

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING

RECOMMENDED MOTION (AMENDED)

The Board of Trustees directs the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities to expand access to baccalaureate and graduate programs in the Twin Cities metropolitan area through immediate action and long-range planning. Expanded programs should offer competitive, attractive opportunities for Twin Cities residents and serve workforce needs of the changing Twin Cities economy. All programming should meet high standards for quality and cost-effective use of the investment provided by Minnesota taxpayers and students.

The Board approves the following core strategies to guide continuing work by the Office of the Chancellor and universities and colleges serving the metropolitan area.

1. Strengthened partnerships between Metropolitan State and the ten metropolitan colleges.
2. Additional partnerships between metropolitan area colleges and carefully chosen non-metropolitan state universities when necessary to supplement the program capacity of Metropolitan State University.
3. Assigning responsibility to the institution that demonstrates the ability to offer a high quality program at the lowest cost when selecting among several potential programs that could address a need in the Twin Cities.
4. Online delivery and collaborative programs and services that conserve resources and expand access.
5. Marketing that promotes the strength and power of the Minnesota State College and University System to offer the full range of programs—associate, baccalaureate and graduate degrees—in the metropolitan area.
6. Students First and other information technology improvements that aid institutional partnerships and student mobility by creating common administrative processes at system institutions.
7. Facilities on the campuses of Metropolitan State University and the metropolitan area colleges to support expanded opportunities for baccalaureate and graduate education.
8. Development by Metropolitan State University of a Master Facilities Plan which incorporates a metropolitan-wide programming strategy to guide facilities planning.
9. Selected leasing when on-campus facilities are not available or appropriate to serve the student market.
10. Investment of additional resources at Metropolitan State University to accelerate its growth in programs and facilities, when feasible within the constraints of meeting other system obligations.