

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
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<i>BOARD ACTION</i>

St. Cloud Technical College Mission Approval

1 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

2
3 The vision, proposed mission and purposes of St. Cloud Technical College meet the criteria
4 identified in MnSCU Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and
5 Approval of MnSCU Institutional Missions.
6

7 **An institution's mission, vision and purposes shall support achievement of the MnSCU**
8 **system mission and vision:** St. Cloud Technical College's proposed mission is "St. Cloud
9 Technical College prepares students for lifelong learning by providing relevant technical
10 education and training for developing necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes to obtain,
11 maintain, or advance in a career." The mission supports the following system goals:

- 12 • **Goal 1 – Expand post-secondary participation** by offering accessible education.
- 13 • **Goal 7 – Develop lifelong learners and engaged citizens** by preparing students for
14 lifelong learning.
- 15 • **Goal 8 – Provide up-to-date education and training for work and careers** by helping
16 students develop the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to obtain, maintain or
17 advance in a career.
- 18 • **Goal 11 – Meet the full range of student learning needs** by helping students develop
19 the knowledge, skills and attitudes to obtain, maintain or advance in a career.
- 20 • **Goal 12 – Contribute to vital communities** by helping students develop the knowledge,
21 skills and attitudes to obtain, maintain or advance in a career.
- 22 • **Goal 13 – Support state and local economic development initiatives** by helping
23 students obtain, maintain or advance in a career.
24

25 1. **An institution's mission, vision, and purposes shall provide a foundation for evaluation,**
26 **accountability, and regional accreditation:** St. Cloud Technical College's vision, proposed
27 mission and purposes provide a basis for evaluation, accountability, and regional
28 accreditation.

29 2. **Compliance:** St. Cloud Technical College's vision, proposed mission and purposes are
30 consistent with statute, policy and regional accreditation requirements.
31

32 **BACKGROUND**

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34 The St. Cloud School District opened St. Cloud Technical College (SCTC) in 1948. In 1995, St.
35 Cloud Technical College became a member of the legislatively created Minnesota State Colleges
36 and Universities System.

Date Presented to the Board of Trustees: April 20, 2004

Date of Approval: Monday, Date, Year

Program Implementation: Month Year

St. Cloud Technical College was initially accredited in 1985 by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC-NCA). The college's most recent re-accreditation was awarded in 1997 for a period of seven years. In 2001, the college applied to become one of the pioneers of the HLC's Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP). The college has already completed its Strategy Forum and will submit a Systems Portfolio in November 2005.

The college currently awards one and two-year certificates, diplomas, Associate of Sciences and Associate of Applied Science degrees.

Mission, Vision and Purposes Application Analysis

The vision, proposed mission and purposes of St. Cloud Technical College meet the criteria identified in MnSCU Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of MnSCU Institutional Missions.

As required by procedure, the institution must indicate:

- a. How its mission and vision respond to the definitions in procedure 3.24.1.
- b. The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision.
- c. Its purposes and the array of awards it offers.
- d. How the new mission compares with the former mission.
- e. Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders.

Additionally, the institution's mission must be compliant with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements.

Review of St. Cloud Technical College's Mission, Vision and Purposes

St. Cloud Technical College's vision, proposed mission and purposes meet the requirements stated in this procedure.

- a. The mission and vision respond to the definitions in the procedure:

St. Cloud Technical College's proposed mission is "St. Cloud Technical College prepares students for life-long learning by providing relevant technical education and training for developing necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes to obtain, maintain, or advance in a career." St. Cloud Technical College's proposed mission focuses on providing relevant technical education that helps students to obtain, maintain or advance in a career. This mission emphasizes that the college's focus on technical education. It also stresses that the college sees students as needing the right knowledge, skills and attitudes to succeed in a career. Overall, St. Cloud Technical College wants to help students to reach their initial and lifelong career goals.

Date Presented to the Board of Trustees: Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Date of Approval: Wednesday, April 21, 2004

The proposed mission of St. Cloud Technical College is guided by a vision that reads “St. Cloud Technical College is the College of choice for quality education focused on highly skilled employment and life-long learning.” St. Cloud Technical College envisions a future in which it remains a premiere choice of both students preparing to work in highly skilled technical fields as well as current workers who need to update and upgrade their skills.

b. The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision:

St. Cloud Technical College is a fully accredited institution of higher education that has consistently worked with many other colleges and universities, community organizations, and K-12 schools.

St. Cloud Technical College’s vision, proposed mission and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements. St. Cloud Technical College’s proposed mission supports fulfillment of the Minnesota State College and Universities system vision and mission intention of providing high quality, accessible future-oriented higher education, relevant research and community service. The proposed St. Cloud Technical College mission also supports the following system goals:

- **Goal 1 – Expand post-secondary participation** by offering accessible education.
- **Goal 7 – Develop lifelong learners and engaged citizens** by preparing students for lifelong learning.
- **Goal 8 – Provide up-to-date education and training for work and careers** by helping students develop the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to obtain, maintain or advance in a career.
- **Goal 11 – Meet the full range of student learning needs** by helping students develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to obtain, maintain or advance in a career.
- **Goal 12 – Contribute to vital communities** by helping students develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to obtain, maintain or advance in a career.
- **Goal 13 – Support state and local economic development initiatives** by helping students to obtain, maintain or advance in a career.

c. Its purposes and the array of awards it offers:

St. Cloud Technical College’s purposes are:

1. To provide an open enrollment opportunity for potential students sixteen years or older who can benefit regardless of race, color, creed, religion, gender, sexual preference, handicap, age, national origin, marital status, public assistance status or membership or activity in a local commission as defined in the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minn. Stat. 363.01, Subd. 2.3
2. To provide a learning community that is committed to creating a positive and supportive environment that welcomes diverse opinions and ideas for students, faculty, and staff of all cultures. The College does not tolerate racism, harassment, or any derogatory remarks about

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1 race, sexual orientation, class, age, gender or physical limitations. The best and most
2 effective learning environment for tomorrow's leaders is multicultural.

- 3 3. To offer a menu of educational opportunities that provide students with technical education
4 that leads to certificates, diplomas, and degrees in 42 career majors or the Associate of Arts
5 degree in collaboration with Anoka-Ramsey Community College; to offer through door15
6 non-credit classes and programs that address the needs of the dislocated workforce and
7 incumbent workforce, as well as the customized education and training needs of business,
8 industry and agencies.
- 9 4. To provide an opportunity for students to be engaged in civic responsibilities through class
10 Projects and club activities to promote good citizenship and enhance leadership
11 opportunities.
- 12 5. To increase the number of under represented student populations and faculty and staff to
13 create an atmosphere of understanding and inclusiveness.
- 14

15 St. Cloud Technical College offers the following degrees, diplomas and certificates:

- 16 • Associate of Applied Science Degrees
17 • Associate of Sciences Degrees
18 • Variety of diploma and certificates
19

20 d. How the new mission compares with the former mission.

21

22 The former mission of St. Cloud Technical College is, "St. Cloud Technical College's Mission
23 as an institution of higher education, is to prepare students for life-long learning by providing the
24 environment for developing necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes to obtain, maintain or
25 advance in a career." The new mission reads, "St. Cloud Technical College prepares students for
26 life-long learning by providing relevant technical education and training for developing
27 necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes to obtain, maintain, or advance in a career." The new
28 mission retains the emphasis on preparing students to enter and advance in a career, a central
29 purpose of technical colleges. The primary difference in the new mission is the increased
30 emphasis on providing technical education instead of just creating an environment for student
31 learning. The new mission is more action-oriented and student-focused.

32

33 e. Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders.

- 34 • The proposed mission, vision and purpose statements for St. Cloud Technical College
35 were developed as part of its AQIP application process. This processes actively involved
36 faculty, staff, administration, students, and Foundation Board members.
- 37

38 **RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE MOTION**

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40 The Educational Policy Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the St.
41 Cloud Technical College vision, proposed mission, purposes and array of awards which are:

42

43 **Vision:** St. Cloud Technical College is the College of choice for quality education focused on
44 highly skilled employment and life-long learning.

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Mission: St. Cloud Technical College prepares students for life-long learning by providing relevant technical education and training for developing necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes to obtain, maintain, or advance in a career.

Purposes: St. Cloud College's purposes are:

1. To provide an open enrollment opportunity for potential students sixteen years or older who can benefit regardless of race, color, creed, religion, gender, sexual preference, handicap, age, national origin, marital status, public assistance status or membership or activity in a local commission as defined in the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minn. Stat. 363.01, Subd. 2.3
2. To provide a learning community that is committed to creating a positive and supportive environment that welcomes diverse opinions and ideas for students, faculty, and staff of all cultures. The College does not tolerate racism, harassment, or any derogatory remarks about race, sexual orientation, class, age, gender or physical limitations. The best and most effective learning environment for tomorrow's leaders is multicultural.
3. To offer a menu of educational opportunities that provide students with technical education that leads to certificates, diplomas, and degrees in 42 career majors or the Associate of Arts degree in collaboration with Anoka-Ramsey Community College; to offer through door15 non-credit classes and programs that address the needs of the dislocated workforce and incumbent workforce, as well as the customized education and training needs of business, industry and agencies.
4. To provide an opportunity for students to be engaged in civic responsibilities through class projects and club activities to promote good citizenship and enhance leadership opportunities.
5. To increase the number of under represented student populations and faculty and staff to create an atmosphere of understanding and inclusiveness.

Array of Awards: St. Cloud Technical College offers the Associate of Sciences Degree, Associate of Applied Science Degree, and a variety of diplomas and certificates.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

The Board of Trustees approves the request by St. Cloud Technical College to approve its vision, proposed mission, purposes and array of awards.