

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
JUNE 21, 2011**

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Members Present: Chair Christine Rice; Trustees Duane Benson, Christopher Frederick, David Paskach, Thomas Renier, Louise Sundin and James Van Houten.

Other Board Members Present: Trustees Scott Thiss and Cheryl Dickson.

Leadership Council Committee Co-Chairs Present: Interim Vice Chancellor Scott Olson and President Sue Hammersmith.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Academic and Student Affairs Committee held a meeting on June 21, 2011 at Wells Fargo Place, 4th Floor, Board Room, 30 East 7th Street in St. Paul. Chair Rice called the meeting to order at 2:26 pm.

1. Minutes of May 17, 2011

The minutes from May 17, 2011 Academic and Student Affairs Committee were approved as written.

2. Academic and Student Affairs Update – Interim Vice Chancellor Scott Olson

- Chair Rice recognized Interim Vice Chancellor Olson for his work guiding the Academic and Student Affairs Division of the Office of the Chancellor for the past year.
- Interim Vice Chancellor Olson thanked Board Chair Thiss, Committee Chair Rice and Trustee Sundin for attending the Academic and Student Affairs Awards and Diversity and Multiculturalism Awards ceremony at Inver Hills Community College in May.

He noted the award recipients:

Innovative Partnership and Collaboration Awards

- 1) Online College in High School: A coalition of Alexandria Technical and Community College, Northland Community and Technical College, Minnesota State Community and Technical College and Northwest Technical College works with local school districts to help high school students, particularly in rural areas, take college-level courses. Participating high schools provide one period each day for students to take online courses with a proctor who assists them.

- 2) Cycles for Success Scholarship Program - Riverland Community College: A new private-public collaboration with Austin’s public and private K-12 system to increase high school and college graduation rates. The Hormel Foundation is contributing more than \$1 million over five years for scholarships that are expected to assist about 200 students. This funding strategy is targeted to meet the growing financial gap between what is and is not covered by financial aid awards.

Innovation in Student Affairs Programming Awards

- 1) Century College for its Tutors Linked to Classes program: This program integrates tutors into courses that college students typically take during the first few semesters. Faculty work with peer tutors, often picked from among the students who excelled earlier in those courses. Results show that students in tutor-supported courses are more successful and are retained at a higher rate than those in courses not supported by tutors.
- 2) St. Cloud State University for its House Party 101 program: This is a simulated house party in which students learn about making smart and safe decisions. Students are led room-by-room through a house by a graduate student party guide and in each room student volunteers act out a scene that students might typically encounter at a house party. At the end of the scene, the party guide reinforces best choices for students in these situations. More than 500 students have attended the event in each of the past two years.

Outstanding Administrator Award

Phil Schroeder from St. Cloud Technical and Community College received the Outstanding Administrator of the Year Award for “exemplifying leadership qualities in their truest sense.” The award is presented to a college or university administrator who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and has made significant contributions to developing academic or student affairs programming.

3. 2011 Office of the Chancellor Performance Report –Academic and Student Affairs Division

This report is part of a larger report on the performance of the Office of the Chancellor during the past fiscal year. It was developed in response to the Office of Legislative Audit recommendations in the 2010 Office of the Chancellor Evaluation that suggested greater Board of Trustees’ oversight of the office.

The performance report includes four sections that provide information about the current and projected budget of the division; the functions performed by the

division and how they differ or complement those of the institutions; a listing of major goals and accomplishments for the past fiscal year; and preliminary goals for the upcoming fiscal year.

Interim Vice Chancellor Olson said in the upcoming biennium, it is projected that 50.91 positions in Academic and Student Affairs Division will be funded by the General Fund, down from 66.34 in 2010. Chancellor McCormick noted positions in the Office of the Chancellor are funded by state appropriations, not tuition money.

Other funds, including grants and federal dollars, will cover the cost of 36.88 staff positions. The total division staffing in the next biennium is projected at 87.79.

Interim Vice Chancellor Olson said finding outside sources for funding allows the division to move ahead with innovative projects without additional costs to state taxpayers or the system.

A brief overview of division accomplishments from the past year, offered by Interim Vice Chancellor Olson, included:

- Completed the Board Academic and Student Affairs goals related to developmental education, the three-year baccalaureate and 12-month academic calendars;
- Aligned the Board's Action Plan timeline so it serves the campus planning cycle;
- Ensured progress toward and completion of Students First module. The six project areas (Single Search, Single Application, Single Registration, Graduation Planner, Single Bill/Payment and Back-Office Shared Services) are supported by division staff with five of six areas on track to be completed by June of 2011. Graduation Planner will not be completed as a result of a delay by the vendor in providing necessary software;
- Restructured the division to make the budget reductions necessary to meet current year and upcoming year targets;
- Addressed all Office of Legislative Audit concerns related to Academic and Student Affairs Areas.

The division will continue the implementation of regionalized and horizontal coordination of academic program development. This should create greater communication and collaboration in program development, program closures and ongoing program delivery, Interim Vice Chancellor Olson said.

Trustee Sundin said this approach may not address all programming concerns. There has to be consideration given to the number of technical education program closed to ensure that the system continues to provide adequate workforce training.

The Office of the Chancellor retains the ultimate decision on which programs are closed, Interim Vice Chancellor Olson said. The office will strive to ensure that the needs of students and Minnesota are being served.

Trustees asked Associate Vice Chancellor Leslie Mercer about the development of the P-20 Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLEDS). She said it is a statewide system that will allow for the gathering of student data from pre-kindergarten through completion of postsecondary. The creation of this longitudinal data system is occurring through the collaborative work of several state agencies including: the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, the Minnesota Department of Education, the Minnesota Office of Enterprise Technology and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

4. Board Committee Goals

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee work plan for the past fiscal year included three goals to study: Three-year baccalaureate degree programs, a 12-month calendar and developmental education.

In May, the committee reviewed final reports on each of the study topics:

- The report on three-year baccalaureate programs and 12-month calendars presented pros and cons for these options. One college is considering an alternative 12-month calendar. Two universities are developing structured three-year baccalaureate degree programs.
- The report on developmental education highlighted five promising practices in use in the system. There is no single method of delivering developmental education that will be effective at all institutions for developmental education students in all circumstances.

Interim Vice Chancellor Olson said recommendations approved by the committee pertaining to college readiness for high school seniors have been warmly received by the Commissioner of the Department of Education. These recommendations included requiring high school students in Grade 11 to participate in a uniform assessment to assess their readiness for college-level math and English. Also recommended was requiring every student in Grade 12 to complete an application to a post-secondary institution.

The version of a 12-month calendar that includes three equal trimesters does offer challenges, Interim Vice Chancellor said. It would impact common start dates, as specified in Board Policy, and Students First initiatives. Going to a trimester schedule could also impact faculty contracts.

Chancellor McCormick said there are other colleges and universities across the nation that have instituted a 12-month calendar and it might be advisable to review the successes and problems associated with their implementation.

After reviewing the recommended motions pertaining to these goals, Trustees requested that the language be revised and made stronger in terms of directing the system's actions. Trustee Sundin also asked that the motion pertaining to developmental education be revised so that it is clear developmental work be infused with content learning.

New language will be considered at a future meeting.

5. Mission Approval: North Hennepin Community College

Presenter:

John O'Brien, President

Board Policy requires institutions to have their missions approved by the Board of Trustees at least once every five years. President O'Brien said they strove to create short, inspirational mission and vision statements:

The proposed North Hennepin Community College mission is:

Engaging Students, Changing Lives

North Hennepin Community College creates opportunities for students to reach their academic goals, succeed in their chosen professions and make a difference in the world.

The vision statement is: Opportunity without limits, learning without end, and achievement beyond expectation.

President O'Brien said the college has the following value statements:

- To recognize and embrace diversity;
- To inspire intellectual curiosity;
- To encourage creativity and innovation;
- To promote individual responsibility and integrity;
- To invest in professional and personal development;
- To build strong collaborative partnerships;
- To serve as responsible stewards of college resources.

Trustee Sundin said she would like to see the college's goal pertaining to maintaining relevant and effective curriculum be expanded to include instruction. To create a dynamic learning environment, curriculum and instruction both need to be promoted and maintained, she said.

Trustee Van Houten asked if the mission makes any mention of regional priorities.

President O'Brien said one of the college's stated goals is to promote the expansion of effective partnerships within and beyond the college's community.

Trustee Benson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Frederick, that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the vision, mission, purposes and awards of North Hennepin Community College as listed in the executive summary. Motion carried.

6. Mission Approval: Inver Hills Community College

Presenters:

Tim Wynes, President

Joan Costello, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

President Wynes said their mission and vision are focused on quality improvement.

The proposed mission statement for Inver Hills Community College is: Dedicated to the power and promise of education, we inspire students, build careers and strengthen communities.

The proposed vision is:

We will be an innovator in education, creating a vigorous intellectual environment for emerging leaders, scholars and professionals. Providing an affordable gateway into the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System, we will enrich individual lives and support our diverse communities, locally and globally.

The college's values include:

- Student success and excellence in education;
- Integrity, reflection and innovation;
- Carrying responsibly for vital human and financial resources;
- Maintaining relationships with partners and stakeholders, including business community and external stakeholders in our region.

Vice President Costello said they worked to align their mission and vision with the system's strategic mission and goals.

Chancellor McCormick said in the future it may be advantageous for colleges to reference their connection to four-year universities in their mission statements.

President Wynes pointed out that the college's vision statement indicates the college will provide an affordable gateway into the system for students interested in getting four-year degrees.

Trustee Benson said if the system wants to truly be student-centered, it should focus on the preparation of students to meet their next academic challenge, regardless if it is at a system university. College mission statement should center on student education, rather than focusing on transitions to other system institutions, he said.

Trustee Sundin disagreed. She said the system should promote itself as a quality destination for all students, including transfer students.

President Hammersmith said Metropolitan State University's relationships with two-year colleges are important and are strengthening every year. This is true with other universities as well, she said.

Vice President Costello said Inver Hills Community College already has articulation agreements with private colleges, such as Augsburg, St. Mary's and Concordia College.

President Wynes said the college values its partnerships with private colleges, but takes its relationship and connections with other system institutions seriously.

Trustee Van Houten said he liked the language pertaining to providing an affordable gateway. Affordability is an important thing in today's economy, he said, and this should be a part of all mission statements.

Trustee Frederick made a motion, seconded by Trustee Renier, that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the vision, mission, purposes and awards of Inver Hills Community College as listed in the executive summary. Motion carried, with one opposing vote from Trustee Benson.

7. Proposed Amendment to Policy 3.4 – Undergraduate Admission (First Reading)

The proposed amendment provides guidance for admission of students who do not have a high school diploma or GED to state colleges, and also adds high school grade point average as an admissions criterion to state universities when a class rank is not available.

The amendment clarifies that new first-year students who are admitted with core curriculum deficiencies will be advised how to make up those deficiencies during their first year of enrollment.

8. Proposed Amendment to Policy 3.8 – Student Complaints and Grievances (First Reading)

First reading of this proposed amendment which brings the system into compliance with recently-passed federal regulations tied to Title IV program participation.

9. Charter School Report

This is an annual report about all charter schools sponsored by colleges and universities within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.

In Minnesota, 35,000 Minnesota students are currently enrolled in 149 charter schools. During the 2009-2010 academic year, three system colleges sponsored five charter schools.

Trustee Sundin said she would like to see references to a preliminary national report by Mathematica Policy Research and the Center on Reinventing Public Education removed from the Charter School report. She said she would prefer that the report reference findings in the final Mathematica report when it is available, rather than make reference to findings in a preliminary report.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Takash, Recorder