

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Agenda Item Summary Sheet**

**Committee:** Academic and Student Affairs

**Date of Meeting:** July 22, 2009

**Agenda Item:** Proposed Response to the Office of the Legislative Auditor Program Review Report

Proposed  
Policy Change

Approvals  
Required by  
Policy

Other  
Approvals

Monitoring

Information

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

At a previous Board of Trustees meeting, members requested an update on the actions taken and/or proposed in response to the Office of the Legislative Auditor Evaluation Report on *MnSCU Occupational Programs*.

**Scheduled Presenter(s):**

Linda L. Baer, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

**Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:**

A number of approaches will be used to address the recommendations proposed by the Office of the Legislative Auditor; policy and procedural changes, revisions to guidelines for reporting and committee structures, and new operational tactics.

**Background Information:**

The Office of the Legislative Auditor Evaluation 2009 Report on *MnSCU Occupational Programs* has been shared previously and is available upon request.



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**Plans to Respond to the Office of the  
Legislative Auditor Evaluation Report  
Recommendations –  
*MnSCU Occupational Programs***

**Board of Trustees**

**Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

**July 22, 2009**



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## **Recommendation #1: College/University mission review**

- Mission policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions will be reviewed/revised;

and,

- Chancellor's procedures will be prepared to assure missions meet legislative and policy requirements.



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## **Recommendation #2: Policy on program review to include labor market information**

- Policy has been drafted;

and

- Pending remaining steps in policy development process.



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## Recommendation #3: Assessing graduates' success at finding related employment

- New approaches to measure graduates' success at finding related employment will be identified and tested;
  - Revisions to Policy 3 .31 Graduate Followup System;
- and,
- Will convene an advisory group during the 2009-2010 academic year relating to advisory groups; review policy and make recommendations to the Senior Vice Chancellor and others regarding the various elements of the way graduate follow up data is collected and reported.



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## Recommendation #4: Regional response for Electricians

- Completed.
- Senior Vice Chancellor communiqué to Presidents and Chief Academic Officers of colleges with an electrician program. Memorandum includes an analysis by region that retains an enrollment cap in all regions except southwest MN.



## Recommendation #5: Policy on Advisory Committees

- Policy has been drafted [including explicit reference to the *Program Advisory Committee Handbook* cited by the OLA Report];
- Remaining steps pending in the policy development process for the 2009-2010 academic year;

and,

- Accountability measures/processes will be considered.



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## **Recommendation #6: Policy on getting career explorations and job information to students**

- Policy will be developed in the 2009-2010 academic year.



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## **Recommendation #7: Inform students about job prospects**

- Process alternatives, such as iSeek, will be developed to assure students are aware of job prospects.

# OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR STATE OF MINNESOTA

## EVALUATION REPORT : MnSCU Occupational Programs

### List of Recommendations

- All MnSCU college statements of mission, vision, and purpose, as well as their high-level planning documents, should clearly reflect the priorities set in state law and decisions of the Board of Trustees (p. 63).
- MnSCU colleges that currently do not assess labor market data when conducting program reviews should change their review policies to require assessing how well the supply of graduates and workers matches demand for occupations related to a program (p. 64).
- MnSCU should explore improvements to assessing graduates' success at finding employment related to their chosen occupation (p. 65).
- When reviewing its cap on enrollments for construction electrician programs, MnSCU's Office of the Chancellor should take local economic conditions into greater account (p. 65).
- Colleges should provide better oversight of program advisory committees and take steps to improve those that are not fulfilling their potential (p. 66).
- The Board of Trustees should by policy require colleges to ensure that information on career exploration and job opportunities is getting to the occupational program students who need it (p. 74).
- Especially for occupations with mixed expectations for regional job opportunities, MnSCU colleges should make certain that pertinent students are informed of job prospects (p. 74).