

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
St. Paul, MN
January 24, 2018

Present: Chair Michael Vekich, Vice Chair Dawn Erlandson, Treasurer Jay Cowles, and Trustees Basil Ajuo, Alex Cirillo, Amanda Fredlund, Bob Hoffman, Jerry Janezich, Roger Moe, Rudy Rodriguez, George Soule, Louise Sundin, Cheryl Tefer, and Interim Chancellor Devinder Malhotra

Absent: Trustees AbdulRahmane Abdul-Aziz and Ann Anaya

Call to Order

Chair Michael Vekich called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm.

Chair's Report, Michael Vekich

Chair Vekich welcomed and recognized several members of the Fond du Lac Tribal College Board of Directors who were present.

- Dr. Sonny Peacock Director/CEO
- Vern Zacher, Chairman
- Leslie Northrup, Sr.
- Lyz Jaakola
- Michael Rabideaux

Chair Vekich thanked Trustees Basil Ajuo, Jay Cowles, Amanda Fredlund, Bob Hoffman, and Rudy Rodriguez for representing the Board of Trustees in several fall commencement ceremonies. He also offered congratulations to Trustee Ajuo who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in individualized studies from Metropolitan State University.

The Board of Trustees had a joint meeting with the Leadership Council yesterday. Dr. George Mehaffy, Vice President for Academic Leadership and Change with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, gave a presentation on student success.

Chair Vekich called on Interim Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Sue Appelquist for an update on the chancellor search. Interim Vice Chancellor Appelquist reported that the process for selecting our next chancellor continues to move forward and we are on track with the desired timeline set early last fall.

In mid-December, the 19-member search advisory committee, chaired by Scott Peterson, chief human resource executive at Schwan Foods, met with our search consultant Wheless Partners to review materials and select candidates for confidential airport interviews.

The airport interviews scheduled for mid-January have taken place. Following the interviews, the committee briefed Chair Vekich, and made their recommendation as to which candidates

should move forward in the process.

The next stage of the process will be system office interviews, which we anticipate taking place next month. We are making every effort, within the confines of the Open Meeting Law, to involve as many trustees in the next stage of the process as possible.

Chancellor's Report, Devinder Malhotra

Legislative Update

I was honored to be part of the press conference last Tuesday when Governor Dayton's bonding recommendations were announced. The proposed investment in asset preservation and in capital projects at our colleges and universities demonstrates the Governor's continued strong support of our capital needs.

I am grateful for the Governor's advocacy for public higher education, for the students who benefit from it, and for the state's future workforce. I look forward to working with the Governor and the Legislature as the session unfolds.

Well before the session begins, our colleges and universities have been hosting legislative tours on their campuses. Legislators have already visited 21 campuses, with more than 10 yet to come. MMB Commissioner Frans and his staff have made over eight stops at our campuses as well.

Legislators are always grateful to our campuses for hosting them, because the visits provide them with a first-hand opportunity to get a feel for the bonding needs of our colleges and universities. In fact, Sen. David Senjem sent me a letter, thanking everyone involved for opening the doors of the campuses. I would like to share his letter with you [*reads the letter*].

I would like to add my own thanks to our colleges and universities for their tireless efforts to tell the story of the facilities needs on their campuses. Also, my deep appreciation to our Government Relations team and to Vice Chancellor King and Associate Vice Chancellor Brian Yolitz for the effort their teams have put into making sure that our proposal as well as its advocacy was proceeding smoothly.

Next, I would like to update you on the executive searches that are underway this year. This process includes the search for a new vice chancellor of human resources, five presidents, and two interim presidents.

This morning, I presented to the board's Human Resources committee my recommendation for the interim presidencies of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and Minnesota State College Southeast.

I very much appreciate the work of the presidential search advisory committees for their time and efforts to move these search processes forward:

Our presidents serving as committee chairs: Anne Blackhurst, Terry Gaalswyk, Kent Hanson, Pat Johns, Joe Mulford, and Laura Urban; campus chief human resource officers for assisting in the campus-based elements of the search process; and here in the system office: our System Office Chief Human Resources Officer, Renee Hogoboom, for her leadership of each of the searches; as well Pa Yang and Sharon Mohr for their support of the process.

My special thanks to students, faculty, staff, and community representatives on the search committees.

I anticipate bringing to the board the remaining appointment recommendations in March, April, and May.

Next, a bit of reflection at the halfway point of the year. Last fall, we made a commitment to you to engage in conversations through a transparent consultative process that would not only develop a shared understanding of the work we need to do to meet our challenges, but would also foster a shared responsibility for getting that work done. I said that this consultative process would include students, faculty, staff, and our external stakeholders as active partners. I am happy to report on the work we did last fall and share with you the significance I believe it has in the work to secure our future.

Let me first update you on the work Leadership Council undertook. First of all, we put in place consultative and communication structures to improve interactions within Leadership Council – between Leadership Council and the board, and between Leadership Council and the system office.

Secondly, at the beginning of the academic year, the presidents, cabinet, and I decided to bring especially sharp focus to a collective conversation around student success, and that became our theme for the year. Our goal was to better understand what individual colleges and universities are doing to improve student success; and develop proposals for what the system as a whole can do to improve student success. The discussion that Leadership Council had yesterday with Dr. Mehaffy gave us additional food for thought for our future conversations.

My second update is that, over the past few months, Senior Vice Chancellor Ron Anderson and I have had informal conversations with IFO, MSCF, and MSUAASF leaders as a way to deepen our mutual understanding of the critical work ahead on student success. I want to thank the faculty leadership for their partnership in making these conversations possible and productive.

The focus on student success in Leadership Council and the conversations with faculty leaders show what we can accomplish by working together with students at the forefront and as our main focus. That's nowhere better seen than in the work students,

faculty, and staff are doing on our campuses. I would like to share with you a few other examples of partnerships;

One example you heard about yesterday: the Workforce Development Scholarship Program, which is about local partnerships to help students become the workforce communities across Minnesota need. Another example is the new Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Bemidji State University – a project that began as a proposal from the student senate and became a reality with the support of President Faith Hensrud and her leadership team. A final example is something you heard about yesterday: the Developmental Education Strategic Roadmap. The roadmap – along with transfer pathways – is one of the most powerful collaborative efforts, and it is the result of a number of years of work. It would not have been possible without the active engagement of faculty and staff at our colleges and universities in partnership with the system office.

What these examples demonstrate is that our institutional boundaries are becoming porous. I can say this because I have witnessed first-hand how our colleges and universities are talking to each other across sectors, often without our intervention. Individual organizations within our system – bargaining units, colleges, universities, and the system office – understand that they cannot respond to the challenges we are facing and accomplish all that needs to get done to ensure the success of our students by acting alone.

That understanding is highly significant because it means we are together heading toward a critical moment when all of our colleges and universities take joint ownership of all the students enrolled at our colleges and universities. Joint ownership is an imperative for making good on our commitment to student success. Those of us in the system office understand that our role is to work with our colleges and universities; provide them with the support they need; identify their capacity gaps; fill those gaps; and act as a facilitator/coordinator and a clearinghouse of information and best practices.

That's our commitment to Minnesota State. I have thoroughly enjoyed our work. It has been both exhausting and exhilarating, but mostly fun. My final commitment to you is that I will continue to have fun until my last day as interim chancellor.

Consent Agenda

Chair Vekich called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

- 1. Minutes, Board of Trustees Meeting, November 15, 2017**
- 2. Mission Statement: Pine Technical and Community College**
- 3. Mission Statement: Lake Superior College**

4. **Developmental Education Strategic Roadmap**
5. **Contracts Exceeding \$1 Million**
 - a. **Winona State University Digital Life and Learning Program FY2019-FY2024**
 - b. **Increase in Contract Value for IT Hardware and Software Master Contracts with CDW-G and Now Micro**
 - c. **Tutoring Services Contract**
6. **Surplus and Sale of Real Estate, St. Cloud State University**
7. **Non-resident Tuition Waiver for Students from Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands Impacted by Hurricanes Maria and Irma**

Board Policy Decisions (Second Reading)

Chair Vekich called for a motion to approve the Proposed New Policy 3.41 Education Abroad Programs. The motion carried unanimously.

- **Proposed New Policy 3.41 Education Abroad Programs**

Board Standing Committee Reports

1. Human Resources Committee, Dawn Erlandson, Chair

- a. **Appointment of Interim President of Minnesota State College Southeast**

The following motion was approved unanimously:

The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Interim Chancellor Devinder Malhotra, appointed Larry Lundblad as the interim president of Minnesota State College Southeast effective February 1, 2018, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The board authorized the chancellor, in consultation with the chair of the board and chair of the Human Resources Committee, to negotiate and execute an employment agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Personnel Plan for Administrators.

Larry Lundblad thanked the board and the chancellor for the opportunity to serve in this role.

- b. **Appointment of Interim President of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College**

Chair Vekich called on Vern Zacher, Chair of Fond du Lac Tribal College Board of Directors. Chair Zacher spoke to Stephanie Hammitt's character and sound leadership. He is confident that she will carry on President Larry Anderson's legacy.

The following motion was approved unanimously:

The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Interim Chancellor Devinder Malhotra, appointed Stephanie Hammitt as the interim president of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College effective July 1, 2018, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The board authorized the chancellor, in consultation with the chair of the board and chair of the Human Resources Committee, to negotiate and execute an employment agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Personnel Plan for Administrators.

Stephanie Hammitt thanked the board and the chancellor for the opportunity to serve in this role.

Student Associations

Students United; Faical Rayani, state chair, and Lexi Byler, vice chair, addressed the Board of Trustees.

LeadMN; Isaac Jahraus, president, addressed the Board of Trustees. President Jahraus spoke of incidents of hate and racism occurring in St. Cloud.

Chancellor Malhotra responded to President Jahraus' concerns by thanking him for the reminder that creating a safe environment on our campuses is something we need to deliver on. There is more work to be done. As these incidents happen, we have active strategies to deal with them. We would like your partnership with us along with Students United. Nothing is more important to us than the safety and security of our students.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities' Bargaining Units

Jim Grabowska, president, Inter Faculty Organization, addressed the Board of Trustees.

Kent Quamme, Treasurer, Minnesota State College Faculty, addressed the Board of Trustees

Board Standing Committee Reports (continued)

2. Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Alex Cirillo, Chair reported
 - a. Trustee Cirillo read the seven goals from Developmental Education presentation

The committee ran out of time and did not take up the first readings of the following proposed policy amendments.

- a. *Proposed Amendment to Policy 2.8, Student Life (First Reading)*
- b. *Proposed Amendment to Policy 3.7, Statewide Student Association (First Reading)*
- c. *Proposed Amendment to Policy 3.24, Institution Type and Mission, and System Mission (First Reading)*
Three first readings were not heard. Committee ran out of time.
- d. Developmental Education Strategic Roadmap

3. Audit Committee, George Soule, Vice Chair reported
 - Federal Student Financial Aid Audit Results
4. Closed Session: Joint Meeting of the Audit and Finance and Facilities Committees, Audit Committee Vice Chair Soule reported
 - a. Information Security Report: Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards Risk Assessment
5. Finance and Facilities Committee, Jay Cowles, Chair reported
 - a. College and University Financial Performance Update

- b. FY2020 Capital Program Guidelines for 2020 Capital Program and 2019 Revenue Bond Sale (First Reading)
 - c. Proposed Amendment to Policy 8.3 College, University and System Related Foundations (First Reading)
6. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Cheryl Tefer, Vice Chair reported
- Strategic Equity Update

Other Business

On February 21, the board will have a special meeting to approve the Inter Faculty Organization bargaining contract and hear the first reading of Policy 1B.3 Sexual Violence Policy with plans to suspend the rules to approve it.

In regards to the Chancellor search, the chair would like everyone to email their availability to him and Inge Chapin so dates can be scheduled for interviews. The preference for interviews is around the third week of February.

The meeting adjourned at 1:54 pm

Ingeborg K. Chapin, Secretary to the Board