Committee: Diversity and Multiculturalism  Date of Meeting: June 15, 2010

Agenda Item: Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative Update

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

The Board of Trustees approved the funding of the Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative to support the recruitment and retention of underrepresented students. The system allocated $7.4 million per year directly to the colleges and universities, based upon their enrollment and other factors, to encourage innovative approaches and expand proven programs. Another $3.4 million per year was allocated to set up three Access and Opportunity Centers at the institutions through a competitive process. The other $200,000 was earmarked each year to develop recruitment materials and system-based diversity activities. Staff is required to conduct assessments and provide periodic updates to the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

Whitney Harris, Executive Director for Diversity and Multiculturalism
Mike López, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

The periodic updates provide an opportunity for the Board of Trustees to monitor the progress of the initiative and provide appropriate guidance and direction to the Chancellor.
BACKGROUND

The system implemented an Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative to improve recruitment, retention and success of underrepresented students in Fiscal Year 2008.

- For FY 2010, $11 million was allocated to support the Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative.
  - The system allocated $7.4 million directly to the colleges and universities, based upon their enrollment and other factors, to encourage innovative approaches and expand proven programs. (See list of campus programs and activities.)
  - Another $3.4 million was allocated to set up three Access and Opportunity Centers at the institutions through a competitive process.
  - The other $200,000 was earmarked to develop recruitment materials and system-based diversity activities.
- Enrollment information for the Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative will be provided as a handout at the Board June 2010 meeting.
- Retention information will be provided at a later Board meeting.
- The “Make College Part of your Future” brochure has been translated into eight languages. The brochure is in English, Spanish, Hmong, Somali, French, Russian, Vietnamese, Ojibwe, and Dakota. More than 90 percent of the brochures have been distributed. This campaign has received numerous awards and recognitions.
- The translation of the Web pages has been completed. The same languages as those used for the brochures are used on the Web pages.
- A second phase of the underrepresented media campaign began in May 2010 and will run through August 2010. It consists of:
  - Bus shelter signs
  - Bus and transit signs
  - Ads in diversity newspapers
Access and Opportunity Centers of Excellence

Throughout Minnesota, significantly fewer underrepresented students graduate from high school, attend college, and earn a college degree as compared with peers. The changing demographics of Minnesota’s communities and the disparities in the academic performance of students of color and other underrepresented students underscore the need for immediate action. To address this critical shortfall, in 2007, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees established three Access and Opportunity Centers of Excellence to improve participation and success in higher education among underrepresented groups. The centers were established through a competitive process among the 32 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities at a cost of $3.4 million.

Century College and Inver Hills Community College – Access and Opportunity Center of Excellence
The center focuses on 1) rigorous programming and intrusive student services, 2) parental and family engagement, 3) teacher collaboration and professional development, and 4) evaluation, research, and dissemination. Underrepresented students receive age-appropriate programs and services. Programming includes college-preparatory and college-level courses, summer bridge programs, college readiness initiatives, tutoring, mentoring, and enrichment experiences. Family members participate in activities that promote the importance of post-secondary education and help them support their student’s success. The center also provides translation services for family members and encourages them to explore their own options for postsecondary education.

Minnesota State Community and Technical College – Minnesota Partnership for College Readiness
The partnership provides outreach services to underrepresented students in grades eight through twelve and their teachers by using interactive technologies to form learning communities. Various activities provide students with strategies to become successful at each grade level in college-preparatory and dual-credit courses. One program, Ready or Not Writing, assists students and their high school teachers in diagnosing students’ writing abilities to help ensure they are ready for college-level courses when they graduate from high school. Synchronous online instruction includes video and audio interaction. A contextual math program uses real-world, workplace applications, and lab activities to make math practical and relevant. Plans call for expanding these projects to a broader audience in Minnesota. In addition, a reading readiness program and contextual science program are under development. Summer youth programs in science and technology also are offered by college partners.

St. Cloud State University – Research and Demonstration Center for Educational Access and Opportunity
This project uses proven methods, such as intrusive in-school advising, summer bridge programs, culturally sensitive academic enrichment courses, tutoring, financial aid application support, and mentoring to support goal setting and academic achievement of underrepresented students in grades eight through twelve in the St. Cloud Area School District 742. Students are recruited and assigned to in-school Academic Advising Teams. After their academic skills are assessed relative to college readiness, advisors assist students with career and educational planning. Student progress is monitored by team leaders, student mentors, tutors, and a teacher advisor.
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
Access, Opportunity and Success Initiative

FY 2010 College and University Strategies

Alexandria Technical College- $104,141
Enhance outreach activities including Academic Bridge Program
Early identification and extended orientation program
Provide intrusive advising
Increase tutoring and learning support

Anoka Ramsey Community College- $319,829
Focus on developmental math
Early Alert System will identify students at risk
Establish intrusive advising system
Provide online tutoring for developmental math students
Provide Supplemental Instruction in some developmental math courses

Anoka Technical College- $94,191
Provide faculty student success advisor for underrepresented students
Implement Early Alert system
Initiate First Year Experience course

Central Lakes College- $181,063
Advisor assigned to work with schools with large underrepresented student populations
Retention specialist to provide services to underrepresented students
Diversity coordinator to provide outreach to new students
Diversity coordinator to provide advising and support to current students

Century College- $422,449
Establish Learning Communities program, primarily for developmental courses
Enhance Supplemental Instruction program
Establish Intensive Faculty Advising and Mentoring program pairing students and faculty

Dakota County Technical College- $124,670
Focus on underrepresented student athletes
Provide intrusive advising
Provide peer tutoring
Involve faculty in providing academic progress reports

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College- $85,632
Focus on low performing students at risk of academic suspension
Provide academic skills instruction and workshops
Intrusive advising and mandatory study sessions
Use of PLATO web learning network
Hennepin Technical College- $247,045
  Expand high school outreach efforts with high school advisor liaison
  Implement case management approach for students on academic probation
  Provide College Lab Assistant support for anatomy and physiology students

Inver Hills Community College- $201,572
  Expand iConnect underrepresented student outreach and recruitment program
  Develop Structured Learning Assistance program for high risk courses
  Expand On Course first-year experience program

Lake Superior College- $186,690
  Implement professional mentor program
  Expand High School Connections and Summer and Winter College Bridge Program
  Begin underrepresented student ambassador, student worker and peer mentor programs
  Expand First Year Experience program

Minneapolis Community and Technical College- $465,424
  Enhance Power of YOU retention efforts
  Provide intrusive advising
  Provide additional tutoring support
  Make referrals to community resources for personal concerns

Minnesota State College- Southeast Technical- $102,194
  Increase faculty participation in Academic Progression Reporting System
  Initiate Boys to Men summer bridge program
  Establish E-mentoring program
  Increase outreach to underrepresented students in Southeast Perkins IV Consortium

Minnesota State Community and Technical College- $289,337
  Underrepresented student advisors on each campus will provide intrusive advising
  Establish learning communities at Moorhead and Detroit Lakes campuses
  Establish New Start program for academically at risk transfer students

Minnesota West Community and Technical College- $121,090
  Increase Native American outreach and recruitment efforts
  Enhance Fast Track readiness program for underprepared first generation students
  Increase use of case management approach for students on academic probation

Normandale Community College- $365,375
  Implement Supplemental Instruction for anatomy and physiology courses
  Expand English for Academic Purposes program and provide tutoring
  Enhance Level Up! summer bridge program
  Increase underrepresented student participation in Academy of Math and Science
  Expand Math Summer Bridge program
  Initiate web-based early warning system for academically at risk students
North Hennepin Community College- $291,939
   Expand Cornerstones college readiness summer program
   Expand First Year Experience programming
   Increase student participation in Pathways orientation program
   Increase number of learning communities offered

Northeast Higher Education District- $255,395
   Hibbing Community College
      Student Success Coordinator will provide services for underrepresented students
      Increase tutoring services
      Develop early warning/early intervention system
      Develop peer mentoring program
   Itasca Community College
      Increase outreach to Native American communities
      Initiate early warning interventions
      Increase advisement and engagement activities
      Coordinate efforts of Multicultural Affairs, Trio, and Counseling departments
   Mesabi Range Community and Technical College
      Increase Academic Journey outreach program to high school students
      Expand educational offerings at Bois Forte reservation
   Rainy River Community College
      Increase targeted high school and reservation outreach
      Expand use of retention tools including student academic notebook/success program
      Provide mid-term follow-up on academic progress and required interventions
   Vermilion Community College
      Expand Vermilion Summer Bridge program
      Expand Overtime Program study group/tutorial sessions
      Expand mentorship program for underrepresented women in nontraditional careers

Northland Community and Technical College- $171,234
   Expand intrusive advising program
   Initiate Supplemental Instruction program
   Enhance social integration and cultural awareness activities

Northwest Technical College- $69,006
   Implement College Success Mentoring program
   Initiate Early Alert system for academically at risk students
   Increase services and activities for American Indian students

Pine Technical College- $42,484
   Focus on underrepresented students in developmental courses
   Initiate early identification and continuing monitoring program
   Provide tutoring and study skills instruction
Ridgewater College- $175,528
  Increase outreach and recruitment efforts to Latino and Somali communities
  Expand Student Success Program for underrepresented students
  Establish Learning Communities program
  Initiate Summer Bridge program

Riverland Community College- $149,313
  Expand outreach and recruitment to Hispanic community
  Develop Easy Enrollment program as alternative to traditional process
  Initiate Summer College Prep Academy program for underprepared students
  Expand advising and support services for students on academic probation

Rochester Community and Technical College- $241,287
  Continue College Transition/Advisor services with Rochester Public Schools
  Enhance intrusive advising services
  Increase use of UCR Learning Center by underrepresented students
  Implement RETAIN program to track performance of underrepresented students

St. Cloud Technical College- $190,057
  Increase recruitment efforts targeting ABE and GED students
  Expand Summer Bridge program
  Continue intrusive advising program
  Expand Supplemental Instruction for developmental courses

Saint Paul College- $283,757
  Expand recruitment and retention efforts for Power of YOU
  Expand Early Alert Referral System
  Provide intrusive advising to POY students
  Provide tutoring for students in developmental math courses

South Central College- $162,816
  Multicultural Advisors will expand outreach and recruitment efforts
  Increase student engagement with the college
  Develop student identification and tracking mechanism

Bemidji State University- $175,719
  Retention counselors will provide intrusive advising
  Offer First Year Experience course for underrepresented students
  Establish peer tutor/mentor program
  Expand outreach and recruitment efforts in Native American communities

Metropolitan State University- $241,556
  Hire four faculty to teach “Access” math and writing/composition courses
  Provide workshops for community faculty on teaching underrepresented students
  Build relationships among campus units to facilitate better use of support services
Minnesota State University, Mankato- $454,507
  Increase recruitment efforts aimed at underrepresented students
  Expand College Access Program to serve more students
  Expand Institutional Diversity English Institute
  Identify and provide academic intervention strategies to academically at risk students
  Continue summer bridge and college preparation programs

Minnesota State University Moorhead- $239,170
  Target recruitment efforts toward Latino and Native American communities
  Develop Academic Apprenticeship program for underrepresented students
  Develop summer bridge program for underrepresented students
  Establish living and learning community program
  Establish American Indian Resource and Research Center

St. Cloud State University- $539,489
  Continue recruitment efforts aimed at Latino, Somali and American Indian communities
  Implement STEM careers awareness activities for underrepresented students
  Fully implement learning communities program
  Continue Study Abroad Short-Term Programs for underrepresented students
  Hire a multicultural undergraduate academic advisor
  Continue faculty coordinator for students of color retention position

Southwest Minnesota State University- $179,065
  Increase recruitment efforts for underrepresented students
  Implement Summer Bridge program
  Establish AOS Living Learning Community

Winona State University- $249,060
  Continue use of Academic Progression Reporting System
  Develop peer mentoring program
  Continue Summer Bridge Boys to Men program
  Expand diversity recruitment efforts
  Expand academic advising for underrepresented students