

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

Agenda Item Summary Sheet

Committee: Academic and Student Affairs

Date of Meeting: November 16, 2010

Agenda Item: Mission Reaffirmations: Bemidji State University; Minnesota State University, Mankato

Proposed
Policy Change

Approvals
Required by
Policy

Other
Approvals

Monitoring

Information

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

Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4: Review and Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements requires institutions to have their missions approved by the Board at least once every five years.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

Richard Hanson, President, Bemidji State University
Richard Davenport, President, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

The vision, mission and purposes presented by Bemidji State University reaffirm the institutional mission approved by the Board of Trustees in 1998. The reaffirmed statements meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4: Review and Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements.

The vision, mission and purposes presented by Minnesota State University, Mankato reaffirm the institutional mission approved by the Board of Trustees in 1996. The reaffirmed statements meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4: Review and Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements.

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

BOARD ACTION

Mission Reaffirmation: Bemidji State University

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The vision, mission and goals of Bemidji State University meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4: Review and Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements. The university is reaffirming its mission (previously approved by the Board of Trustees in September 1998) under the new Board policy requirement that colleges and universities seek Board approval at least once every five years.

Bemidji State University’s vision, mission, purposes and array of awards are:

Vision: Shaping Potential, Shaping Worlds: Bemidji State University is a catalyst for shaping the potential of those it serves, who in turn, shape the worlds in which they live and work.

Mission: Engage. Embrace. Educate. As northern Minnesota’s university, we engage in new worlds of thought, embrace responsible citizenship, and educate for a future that can only be imagined.

Purpose 1: Engage Students for Success in Careers, Communities and Life

Strategic Imperative: Create opportunities for student success through high quality programs and services. Value Statement: Bemidji State recognizes the value of higher education as a public good, provides student-centered access to learning, meets the needs of our diverse, rural and nontraditional students, and promotes lifelong learning.

Purpose 2: Promote Vital Communities through Involvement

Strategic Imperative: Support and promote community vitality through Bemidji State’s commitments within our local, regional, national and world spheres. Value Statement: Bemidji State values the supportive relationships between the university and its communities.

Purpose 3: Innovate for a Changing World

Strategic Imperative: Accommodate change through an organizational culture of creativity, innovation and planning. Value Statement: Bemidji State values flexibility and adaptability as a means to change.

Purpose 4: Optimize Resources to Achieve the University’s Vision and Mission

1 Strategic Imperative: Effectively manage and increase enrollment and resources in support of the
2 university's vision and mission. Value Statement: Bemidji State recognizes and honors the role
3 of the university in the stewardship of its resources and the importance of accountability.
4
5

6 **Purpose 5: Execute the Recalibration of Bemidji State University**

7 Strategic Imperative in dealing with the projected budgetary problem in the 2012-13 biennium:

- 8 • To *preserve* our capacity to create *transformational* learning environments
- 9 • To *recalibrate* our institution to *sharpen* our educational focus
- 10 • To be *richly innovative* in improving our *capacity* to *keep improving* what we do

11
12 **Array of Awards:** The *array of awards* offered by Bemidji State University includes Associate
13 degrees; Baccalaureate degrees; Master's degrees; Pre-professional programs of study and
14 Certificate programs.
15

16 **BACKGROUND**

17 Minnesota's state legislature chartered Bemidji State University as Bemidji Normal School in
18 1919. The intent was to train public school teachers for rapidly expanding communities in
19 northern Minnesota. Initial enrollment was 38 students. Today the university offers
20 approximately 65 baccalaureate and 14 graduate degrees and enrolls an average of 5,000 students
21 annually, including in teacher training programs. Service to the Bemidji area and the northern
22 tier of Minnesota continues to be a focus of the university even while it extends its reputation
23 statewide, nationally and internationally. Situated near the fledgling Mississippi River, just 41
24 road miles (62 river miles) from the Headwaters, the city of Bemidji serves a population of
25 nearly 15,000 and provides educational, medical, commercial and governmental services to a
26 regional population of over 30,000. Three American Indian tribal communities, Leech Lake, Red
27 Lake and White Earth, lie within a 75 mile radius of Bemidji.
28

29 Bemidji State shares many services with Northwest Technical College, also located in the City of
30 Bemidji. For example, Bemidji State offers NTC learners reserved seats in certain designated
31 classes, resident housing, health care, and access to campus events. Administrative systems, such
32 as Records, Financial Aid and Purchasing, are operated primarily from the university campus but
33 are shared across the two institutions. Bemidji State's president serves as president of NTC.
34 NTC, however, remains a separately accredited college.
35

36 In its 90 year history, Bemidji State has evolved from a teacher-training institution to a
37 university:

- 38 • 1919 Bemidji Normal School
- 39 • 1921 Bemidji State Teachers College
- 40 • 1957 Bemidji State College
- 41 • 1975 Bemidji State University

42
43 Bemidji State University just completed a site visit (Spring 2010) for continuing accreditation by
44 the Higher Learning Commission. The visiting team completed their work, with a follow-up

1 recommendation for continuing work on assessment of outcomes, and the report was approved
2 by the internal mechanisms of the HLC. We have already started the processes necessary to
3 follow-up on the recommendations of the visiting team. With reaccreditation complete, the next
4 HLC evaluation will occur in 10 years.

6 **OVERVIEW OF MISSION, VISION AND PURPOSES**

7 The proposed vision, mission, and purposes of Bemidji State University meet the criteria
8 identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4: Review and
9 Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements.

10
11 As required by procedure, the institution must:

- 12 A. Describe how its mission and vision align with the requirements in Policy 3.24;
- 13 B. Articulate how the college or university will meet expectations of law, how it relates to
14 other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision, and purposes
15 support fulfillment of the system mission and vision;
- 16 C. Describe the array of awards it offers;
- 17 D. Include a statement that the college or university mission is compliant with statute,
18 policy, and regional accreditation requirements; and
- 19 E. Describe consultation with faculty and staff, students, employers and other essential
20 stakeholders.

21 Additionally, the institution's mission must be compliant with statute, policy, and regional
22 accreditation requirements.

24 **REVIEW OF BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY'S MISSION, VISION AND PURPOSES**

25
26 **The mission, vision, and purposes respond to the system procedure.** Bemidji State
27 University's vision, mission, and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and regional
28 accreditation requirements. The College mission, vision, and purposes demonstrate alignment
29 with the system mission and vision.

30
31 The university is reaffirming an institution mission that was approved by the Board in
32 September, 1998.

33
34 The *mission* of Bemidji State University is "Engage. Embrace. Educate. As northern
35 Minnesota's university, we engage in new worlds of thought, embrace responsible citizenship,
36 and educate for a future that can only be imagined."

37
38 As northern Minnesota's university, Bemidji State University serves undergraduate students
39 from the state of Minnesota and from at least 34 other states in the U.S. It serves almost 300
40 international students and nearly 200 Native American students from several tribes in the upper
41 Midwest. BSU serves the community of Bemidji as a partner in community and economic
42 development, as a partner in neighborhood revitalization and as a partner in manufacturing and
43 industry development. Bemidji State University serves the mission of graduate education with
44 several high quality masters degrees programs.

45
46 The university strives for outcomes that support the ways in which it:

- 1 • shapes individuals and thus shapes worlds;
- 2 • engages students in thinking and creativity;
- 3 • embraces notions of responsible citizenship, from the personal world to the global world;
- 4 and
- 5 • educates students for thinking toward the future—a collective act of the imagination.

6
7 Bemidji State University exists to provide transformational learning environments that create the
8 following personal strengths (for our students), institutional strengths (for BSU), and community
9 strengths (for our region, for the state and for the expanded reach of the institution):

- 10
11 • Sustainability – The university’s programs and services will: comply with system, state,
12 and federal regulations; provide academic and monetary resources sufficient to ensure
13 sustainability well into the future; meet the learner’s and university’s needs of the present
14 without compromising the capacity of the institution to meet the needs of future
15 generations; and use assessment information for continuing improvement.
- 16 • Innovation – The university will apply new methods, ideas, significant new elements of
17 “innovativeness” to attract and retain learners; offer unique and demanding programs and
18 services within higher education and/or within a discipline and produce new and unique
19 routines, outcomes or processes.
- 20 • Distinctiveness – The university’s programs and services will: encompass and
21 express/project the unique academic, social and economic characteristics of the
22 institution to the world; present a world richly understood and intensely explored;
23 operationalize the idea that “learning should be an act of discovery,” have or give style or
24 distinction locally and regionally and stand above other similar programs in other
25 universities or colleges.

26
27 The university mission supports the system mission in the following ways:

28 The university’s mission statement identifies the actions that carry out values expressed in the
29 vision. It explains the ways in which the university shapes individuals and thus shapes worlds:
30 we engage students in thinking and creativity; we embrace notions of responsible citizenship,
31 from the personal world to the global world; and we educate students for thinking toward the
32 future—a collective act of the imagination. The use of verbs in the mission statement is
33 intentional: Bemidji State University is a university of action.

34
35 Bemidji State’s Signature Themes support the university’s mission and help focus efforts to
36 move toward a more intentional university culture.

37 Students, through the sum of their educational experience at Bemidji State, will have multiple
38 opportunities to learn about, experience, and reflect on the university’s Signature Themes. The
39 themes represent core values that guide curriculum and services. Not tightly defined, they invite
40 interpretation and discovery.

- 41 • *International/Multicultural understanding* (System Strategic Direction: 1.2, 2.2, 3.3)
- 42 • *Civic engagement* (System Strategic Direction: 1.2, 3.2, 3.3)
- 43 • *Environmental stewardship* (System Strategic Direction: 2.2, 3.2, 3.3)

1 The university values diversity in myriad forms: it values actions by individuals who shape the
2 worlds they inhabit and for which they are responsible; it values the Earth we live on and accepts
3 responsibility for its health and well-being.

4 These values fire the imagination and lead to action. They are the passion that fuels change; that
5 shapes potential and worlds.

6
7 The Center for Professional Development supports faculty excellence through its services. These
8 include provision of mid-term and end-of-term course evaluations, observation of and feedback
9 for instructors, programs, forums and a library of higher education resources. The Center's web
10 site offerings include white papers, a template for syllabi, instructor evaluation forms, guides for
11 department chairs and a handbook for adjuncts. As noted above, the university supports the CPD
12 with three credits of reassigned time per semester for the CPD director and with an annual
13 programming budget.

14 Bemidji State participates in faculty professional development opportunities provided by the
15 system. The Center for Teaching and Learning regularly offers programming on learning and
16 teaching.

17 Bemidji State offers students preparation in traditional liberal studies programs, such as those in
18 the College of Arts & Sciences, and in its select professional programs, such as those in the
19 College of Business, Technology & Communication and the College of Health Sciences &
20 Human Ecology. No one program dominates the academic landscape at Bemidji State. Rather,
21 each of the three colleges is home to several distinctive programs.

22 *By way of example:*

- 23 • College of Arts & Sciences: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative and Professional Writing,
24 the first BFA in writing in Minnesota and recipient of a system award "in recognition of
25 outstanding educational achievement 2006 Excellence in Curriculum Programming."
- 26 • College of Business, Technology & Communication: 360 Degrees, a system Center of
27 Excellence in Manufacturing and Applied Engineering.
- 28 • College of Health Sciences & Human Ecology: Nursing four-year degree, built on
29 extensive needs assessment and collaboration with community health partners.

30 Program Distinctiveness and Accreditations: Bemidji State assures learning and teaching
31 excellence through distinctive, excellent programs. The university's curriculum process is
32 rigorous, as are five-year program reviews and assessments.

33 In addition to institutional accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission, six of Bemidji
34 State's programs are accredited by national agencies:

- 35 • Accounting and Business Programs: International Assembly for Collegiate Business
36 Education
- 37 • Chemistry Program: American Chemical Society
- 38 • Industrial Technology Programs: The Association of Technology, Management, and
39 Applied Engineering (formerly National Association of Industrial Technology Board of
40 Accreditation)
- 41 • Music Program: National Association of Schools of Music

- 1 • Nursing Program: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- 2 • Social Work Program: Council of Social Work Education

3 Programs that are especially distinctive in nature, many with a focus on online and online/hybrid
4 formats, include the following:

- 5 • Bachelor of Applied Science in Applied Engineering (online)
- 6 • Bachelor of Applied Science in Technology Management (online)
- 7 • Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative and Professional Writing
- 8 • Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- 9 • RN to Baccalaureate - blended format nursing program in cooperation with Anoka
10 Ramsey Community College, Cambridge
- 11 • Bachelor of Science in Accounting (online)
- 12 • Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (online)
- 13 • Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (online)
- 14 • Bachelor of Science in Teacher Education, Distributed Learning in Teacher Education
15 (DLiTE) (online/hybrid)
- 16 • Portfolio Teaching Certification (FasTrack) (online/hybrid)

17
18
19 The *vision* for Bemidji State University states “Shaping Potential, Shaping Worlds: Bemidji
20 State University is a catalyst for shaping the potential of those it serves, who in turn, shape the
21 worlds in which they live and work.”

22
23 The ideal future for Bemidji State University is recognized in its mission statement that Bemidji
24 State University turns its attention toward “a future that can only be imagined” and the
25 recognition that a primary responsibility of higher education today is to prepare students not only
26 for immediate careers, rich personal lives and citizenship, but for the entire arc of their life
27 journeys. The university’s Student Development & Enrollment Master Plan reflects the breadth
28 and depth of that challenge, and guides programs, services and staff in efforts to meet the
29 challenges of a thousand unpredictable tomorrows.

30
31 The plan confirms the university’s commitment to student access and success and aligns with the
32 System’s Strategic Directions 1 and 2:

- 33 1. Support and promote students’ learning. Self-confidence, self-reliance and responsibility
34 for self lie close to the heart of academic success.
- 35 2. Support and promote students’ personal well-being. Personal wellness has many facets,
36 including physical competence, emotional intelligence, a sense of geographic place,
37 spirituality, life-style balance, and a positive sense of self and well-being.
- 38 3. Challenge and support, i.e., empower, students as they navigate their journey. The
39 constant for the future is change. In addition to being prepared for careers and graduate
40 study, students who are ready for the future will have knowledge and skills that prepare
41 them to be effective in team work, to think critically and to discern values.

- 1 4. Ensure ease of access to the university and to campus services and programs. By leading,
2 initiating, intervening, following through, reaching out and networking, Student
3 Development & Enrollment advocates - makes things happen - for students.
4

5 The stated *purposes* of Bemidji State University are:

6 **Purpose 1: Engage Students for Success in Careers, Communities and Life**

7 Strategic Imperative: Create opportunities for student success through high quality programs and
8 services. Value Statement: Bemidji State recognizes the value of higher education as a public
9 good, provides student-centered access to learning, meets the needs of our diverse, rural and
10 nontraditional students, and promotes lifelong learning. (System Strategic Direction Alignment:
11 1.1, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2)
12

13 **Purpose 2: Promote Vital Communities through Involvement**

14 Strategic Imperative: Support and promote community vitality through Bemidji State's
15 commitments within our local, regional, national and world spheres. Value Statement: Bemidji
16 State values the supportive relationships between the university and its communities. (System
17 Strategic Direction Alignment: 1.2, 1.4, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3)
18

19 **Purpose 3: Innovate for a Changing World**

20 Strategic Imperative: Accommodate change through an organizational culture of creativity,
21 innovation and planning. Value Statement: Bemidji State values flexibility and adaptability as
22 means to change. (System Strategic Direction Alignment: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3)
23

24 **Purpose 4: Optimize Resources to Achieve the University's Vision and Mission**

25 Strategic Imperative: Effectively manage and increase enrollment and resources in support of the
26 university's vision and mission. Value Statement: Bemidji State recognizes and honors the role
27 of the university in the stewardship of its resources and the importance of accountability.
28 (System Strategic Direction Alignment: 1.4, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3)
29

30 **Purpose 5: Execute the Recalibration of Bemidji State University**

31 Strategic Imperative in dealing with the projected budgetary problem in the 2012-13 biennium:

- 32 • To *preserve* our capacity to create *transformational* learning environments
- 33 • To *recalibrate* our institution to *sharpen* our educational focus
- 34 • To be *richly innovative* in improving our *capacity* to *keep improving* what we do

35 (System Strategic Direction Alignment: 1.1, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 5.1, 5.3)
36

37 The *array of awards* offered by Bemidji State University includes an associate degree;
38 baccalaureate degrees; master's degrees; specialist degrees; applied doctoral degrees; pre-
39 professional programs of study and certificate programs.
40

41 **RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE MOTION**
42

43 The Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approves
44 the request by Bemidji State University to reaffirm its vision, mission, purposes, and array of
45 awards as listed in the executive summary.

1 **RECOMMENDED MOTION**

2

3 The Board of Trustees approves the request by Bemidji State University to reaffirm its vision,
4 mission, purposes, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary.

5

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

BOARD ACTION

Mission Reaffirmation: Minnesota State University, Mankato

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The vision, mission and goals of Minnesota State University, Mankato meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4: Review and Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements. The university is reaffirming its mission (previously approved by the Board of Trustees in September 1996) under the new Board policy requirement that colleges and universities seek Board approval at least once every five years.

Minnesota State University, Mankato’s vision, mission, purposes and array of awards are:

Vision: Minnesota State University, Mankato will be known as a university where people expect to go further than they thought possible by combining knowledge and the passion to achieve great things. Our foundation for this vision is our heritage of both dedicated teaching and the direct application of knowledge to improve a diverse community and world. We will achieve it by actively nurturing the passion within students, faculty and staff to push beyond possibility on the way to realizing dreams.

Mission: Minnesota State University, Mankato promotes learning through effective undergraduate and graduate teaching, scholarship, and research in service to the state, the region and the global community.

Purpose 1 The University will foster an actively engaged and inclusive learning community based upon civility, trust, integrity, respect, and diversity in a safe, welcoming physical environment.

Purpose 2 The University will prepare students for careers and for life-long learning by providing a clearly defined general education program and focused undergraduate pre-professional, professional, and liberal arts programs.

Purpose 3 The University will strengthen its role as a major provider of graduate education, offering intensive, scholarly graduate programs including collaborative efforts with other institutions and professionals, culminating in student expertise at professional levels.

1 **Purpose 4** The University will enhance advising, support services, and learning experiences that
2 aid students in identifying life goals, planning academic careers, and achieving timely
3 graduation.

4
5 **Purpose 5** The University will increase the quantity and quality of service to the state, region,
6 and global community through collaboration, partnerships, and opportunities for cultural
7 enrichment and continuous learning.

8
9 **Purpose 6** The University will invest in the professional development of all members of the
10 University Community and in the appropriate technologies necessary to achieve excellence in
11 learning through teaching, research, and service.

12
13 **Purpose 7** The University, as a whole and in all of its parts, will establish priorities through
14 planning and assessment processes that anticipate our needs and focus our efforts and resources
15 in support of our mission and goals.

16
17 **Array of Awards:** The *array of awards* offered by Minnesota State University, Mankato
18 includes an Associate Degree; Baccalaureate degrees; Master’s degrees; Specialist degree;
19 Doctoral degrees; Pre-professional programs of study and Certificate programs.

20 21 22 **BACKGROUND**

23 Minnesota State University, Mankato’s beginnings can be traced to a Mankato attorney who, in
24 1867, persuaded the Minnesota Legislature to authorize the city of Mankato to sell bonds for the
25 \$5,000 required to open the state’s second normal school. He promised Mankato citizens that if
26 they would support the school, “untold benefits would be repaid tenfold for every dollar
27 invested.”

28
29 Mankato Normal School opened in 1868 with 27 students. Tuition was free in return for a
30 pledge to teach two years in Minnesota schools. Old Main was constructed in 1870, beginning
31 the Valley Campus that would serve the institution for over a century. The institution expanded
32 and the curriculum grew. In 1921, the school became Mankato State Teacher’s College, and in
33 1927, the first four-year degree (a bachelor of education) was awarded.

34
35 In the late 1950’s, the college was renamed Mankato State College to reflect its expanding
36 curriculum. At the same time, the college was outgrowing the Valley Campus and construction
37 began on a parcel of land named the Highland Campus.

38
39 In 1975 full university status was accorded and four years later, the Valley Campus closed and
40 all activities consolidated on the Highland Campus. In September 1998, the Board of Trustees
41 approved a name change, and Mankato State University became Minnesota State University,
42 Mankato to reflect its expanded role in the state and region.

43
44 The Higher Learning Commission completed a comprehensive evaluation during the 2005-2006
45 academic year. Prior to the site visit, the university had completed a self-study which included
46 consultation with faculty, staff, students, community members and other stakeholders regarding

1 the University's mission. Minnesota State University, Mankato was reaccredited by the Higher
2 Learning Commission for a ten year period. The next comprehensive evaluation is scheduled for
3 the 2015-2106 academic year.
4

5 **OVERVIEW OF MISSION, VISION AND PURPOSES**

6 The proposed vision, mission, and purposes of Minnesota State University, Mankato meet the
7 criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and College and University Missions, Part 4:
8 Review and Approval of College and University Mission and Vision Statements.
9

10 As required by procedure, the institution must:

- 11 A. Describe how its mission and vision align with the requirements in Policy 3.24;
- 12 B. Articulate how the college or university will meet expectations of law, how it relates to
13 other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision, and purposes
14 support fulfillment of the system mission and vision;
- 15 C. Describe the array of awards it offers;
- 16 D. Include a statement that the college or university mission is compliant with statute,
17 policy, and regional accreditation requirements; and
- 18 E. Describe consultation with faculty and staff, students, employers and other essential
19 stakeholders.

20 Additionally, the institution's mission must be compliant with statute, policy, and regional
21 accreditation requirements.
22
23

24 **REVIEW OF MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO'S MISSION, VISION 25 AND PURPOSES/GOALS**

26
27 **The mission, vision, and purposes respond to the system procedure.** Minnesota State
28 University, Mankato's vision, mission, and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and
29 regional accreditation requirements. The College mission, vision, and purposes demonstrate
30 alignment with the system mission and vision.
31

32 The university is reaffirming an institution mission that was approved by the Board in
33 September, 1996.
34

35 The *mission* of Minnesota State University, Mankato, is "Minnesota State University, Mankato
36 promotes learning through effective undergraduate and graduate teaching, scholarship, and
37 research in service to the state, the region and the global community."
38

39 Minnesota State University, Mankato serves the people of Minnesota, the Midwest region and
40 the global community.
41

42 The university provides effective undergraduate and graduate learning experiences in the
43 classroom through faculty who engage in scholarly activities and provide research opportunities
44 (primarily in applied research) for faculty and students.
45

1 The university provides higher education to prepare students for careers and for life-long
2 learning, and as a major provider of graduate education, additionally conducts research that
3 benefits mankind.
4
5

6 The university mission supports the system mission in the following ways:

- 7 • Being a distinct institution that collaborates with others in the system
- 8 • Meeting personal and career goals of a wide range of individual learners
- 9 • Enhancing the quality of life through scholarly and creative pursuits
- 10 • Partnering with business, industry, government, and non-profit organizations in research
11 opportunities to sustain economies

12
13 Minnesota State University, Mankato is a leader in the Minnesota State Colleges and
14 Universities system in providing quality undergraduate programs as well as a growing graduate
15 school that includes 4 applied doctoral programs. With more than 150 undergraduate programs
16 of study and more than 100 graduate programs, the University's learning is structured in six
17 academic colleges and the graduate college. The University is expanding off campus outreach
18 through its 7700 France Avenue site in Edina and through online programs. Several centers
19 provide research opportunities and the University collaborates with its partner colleges in the
20 Minnesota Center for Engineering and Manufacturing Excellence. Our academic quality is
21 recognized by 24 regional or national accrediting agencies, including the Higher Learning
22 Commission. Our most popular programs are elementary education, physical education, biology,
23 law enforcement, management (business) and psychology.
24

25 The *vision* for Minnesota State University, Mankato states that "Minnesota State University,
26 Mankato will be known as a university where people expect to go further than they thought
27 possible by combining knowledge and the passion to achieve great things. Our foundation for
28 this vision is our heritage of both dedicated teaching and the direct application of knowledge to
29 improve a diverse community and world. We will achieve it by actively nurturing the passion
30 within students, faculty and staff to push beyond possibility on the way to realizing dreams."
31

32 To achieve this vision, Minnesota State University, Mankato will provide high quality learning
33 experiences for students so that they can achieve more than they thought possible. This
34 enthusiasm (passion) for learning and discovery will permeate the campus. Our graduates will be
35 leaders in their communities and professions. So that passion and learning can be nurtured, there
36 will continue to be an emphasis on providing collaborative learning areas – whether in academic,
37 administrative or student buildings. There will be additional learning communities within the
38 residence halls. Research opportunities will continue to grow as will our graduate, doctoral,
39 extended learning, and online areas.
40

41 Our campus culture wishes to excel. We desire as a university to be among the very best. We
42 set stretch goals and achieve them. We want our students to be prepared for leadership roles.
43 We encourage scholarly, creative, and research activities. We provide opportunities for our
44 faculty to become better teachers. We seek out diversity, and our retention rates for
45 underrepresented populations are among the highest in the system. We want to be a Great Place
46 to Work and are striving to achieve this goal.

1
2 The university's vision for itself is consistent with the vision for the Minnesota State Colleges
3 and Universities system:

- 4 • Desire for student success
- 5 • Access for diverse groups
- 6 • Impact on the quality of life beyond state boundaries

7
8 The university's strategic priorities align with system goals in the following ways:

9 We will plan and build the Campus of the Future (Strategic Direction 1,2,3,4,5)

10 We will think and act like a Doctoral Institution (Strategic Direction 2,4)

11 We will grow Extended Learning (Strategic Direction 1,2,3,4)

12 We will promote Global Solutions (Strategic Direction 1,2,3)

13 We will embody Quality and Excellence in all that we do (Strategic Direction 2)

14
15 The stated *purposes* of Minnesota State University, Mankato are:

16
17 **Purpose 1** The University will foster an actively engaged and inclusive learning community
18 based upon civility, trust, integrity, respect, and diversity in a safe, welcoming physical
19 environment.

20
21 **Purpose 2** The University will prepare students for careers and for life-long learning by
22 providing a clearly defined general education program and focused undergraduate pre-
23 professional, professional, and liberal arts programs.

24
25 **Purpose 3** The University will strengthen its role as a major provider of graduate education,
26 offering intensive, scholarly graduate programs including collaborative efforts with other
27 institutions and professionals, culminating in student expertise at professional levels.

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29 **Purpose 4** The University will enhance advising, support services, and learning experiences
30 that aid students in identifying life goals, planning academic careers, and achieving timely
31 graduation.

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33 **Purpose 5** The University will increase the quantity and quality of service to the state, region,
34 and global community through collaboration, partnerships, and opportunities for cultural
35 enrichment and continuous learning.

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37 **Purpose 6** The University will invest in the professional development of all members of the
38 University Community and in the appropriate technologies necessary to achieve excellence in
39 learning through teaching, research, and service.

40
41 **Purpose 7** The University, as a whole and in all of its parts, will establish priorities through
42 planning and assessment processes that anticipate our needs and focus our efforts and resources
43 in support of our mission and goals.

44
45 Examples of how the Minnesota State Mankato purposes are supporting the mission and goals of
46 the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system include:

- 1 • Provides accessible higher education for a diversity of individual learners
- 2 • Prepares students to succeed
- 3 • Offers higher education that meets the personal and career goals of individual learners
- 4 • Enhances the quality of life through collaborations, partnerships and opportunities for
- 5 cultural enrichment and continuous learning

6
7 The *array of awards* offered by Minnesota State University, Mankato includes an associate
8 degree; baccalaureate degrees; master’s degrees; specialist degrees; applied doctoral degrees;
9 pre-professional programs of study and certificate programs.

10
11 The university offers more than 150 undergraduate programs of study, including 16 pre-
12 professional, seven certificate, one associate and 127 bachelor’s degree programs. More than 100
13 graduate programs include master’s, specialist, certificate and 4 applied doctoral programs.

14
15 **RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE MOTION**
16
17 The Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approves
18 the request by Minnesota State University, Mankato to reaffirm its vision, mission, purposes, and
19 array of awards as listed in the executive summary.

20
21 **RECOMMENDED MOTION**
22
23 The Board of Trustees approves the request by Minnesota State University, Mankato to reaffirm
24 its vision, mission, purposes, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary.