

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BOARD MAJOR TOPIC DISCUSSION ON 2020 PLANNING
NOVEMBER 19, 2008**

Board of Trustee Members Present: Chair David Olson, Trustees Duane Benson, Cheryl Dickson, Jacob Englund, Ruth Grendahl, Allyson Lueneburg, Dan McElroy, David Paskach, Thomas Renier, Christine Rice, Louise Sundin, Scott Thiss, Terri Thomas and James Van Houten.

Board Members Absent: Trustee Clarence Hightower.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees held a Major Topic Discussion on Nov. 19, 2008 at Wells Fargo Place, 4th Floor, Board Room, 30 East 7th Street in St. Paul. Trustee Thiss called the session to order at 12:33 pm.

The Board of Trustees requested the opportunity to advance their 2020 planning discussion during a special meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Presenters:

Linda L. Baer, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
Patrick Johns, President, Anoka-Ramsey Community College

During the Board of Trustees October retreat, five key themes for 2020 planning were identified:

- Student-centered success;
- Organizational culture of change and innovation;
- Maximized teaching, learning and research environments;
- Supportive infrastructure and technologies;
- Financial sustainability and accountability.

Senior Vice Chancellor Baer invited the Trustees to comment on the themes. She asked if there are themes they wanted to add or delete.

Comments on the themes included:

- Trustee Dickson said student-centered success is a lofty goal, but it focuses too much on current students, rather than putting the focus on potential or future students.
- Partnerships should be a more dominant theme, Trustee Rice said. In the future it will be important to foster strong partnerships with business, industry, secondary education and other key players in economic development in order to advance higher education.

Trustee Paskach concurred. He said in order for the system to change and grow, partnerships and relationships will be crucial. Everyone will need to be at the table for discussions, he said.

- Trustee Van Houten said he would like to see a theme that involves the system maintaining the current tuition cost advantage it has over other higher education options. This would promote continued accessibility to higher education, he said.
- Trustee Benson said he sees the need for a new economic model that is full of innovation. A starting point could be a plan that channels the money to students, forcing higher education institutions to then compete for those students.
- An organizational culture of change and innovation needs to be a part of every theme when it comes to planning for the future, Chair Olson said.
- Chancellor McCormick said an important theme he sees missing is an emphasis on global education. The world is changing so rapidly that if Minnesota students can't cope, they won't be players in the global economy. Strong global education strategies are vital for a healthy system, he said.
- Trustee Van Houten said he would like to see a theme that promotes the state universities' teaching mission rather than a mission that focuses on both teaching and research. Embracing a sole mission could result in cost savings, he said.
- The themes appear to relate to the situation as it is today, Trustee Benson said. He asked if the staff and Leadership Council could consider if the current mission and visions will still apply in 2020.

Trustees agreed that staff should work on creating a draft of the 2020 plan and present it at a future meeting for further discussion. Approval of the plan is expected in mid-2009.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm
Respectfully submitted,
Margie Takash, Recorder