

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

**Agenda Item Summary Sheet**

**Committee:** Diversity and Multiculturalism      **Date of Meeting:** June 15, 2010

**Agenda Item:** Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative Update

- 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 the Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative to support the recruitment and retention of underrepresented students. The system allocated \$7.4 million per year directly to the colleges and universities, based upon their enrollment and other factors, to encourage innovative approaches and expand proven programs. Another \$3.4 million per year was allocated to set up three Access and Opportunity Centers at the institutions through a competitive process. The other \$200,000 was earmarked each year to develop recruitment materials and system-based diversity activities. Staff is required to conduct assessments and provide periodic updates to the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees.

**Scheduled Presenter(s):**

Whitney Harris, Executive Director for Diversity and Multiculturalism  
Mike López, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

**Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:**

The periodic updates provide an opportunity for the Board of Trustees to monitor the progress of the initiative and provide appropriate guidance and direction to the Chancellor.

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

**INFORMATION ITEM**

ACCESS, OPPORTUNITY AND SUCCESS INITIATIVE UPDATE

**BACKGROUND**

The system implemented an Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative to improve recruitment, retention and success of underrepresented students in Fiscal Year 2008.

- For FY 2010, \$11 million was allocated to support the Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative.
  - The system allocated \$7.4 million directly to the colleges and universities, based upon their enrollment and other factors, to encourage innovative approaches and expand proven programs. (See list of campus programs and activities.)
  - Another \$3.4 million was allocated to set up three Access and Opportunity Centers at the institutions through a competitive process.
  - The other \$200,000 was earmarked to develop recruitment materials and system-based diversity activities.
- Enrollment information for the Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative will be provided as a handout at the Board June 2010 meeting.
- Retention information will be provided at a later Board meeting.
- The “Make College Part of your Future” brochure has been translated into eight languages. The brochure is in English, Spanish, Hmong, Somali, French, Russian, Vietnamese, Ojibwe, and Dakota. More than 90 percent of the brochures have been distributed. This campaign has received numerous awards and recognitions.
- The translation of the Web pages has been completed. The same languages as those used for the brochures are used on the Web pages.
- A second phase of the underrepresented media campaign began in May 2010 and will run through August 2010. It consists of:
  - Bus shelter signs
  - Bus and transit signs
  - Ads in diversity newspapers

## **Access and Opportunity Centers of Excellence**

Throughout Minnesota, significantly fewer underrepresented students graduate from high school, attend college, and earn a college degree as compared with peers. The changing demographics of Minnesota's communities and the disparities in the academic performance of students of color and other underrepresented students underscore the need for immediate action. To address this critical shortfall, in 2007, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees established three Access and Opportunity Centers of Excellence to improve participation and success in higher education among underrepresented groups. The centers were established through a competitive process among the 32 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities at a cost of \$3.4 million.

### **Century College and Inver Hills Community College – Access and Opportunity Center of Excellence**

The center focuses on 1) rigorous programming and intrusive student services, 2) parental and family engagement, 3) teacher collaboration and professional development, and 4) evaluation, research, and dissemination. Underrepresented students receive age-appropriate programs and services. Programming includes college-preparatory and college-level courses, summer bridge programs, college readiness initiatives, tutoring, mentoring, and enrichment experiences. Family members participate in activities that promote the importance of post-secondary education and help them support their student's success. The center also provides translation services for family members and encourages them to explore their own options for postsecondary education.

### **Minnesota State Community and Technical College – Minnesota Partnership for College Readiness**

The partnership provides outreach services to underrepresented students in grades eight through twelve and their teachers by using interactive technologies to form learning communities. Various activities provide students with strategies to become successful at each grade level in college-preparatory and dual-credit courses. One program, Ready or Not Writing, assists students and their high school teachers in diagnosing students' writing abilities to help ensure they are ready for college-level courses when they graduate from high school. Synchronous online instruction includes video and audio interaction. A contextual math program uses real-world, workplace applications, and lab activities to make math practical and relevant. Plans call for expanding these projects to a broader audience in Minnesota. In addition, a reading readiness program and contextual science program are under development. Summer youth programs in science and technology also are offered by college partners.

### **St. Cloud State University – Research and Demonstration Center for Educational Access and Opportunity**

This project uses proven methods, such as intrusive in-school advising, summer bridge programs, culturally sensitive academic enrichment courses, tutoring, financial aid application support, and mentoring to support goal setting and academic achievement of underrepresented students in grades eight through twelve in the St. Cloud Area School District 742. Students are recruited and assigned to in-school Academic Advising Teams. After their academic skills are assessed relative to college readiness, advisors assist students with career and educational planning. Student progress is monitored by team leaders, student mentors, tutors, and a teacher advisor.

**Minnesota State Colleges and Universities  
Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative**

**FY 2010 College and University Strategies**

Alexandria Technical College- \$104,141

- Enhance outreach activities including Academic Bridge Program
- Early identification and extended orientation program
- Provide intrusive advising
- Increase tutoring and learning support

Anoka Ramsey Community College- \$319,829

- Focus on developmental math
- Early Alert System will identify students at risk
- Establish intrusive advising system
- Provide online tutoring for developmental math students
- Provide Supplemental Instruction in some developmental math courses

Anoka Technical College- \$94,191

- Provide faculty student success advisor for underrepresented students
- Implement Early Alert system
- Initiate First Year Experience course

Central Lakes College- \$181,063

- Advisor assigned to work with schools with large underrepresented student populations
- Retention specialist to provide services to underrepresented students
- Diversity coordinator to provide outreach to new students
- Diversity coordinator to provide advising and support to current students

Century College- \$422,449

- Establish Learning Communities program, primarily for developmental courses
- Enhance Supplemental Instruction program
- Establish Intensive Faculty Advising and Mentoring program pairing students and faculty

Dakota County Technical College- \$124,670

- Focus on underrepresented student athletes
- Provide intrusive advising
- Provide peer tutoring
- Involve faculty in providing academic progress reports

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College- \$85,632

- Focus on low performing students at risk of academic suspension
- Provide academic skills instruction and workshops
- Intrusive advising and mandatory study sessions
- Use of PLATO web learning network

Hennepin Technical College- \$247,045

- Expand high school outreach efforts with high school advisor liaison
- Implement case management approach for students on academic probation
- Provide College Lab Assistant support for anatomy and physiology students

Inver Hills Community College- \$201,572

- Expand iConnect underrepresented student outreach and recruitment program
- Develop Structured Learning Assistance program for high risk courses
- Expand On Course first-year experience program

Lake Superior College- \$186,690

- Implement professional mentor program
- Expand High School Connections and Summer and Winter College Bridge Program
- Begin underrepresented student ambassador, student worker and peer mentor programs
- Expand First Year Experience program

Minneapolis Community and Technical College- \$465,424

- Enhance Power of YOU retention efforts
- Provide intrusive advising
- Provide additional tutoring support
- Make referrals to community resources for personal concerns

Minnesota State College- Southeast Technical- \$102,194

- Increase faculty participation in Academic Progression Reporting System
- Initiate Boys to Men summer bridge program
- Establish E-mentoring program
- Increase outreach to underrepresented students in Southeast Perkins IV Consortium

Minnesota State Community and Technical College- \$289,337

- Underrepresented student advisors on each campus will provide intrusive advising
- Establish learning communities at Moorhead and Detroit Lakes campuses
- Establish New Start program for academically at risk transfer students

Minnesota West Community and Technical College- \$121,090

- Increase Native American outreach and recruitment efforts
- Enhance Fast Track readiness program for underprepared first generation students
- Increase use of case management approach for students on academic probation

Normandale Community College- \$365,375

- Implement Supplemental Instruction for anatomy and physiology courses
- Expand English for Academic Purposes program and provide tutoring
- Enhance Level Up! summer bridge program
- Increase underrepresented student participation in Academy of Math and Science
- Expand Math Summer Bridge program
- Initiate web-based early warning system for academically at risk students

North Hennepin Community College- \$291,939

- Expand Cornerstones college readiness summer program
- Expand First Year Experience programming
- Increase student participation in Pathways orientation program
- Increase number of learning communities offered

Northeast Higher Education District- \$255,395

Hibbing Community College

- Student Success Coordinator will provide services for underrepresented students
- Increase tutoring services
- Develop early warning/early intervention system
- Develop peer mentoring program

Itasca Community College

- Increase outreach to Native American communities
- Initiate early warning interventions
- Increase advisement and engagement activities
- Coordinate efforts of Multicultural Affairs, Trio, and Counseling departments

Mesabi Range Community and Technical College

- Increase Academic Journey outreach program to high school students
- Expand educational offerings at Bois Forte reservation

Rainy River Community College

- Increase targeted high school and reservation outreach
- Expand use of retention tools including student academic notebook/success program
- Provide mid-term follow-up on academic progress and required interventions

Vermilion Community College

- Expand Vermilion Summer Bridge program
- Expand Overtime Program study group/tutorial sessions
- Expand mentorship program for underrepresented women in nontraditional careers

Northland Community and Technical College- \$171,234

- Expand intrusive advising program
- Initiate Supplemental Instruction program
- Enhance social integration and cultural awareness activities

Northwest Technical College- \$69,006

- Implement College Success Mentoring program
- Initiate Early Alert system for academically at risk students
- Increase services and activities for American Indian students

Pine Technical College- \$42,484

- Focus on underrepresented students in developmental courses
- Initiate early identification and continuing monitoring program
- Provide tutoring and study skills instruction

Ridgewater College- \$175,528

- Increase outreach and recruitment efforts to Latino and Somali communities
- Expand Student Success Program for underrepresented students
- Establish Learning Communities program
- Initiate Summer Bridge program

Riverland Community College- \$149,313

- Expand outreach and recruitment to Hispanic community
- Develop Easy Enrollment program as alternative to traditional process
- Initiate Summer College Prep Academy program for underprepared students
- Expand advising and support services for students on academic probation

Rochester Community and Technical College- \$241,287

- Continue College Transition/Advisor services with Rochester Public Schools
- Enhance intrusive advising services
- Increase use of UCR Learning Center by underrepresented students
- Implement RETAIN program to track performance of underrepresented students

St. Cloud Technical College- \$190,057

- Increase recruitment efforts targeting ABE and GED students
- Expand Summer Bridge program
- Continue intrusive advising program
- Expand Supplemental Instruction for developmental courses

Saint Paul College- \$283,757

- Expand recruitment and retention efforts for Power of YOU
- Expand Early Alert Referral System
- Provide intrusive advising to POY students
- Provide tutoring for students in developmental math courses

South Central College- \$162,816

- Multicultural Advisors will expand outreach and recruitment efforts
- Increase student engagement with the college
- Develop student identification and tracking mechanism

Bemidji State University- \$175,719

- Retention counselors will provide intrusive advising
- Offer First Year Experience course for underrepresented students
- Establish peer tutor/mentor program
- Expand outreach and recruitment efforts in Native American communities

Metropolitan State University- \$241,556

- Hire four faculty to teach "Access" math and writing/composition courses
- Provide workshops for community faculty on teaching underrepresented students
- Build relationships among campus units to facilitate better use of support services

Minnesota State University, Mankato- \$454,507

- Increase recruitment efforts aimed at underrepresented students
- Expand College Access Program to serve more students
- Expand Institutional Diversity English Institute
- Identify and provide academic intervention strategies to academically at risk students
- Continue summer bridge and college preparation programs

Minnesota State University Moorhead- \$239,170

- Target recruitment efforts toward Latino and Native American communities
- Develop Academic Apprenticeship program for underrepresented students
- Develop summer bridge program for underrepresented students
- Establish living and learning community program
- Establish American Indian Resource and Research Center

St. Cloud State University- \$539,489

- Continue recruitment efforts aimed at Latino, Somali and American Indian communities
- Implement STEM careers awareness activities for underrepresented students
- Fully implement learning communities program
- Continue Study Abroad Short-Term Programs for underrepresented students
- Hire a multicultural undergraduate academic advisor
- Continue faculty coordinator for students of color retention position

Southwest Minnesota State University- \$179,065

- Increase recruitment efforts for underrepresented students
- Implement Summer Bridge program
- Establish AOS Living Learning Community

Winona State University- \$249,060

- Continue use of Academic Progression Reporting System
- Develop peer mentoring program
- Continue Summer Bridge Boys to Men program
- Expand diversity recruitment efforts
- Expand academic advising for underrepresented students