

MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2009

SAINT PAUL COLLEGE

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

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

Trustees Absent:

1. Call to Order

Chair David Olson called the meeting to order at 1:23 p.m. and reported that a quorum was present.

Chair Olson acknowledged and thanked President Donovan Schwichtenberg and his staff for hosting the Board meeting at Saint Paul College.

2. Chair's Report

a. Minutes of Major Topic Discussion: 2020 Planning of November 19, 2008

Chair Olson stated that the minutes were approved as written.

b. Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting of November 19, 2008

Chair Olson stated that the minutes were approved as written.

c. Minutes of Major Topic Discussion: 2020 Planning of December 11, 2008

Chair Olson stated that the minutes were approved as written.

d. Additional Board Meeting Dates

Chair Olson announced that additional meeting dates were added to the Board of Trustees FY 2009 meeting calendar as follows:

- February 25, Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee will hold a public hearing on the 2010-2015 Capital Budget.
- June 17-18, Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee FY 2010-2011 Operating Budget Including Tuition and Fees, Committees and Board Meetings and Chancellor Assessment.

3. Consent Agenda

a. Minnesota State University, Mankato Construction Contract Approval

b. Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical Property Disposition

c. Metropolitan State University Contract Approval

d. FY 2009 Unallotment Action

e. Select Internal Audit Topic for FY 2009

Trustee Duane Benson moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Vice Chair Ruth Grendahl seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Board Policy Decisions

a. Proposed Amendment to Policy 3.18 Honorary Degrees (Second Reading)

Trustee Dan McElroy moved that the Board of Trustees approves the Proposed Amendment to Policy 3.18 Honorary Degrees as amended to include: Part 7. Report to the Board. The Chancellor shall provide a report on honorary degrees awarded to the Board in January and July of each year. The report shall include information about the number of degrees awarded, names of recipients, and degree designations. Vice Chair Grendahl seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

b. Proposed Amendment to Policy 3.36 Academic Programs (Second Reading)

Trustee McElroy moved that the Board of Trustees approves the amendment to Policy 3.36 Academic Programs. Trustee Scott Thiss seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Benson moved that the approved motion to add that the Chancellor is directed to prepare and propose to the legislature a repealer of the 60/120 credit legislation in 2007 laws of Minnesota, chapter 144. Trustee McElroy seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

c. Century College Mission Approval

Trustee Jacob Englund moved that the Board of Trustees approves the request by Century College to approve its proposed vision, mission, goals, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary. Trustee Christine Rice seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

d. Ridgewater College Mission Approval

Vice Chair Grendahl moved that the Board of Trustees approves the request by Ridgewater College to approve its proposed vision, mission, goals, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary. Trustee McElroy seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

e. Review External Audit Plan and Select Colleges Subject to Annual Financial Statement Audits

Trustee James Van Houten moved that based on the review and recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Board of Trustees approves the Executive Director of Internal Auditing and Vice Chancellor for Finance issuing a Request for Proposals to solicit bids from certified public accounting firms interested in conducting annual financial statement audits of the following colleges and universities:

- *For fiscal years 2009 to 2011: Century College, Hennepin Technical College, Metropolitan State University, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Rochester Community and Technical College and Southwest Minnesota State University.*
 - *Contract option for fiscal years 2010 and 2011: Normandale Community College.*
- Furthermore, based on the review and recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Board of Trustees approves the Executive Director of Internal Auditing and Vice Chancellor for Finance making arrangements with the Legislative Auditor to conduct periodic financial audits of colleges not subject to annual financial statement audits. Trustee Jacob Englund seconded and the motion carried unanimously.*

5. Board Standing Committee Reports

a. Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Dan McElroy, Chair

- (1) Academic and Student Affairs Update
Committee Chair McElroy reported that due to time constraints there was no Academic and Student Affairs Update.
- (2) Joint Iron Range Task Force Report
Committee Chair McElroy reported that the committee heard a report on the Joint Iron Range Task Force. The task force is identifying potential programs and their finance and facilities implications for new and expanded programs in the Mesabi Range region.
- (3) Minnesota State Colleges and Universities/University of Minnesota Joint Report
Committee Chair McElroy reported that the committee heard a report on the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities/University of Minnesota Joint Report. The legislature requires that the report is submitted on February 15 of odd numbered years. The report reflects the long-term, ongoing, and effective working relationship between the two systems to develop and coordinate joint post-secondary programs in the Twin Cities and throughout the state of Minnesota.
- (4) Centers of Excellence Evaluation: Wilder Report
Committee Chair McElroy reported that the committee heard a report on the Centers of Excellence Evaluation: Wilder Report. The report provided an overview of the Wilder Research program evaluation and an opportunity to discuss ongoing financial support for the Centers of Excellence.
- (5) Campus Profile: Dakota County Technical College
Committee Chair McElroy reported that the committee heard a profile of Dakota County Technical College from President Ron Thomas. Dakota County Technical College is one of five stand-alone public technical colleges in Minnesota maintaining valuable technical programs.
- (6) Faculty Recognition
Committee Chair McElroy reported that the committee recognized two faculty members for receiving prestigious awards in academic teaching and research:

Dr. Eugenia Paulus, chemistry instructor at North Hennepin Community College, was selected as the United States Community Colleges Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Dr. Anton Treuer, associate professor of Ojibwa at Bemidji State University, has been awarded a 2008 fellowship from the Guggenheim Foundation.

(7) Other

Trustee Rice remarked that the Centers of Excellence report by Wilder Research was highly positive. The Academic and Student Affairs committee discussed funding of the Centers and deferred it to the Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee.

Trustee Van Houten noted concerns with the Wilder report as follows: a lack of cooperation among various partners, a lack of agreement of a Center's mission, a lack of awareness by the Centers participants and a lack of accountability and standards for institutional leadership, which included changing job descriptions for participants. Trustee Van Houten remarked that the system's expectations should be communicated more clearly.

Chancellor McCormick responded that the report contained observations that will be taken into advisement and will be reported back to the Board. Chancellor McCormick stated that there are several decisions to be made regarding summer programming and staff retention.

b. Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee, Thomas Renier, Chair

(1) Finance, Facilities and Technology Update

Committee Chair Thomas Renier reported that the committee heard an update from Vice Chancellor Laura King on the activities of the Finance, Facilities and Technology division.

(2) FY 2010-2015 Capital Budget Update

Committee Chair Renier reported that the committee heard an update on the FY 2010-2015 Capital Budget. The capital budget process is underway in preparation for the 2010 legislative session. The FY 2010-2015 Capital Budget Hearing scheduled on February 25, 2009, will focus on colleges and universities that have concern over their project's placement or non-placement on the draft capital projects priority list to be released in early February 2009.

(3) FY 2010-2011 Budget Planning Update

Committee Chair Renier reported that the committee heard an update on the FY 2010-2011 Budget Planning. The committee had considerable discussion regarding the decisions to be made while keeping alignment in serving the students and the strategic initiative. Chair Olson stated that Trustees Hightower, Renier and Thiss will serve as an advisory group on issues as they arise. The group and/or the Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee will meet as needed in the coming months.

(4) FY 2008 and FY 2007 Audited Financial Statements

Committee Chair Renier reported that the committee received the FY 2008 and FY 2007 Audited Financial Statements as information.

c. Human Resources Committee, Ruth Grendahl, Chair

- (1) Human Resources Update
Committee Chair Grendahl reported that the committee heard an update from Vice Chancellor Bill Tschida on the Human Resources division.
- (2) Review Demographic Report
Committee Chair Grendahl reported that the committee heard a review of the Demographic Report. The review included additional data requested by the committee at the November 2008 meeting.
- (3) Closed Session on Bargaining Pursuant to Minnesota Statute §13D.03 (2008)
Committee Chair Grendahl reported that the committee met in closed session for a discussion of labor negotiations.

d. Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee, Duane Benson, Chair

- (1) Diversity and Multiculturalism Update
Committee Chair Benson reported that the committee heard an update from Executive Director Whitney Stewart Harris on the activities of the Diversity and Multiculturalism division.
- (2) Campus Climate Update: Community College Student Engagement Survey
Committee Chair Benson reported that the committee heard an update on the findings and insights from the campus climate and student engagement surveys. Each institution will conduct campus climate assessments every three years according to the Office of the Chancellor systemwide diversity plan.
- (3) FY 2009 Diversity and Multiculturalism Division Work Plan
Committee Chair Benson reported that the committee heard a report on the FY 2009 Diversity and Multiculturalism division's Work Plan. The committee reviewed and discussed strategies in consideration of budget constraints.

e. Audit Committee, Scott Thiss, Chair

- (1) Review Legislative Auditor Report on the Use of General Obligation Bonds
Committee Chair Thiss reported that the committee heard a report from the Legislative Auditor on the Use of General Obligation Bonds.

f. Advancement Committee, Christine Rice, Chair

- (1) Advancement Update
Committee Chair Rice reported that the committee heard an update on the Public Affairs division from Associate Vice Chancellor Linda Kohl.

- (2) **Overview of the Bush Foundation's Current Goals and Programs**
Committee Chair Rice reported that the committee heard a presentation on the Bush Foundation's current goals and programs from Peter Hutchinson, president of the Bush Foundation. Due to time constraints, Mr. Hutchinson will return for further discussion at a future meeting.
- (3) **State and Federal Updates**
Committee Chair Rice reported that the committee heard an update of the State and Federal issues.
- (4) **Amendment to Policy 1A.11 College and University Names and Permanent Locations (First Reading)**
Committee Chair Rice reported that the committee heard a first reading of an amendment to Policy 1A.11 College and University Names and Permanent Locations.
- (5) **Legislative Guests**
Committee Chair Rice reported that Senators Claire Robling and Kathy Sheran, and Representatives Bud Nornes and Tom Rukavina met with the committee and provided their priorities for higher education in the current legislative session.

6. Joint Council of Student Associations

a. Minnesota State College Student Association (MSCSA)

Mr. Jacob Littler, President, addressed the Board of Trustees.

b. Minnesota State University Student Association (MSUSA)

Mr. Chris Frederick, State Chair, addressed the Board of Trustees.

7. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities' Bargaining Units

No reports were given by the bargaining units.

8. Trustees Reports

Chair Olson and Trustees Rice and Sundin reported their participation at the fall commencements.

Trustee Thiss reported that he attended the National Governors Association meeting on Higher Education in Kentucky.

9. Chancellor's Comments

Chancellor McCormick thanked the presidents for their efforts and support in light of the difficult budget decisions that will be made.

Chancellor McCormick announced that there are five Higher Learning Commission site visits scheduled in the spring. Chancellor McCormick continued that it is important that the Chair or a designated member of the Board should attend a part of the site visits.

Chancellor McCormick acknowledged and thanked President Schwichtenberg and his staff for their work and hospitality in accommodating the Board meeting at Saint Paul College. Chancellor McCormick commented that the Board strongly invested in technology and it was demonstrated well at the Sun Microsystems Center of Excellence grand opening at the college.

10. Requests by Individuals to Address the Board

There were no requests to address the Board.

11. Other

Chair Olson announced that the Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee will hold a public hearing of the FY 2010-2015 Capital Budget on Wednesday, February 25. Chair Olson noted that the committee may need to meet prior to the hearing.

Trustee Van Houten requested an addition to the Executive Committee agenda for a discussion to amend Board policy 1A.2, to change the term limits of officers from two years to three years. Chair Olson responded that it will be discussed at the Executive Committee.

12. Adjournment

Chair Olson adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Ingeborg K. Chapin
Secretary to the Board