

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DIVERSITY AND MULTICUTURALISM COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2010**

Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee Members Present: Trustees Duane Benson, Chair; Clarence Hightower, Vice Chair; Christopher Frederick, Thomas Renier, Louise Sundin

Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee Members Absent: Terri Thomas

Other Board Members Present: Trustees Cheryl Dickson, Jacob England, James Van Houten

Leadership Council Members Present: Whitney Harris, Executive Director; Edna Szymanski, President

A meeting of the Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee was held on April 20, 2010, at Wells Fargo Place, 4th Floor Board Room, 30 7th Street East, St. Paul. Chair Benson called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

1. Minutes of the March 17, 2010 Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee

The minutes of the March 17, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

2. Diversity and Multiculturalism Update

Trustee Benson called on Dr. Harris to give the update.

Evaluation, assessment and accountability

An Office for Civil Rights on-site review was completed at Pine Technical College. An on-site review is a monitoring visit, but it is also a way to create a welcoming environment for diverse students.

Operations

The Diversity and Multiculturalism division has been collaborating with the Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans in a focused outreach program to Asian American groups. This collaboration included a weekend leadership retreat for Asian American and Pacific Islander youth and a poster campaign which produced posters that were sent to 700 Minnesota high schools. Although Asian American students are stereotyped as model students, they have similar access and opportunity issues to those of other underrepresented groups. This work is being evaluated by enrollment figures, Community College Survey of Student

Engagement (CCSSE) and National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) data and program evaluations completed by participants.

3. Follow-up to OLA Evaluation of the System Office

Dr. Harris pointed out that the Office of the Legislative Auditor (OLA) Report had no specific recommendations for change for the Diversity and Multiculturalism division. One recommendation the report made was to offer training on a regional and systemwide basis. The division already conducts about 60 percent of its training in this manner. The other 40 percent is in response to specific campus requests or issues. The other OLA recommendation that requires the attention of the Diversity and Multiculturalism division is the recommendation to improve the Board's ability to monitor administrative productivity and efficiency and to measure costs against reasonable benchmarks. This recommendation is applicable to all divisions of the Office of the Chancellor. The items listed in the Board documents are for preliminary discussion and feedback before Dr. Harris and his staff develop a draft Diversity and Multiculturalism divisional response to the OLA report.

Trustee Benson summarized that what was being requested of the committee was help in defining performance indicators to use in measuring outcomes of Diversity and Multiculturalism work. Much of the work of the division is hard to measure, and it is hard to prove that the recent positive enrollment trends are the result of this work.

After discussion, the committee agreed that the performance standards to be used for the work of diversity should be based upon student recruitment, retention and graduation. Dr. Harris, in consultation with Trustee Benson and President Szymanski, will come back to the Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee with a proposal which will lay out ways to measure these three goals and some measurable tactics for achieving them.

4. Century College and Inver Hills Community College Access and Opportunity Center Evaluation Report

Dr. Harris called on Dr. Mike López, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, to provide background for this agenda item and to introduce the guest presenters. Dr. López said that the Board had provided funding for three higher education access and opportunities centers. The ()Tj E(e)4(nt)o

