

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DIVERSITY AND MULTICUTURALISM COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 16, 2008**

Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee Members Present: Trustees Duane Benson, Chair; Clarence Hightower, Vice Chair; Trustees Caleb Anderson, Ann Curme Shaw and Carol Wenner

Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee Members Absent: None

Other Board Members Present: Chair David Olson; Trustees Christine Rice, Cheryl Dickson, David Paskach, Scott Thiss, and James Van Houten

Leadership Council Members Present: Dr. Whitney G. Harris, President Anne Weyandt

A meeting of the Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee was held on January 16, 2008 at Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Lower Student Center, 11200 Mississippi River Boulevard, Coon Rapids. Chair Benson called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m.

1. Minutes of November 13, 2007 Meeting

The minutes of November 13, 2007 were approved as written.

2. Diversity and Multiculturalism Division Update

Trustee Benson said that the Diversity Division is in the process of establishing a baseline at this time for determining campus funding for diversity programs. He also said that the Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee, in response to a request from a trustee, will list its four top priorities and leading indicators of success at each meeting. They are: 1) Develop and enhance strategies to support the post-secondary access and success of underrepresented students and American Indian students. 2) Provide institutions with models to improve the success of underrepresented, underserved, and American Indian students. 3) Increase the diversity of faculty and staff and administrators. 4) Coordinate and manage the Office of Civil Rights program for reviewing campuses.

Dr. Harris reported that the division's Super Sunday program in 2007 won an award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. The division will be repeating and expanding this program in 2008 with the presidents, admissions officers and Office of the Chancellor staff presenting to 11 Christian faith communities and two Islamic faith communities. A total of 18 presentations will be completed. Of the special initiative fund, \$3.6 million was allocated for centers that were to be chosen by a competitive

bidding process and three centers have emerged. Dr. Harris said that the campuses did an outstanding job with their proposals.

In thinking about funding for campus diversity programs, he said, there are three components to diversity access and success programs. The first is diversity-oriented academic support programs. Dr. López reported on these in October. They include programs such as Upward Bound and Gear up. Eligibility for these programs is focused on underrepresented students. The second is diversity-oriented cultural support services. These are noncurricular programs and services that improve campus climate for underserved students, increase cultural awareness, and create a more welcoming environment for underserved students. The third are diversity-oriented academic programs. These address various aspects of diversity as part of the academic curriculum. These would include such programs as African American Studies and Women's Studies. These are harder to track financially because they are more integrated into other programming.

Vice Chancellor Laura King reported on the progress on tracking campus funding for diversity programs. Campus spending has been divided into the three categories outlined by Dr. Harris. The methodology for the first category, diversity-oriented academic support programs, is in place. Currently she is working with the chief academic officers and chief financial officers on the second category, diversity-oriented cultural support services, and she will be reporting on this at the March meeting. In both of the first two categories the spending is outside of the classroom. Dr. King does not think they can measure the third category nearly as easily, because diversity has been well integrated into the rest of the academic programming.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Gale Rohde