

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF REGENTS
Educational Planning & Policy Committee
December 12, 2002

A meeting of the Educational Planning and Policy Committee of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, December 12, 2002, at 1:30 p.m. in the East Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center.

Regents present: William Hogan, presiding; Peter Bell, Dallas Bohnsack, Jean Keffeler, Richard McNamara, and Maureen Reed.

Staff present: Chancellor Samuel Schuman; Executive Vice President & Provost Christine Maziar; Vice Presidents Sandra Gardebring and Robert Jones; Interim Vice President David Hamilton; Executive Director Ann Cieslak; and Associate Vice Presidents Donna Peterson and Richard Pfitzenreuter.

Student Representatives present: Jacob Elo and Danielle Stuard.

CONSENT REPORT

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Consent Report, which included the following:

New Academic Programs:

ï University of Minnesota Duluth - College of Education and Human Service Professions M.A. in Special Education

UNIVERSITY PLAN, PERFORMANCE, AND
ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Executive Vice President and Provost Maziar led the discussion of the 2002-03 *University Plan, Performance, and Accountability Report (Plan)*, providing an overview of its preliminary findings and implications as presented in the docket materials. This year's update represents a second edition of the *Plan*, which was first reviewed by the committee in December 2001. In subsequent years the strategy will be the same, a substantially revised version of the *Plan* in the first year, followed by a data update the second year.

Maziar noted highlights of the report, including the University's third place ranking among top public research universities for the second year in a row and improvements in undergraduate Scholastic Aptitude Test scores. Continuing successes include leveraging new funds for strategic academic initiatives, with room for improvement in the areas of retention and graduation rates, metro area transfer student admissions, student satisfaction, and investment priorities and returns.

In response to a question from Regent Hogan, Maziar remarked that the *Plan* integrates a number of previously separate reports to the Board and assesses how well the University has met its goals over the last five years. This report is not scheduled for submission to the legislature nor is it intended for the general public, but she expects the *Plan* will be very useful in communicating to the larger community.

Committee suggestions for *Plan* improvements included better measures of institutional efficiency and effectiveness; additional comparisons with peer institutions; measures of student civic engagement before and after graduation; and the effect of civic engagement on academic performance. The committee also recommended that the *Plan* become the University's vehicle for legislative reporting and accountability, replacing various mandated reports.

2003 LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Executive Vice President and Provost Maziar led the discussion of the 2003 legislative reports. She stated that the Academic Priorities Report and the progress report on the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) System Joint Report on Postsecondary Planning are still in draft form, but the final versions will come before the committee again in February 2003, just before the February 15 deadline for submission.

METRO ED STRATEGY:

EXECUTIVE STEERING COUNCIL REPORT

Executive Vice President and Provost Maziar and Linda Baer, Senior Vice Chancellor of the MnSCU System, led the discussion. Maziar reviewed historical relationships between MnSCU and the University, current collaborative efforts, and planning strategies to meet postsecondary education needs statewide and in the Twin Cities metropolitan area (materials in the docket and on file in the Board Office).

Maziar recalled that the Executive Steering Council (Council) was created by the Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium to support collaborative efforts between the University and MnSCU in meeting the educational and workforce development needs of student populations in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Maziar and Baer described the Council's accomplishments to date, including the work products of three committees with responsibilities in the areas of under-prepared students, career pathways, and P-16 educational partnerships. The Council is scheduled to meet in early spring to assess committee workplans and future plans.

In response to a question from Regent Keffeler, Baer cited demographic information upon which the Council's recommendations were based. At the suggestion of the chair, Maziar will provide copies of several reports to ensure that all committee members are fully informed regarding the Council's directions and decision-making process.

Regent Reed, noting the persistence of public perceptions of overlap between the two systems, proposed that some consideration be given to the development of communication strategies to dispel these perceptions. In response to a follow up question, Maziar and Baer agreed that work remains to be done in painting a collective vision of higher education in the metro area, but one avenue for such discussions is an advisory committee to Minnesota's Higher Education Services Office whose membership includes President Bruininks, MnSCU Chancellor McCormick, the chair of the Private College Council, and representatives of private proprietary institutions. Reed, noting the importance of continuing dialogues with MnSCU, urged committee members to advise her if they have a particular interest in representing the Board in the ongoing discussions initiated by Chair Hogan and former Vice Chair Michael O'Keefe.

PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL REVIEW:

GENERAL COLLEGE

Executive Vice President and Provost Maziar introduced David Taylor, Dean, General College, who led the discussion. Dean Taylor reported that the General College's strategic directions for the next two years have been developed around the same issues relevant to the University's undergraduate experience, including improved admission and retention; enhanced graduation rates; increased emphasis on teaching, learning, and research; and sound fiscal management (materials in the docket and on file in the Board Office).

In response to a number of questions from Regents, Taylor explained the difference between developmental education and remedial education, noting that the focus of General College is on developmental education, an area in which it has become a national leader. He acknowledged that the University's General College is unique among Big 10 schools because its strategies include intervention; leveling the playing field by providing at-risk students with the skills needed for success; and educating at-risk students about University programs to improve their success in non-General College degree plans.

In response to a question from Regent Reed, Taylor indicated that the mark of success in General College is transforming students who do not consider themselves candidates for success into confident students. The challenge for 2003 is to determine the University's capacity to provide the level of intervention required.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Executive Vice President and Provost Maziar referred committee members to the docket materials.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and
Corporate Secretary

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Last modified on September 7, 2005