

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

**Agenda Item Summary Sheet**

**Committee:** Diversity and Multiculturalism

**Date of Meeting:** June 19, 2012

**Agenda Item:** Resources for Relationship Award – Metropolitan State University

- Proposed Policy Change       Approvals Required by Policy       Other Approvals       Monitoring
- Information

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

The Diversity and Multiculturalism committee requested that a pilot study be conducted regarding a proposed Resources for Relationship award. The FY 12 winner is Metropolitan State University *American Indian Strategic Recruitment and Retention Project*.

**Scheduled Presenter(s):**

Julio Vargas-Essex, Director of Admissions, Metropolitan State University  
Maggie Lorenz, American Indian Admissions and Retention Coordinator,  
Metropolitan State University  
Cecilia Stanton, Dean of Students, Metropolitan State University

**Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:**

The purpose of the Relationship (R) Factor program is to reward campuses that demonstrate measurable progress toward, or achievement of, benchmarks in building relationships that support student engagement and success of underrepresented students.

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<b>INFORMATION ITEM</b>
Resources For Relationship Award – Metropolitan State University

**BACKGROUND**

Metropolitan State University is committed to the goal of building sustained relationship to support student success and engagement focused on increasing higher education success for American Indians. Based upon consultation with its American Indian Advisory Council, the University has committed to three goals in support of American student retention and success: (1) Increase staff resources are being directed to the Office of Admissions with a specific charge to serve American Indian communities; (2) significant progress has been made toward expanding the Ojibwe Immersion curriculum; and (3) ways and means of creating an American Indian Student Center are being explored.

The Resources for Relationship Award was developed in response to a request from the Board of Trustee Diversity and Multiculturalism committee as a method for rewarding campuses for improving relationships with students.