

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 16, 2008**

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Members Present: Dan McElroy, Chair; Trustees Christine Rice, Duane Benson, Cheryl Dickson, James Van Houten and Jacob Englund.

Other Board Members Present: Trustees David Paskach, Tom Renier, Ruth Grendahl, Scott Thiss, Terri Thomas and Allyson Lueneburg.

Leadership Council Committee Co-Chairs Present: Senior Vice Chancellor Linda Baer and President David Danahar.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Academic and Student Affairs Committee held its meeting on September 16, 2008, at Wells Fargo Place, 4th Floor, Board Room, 30 East 7th Street in St. Paul. Chair McElroy called the meeting to order at 2:08 pm.

1. Minutes of July 16, 2008

The minutes from the July 16, 2008 Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting were approved as written.

2. Academic and Student Affairs Update – Senior Vice Chancellor Baer

- Minnesota State College–SE Technical has been awarded a \$1.7 million Department of Education Title III Grant over the next five years. The grant will help expand allied health offerings at the college and will prepare more health care workers in the southeastern region of the state.
- Minnesota is one of two states selected to participate in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Equity Pipeline Project, which is a collaborative effort between Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the Minnesota Department of Education. The purpose of the grant is to increase the gender equity knowledge of individuals who conduct professional development with STEM-related career cluster and core curriculum teachers in the state.
- Minnesota State Colleges and Universities has been awarded a grant from the Department of Labor under the President’s High-Growth Job Training Initiative. The \$1 million grant will be used to provide skills-based job training to people interested in energy industry careers.

Lead Colleges are Alexandria Technical College, Century College, Minnesota West Community and Technical College, The Northeast Higher Education District, St. Cloud Technical College and South Central College. Also participating are three universities: Bemidji

State University, Southwest Minnesota State University and Minnesota State University, Mankato.

- Chair McElroy said a customized training consortium, along with the Department of Education, has received a Joyce Foundation grant of \$500,000 to help re-focus adult basic education efforts on college readiness. This is a renewable grant which may result in \$1 million over two years.

- 3. Proposed Policy 3.35 Credit for Prior Learning, Proposed Repeal of Carry Forward Community College Policy III.02.01 Awarding Credits**
Second reading of this policy which directs system colleges and universities to provide opportunities to students who demonstrate college-level learning through a variety of methods.

Associate Vice Chancellor Mike Lopez said this policy has been developed in response to a need to provide a consistent and equitable method for assessing a student's prior knowledge and skill attainment. Many learners, including veterans displaced workers and other adults wish to obtain credit for college-level learning they have acquired in settings outside the classroom.

Motion was made by Trustee Dickson and seconded by Trustee Van Houten to recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed Policy 3.35 Credit for Prior Learning and the repeal of Carry Forward Community College Policy III.02.01 Awarding Credits. Motion carried.

- 4. Proposed Amendment to Policy 2.2 State Residency Requirements**
Second reading of this policy which establishes a limited set of criteria for classification as a state resident. Conditions under which non-residents may pay the resident tuition rate are also established.

This policy is needed since current policy relies on a statute which was repealed by the Legislature in 2007.

Trustees discussed resident tuition policies. Historically, state resident status has determined the tuition rate that is paid by students, with non-residents paying a higher rate. Currently, there is a pilot program in place to study the effects of a single tuition rate at a number of institutions. The pilot program, funded by the Legislature, helps offset the loss of revenue participating institutions experience because of the reduced tuition charges for non-residents.

Expanding the single tuition rate to all institutions is not in the legislative request now under development. Chief Financial Officer Laura King said members of the Board's finance committee could be polled on their feelings toward including a single-rate tuition proposal in the final set of

recommendations on the legislative request, which will be presented to the Board in November.

Motion was made by Trustee Van Houten and seconded by Trustee Dickson to recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed Amendment to Policy 2.2 State Residency Requirements. Motion carried.

5. Southwest Minnesota State University Mission Approval

Presenters:

David Danahar, President

Mary Hickerson, Associate Provost

President Danahar said the Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) mission statement was outdated and needed revision to more accurately reflect its current curriculum and mission. There was also an effort made to align the mission with the system's mission and strategic direction.

The revision of the mission came after a thorough review of each activity on campus. Input was gathered during meetings, forums and interviews with administrators, faculty, staff, students, internal and external communicators, alumni, business representatives and other stakeholders.

President Danahar said one of his prime goals under the new mission is to have SMSU recognized as a university of choice. In addition, he said he would like to ensure that the university meets contemporary and regional needs in terms of programming. They are building a new agricultural program, which will be linked to the institution's food and culinary programs, as well as the natural resources program.

The proposed new mission is: Southwest Minnesota State University prepares students to meet the complex challenges of this century as engaged citizens in their local and global communities. Our comprehensive degree programs, taught in the liberal arts tradition, are dedicated to connecting students' academic and practical professional development experiences in southwestern Minnesota to the wider world.

Motion was made by Trustee Rice and seconded by Trustee Van Houten to recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the request by Southwest Minnesota State University to approve its proposed vision, mission, purposes and array of awards as listed in the executive summary. Motion carried.

6. Anoka Technical College Mission Approval

Presenter:

Anne Weyandt, President

Anoka Technical College's mission was revised as part of the college's 40th anniversary celebration, college President Anne Weyandt said.

Input on the new mission was gathered in various ways, including an online planning blog which was open to all within the college community, as well as interested people and stakeholders off campus. Conversations were also conducted with city and business leaders, the chamber of commerce, representatives from K-12 institutions, staff and students.

President Weyandt said they tried to develop a powerful mission statement which was guided by the college's vision to be a vital student- and community-focused institution, providing the finest career and technical education in Minnesota.

The proposed new mission statement is: Provide innovative career and technical education to help our students and communities live and learn well.

Trustee Van Houten said Anoka Technical College's Secondary Technical Education Program (STEP) program, which allows high-school students to explore hands-on careers, fulfill district academic requirements and have the opportunity to earn high school and college credit, is cutting edge and serves as an example to other system institutions. He said since it is so extraordinary, language pertaining to the STEP program could have been included in the mission statement.

Motion was made by Trustee Dickson and seconded by Trustee Englund to recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the request by Anoka Technical College to approve its proposed vision, mission, purposes and array of awards as listed in the executive summary. Motion carried.

7. Central Lakes College Mission Approval

Presenter:

Larry Lundblad, President

President Lundblad said Central Lakes College's new mission supports the system's mission by assisting citizens in the region to meet their education and personal goals through quality of life enhancements and economic development activities.

The new mission was developed through a series of community and student focus groups, online surveys and institutional meetings. Population and demographic information, as well as labor and employment trend information provided by the Department of Employment and Economic Development, was considered.

The proposed new Mission for Central Lakes College is:
We Build Futures. At Central Lakes College, we —

- are committed to a supportive environment for the growth and development of students from diverse cultural, ethnic, economic, and educational backgrounds;
- offer liberal arts, technical education, and customized training programs of proven high-quality that are accessible and affordable and that lead to employment, skill enhancement, or transfer to other institutions of higher learning;
- anticipate and respond to the needs of business and industry in a globally competitive economy;
- encourage and support cultural enrichment, life-long learning, civic responsibility, and community development

Motion was made by Trustee Benson and seconded by Trustee Englund to recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the request by Central Lakes College to approve its proposed vision, mission, purposes and array of awards as listed in the executive summary. Motion carried.

8. 2009 System Action Plan - Green Facilities and Energy Conservation

The 2009 Action Plan of the system includes five strategic priorities, including reaching the underrepresented; Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM); Tuition Study and Price of Attendance; Succession Planning; and workforce of the future.

Chancellor McCormick recently proposed an initiative be added which focuses on conservation in facilities and energy efficiency. Discussion at a previous meeting was tabled after Chair McElroy and Trustee Van Houten expressed concern that the word sustainability was used. They said sustainability can be a political term with a meaning that goes beyond energy conservation.

President Danahar said the Leadership Council's facilities committee was supportive of an initiative pertaining to green facilities and energy conservation, but members suggested the initiative be added to the 2010 action plan since the system is already several months into the current action plan.

Increased and aggressive development and use of online programs and services could help promote the green technology and conservation concepts, Trustee Benson pointed out.

Trustee Van Houten said he has no objection to the initiative as long as the word sustainability is removed.

The Trustees agreed that the initiative should be brought back for consideration during 2010 system action plan discussion.

9. Centers of Excellence

At the end of fiscal year 2009, the system's Centers of Excellence initiative will complete the initial four-year commitment.

Senior Vice Chancellor Baer said the Board needs to address the centers' ongoing financial sustainability over the next two years. According to an evaluation report, businesses and industries have shown support for the centers by providing equipment, mentors, internships and in-kind contributions. However, most businesses and industries indicated they are not interested in funding operation costs.

Chair McElroy said one option would be for the system to continue to cover base funding, but have the Centers of Excellence cover inflationary and increased program costs through income gained by consulting fees for projects, specialized tuition for specialized programs, sponsorship and business donations and customized training fees. There would need to be accountability measures added to the arrangement, he added.

Trustee Rice said she just heard of the possibility of adding two more Centers of Excellence - one in bioscience and one in agriculture.

Senior Vice Chancellor Baer said the establishment of a Bioscience Center of Excellence was considered during the initial application process, but proposals for it at that time were not fully developed. The bioscience proposal is more firm now. There also is interest in a center focused on agriculture and the food industry. She said a proposal for the two centers is expected to be included in the legislative request.

Trustee Rice said she would need more information on the operation and viability of the current centers, as well as the potential ones, before she could make any decisions. Trustee Benson concurred.

Trustees agreed any decisions pertaining to funding of Centers of Excellence for 2010 / 2011 or beyond should be held over until the January meeting when an evaluation report from the Wilder Foundation on the Centers of Excellence will be presented.

As for the potential new centers, Chair McElroy said it might be advisable to find out how they would fit into the governor's agenda. He pointed out that collaborative proposals involving the University of Minnesota may receive more favorable consideration.

10. Campus Profile: Central Lakes College

Presenters:

Larry Lundblad, President

Kari Christiansen, Vice President of Administrative Services

Rex Veeder, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs

Strategic Campus Profiles are presented to showcase each institution in the system. The profiles include information on integrated planning, institutional programming and collaboration, futures planning, facilities projects and other data.

The Brainerd Staples Technical College was created in 1991 with the merger of the Staples Technical College, located in the historic railroad town of Staples, and the Brainerd Technical College. Central Lakes College was created with the merger of the recently formed technical college and Brainerd Community College in 1995.

The majority of the students who attend CLC are from the seven-county region adjacent to the two major campuses located in Brainerd and Staples. The counties are sparsely populated and among the poorest in the state. The region is also home to two sovereign American Indian nations.

The college serves 4,000 students annually. The majority of the students are Caucasian. In 2007-2008, 1.7% of the students were Native American; another 1.7% was African American. Small numbers of Asian-American and Hispanic students are also represented. Similar to national trends, female students represent 57% of the student population. Only 2% of the students are from out-of-state. Approximately 2/3 of the students are full-time. The students are served by 150 full and part-time faculty and 131 staff and administration.

The mission of the college is succinctly stated: We Build Futures. This is accomplished through the high-quality liberal arts, career and technical, customized training, and continuing education offerings that are delivered traditionally, at the work-site, and through distance delivery. The learning opportunities that help meet the cultural, entertainment, and economic development needs of the region include service learning, civic engagement, and applied research activities, cultural enrichment, and athletics. The college's vision is to be Minnesota's leading Community and Technical College for lifelong learning. The four goals of the current strategic plan are designed to optimize the connections with regional business and industry, educational partners, and citizens and to achieve the vision and mission of the college through internal processes that create the trust and commitment necessary to be a dynamic institution.

- **Programs of Distinction**
 - Heavy Equipment Operation & Maintenance Program
 - Eco Tourism Program
 - Robotics Program
 - Natural Resources (Articulation Agreements)
 - Small Business Development Center
 - Responsive Liberal Arts Degrees
 - Nursing & Allied Health Programs
 - Inland Underwater Certificate
- **Institutional Profile – Connections to the Community/Region**
 - Bridges Career Pathways and Workplace Connections initiative
 - Ag Center
 - Rosenmeier Center for State and Local Government
 - Humphrey Center for American Indian Studies
 - Theater, music programs and concerts and athletics programs
 - Entrepreneurship Center (under development)
 - TRIO Programs
 - Service Learning Program
 - Minnesota Job Skill Partnership grants
 - Student Clubs and Organizations – Student Senate, Student Life, Phi Theta Kappa, Delta Psi Omega, Psi Beta, (PUP) People United for Peace, Art Club, Law Enforcement Club, Westbank Journal, Community Band, Choir, and Intramural Sports
- **Future Planning**
 - Increase student enrollment by 20%
 - Fine Arts remodel (Brainerd) to support art, theatre, and music academic programs
 - Student services remodel (Brainerd and Staples) to address new one-stop shop concept
 - Remodel (Brainerd and Staples) to provide student recreational space
 - Construction of regional performing arts center
 - Begin succession planning and develop a strategic staffing plan for hiring
 - Create and sustain cohorts for international students
 - Create a University Center
 - Create and sustain a senior college
 - Expand programming to reflect changing regional economic needs
- **Resource Deployment**
 - Fully facilitate emerging instructional technologies
 - Create space for college and community gatherings
 - Expand developmental programs
 - Create an Office for Institutional Support and Sponsored Programs

- Provide more scholarships for underserved students
 - Provide student resources including assistance with instructional materials and textbooks
- Further develop Faculty professional development opportunities.
- Recruit and maintain a more diverse workforce
 - Completed \$6.0 million Heavy Equipment Shop Addition and Music Rehearsal space, Dec. 2007
 - Completed 2 new Multi-Purpose Science Labs \$1.03 million-Brainerd and Staples campuses, Fall 2006 & 2007
 - Completed Energy Savings Project –Brainerd and Staples campuses-lighting and energy management systems and controls
 - Completed \$1.73 HVAC Controls and Fire Sprinkler HEAPR Projects—Brainerd and Staples campuses
 - 2008 HEAPR Funding: New Fire Alarm System at Brainerd and HEAPR Boiler Repair at Staples
- Completed New Nursing Lab for RN and LPN Program: Staples Campus,
 - Funded through Repair & Replacement and Grant: New Medical Assistant Lab renovation for Fall 2009, Staples Campus
- Programmatic updates and changes to meet academic program needs
- Received funding for Dental Community Clinic Renovation- Spring 2009

Chair McElroy noted the institution's interest in establishing a senior college, which is a concept that is growing in popularity. He said this may prompt a future policy discussion by the Board regarding tuition. Reduced tuition, rather than free tuition for auditing classes, may need to be considered, he said.

Responding to a question about enrollment figures which show more females than males on campus, President Lundblad said many of the college's most popular programs, such as dental assisting and nursing, tend to attract females. In addition, the military has a strong presence in the region and many young males choose that route after high school. They are partnering K-12 districts to enhance five career pathways which may appeal to males, he said.

Chancellor McCormick said President Lundblad and his team should be commended for the way they brought the college through some tough times. He said the team acknowledged the power of data and communication and involved faculty and staff in decision-making and the creation of solutions.

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm
 Respectfully submitted,
 Margie Takash, Recorder