

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Board of Trustees

Winona State University

October 17, 2018

Present: Chair Michael Vekich, Vice Chair Jay Cowles, Treasurer Roger Moe, and Trustees AbdulRahmane Abdul-Aziz, Ashlyn Anderson, Alex Cirillo, Bob Hoffman, Jerry Janezich, Roger Moe, April Nishimura, Rudy Rodriguez, George Soule, Louise Sundin, Cheryl Tefer, Samson Williams, and Chancellor Devinder Malhotra

Absent: Trustee Dawn Erlandson

Call to Order

Chair Vekich called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm, at Winona State University. He read the following statement before proceeding with the agenda.

We would like to recognize that Winona State University is situated on ancestral lands of the Dakota People. Please take a moment to acknowledge and honor the Dakota Nations and the sacred lands of all indigenous and First Nations people.

After a moment of silence, Chair Vekich commented that it has been a pleasure to meet on the Winona State University campus and to go on a tour of Minnesota State College Southeast. There was a luncheon today with business and community members and elected officials.

He invited President Scott Olson and Interim President Larry Lundblad to make some comments. President Olson thanked the trustees and chancellor for coming to Winona. The campus community was honored to host the Board of Trustees meetings. President Olson also thanked all of the Winona State University folks who worked on making this a wonderful experience. Interim President Lundblad commented that the board's and chancellor's visit to the college was energizing. It was great to have the board in the community.

Chair Vekich revised the order of the agenda so that the reports of the Facilities Committee and the Finance Committees could be heard first.

Board Standing Committee Reports

Facilities Committee, Jerry Janezich, Chair

Committee Chair Jerry Janezich reported that the committee approved the 2019 Capital Budget Recommendation and acquisition of real property at Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Fergus Falls. Both items are on the board's consent agenda. The committee also had an orientation on the facilities assets and associated programs.

Finance Committee, Roger Moe, Chair

Committee Chair Roger Moe reported that two of the Finance Committee's agenda items are on the Consent Agenda: Contract Exceeding \$1 Million for MSU, Mankato and the Bachelor's

Degree Partnership Program. A proposed new policy, 5.26 Management of Enterprise System Data was presented as a first reading, but the committee decided to suspend the rules to approve it.

Committee Chair Moe asked for a motion to suspend the rules so that the board could consider adopting Policy 5.26. Trustee Hoffman made the motion, it was seconded and carried unanimously. Chair Vekich declared that the two-thirds majority to approve the suspension prevailed.

Trustee Moe moved that the Board of Trustees approves the proposed Policy 5.26 Management of Enterprise System Data. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Moe reported on the other agenda items. He received a letter from the president of LeadMN regarding the Fee Study Report. The letter has been provided to each trustee and he encouraged them to read it. The most important discussion was the biennial budget request of \$246 million dollars. The request is focused on student financial aid, student affordability, retention programs, efforts on NextGen, and career and technical education. It will be presented for approval at the November board meeting.

Chair's Report, Michael Vekich
Reimagining Minnesota State

Informed by the discussion at the September Board retreat, we have been moving forward with organizing the Reimagining Minnesota State initiative. I have asked Lisa Foss, Chancellor's Fellow for Reimagining Minnesota State, to provide a project update, but before I ask her to speak, I wanted to add my own comments and observations about the project to date.

First, I'm pleased to announce that we have added our final member to Reimagining Minnesota State Advisory Group. Dr. Kathy Annette, President and CEO of the Blandin Foundation in Grand Rapids, MN, has agreed to join the group of thoughtful Minnesota leaders who have agreed to give of their time, talent and wisdom to assist us in our visioning work.

Last week, we held an Orientation session for the Advisory Group. The original intent of the session was to provide them with an overview of the scale and scope of the tremendous work Minnesota State does across Minnesota, a sense of the challenges and opportunities facing Minnesota State as we plan for our future, and an overview of the Reimagining Minnesota State initiative and their role as the Advisory Group to the initiative. That was the plan, anyway.

After initial introductions, the conversation turned to their observations of the importance of Minnesota State to the people and communities in Minnesota and how

the Advisory Group could add value to our efforts to position Minnesota State for the future through strategic innovation.

Informed by their own experiences they reminded us that we do not start with innovation.... That as a system, they challenged us to be clear about the answers to three questions that must be addressed as a result of Reimagining Minnesota State: What one Advisory Group member said were: “The Why?” “The What?” “And The How?.

For Reimagining Minnesota State initiative, this means having clarity and agreement on:

- *Our unique value proposition* to the people of the State of Minnesota – The Why question.
- *Our key outcomes* of student success and social vitality and economic prosperity for Minnesota – The What question.
- *How we will foster and support a culture of innovation across our system* that empowers our people to collaborate on innovative approaches to move the needle on our key outcomes – The How question.

It was an engaging conversation, and we too quickly reached the end of the planned orientation session time before we were half-way through the agenda. Because of this, I have decided to schedule a second orientation session with the Advisory Group to complete the agenda so they are well-informed about the important work of Minnesota State and are comfortable engaging with Minnesota State as we complete Phase I of our effort. You have received a copy of the agenda and the background materials they received.

We had tentatively discussed having our first Forum Session on November 5. We will instead use that time to complete the Advisory Group orientation and host our first Forum Session on December 10. We have scheduled an additional date in April to complete the fifth Forum Session.

As I said to the Forum Advisory Group, we are at an important crossroads for higher education in general and Minnesota State specifically. How should a system formed 20 years ago respond to the forces of tomorrow and improve on our key outcomes of student success and economic vibrancy for Minnesota? These are the key questions at the heart of Reimagining Minnesota State. I will now ask Lisa to provide a project update.

Lisa Foss, the Chancellor’s Fellow, reported that the work to date has been around planning and scaling up the project. First is developing a communication strategy, as communication and transparency are really important. The public website will be available soon. A second area of focus is seeking ways to engage the campuses throughout the process. One idea is to have them invite a member of the staff to answer questions. Presidents are also invited to host

discussions on their campuses. Campuses have been asked to share examples of innovations, especially examples of innovation that are best practices. Also seeking recommendations for forum topics. The first public forum session is on December 10 at Minneapolis College. The materials for the session will be available in advance on the website. During a forum session, the public can see the materials and ask questions.

Chancellor's Report, Devinder Malhotra

Chair Vekich, Vice Chair Cowles, and members of the board, I would like to begin my report by thanking Winona State President Scott Olson and Minnesota State College Southeast Interim President Larry Lundblad for hosting the board meeting this week and sharing their campuses with us. Spending time on a campus and interacting with faculty, students, and staff reminds us all why we are committed to the work we do.

President Olson, President Lundblad, thank you – to you and to all of your staff who have made yesterday and today possible.

Partnership Tour Update

Yesterday in the Ad Hoc Committee on Outreach and Advocacy, we provided an update on our partnership tours. Today I would like to offer some reflections on what I have heard and seen so far in the course of the 1,000 miles I have traveled since the tours began in August. Each stop has been a collaboration with our presidents and local business and industry in communities like St. Cloud, Anoka, Pine, Duluth, Grand Rapids, Bemidji, Granite Falls, Willmar, and Hutchinson.

In our discussions with community partners, the presidents and I have been in listening mode in order to understand the extent of current partnerships our colleges and universities have with businesses, non-profits, and the K-12 sector. We heard what is working and what challenges exist.

There is, as you might expect, a certain amount of concern around the current workforce shortage and the uncertainty around where companies will find employees. One issue that surfaced at every visit was how difficult it has become to find workers with technical skills. That means we will need to ramp up career and technical education to meet workforce needs now and into future.

Local legislators also took part in the discussions, which made the visits an ideal opportunity for us to demonstrate the strong relationships Minnesota State has in their communities, as well as our willingness and desire to build on current relationships and sustains our partnerships. Minnesota State is fortunate to also have highly productive partnerships with our legislators, and one of our greatest assets is their commitment to the success of their local campuses and the students they serve. At every stop on the tour, it has been crystal clear that our campuses advance the economic, social, and cultural vitality in communities across the state. That is why everyone I spoke with in

every sector was passionate about the work they do jointly with us. Therefore, it is critically important for us to harness this good will and translate it into authentic advocacy on our behalf with legislators and other policy makers.

Foundation Partnerships

In the spirit of partnership, I would like to share with you one example from a campus. As you may recall, last spring the Frandsen Family Foundation announced that it would provide two years of tuition and fees at Pine Technical and Community College to every student completing their senior year at Rush City High School or through home-schooling. Out of the 60 seniors last year at Rush City High School, 26 are now students at Pine.

That sparked another partnership with a local family foundation, benefiting an additional five area high schools for students who will graduate this spring. The Kick Start scholarship will cover one year of free tuition plus a \$1,000 stipend for those graduates on free or reduced lunch. This kind of partnership has been replicated in Austin, Minnesota. Earlier this month, the Hormel Foundation, Austin Public Schools, Pacelli Catholic Schools, and Riverland Community College announced the Hormel Foundation Austin Assurance Scholarship.

The scholarship will cover tuition and some fees for two years for all qualifying Austin Public and Pacelli Catholic Schools graduates at any Riverland Community College campus. As Riverland President Atewologun has described the importance of this partnership, the scholarship “is ... going to be a game changer for the Austin community and for Riverland students. Postsecondary education is a very big piece of a stable community.” I am confident that these kinds of partnerships are only the beginning, and I look forward to sharing similar stories with the board as they come to fruition.

The Year Ahead

My final topic for this month’s report is the system office agenda that we have been developing on the heels of the Leadership Council Retreat and the Board Retreat last month. Our three organizing principles – student success, diversity equity and inclusion, and programmatic and financial sustainability – will continue to be our guideposts for the upcoming year, during which three areas in particular will need our attention:

The first area is, of course, Reimagining Minnesota State, and the importance of having reimagining conversations throughout our community – including with Leadership Council and with students, faculty, and staff.

The second of focus is completion of a system-level assessment of Career and Technical Education to align ourselves better with Minnesota’s workforce challenges and then develop an overarching strategy for workforce development. This assessment will look at the larger umbrella of workforce, which spans everything from non-credit

comprehensive workforce training; credit-bearing career and technical education at our colleges; and professional degree programs at our universities.

Following the assessment, we will develop strategies to expand and strengthen our workforce programs. Components will include: non-credit comprehensive workforce training; credit-bearing career and technical education; seeking feedback and input from businesses to align our programs; and positioning ourselves in the policy discourse in this arena so that we can shape the agenda and lead the work at the state level.

The third and final matter that needs renewed attention is how we will position ourselves in such a way that we convey our value proposition as a system and thereby establish the imperative for Higher Education as a public enterprise. Although our value proposition is anchored in the overall value proposition of public higher education, but it ought to also convey the value proposition of having a system of public higher education.

As we develop the narrative for our value proposition and the assurance argument, the point of departure will be that Minnesota State is an interdependent network of vibrant colleges and universities committed to working together to nurture, sustain, and enhance a civically engaged, socially mobile, and economically productive society.

Our value proposition needs to answer two central questions: First, *how does having a system of public Higher Education advantage the state of Minnesota and its people?* And second, *how does having a system of public Higher Education increase the ability of our colleges and universities to be more effective?*

Closing

Chair Vekich, Vice Chair Cowles, that concludes my report.

Consent Agenda

Chair Vekich called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. It was approved unanimously.

- 1. Minutes, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, June 19, 2018**
- 2. Minutes, Joint Meeting of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Human Resources Committees, June 19, 2018**
- 3. Minutes, Committee of the Whole, June 19, 2018**
- 4. Minutes, Special Board Meeting, August 31, 2018**
- 5. 2019 Capital Budget Recommendation**
- 6. Acquisition of Real Property, Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Fergus Falls**
- 7. Contract Exceeding \$1 Million: MSU, Mankato, Athletic Team Physician and Athletic Team Physician and Athletic Training Partnership Program**
- 8. Bachelor's Degree Partnership Program – Twin Cities Baccalaureate Pilot Tuition and Fees Program**
- 9. Approval of FY2019 Audit Plan – Part 2**

Board Policy Decisions

Chair Vekich called for a motion to approve the Board Policy Decisions. The motion carried unanimously.

1. **Proposed Amendments and Repeals to Policies (Second Readings)**
 - a) **3.4 Undergraduate Admissions**
 - b) **3.35 Credit for Prior Learning**
Repeal Policies
 - a) **3.15 Advanced Placement Credit**
 - b) **3.16 International Baccalaureate Credit**
 - c) **3.33 College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) Credit**
2. **Proposed New Policy 3.42 Posthumous Academic Awards**

Academic and Student Affairs, Alex Cirillo, Chair

- a. Proposed Amendment to Policy 3.3 Assessment for Course Placement (First Reading)
- b. Proposed Amendment to Policy 3.41 Education Abroad (First Reading)
- c. Academic and Student Affairs Vision and FY19 Work Plan
- d. Academic and Student Affairs Committee FY19 Work Plan and Meeting Agenda

Human Resources Committee, Jay Cowles, Chair

Appointment of Vice Chancellor for Human Resources

Committee Chair Jay Cowles moved that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor Malhotra, appoints Eric Davis as vice chancellor for human resources effective January 7, 2019, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The board authorizes the chancellor, in consultation with the chair of the board and the chair of the Human Resources Committee, to negotiate and execute an employment agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Personnel Plan for Administrators. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Chancellor Malhotra read a prepared statement from Mr. Davis, who was unable to attend the meeting due to a long-ago planned event. Mr. Davis thanked the Board of Trustees and the chancellor and said he is looking forward to joining Minnesota State.

Updates on Leadership Programs and Executive Search Process Review

Committee Chair Cowles reported that the Human Resources Committee received information on the number of participants in this year's Executive Leadership Program, the Advanced Development Program for Deans, and the Luoma Leadership Academy. The committee also heard an update on the executive search review process.

Joint Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Finance Committees, Rudy Rodriguez and Roger Moe, Co-Chairs

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Chair Rudy Rodriguez reported on the procurement program update and redesign. Minnesota State is one of nine state entities that participated in a survey. There is a significant disparity gap for women and minority owned businesses in the procurement process. Minnesota State has created a comprehensive plan that is more

intentional with respect to closing the disparity gap. The committee will receive an update in January 2019.

Ad Hoc Committee on Outreach and Advocacy, Louise Sundin, Vice Chair

Committee Vice Chair Louise Sundin reported that the Ad Hoc Committee heard about Chancellor Malhotra's Partnership Tours. She thanked the chancellor for setting the pace and being a role model around the state, and encouraged the trustees to take him up on his invitation to join the tours.

Committee of the Whole, Michael Vekich, Chair

Chair Vekich reported that Vice Chancellor Ramon Padilla and President Scott Olson on behalf of the ERP Steering Committee provided an update on the NextGen project and Assurance Study Session. The project status remains on track, with major activities currently focused on finalizing future state discussions and socializing those results to the greater community for feedback. Upcoming activities in phase 1 involve the creation of an RFP for a new system which is anticipated to be released early summer 2019.

The assurance portion of the presentation involved mapping lessons learned from Internal Audit's May 2018 HR-TSM report to the NextGen project and a review of a meta-study of ERP best practices and how those critical success factors have been incorporated into the NextGen project planning and management. In both cases, the board was assured that these learnings have been captured and incorporated into the NextGen project. The board will receive its next update at the January 2019 meeting.

Audit Committee, Michael Vekich, Chair

Closed Session, Joint Audit and Finance Committees, Michael Vekich and Roger Moe, Co-Chairs
Chair Vekich reported that there was a closed meeting of the Audit and Finance Committees to hear an update on information security and the results of the information technology risk assessment advisory project.

Student Associations

Students United

Christina Melecio, Students United Board member, and Winona State University's Student Senate President, addressed the Board of Trustees. She introduced Carlee Diggins, the executive director of Students United.

Ms. Melecio reviewed Students United four objectives for 2018-2019. A copy was distributed to the board:

- Fully-funded tuition freeze
- Campus-wide textbook task forces
- Point of contact for undocumented student legal services, and
- Excused absence request forms

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities' Bargaining Units

Inter Faculty Organization

Brent Jeffers, president, Inter Faculty Organization addressed the Board of Trustees. He commented that as we think about reimagining – Minnesota State is the institution of choice of working class families, underrepresented people, and people that are marginalized. Online courses are an option, but students deserve an opportunity to be on a residential campus, with traditional face-to-face education. It can be a transformative experience. He encouraged the board to try to figure out a way to subsidize that part of our portfolio so that working class families can send students to a residential university.

Minnesota State University Association of Administrative and Service Faculty

Tracy Rahim, president, Minnesota State University Association of Administrative and Service Faculty commented that it has been a pleasure to host the board meeting for the past two days. She considers Winona State University as the crown jewel of Minnesota State. Twenty years ago, she enrolled in Winona State University as a first-generation college freshman. Winona State University has been a very special part of her life.

Adjournment

Chair Vekich thanked the many people who worked to make the meetings a success. The meeting adjourned at 3:33 pm.

Recording Secretary

Inge Chapin, Secretary to the Board