



Minnesota State College Student Association

1515 Robert Street South
West St. Paul, MN 55118

www.msca.org

877-63MSCSA | 651-297-5877

@MSCSA



A Message from Our President

After years of decreasing higher education funding and increasing student loan debt, this year saw significant advances for the students of Minnesota. While we had the opportunity to work with the new Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Chancellor on pursuing innovative policy changes at the system level, we faced challenges including a budget deficit at the state level, and student aid cuts at the federal level. We tackled this year by doing what we do best: training leaders and advocating for students.

As part of our leadership development focus, the staff and cabinet worked tirelessly to reach more students and to make our trainings more dynamic. We achieved record conference attendance and made sure our student leaders were more engaged and educated on how to be stronger advocates for our students.

As you will see in this annual report, this year was also a significant year for MSCSA's advocacy and civic engagement work. Our Governing Council, Platform Committee, Presidents' Group and other student leaders had a strong presence at the federal, state, and MnSCU system level advocating for reinvestment in higher education. We partnered with the Minnesota State University Student Association (MSUSA) to register over 10,000 students to vote. We relaunched the Minnesota State College Alumni Association. And we helped advocate for the first increase in appropriations to the MnSCU system since 2008. Overall, it was a very successful year.

If there is an experience in my life that showed me the impact one citizen can have, it was my time in MSCSA. It has truly been an honor to serve the students as President of MSCSA and I look forward to watching the association continue its great work in the future!

Sincerely,

Steve Sabin, MSCSA 2012-13 President

MSCSA Staff



Justin Klander
Executive Director



Jessica Medearis
Associate Director



Jonathan Miller
Director of Communications



Sarah Clarke
Director of Government Relations



Amanda Skorich
Director of Development



Sarah Kopczyk
Executive Assistant/Conference Planner

Student Involvement and Leadership Development

■ Delivering Leadership Trainings in New and Exciting Ways



MSCSA trainings are engaging and informative

MSCSA is always striving to improve the trainings we offer at our Student Leadership Conferences (SLCs). To make the trainings more dynamic, the staff and cabinet worked with keynote presenter Ryan Penneau on a “train the trainer” program to take MSCSA workshops to the next level. Many hours were spent working to add interactivity and improve the content of the trainings given at SLCs. Because of the hard work put into our trainings, there was a noticeable increase in the positive survey results for presentations by the MSCSA staff and cabinet.

2012-2013 Conference Attendance

September 2012 Student Leadership Conference Itasca Community College	142
October 2012 MN Student Leadership Summit	254
December 2012 Student Leadership Conference Fond du Lac Tribal & Community College	155
January 2013 Student Leadership Conference Normandale Community College	142
March 2013 Student Leadership Conference Alexandria Technical and Community College	136
April 2013 Spring General Assembly	310
June 2013 Transitional Conference Minnesota Southeast Technical College-Red Wing	88
TOTAL	1227

■ Students and Alumni Celebrate at “The Great MSCSA Get Together” and the Relaunch of the Minnesota State College Alumni Association!

At “The Great MSCSA Get Together” 150 past and current students and their families gathered in celebration of our new facility, The Center for Student Leadership and Advocacy. There was at least one alumnus or alumna present from each year of MSCSA’s existence in attendance. MSCSA received such great feedback about this event that discussions have begun to turn this into an annual event.

It was the perfect lead-in to the relaunch of the Minnesota State College Alumni Association the next day, where the bylaws were ratified and the board was appointed. The board will consist of Travis Johnson (Chair), Nick Schneider (Vice Chair), Heather Darby, Scott Formo, Joe Gould, Jacob Littler, Noel Lutsey and Darleen Tareeq. The Alumni Association has fundraising, leadership development, and networking on its work plan.

■ MSCSA Increases the Number of Leadership Development Opportunities Available Through Internships

Leadership development is one of the core principles of MSCSA. It is written into our working documents and primarily exemplified by our elected student leaders in the Cabinet, Governing Council and Platform Committee. In the last year, we expanded our leadership development opportunities by increasing the number of internship opportunities, each focused on a special project. Because of their work, we were able to take on projects that otherwise never would have happened. Interns during the last year include: Brad Conley, get out the vote; Karina Greenwood, landscape design; Margo Hollen and Liz McLeod, conference planning; and Demetrius Wooden, social media.

■ I GAVE Campaign, MSCSA’s Annual Fund Drive

Each spring, students at the Spring General Assembly kick off MSCSA’s annual fund drive and show support for their peers through the I GAVE campaign, a fundraiser for MSCSA Leadership Scholarships. The campaign had an extra component this year—matching funds provided by generous MSCSA alumni and friends. Students were very excited to “double their money” with their donations and helped surpass the \$5,000 fundraising goal.



In the last fifteen minutes, past Presidents Geoffrey Dittberner, Jacob Littler, Scott Formo, and current President Steve Sabin challenged students to give them a “Presidential Pie in the Face” with the top four donating students getting a chance to pie them. In fifteen minutes, over \$2,000 was raised which put the total dollars raised over \$8,000 for the weekend.



Past MSCSA Presidents Geoff Dittberner, Jacob Littler, Steve Sabin and Scott Formo helped with a “Presidential Pie in the Face” to raise funds for the I GAVE campaign

MnSCU Policy Work

MSCSA leaders served on a statewide textbook taskforce, along with students from MSUSA, faculty, and MnSCU system staff. The legislatively mandated taskforce tackled issues of cost, training, and open educational resources. The taskforce released a report detailing recommendations for action and further study, including the creation of a shared open educational resource site. The taskforce will continue to meet in 2013-2014.

Students also helped to shape the MnSCU system’s academic and student support technology priorities. MSCSA surveyed student leaders on their use of and satisfaction with various student support tools, as well as led a student focus group with MnSCU system leadership. The feedback from the survey and focus group identified priorities for students, including an academic planning tool, better shared services between system campuses, and consistent technology access across Minnesota.

MSCSA students were active members of the MnSCU system’s Strategic Framework Workgroups. Steve Sabin, Shannon Glenn, and Kyle Vanderflute offered input and ideas in workgroups focusing on “education of the future,” “system of the future,” and “workforce of the future.” Draft recommendations of the workgroups were released in June, with a final report forthcoming in the fall of 2013. The final report will greatly impact the future academic and financial direction of the MnSCU system.

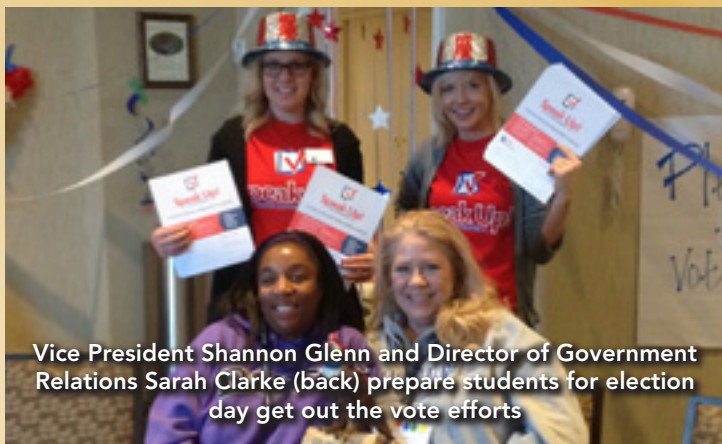
Matt Rubel, a student at North Hennepin Community College, testifies to the Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee



MSCSA leaders participated on other MnSCU statewide councils and committees this year, driving decision-making in areas of transfer and degree completion. MSCSA participated in planning for a reverse transfer initiative, in which students who transfer to a university from a college without a degree could be conferred an A.A. degree from their college upon completion of the remaining requirements at the university. MSCSA also worked with faculty on a process to review new Minnesota Transfer Curriculum courses, and with faculty and campus leaders to consider and approve applications for A.A.S. programs to “waive” out of the 60 credit limit on degrees.

Civic Engagement Accomplishments

MSCSA leaders worked in partnership with MSUSA on a non-partisan “get out the vote” campaign, registering over 10,000 students to vote in the 2012 elections. In addition to voter registration, the student associations collected nearly 4,000 pledges to vote from student voters. MSCSA and MSUSA were awarded a \$22,000 grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation to support these efforts. Additionally, MSCSA collaborated with the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits on a voter pledge program. Student leaders across the state organized to collect registrations and pledge cards, and co-hosted candidate forums with Debate Minnesota. On Election Day, MSCSA leaders ensured students turned out to the polls by providing various resources and reminded students to vote with phone calls, emails, and text messages. Over 72 percent of the voters registered by MSCSA voted on Election Day, bringing student perspective to elections throughout Minnesota.



Vice President Shannon Glenn and Director of Government Relations Sarah Clarke (back) prepare students for election day get out the vote efforts

Federal Advocacy

Student leaders traveled to Washington, D.C. in March to engage in training and advocate on behalf of MSCSA’s federal agenda. Students from across the state met with Minnesota’s congressional delegation as well as higher education related organizations including the American Association of Community Colleges, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, the

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, the U.S. Green Building Council, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the American Association of Colleges and Universities and Governor Mark Dayton’s Federal Liaison. Students advocated to prevent interest rate hikes on federal loans, expand the Pell Grant program, maintain funding for federal financial aid programs, and make changes to “preferred lender” requirements.



Students met with Senator Al Franken during the 2013 D.C. Summit

In the spring, MSCSA Vice President Shannon Glenn testified at a public hearing organized by the United States Department of Education as a part of the negotiated rulemaking process. Glenn shared MSCSA’s support for exempting Minnesota’s SELF loan program from preferred lender requirements enacted in the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, and argued for increased availability of fee-free, on-campus ATMs to access financial aid funds.

MSCSA’s State Legislative Advocacy

Students from every corner of Minnesota made their voices heard loud and clear at the State Capitol this session. Students testified about the high cost of college, sharing their personal stories to draw policy attention to the growing student debt crisis, and the importance of two-year colleges to the future of Minnesota.

In February, students from across the state marched from Saint Paul College to the Capitol steps to rally for lawmakers to “Invest Like it’s 1999” in higher education. Rally Day drew student speakers, statewide media, and legislative guests who addressed the crowd including Governor Mark Dayton.



Rally Day 2013 brought students from all around Minnesota to the capitol steps to ask lawmakers to “Invest Like it’s 1999”

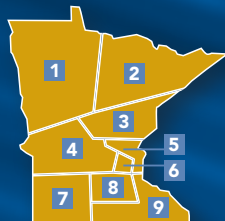
Student advocacy to make the Minnesota State Grant Program more equitable for part-time, working students resulted in a pilot program that will change the program’s formula. The change means that approximately 8,300 MnSCU students will become eligible for the grant. Other working, part-time students who previously had access to the State Grant will likely see larger awards. Throughout the legislative session, students wrote letters and emails, visited lawmakers, and testified before House and Senate Higher Education committees to garner support for the formula change.

MSCSA leaders also worked alongside the MnSCU system to secure \$102 million in new funding for system colleges and universities over the biennium, marking the first increase in appropriations to the system since 2008. Of the new investment, \$78 million was dedicated to freezing tuition through the 2014-2015 school year. Legislation was also passed to allow some undocumented Minnesotans access to both in-state tuition rates and state financial aid programs.

Platform Committee

- 1 Douglas Crane**
Northwest Representative
Northwest Technical College
- 2 Jeff Jakubic**
Northeast Representative
Vermilion Community College
- 3 Chris Bosquez**
North Central Representative
Central Lakes College-Staples
- 4 Chelsea Olmscheid**
West Central Representative
Saint Cloud Technical and Community College
- 5 James Bohler**
Metro North Representative
Anoka Technical College
- 6 Sarah Volstad**
Metro West Representative
Minneapolis Community and Technical College
- 7 Jarred Pohlman**
Southwest Representative
Minnesota West Community and Technical College-Canby
- 8 Luke Boelter**
Metro South Representative
Normandale Community College
- 9 Jenna Lubinski**
Southeast Representative
Minnesota Southeast Technical College-Winona
- Pascale Darbonne**
Student-At-Large Representative
Hennepin Technical College-Brooklyn Park

Match the member's number to the corresponding location on the map.



Governing Council

- 1 David Herberg**
Northwest Representative
Northwest Technical College
- 2 Kayley Schoonmaker**
Northeast Representative
Itasca Community College
- 3 Nick Weeks**
North Central Representative
Central Lakes College-Staples
- 4 Debby Albrecht**
West Central Representative
Ridgewater College-Hutchinson
- 5 Kelly Charpentier-Berg**
Metro North Representative
Anoka Ramsey Community College-Coon Rapids
- 6 Matt Rubel**
Metro West Representative
North Hennepin Community College
- 7 Jason Bush**
Southwest Representative
Minnesota West Community and Technical College-Pipestone
- 8 Ben Jackson**
Metro South Representative
Dakota County Technical College
- 9 Jerett Reuter**
Southeast Representative
Minnesota Southeast Technical College-Red Wing
- Phoua Kong**
Presidents' Group Chair
Saint Paul College
- Nick Schneider**
Presidents' Group Vice Chair
Normandale Community College
- George Mobley**
Student-At-Large Representative
Minnesota West Community and Technical College-Jackson



MSCSA

LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Thank You!

MSCSA received many generous donations throughout the year benefitting the MSCSA Leadership Scholarship Fund! Our 2012-2013 fundraisers included: the Steve Sabin Marathon Fundraiser, the Leadership Scholarship Dinner and Silent Auction, and the I GAVE Annual Giving Program.

Leader \$1000+

Anoka Technical College
Justin and Jessica Klander
Minnesota State Colleges & Universities Foundation

Pine Technical College
Wells Fargo

Advocate \$500+

Anoka Ramsey Community College - Coon Rapids
Bob Erickson
Minnesota State University Student Association

Sid and Pat Prom
Steve Sabin
Take Back College with Ryan Penneau

Supporter \$250+

Luke Boelter
Foster & Brever, PLLC Attorneys at Law
Hennepin Technical College
Elsbeth Howe
Matthew Koenders
Lake Superior College
Karen Lundblad
Carlan Luong

Jonathan and Amy Miller
Rick Nelson
Nelson, Tietz & Hoye, Inc.
John O'Brien
Steven Rosenstone
Amanda Skorich
W.A. Fisher Advertising & Printing

Contributor \$100+

Thomas Berg
Kary Bowser
Jay Boyle
Kari Christensen
Jacquelyn Clinton
Sue Collins
Pascale Darbonne
Heather Darby
Michael Dougherty
Michael Doyle
Sherry Erbe
Thomas Fenton
Gwenia Fiskevold
Scott Formo
Darla Frantz

Friends of Saint Paul College
Shannon Glenn
Joe Gould
Joel Grover
Nathan and Rachel Hanson
Emily Harrison
Kitty Hennemann
Zach Inselmann
Ben Jackson
Travis Johnson
Roger Johnson
Mike Johnson
Chelsie Kempf
Douglas Knowlton
Randy Krueger

Jacob Littler
Mike Lopez
Jenna Lubinski
Jessica Medearis
Dan Ogiba
Gail Olson
Terri Parks
Daniel Peterson
Linda Peterson
Gaylan Piliien
Kamille Rocha
Nick and Sharon Skorich
Tyler Vigen
Caprina Stenson
Don Supalla

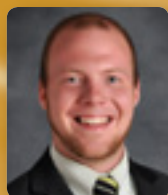
Cabinet Members



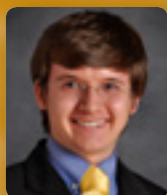
Steve Sabin
President
Central Lakes College-Brainerd



Shannon Glenn
Vice President
Anoka Ramsey Community College-Coon Rapids



Michael Flannery
Public Relations Coordinator
Hennepin Technical College-Eden Prairie



Michael Doyle
Treasurer
Dakota County Technical College

Leadership Giving Program \$30+

The Leadership Giving Program provides an opportunity for students, alumni and friends of MSCSA to become annual giving members with donations of \$30 or more to the MSCSA Leadership Scholarship Program.

Deborah Albrecht
Alison Baker
Zane Beltz
Mary Bennett
Richard Bergsrud
Heidi Beske
Jennifer Bingle
Christopher Bosquez
Nicki Bottko
Jessica Braun
Roger Brown
Jason Bush
Kelly Charpentier-Berg
Lisa Christensen
Patrick Christner
Sarah Clarke
Harry Cottrell
Douglas Crane
Phillip Davis

Cheryl Dickson
Geoff Dittberner
Judith Drown
Erin Edlund
Ashley Enter
Michael Flannery
Jason Fossum
Steven Frantz
Steven Frich
Steve Gednalske
Jim Gross
Levi Gutkaes
Gabriel Hall
Maranda Hayes
Kat Hays
David Herberg
Hollie Hischer
Stephen Hopkins
Brandon Hyatt

Paul and Melissa Irwin
Julie Iverson
Brandon Jorgenson
Laura King
Phoua Kong
Sarah Kopczyk
Samantha Laderer
Lillian Lamoreux
Jessica Laurieen
Bradley Lefler
Patricia Leistikow
Tharan Leopold
Ryan Lubke
Kerrie Maleski
John Greg McCalley
Jason Metsa
Nicole Meulemans
Lynda Milne
George Mobley

Christa Nelson
Elisha Odegard
Kristina Porter
Jerett Reuter
Trevor Ronholm
Matthew Rubel
Steve Schmall
Nick Schneider
Amanda Sheets
Alex Shykes
Marilyn Smith
Tim Soderbeck
Darleen Tareeq
John Ward
Jered Weber
Heather Williams
Heidi Wynn

The MSCSA Leadership Scholarship rewards undergraduate MnSCU students who excel academically for their campus and community service. Congratulations to the following 2012-13 Leadership Scholarship Recipients:

McCormick Leadership Scholarship 2012: Ethan Capers

Fall 2012 Award Recipients: Brent Baker, Gordon Craft, Alexandra Griffin, Carol Ann LaFleur, Timothy Mannuza, Michaela Miller, and Levi Pederson

Spring 2013 Award Recipients: Colby Abazs, Britta Barta, Mary Bennett, Myra Colakovic, Gordon Craft, Adam Fairbanks, and Stephen Weber