



PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH



MINNESOTA'S PRIVATE COLLEGES

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COUNCIL • FUND • RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Augsburg College



Bethany Lutheran College



Carleton College



Concordia College



Concordia University





MINNESOTA'S PRIVATE COLLEGES

THE OPPORTUNITY

To provide leadership to the public policy and fundraising functions, and to the research organizations of Minnesota's private colleges and universities.

THE COLLEGE

The Minnesota Private College Council, Fund and Research Foundation (MPCC) are not-for-profit organizations that represent 17 private higher education institutions in Minnesota. The members are accredited undergraduate liberal arts, comprehensive, and graduate and professional degree-granting institutions. The Minnesota Private College Council was founded in 1948 to maintain the viability of a healthy private college sector in Minnesota. In 1951, business leaders came together to create the Minnesota Private College Fund to begin a fund raising drive for private colleges. The third leg of the council, the Minnesota Private College Research Foundation, was formed in 1971 to provide the necessary research and data to support the common policy and fundraising goals. The three organizations joined forces in 1987, and share a common president, staff, and board of directors. The president of the organizations represents the private colleges of Minnesota on the Higher Education Advisory Council and the Higher Education Facilities Authority in accordance with state statute. The presidents of the member institutions, 21 business and community leaders, five trustees from member boards and the president of the council constitute the board of the organization. The council has been well managed with 20 consecutive years of clean financial audits.

The 17 member institutions have a broad economic and educational impact on the State of Minnesota. They contribute over \$1.2 billion in expenditures. They employ over 12,300 staff and over 12,500 student workers. Notably, the colleges pay over \$22.8 million in state payroll taxes. The institutions award one-third of all baccalaureate degrees in Minnesota.

MISSION and GOAL:

The mission of MPCC is to preserve and enhance quality private higher education to serve the education and economic needs of our region. The MPCC organizations share a common goal: to create policy and funding conditions which allow any qualified Minnesota student the opportunity to attend a Minnesota private college.



College of St. Scholastica



University of St. Thomas



College of Saint Benedict



St. Olaf College



Bethel University



Gustavus Adolphus College





Hamline University

BACKGROUND

Dr. David Laird, the current president of MPCC, has announced his retirement effective this fall. It is expected that the new president will start in the fall, with some overlap if possible. The Board understands that the change in leadership, coming at a time of a significantly challenging external environment for the private college community, presents an opportunity to engage in a strategic planning process to develop the vision which will guide the organization for the next several years. There has also been a change in the presidential leadership of half of the member schools in the past five years. The advocacy for private higher education continues to be the central focus of MPCC. The council has a 55-year history of broad public policy advocacy for the betterment of Minnesota and the region.



Saint John's University

During the presidency of David Laird, the MPCC has developed a reputation as a leader in the use of research and data in support of advocacy for private higher education in Minnesota and at the federal level. A student-based unit record system allows for analysis of student financial aid programs while protecting both the students and the member institutions from threats to their privacy.



College of St. Catherine

A recent strategic planning process has been pending the arrival of a new president. Among the issues to be addressed when the process is resumed are: demographic and diversity issues, the adequacy of current program activities, and development of a new advocacy effort for the Council. A recent initiative has been the creation, in partnership with the member institutions, of an innovative liberal arts platform for college engagement in China.



Macalester College

CHALLENGES

Major challenges for the next president are:

- Listening to the diverse constituents, including the campus and community leaders;
- Continuing the primacy of the focus on maintaining the state student grant program;
- Re-starting the Council strategic planning process: developing cohesiveness and common understanding;



Minneapolis College of Art and Design



Saint Mary's University of Minnesota



CHALLENGES *(continued)*

- Assessing the effectiveness of current programs such as the annual fund, research, public relations, and public policy;
- Advocating for higher education in general and private higher education in particular;
- Building broader relationships with the business community; using this to build the strength of the board; orienting new board members to the work of the Council, involving them in the carrying out of key tasks;
- Developing federal relationships with a Minnesota focus;
- Understanding the diversity and demographic challenges for future enrollment;
- Continuing to build relationships with elected officials;
- Helping to develop the understanding that the role of the state is to provide educational opportunity to individual citizens using all assets to achieve the goal;
- Developing and supporting understanding of common goals of the council with new presidents and institutional leaders; and
- Getting to know the stakeholders in state government, business and the non-profit sector leadership;

QUALIFICATIONS

The Board is seeking a new president who is a visionary leader and strategic thinker; and who:

- Is a person of high integrity; who supports and upholds the mission of the Council;
- Has extensive experience in public policy advocacy, state or federal relations, and institutional, agency, corporate, or association management;
- Possesses an appropriate graduate degree from an accredited college or university;
- Has knowledge of and/or experience with private higher education;
- Has excellent communication skills in speaking, writing, and listening;
- Is experienced in strategic planning, change implementation, financial management, and resource development.



MPCC KEY INDICATORS 2009

Revenue:	
• Annual Operating Budget:	\$2,541,395 (Council = 60%; Fund = 23%; Research = 15%)
• Member dues and Assessments:	\$2,541,395
• Earnings on Investments:	\$31,000
• Corporate or foundation administrative revenue:	\$10,000
• Additional operating expenses taken from reserves:	0
• Funds distributed to members:	\$1,504,439
Financial Reserves:	\$1,031,700
Number of Members:	17
Staff: Full-time equivalent positions:	15
Office space:	4,665 Lease expires 3/31/2012
Percent of Minnesota higher education attending member institutions:	17.2
Maximum State Need-based Grant:	\$8,661
State Non-need based Grant:	N/A
State Financial Aid Total: % to MPCC college students:	\$147,000,000 23%
State Loan Program:	SELF Program (Contract w/NorthStar Inc.) to administer
Other State Programs:	Workstudy, Achieve, Child Care, Indian Scholarships
Minority Undergraduate Headcount: % Minority:	6502 12.4%
Athletics League:	Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (most members)



APPLICATION PROCEDURES

To be considered, candidates should e-mail, as MSWord attachments, a cover letter that addresses the challenges and qualifications listed above, a current résumé, and the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of five references to: MPCC@rherry.net. Applications are due by **April 9, 2009**, when screening will begin.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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POLICY

R. H. Perry & Associates is committed to the highest standards of professionalism in all dealings with candidates, sources, and references. We fully respect the need for confidentiality and assure interested parties that their background and interests will not be discussed without consent of the applicant prior to her or his becoming a candidate.

Minnesota Private College Council is an equal opportunity employer.

www.mnprivatecolleges.org

