

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

**Agenda Item Summary Sheet**

**Committee:** Diversity and Multiculturalism      **Date of Meeting:** July 21, 2009

**Agenda Item:** Report on Completeness of Student Race and Ethnicity Data

Proposed Policy Change       Approvals Required by Policy       Other Approvals       Monitoring

Information

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

One of the goals of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system is to increase the participation of underserved students. Reducing the percentage of students reported as race or ethnicity “unknown” is essential to monitoring the achievement of this goal. These data are also needed to assess and evaluate the impact of the programs funded by the Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative because a significant number of the underrepresented students are students of color.

**Scheduled Presenter(s):**

Whitney Stewart Harris, Executive Director, Diversity and Multiculturalism  
Craig Schoenecker, System Director for Research

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

Information will be presented at the meeting illustrating the changes in the percentage of students reported as race or ethnicity “unknown.” Total student demographics by institution will also be presented to the board.

**Background Information:**

A multiple-year effort has been instituted to reduce the number and percentage of students reported as race or ethnicity “unknown.” This will provide policymakers and program facilitators with better demographic data for all students. It will also improve the system and each institution’s ability to monitor the recruitment, enrollment, retention and success of students from groups that have been underserved by higher education.

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

<b>INFORMATION ITEM</b>
Report on Completeness of Student Race and Ethnicity Data

**BACKGROUND**

In May 2005 the Leadership Council Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee requested that the Office of the Chancellor undertake a project to improve the completeness of student demographic data. Of special concern was the incompleteness of the data on race and ethnicity, which resulted in a high percentage of “unknown” in this category. The percentage of “unknown” varied among the institutions. High levels of “unknown” in this category make it difficult to assess the effectiveness of the programs that seek to improve higher education access, opportunity and success for student of color. The recent increase in investments in the Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative, which focuses on underrepresented students and which includes a higher number of students of color, increased the importance of complete demographic data.

Using end of term data files, the percent of students with unknown race/ethnicity over the past several years is as follows:

Fall 2002: 25.1 percent  
Fall 2005: 10.1 percent  
Fall 2008 5.7 percent

This report provides information on the current state of the project. Efforts to increase the completeness of the student demographic data will continue.

## Race/Ethnicity - Fall Credit Headcount

## Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

## Fall 2008: End of Term Data

Institution	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Students of Color		White	Nonresident Alien	Total Known	Unknown Race Ethnicity		Total
					Number	Percent				Number	Percent	
<b>Colleges</b>					Number	Percent				Number	Percent	
Alexandria Technical College	15	13	13	11	52	2.5%	1,993		2,045	332	14.0%	2,377
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	86	285	432	128	931	11.7%	7,016	20	7,967	269	3.3%	8,236
Anoka Technical College	32	85	181	22	320	14.9%	1,821		2,141	91	4.1%	2,232
Central Lakes College	61	28	45	28	162	4.2%	3,667	10	3,839	19	0.5%	3,858
Century College	107	1,275	894	210	2,486	27.3%	6,521	99	9,106	289	3.1%	9,395
Dakota County Technical College	29	100	242	85	456	16.4%	2,288	30	2,774	495	15.1%	3,269
Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College	287	38	41	30	396	18.5%	1,744		2,140	66	3.0%	2,206
Hennepin Technical College	51	477	918	143	1,589	28.7%	3,920	35	5,544	284	4.9%	5,828
Inver Hills Community College	40	282	471	179	972	18.2%	4,359	23	5,354	264	4.7%	5,618
Lake Superior College	106	76	111	49	342	7.4%	4,256	4	4,602	364	7.3%	4,966
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	216	639	2,780	445	4,080	44.3%	4,936	194	9,210	361	3.8%	9,571
Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical	31	35	128	21	215	9.8%	1,977	1	2,193	2	0.1%	2,195
Minnesota State Community and Technical College	132	69	149	89	439	7.5%	5,409	3	5,851	628	9.7%	6,479
Minnesota West Community and Technical College	23	52	66	88	229	8.5%	2,468	6	2,703	300	10.0%	3,003

Normandale Community College	81	716	1,046	277	2,120	23.9%	6,656	102	8,878	529	5.6%	9,407
North Hennepin Community College	58	692	1,071	144	1,965	29.7%	4,561	100	6,626	308	4.4%	6,934
<b>Northeast Higher Education District</b>	128	40	206	30	404	8.1%	4,523	62	4,989	179	3.5%	5,168
* Hibbing Community College	24	11	32	12	79	5.4%	1,377	1	1,457	48	3.2%	1,505
* Itasca Community College	46	6	20	7	79	7.2%	985	29	1,093	48	4.2%	1,141
* Mesabi Range Community and Technical College	39	8	50	2	99	6.8%	1,358	6	1,463	72	4.7%	1,535
* Rainy River Community College	14	3	36	2	55	16.8%	250	23	328	11	3.2%	339
* Vermilion Community College	5	12	68	7	92	14.2%	553	3	648		0.0%	648
Northland Community and Technical College	125	50	168	77	420	10.6%	3,530	17	3,967	116	2.8%	4,083
Northwest Technical College - Bemidji	123	14	13	11	161	12.8%	1,094	2	1,257	94	7.0%	1,351
Pine Technical College	13	8	24	6	51	6.5%	739		790	22	2.7%	812
Ridgewater College	24	37	60	140	261	6.4%	3,800	6	4,067	92	2.2%	4,159
Riverland Community College	19	50	75	164	308	9.5%	2,911	28	3,247	173	5.1%	3,420
Rochester Community and Technical College	39	258	391	114	802	13.7%	4,973	73	5,848	131	2.2%	5,979
St. Cloud Technical College	40	55	138	44	277	7.2%	3,542	7	3,826	123	3.1%	3,949
Saint Paul College	50	525	1,660	142	2,377	44.8%	2,919	15	5,311	138	2.5%	5,449
South Central College	22	61	87	91	261	7.4%	3,258	28	3,547	292	7.6%	3,839
<b>Subtotal: Colleges</b>	<b>1,938</b>	<b>5,960</b>	<b>11,410</b>	<b>2,768</b>	<b>22,076</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>94,881</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>117,822</b>	<b>5,961</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>123,783</b>
<b>Percent of Known</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>80.5%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>			

## Race/Ethnicity - Fall Credit Headcount

## Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

## Fall 2008: End of Term Data

Institution	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Students of Color		White	Nonresident Alien	Total Known	Unknown Race Ethnicity		Total
					Number	Percent				Number	Percent	
<b>Universities</b>					Number	Percent				Number	Percent	
Bemidji State University	155	53	40	25	273	6.0%	4,044	202	4,519	374	7.6%	4,893
Metropolitan State University	83	630	881	138	1,732	28.4%	4,228	133	6,093	857	12.3%	6,950
Minnesota State University, Mankato	65	355	514	184	1,118	8.1%	12,060	585	13,763	871	6.0%	14,634
Minnesota State University Moorhead	104	100	130	85	419	6.1%	6,104	379	6,902	618	8.2%	7,520
St. Cloud State University	153	455	554	193	1,355	8.3%	13,824	1,090	16,269	1,161	6.7%	17,430
Southwest Minnesota State University	24	146	107	66	343	5.7%	5,395	295	6,033	560	8.5%	6,593
Winona State University	29	175	125	63	392	4.9%	7,375	265	8,032	450	5.3%	8,482
<b>Subtotal: Universities</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>1,914</b>	<b>2,351</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>5,632</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>53,030</b>	<b>2,949</b>	<b>61,611</b>	<b>4,891</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>66,502</b>
<b>Percent of Known</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>86.1%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>			
<b>Institution Location</b>												
Greater Minnesota	1,718	2,168	3,185	1,609	8,680	7.9%	98,686	3,063	110,429	6,967	5.9%	117,396
Twin Cities Metropolitan Area	833	5,706	10,576	1,913	19,028	27.6%	49,225	751	69,004	3,885	5.3%	72,889
<b>Total: Colleges and Universities</b>	<b>2,551</b>	<b>7,874</b>	<b>13,761</b>	<b>3,522</b>	<b>27,708</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>147,911</b>	<b>3,814</b>	<b>179,433</b>	<b>10,852</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>190,285</b>
<b>Percent of Known</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>82.4%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>			

Source: Office of the Chancellor Research and Planning