

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

Agenda Item Summary Sheet

Committee: Diversity and Multiculturalism **Date of Meeting:** April 20, 2010

Agenda Item: Century College and Inver Hills Community College Access and Opportunity Center Evaluation Report

Proposed Policy Change Approvals Required by Policy Other Approvals Monitoring

Information

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

The Board of Trustees approved the funding of three Access, Opportunity and Success Centers to support the recruitment and retention of underrepresented students. Each center is required to conduct assessments and provide periodic updates to the Chancellor and Board of Trustees.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

Mike Lopez, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
Jason Cardinal, Access and Opportunity Center Director, Century College
Andrea Roberge, Dean of Student Services, Century College
Tadael Emiru, Access and Opportunity Center Director, Inver Hills Community College
Barbara Read, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Inver Hills Community College

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

The evaluation indicates that the Preparing to Achieve College Education (PACE) program is having a positive effect on student social and academic engagement. Both of these student characteristics are correlated to student academic success.

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INFORMATION ITEM
CENTURY COLLEGE AND INVER HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY CENTER EVALUATION REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities established, through a competitive process, three Access and Opportunity Centers focused on enhancing higher education access and success for students from underrepresented communities. Underrepresented students are defined as those who are first generation, low income or students of color. Each center is required to undergo an assessment by an outside evaluator. The Center uses Preparing to Achieve a College Education (PACE) as part of its efforts to provide support and programming aimed at increasing the college entry and success of underrepresented students. PACE provides rigorous academic support including tutoring, supplemental instruction, and workshops on testing strategies.

Century College and Inver Hills Community College Access and Opportunity Center of Excellence was evaluated by The Evaluation Group at ICI. Board members will hear a presentation on the progress and outcomes of the PACE program.