MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Agenda Item Summary Sheet

Committee: Academic and Student Affairs

Date of Meeting: March 17, 2010

Agenda Item: Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.24, System and Institutional Missions (First Reading)

☑ Proposed Policy Change
☐ Approvals Required by Policy
☐ Other Approvals
☐ Monitoring

☐ Information

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

Amendments to Board policy require approval of the Board.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

Linda L. Baer, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
Leslie K. Mercer, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, Planning, and Effectiveness

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

- The Board of Trustees conveyed interest in better articulating expectations for a change in mission leading to new award authority including a first and second reading of such a request.
- The Office of Legislative Auditor Study of MnSCU Occupational Programs conducted in 2009 included findings related to the frequency of mission approvals and alignment of college mission statements with system and industry needs.

Background Information:

The proposed policy is a first reading to amend policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions. Development of the proposed policy followed standard policy revision processes. After approval of the amended policy by the Board of Trustees, procedure 3.24.1, System and Institutional Missions will be submitted to the Chancellor for approval.
The Office of the Chancellor is submitting a proposed amendment to Policy 3.24, System and Institutional Missions.

BACKGROUND
The proposed policy amendment and a related proposed system procedure primarily respond to the following interests of the Board of Trustees:

1. The Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee suggested that institutional requests for a change in mission for new award authority require a first and second reading of the Board of Trustees.

2. The 2009 Office of the Legislative Auditor’s report titled MnSCU Occupational Programs addressed the consistency of mission reviews was an area of potential improvement and recommended that: “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.”

CONSULTATION
Consultation for the policy and procedure has occurred as follows:
Reviewed by Academic and Student Affairs Policy Council – 1/21/10
Reviewed at Academic and Student Affairs Leadership Council – 01/05/10
Mailed out for review and comment – 2/26/10
Review and comment at Inter Faculty Organization (IFO) Meet and Confer – 2/5/10
Review and comment at Minnesota State University Association of Administrative and Service Faculty (MSUAASF) Meet and Confer – 2/12/10
Review and comment at Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF) Meet and Confer – 02/25/10

RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE ACTION
The Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

RECOMMENDED MOTION
The Board of Trustees approves the proposed amendment to Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions.

Presented to the Board: March 17, 2010
3.24 System and Institutional-College and University Missions

Part 1: Purpose. The purpose of this policy is to establish conditions and processes for the review of system and college and university missions.

Part 2. Definitions. The following definitions apply to this policy and related procedures.

Mission: Mission means the distinct purpose of the college or university, the constituents served and the expected outcomes, values and goals, and aspects such as institution culture, decision making processes, and the principles and behaviors to reach aspirational outcomes.

Vision: Vision means the aspirations of the college or university, the primary products or services, the distinctive or unique attributes of the college or university, and assumptions about the college and university and its environment in the future.

Part 31: Review and Approval of the MnSCU System Mission and Vision. The Board of Trustees shall periodically review, revise as appropriate, and approve the system mission and vision at least once every five years. The mission and vision shall align with state needs. The Board of Trustees shall assure there is consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders. The Chancellor shall promulgate procedures for the development of the system mission and vision.

Part 42: Review and Approval of MnSCU Institutional-College and University Mission and Vision Statements. The Board of Trustees shall approve each college or university institution's mission and vision statements require Board of Trustees approval and purposes. The Chancellor shall have authority to approve minor revisions to an approved mission and vision statement. An institution's mission and vision shall support achievement of the MnSCU system mission and vision and shall provide a foundation for evaluation, accountability, and regional accreditation. The Chancellor shall promulgate procedures to guide the Board of Trustees' review and approval of institutional-college or university missions and visions and purposes. Each institution college or university, with consultation from faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders, shall be given considerable latitude to express its mission and vision and purposes.
Part 5: Academic Award. A change in authority to confer an academic award is subject to approval by the Board, following a first and second reading in accordance with Policy 1A.1 Part 6, Subpart A.

Part 63: Alignment of Between MnSCU Institutional College and University Missions And Higher Education Needs in Minnesota Visions. The Chancellor shall report to the Board of Trustees on the alignment of institutional college and university missions and visions with the system mission and vision and with Minnesota's higher education needs, statutory authority, structure and resources at least once every five years. Based on this review, which shall include consultation with faculty and staff, students, employers and other essential stakeholders, the Board may redirect a college’s or university’s institution’s mission and vision to advance regional and statewide higher education interests.

Date of Implementation: 07/01/99
Date of Adoption: 06/16/99
Date and Subject of Revision:

POLICY CONTENT FORMAT:
Single underlining represents proposed new language.
Strikethrough represents existing language proposed to be eliminated.
Words not underlined represent existing language that is proposed to remain in policy.