

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Board of Trustees

St. Paul, MN

March 20, 2019

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

Absent: Trustees Dawn Erlandson, Bob Hoffman, and Samson Williams

Call to Order

Chair Vekich called the meeting to order at 12:40 pm and announced that a quorum was present. Trustees AbdulRahmane Abdul-Aziz participated by phone.

Chair's Report, Michael Vekich

Chair Vekich introduced Diana Rangel as the new executive assistant in the board office.

Update on Reimagining Minnesota State

Chair Vekich announced that the final forum on Reimagining Minnesota State is at Metropolitan State University on April 4, 2019. The theme is innovative models and the speakers are Dr. Bridget Burns, executive director with the University Innovation Alliance and Dr. Louis Soares, chief learning and innovation officer, American Council on Education.

Chancellor Performance Review Committee

The members of the Chancellor Performance Review Committee are Chair Michael Vekich, Vice Chair Jay Cowles, and Trustees Dawn Erlandson and Bob Hoffman. The committee met with Chancellor Devinder Malhotra on March 19, 2019 and reviewed the goals, timelines, and milestones. They are being met. The committee will meet again in April.

Chancellor's Report, Devinder Malhotra

Chair Vekich, Vice Chair Cowles, and members of the board- before I begin, Trustee Tefer, on behalf of the leadership, faculty, and staff from across the system, please accept our condolences on the passing of your husband Dr. John Tefer. Please know that you and your family will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.

Since we last gathered one of our past board members, Duane Benson, passed away. Along with Trustee Moe, I was honored to represent Minnesota State in celebrating his life and many achievements. As you could imagine there were a few stories shared that brought laughter and memories. A few close family members and friends reflected on how Trustee Benson would be at his farm and just stop and look over the horizon and say: "isn't this beautiful". That message has stuck with me, and I think it is important to remember in both work and life – that the simplest of gestures can exhibit our core values and commitments.

Legislative

In a few short weeks we will again be in graduation season and this year alone Minnesota State will be graduating close to 40,000 students who through their work will not only fuel Minnesota's economy but will be the future leaders of Minnesota and will have a profound impact on the social and economic vibrancy in the communities they will live and work in.

Our legislative efforts are critical to support our students and our colleges and universities. I am thankful to Trustee Vekich along with several of our trustees and presidents and campus leaders who have joined me in making our case to policymakers. Our legislative request embodies the value proposition of our colleges and universities, and also demonstrates the potential impact on the economic prosperity of the State of Minnesota. Indeed Minnesota State continues to be the imperative for the State of Minnesota. With 60% of the total undergraduate enrollment of the state and more than half of all the postsecondary credentials, we provide Minnesota the talent it needs for its sustained prosperity.

On the federal front along with Trustees Erlandson and Cowles, Kim Lynch our system director for educational innovations attended the ACCT conference in February and met with our congressional delegation. In our conversations with members, we shared the work that we are currently engaged in to reduce the cost of textbooks. We will continue to pursue funding for that work as dollars becomes available at the federal level.

The Government Relations team, along with the work at the state level, are connecting with congressional offices and closely monitoring not only the President's proposed budget and impact on higher education but also the implications of the higher education reauthorization act being discussed as well as several executive orders.

Campus Infrastructure

To switch gears to our campuses, we have had quite an eventful winter. Let me first say thank you to all of the staff on campuses who now begin to switch their attention from keeping the parking lots and sidewalks clear of snow and ice to working with their campus leaders on potential spring flood impacts. This work is no easy task to keep the 28 million square feet of total facility space warm, safe, and dry. It is with their hard work and prudent investments by the state in our infrastructure that our buildings weathered another winter. So on behalf of our students, faculty, and staff, I want to thank all of the facilities staff across our system.

In addition, Associate Vice Chancellor Brian Yolitz and his team will be working with campus leaders to serve as community resources if the need arises in the event of an emergency. I know that many of our student groups and teams have been very helpful in volunteering in their communities in the past and yet is another way that our campuses are connected to the communities they serve.

Executive Searches

I am pleased to have brought forward recommendations for Lake Superior College and Southwest Minnesota State University presidents. I believe these leaders will continue the tradition of being campus leaders but also community leaders to help shape their respective communities. I look forward to bringing forward to the board my recommendation for the president at Alexandria Technical and Community College next month.

As I shared in my communication last week to the board, presidents, and bargaining unit and student association leadership, we have made the decision to allow for more time for the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Facilities search and to bring forward my recommendation to the board in May. My thanks to President Pat Johns, who is chairing the search, and the Search Advisory Committee who I had the opportunity to meet with the other week.

Reimagining and the Work Ahead

As the Chair mentioned, the Reimagining Emerging Themes report has been shared. This report is an initial attempt to respond to the three discussion questions that were posed as we launched this process. I encourage everyone in this room and those on our campuses to review the report and to share your honest feedback. Because I know no one has ever been shy before in giving me feedback.

Let me be crystal clear – regardless of the steps that we take together as a system in the next phase of Reimagining – our mission and core values do not change: we are a network of educators committed to student success. Each and every one of us – as Sr. Vice Chancellor said earlier this morning – we all have a role: faculty, staff, administrators - to play in the teaching and learning of our students.

As all of you know, for us to be successful we must continue to press forward on

- Personalized career long opportunities,
- Ensure equitable educational outcomes for all Minnesotans, and
- Continue to develop learning models for our students that are experiential, adaptable and transferable.

We will also continue through the work to demonstrate our core commitment to provide exceptional education to ALL Minnesotans in an accessible and affordable manner. And continue to be the partner of choice with our businesses and communities.

I know that the future sometimes looks daunting, especially in the face of our new budget realities. But I find strength in the fact that that our core mission never will change – that what brings us all to together to do this work is our collective drive and commitment to see our students succeed.

Our campuses do great and amazing work each and every day, often which goes unnoticed. The challenge I take on, as your chancellor, is to find opportunities to scale that work – to expand the opportunities for our faculty and staff to find new and creative ways to educate our students, and to tell our story. And most importantly of all – to do this work together.

Consent Agenda

- 1. Minutes of November 14, 2018**
- 2. Minutes of Executive Committee on March 5, 2019**
- 3. Approval of Mission Statement: Northland Community and Technical College**
- 4. Contracts Exceeding \$1 Million**
 - a. Minneapolis Community and Technical College Student Affairs Renovation**
 - b. Oracle (formerly RightNow) CRM**
- 5. Contract Exceeding \$1 Million and Revenue Fund Bond Allocation: MSU, Mankato Sports Bubble Construction**
- 6. Surplus Property, Alexandria Technical and Community College**
- 7. Contracts Exceeding \$1 Million:**
 - a. Increase in Contract Value and Term for Oracle Services**
 - b. Microsoft Purchases Contract**
 - c. Uniface Contract Renewal**
 - d. Project Management Services Master Contracts**

Following a motion by Vice Chair Cowles and a second by Trustee Roger Moe, the Consent Agenda was adopted.

Board Standing Committee Reports

Human Resources Committee, Jay Cowles, Chair

1. Appointment of President of Southwest Minnesota State University

Committee Chair Cowles recognized and thanked Dr. Connie Gores who has been president of Southwest Minnesota State University since 2013.

Committee Chair Cowles read the following motion:

The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor Malhotra, appoints Kumara Jayasuriya as president of Southwest Minnesota State University effective July 1, 2019, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The board authorized 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 carried unanimously.

Dr. Jayasuriya commented that he is deeply honored and humbled to be the next president of Southwest Minnesota State University. He thanked the Board of Trustees and Chancellor Malhotra for their confidence in him.

2. Appointment of President of Lake Superior College

Committee Chair Cowles recognized and thanked President Pat Johns who has been president of Lake Superior College since 2010.

Committee Chair Cowles read the following motion:

The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor Malhotra, appoints Patricia Rogers as president of Lake Superior College effective July 1, 2019, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The board authorized 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 carried unanimously.

Dr. Rogers commented that she is humbled, honored, and deeply grateful to the Board of Trustees and Chancellor Malhotra for the opportunity.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Alex Cirillo, Chair

Committee Chair Cirillo reported that the committee reviewed first readings of several policies.

1. Proposed Amendments to Policies:

- a. 2.2 State Residency
- b. 3.18 Honorary Degrees
- c. 3.31 Graduate Follow-up System
- d. 3.40 Recognition of Veteran Status

During the committee meeting, Senior Vice Chancellor Ron Anderson recommended that the committee approve Policy 2.2 State Residency. The policy was reviewed by staff at the request of the United States Department of Veteran Affairs because of recent amendments to federal laws that provide educational benefits to military members, veterans, and eligible family members. Committee Chair Cirillo reported that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee suspended the rules, approved the proposed amendment, and recommended approval by the Board of Trustees.

Proposed Amendment to Policy 2.2 State Residency

Chair Vekich called for a motion to suspend the two-reading rule.

A motion was made by Trustee Jerry Janezich, seconded by Trustee Alex Cirillo and carried unanimously. The following motion carried unanimously:

Chair Vekich declared that the two-thirds threshold has been met. The following motion was unanimously approved.

The Board of Trustees approve the proposed amendment to Policy 2.2 State Residency in the first reading. Pursuant to Board Policy 1A.1, Part 6, Subpart D, the Board of Trustees suspend the rule in Board Policy 1A.1, Part 6, Subpart C that requires the second reading “not occur earlier than the calendar month following the first committee reading” by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the board. The Board of Trustees approve the proposed amendment to Policy 2.2 State Residency.

2. Guided Learning Pathways: Career Technical Education and Comprehensive Workforce Solutions

Committee Chair Cirillo reported that the committee had a presentation and discussion on workforce development programming in areas of career technical education and continuing education and customized training. Presidents Rassoul Dastmozd, Saint Paul College, Ginny Arthur, Metropolitan State University, and Craig Johnson, Ridgewater College provided an overview of the guided learning pathways at the campus and regional levels.

Audit Committee, Michael Vekich Chair

Chair Vekich explained that there are two appointments that come directly to the board. One is the chancellor and the other is the direct hire of the executive director of internal audit.

1. Appointment of an Executive Director of the Office of Internal Auditing

The following motion carried unanimously:

The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, appoints Mr. Eric Wion as executive director of the Office of Internal Auditing effective, March 20, 2019. The terms and conditions of the appointment shall be governed by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Personnel Plan for Administrators.

2. Internal Audit Update

Executive Director Eric Wion and Chris Jeffrey, partner, Baker Tilly, provided an update on the status of the 11 projects that were approved as part of the FY2019 Internal Audit Plan.

3. e-Procurement Controls Audit Results

Executive Director Eric Wion, Chris Jeffrey, and Mallory Thomas, senior manager, Baker Tilly, reviewed the results of the audit. The audit concluded that Minnesota State designed effective internal controls over Marketplace processes and activities.

Finance Committee, Roger Moe, Chair

• College and University Financial Performance Update

Committee Chair Roger Moe reported that Laura King, vice chancellor – chief financial officer, and Steve Ernest, system director, financial planning and analysis, presented the FY2018 and FY2017 financial statements and gave an update on the FY2018 college and university financial health indicators. Committee Chair Moe commented that despite financial headwinds the overall financial performance of the system has improved.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Rudy Rodriguez, Chair

Committee Chair Rodriguez thanked Dr. Clyde Picket, chief diversity officer, and Dr. Josefina Landrieu, assistant chief diversity officer for the reports on:

1. Strategic Equity Update
2. Equity by Design Update

Chair Rodriguez commented that the Office of Equity and Inclusion has made strong progress to define equity and on creating an action plan toolkit to help drive that change within the system. The committee also discussed the need to be focused and intentional in our actions, the need to find a way to embed equity and inclusion in our organization and in our policies and actions on a day-to-day basis, the need to measure and report our progress and create a scorecard to hold ourselves accountable, and the need to affirm our commitment to equity. There will be further discussions and a training session for the Board of Trustees.

Student Associations

Lead MN

Frankie Beccera, president, addressed the Board of Trustees.

Students United

Kayla Shelly, state chair, and Elijah Norris Holliday, vice chair, addressed the Board of Trustees.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Bargaining Units

Inter Faculty Organization

Brent Jeffers, president, addressed the Board of Trustees.

Other Business

Trustees have received the directory of spring commencements. Chair Vekich encouraged the trustees to make their selections as soon as possible.

Trustee Louise Sundin announced that the Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship Event is on March 21, 2019.

Adjournment

Chair Vekich announced that the Executive Committee meeting on April 3 is cancelled. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is on April 16 and 17.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm