

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JOINT ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS AND DIVERSITY
AND MULTICULTURALISM COMMITTEES
APRIL 20, 2011**

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

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Members Absent: Trustees Christine Rice and David Paskach.

Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee Members Present: Chair Louise Sundin, Trustees Duane Benson, Alfredo Oliveira and James Van Houten.

Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee Members Absent: Trustees Jacob Englund and Christine Rice.

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

Leadership Council Committee Co-Chairs Present: Interim Vice Chancellor Scott Olson; Diversity and Multiculturalism Executive Director Whitney Harris and President Sue Hammersmith.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Academic and Student Affairs and Diversity and Multiculturalism Committees held a joint study session on April 20, 2011, at Wells Fargo Place, 4th Floor, Board Room, 30 East 7th Street in St. Paul. Academic and Student Affairs Committee Vice Chair Benson called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

1. Student Trend Data

Presenter:

Craig Schoenecker, System Director for Research

System Director Schoenecker presented information on student enrollment trends in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system the past five years.

The system has experienced substantial growth in credit headcount enrollment. Credit headcount enrollment systemwide jumped from 238,662 in fiscal year 2006 to 276,977 in fiscal year 2010. This represented a 16 percent growth, with the rate increasing by 7 percent at universities and by 20 percent at two-year colleges.

By region, the northwest experienced the largest jump in enrollment at two-year colleges, going up 29 percent during this time period. Enrollment increases at

two-year colleges in the southwest part of the state and in the Twin Cities went up by 23 percent.

The Twin Cities region had the largest credit headcount in Fiscal Year 2010 at 116,059, or 42 percent. The other regions credit headcounts in 2010 were: southwest region at 36,615, or 13 percent; northwest region at 31,495, or 11 percent; northeast region at 30,694, or 11 percent; central region at 35,258, or 13 percent; and southeast region at 26,856, or 10 percent.

There was a big jump in the number of undergraduate transfers to two-year colleges, up 93 percent from 2006 to 2010. The change in transfer headcount systemwide was 57 percent.

The number of under-represented students in the system grew by 32 percent in this time frame. There was a 60 percent increase systemwide in the number of Pell-Grant eligible students, and a 49 percent increase systemwide in students of color. The number of first-generation students systemwide grew by 9 percent.

President Hammersmith noted that Metropolitan State University has the highest proportion of students of color, but the lowest proportion of first-generation students. She said they've found that immigrant students now are more likely to have parents who have had some higher education.

The largest age group of student attending system institutions during this time frame, at 23 percent, was students ages 21-24. Students ages 25-34 were the second-largest group, with 22 percent.

Demographic projections, however, indicate the potential number of students in the 19-24 age group will decline dramatically between 2010 and 2020. Potential students in the 35-69 age group will have the biggest growth.

Chancellor McCormick said in the next 15 years, there will be a trend toward more part-time, adult learners. Many people in this age group can only attend part-time since they also need to work, he said. Cost of tuition will be another factor resulting in more part-time students, he added.

Dr. Schoenecker said the surge in enrollment likely is caused by the recession. More people are out of work and want to go back to school to enhance their employability.

Trustee Benson said it may be helpful to adapt more than one scenario when it comes to long-term future planning, since demographic projections are not always accurate.

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 am
Respectfully submitted,
Margie Takash, Recorder