## FY2020 Summary of Consultation Letters Regarding Tuition & Fees

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<th>College/University</th>
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<tr>
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<td>FY2019 Summary of Consultation Letters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regarding Tuition &amp; Fees</td>
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**Satisfactory**

**Neutral**

**Unsatisfactory**
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<tr>
<td>Winona State University</td>
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*College/University submissions may contain Revenue Fund letters not rated*
April 22, 2019

Chancellor Devinder Malhotra
Office of the Chancellor
Minnesota State Colleges & Universities
30 7th Street East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Chancellor Devinder Malhotra:

The members of the Alexandria Technical and Community College Student Senate have been informed of Minnesota State funding, the tuition forecast, and other college budget items. We have discussed the budget at several of our Student Senate meetings and support Alexandria Technical and Community College’s projected budget.

We appreciate the time our Chief Financial Officer, David Bjelland, spent incorporating Student Senate’s awareness on campus budgeting. We were provided with background and historical perspective on the budget process, as well as the comparative data and recommendations relative to this year’s budget process. The opportunity to discuss the budget was greatly appreciated. Using the discussion and handouts provided, we were consulted on the up to 3% tuition increase, but would like to receive more information before final approval.

We look forward to continue producing outcomes at Alexandria Technical and Community College.

Sincerely,

Ben Triplett, Student Senate Vice President
Alexandria Technical and Community College
rt2677ws@go.minnstate.edu
April 18, 2019

Chancellor Devinder Malhotra
Office of the Chancellor
Minnesota State Colleges & Universities
30 7th Street East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Chancellor Devinder Malhotra:

This letter is to outline the consultations in which Alexandria Technical and Community College Student Senate received from Chief Financial Officer, David Bjelland, in regard to the Parking Lot Revenue Fund.

The Alexandria Technical and Community College Student Senate has consulted with Mr. Bjelland’s updates. The ATCC administration has kept the Senate updated and well informed on their plans for the parking lot construction remodeling happenings in the near future.

We look forward to continue producing outcomes at Alexandria Technical and Community College.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ben Triplett, Student Senate Vice President
Alexandria Technical and Community College
rt2677ws@go.minnstate.edu
April 18, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place
30 East Seventh Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Chairman, Michael Vekich, Vice Chair, Jay Cowles, and Trustees:

As requested by Minnesota State’s student consultation policy, (Board policy 2.3), this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that recently took place at Anoka Technical College, (ATC).

Our senate met with ATC administration to consult on the college budget on October 24, 2018, November 14, 2018, December 12, 2018, and February 13, 2019. These meetings were attended by President Kent Hanson, CFO Donald Lewis, and the full senate.

Background materials were provided to the senate, which included a detailed spreadsheet illustrating the budget impact of fee increases ranging from a freeze to 2 – 3%. The Administration has not proposed any fee increases. The consultation on the budget was sufficient for the senate to have a lengthy discussion about a possible tuition increase.

President Hanson made himself available at any time for comments or questions and members of his staff were very responsive to our questions. We feel that our views were factored into the administration’s budget plan and felt that the consultation process was taken seriously by both students and administration.

The senate is waiting to vote on either freezing tuition or having a slight fee increase, but we are waiting on further information that will be provided at our May 8, 2019 meeting. We anticipate voting on this date, May 8, 2019.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding ATC’s tuition consultation process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Christine Anderson
Anoka Technical College
Student Senate President
Canderson23@my.anokatech.edu
Chair Michael Vekich and Trustees:

In following protocol of the Board policy 2.3 student consultation policy request; this report will outline the consultations for Athletics, Technology, Student Life and Parking at Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge Campus.

Student Life members met on February 20th, 27th, March 20th, 27th and April 18th. Those in attendance included Director of Student Development and Engagement Title IX Coordinator Micheal Okoku, Educational Services Steve Crittenedent and Student Senate Advisor and Student Activities Admissions Elise Kazmerzak. Student representatives of clubs were also present from various clubs equaling to a 2/3 vote in student favor. The final overall budget request will be brought before the Student Senate.

A charge sheet detailing the budget requests for clubs and total personnel costs and what was budgeted in previous years was given. Every club turned in a budget request, but two requests had their request reduced before the meetings began. This was brought to the committee and resolved to original status. Spirit River Review (a publishing journal) personal was proposed to be removed.

Athletics, Technology and Student Life have no fee increase requests.

Parking fee has been proposed to increase by 30 cents until loan for parking lot repair is repaid and then will be lowered by 30 cents.

All consultations provided detailed charge sheets and any additional information requested. Members were given enough time for discussion and to make an informed decision.

The views and input of the students were taken seriously and with respect.

If there are any comments or concerns about the consultation process at Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge Campus, please contact me at my email below. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Brooklynn Underhill, Student Senate President, studentgov_cc@anokaramsey.edu.
Dear Chair and Board of Trustees,

As requested by Minnesota State’s Student Consultation Policy (Board Policy 2.3), this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that recently took place at Anoka-Ramsey Community College Coon Rapids Campus.

The Coon Rapids Student Senate met with our CFO Don Lewis. Mr. Lewis on December 5th, 2018 and March 4th, 2019 where we covered where our budget currently was. He explained to us how the current budget of the school was looking and the projected budgets for the future considering the decline in student enrollment as well as the budget proposed by Governor Tim Walz. He told us that with how things were looking with said decrease in funding from the Governor as well as the lower enrollment number we could be looking at an increase in tuition over the next few fiscal years. My senate has discussed the protentional tuition increase and we are opposed to it.

Don Lewis gave a presentation and shared any and all information that he had available at each meeting. Student Senate was given copies of the paperwork as well as forwarded the presentation and spread sheets, in case we needed to have further discussion.

We have yet to have our third and final budget consultation on April 29th. We also have concerns regarding the budget so along with this letter, after further discussions have been had, we will be submitting a follow up letter by May 3rd.

Sincerely,

Musawwar Alvi

Musawwar A. Alvi
Coon Rapids Student Senate President
Malvi1@my.anokaramsey.edu
Dear Chancellor Malhotra,

Consider this letter as the official letter as requested by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MN State) system that consultation of tuition and fees has occurred at Bemidji State University.

The consultation process was presented to the Bemidji State University Student Association (BSUSA) Student Senate on March 27, 2019 and April 10, 2019 by our Vice-President for Finance and Administration Karen Snorek. The process was satisfactory to the students and contained the pertinent information required to accurately form a response. Much discussion took place in regards to the budget requests as well as possible scenarios depending on what budget would succeed. Many students are interested in what our state government will decide as our final allocation.

The BSUSA Student Senate agrees to support the 2% increase in student activity fees, as well as the 3% increase in our health and counseling fee that was recommended to us by our Student Activity Fee Allocation Committee (SAFAC). There was discussion about the possibility of hitting the student activity fee cap in the next year or two and discussion of what could be done if we were to reach that cap. Overall all students present were satisfied with the requests and the benefits that would come with these increases.

Sincerely,

Connor Newby
BSUSA Student Senate President
Greetings Chancellor Malhotra, Chair Vekich, and Trustees,

We are writing to you in regards to Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Student Consultation Policy 2.3 on the tuition consultation process representing both of Central Lakes College campuses. Both of our student senates are writing to you as one unified body.

Our Tuition Consultation meetings totaled 15 hours, President Hara Charlier, Vice President of Administrative Services Kari Christiansen, Vice President of Student & Academic Affairs Joy Bodin, Student Life Director Erich Heppner, and Student Senate members of both campuses were in attendance at multiple meetings throughout the fall and spring semesters. An overview of changing fees, the college budget, and budget assumptions were all discussed at these meetings.

Also, our Technology Fee will increase from its current rate of $10 per credit to $10.65 per a credit. The Student Life Committee is recommending that the Athletic Fee remain at $4.20 per credit, and that the the Student Activity Fee remain at $5.45 per credit. Upon completion of these meetings the proposed changes were brought to both campuses for approval. The students of both Brainerd and Staples campuses were free to ask questions and express thoughts about the proposal. Both campuses unanimously approved the proposed changes.

Please feel free to contact either of us with any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the Central Lakes College Brainerd & Staples tuition consultation process. Thank you for your time as well as your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katelyn Waytashek
Student Senate President
Central Lakes College
Brainerd Campus
(320)630-8326; katelyn.waytashek@go.cclcmn.edu

Abigail Klein
Student Senate President
Central Lakes College
Staples Campus
(320)774-8368; kleiab62@my.sctcc.edu
Chair Vekich and Trustees:

I am writing to you today in regard to the 2018-2019 tuition and fee consultation process between the Century College Student Senate and the Administration as requested in Board Policy 2.3.1

Throughout the 2018-2019 academic year, the Student Senate met with the administration to discuss previous, current, and projected budget status of the College. We met with the administration on October 31, November 28, January 30, February 27, and March 27. These meetings were attended by both the Student Senate and the administration: President Angelia Millender, Vice-President of Finance Pat Opatz, Vice-President of Student Affairs Pakou Yang, Associate Vice-President of Information Technology and Administrative Services John Rohleder, Dean of Students Kristin Hageman, Director of Student Life and Title IX Jennifer Rassett, the Century College Student Senate Executive Officers, and senator-at-large members.

The administration provided background materials to the student senate; which included detailed spreadsheets and links that covered: FY2018-FY2019 Minnesota State Legislative Request, Century parking pro forma, statewide college and university fee comparison, current and proposed special course fee, current 2018 and expected 2019 fee and enrollment changes.

The Student Senate reviewed budget and fee recommendations made by the Student Life Committee, Athletic Fee Committee and the Technology Committee. The Student Senate supports the following: decrease the Parking fee by $1.00 because the revenue bond repayment is phasing out and decrease the Athletic fee by $.02. Because there is a large fee decrease to the Parking fee, the Senate supports increases to the Student Technology fee up to $.25 the Student Health Fee up to $.13 and the Student Life fee up to $.57. In aggregate, the fees will decrease by at least .4%. Because the proposed Student Life fee is increasing by greater than 2%, there will be a referendum held on campus from April 24-April 30, 2019 to include all student informational emails, electronic voting and voting tables. Final fees will be set upon conclusion of the referendum and Senate and college administration review on May 1, 2019.

There were also some discrepancies between Century College Student Senate and LeadMN that we wanted to take the opportunity to address in terms of tuition. Century College
Student Senate believes that we need to raise tuition by a small amount in order to keep our campuses services and resource for our students. LeadMN believes we need a tuition freeze or ‘debt free college’ to help lower student loans so people are not discouraged from attending college. After going over our budget we would have to cut into resources and our beneficial student assistance programs that are there to help our students. Although it may sound counter-intuitive to raise tuition for our students, Century College Student Senate believes that in the long run raising tuition would benefit students opposed to constricting it.

The 2018-2019 budget consultation was informative and sufficient for the Student Senate to discuss and present our views on the proposal being made for the fiscal year 2019 budget. President Angelia Millender and Vice-President of Finance Pat Opatz made themselves available between meetings to answer any questions that came up. The administration did well to provide additional information and documents whenever they were requested.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the Century College 2018-2019 budget consultation process. I would also like to thank the Board of Trustees for their dedication to the students of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Zacharia D. Christensen
Century College Student Senate President
June 6, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place
30 East Seventh Street
St. Paul MN 55101

Dear Chair Vekich and Board of Trustees:

As requested by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board policy 2.3, which outlines student involvement in decision-making, this letter outlines the budget consultation process that recently took place at Dakota County Technical College (DCTC).

DCTC Interim President, Michael Berndt, Chief Financial Officer, Patrick Jacobson-Schulte, and Chief Information Officer, Todd Jagerson, have kept the students informed of the financial situation at the college on a regular basis. Administration consulted with the senate on the following dates:

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<tr>
<th>Date Attended</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Student stance</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 5, 2018</td>
<td>Pouring rights with Pepsi</td>
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<td>October 17, 2018</td>
<td>Transportation, student safety App.</td>
<td>Students supported safety App.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 14, 2018</td>
<td>ATM update</td>
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<td>February 13, 2019</td>
<td>Budget Consultation</td>
<td>Consultation, questions forwarded</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 27, 2019</td>
<td>Budget Consultation continued</td>
<td>Consultation, Students satisfied</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 3, 2019</td>
<td>Budget Consultation continued</td>
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Since the Governors fiscal 2020 recommendation to improve budgets for higher education, our students hope this recommendation will lead to higher funding for our college. At this time, all student and technology fees on campus are remaining the same.

The Student Association at DCTC is satisfied with the level of consultation we have received throughout the year regarding the college budget, tuition, and fees. During the senate meeting on April 3, 2019, we supported a recommendation of a 1% increase in student tuition to maintain student services on our campus if funding from the state does not increase. The college administration has been available and answered all questions when requested in regards to tuition and fee structures. The senate appreciates the opportunity to consult on these decisions.

Please contact me should you have any further questions about the budget consultation process at Dakota County Technical College.

Sincerely,

Susan Garcia
DCTC Student Senate President

www.dctc.edu

Accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.
DCTC is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Educator/Employer and a member of the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities system.
Dear Board of Trustees Members:

I would like to start out by personally thanking you for coming out to visit and tour our fine establishment here at Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College this past September. It was a pleasure guiding you through everything that is happening here at FDLTCC.

As requested by the Minnesota State Student Consultation Policy, this letter will outline the tuition and budget consultation process that took place on multiple occasions throughout the year at Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College. The attendees of these tuition and budget meeting were the FDLTCC Student Senate President Angela, Student Senate Vice President Sara Rybak, Senate Advisor Jesse Stirewalt, FDLTCC President Stephanie Hammitt., and FDLTCC Chief Financial Officer Bret Busakowski.

When we discuss budget items, especially tuition we all work together to make sure that our $158.90 class credit is not only competitively set but also affordable to the students that attend FDLTCC. Other items discussed are student assistance items such as the school's technology fee.

Over the past few years, this establishment has face a slight decline, but this year alone we have hit an enrollment decline of 25% recent years. This has left us in a financial predicament, leaving us no choice but to make dramatic cuts in the Student Life Budget. When reviewing the budget, we have proposed cutting the budget by $700.00 from each club fund, as well as $10,000.00 from Athletics. However, this is just a proposal, and not in effect. I have been made aware that we will be able to find funding from other areas. It just will not be coming from the Student Life Fund.

Overall, my experience at Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College has been quite honestly the highlight of my life, filled with unforgettable experiences, and once in a lifetime opportunities. This includes Student Senate Leadership Training with LeadMN, NASA experiences, scholarships and internships, Athletic trophies at AIHEC in Basketball. My gratitude and appreciation are without fathom.

Thank you kindly,

Angela K. Martini
FDLTCC Student Senate President
Chancellor Devinder Malhotra and Board of Trustees
Office of the Chancellor
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System
30 7th Street East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Chancellor Malhotra and Trustees,

This letter is to briefly outline the process of Hennepin Technical College (HTC) budget consultation, as requested by the Minnesota State policy (Board policy 2.3).

Our Student Senate Executive Board Officers, including Presidents from Brooklyn Park – Guadalupe Lira-Jimenez and Eden Prairie – Dan Thomsen, meet with HTC administration monthly throughout the school year. During our November, January and February meetings specifically, there were updates and discussions regarding the budget and required tuition consultation processes. Along with the student leaders from both campuses, President Dr. Merrill Irving, Jr., Vice President of Finance and Operations Craig Erickson, Provost Jeffrey Parks, Director of Student Life & Career Development Sue Schmitz, Brooklyn Park Student Senate Advisor Laura Nguyenwa, and Eden Prairie Student Senate Advisor Jese Ledbetter attended the budget consultation meetings. Background materials were provided during these meetings to detail the all college budgets for FY19 and projections for FY20. The discussion allowed Student Senate leaders to ask questions about the budget.

On April 17, HTC’s CFO, Craig Erickson gave a breakdown of what a tuition increase would look like at 1%, 2% and 3% for FYE students. The student senate was given an opportunity to ask questions during the presentation. The presentation was also shared with them.

The Brooklyn Park student senate is in agreement with raising parking fees by $.53 for students to go towards the maintenance of the parking lots.

Administrators are receptive to further answering the Student Senate leaders’ questions and hearing the feedback we have or that we ask on behalf of other students. We feel our voices are heard and taken seriously, and the administration and students share the same vision and goals for the college.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the budget consultation at Hennepin Technical College, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Guadalupe Lira-Jimenez
2018-2019 Brooklyn Park Campus Student Senate President
Chancellor Devinder Malhotra and Board of Trustees

Office of the Chancellor
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System
30 7th Street East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Chancellor Malhotra and Trustees,

This letter is to briefly outline the process of Hennepin Technical College (HTC) budget consultation, as requested by the MnSCU policy (Board policy 2.3).

Our Student Senate Executive Board Officers, including Presidents from Brooklyn Park – Guadalupe Lira-Jimenez and Eden Prairie – Dan Thomsen, meet with HTC administration monthly throughout the school year. During our November, January, February and April meetings specifically, there were updates and discussions regarding the budget and required tuition consultation processes. Along with the student leaders from both campuses, President Dr. Merrill Irving, Jr., Vice President of Finance and Operations Craig Erickson, Provost Jeffrey Parks, Director of Student Life & Career Development Sue Schmitz, Brooklyn Park Student Senate Advisor Laura Nguyagwa, and Eden Prairie Student Senate Advisor Jese Ledbetter attended the budget consultation meetings. Background materials were provided during these meetings to detail the all college budgets for FY19 and projections for FY20. The administration explained that they will be budgeting based on a Full-Time Equivalent of 3200 students. This is lower than it has been in recent years. The discussion allowed Student Senate leaders to ask questions about the budget.

In the April 17, 2019 meeting CFO Craig Erickson demonstrated through a PowerPoint the allocations and the shortfall that will occur and how increasing tuition could help off set the shortfall. In his presentation he provided to the students what a 1%, 2% or 3% increase would look like for FYE student. The senate leaders asked questions and Craig was open and receptive to answering those questions.

Student Senate has been working closely with Chief Financial Officer Craig Erickson and Director of Facilities Joe Wightkin throughout the year to address growing parking lot needs. The parking lots need to be resurfaced, updated with better lightning and emergency call stations. Students have voiced their support for increasing the Parking Fee by $.53 to $3.53 total to address these lighting and security needs in the parking lots at the Eden Prairie Campus to ensure students feel safe coming and going to class.

Joe Wightkin and Administrators have been receptive to further answering the Student Senate leaders’ questions and hearing the feedback we have or that we asked on behalf of other students. Joe and Craig each attended one Eden Prairie Student Senate meetings this year providing open dialogue with the students. Student Senate leaders also tabled in our Learning Commons talked in classrooms and engaged with students regarding the $.53 parking increase. We feel our voices are being heard and taken seriously; the administration and students share the same vision and goals for the college.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the budget consultation at Hennepin Technical College, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dan Thomsen
2019-2020 Eden Prairie Campus Student Senate President
April 15, 2019

Office of the Chancellor
Minnesota State College and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place
30 East 7th Street, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

Dear Chancellor Malhotra,

As requested by student consultation policy (Board Policy 2.3), this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that took place at Hibbing Community College.

We met with our Provost Michael Raich, on March 5th, to discuss the budget for the upcoming fiscal year, as well as the reality of the past year. He provided background materials that included detailed spreadsheets. We, the Student Senate, discussed with them potential solutions to ease the effects of the cuts. As a Senate, we do not support any form of a tuition or fee increase.

One such solution is, for the current year, the retiring of several faculty members. We will be having current faculty cover any openings, as a result of these retirements. This is a temporary solution to ease the issue.

Several Senate members also serve on the Student Life Committee, and saw first hand the impacts of the projected decrease in our Student Life Funds, and how this will affect our students.

We are thankful to have been granted a bonding bill, which will help to update our school dramatically. This update was much needed, due to some of our buildings being quite aged and outdated. We are hoping that this renovation will have a positive impact on our enrollment rates. The renovations are nearly complete, and we are excited to see the finished building, and the new opportunities that it offers our current and incoming students. We look forward to seeing what next year will bring.

Please feel free to contact any of us at Hibbing Community College. We would be pleased to speak with you about any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you,

Lucy Lindstrom
Student Senate President
Hibbing Community College
Chair Vekich and Trustees,

As requested by Minnesota State student consultation policy (Board Policy 2.3), this letter will outline the budget consultation process that recently took place at Inver Hills Community College. Students were pleased by the consults and it helped us understand how our tuition is used.

Student Senate met with President Michael Berndt and Chief Financial Officer on February 21st, March 21st, and April 18th. During these meetings, Patrick Jacobson-Schulte informed students about the college’s financial state, higher education legislation spending, what a 1 percent tuition increase would look like, and other various items identified as issues by students. Student Senators, the Senate Executive Team, and Senate Advisors (Nicki Bottko, Jenni Yamada, and Zack Sullivan) were all present. The Dean of Student Success and Retention, Kari Rusch-Curl, also attended on several occasions to help answer questions students may have. Todd Jagerson, Chief Information Officer, came to two Senate meetings to consult about the IT budget and also came when requested to better inform students on how technology is working with their budgets to fulfill students needs. Overall, Administration did a sufficient job in arranging adequate materials to assist students in better understanding the budget and other related items

Senate was able to have several discussions on the implications of a fee increase, with Senators speaking to various student populations about their opinions. From these discussions, Senate passed a motion to approve an overall fee increase of $0.30 to be directed toward the Health Services fee.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments, or would like clarification on Senate’s experience with the budget consultation this year. Thank you for your time.

Cheers,
Josie Neveu
Student Senate President
sspresident@inverhills.edu
May 2, 2019

Board of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place
30 East Seventh Street
St. Paul MN 55101

Dear Chancellor Malhotra, Chair Vekich, and Trustees:

As requested by Minnesota State’s student consultation policy (Board policy 2.3), this letter is to inform you that Itasca Community College has participated and completed their duty in the tuition consultation process. I have met with our Provost Dr. Bart Johnson and Dean Rick Kangas multiple times during the year to discuss student fees, tuition, and implications due to budget reductions. Most recently discussions were about what tuition will look like for next school year pending legislative outcomes, which included different scenarios on frozen tuition with state allocation to offset the freeze to potential tuition increases of 2-3% over the next biennium.

The primary focus in discussions with student senate and students is not tuition changes as much as the impact on student life fees being capped and no ability for us to increase to provide the student life programing we feel is important to the student experience and success. In addition, a concern among students is the fact that continued frozen tuition and budget reductions impacts and reduces student success with the reduction of support services for students on campus.

We as students feel the administration has done a great job handling tuition. We would like to continue to look for solutions, and know this cannot be done alone. We are satisfied with the process we went through.

Thank you very much and please feel free to contact me with any question or concerns involving the tuition consultation process at Itasca Community College.

Thank you,

Claire Glines
Student Senate President
Itasca Community College
Cell: 218-259-4555
Email: claireglines@gmail.com
Chair Vekich and Trustees:

Per request of Minnesota State’s student consultation policy (Board Policy 2.3), this letter will explain this year’s tuition consultation at Lake Superior College of Duluth, Minnesota.

LSC’s Student Senate, LSC Student Senate Advisors, and our administration met to consult on the college budget several times over the last 6 months. Al Finlayson, LSC’s Vice President of Administration, is the main person that manages the budget and finances at the college. He has attended four of our regular biweekly meetings to discuss and present current information on our college’s budget and financial strategies. We met on November 13, February 21, March 7, and April 18.

At these meetings, Al Finlayson brought data spreadsheets to look over different scenarios for the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget and a breakdown of Fiscal Year 2019’s budget.

Currently, the way the budget will be balanced to account for the Governor’s budget, appropriation, and potential tuition increase has not yet been determined, but several strategies and possibilities are being considered.

Throughout this year, we did not have to discuss nor vote on any changes to budget allocations, rather we gave input on new projects on campus and how the school’s money could best be used to serve the students. This included discussion on the topic of a library and Tutoring and Learning Center remodel as well as our ongoing housing project.

The consultation process with LSC’s administration about campus budget has been more than sufficient. The discussion has been just that, a two-way street filled with transparency. Administration has made themselves available and have had interest in the input and thoughts of their students.

Feel free to contact me if there are any questions or comments regarding Lake Superior College’s budget consultation process over the fiscal year of 2019. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Keeley Zirkler
Student Senate President
ok1022dx@go.minnstate.edu
April 17, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place 30 East Seventh Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Chair Vekich and Board of Trustees,

As requested by Minnesota State’s student consultation policy board (policy 2.3) this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that has taken place at the Minnesota State Community and Technical College - Detroit Lakes campus.

Detroit Lakes student senate met with our Chief Finance Officer, Pat Nordick, to discuss the M-State budget on January 17th, February 5th, and March 19th. President Carrie Brimhall was also present at a separate meeting and covered budget rational.

The student senate was provided graphs depicting the planned budget for the next year and explaining the impacts it may have on the individual campuses and M-State as a whole. Pat Nordick provided a detailed explanation of the proposed budget(s) and made it clear he was more than happy to answer any questions.

It was reported there could be a possible tuition increase, however, this would be a last resort. After discussion with the senate, it was determined we would greatly appreciate tuition to freeze at its current rate but understand the possibility of a minor tuition increase may be necessary to continue with current offerings.

If there are any further questions about the consultation of the Detroit Lakes campus on the M-State budget, feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Robin Tate
Student Senate President
Robin.Tate@go.minnesota.edu
On Thursday, April 4th, CFO Pat Nordick wrapped up his 3-part consultation with the students of M State Fergus Falls. He carefully laid out the current state of M State’s budget and the different scenarios the college could be facing depending on how things shake out in St. Paul. Through the use of detailed hand-outs, he did his best to help us understand the many contributing factors affecting the tuition rate.

While MinnState’s allocation request appeared to be in the best interest of the students of Minnesota, he assured us that M State was prepared to handle a lesser allocation, and he was open and transparent about what that would look like for the students of M State. It sounded like any allocation less than the Governor’s proposed budget would force the college to take action. He suggested that the college would likely need to increase tuition 3% if anything less than the governor’s allocation passed. Though not ideal, the Student Government is willing to support this increase. We would rather see the college continue to be able to offer the level of support and services we’ve come to expect even if it means paying a few more dollars per credit. However, we ask the college to consider all other cost saving methods before increasing tuition.

Another topic Mr. Nordick invited us to take a stance on was that of online tuition. As I understand it, there has been some talk about making online tuition the same as on-campus tuition. Though good in theory, Mr. Nordick gave us concrete numbers suggesting what this would mean for campuses across the entire state, and what it would mean for students choosing to attend classes in a traditional manner. In light of this, we are not going to support making online and on-campus tuition the same, and we want to make sure that we are brought into the conversation if this idea ever gains steam.

While it’s difficult to take a real solid stance on any of these topics that are all dependent upon future decisions, we appreciate being consulted on what M State’s response and reaction will be. We feel confident that the students of M State are in good hands, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback. Please be assured that our tuition consultations were very positive experiences, and we appreciate the work of your office as you advocate on behalf of the students of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Parker Lindsay

Parker Lindsay
Student Government President
Minnesota State Community & Technical College – Fergus Falls
April 22, 2019

Minnesota State Board of Trustees:

This letter, as requested by the Minnesota State Student Consultation Policy 2.3, is an outline of the budget consultation that Minnesota State Community and Technical College’s CFO Pat Nordick presented on the M State Moorhead SGA.

M State Moorhead SGA met with CFO Nordick to discuss the budgets proposed by the senate, governor, and House of Representatives and its comparison to the system office request. We have read and understood all possible outcomes and its impact on the college itself. However, as you will read in the next paragraph, we do not understand the impact on our students on a personal basis.

Due to weather, this year has ended up with both administration and the Student Government Association of M State Moorhead unable to meet for the requested meetings. Pat Nordick met with the M State Moorhead Student Government Association twice this year, the second meeting had attendance that wasn’t in our standards for considering it a real conversation. The M State Moorhead Student Government Association would like to stress that it does not hold the college responsible for the lack of information. However, we have not received enough information on the financial impact on students as compared to what we know about the personal situation of the students.

Traditionally, the M State Moorhead Student Government Association supports tuition freezes and decreases in the interest of the students. This year a couple of our students supported both the removal of disparity between online and in-person courses and a tuition decrease/freeze. However, due to our inability to gather the information that would make us comfortable to support or oppose a tuition increase, the M State Moorhead Student Government Association would like to express its neutrality on this matter based on a lack of information.

The M State Moorhead Student Government Association would like to express its appreciation for your interest in our consultation in the budgetary matter. We can always be reached for any further questions and would be happy to answer them.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

Joshua L. Hansen, President
Matthew Benjamin, Admin Assistant
Britta Sather, Treasurer
Ashti Al Hayder, Public Relations Coordinator

A member of the Minnesota State system and an Equal Opportunity Educator / Employer.

Toll Free: 877.450.3322
April 21, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System
307th Street East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Minnesota State Board of Trustees:

This letter, as requested by the Minnesota State Student Consultation Policy 2.3, is an outline of the budget consultation that Minnesota State Community and Technical College’s CFO Pat Nordick presented on the Wadena Campus.

Members attending the 2018-2019 budget consultations include Student Government Advisor Suzanne Lundsten, Student Government Association President Jessica Anderson, M State Wadena Senate’s Executive Board, and senators. Three meetings were held with Pat Nordick in the fall and spring semester. An overview presentation with detailed information on the budget was presented to the student government at our meetings help throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Background materials on M State Wadena’s budget were presented to every member in attendance. These materials described the proposed budget for FY 19-20, possible outcomes, and directions that Minnesota State Community and Technical College’s budget could take. The pros and cons of a tuition increase or decrease were brought fourth and heavily debated upon by all of the meeting attendees. All students in attendance unanimously agreed upon a 2-3% tuition increase to cover a portion of the inflationary costs.

The timing and scheduling of these meetings provided the Student Government Association with sufficient time to have discussions and make informed decisions. Students and attendees of the meetings were welcomed to contact Pat Nordick with any questions, concerns, or comments at any time during the meeting; or after by e-mail, appointment, or through phone conversation.

The student government association members appreciate the time that was given to make an assessment of the budget for the following year. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments on the budget consultation process that recently took place at Minnesota State Community and Technical College Wadena. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jessica Anderson
Jessica Anderson
Student Government Association President
Minnesota State Community and Technical College-Wadena
April 15, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place
30 East Seventh Street
St. Paul MN 55101

Dear Chancellor Malhotra and Board of Trustees:

As requested by Minnesota State Student Consultation Policy (Board Policy 2.3), this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that recently took place at Mesabi Range College. Our senate met with Mesabi Range College administration to consult on the college budget on April 8, 2019.

In attendance, in the Spring 2019 meetings were Karen Kedrowski, Vice President of Finance & Administration, Northeast Higher Education District; Shelly McCauley Jugovich, Interim Provost; Antavius Thomas, Director of Student Life; Virginia Campus Student Senate representatives Elizabeth Bloch, Brian Welch, Steve Smith and Kyle Peterson.

The overall college budget for FY20 was presented, along with a breakdown of anticipated FYE, no increases in tuition rates, no differential change, and no increases overall for the college. Campus leadership presented the entire budget planning process. All parties involved in the consultation made themselves available to hear the concerns and opinions of the student body.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or comments regarding Mesabi Range College Virginia/Eveleth Campus tuition consultation process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Student Senate Presidents
David Kangas, Student Senate President – Eveleth
Elizabeth Bloch, Student Senate President - Virginia
Chair Vekich and Trustees,

As requested by Minnesota State’s student consultation policy (Board policy 2.3), this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that took place between the Minneapolis Community and Technical College Student Senate Board and the representatives from school’s administration.

Our senate met with Minneapolis College administration to consult on the college budget on February 22nd, March 22nd, April 8th and April 19th, 2019. These meetings were attended by President Sharon Pierce, Vice President of Finance and Operations Christopher Rau, Director of Student Life Tara Martinez, and Student Senate’s Executive Board.

During the meetings, Christopher Rau provided information about past and projected enrollment, the school’s reserve funds, and operational expenses. Minneapolis Community and Technical College is proposing an increase in tuition of up to 3%, contingent upon the level of new state funding the College receives for the 2020-21 biennium. The College has goal of increasing enrollment by 3% in Fall, 2019.

The Senate Board inquired about alternative options rather than a tuition increase. One of the alternatives explored by school was continued employee downsizing along with cutting services offered on campus.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or comments regarding the Minneapolis Community and Technical College tuition consultation process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lauren Feiersinger
Student Senate President
Pressenate@go.minneapolis.edu

Sahiba Atakishiyeva
Student Senate Director of Finance
financesenate@go.minneapolis.edu
Minnesota West Community and Technical College Canby

Budget Consultation Letter

04/18/2019

Minnesota State System Office
30 East 7th Street
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

Dear Chancellor and whom it may concern:

I would like to thank Diana Fliss for presenting and answering questions about the financial status of our college. Our student senate representatives are thankful that we are still in the know about what is going on at a college wide level. Diana did a wonderful job explaining the finances, as well as explaining how these things will affect student life.

Although most students were understanding of the importance, several representatives were questioning the value of the meeting. They don’t feel as though we have much say in how the school spends money, so they largely just ignored the presentation.

Thank you again to Diana Fliss for sharing some information about the financial status of Minnesota west with the student senate at Canby campus.

Thank you,

Grant Swingle

Canby Student Senate President
03/25/2019

Minnesota State System Office
30 East 7th Street
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

Dear Chancellor and whom it may concern:

On behalf of the student community at the Minnesota West Jackson Campus, I would like to thank Diana Fliss for visiting our campus to discuss the tuition consultation on 03/20/2019. The response I received from the student body tells me that everyone was well informed and appreciated the effort of all the individuals it took to put the presentation together. This presentation helps us, as students, to understand the finances of the Minnesota West Community and Technical College.

We realize the importance of informing us, as student, of the financial health of the college. We would like to urge our administration to look at every option possible to help keep Minnesota West growing strong in a financial position as well as continue to sustain where we are currently.

Thank you and the rest of the staff and administration for all of your hard work regarding the issue.

Respectfully,

Kerbee Polenychko

Student Senate President
Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place
30 7th Street East – Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Board of Trustees:

This letter is to inform you that the Minnesota West – Granite Falls campus has completed and participated in their duty in the consultation process. The Student Senate has gone over the financial information that was supplied to us during our Student Senate meeting on March 26, 2019 meeting. Diana Fliss presented the information to our Student Senate.

We, the study body, understand how our tuition rates and fees are established and how they are factored each year. We appreciate the efforts from the current administration and are grateful for the time spent explaining it to use.

Sincerely,

Beth Smith
Student Senate President
Minnesota West Community & Technical College
Granite Falls Campus
April 1, 2019

Board of Trustees

Minnesota State

30 East Seventh Street

St. Paul MN 55101

Dear Trustees:

As required by the Minnesota State student consultation policy (Board Policy 2.3), this letter is to outline the tuition consultation process that place at Minnesota West Community and Technical College – Luverne Center.

The consultation was held with the student body on April 1, 2019, with Diana Fliss presenting a detailed power point outlining the information regarding tuition, the financial health and planning; enrollment and allocation history and a better understanding of the reserves and fund balances. Diana also went over FY2020 projections, along with strategies, efficiencies and capital requests.

After the consultation meeting, the student body has a better understanding on how tuition and fees are established as well as the future of Minnesota West Community and Technical College’s financial health and future planning, to ensure that students have affordable education, along with the receiving the best education.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding Minnesota West Community and Technical College – Luverne Center’s student consultation process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jayme Citrowske, Student Senate President, jayme.citrowske1@my.smsu.edu
Chair Vekich and Trustees:
As requested by MinnState’s student consultation policy (Board Policy 2.3) this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that recently took place at Minnesota West Community and Technical College-Pipestone Campus.

Our senate met with Minnesota West Community and Technical College administration to consult on the college budget on March 5th 2019 with President of Finance Jodi Landgaard.

A Power Point slide show was presented with a very detailed description. They also offered to share the slide show with us upon request through email.

Very detailed slides about the budget and next years were showed. All of our questions were answered and explained very well.

The Minnesota West staff has made themselves available for any questions, comments, or concerns. We all feel as though our views were factored into the administration’s budget plan and felt that the consultation process was taken seriously by both students and the administration.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments regarding Minnesota West Community and Technical College-Pipestone’s consultation process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Mariah Hicks, Student Senate President, Mariah.hicks@go.minnstate.edu
Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place
30 7th Street East-Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

Dear Board of Trustees:

This letter is to inform you that the Minnesota West-Worthington campus has completed and participated in their duty in the consultation process. The Student Senate has gone over the financial information that was supplied to our Student Senate during the April 3, 2019 meeting. Diana Fliss presented the information to our Student Senate.

We, the student body understand how the tuition rates and fees are established and how they are factored each year. Minnesota West also appreciate the efforts put forth by the current administration and appreciates the time spend explaining this process to us.

Sincerely,

Melinda “Kassandra” Lopez
Minnesota West Community & Technical College
Worthington Campus
Student Senate President
April 9, 2018

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State
500 Wells Fargo Place
30 East Seventh Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Chair and Trustees:

As requested by Minnesota State’s student consultation policy (Minnesota State policy 2.3), this letter will outline the budget consultation process that took place at Minnesota State College Southeast, Red Wing campus.

Our Student Senate had the chance to meet with our administration over a three-meeting process to discuss the FY2019-2020 budget. Interim President Larry Lundblad and Chief Finance Officer, Mike Kroening, along with the whole senate attended our first meeting. We were provided with the opportunity to address many budget concerns and ask questions about the state of the college in general.

CFO Mike Kroening attended two subsequent meetings to give us further updates. He advised there is potential for a budget shortfall. Depending on funds received from the Legislative level, it was proposed to increase tuition by 2% and $100,000 in workforce reductions to balance the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. It is the Senate’s opinion that the consultation process was followed and discussion was allowed. At this time, it will be considered undecided until further information is provided from the Legislative level on disbursement of additional funds. The CFO made his contact information available for any follow up questions or discussion that students felt might be necessary.

The Senate has worked with faculty, staff, and administrators to advocate for affordable textbooks. This past Fall, students had the opportunity to use online textbooks through a partnership with Cengage for selected classes. This was a huge savings for many of our students campus wide and aids in lowering the overall cost of education. We, the Red Wing Student Senate, feel this change among others will strengthen our students and campus. However, if additional funds are not received from the Legislative level, more workforce reductions will be on the horizon. Our campus is currently working with a skeleton crew as it is. The additional funding is needed in order to not only balance the budget, but more importantly provide each student with the level and degree of support they need to further their education.

Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or comments in regard to Minnesota State College Southeast, Red Wing’s budget consultation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michelle Waller
Student Senate President, Red Wing campus
Minnesota State College Southeast
Michelle.waller@my.southeastmn.edu
April 11, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State College and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place
30 East 7th St#350
St. Paul Minnesota 55101

Chancellor Malhotra and Board of Trustees,

After several consultations of the MSC Southeast budget has been reviewed and discussed with the student senate.

We understand that the current House budget proposal suggests full funding for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. We also understand that if this is not the case that the college may need to increase tuition to offset the budget deficit.

We strongly support the current legislative proposals of covering the budget needs for Minnesota State Colleges and Universities in hopes that we will not receive a tuition increase. As you know, the cost of post-secondary education is high and the value to students is great.

Thank you for your time and advocacy for students like us and creating an affordable opportunity to develop the future work force.

Sincerely,
Hailey Johnson
MSCS Student Senate President 2018/2019
March 25, 2019

Chancellor Malhotra and the Board of Trustees:

This letter serves to verify that the Minnesota State Student Government has been consulted regarding the cumulative increase of 3.91% in Student Fees at Minnesota State University, Mankato. The fee recommendation amounts to $42.74 per credit hour, banded at $512.89. Given rising costs throughout our system and the forecasted decrease in enrollment, the Student Government, the official voice of students at Minnesota State Mankato, is very proud to have kept fee increases to a minimum. Despite serving one of the largest and most diverse student bodies in the system, and the financial pressure associated with a tuition freeze, the Student Government has taken a critical and thoughtful approach to student fees, and, with the collaboration of excellent administrators, has been very successful at keeping the financial burden on students to a minimum.

Student Activity Fee
The Minnesota State Student Government approves an increase of 4.90% of this fee to maintain some services for current programs and departments under Student Activities and to expand others. The student activity fee will be set at $8.77 per credit hour, banded at a maximum of $105.24 per semester. The Student Allocations Committee (SAC) is an independent committee of the Student Government and spends the year allocating travel/event-hosting dollars and hosting budget hearings for departments funded through student activity fee dollars. Under the vigil of Centennial Student Union Director, Mark Constantine and Centennial Student Union Business Manager, Theresa Schwartz, the committee presented a series of recommendations to the Student Government which were modified and approved by the Student Senate. This fee increase is subject to approval by a vote of the student body taking place on April 9. Should the vote fail, the Student Government recommends that the Student Activity Fee automatically increase from $8.36 to $8.52 per credit hour, banded at $102.24 per semester. This reflects a 1.91% increase. Should this default option be necessary, a 2.3% across-the-board reduction will be made to the recommendations for all Student Activity Fee-funded line items in the approved primary budget.

Centennial Student Union Fee
CSU administration has been wonderful to work with during the course of the year, and their efforts have, for as long as I have been involved with our student association, mirrored an approach of thoughtful transparency. Our Centennial Student Union Board meets with CSU staff, student board members and administration once per week during the entire academic year. This board serves to ensure the budgeting process and that CSU fees are spent with fiscal responsibility.
Student Government has agreed to a 1.9% decrease in CSU facility fee for FY20 and the Minnesota State Student Government voted in approval of this fee. The CSU fee for FY20 will be $10.78 per credit hour, banded at a maximum of $129.36.

**Student Health Services Fee**
A 0.0% increase to the Student Health Services Fee will result in a total of $5.42, banded at the maximum of $65.04 per term. New MinnState policy raised the cap from $65.00 to $75.00 per term. While the per-credit-hour fee is not increasing, the banded rate for Minnesota State Mankato students will increase by $0.04, as that new amount is now within the MinnState limit. The Student Government appreciates all that Student Health Services does for the student body.

**Technology Fee**
The Student Government was presented an increase in the technology fee. A technology fee of $10.50 per credit, banded at $126.00 per semester. This reflects a 5.0% increase, which was approved. New MinnState policy raised the cap from $10.00 to $12.00 this year, allowing for this increase from the previous cap. The Student Government commended the efforts of Information and Technology Services and acknowledge the need to grow and develop services.

**Intercollegiate Athletic Fee**
This fee is separate from the student activity fee. The Student Government recognized the hard work, dedication, and success of our intercollegiate athletic teams, and appreciated the efforts of the Athletics Department to continue to grow and develop the programs. A 2.07% increase in the fee was approved, which will result in a fee of $3.94 per credit hour, banded at $47.28 per semester. This fee increase is subject to approval by a vote of the student body taking place on April 9. Should the vote fail, the fee will be set at $3.78 per credit hour, banded at $45.36, reflecting an increase of 1.89%.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please reach me by email at maryelizabeth.cronin@mnsu.edu or by calling 507-389-2611.

With Maverick Pride,

MaryElizabeth "McMc" Cronin
86th Minnesota State Student Association President
280 Centennial Student Union, Mankato, MN 56001
Date: March 25, 2019

Chancellor Malhotra & Board of Trustees,

This letter is to serve as an approval from the Minnesota State Student Government, as the official student association of Minnesota State University, Mankato, for the consultation process on the budget/rate request for the Centennial Student Union for FY20.

CSU administration has been wonderful to work with during the course of the year, and their efforts have, for as long as I have been involved with our student association, mirrored an approach of thoughtful transparency. Our Centennial Student Union Board meets with CSU staff, student board members and administration once per week during the entire academic year. This board serves to ensure the budgeting process and that CSU fees are spent with fiscal responsibility.

The CSU Board and Staff requested a reduction of 1.2% in the fee, but the Student Government has agreed to a 2% decrease in CSU facility fee for FY20, due to the accumulated reserve balance and the Minnesota State Student Government voted in approval of this fee. The CSU fee for FY20 is $10.78 per credit hour, banded at a maximum of $258.72.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself via email at maryelizabeth.cronin@mnsu.edu or by calling 507-389-2611.

With Maverick pride,

MaryElizabeth “MeMe” Cronin

86th Minnesota State Student Government President

280 Centennial Student Union, Mankato, MN 56001
March 25, 2019

Chancellor Malhotra and Board of Trustees,

This letter is intended to serve as proof of the student consultation process that was undertaken at Minnesota State University, Mankato with regards to Residential Life room and board rates for the 2019/2020 academic year. There was a weighted average increase of 3.9% in the 2019/2020 room and board rates.

The Minnesota State Student Government, the official voice of Minnesota State University, Mankato students, was consulted considerably on the proposed increases to the Residential Life room and board rates for the 2019/2020 academic year. Over a number of weeks we were involved in meetings with residential life staff as well as the Residence Hall Association members. The Minnesota State Student Government was reminded throughout the process that their role was purely consultation and that no decisions that were made with regards to room and board rates by the student association would have any binding effect on the result of the consultation process.

We would have it noted that the Residence Hall Association, a body that exclusively represents students living in Residential Life managed properties, is considered an advisory body to the Student Association as a whole. The Residence Hall Association was heavily involved in the room and board rate process. After much discussion, the association had voted to approve/recommend the increase.

This 86th Student Association was responsible with student funds and critically evaluated all proposed budgets. After much discussion over several meetings about such an increase, the final vote of the Minnesota State Student Government was to recommend the proposed 2019/2020 room and board rates.

With Maverick pride,

MaryElizabeth “MeMe” Cronin
86th Minnesota State Student Association President
280 Centennial Student Union, Mankato, MN 56001
April 23, 2019

Chancellor Malhotra and Board of Trustees,

This letter serves to verify that we, the Minnesota State University, Mankato Student Government, have been consulted regarding and support up to a 3.0% increase to Undergraduate tuition in the event the Minnesota State System does not receive the fully funded legislative request. The Student Government is disappointed that the Minnesota Government hasn’t been investing into our institutions to allow us to continue offering our students the exceptional programs and services on our campus. And with the likelihood that the Minnesota State System will not receive its full request, a tuition increase at Minnesota State University, Mankato will be needed to continue to provide these programs and services our students entered this college expecting to be able to access.

We feel confident in our support of an increase, as we have been closely engaged in consultation with administration during our monthly meet and confer.

We continue to call on our representatives at the Minnesota State System and Students United to fight for greater levels of state funding and hold the legislature to their promise of funding two-thirds of our tuition costs. Our concern is raised regarding the long-term repercussion on student tuition that may come if there is no adequate state appropriation for our institution to function at full capacity which maintaining all services and program offered to tuition-paying students.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

With Maverick pride,

MeMe Cronin
86th Student Government President
280 Centennial Student Union, Mankato, MN 56001
December 6, 2018

Chancellor Malhotra and Board of Trustees:

This letter serves to verify that consultation occurred and there is student support in the creation of a new Student Fee at up to $0.83 per credit, not to exceed $10.00 a semester to begin being collected in Fall 2019 for ten years that would aid in funding the construction of a seasonal indoor recreation facility on the Minnesota State University, Mankato campus.

The need for this facility on campus was first noticed in a task force that had met during the 2018 Spring semester. This task force was comprised of student leaders, student athletes and campus recreational facility users, campus recreational staff, and athletic department staff.

With the potential security of 2 million dollars in bonds from a previous revenue bond sale, the administration at Minnesota State University, Mankato approached the Student Government with the possibility of constructing this facility if there was support and financial aid from the students.

On October 31, 2018, Student Government passed a motion that would allow students in a referendum to voice their opinion on the matter. In between the passage of that motion and the date of the referendum, there had been two open forums held as an opportunity for students, staff, faculty, and community members to ask questions and voice their thoughts.

On December 4, 2018 the referendum was held between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm. With a student wide email sent out with the link to the voting poll, and three polling stations on campus allowed for 2,915 votes to be casted. In order for the referendum to be considered valid, the number of total votes needed was 1,078. Far surpassed with the 2,915 votes that broke down to 1,900 ‘Yes’ votes, 997 ‘No’ votes, and 18 ‘Abstain’ votes.
If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please reach me by email at maryelizabeth.cronin@mnsu.edu or by calling 507-389-2611.

With Maverick Pride,

MeMe Cronin
86th Student Government President
280 Centennial Student Union, Mankato, MN 56001
Friday, April 26th, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is being written in accordance with Minnesota State University Board Procedures 2.3.1 (Student involvement in decision making), regarding the university budget, tuition rates and a multitude of other fee rates.

MSUM’s Vice President of Finance and Administration Jean Hollaar, and Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs Brenda Amenson-Hill accompanied by other university cabinet members and representatives met with MSUM Student Senate to provide updates about tuition rate increase proposals at two meet and confers, the second being on April 25th, 2019. The Student Senate concurred with the information presented. The level of transparency and continual conversations about tuition rates and the uses incoming money signified the thoughtfulness of the advising committee. Three different proposals were presented based on three different scenarios. After two meetings and much deliberation, the Student Senate supports and stands by the proposal for recommended fee increases made for the 93,000-credit model applying it to the new 99,000-credit proposal. Student Senate concluded that there was greater scope in this proposal as it accounted for more fee generating credits. In this proposal, Student Senate concluded that it did not support the new student life position reallocation. Student Senate feels that the funds supporting that would be better used if allocated to other areas in the 99,000-credit model. Lastly, the Student Senate felt well informed and satisfied with the justification regarding the aforementioned increase.

The Director of Housing and Residential Life, Heather Phillips, presented to Student Senate on March 21st, 2019. Heather provided a detailed breakdown of the Housing and Residential Life room and board rates and requested a 1% increase in housing and residential life fees. The Student Senate unanimously supports the fee increase presented given the ample justification regarding long-term use of the additional funds to support existing amenities and foresight into further developing university housing infrastructure.

At the same meeting on March 21st, 2019, Director of Public Safety Ryan Nelson presented on parking rates. Student Senate was receptive to information presented and a lively debate regarding the requested parking rate increase followed. After much deliberation, the recommendation for the various tiers of increases (particularly the $10 increase for the general pass) was supported. An emphasis put on improving parking infrastructure and accessibility by the Director of Public Safety was a strong reason the Senate chose to recommend the presented increase.

On March 28th, 2019, both the Director of Learning Communities Hannah Severtson and the Director of First Year Programs Julia Roland presented the new student orientation fee and SAFR’s recommendation to Student Senate to discuss. While the SAFR recommendation was made on April 25th, 2019, the Student Senate supported the proposed new student orientation fee. Student Senate believes that the first few weeks at MSUM are critical for new students to feel welcome in the campus community. Understanding the need to develop a more wholesome experience, the Student Senate felt that the new fee was well warranted.

The Director of International Students, Janet Hohenstein came to the Student Senate meeting on April 4th, 2019, and presented the international student fee. No changes were recommended for this fee. No changes were proposed for the learning communities fee and on April 26th, 2019, Student Senate decided to not recommend any changes to this fee as well.
The overall fee process and reviews deserves commendation. There were many opportunities for dialogue between administration and students. Every budget manager that oversees any student fee money (wellness, athletics, student activity/life, etc.) presented their annual budget to a committee of students called the Student Activities Fee Review Committee (SAFR) throughout the spring semester. Students from each fee generating area as well as Student Senators participated by sitting on this committee. Student Senators consistently reported what was discussed at SAFR at weekly Student Senate meetings to ensure that communication silos did not form. This allowed for Student Senate to be provided with materials from the budget managers as well as opportunities to provide any questions the Senate might have had. The Student Senate believed there was a high level of transparency and open communication between the Student Senate and administration. Student Senate was satisfied that the information presented on every front was satisfactory to provide a well-informed decision on the overall Student Fee process.

Overall, the level of transparency and conversation regarding all fee areas as well as the University budget proposals was well received by both Student Senate. The amount of information that we were given allowed for our body to make informed decisions and consider options that would best serve our student population. Due to untimely weather conditions, the Senate had to work fast on the presented proposals. Despite time constraints, the body felt there was adequate information, communication and justification to support the outcomes of debates regarding the fees. The administration and staff too, improvised to ensure all parties were available throughout the consultation process to help Student Senate have the resources needed be available to come to a sound conclusion on the aforementioned fees and proposals.

Should there be any questions or concerns, or if more information is felt to be required on any of these topics please contact me at rahilpe@mnstate.edu or (218)-790-9314.

Sincerely and with Dragon Pride,

Rahil Richard Pereira
Minnesota State University Moorhead Student Body President

Rahil Richard Pereira
Student Body President
Minnesota State University Moorhead
B.A. in Economics & B.Sc. in International Studies-Development

M: +1-(218)-790-9314 || E: rahil.pereira@go.minnstate.edu
April 25, 2019

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Office of the Chancellor

30 East Seventh Street St. Paul, MN 55101

Greetings Chancellor Malhotra, Chair Vekich, and Trustees,

We respectfully submit this letter in regard to the tuition and fee consultation received in the Fall 2018 and the Spring 2019. Through a presentation from Dr. Lisa Wheeler, the Vice President of Finance and Operations, and Dr. Joyce Ester, the college President, the Normandale Student Senate has been well informed of the source of the college budget and where the current expenses are for the college.

As we are waiting for the final decision from the Legislature and the Governor on the Minnesota State budget, we are aware of the possible budget projected for FY20. The projected budget being less than expected, Normandale Community College will probably observe the cut of services and/or a tuition raise of at most 3% in order to satisfy the lack in funds. We do understand the situation, so we are in support of the necessary changes.

Please feel free to reach back to the Normandale Student Senate if you have any questions regarding the budget consultation process at Normandale Community College.

Sincerely,

Yves Zakra

President of Student Senate

Normandale Community College

Yves.zakra@my.normandale.edu
April 15, 2019

Dear Chancellor Malhotra and Trustees:

As requested by MnSCU’s student consultation policy (Board Policy 2.3), we are writing this letter to outline the student fee requests and the tuition and budget consultation process from North Hennepin Community College. Overall, The Student Senate is pleased with the budget consultation process. There were some delays due to weather, in which the institution has no control over. In general, we:

- Are aware of the technology fee increase plan. We know that this was approved in past years and we still support the plan. We had representatives that made up three-fourths of the Student Tech Fee Committee that met approximately four times and we were involved in developing a priority list of how to spend the money in the fee based on student feedback we collected on campus. We were consulted on how the tech fee spending plan was developed. This plan and priority spending list will be presented to Student Senate on April 25, 2019. The presentation of this information was delayed due to weather.
- For the Health Fee, we have not increased the amount paid by students, but we are aware the fee will likely go up next year. We also are aware of students request for additional services and will work with the on-campus Healthcare provider and the college to address these needs.
- We are in support of continuing services provided for online classes as well as additional support for mental health services. We would like this to result in more than just a fee paid for by students. The recommendation would be that the fee could provide mental health care and awareness initiatives as well as other student support services.
- For the Student Life Budget Committee, our Senate Treasurer was a co-chair of this committee and students made up 2/3 of this larger committee. This committee met a series of times will present their final budget proposal to Student Senate on April 25, 2019. This presentation was schedule earlier but re-scheduled due to weather.
- The preliminary College Budget was presented to Student Senate in March, and the updated budget will be presented April 25, 2019. During this meeting the CFFO provided projections based on enrollment projections and potential tuition increases of up to 3%. Generally, we are in favor of a tuition increase of up to 3% as stated to continue the quality of education without losing essential student services. We would only be in favor of a tuition freeze if the college was properly supported and funded by the state, however current projections point to otherwise.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Kate Lawrence & the NHCC 2018-2019 Student Senate
2018-2019 Student Senate President
SenatePresident@nhcc.edu
April 29, 2019

Chancellor Devinder Malhotra
Minnesota State
30 East 7th St. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

In accordance with Minnesota State Board Policy 2.3, our student senate held tuition consultation meetings with Northland Community and Technical College administrators. These meetings were held on March 28th and April 25th and were attended by President Dennis Bona, Dean of Students Mary Fontes, VP of Administrative Services Shannon Jesme, Director of IT Stacey Hron, and representatives of the NCTC student senate.

Background materials were provided detailing budgetary items. They were based on current numbers and expected enrollment. Present administrators were very willing to answer questions raised by senators and explain the processes used to create the budget. Administrators detailed changes to individual courses including: uniform fee for the Fire Technology students moving from FIRE 1100 (fall class) to FIRE 1110 (spring class) so that students who don’t want to continue the Fire Technology program don’t have to purchase the uniform, phasing out the admissions and application fee, an increase in the technology fee of sixty cents ($0.60) per credit for the 2019/2020 academic year, potential consideration of tuition increase 1-3 percent, based on legislative decisions, over the 2019/2020-2020-2021 academic years.

As a senate we feel that the items proposed by administration are reasonable.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Whaley
East Grand Forks Student Senate President
April 29th, 2019
Chancellor Devinder Malhotra
Minnesota State
30 East 7th St. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

We held a meeting with our student senate in regard to tuition, fees, and budgets, held at Northland Community and Technical College on the April 11th and 25th. Attendance acquired President Dennis Bona, Dean of Students Mary Fontes, VP of Administrative Services Shannon Jesme, Director of IT Stacey Hron, and representatives of the NCTC student senate.

Items covered:
- Uniform fee for the Fire Tech. Students moving from FIRE 1100 (fall class) to FIRE 1110 (spring class) so that students who don’t want to continue the Fire Tech. Program does not have to purchase the uniform if the program isn’t right for them.
- Phasing out admissions/application fee
- Increase of sixty cents/credit for the 2019/2020 academic year
- Potential consideration of tuition increases 1-3 percent, based on legislative decisions, over the 2019/2020-2020-2021 academic years

We feel this is the best way to move forward academically and financially for the college’s next calendar year.

Best regards,
Kelsey McGowan
Thief River Falls Student Senate President
Chair Vekich and Trustees:

As requested by Minnesota State’s student consultation policy (Board Policy 2.3), this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that recently took place at Northwest Technical College.

Our senate met with administration to consult on the college budget on March 28th and April 11th. These meetings were attended by Vice President for Finance and Administration Karen Snorek, Associate Vice President for Student Life and Success, and the Senate’s executive board. Additionally, the budget proposal was reviewed at the April 4th Senate meeting.

The Administration proposed a $0.25 per credit increase in the technology fee. The Senate voted in favor of this decision.

The consultation on the budget was sufficient for the Senate to have a discussion about the proposal and make an informed decision. We feel that the consultation process was taken seriously by both students and the administration.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding Northwest Technical College tuition consultation process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Snyder, Student Senate President
matthew.snyder@live.ntcmn.edu
Chair Vekich and Trustees:

As requested by Minnesota State’s student consultation policy (Board policy 2.3), this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that recently took place at Pine Technical and Community College.

PTCC President Joe Mulford met with students at their senate meetings to consult them on the college budget on February 12th, March 19th, and April 9th. In addition, PTCC CFO discussed the budget with student senate President Colter Porter on September 24th, October 22nd, November 26th, January 28th, February 25th, and March 25th.

Materials were presented to the senate, which broke the budget up to be more easily understood.

A proposed $0.50 cent per-credit increase in parking fees was presented. There has not been an increase in this fee for over 10 years. The increase will help repair the parking lot and help with the proposed construction plans.

The consultation on the budget was sufficient for the senate to have a proper discussion about the proposed change and to make an informed decision.

Our senate supports the change in parking fees as we see this as a long-term benefit. They were no proposed changes to tuition at this time.

President Mulford made himself available at any time for students to ask questions and to receive any comments. All of our questions were answered quickly and efficiently. We feel that our views were factored into the budget plan and felt that the consultation process was taken seriously by both students and administration.

Please feel fell to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding Pine Technical and Community College’s budget consultation process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Colter Porter,
PTCC Student Senate President
cporter@pine.edu
April 9th, 2019

Chancellor Devinder Malhotra &
Board of Trustees
Minnesota State System Office
Wells Fargo Place
30 7th St. E
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Chancellor Malhotra and members of the Board of Trustees,

Rainy River Community College Student Senate has met with Administration this semester. During the consultation, Provost Kelly kindly addressed any questions from the Student Senate in full. Provost Kelly provided a projected 2019-2020 budget and reviewed it with the student senate as well.

We are concerned about the budget situation that Rainy River Community College is facing. Reducing services and/or faculty is of serious concern. We plead with you to either change the allocation formula to better fund rural colleges, and/or secure additional funding from the state. Rainy River Community College cannot sustain the college’s needs for very long based on this budget formula. We also support a tuition increase to help us generate more income for our school.

Rainy River Community College is the only college within 100 miles of International Falls. Our community depends on this college not only for a quality education close to home but for economic development, personal prosperity and it also provides opportunity to celebrate diversity, a rare luxury in Northern Minnesota.

From our time advocating at the state capitol, we understand the uphill battle to increase state funding, but it is a necessity. We do not want to see access to a quality education taken away from rural areas. Thank you for considering the students voice during this process.

Sincerely,
Sara Swenson
Student Senate President
Rainy River Community College
sara.swenson@rainyriver.edu
April 19, 2019

Dear Chair Vekich and Trustees,

As is requested by Minnesota State’s student consultation policy, Board Policy 2.3, I am writing this letter to outline the consultation process that occurred over the course of the 2018-2019 school year.

Members of our Student Senate here at Ridgewater College-Hutchinson campus met with college staff, faculty, and administration to discuss and come to conclusions on various aspects of the FY20 budget, including:

- Budget 101 on Feb. 13, 2019 with Daniel Holtz, Vice President of Finance and Operations.
- Exchange of Views meetings occurring once a month roughly, with the Ridgewater College President, Vice President, Deans and VP of Finance.
- Student Life Activity Committee meetings on Feb. 27, March 13, and March 20, 2019 with VP of Finance, Dean of Student Services, Student Life Coordinators, Faculty, and Willmar Student Senate.

A 3% raise in the Technology Fee going from $8.30 per credit to $8.88 a credit is currently proposed as of this date.

The consultations from Daniel Holtz with the senate were thorough and provided much needed information to go into the Student Life Activity Committee well informed. I do not believe that the Committee went well, however. Even though we had administration, staff, faculty, and student life coordinators there to help advise and guide us to create the best budget possible, I feel that there was a lack of communication on topics proposed such as the promise of assistant coaches to the sports teams which reside mainly on the Willmar campus, the amount money that was allowed to remain in a deficit budget, and where money is allocated between the campuses. It felt as though Hutchinson’s voice was not heard as easily within the committee in contrast with the 101-consultation given by Dan prior to committee meetings. In the committee, Hutchinson Senate students felt like their ideas were shot down and that they were not given a fair platform to be heard.

As a part of the Student Life Activity Committee, a committee where students discuss where to allocate Student Life Fee dollars and make decisions on a budget with light guidance, we presented to President Johnson where we think the money should be spent—we believe that the committee did not create an environment that allowed this to happen. The committee atmosphere lacked transparency on all topics and while there were plenty of questions asked by students, our advisors seemed to skirt answers on certain topics and then rushed to create a budget with less information than was previously thought. The advisors did more deciding than advising, and rarely do we in Hutchinson feel like we are acknowledged.
and given the same opportunities as Willmar students. I think that going forward, the students should have more ground to speak, explain their feelings on a subject, and have the right to be informed if we have an incorrect assumption.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments on Ridgewater College’s budget consultation process. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely on behalf of my Student Senate,

Brandi Oleson  
Student Senate President  
Ridgewater College, Hutchinson Campus  
brandi.oleson@go.ridgewater.edu
March 22, 2019

Dear Chair Vekich and Trustees,

As requested by Minnesota State’s student consultation policy, Board Policy 2.3, this letter will outline the tuition consultation process that took place at the Willmar campus of Ridgewater College over the 2018-2019 academic year.

Members of our Student Senate met with administration at Ridgewater College to consult various aspects of the FY2020 budget including:

- **Budget 101 on Wednesday, February 6, 2019** with Daniel Holtz, Vice President of Finance and Operations

- **Exchange of Views meetings** on Wednesday, September 26, 2018, Monday, October 29, 2018, Monday, December 10, 2018, Wednesday, January 30, 2019, Friday, March 1, 2019, our last EOV meeting will be Wednesday April 3, 2019 with the Ridgewater College President, Vice President, Deans, and Vice President of Finance.

- **Student Life Budget Committee meetings** were held Wednesday, February 6, 2019, Wednesday, February 27, 2019, Wednesday, March 13, 2019, and our last budget meeting was Wednesday March 20, 2019 with Daniel Holtz, two Faculty members; Todd Thorsted and Gregg Aamot, Heidi Olson, Dean of Student Services, and the Hutchinson Senate. At this time no student fee changes were proposed, but the technology fee was increased to $8.30.

The Student Life Budget Committee is proposing for FY2020 to Dr. Craig Johnson, our new President of the college, to add Trap Shooting for an estimate of $30,301.00 and a two credit compensated Assistant Coach for each of our current six athletic teams for an estimate of $16,146.00 due to us cutting the football team this year. The committee felt strongly that these two additions would hopefully not only draw new students to the college, but would also strengthen stability in our current programs.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments on Ridgewater College’s tuition consultation process. Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,

Colton Taylor

Student Senate Acting President
Willmar Campus, Ridgewater College
colton.taylor@go.ridgewater.edu
Riverland Community College
Owatonna Campus Student Senate
965 Alexander Dr SW
Owatonna MN 55060
Albert Lea Campus Student Senate
2200 Riverland Dr
Albert Lea MN 56007

April 21, 2019

Minnesota State Board of Trustees
Wells Fargo Place
30th Street East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

RE: Tuition and Fees

Dear Minnesota State Board of Trustees:

Brad Doss, Chief Financial Officer, and Dan Harber, Director of Technology, met with the Albert Lea and Owatonna Students Senates on April 9, 2019. They went over the three budget options for FY20 and the proposed technology fee increase.

We support the House Proposal budget as well as the increase in technology fee that was proposed.

Our student senate members deem the information that was shared at this meeting to be substantial in helping us understand how the schools budget is spent. All of our questions and concerns were addressed and the information was clear and organized. Brad Doss and Dan Harber offered to attend our next meeting if we had any questions as well.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Student Senate President

Shaymara Salinas Student Senate President
Riverland – Owatonna Student Senate
Riverland – Albert Lea Student Senate
Dear Minnesota State Board of Trustees:

As requested by LeadMN’s student consultation policy, this letter will outline the consultation that recently took place at the Riverland Community College Austin campus.

Our senate met with Riverland Administration on April 17th, 2019, to consult on the college budget. This meeting was attended by the Director of Technology, Dan Harber, Dean of Student Affairs, Chelsea Anderson, Vice President of Technology and Learning Resources, Mark Baas, and the CFO, Brad Doss. Additionally, the senate held a second meeting the next day to review our thoughts on the budget.

During the meeting, visual aids, detailing the budget’s dollar amounts, were handed out to those in attendance. Brad Doss presented the fact that the House of Representatives is going to be supporting a tuition freeze from 2019-2021. Affordability is something we support as a student senate, so we support the Higher Education Omnibus Bill. He also presented the three different budget proposals from the Governor, House, and Senate, and he went over the percent increases from each budget.

The Administration proposed a 45¢ per-credit increase for Technology fees. The majority of the senate had no problems with this, under the reservation that we must see a direct relationship between increased fees and technological improvement on campus. The technology department has invited senate members to meetings in the past, and senate is working towards coordinating the best times for students to attend the meetings. Also, the senate is looking to work with the technology department to advise more accommodating ways for students to be involved in technology topics.

Besides technology fees, one topic that garnered interest for students was parking fees. One of the students, for example, asked about his wife having to pay the parking fee, even though the couple carpools. For this reason, we would like to advertise waiver forms for parking fees in the future.

The senate believes that we should have more meetings--preferably throughout the semester--about budget consultation. This would allow students to have more discussion about
where their money is going towards. Senate and administration need to work more closely together, to ensure that senate has enough meetings, as our bylaws require us to have more than two meetings per semester (System 2.3.1 Student Involvement in Decision-Making).

Finally, senate members emphasized the importance of finding a more central location for the Food Pantry. Riverland has been on the forefront of addressing food insecurity, and it is of utmost importance that this is continued and made more visible to students.

We are working well with administration, and the aforementioned suggestions will only improve this relationship. With that briefing, please feel free to reach out to contact me if there are any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Pal G. Koak
Student Senate President, Riverland Community College - Austin campus
pal.koak@my.riverland.edu
Board of Trustees

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

30 7th Street East Suite 350

St. Paul, MN 55101

Chair Vekich and Trustees,

I am writing this letter to inform you of the administration’s exemplary work in the budget consultation process with student representatives at Rochester Community and Technical College. Since the beginning of my term, the President’s Cabinet has consistently met with the Student Government Executive Team once per month. During each meeting, the college budget and allocations were discussed, as well as the projected budget for 2020 based on the FYE.

The administration that attended these meetings includes: RCTC President, Dr. Jeffery Boyd; VP of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Dr. Michael Anthony; Interim VP of Academic Affairs, Michelle Pyfferoen; VP of Finance and Facilities, Steve Schmall; and the Executive Director of Communications, Marketing and External Relations, Nate Stoltman.

The Student Government representatives that attended these meetings includes: Student President, Drew Brinker; Student Vice President, Kevin Mills; and Student Treasurer, Meghan Jirik. Also included in attendance is the Director of Student Life, Laura Engelman.

Throughout the entire consultation process, the administration has been attentive to discussing and addressing any concerns of the students, and when asked questions they have answered thoroughly and openly.

Beyond these cabinet meetings, there has been an open line of communication between student government representatives and the administration to ensure that all concerns and questions were addressed and to maintain transparency and inclusivity.

On behalf of the students of Rochester Community and Technical College, thank you for the work that you do.

Best Regards,

Drew Brinker

RCTC Student President 2018-2019
To whom it may concern,

This letter serves to report on the administration at Rochester Community and Technical College (RCTC) and their success with consulting the student government representatives about an increase to the student health fee; the proposed fee will be raised from $1 to $2 and will be used to expand our current health services on campus, in particular as it relates to mental health services, expanded nursing availability, and expanded STI testing and resources.

As the student president, I am also writing this letter on behalf of the students of RCTC in support of this proposed health fee. We believe it is an appropriate increase as it will be used to fund services used by students, meaning they will reap the direct benefit of what they are paying for.

Best Regards,

Drew Brinker

RCTC Student President 2018-2019
May 8th, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
30 7th St. E., Suite 350 Wells Fargo Place
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

Dear Chancellor Malhotra and Trustees,

The students of Saint Paul College support increasing the student technology fee to $11.00 per credit hour. The vote of support for this was held today at General Assembly. Thank you for your patience and consideration in allowing us to extend our decision on this matter.

Sincerely,

Chris Bidlack
President, Saint Paul College Student Senate
cbidlack@my.saintpaul.edu
T • 651.403.4084
C • 385.212.9203

cc:
Rassoul Dastmozd, PhD, President of Saint Paul College
Scott Wilson, Vice President of Finance and Operations, Saint Paul College
Najam Saeed, Chief Information Officer, Saint Paul College
April 19th, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
30 7th St. E., Suite 350 Wells Fargo Place
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

Dear Chancellor Malhotra and Trustees,

In accordance with Minnesota State Policy 2.3, Student Involvement in Decision Making, the students at Saint Paul College have undergone the budget consultation process for fiscal year 2019. The Vice President of Finance and Operations, Scott Wilson, consulted the Student Senate Executive Board and General Assembly on the following dates:

- Wednesday, March 27th, 2019 (General Assembly)
- Wednesday, April 3rd, 2019 (Executive Board of Student Senate)
- Wednesday, April 10th, 2019 (General Assembly) C.I.O. Najam was also present to discuss the Technology fee.
- Wednesday, April 17th, 2019 (Executive Board of Student Senate)

Items discussed include:

- Changes in enrollment
- Conservative budgeting practices
- Increases in personnel costs due to increased staff wages and an increase in staff
- Other inflationary increases
- The differences between the proposed budget from the Governor, House of Representatives, and Senate proposals for the Minnesota State System

The PowerPoint used in the General Assembly presentations was provided to senators, including detailed information on FYE predictions, and Scott Wilson was very responsive to our questions and needs. I feel that the budget consultation process has been very smooth and thorough.

On the account of the student technology fee, the students do not support, nor do we reject a Technology Fee increase at this time. We are working with the Technology Fee Committee and Administration in order to meet the deadlines to consider an increase and make a decision by May 8th, 2019. I have been informed by Scott Wilson that I may send a secondary follow up letter on May 8th to you and the board of trustees regarding the Technology Fee decision. Scott Wilson has been supportive of us in this process. If you have any questions about the budget consultation process, feel free to connect with me. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Bidlack
President, Saint Paul College Student Senate
cbidlack@my.saintpaul.edu
T • 651.403.4084
C • 385.212.9203

cc:
Rassoul Dastmozd, PhD, President of Saint Paul College
Scott Wilson, Vice President of Finance and Operations, Saint Paul College
Najam Saeed, Chief Information Officer, Saint Paul College
Matt Gutsch, Director of Government Relations, LeadMN
April 22nd, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place 30 East Seventh Street
St. Paul MN 55101

Dear Chancellor Devinder Malhorta and The Minnesota Board of Trustees,

The following report will include the South Central College – Faribault consultation letter from the 2018/19 academic year.

On April 15th, 2019, Dr. Narren Brown, Vice President of Institutional Research, presented on the financial state of the college to the Faribault Student Senate. After presenting what he did, further questions were asked. Whenever unable to answer some of the questions asked, he was very willing to reach out to his resources and get back to us as soon as possible. Later in the same meeting David Armstrong, Chief Financial Officer, spoke to us as well. Mr. Armstrong spoke with more knowledge and was able to answer questions that we had.

Collectively they reported to us that the school was in a healthy financial state. Dr. Brown referenced the legislature that is currently in the senate that would allow SCC to raise tuition prices 1-3%. If the bill is passed and the college chooses to raise tuition it will be brought back to the senate when it is appropriate. After further questions and follow-up, we received more hard data and graphs that helped visualize the college’s budget.

Throughout the entire year we are aware of David Armstrong and Dr. Annette Parker’s willingness to answer any questions that will help us better understand the financial state of the school.

Any further questions can be referred to myself or the Student Senate Vice President, Vicky Coronado.

Sincerely,

Cammi Nordmeyer
Cammi.nordmeyer@my.southcentral.edu

Vicky Coronado
Vicky.coronado@my.southcentral.edu
April 19, 2019

Board of Trustees
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 Wells Fargo Place 30 East Seventh Street
St. Paul MN 55101

To: Chancellor Devinder Malhorta and The Minnesota State Board of Trustees:

In the Fall semester of 2018 we saw outstanding involvement from Dr. Annette Parker as well as our CFO David Armstrong. Dr. Annette Parker was able to make it to two Student Senate meetings to introduce the new VP of Student Affairs, and at another meeting, to discuss her role Achieving the Dream and how it plays a vital role on our campus. David Armstrong appeared at several meetings to enlighten students on the budget process, and keep the Senate up to date on our current budget. In addition he consulted with the student body about some much needed seating area improvements so students had more areas to study.

On April 22nd Dr. Narren Brown came to address the senate on the budget consultation for South Central College. He gave a good description on the financial status of the college and presented to us that the school was in an excellent financial state. He stated that the school currently has approximately 1.2 million dollars in it reserves and is prepared in case of any government shutdowns in the future. Dr. Brown also addressed that this amount in reserves allowed the school to complete its much needed renovations as well as some one time expenses.

The school is looking to expand the funding that goes into academic support and also into student services. As a student representative this is a huge positive in my eyes because this shows that the college is actively trying to invest in its students, their happiness, and their future. Dr. Parker and her administration have done a fantastic job putting their students first. We as student leaders look forward to the continued investment in those that we represent. We as student leaders, want to thank the board for the opportunity to give our feedback on campus operations. If you have any question please feel free to reach out to myself or any of the other student leaders on our campus.

Thank you,

Kyle Cavenah
Student Senate President- North Mankato

kyle.cavenah@my.southcentral.edu
April 16, 2019

Chancellor Devinder Malhotra

Minnesota State

500 Wells Fargo Place

30 East Seventh Street

St. Paul, MN 55101

Chancellor Malhotra,

I hereby employ this opportunity to inform you of the consultation process that has taken place at Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) within this academic year. I have had the honor of working with Southwest Minnesota State University administration to tackle issues pertinent to the student on our campus. I can unequivocally say that student voice and welfare are of utmost priority and importance to this institution.

Furthermore, Southwest Minnesota State University Student Association has been accorded with ample opportunity to be involved in the administrative process throughout the year. I can categorically say that I and fellow members of SMSU Student Association government have been involved in the Strategic Planning, budget sessions, and position searches. We were also appropriately consulted for approval of tuition and fees.

Moreover, President Connie J. Gores has held multiple All-University discussions about the current and future state of the University. Students were given every opportunity to be involved in these discussions and our inputs were taken into consideration. Students have also been invited to the monthly "meet and discuss" meetings with President Gores and her cabinet where both administrators and students were able to present and discuss university matters.

By and large, students are of utmost precedence on the agenda of the administration of Southwest Minnesota State University on the verge of providing high-quality education in an equitable, conducive learning environment. Student learning endeavors are aptly nurtured by this institution in a view to molding and producing responsible leaders of the future.

Sincerely,

Ola Abimbola

Southwest Minnesota State University Student Association President

CC: Dr. Connie J. Gores, SMSU President

Mr. Scott Crowell, SMSU Associate Vice President of Student Affairs
To: Chancellor, Dr. Devinder Malhotra
   Vice Chancellor of Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Laura King
   Minnesota State System
From: Madeline McLeod, Student Government President, St. Cloud State University
Date: Thursday, April 25, 2019
Subject: Consultation on the Student Union Budget for FY20

Minnesota State System Board Policy 2.3 calls for student involvement in decision-making when issues have a significant impact on students. This memo outlines the consultation that the St. Cloud State University Student Government received regarding the Student Union Budget for Atwood Memorial Center at St. Cloud State University.

This has been a great year with our new Interim Executive Director of Atwood Memorial Center, Jessica Ostman; she has maintained constant communication with our Student Association. She is very involved this year with students and worked hard on answering all the questions the senate had about fees and budgets.

The timeline for this consultation comes at the same student Fee Allocation Committee has discussed the proposed budget and offered a recommendation to the University Administration. I am confident the proposal submitted by Atwood Memorial Center is student centered and benefits our Student Association.

The Student Association at St. Cloud State University is satisfied with the level of consultation we have received throughout the year regarding the budget for Atwood Memorial Center.
university administration has been available to answer questions regarding the budget and history of the student union. The Student Association looks forward to continuing consultations as we move forward into the final budgeting phase.

Cc: Robbyn Wacker, President
    Joseph Trubacz, Vice President of Finance and Administration
    Wanda Overland, Vice President of Student Life and Development
    Jeff Wagner, Director of Business Services
    Jessica Ostman, Interim Executive Director of Atwood Memorial Center
To: Chancellor Dr. Devinder Malhotra  
Laura King, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Chief Financial Officer,  
Minnesota State System  

From: Madeline McLeod, Student Government President  

Date: Friday, April 26, 2019  

Subject: Consultation letter on General Fund budget and tuition for FY20  

Minnesota State System Board Policy 2.3 calls for student involvement in decision-making when issues have a significant impact on students. Within the letter is the consultation that the St. Cloud State University Student Government received regarding the general fund and tuition increase in FY 20.  

The Student Government Association at St. Cloud State University believes academic success is a top priority for our student body. There were multiple discussions that took place during our Senate meetings in which administration presented information about the budget plan. Additionally, during the spring semester, Vice President Joseph Trubacz, Vice President Wanda Overland, and Jeff Wagner, Director of Business Services, held multiple budget study sessions for the Student Government Senate and Executive Team. All members were required to attend one session. The sessions were designed to provide greater understanding of the various funds at St. Cloud State University.  

At the April 25, 2019 Student Government meeting, Vice President Joseph Trubacz presented the budget plan. Our students asked a variety of questions regarding enrollment, retention, and the impact of the budget strategy on our student body. Vice President Trubacz and Director of Business Services Jeff Wagner spoke on the plan to mirror Minnesota State University, Mankato in order to support students in the most productive way after adopting the banded-tuition model.
The Student Government Association at St. Cloud State University would like to mention how pleased we are with the level of insight and respect administration has had for our Senate body, and the decision making we have done. We hope to continue strong relations with St. Cloud State University administration and our student body. The relationship we have across campus is crucial to our university’s culture, and we look forward to continuing to work with President Robbyn Wacker, Vice President Joseph Trubacz and Director Jeff Wagner.

Cc: Robbyn Wacker, President
    Daniel Gregory, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
    Joseph Trubacz, Vice President of Finance and Administration
    Wanda Overland, Vice President of Student Life and Development
    Jeff Wagner, Director of Business Services
To: Chancellor, Dr. Devinder Malhotra  
Vice Chancellor of Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Laura King  
Minnesota State System

From: Madeline McLeod, Student Government President, St. Cloud State University

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2019

Subject: Consultation on the New Student Orientation Fee for FY20

Minnesota State System Board Policy 2.3 calls for student involvement in decision-making when issues have a significant impact on students. This memo outlines the consultation that the St. Cloud State University Student Government received regarding the New Student Orientation Fee for New Entering students at St. Cloud State University.

On November 1, 2018, Associate Director of Advising and Student Transitions Holly Schuck presented information regarding the New Student Orientation Program. Director Schuck stated that there is a current fee of $75 that has been in place for new incoming first year and transfer students since Fall 2013 and has no current or future plans to request for an increase. Student Government Association understands that the change in classification from Special Events Fee to Orientation Fee allows the university to continue to assess the fee of all new students since it covers a program that is required for new students.
Student Government Association supports the reclassification of the Orientation Fee from the current Special Events Fee category to the newly system-office created Orientation Fee category.

Cc: Robbyn Wacker, President  
   Joseph Trubacz, Vice President of Finance and Administration  
   Jeff Wagner, Director of Business Services  
   Wanda Overland, Vice President of Student Life and Development and Student  
   Jason Woods, Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management  
   Holly Schuck, Associate Director of Advising and Student Transitions
To: Chancellor, Dr. Devinder Malhotra  
Vice Chancellor of Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Laura King  
Minnesota State System  

From: Madeline McLeod, Student Government President, St. Cloud State University  

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2019  

Subject: Consultation on the Residential Life Room and Board Rates for FY20  

Minnesota State System Board Policy 2.3 calls for student involvement in decision-making when issues have a significant impact on students. This memo outlines the consultation that the St. Cloud State University Student Government received regarding the proposed increases to the Residential Hall room and board rates for FY20.

At the April 18, 2019 Student Government Senate meeting, Jen Sell-Matzke, Director of Residential Life and Associate Dean of Students, presented to the Senate the new room and board rates for FY20. The increase in rates for housing is minimal and the plan to hold flat the board rates follows industry trend. Director Sell-Matzke gave an overview of the current room rates as well as explaining the changes and reasons for the increase. All the information was presented through well-documented research and information.

The Student Government is satisfied with the level of consultation we have received for the proposed increases to the residential hall room and board rates. The university administration has been available to answer questions and has been a helpful resource for us.
Director Sell-Matzke has attended several Student Government Senate meetings throughout the academic year to provide regular updates, which we appreciate. The Senate looks forward to continuing the consultations and relationships.

Cc: Robbyn Wacker, President
    Joseph Trubacz, Vice President of Finance and Administration
    Wanda Overland, Vice President of Student Life and Development and Student Government Advisor
    Jeff Wagner, Director of Business Services
    Jen Sell-Matzke, Director of Residential Life and Associate Dean of Students
To: Chancellor, Dr. Devinder Malhotra  
Vice Chancellor of Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Laura King  
Minnesota State System

From: Madeline McLeod, Student Government President, St. Cloud State University

Date: Friday, April 21, 2017

Subject: Consultation on the Student Fees, Tech Fee and Budgets for FY20

Minnesota State System Board Policy 2.3 calls for student involvement in decision-making when issues have a significant impact on students. This memo outlines the consultation that the St. Cloud State University Student Government received regarding the Fiscal Year 20 student fees, technology fee, and department student fee budgets. Additionally, during the spring semester the Student Government Association at St. Cloud State University had presentations about the history and current structure of the student fees, technology fee and student fee funded department budgets.

At the April 18th, 2019 Student Government Senate meeting, there was a presentation from both the Student Fee Allocation Committee (containing the Senate Finance Committee Budget) and the Technology Fee Committee. The chairs of the respective committee’s presented the FY20 budgets, fee increases, and answered senate member questions. The senate voted unanimously in favor of the proposed student fee increases and student fee funded department budgets for FY20. Additionally Student Government Association passed the technology fee increase and budget for for FY20.

The Student Association at St. Cloud State University is satisfied with the level of consultation.
The Student Association looks forward to the continued relationship among the students and administration in the future.

Cc:  Robbyn Wacker, President
     Joseph Trubacz, Vice President of Finance and Administration
     Jeff Wagner, Director of Business Services
     Phil Thorson, Deputy Chief Information Officer
     Wanda Overland, Vice President of Student Life and Development and Student
Dear Chancellor Malhotra:

This letter is to inform you and the Minnesota State Board of Trustees that the Student Senate and the administration of St. Cloud Technical & Community College have successfully completed the consultation process. Vice President of Administration Lori Kloos has presented a number of scenarios for balancing the institution budget as it relates to the 2019-2020 school year. The Student Senate has remained informed of the ongoing proposals at the State Capitol and how these could impact the SCTCC budget and tuition levels for the upcoming year. We expect to have continued communication with our administration as the Legislature nears their decisions in May. The Student Senate voted in support of a $0.25 raise in our technology fee to help ensure the fee can meet the increasing costs associated with student technology needs and increasing costs of staffing. Additionally, the parking/campus access fee will be increased $0.25 per credit. The Student Senate has passed a $0.10 raise in Student Activity Fee to help implement a food basket initiative to support students who are hungry and face food insecurity.

- The overall budget was presented and explained by Vice President Kloos on October 31st, February 6th, and March 20th. The Student Senate was also brought up to speed on enrollment projections for FY20 and how this could affect the college as a whole during the February 6th meeting.
- A $0.25 per credit increase in the Student Technology Fee.
  - This was proposed by our Technology Fee Committee, which consists of eight students and three staff members. The committee met on February 11th and March 4th to go over the request along with feedback from the student technology survey. We also had the IT supervisor into Student Senate Meetings in the fall, but this related more towards services than the Student Technology Fee directly. The fee increase is going towards ensuring a balanced budget within this fee moving forward.
- A $0.10 increase in the Student Activity Fee.
  - The Student Senate agreed on an increase to the Student Activity Fee for fiscal year 2020. The increase will go towards implementing food baskets to support hungry students at SCTCC. An initial proposal and budget breakdown was presented on February 6th. This proposal was again discussed during the February 20th and March 6th meetings. The Student Senate voted in support of the increase on April 3rd.

If you have any questions for us pertaining to our consultation process brought by the St. Cloud Technical & Community College students, feel free to contact me at 320-308-5009.

Sincerely,

Nathan Pereira, Student Senate President
Dear Chancellor Malhotra,

The Vermilion Community College Student Senate met with our Provost Shawn Bina on April 18th, regarding tuition rates for academic year 2019-2020. On behalf of the VCC Student Senate, please accept this letter as confirmation of this consultation.

Minnesota Law implies that state appropriations pay for 2/3rds of higher-education expense, and the Senate at Vermilion Community College are glad to see that appropriation funding is headed back to this ratio following the recession of 2008. We greatly appreciate the House’s proposed tuition freeze for FY 2020. Tuition is too high and a burden for students attempting to realize their academic goals and aspirations. For tuition freezes not to be a temporary feel good measure, we ask that the legislature increase state funding to Minnesota State in order to fully cover both tuition freezes, salary increases, and increasing fringe expenses.

Without a permanent increase in state support, the state will quickly need to return to even larger tuition increases to make up for what would now be eight years of tuition freezes. We support lower tuition, but not at the expense of classes and experiences we came to college to receive. The legislature needs to increase funding for the system’s Next Gen ISRS costs. Your college’s share is about equivalent to a 2% tuition increase.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Rios
Vermilion Student Senate President

Abigail Nordstrom
Vermilion Student Senate Secretary

Daniel Frederique
Vermilion Student Senate Vice-President

Jon Schafer
Vermilion Student Senate Treasurer
To: Chancellor Malhotra and MN State Board of Trustees  
From: Christina Melecio, Winona State University Student Senate President  
Subject: Tuition and Fee Consultation  
Date: April 22nd, 2019

Chancellor Malhotra and Board of Trustees,

I am pleased to inform the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor that Winona State University Student Senate has been properly consulted on the increases regarding tuition and fees for the 2019-2020 academic year. This was done in accordance with the Minnesota State’s student consultation policy (Board Policy 2.3).

The administration has gone through the proper processes put in place at Winona State University to ensure that all students have been informed and consulted. The first step taken was having student representation on the SFMC (Student Fee Management Committee). This committee consisted of four non-Student Senators, four Student Senators, the Student Senate Treasurer, and different university bargaining units. Each of the fee recommendations were put through the committee, and the committee then recommended an amount to the Student Senate.

The Winona State University Student Senate then could adopt, amend, or reject the proposals put forward by the SFMC. In each of the processes there was at least a week-long waiting period before voting on the proposal. This gave adequate time seek feedback from constituents on the proposals, as well as get enough information to make an informed decision.

The following recommendations were passed by the Winona State University Student Senate:

- 2.4 % increase to the Student Union (Approved on February 13th, 2019.)
- 0 % increase to the Technology Fee (Approved on February 13th, 2019.)
- 0.88 % increase to the Athletic Department (Approved on February 27th, 2019.)
- 0 % increase to the Health and Service Fee (Approved on February 27th, 2019.)
- 4.98 % increase to the Wellness Center Fee (Approved on March 6th, 2019.)
- 1.9 % increase to the Student Life Fee (Approved on March 27th, 2019.)
- 3.0 % increase to the Room & Board/Residence Hall Budget and Fee (Approved on April 3rd, 2019).
- 0 % increase to the undergraduate tuition (Approved on April 17th, 2019.)
- 0 % increase to the graduate tuition (Approved on April 17th, 2019.)

The conversations to get to these recommendations were lengthy and thoughtful. I am proud that our Student Senators took a copious amount of time to gather opinions from their constituents. The burden of the cost of post-secondary education is difficult on students, and these increased fees were not made lightly. If you have further questions please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for the work you do on behalf of students. It does not go unnoticed.

Always,

Christina Melecio  
President | Winona State University Student Senate  
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