

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

Agenda Item Summary Sheet

Name: Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Date: May 19, 2015

Title: Minneapolis Community and Technical College: Approval of College Mission

Purpose (check one):

Proposed
New Policy or
Amendment to
Existing Policy

Approvals
Required by
Policy

Other
Approvals

Monitoring /
Compliance

Information

Brief Description:

The mission of Minneapolis Community and Technical College is being presented for Board approval. The mission and vision meet the criteria in Board Policy 3.24 Institution Type and Mission, and System Mission, Part 4: Approval of College or University Mission Statements.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

Avelino Mills-Novoa, Interim President, Minneapolis Community and Technical College

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

BOARD ACTION ITEM

**MINNEAPOLIS COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE:
APPROVAL OF COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT**

BACKGROUND

The mission of Minneapolis Community and Technical College is being presented for Board approval. The mission and vision meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 Institution Type and Mission, and System Mission, Part 4: Approval of College or University Mission Statements.

Current Mission: Minneapolis Community and Technical College makes individual dreams achievable by providing access to learning opportunities that prepare students to live and work in a democratic society within a global community. The college fulfills this mission through:

- General education
- Liberal education
- Technical education
- Baccalaureate transfer education
- Workforce development
- Developmental education
- English language learning
- Continuing education

Proposed Mission: MCTC provides access to the transformative power of education in a diverse and dynamic downtown environment.

Rationale for revisions: The new mission statement conforms to Policy 3.24, Part 2, which states that a mission statement should describe the distinct purpose of the institution as well as the constituents served and expected outcomes.

- Describes the outcome students should experience – the “transformative power of education”
- Describes unique aspects of MCTC – “diverse and dynamic downtown environment”

Vision: We see a college that provides access to excellence and pathways to opportunity.

Values:

Student-centered: Anchor all decisions, programs and services around student needs.

Inclusion: Create a climate that empowers, supports and invites participation in the college and the community.

Community: Build an interdependent community allied with our external partners.

Excellence: Work daily to create an outstanding environment for learning and success.

Integrity: Be guided by honesty, fairness, and compassion in all our dealings.

The college vision and mission respond to the following elements in the system procedure:

1. Alignment of proposed mission with the system mission and statewide needs

The link between the new mission statement phrase “transformative power of education” and the System Strategic Framework can be found in Strategic Directions I (“Extraordinary Education”) and II (“Partner of Choice”):

- Strategic Direction I: “Preparing graduates to lead”; will be “the place of opportunity.”
 - By “transformative power,” we mean that graduates will be able to transform their own lives and the lives of their communities through personal empowerment, greater economic upward mobility and career success.
- Strategic Direction II: “Help them solve real-world problems” and “keep Minnesotans at the leading edge of their professions;” “increasing the number of Minnesotans who complete certificates, diplomas and degrees.”
 - By “diverse and dynamic downtown environment,” we highlight that one of the things that makes MCTC a unique learning environment for students is that it is situated in the heart of the state’s largest urban center and in one of the most diverse communities in the upper midwest. This provides outstanding learning opportunities for students, and enables the college to help our community meet employers’ needs for a culturally diverse and well-prepared workforce.

2. The extent to which the college or university will meet expectations of statute and how it relates to other institutions of higher education

The mission statement revision does not change MCTC’s mission to deliver comprehensive education in transfer, occupational, and basic education areas. State Statute 135A.052 states that comprehensive colleges will offer lower-division instruction [that]...will be accepted for transfer for a baccalaureate degree,” and “vocational training and education for skilled occupations that do not require a baccalaureate degree.” The proposed revision does not change the extent to which the college will meet these expectations. Additionally, MCTC will continue relating collaboratively with other colleges and universities in the state as it does currently.

3. Array of awards it offers

Minneapolis Community and Technical College is a comprehensive college that offers transfer, occupational and basic education programs. Students can earn two-year Associate in Arts (A.A.) and Associate in Science (A.S.) degrees as well as complete the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum to prepare for transfer to a four-year college or university. MCTC offers career programs that prepare students for immediate employment with certificates, diplomas and

Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) credentials. MCTC’s top-awarding programs are shown below.

Program Awards FY14 ¹		
Rank	Program Group	Awards ²
1	Liberal Arts	427
2	Nursing	133
3	Graphic Design: Print and Web	99
4	Information Technology	96
5	Business Management	93

¹Data are from Program Review on December 8, 2014. Prepared by Tabatha Miller.

²Students are unduplicated within program, but may be in more than one program group.

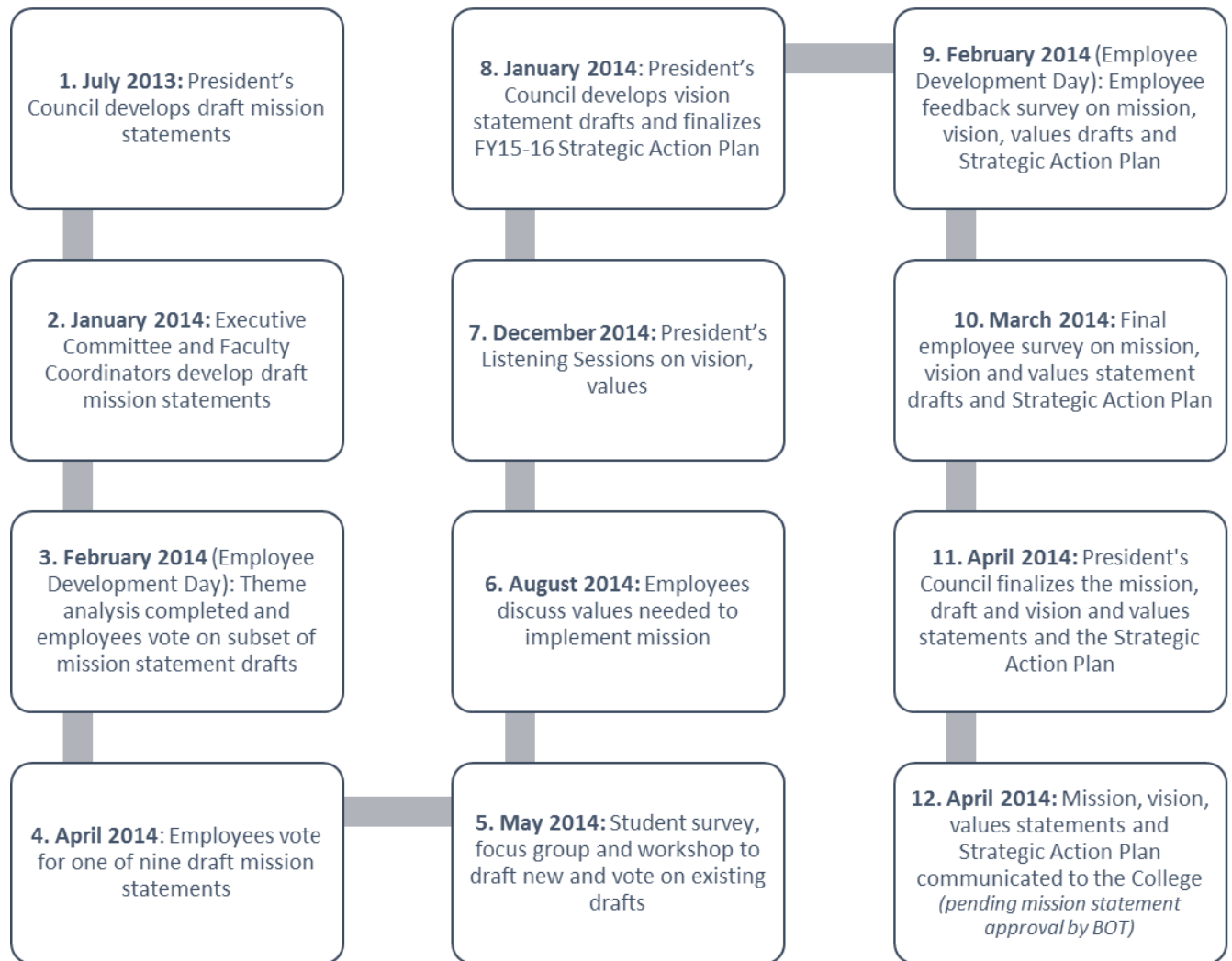
4. *Compliance of the college mission with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements*

Board policy 3.24 states that “Mission means the distinct purpose of the college or university, the constituents served and the expected outcomes...” The revised mission statement meets each of these criteria.

State Statute 136F.05 states that a distinct mission should be developed for each campus. The statement “transformative power of education” coupled with “diverse and dynamic downtown environment” highlights MCTC’s unique position as the critical provider of transfer, occupational and basic education for the City of Minneapolis, a function that could not be accomplished by another entity.

The **Higher Learning Commission’s Criterion One** requires that “The institution’s mission is clear and articulated publicly; it guides the institution’s operations.” Sub-criterion 1.C. states that “The institution understands the relationship between its mission and the diversity of society.” The new mission statement is succinct and clear with relation to location, population and expected outcome. In terms of public articulation, MCTC’s Marketing Department will highlight the new mission on the College website, intranet, display monitors, internal newsletters, external blogs, departmental fliers, banners and signage. The mission statement itself and the plan to communicate it through multiple venues will meet HLC’s criteria related to mission.

5. Consultation with faculty, students, employers, and other essential stakeholders



RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE ACTION

Upon the recommendation of the chancellor, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the mission of Minneapolis Community and Technical College.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

The Board of Trustees approves the mission of Minneapolis Community and Technical College.