

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 16, 2013**

**Present:** Chair Clarence Hightower, Trustees Ann Anaya, Brett Anderson, Duane Benson, Alexander Cirillo, Cheryl Dickson, Dawn Erlandson, Philip Krinkie, Maria Peluso, Louise Sundin, Michael Vekich and Chancellor Steven Rosenstone

**Absent:** Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Alfredo Oliveira, David Paskach and Thomas Renier

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**1. Call to Order**

Chair Clarence Hightower called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM and announced that a quorum was present. Trustee Ann Anaya participated in the meeting by telephone.

**2. Chair's Report**

**(1) Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting on November 14, 2012**

The minutes were approved as written.

**3. Chancellor's Report: Steven Rosenstone**

Chancellor Steven Rosenstone welcomed Mark Carlson, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources. Vice Chancellor Carlson's first day with the system was December 10, 2012.

Chancellor Rosenstone announced two important recognitions of the work of the colleges, universities and the system employees. First, he called upon Steve Frantz, system director for student life and director of the veterans' re-entry education program, and Gina Sobania, military education director. Chancellor Rosenstone continued that the colleges and universities are national leaders in their service to veterans, service members and their families. One of the rewarding partnerships is with the Minnesota National Guard, and the system worked closely with the Guard on its reintegration program. Gina Sobania traveled to Kuwait to assist in the effort last year. The campuses hold reintegration events, have veterans' centers and the system office and campus staff conducts workshops on education options for National Guard soldiers and their families.

On November 16, 2012, following a safe return from Iraq, Major Eduardo Suarez presented a U.S. flag to Steve Frantz and Gina Sobania. The flag was flown over Camp Adder in Iraq, two days prior to their withdrawal, in honor of the work of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities in supporting the troops and their families. Chancellor Rosenstone expressed his deep honor in presenting the flag to the Board of Trustees. The flag will be displayed in the system office.

Second, Chancellor Rosenstone reported that President Larry Lundblad, Central Lakes College, has been invited by Senator Al Franken to be his guest at President Obama's State of the Union address in February. President Lundblad will have the opportunity to meet with Minnesota's congressional delegation and will have the honor of seeing the President's speech from the gallery of the House chamber.

Chancellor Rosenstone reported that the presidential searches are underway and are on track. He anticipates recommending candidates for the aligned Anoka-Ramsey Community College and Anoka Technical College, and Southwest Minnesota State University for the board's consideration on February 26.

Chancellor Rosenstone also anticipates that at the board's regularly scheduled March meeting, he will recommend candidates for the presidencies of Rochester Community and Technical College, Riverland Community College, and South Central College. Semi-finalists in these searches will visit the campuses during the last two weeks of February. Chancellor Rosenstone thanked the presidents who are chairing the search advisory committees, the students, faculty, staff, and community members who are serving on the committees, and system office personnel who assisted with the searches, as well to the trustees who are participating in the interview process.

Chancellor Rosenstone reported on the 2013 legislative session which began on January 8, 2013. Presidents, student, faculty, and staff leadership have worked to build support for the legislative priorities. The system's proposal identifies targeted investments that will enable the colleges and universities to take the steps needed to advance the state's prosperity. The priorities focus on jobs, affordability and completion. The specific initiatives are designed to increase access to higher education for all Minnesotans and ensure that high quality programs remain affordable and within reach of students from all backgrounds; accelerate student completion; and advance the competitiveness of Minnesota's workforce by graduating students with both the foundational and technical skills they need to succeed. Also proposed are changes to the State grant program to help address the significant financial barriers faced by part-time students. These financial barriers particularly hit part-time students who have traditionally been under-served by higher education.

Chancellor Rosenstone commented that he is working with Commissioner Brenda Cassellius and Director Larry Pogemiller on legislation that would redesign the transition from secondary to post-secondary education. The proposal will align high school assessments with measures of readiness for post-secondary education; provide targeted support to students who are not on track for post-secondary education while they are still in high school; expand opportunities for students who are ready to earn post-secondary credits while still in high school; and help all students align their educational plans with Minnesota's workforce needs.

The redesign will deliver huge benefits and costs savings to families and the state, and will advance efforts to increase enrollment and completion of post-secondary education. The first hearing on this redesign effort will occur before Representative Mariani's Education Policy Committee where Chancellor Rosenstone will testify along with Commissioner Cassellius and Director Pogemiller.

Chancellor Rosenstone reported that he is working with the Governor's office and the House and Senate capital investment leadership on a 2013 Bonding Bill. The system's priorities are the priorities that the board approved for the 2012 request which remain unfunded. These priorities focus on the labs and classrooms needed to prepare Minnesota's workforce, first on repair and maintenance of existing facilities, and then on new infrastructure in high-demand fields.

Chancellor Rosenstone stated that discussions with the Governor's office and with legislators have gone extremely well. Leaders understand that access to the education that the system delivers, as well as the quality of the graduates, are key to the prosperity of communities across Minnesota. The Governor and House and Senate leadership have responded with their interests in increasing funding for higher education and are committed to increased transparency and accountability. Chancellor Rosenstone concluded that he looks forward to working with Governor Dayton and the members of the House and Senate over the weeks ahead.

**4. Consent Agenda**

**(1) Review and Approve Release of 2012 Audited Financial Statements**

**(2) Metropolitan State University Approval of Contract Exceeding \$3 Million for WebWOC Program**

**(3) Winona State University Approval of Contract Exceeding \$3 Million for eWarrior Program**

**(4) Approval of Joint Powers Agreement, Southwest Minnesota State University**

**(5) Itasca Community College 2004 Revenue Bond Refunding**

*Trustee Michael Vekich moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.*

**5. Board Policy Decisions**

There were no Board Policy Decisions.

**6. Board Standing Committee Reports**

**a. Audit Committee**

*Philip Krinkie, Chair*

Committee Chair Philip Krinkie reported that the committee heard a report from the external auditors on the release of the audited financial statements. He thanked the presidents and staff for an excellent audit report.

**b. Finance and Facilities Committee**

*Michael Vekich, Chair*

**(1) 2012 and 2011 Audited Financial Statements**

Committee Chair Michael Vekich reported on the 2012 and 2011 Audited Financial Statements. The statements were presented to the Audit Committee on January 15, 2013.

**c. Joint Study Session: Diversity and Equity and Academic and Student Affairs Committees**

*Cheryl Dickson and Duane Benson, Co-Chairs*

• **Closing the Achievement Gap**

Committee co-chair Cheryl Dickson reported on the joint study session of the Diversity and Equity and Academic and Student Affairs Committees on closing the achievement gap. Data from secondary schools and the system institutions were reviewed. Proposed goals and strategies designed to reduce the achievement gap between students of color and white students were discussed.

**7. Trustees' Reports**

Trustee Duane Benson reported that he participated in Winona State University's fall commencement. Trustee Cheryl Dickson reported that she attended an opening of the music center at Anoka-Ramsey Community College. Trustee Brett Anderson reported that he participated in the Minnesota State University Moorhead commencement. He also attended the Minnesota State College Student Association Leadership Scholarship event. Trustee Louise Sundin reported that she participated in the Hennepin Technical College commencement. She also plans to attend the Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship event in March.

**8. Joint Council of Student Associations**

- a. Minnesota State University Student Association (MSUSA)  
Ms. Moriah Miles, state chair, addressed the Board of Trustees.
- b. Minnesota State College Student Association (MSCSA)  
There was no report from the Minnesota State College Student Association.

**9. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities' Bargaining Units**

- a. Inter Faculty Organization  
Dr. Nancy Black, president, addressed the Board of Trustees.
- b. Administrative and Service Faculty  
There was no report from the Administrative and Service Faculty.
- c. Minnesota State College Faculty  
There was no report from the Minnesota State College Faculty.
- d. Minnesota Association of Professional Employees  
There was no report from the Minnesota Association of Professional Employees.
- e. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees  
Ms. June Clark, president, AFSCME MnSCU Policy Committee, addressed the Board of Trustees.

**10. Other Business**

There was no other business to come before the board.

**11. Adjournment**

Chair Hightower announced special meetings of the Human Resources Committee and the Board of Trustees on February 26, 2013, for consideration of new presidents' appointments and a tentative contract approval of the Inter Faculty Organization. The next scheduled committees and board meetings are on March 19-20, 2013. Chair Hightower adjourned the meeting at 2:55 PM.