Cite policy requirement, or explain why item is on the Board agenda:

Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of Institutional Missions requires institutions to have new missions approved by the Board. As required by procedure, the institution must indicate:
   a. How its mission and vision respond to the definitions in procedure 3.24.1.
   b. The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision.
   c. Its purposes and the array of awards it offers.
   d. How the new mission compares with the former mission.
   e. Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

Keith Stover, President, South Central College
Linda L. Baer, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

The proposed vision, mission and purposes of South Central College meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of Institutional Missions. The Higher Learning Commission requires accredited institutions to get approval from their governing boards for new missions.

Background Information:

The new mission for South Central College has been reviewed and found to meet all Board requirements for institutional missions.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

South Central College’s vision, mission, purposes and array of awards are:

Vision: South Central College will be the region’s leading institution for transitioning individuals into the college environment, educating students for technical careers, and building student capacity for future study through inclusive student-centered programs and services. The college will be a committed partner in the regional economy, helping individuals and organizations compete in the global marketplace.

Mission: South Central College provides accessible higher education to promote student growth and regional economic development.

Statement of Purpose includes the following:

Purpose 1 Foster a welcoming environment that cultivates a sense of respect and appreciation for differences.

Purpose 2 Provide educational options that prepare students for entry into the workforce, career advancement, and academic transfer opportunities.

Purpose 3 Offer student services and enrichment experiences that support academic success.

Purpose 4 Provide educational opportunities that develop our students’ ability to understand and evaluate personal, social, civic, and global perspectives.

Purpose 5 Deliver education, training, and consulting services for business, industry, and government organizations that help maximize productivity, profitability, and sustainability in a global marketplace.

Purpose 6 Promote the economic, cultural, and intellectual development of the community through collaboration with our stakeholders.
Array of Awards: South Central College offers the Associate in Arts, Associate in Applied Science and Associate in Science degrees as well as a variety of technical certificates and diplomas.

An institution’s mission, vision and purposes shall support achievement of the system mission and vision: South Central College’s mission to provide “accessible higher education to promote student growth and regional economic development,” supports the system mission by focusing on accessibility for students and promoting vibrant economies in the institution’s region of the state.

An institution’s mission, vision, and purposes shall provide a foundation for evaluation, accountability, and regional accreditation: South Central College’s vision, mission, and purposes provide a basis for evaluation, accountability, and regional accreditation.

Compliance: South Central College’s vision, mission, and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements.

BACKGROUND

HISTORY OF SOUTH CENTRAL COLLEGE

South Central College is the newest comprehensive community and technical college in the state of Minnesota. South Central College has campuses in Faribault and North Mankato that offer over 50 career and professional majors. South Central College is a proud member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. The system approved SCC’s mission change on March 16, 2005, allowing the college to provide an Associate in Arts degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

North Mankato Campus

Mankato Vocational Technical School was founded in 1946 as the first, public post-secondary vocational-technical school in the state of Minnesota. South Central College has campuses in Faribault and North Mankato that offer programs in electrical, machine tool and auto mechanics. In 1950, classes moved into a new building behind the Mankato High School (West High Annex). Classes were relocated to a new 45-acre North Mankato campus (1920 Lee Boulevard) in the fall of 1968. A 100,000 sq. ft. addition (added to the original 200,000 sq. ft. building) was completed in 1989. At the same time, the mission changed to a degree-granting college, so the name changed to Mankato Technical College.

A merger joined Mankato Technical College with Albert Lea Technical College, to create the new South Central Technical College (SCTC) in July of 1992, governed by a regional board. Three years later, SCTC became part of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.

Faribault Campus

The Faribault Campus received official designation in July, 1964, based on the Faribault School District’s long history of providing technical education. In the 1940’s, one of Minnesota’s first occupational programs in practical nursing was started through a partnership between the school
district and the hospital. The Minnesota State Board of Education approved a $2 million addition
during the 1987 school year. The college was operated by the school district until July 1, 1991.
On that date, Faribault Technical College merged with technical colleges in Austin and
Rochester to form the Joint Vocational District #2501, named the Minnesota Riverland
Technical College. At the same time, the mission changed to make Faribault a degree-granting
college. On July 1, 1995, the Faribault campus, along with all colleges and universities in
Minnesota, became part of the system.

**South Central Technical College**
On July 1, 1996, Faribault campus merged with the North Mankato campus to create the new
South Central Technical College. For ten years (July 1, 1995-June 30, 2005), SCTC’s Faribault
campus provided programming for the Minnesota Correctional Facility, Faribault.

**South Central College**
In the spring of 2005, the name of the institution changed from South Central Technical College
to South Central College to reflect the expanded mission of the new comprehensive college.

Today, South Central College has a growing online presence and offers fully accredited
courses/majors that are taught by the college’s credentialed faculty. In addition to the two
campus locations, SCC operates ten Farm Business Management offices located in Blue Earth,
Fairfax, Faribault, Glencoe, North Mankato, Montgomery, New Ulm, Nicollet, Sleepy Eye and
Waldorf. Small Business Management offices include Faribault, North Mankato, Chanhassen
and the Owatonna campus of Riverland Community College.

South Central College enjoys established partnerships with regional businesses and industries.
These partnerships provide great opportunities for student employment and internships. In
addition, SCC’s business partners support the campus foundations and provide over one-quarter
of a million dollars in scholarships annually.

**Accreditation**
South Central College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central
Association of Colleges and Schools. In 1999, the Higher Learning Commission granted the
college 10-year re-accreditation. Accreditation to include all online degrees and the new
Associate in Science (A.S.) degree in Nursing was granted in 2003, and in 2006, accreditation
was granted to include the delivery of the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree in Liberal Arts and
Sciences. The next comprehensive evaluation by the Higher Learning Commission will take
place on February 1-3, 2010.

**Mission, Vision and Purposes Application Analysis**
The proposed vision, mission, and purposes of South Central College meet the criteria identified
in Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of System
Institutional Missions.

As required by procedure, the institution must indicate:

a. How its mission and vision respond to the definitions in procedure 3.24.1.
b. The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision.

c. Its purposes and the array of awards it offers.
d. How the new mission compares with the former mission.
e. Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders. Additionally, the institution’s mission must be compliant with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements.

Review of South Central College’s Mission, Vision and Purposes

South Central College’s vision, mission and purposes meet these requirements.

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

South Central College’s mission to provide “accessible higher education to promote student growth and regional economic development” focuses the institution in the following areas:

- Serving individuals and organizations from the institution’s primary service area and beyond.

- Advancing outcomes contributing to student achievement and placement as well as business and industry success.

- Existing to serve as an open enrollment 2-year college providing area students with accessible technical and liberal arts opportunities that lead to student growth and regional economic development.

The mission for South Central College is guided by a vision that reads “South Central College will be the region’s leading institution for transitioning individuals into the college environment, educating students for technical careers, and building student capacity for future study through inclusive student-centered programs and services. The college will be a committed partner in the regional economy, helping individuals and organizations compete in the global marketplace.”

South Central College envisions a future in which:

The college is seen as the place to get started and/or pick up on educational goals. We want to be known for being able to jump start students’ academic capacity for higher education, provide them with a stellar technical education, and prepare them for any current or future educational goals. The college also envisions that it will have further developed its expanded mission including our curricular, co-curricular, and student life opportunities.

The distinctiveness of South Central College lies in our status as an open enrollment institution, our skills in preparing students for higher education, our continued dedication to educating for technical careers, and our commitment to building a student’s capacity for future study at our primary university partner, Minnesota State University, Mankato, or any other institution of
higher education. Additionally our Center for Business and Industry provides flexible
customized instructional options to over 16,000 individuals annually.

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

South Central College’s mission supports the system mission by advancing SCC’s role in a
collaborative and responsive state system striving to meet the needs for a diverse group of
learners, providing not only access, but building blocks to successfully meet one’s personal
and/or professional goals.

**Increase Access and Opportunity** by fostering a welcoming environment that cultivates a sense
of respect and appreciation for differences and offering student services and enrichment
experiences that support academic success.

**Promote and Measure High-Quality Learning Programs & Services** by providing
educational options that prepare students for entry into the workforce, career advancement, and
academic transfer opportunities and that develop our students’ ability to understand and evaluate
personal, social, civic, and global perspectives.

**Strengthen Community Development and Economic Vitality** by delivering education,
training, and consulting services for business, industry, and government organizations that help
maximize productivity, profitability, and sustainability in a global marketplace.

**Innovate for the Future** by collaborating with stakeholders to promote the economic, cultural,
and intellectual development of the community.

The South Central College vision supports the system vision by providing students with both
accessibility and incredible value.

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

**Purpose 1** Foster a welcoming environment that cultivates a sense of respect and appreciation
for differences.

**Purpose 2** Provide educational options that prepare students for entry into the workforce, career
advancement, and academic transfer opportunities.

**Purpose 3** Offer student services and enrichment experiences that support academic success.

**Purpose 4** Provide educational opportunities that develop our students’ ability to understand
and evaluate personal, social, civic, and global perspectives.
Purpose 5 Deliver education, training, and consulting services for business, industry, and
government organizations that help maximize productivity, profitability, and sustainability in a
global marketplace.

Purpose 6 Promote the economic, cultural, and intellectual development of the community
through collaboration with our stakeholders.

The South Central College vision, mission, and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and
regional accreditation requirements.

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

The former mission of South Central College was, “South Central College provides
comprehensive higher education for employment and continuous learning to promote individual
growth and economic development.”

The new mission reads, “South Central College provides accessible higher education to promote
student growth and regional economic development.”

Our current mission statement was created as part of SCC’s mission review process in 2005. We
feel that we are currently in a much better position to know what our expanded mission means to
the college, our growing population of students, and our stakeholders. Additionally we are
preparing for a visit in February 2010 by the Higher Learning Commission and the more our
HLC teams discussed “mission” the more we felt we were ready for a refinement and a
recommitment to our expanded role in the regional community. Fundamentally we seek to
eliminate the redundancy communicated in our current mission statement.

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

January
• SCC gathered ratings and input on college vision, mission, purpose statements and values
  from faculty/staff at the spring in-service.
• Information on peers’ mission, purpose, vision, and values statements was gathered.
• A college wide review committee was recruited.

February
• College wide faculty/staff/administration review committee met three times to review
  ratings, input, system/peer statements, and develop modifications to mission statements.

March
• SCC SWOT analysis was distributed to 54 regional business and community leaders. Results
  were reviewed for alignment and consistency with committee’s draft statements.
• Draft statements were presented for comment to the Faribault Campus Student Senate, North
  Mankato Campus Student Senate, Faculty Shared Governance Council, MMA Meet and
  Confer, MAPE and AFSCME Meet and Confer, Administration, and the college wide
  Strategic Planning Committee.
April
• Review Committee members reviewed comments and made desired modifications to draft mission statements.
• Draft statements were presented to President Stover.
• Discussion about the vision statement between President Stover and the Review Committee resulted in an additional modification.
• President Stover approved draft statements and gave authorization to seek Board of Trustees approval.

**RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE MOTION**

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the South Central College vision, mission, purposes, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

The Board of Trustees approves the request by South Central College to approve its vision, mission, purposes, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary.