated that the Acquisition of Property Related to Metropolitan State University Parking Ramp was removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion during the Finance and Facilities Committee report.

*Chair Hightower called the question on the remaining Consent Agenda item and the motion carried.*

## **5. Board Policy Decisions**

- a. Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 2.2 State Residency (Second Reading)**  
*Trustee Margaret Anderson Kelliher moved that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed amendment to Board Policy 2.2 State Residency. Chair Hightower called the question and the motion carried.*
- b. Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.36 Academic Programs (Second Reading)**  
*Trustee Anderson Kelliher moved that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed amendment to Board Policy 3.36 Academic Programs. Chair Hightower called the question and the motion carried.*

**c. Proposed New Policy 3.40 Recognition of Veteran Status (Second Reading)**

*Trustee Anderson Kelliher moved that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed new Policy 3.40 Recognition of Veteran Status. Chair Hightower called the question and the motion carried.*

**6. Board Standing Committee Reports**

**a. Human Resources Committee**

*Thomas Renier, Chair*

**(1) Appointment of President of Alexandria Technical & Community College**

*Trustee Thomas Renier moved that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor Steven Rosenstone, appoint Laura Urban as president of Alexandria Technical and Community College effective July 1, 2014, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The board authorized the chancellor, in consultation with the chair of the board and the chair of the Human Resources Committee, to negotiate and execute an employment agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the MnSCU Personnel Plan for Administrators.*

*Chair Hightower called the question and the motion carried unanimously.*

**(2) Appointment of President of Minnesota State-Southeast Technical College**

*Trustee Renier moved that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor Steven Rosenstone, appoint Dorothy Duran as president of Minnesota State College-Southeast Technical effective July 1, 2014, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The board authorized the chancellor, in consultation with the chair of the board and the chair of the Human Resources Committee, to negotiate and execute an employment agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the MnSCU Personnel Plan for Administrators.*

*Chair Hightower called the question and the motion carried unanimously.*

**(3) Appointment of Interim President of Minnesota West Community & Technical College**

*Trustee Renier moved that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor Steven Rosenstone, appoint Barbara McDonald as interim president of Minnesota West Community and Technical College effective July 1, 2014, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The board authorized the chancellor, in consultation with the chair of the board and the chair of the Human Resources Committee, to negotiate and execute an employment agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the MnSCU Personnel Plan for Administrators.*

*Chair Hightower called the question and the motion carried unanimously.*

**b. Joint Meeting: Academic and Student Affairs and Diversity and Equity Committees**

*Margaret Anderson Kelliher and Alexander Cirillo, Co-Chairs*

- (1) Closing the Achievement Gap, Annual Update on Persistence and Completion  
Trustee Anderson Kelliher reported that the committee heard a presentation on Closing the Achievement Gap. The presentation reviewed progress and initiatives aimed at reducing the achievement gap for students of color.

**c. Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

*Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Chair*

- (1) Innovative Instructional Technologies  
Trustee Anderson Kelliher reported that the committee heard a presentation on Innovative Instructional Technologies. The presentation summarized the current status related to technology-supported instruction and student services.
- (2) Transfer  
Trustee Anderson Kelliher reported that the committee heard a presentation on Transfer. The presentation is a follow-up to the final report submitted to the legislature in February 2014. The report summarized an increasing number of transfer students, improving the rates of transfer and reducing barriers to successful transfer through implementation of the Smart Transfer plan.
- (3) Other  
Trustee Anderson Kelliher introduced Ms. Takanda Epps, the first African-American woman to graduate from the Automation Robotics Engineering Technology program at Hennepin Technical College. Trustee Anderson Kelliher introduced a video provided by Hennepin Technical College on the program and of Ms. Epps speaking at her commencement ceremony. Chair Hightower invited Ms. Epps to address the board. Ms. Epps thanked the trustees and Chancellor Rosenstone for recognizing her as well as the Automation Robotics Engineering Technology program.

**d. Finance and Facilities Committee**

*Michael Vekich, Chair*

**(1) Acquisition of Property Related to Metropolitan State University Parking Ramp Construction**

Trustee Michael Vekich referenced the presentation on the Acquisition of Property Related to Metropolitan State University Parking Ramp Construction.

*Trustee Vekich moved that the Board of Trustees finds that the acquisition of the property at 393 Bates Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota is necessary for the needs of Metropolitan State University and that the board authorize the chancellor or his designee to take all necessary steps to initiate and complete the acquisition via direct negotiation, settlement or the eminent domain process and acquire the property located at 393 Bates Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, for the benefit of Metropolitan State University. The motion was seconded and carried.*

**7. Trustees Reports**

Trustee Louise Sundin reminded the trustees of the Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship Program event on March 27.

Trustee Dawn Erlandson reported that she attended the Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C.

**8. Joint Council of Student Associations**

a. Minnesota State University Student Association

Alexandra Griffin, state chair, addressed the Board of Trustees.

**9. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**10. Adjournment**

Chair Hightower announced that the next Board of Trustees meetings are on April 22 and 23, 2014. Chair Hightower adjourned the meeting at 3:35 PM.

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Ingeborg K. Chapin  
Secretary to the Board