

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

Agenda Item Summary Sheet

Committee: Technology Committee

Date of Meeting: April 19, 2011

Agenda Item: Students First Report

Proposed Policy Change Approvals Required by Policy Other Approvals Monitoring

Information

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

The second goal implemented by the Technology Committee is that the Trustees will monitor progress on the Student First initiative.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

Jon Eichten, Students First Director
Shannah Moore-Mulvihill, Director of University and System Relations
Minnesota State University Student Association
Jessica Medearis, Associate Director
Minnesota State College Student Association

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

Background Information:

The Minnesota State Student Association and the Minnesota State College Student Association are pleased to share their perspectives on the Students First student loan automated acceptance project. In recent years, as students have assumed a greater percentage of total educational costs, one clear result is that student loan borrowing has increased. At the same time, staffing in financial aid offices has either remained level or been reduced. The result of these two dynamics has been a backlog of Federal Direct Student Loan applications on many campuses. This project will provide much needed relief for both the students waiting for help with living expenses and the financial aid offices that provide these services.

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INFORMATION ITEM
Technology: Students First Report

BACKGROUND

The Minnesota State Student Association and the Minnesota State College Student Association are pleased to share their perspectives on the Students First student loan automated acceptance project. In recent years, as students have assumed a greater percentage of total educational costs, one clear result is that student loan borrowing has increased. At the same time, staffing in financial aid offices has either remained level or been reduced. The result of these two dynamics has been a backlog of Federal Direct Student Loan applications on many campuses. This project will provide much needed relief for both the students waiting for help with living expenses and the financial aid offices that provide these services.

Full project detail may be found on the Students First website:
<http://www.studentsfirst.project.mnscu.edu> .