Advancement Committee Members Present: Trustees Christine Rice, chair; Cheryl Dickson, vice chair; David Paskach, Thomas Renier, Louise Sundin, Terri Thomas.

Other Trustees Present: Trustees Duane Benson, Jacob Englund, Christopher Frederick, Ruth Grendahl, Dan McElroy, David Olson, Thomas Renier, Scott Thiss, James Van Houten.

Leadership Council Committee Members Present: President John Quistgaard, Mary Davenport, Linda Kohl, Maria McLemore.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Advancement Committee met Sept. 8, 2009, in St. Paul. Chair Christine Rice called the meeting to order at 12:50 p.m.

Approval of the Advancement Committee Meeting Minutes
A correction was made to the July 21, 2009, minutes as follows:
The discussion of the proposed amendments to Board Policy 8.3 brought several board concerns to the forefront including maintaining [rather than increasing] the one-to-one return on investment requirement, the need for more specific language on financial reporting to the board, and additional measures to determine return on investment and audit compliance. The board requested that the policy be revised to address concerns raised and brought before them at the September meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes as corrected, was made, seconded, and adopted.

Meeting Minutes

1. Advancement Update
   Linda Kohl, associate vice chancellor for public affairs, thanked trustees who worked at the State Fair. The fair had record attendance this year. The latest Go Places viewbook was handed out at the fair. The new bonding book also has been published, four months earlier than in the past, and is ready to be distributed at legislative bonding tours.

2. Legislative Update
   Mary Davenport, system director for government relations, explained the U.S. House legislation, the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act. U.S. Senators Al Franken and Amy Klobuchar have been visiting campuses and talking with presidents about the upcoming session. State legislators are currently taking bonding tours this fall to learn about the system’s 2010 Capital Budget Request.
3. Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 8.3, College, University, and System Related Foundations

Maria McLemore, executive director for system and foundation relations, discussed the proposed policy changes of Board Policy 8.3. Presidents Earl Potter, Cheryl Frank and Doug Allen were in attendance representing the Affiliated Foundations Task Force.

President Doug Allen explained that the policy reflects the authority that the chancellor has with the university and college presidents. The proposed wording gives some flexibility to the Chancellor regarding the return of value expected from each related foundation and allows for a sanction for underperforming foundations.

While the new policy honors the state’s new financial audit threshold, it also reflects the chancellor’s authority to impose additional conditions on related foundations. In addition, language regarding reports to the Board of Trustees has been clarified. The policy also includes statements acknowledging the value of the foundations and of foundation board members.

4. Gates Foundation Update

President Larry Litecky presented a Gates Foundation update. During his sabbatical, he presented an idea to the Gates Foundation. He looked at both high-performing high school students and students with greater need. Unlike most foundations, proposals can be submitted to the Gates Foundation by invitation only. Last month, representatives from the Gates Foundation and from the consulting firm Education First met with representatives from the Office of the Chancellor. There was discussion that the system could be involved with two Gates programs - Improving College Readiness and Developmental Education. The emphasis of these programs is on getting high school students prepared and ready for college, specifically by having 80 percent of high school students ready for college; and having first-year students succeed and stay in college. A task force of 15 presidents has been formed to work on applying for these two grants.

Chancellor James McCormick added that the state’s P-20 council also will be looking into the completion rate of high school and successfully preparing students for college.

Meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Candi Walz, Recorder