Minnesota State Colleges & Universities

Management Programs – A Brief History

Technical College Program Funding mid to late 1980's

- All of the Farm Business Management Education Programs were operated through Local School Districts. Some were located at Technical Colleges, but the majority were located at Local School Districts. The Technical Colleges were the program administrator and fiscal agent for funding. Funding was transferred from the college to the Local School District to cover program costs.
- Other Management Education Programs were administered through the Technical Colleges.
- Funding was based on actual expenditures two-years prior, and then converted to average cost for like programs.
- Most instructor contracts were 11/9 (11 month or 220 days) or 12/9 (12 month or 240 days) in length. This contract length had been a standard for HS and FBM instructors in Minnesota for many years.
- Local School Districts often provided tuition support to farmers in FBM, through Adult Education dollars.
- The 1987 legislature established a tuition subsidy for all management programs, and it has been included in the base ever since.

Technical College Program Funding early 1990's

- Direction from the State Board for Technical Education led to "credit based instruction" for management programs, starting in 1992. (Prior to that time, management programs were "hour-based" instruction with an 11:1 ratio.)
- At the same time, the ratios for the funding formula were revised to incorporate a three-year average enrollment history of each program area. This ratio was to be re-calculated every three years based on actual program enrollment changes. For FBM the ratio was calculated at 11.45 to 1 and 9.81 to 1 for SBM. There was a sparsity adjustment for some FBM programs, which calculated at 9.69 to 1.
- A process was incorporated to reward efficient programs with additional funding over actual costs from two-years prior.
- Most instructor contracts continued to be at a level of 220 or 240-day employment contracts.

Higher Education Merger and Funding of Consolidated Campus -1995

- The higher education merger of 1995 not only merged the Community College, Technical Colleges and State Universities, it also mandated the end of the Local School District control of the Farm Business Management Programs. The law essentially transferred the employment of those instructors and programs to each college where the Regional Program Manager was located. Program funding based on ratios and historical spending was transferred to each college.
- When viewed as a group, the transfer of the Farm Business Management program to these colleges often resulted in funding greater than program cost for the initial years of the program transfer. Due to the large number of additional FYE's many areas of the college benefited from FYE funding, even as we maintained the historical program expenditure model funding for the direct program costs.
- All Instructor contracts were now listed as "day contracts", or 220 days and 240 days. The contracts were based on the historical contract length with the Local School District and the Technical College.

Post-1995 to 2002.

- In the late 90's, a Management Education Task Force met to look at process and contract issues for these programs. The task force included representatives from MnSCU and local colleges staff & faculty.
  - A complete list of recommendations, dated July 13, 1999, was provided to all colleges, along with the recommendation to adopt them.
  - In addition, recommendations were made regarding contract negotiations with Management faculty. These contract recommendations included a base number of credits for the base contract, and automatic calculation for up to 30 extended days, and an overload calculation that needed to be approved by the local college.
  - Employment length is based on actual paid student enrollment. (As base contract days have reduced, the base paid credit expectation has remained the same, resulting in a greater per day credit expectation.)
- In 1999, the legislature provided a $5 per credit increase in the tuition subsidy through a special appropriation.