

March 27, 2012

Senator Michelle Fischbach, Chair
Higher Education Committee
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Capitol Building, Room 226
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Senator Fischbach:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased to inform you that the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system has achieved four of the five performance goals specified in Laws of Minnesota 2011, Chapter 5, Article 1, Section 4, Subdivision 2. Specifics on the goals and system achievements include:

1. Graduates or Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates: Goal Achieved

GOAL: Increase by at least seven percent, compared to fiscal year 2009, graduates or degrees, diplomas and certificates conferred.

PERFORMANCE:

- The number of graduates from system colleges and universities increased by 12.1 percent between fiscal years 2009 and 2011.
- The number of degrees, diplomas and certificates conferred by system colleges and universities increased by 12.9 percent between fiscal years 2009 and 2011.

2. Students of Color: Goal Achieved

GOAL: Increase by at least ten percent, compared to fiscal year 2010, the number of students of color.

PERFORMANCE: Enrollment of undergraduate students of color increased by 10.3 percent between fiscal years 2010 and 2012.

3. Online Courses: Goal Achieved

GOAL: Increase by at least fifteen percent, compared to fiscal year 2010, the full year equivalent enrollment of students taking online or blended courses or the number of online and blended sections.

PERFORMANCE

- Full year equivalent enrollment of students taking online or blended credit courses increased by 28.3 percent between fiscal years 2010 and 2012.
- The number of online and blended credit course sections increased by 24.6 percent between fiscal years 2010 and 2012.

4. Second Fall Persistence and Completion Rate: Goal Not Achieved

GOAL: Increase by at least one percent the fall 2011 persistence and completion rate for fall 2010 entering students compared to the fall 2010 rate for fall 2009 entering students.

PERFORMANCE: The fall 2011 persistence and completion rate for fall 2010 entering students decreased by 1.1 percent compared to the fall 2010 rate for fall 2009 entering students.

5. Energy Consumption: Goal Achieved

GOAL: Decrease by at least two percent, compared to calendar year 2009, total energy consumption per square foot.

PERFORMANCE: Total energy consumption per square foot decreased by 9.5 percent between calendar years 2009 and 2011 as reported in the state's Buildings, Benchmarks and Beyond (B3) system.

The language in the act specified that one percent of the appropriation is available after the Board of Trustees demonstrates the system has achieved at least three of the performance goals. Because the system has achieved four of the five goals, I request the release of the one percent of the system's FY13 appropriation that depended on these goals being met.

We appreciate the challenge that these performance goals presented and the opportunity to work with your staff in demonstrating system achievement of them.

Best wishes,

Steven J. Rosenstone

c: Governor Mark Dayton
Commissioner Jim Showalter
Members, Board of Trustees
College and University Presidents
Director Larry Pogemiller