

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2010**

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

Leadership Council Committee Members Present: President Jon Quistgaard, Linda Kohl, Mary Davenport, Maria McLemore.

Other Trustees Present: Trustees Duane Benson, Christopher Frederick, Thomas Reiner, Scott Thiss.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Advancement Committee met April 20, 2010, at the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities system office in St. Paul. Chair Christine Rice called the meeting to order at 2:50 P.M.

Approval of the Advancement Committee Meeting Minutes

The March 16, 2010 Advancement Committee Meeting Minutes were approved without dissent.

1. Advancement Update

Maria McLemore, executive director for system and foundation relations, reported that the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Foundation was awarded a \$330,000 grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support the Action Analytics and Education Partnership. In addition to funding the continuation of the National Action Analytics Symposium, the Gates Foundation grant will the system establish a repository of best practices in student readiness and retention.

2. State and Federal Legislative Update

Mary Davenport, executive director of government relations, reported that the supplemental budget bill for higher education was signed by the governor. The state Senate passed its version of a higher education related policy bill with minimal policy directed at the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. The House version of the higher education policy bill, which has not yet been passed, includes more directives for the system. The bill includes language to raise the age from 62 to 66 for receiving reduced tuition as senior citizens; establish the system office in statute; create a new study of certificate and diploma programs in technical education; and create a pilot project for deposits of institution reserves at community banks.

The Senate Higher Education Committee scheduled a hearing to confirm the appointment of Trustee Christopher Frederick, but it was cancelled due to a long floor session. Trustee Frederick met with senators individually and answered questions before having his confirmation placed on the Senate confirmation calendar with Trustee David Paskach. The confirmation vote is expected to be taken up before the end of session. The Senate and House both have passed credit transfer bills which are expected to be negotiated in conference committee.

At the federal level, the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act was signed into law. This legislation requires institutions to move their financial aid lending through the U.S. Department of Education's Direct Lending program by July 1, 2010. Legislation included \$2 billion for community college and career training grants, to be administered by the Department of Labor.

A second stimulus bill focused on education is under consideration. The proposed legislation includes \$23 billion to preserve jobs in K-12 and higher education. The funds would be distributed in a formula similar to American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. Under this formula, \$386 million would be awarded to the state of Minnesota. The legislation requires maintenance of effort, meaning that the state cannot decrease appropriations to education below the 2006 level and qualify for the new federal funds if they become available.

Minnesota Congressional members have submitted special appropriation requests, or earmarks, for the Federal fiscal year 2011. A total request of \$14.6 million for projects within the system has been submitted to-date by members.

There was a discussion about the level of federal and state financial aid available to students attending a college or university within the system and Minnesota. It was suggested that when discussing tuition and tuition increases, the public be reminded that there are financial aid resources available to assist students and their families.

3. Report on College-, University- and System-Related Foundations

Maria McLemore, executive director for system and foundation relations, reported on the college-, university- and system-related foundations; this was a continuation of a discussion started at the March Board of Trustees meeting. In addition to an overview of public funds received by (\$9,751,691) and benefits returned to (\$28,366,258) the system, the report provided information on the individual return on investment for 42 of the system's college-,

university-, and system- related foundations. The Board was reminded that the report replaces the former “Gifts and Grants” report. Details on return on investment and other pertinent information are provided are the result of the recent amendment to Board Policy 8.3.

4. Follow-up to the OLA Evaluation of the System Office

Maria McLemore, Executive Director for System and Foundation Relations, reported that the Foundation office will remain committed to continued discussion with the Advancement Committee of the Leadership Council and to procedures and processes as dictated by the Board of Trustees in order to address the concerns raised in the OLA report.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Candi Walz, Recorder