

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 15, 2011**

Advancement Committee Members Present: Trustees Cheryl Dickson, chair; Jacob Englund, vice chair; Alfredo Oliveira, Christine Rice, Louise Sundin.

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

Other Trustees Present: Chair Scott Thiss, Trustees Clarence Hightower, David Paskach, Tom Renier.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Advancement Committee met March 15, 2011, at the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities office in St. Paul. Chair Cheryl Dickson called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.

Approval of the Advancement Committee Meeting Minutes

The January 18, 2011, Advancement Committee meeting minutes were adopted without dissent.

1. Advancement Update

Maria McLemore, executive director for system and foundation relations, reported that the Alliss Foundation pledged \$200,000 for scholarships to the system's two-year students. Anoka Ramsey Community College, Normandale Community College, the Office of the Chancellor co-sponsored a conference Feb. 11, 2011, for the system's alumni relations professionals.

Linda Kohl, associate vice chancellor for public affairs, reported that the Public Affairs division had its annual marketing and communications conference for 60 college and university staff.

2. 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. The report is required by board policy. The report showed that the costs for supporting foundations increased, mostly because unfilled vacancies on campuses had been filled. The reported charitable giving surpassed the support received from their institutions and met the projected goals. The combined return on investment was down a bit from FY 2009 at \$2.91 and is now at \$2.40. The benefits returned from the foundation go mostly to scholarships and programs. This also holds true for the colleges and universities. The committee accepted the report.

3. State and Federal Legislative Update

Mary Davenport, executive director of government relations, reported that the Legislature was half-way through the legislative session. The governor presented his proposed budget for FY 2012-13, which includes a 6 percent reduction to higher education. The House and Senate budget targets include a nearly 16 percent budget reduction to higher education. While negotiation must occur, the Legislature is working to address budget items as their first priority, after which they will move to policy items.

Chancellor James McCormick has visited nearly all the newly elected legislators. Board Chair Thiss and trustees have been on 15 visits with new lawmakers. Presidents have been meeting with their local legislators to promote the board's legislative agenda and emphasize the negative impact the budget cuts will have on college and university programs, courses, student services and other operations. The system has had several legislative hearings on topics ranging from an overview of the system, budget implications, credit transfer, and the Getting Prepared report.

At the federal level, a continuing resolution was passed by Congress to keep federal business operational. The continuing resolution expires Friday, March 18, and includes \$6 billion in cuts. Trustees Cheryl Dickson and Christine Rice, along with Mary Davenport, attended the American Community College Trustee National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C., in February. Visits were made to Minnesota's congressional delegation. Trustee Dickson provided a summary of the summit.

4. Commencement Greetings

Advancement Committee Chair Cheryl Dickson encouraged trustees to go to different campuses for commencement this year. Linda Kohl, associate vice chancellor for public affairs, shared a draft of the greetings with trustees. She encouraged ideas or suggestions to be sent to her. One point was made to emphasize the Board's commitment to maintain the quality of the student's experience. Trustees were encouraged to speak from their heart and share something personal in their remarks. Additional points to consider were having trustees speak at commencements of campuses they visited and congratulating the campus for their great president and the faculty and staff.

5. Progress on Committee Goals: Connecting with Campuses, Legislative Activity

Linda Kohl reported on the committee's goals. Trustees have visited 12 campuses and have another seven visits scheduled for the Board's connecting with campuses goal.

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Candi Walz, Recorder