

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 18, 2010**

Advancement Committee Members Present: Trustees Christine Rice, chair; Cheryl Dickson, vice chair; Thomas Renier, Louise Sundin.

Leadership Council Committee Members Present: Chancellor James McCormick, President Richard Davenport, Linda Kohl, Mary Davenport, Maria McLemore.

Other Trustees Present: Trustees Duane Benson, Jacob Englund, Christopher Frederick, Ruth Grendahl, Dan McElroy, Scott Thiss, James Van Houten.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Advancement Committee met May 18, 2010, at the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities office in St. Paul. Chair Christine Rice called the meeting to order at 11:27 a.m.

Approval of the Advancement Committee Meeting Minutes

The April 20, 2010, Advancement Committee Meeting minutes were approved with no dissent.

Approval of the Joint Meeting of Advancement and Diversity and Multiculturalism Committees Minutes

The April 20, 2010, Joint Meeting of Advancement and Diversity and Multiculturalism Committees minutes were approved with no dissent.

1. Advancement Update

Maria McLemore, executive director for system and foundation relations, reported that the system has submitted a pre-proposal to the Lumina Foundation for Education to support adult degree completion programs directed at students ages 25 and older. The grant would focus on three populations of adult students: those facing situational barriers, dislocated workers and veterans. The proposed activities will involve 10 two-year campuses, three state universities and the system office.

System-related foundations have shared news of grants awards of more than \$50,000. Among these are funding for a summer bridge program, endowed scholarships, a renewable energy bioproducts research endowment and matching funds for a campus wellness center. More information on the grants can be made available or found on the development division's Web page.

Riverland Community College recently received two historic awards: \$1 million (\$200,000 per year for five years) from the Hormel Foundation to support the college's new "Cycles of Success" Scholarship Initiative. The program is a partnership with Austin's public and private school districts and will focus on helping students in the middle 50th percentile get ready for college. The foundation also received a \$99,000 bequest to support the Russell and Gudrun Harding Scholarships.

Linda Kohl, associate vice chancellor for public affairs, reported the division is editing *Go Places* for the upcoming year and planning for the State Fair. The *Go Places* guide for prospective students, parents and counselors contains two pages on financial aid and a college cost comparison chart. Because of high interest in affordability, tuition costs are laid out to make it easy for readers to understand. The guide is intended to present an overview of the system, build awareness and interest in college, and connect students to the individual campuses.

2. State and Federal Legislative Update

Mary Davenport, system director for government relations, presented a state and federal legislative update. The state session began with an early bonding bill providing \$106 million for system projects. The first budget bill, passed early in the session, reduced the system's funding to the 2006 level. In the final hours of the session, the Legislature crafted another bill that codified an earlier \$50 million unallotment to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and directed \$2.08 million of the cut to the Office of the Chancellor.

At the time of the meeting, the Higher Education policy bill was on Gov. Tim Pawlenty's desk. He has since signed the legislation, which includes a provision to increase the senior citizen age for tuition discounts from 62 to 66. The legislation also directs the system to study requirements for certificates and diplomas in career and technical education programs. It requires colleges and universities to attempt to use locally grown food. It also directs the Office of the Chancellor to reduce expenditures and streamline services. The board is directed to establish a pilot project to develop partnership and training for surgical technologists at institutions offering the program. The legislation requires a report to the Legislature on nanotechnology research and education. It contains a pilot project to place local reserves in a local bank. The bill also requires the Board of Trustees to develop and implement a plan to improve credit transfers within the system.

Contracts were ratified. A state employee retirement incentive bill was adopted that closely parallels the early incentive approved by the Board of Trustees. A pension bill passed, which allows the system to contract out for investment selection and review services for Individual Retirement Account plans with reviewers outside of the State Board of Investment.

Veterans affairs legislation extends the sunset on the veteran centers on the higher education campuses from June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2012. An economic development bill includes a directive to form a science technology advisory committee that will include two representatives from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. No K-12 bill was passed. *Mandates and Curiosities* will be compiled and made available on the system Web site in coming weeks. Also, 21 state legislators announced their retirements.

Four students walked from Minnesota State University, Mankato to the State Capitol in the final day of session to invite legislators to a campus forum to be scheduled in the fall.

Next year's legislative session will begin Jan. 4, 2011. The system will start discussions to prepare the budget request. In the interim, the government relations office will prepare an online election guide.

Meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Candi Walz, Recorder