

General Advisory Committee
January 20, 2011

Present: Craig Anderson, Karl Benson, David Berg, Dan Bostrom, Readus Fletcher, Traci Gauer, Shaan Hamilton, Paul Huot, Peggy Kennedy, Lorrie Louder, Christina McCoy, Kou Moua, Erin Murphy, Jean Ness, Phyllis Novitskie, Dorothy Richburg, Robert Samon, Laura Savin, Rachelle Schmidt, Donovan Schwichtenberg, Jean Shomphe, Kim Stecher, Tim Strand, David Wold

Excused: Kay Baker, John Brodrick, John Labosky, Harry Melander, Joe Spartz, Bob Widerski

Absent: Cecile Bedor, Nancy Jacobsen

Kim Stecher called the meeting to order at 4:04pm.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as revised. *The motion carried.* Agenda item number 10 will follow agenda item 8.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the November 18, 2010 minutes as written. *The motion carried.*

Introduction of New Members – Kim Stecher

Kim introduced the new General Advisory members:

- David Wold, veterans Employment for the Department of Employment and Economic Development. He will fill the vacancy for Women in the Trades/Dislocated Workers area.
- Karl Benson, owner of Cooks of Crocus Hill. He will fill the vacancy for the Industry and Manufacturing area.
- Christina McCoy is the Director of Youth Development at the YWCA in St. Paul.
- Kay Baker, is the Director of Community Affairs at Health East Hospital. Due to a previous commitment, Kay was not able to attend this meeting.

Committee members introduced their selves.

Secretary Position for 2010-11 – Phyllis Novitskie

The secretary position for 2010-11 is vacant. Next year this position will move into the Vice Chair position and the following year the Chair position. Interested members should contact Phyllis.

Open Positions for 2011-12 Committee – Kim Stecher

Two to three members are needed to serve on a nominating committee to fill vacancies for the 2011-12 year. Interested individual should contact John Brodrick or June Schifsky.

Saint Paul Adult Learning – Peggy Kennedy

Saint Paul Adult Learning is a relatively new initiative. Our College was included in a grant to teach basic and transitional skills to adult learners. It is expected that after students master the competencies, they will enroll in College. A pilot program has been implemented and there are 28 students enrolled in Child Development training and 30 enrolled in hi tech training. Peggy will report back at the end of the year as to the success of the pilot.

President Succession Process – Rachelle Schmidt

MnSCU has three open presidential positions. President Cecilia Cervantes is heading the Presidential Selection Committee to fill our College's position. On January 28th the Selection Committee will have its first meeting. The week of January 31st the selection committee will receive up to 12 candidates from the MnSCU Central Steering Committee to interview. Interviews will take place on February 22 and February 23. These are non public interviews and names of candidates will remain confidential. The Selection Committee will choose three finalists who will be presented to the campus in an open forum the week of March 14th. The Chancellor and Board of Trustee representative will interview the finalists and choose the new President. It is anticipated that the three presidential positions will be presented to the Board of Trustees in April.

Parking Changes – Shaan Hamilton

Beginning January 24th, the College is implementing a more efficient and user friendly parking system. Shaan distributed a handout that students receive when they obtain their parking access card. Employees and students will need access cards to enter or leave the parking lot. Guests of the College, such as Advisory Committee members, are to take a parking stub and park in the visitor's lot. At the meeting, they will be provided with a parking voucher to cover the cost of parking, but will need both the original stub and the voucher to exit the lot. At this time, credit cards cannot be used to pay for parking. The system has a 20 minute grace period for parking so that day care center parents can drop off and pick up children without paying parking. School buses will need to use the back entrance. Shaan asked Traci Gauer for a busing contact person at Saint Paul Public Schools.

Foundation Presentation Overview – Craig Anderson

Craig introduced Laura Savin, the new Executive Director of the Foundation. He gave a power point presentation on why it is so important that everyone gives to the Foundation. Each year State appropriations continue to decrease. The College has experienced a 78% enrollment growth during the last 10 years. It is the fastest growing college in the metro area. In addition to providing scholarship for students, the College needs the Foundation to offer program support.

Laura gave a brief report on her work with the Foundation. She started on December 22, 2010, and has been busy getting to know faculty and staff and board members. She plans to develop an Alumni Association. Laura has addresses for 22,000 alumni who she will be contacting to find out what the College can do for them. Advisory members were asked to forward to Laura names of alumni.

Kim Stecher suggested she contact other nonprofit groups that have lost funding and asked them what they did.

General Discussion/Member Comments

This section of the meeting is an open forum for comments and discussion.

Jean Shomphe asked Donovan if the College is worried about the budget. Donovan indicated that it is hard to tell how the College will be impacted. It depends partially on the relationship between the House, Senate and Governor. MnSCU will be presenting to the Senate on Monday, January 24th.

Lorrie Louder indicated that the Minneapolis paper stated a legislator is bringing forward a bill to freeze wages for State employees and that she believes MnSCU was not included. Readus Fletcher asked Donovan if he believes the monies spent on remedial services for students may be in jeopardy.

Donovan indicated that within the MnSCU Board of Trustees some of the board members believe there should be no remedial services offered at the College level because students should be prepared for College after graduating from high school. Other trustees believe that it is necessary to help students achieve in College so that they can be successful, which helps to keep people off of welfare. Donovan believes it is our job to provide education for everyone regardless of their level of need. Over 60% of our students take remedial classes. Ideally, everyone would graduate from high school and be prepared for college.

David Berg indicated that Craig's presentation showed that there are over 800 employers who hire our graduates. He suggests that the General Advisory Committee and the Foundation develop a pilot program where 50 of these employers are invited to the College for food and beverages and information about the College. David indicated he would be willing to assist with this endeavor. Craig suggested we ask the companies if they know which of their employees are alumni of the College. This would be a good fund raising event.

David made a motion that the General Advisory Committee strategize with the Foundation for ways to have entry into companies that have hired Saint Paul College graduates to look for opportunities of support. ***The motion was seconded and carried.***

Donovan stated that at the next General Advisory Committee meeting, there will be a report related to implementing David's motion.

Chair Person Report

No report

President's Report – Donovan Schwichtenberg

- Donovan thanked everyone for their support. There is a wide range of people on the General Advisory Committee and this brings richness to this committee. He asked everyone to introduce themselves to the new committee members.
- Donovan gave a brief overview on the Power of YOU. The Power of YOU was started in 2006 as a demo project with Minneapolis Community and Technical College and Metropolitan State University. It was funded by area businesses and foundations, with the hope that if successful, the legislature would continue funding it.

There are many students who are not able to pay for College and the intent of the Power of YOU is to make sure that these students have the opportunity to attend College. To apply for the Power of YOU, students first complete a Financial Aid packet to determine if they are eligible for grants. The Power of YOU then pays for tuition not covered by the grant. It has been a very successful program.

Last year the legislature approved a million dollars for Saint Paul College, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, and one outstate College to fund the Power of YOU. It was later line-item vetoed by the Governor. Our College is trying to finance the program. We are taking 150 students each year into the Power of YOU.

One of the by products from the Power of YOU is that high school students, that do not receive

Power of YOU funding, are still enrolling because their friends are. This has helped our enrollment rate, for students just out of high school, to double.

- Copies of the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities Fall 2010 magazine were passed around. Saint Paul College is mentioned on three different pages.
- Copies of the Go Places Magazine were available. Go Places is a Minnesota State Colleges & Universities publication that lists all of the Colleges and their course offerings.
- On February 2, the finalist for the new Chancellor will be made public.
- On February 16, the College will be hosting a recognition dinner for program advisory committee members. Over 400 people, who have served on a program advisory committee, will be invited. The General Advisory Committee will also be invited and introduced.
- Thirty-two MnSCU colleges are being required to submit a remediation plan for R & R, dollars spent on buildings. Saint Paul College is not one of them. Twenty of these college have to have develop a remediation plan on how to improve; Saint Paul College is not one of them. Fourteen colleges are having cash flow problems; Saint Paul College is not one of them. Eight colleges have to develop a financial recovery plan; Saint Paul College is not one of them. Our College is fiscally sound.
- Revenue has been dropping and the College is serving more students and serving the community well. It has been ranked #1 by the Washington Monthly and CCSSE report.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. *The motion carried.* The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm and was followed by dinner in the CityView Grille.

Respectfully submitted by:
June Schifsky