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Campus Assembly Meeting
October 2, 2013

I. Chancellor's Remarks

Chancellor Johnson gave the following remarks: "As always, there is a lot going on. We had a great group of alumni present for the 3rd annual Morris connects in person event – they came from all over the country – D.C., Austin, Texas, Ohio, and more. Erin Christiansen and Carla Riley deserve our thanks for all they did to organize this event. Thanks to the faculty who helped connect their students and to the students who showed up. Speaking of showing up... this is visitor's season for our campus, with a steady stream of visitors from the East. Suzanne Smith, Paul Olze and Richard Johnson all from the Office of Capital Planning and Projects in the Twin Cities were on hand for the dedication of the Green Prairie Community on Saturday. Provost Karen Hanson was on campus earlier this week and had a chance to meet with faculty and students and division chairs and vice chancellors. It was her first visit to campus and I think she was impressed. Vice President for Human Resources Kathy Brown was on campus today with several members of her staff. And in early November, Vice President for Finance Richard Pfutzenreuther will be on campus. These visits are both symbolic but also, I hope, substantive – it reminds them of who and where we are and it gives us a chance to bring to their attention issues that matter most to us.

The Twin Cities is engaged in a new strategic planning effort with an ambitious timeline and I hope that we will take advantage of their work and this moment to revisit our strategic plan. The Planning Committee will be front and center in this effort – while I don't envision a full blown strategic planning effort I do expect that we will refresh our own plan and select one or two elements of it to revisit.

Later on in our meeting today, Bryan Herrmann will provide us with an update on enrollment for the year with special attention paid to demonstrating how our efforts at retention are paying off. In relation to retention, you perhaps saw my message yesterday that speaks to the creation of the one stop office as one of our important efforts to address student and family questions about financial aid and business transactions. I think that the establishment of this office presents a unique example of how we might rethink our current practices, rethink positions when opportunities provided by things like retirement and attrition present themselves, all in line with improving services to students, overall operations and aligned with strategic goals. I'm thankful to Jill Beauregard who has led this group effort.

If Roland Guyotte were here I would call on him to speak to us about the importance of our campus governance structure. But he isn't and I won't be able to capture what he would have, with his strong sense of history, capacity to tell tales of the past, and sense of humor. But what I do know, from my own experience, is that we have a decidedly unusual governance system in terms of its inclusion of all campus constituents – faculty, staff and students. That we have an unusual capacity to respect all these constituents; that it is inordinately time consuming, but also extremely important. There is, I believe, an expectation of participation in governance in whatever ways we are able – and I hope that you will each treat that expectation and the responsibility that comes with it most seriously. I know you will."

With your permission, item IV. F. will be presented as an Information item and not an Action item. As a reminder, please remember to say your name when you are speaking.

II. From the Steering Committee. Minutes from the April 22, 2013 Campus Assembly meeting were unanimously approved.

III. Old Business.

A. Update on the Resource Allocation Review

Chancellor Johnson reported that in April of last year, she outlined a process that we would use to complete this round of the Resource Allocation Review process. To remind you of these steps:

1. The Vice Chancellors group would work with program leaders in their areas to begin to implement recommendations. Mostly this has meant working with the 49 programs in the “revisit” category – programs about which we had insufficient or unclear information – where we lacked context or benchmarks, either internal or external. This work is completed, and the Vice Chancellors are now reviewing the results to move toward re-categorizing of these programs. The deadline for the first part of this work was October 1, the deadline for the re-categorization is October 14.

There were 5 programs recommended for reduction or further review – these programs have either begun or completed work to reorganize or restructure their efforts.

There was one program recommended for additional resources, Academic Assistance, and we have already put some additional resources there.

2. Vice Chancellors will arrive at a consensus regarding reclassification with whatever recommendations might be forthcoming from that – that’s the October 14 deadline referenced above. We will bring these forward through campus governance – Finance; Planning; Consultative – after that work is done and via the appropriate administrative groups – VCs and division chairs – the deadline is around November 1.
3. I will work with the Steering Committee to consider how we move forward in the future with this work.
4. This may not lead to any great cost savings in this go around, but I think it has made us much more aware of the need to be clear about mission and purpose; to utilize both internal and external benchmarks to determine program effectiveness – and it will at the very least be difficult to argue for additional resources in the absence of this. And to be much more aware of our budgets and our time and where and how we are spending each.

IV. New Business

- A. **From the Steering Committee. The resolution from USA regarding committee representation as a result from position reclassification was unanimously approved by voice vote.**

It should be noted that this is not precedent setting. If the issue arises again, it will be referred to the Steering Committee.

- B. **From the Membership Committee. Jon Troe was elected to serve a student member to the Steering Committee.**
- C. **From the Membership Committee. Jodi Sperr was elected to serve as the USA representative to the Membership Committee.**
- D. **From the Membership Committee. The 2013-14 committee replacements were unanimously approved with the following changes:**
- Joe Kleckner replaces Jayce Koester on the Planning Committee for fall semester only
Ellery Wealot replaces Manalin Houle on the Finance Committee
- E. **From the Membership Committee. First-year student representatives serving on core and other standing committees were unanimously approved.**
- F. **From the Membership Committee. 2013-14 Slate of U.S.A. Campus Assembly and Committee members was presented for information.**
- G. **From the Steering Committee. Enrollment management presentation from Bryan Herrmann.**

Part of the presentation included information about the Fall 2013 enrollment data and the educational landscape in the U.S. Our retention goal is to be at 90%. We have a big drop off between freshman and sophomore year. What can people do? Jennifer Herrmann suggested the following:

- Clear expectations and early feedback - academic alerts, early assessment.
- Meet with advisees - planning, registration, connect to campus resources.
- Help students understand that they are doing okay (or what they can do to get back on track.
- Encourage students to participate in enrichment activities - research, study abroad, internships.

- H. **Other new business.**

None

V. **Campus Committee Reports**

Student Affairs Committee

Cheryl Stewart reported that last year the committee was tasked with providing guidance relating to a target goal for on campus housing levels. We reviewed data to come up with a recommendation and looked at COPLAC and the Morris 14 and the student satisfaction survey. We discovered that we have a drop off for each year students are here. The committee felt strongly that we should have a renewed commitment to keeping students on campus at least the first two years. Our target would be to have a 55% on campus housing rate. This will make us more competitive with our comparison schools. We hope to make some efforts to make student housing more appealing to students that could include individualizes spaces and noise reduction. The recommendation would also keep Blakely online for housing as long as that is feasible.

This fall the committee will be discussing moving toward a tobacco free campus. In the spring we will look at student employment and current caps we have on student hours.

Scholastic Committee

Jennifer Goodnough reported that the committee has been meeting weekly reviewing student petitions, etc. and we are getting ready for registration. They will review the leave of absence readmit policy which will likely come to Campus Assembly at some point.

Faculty and P&A Affairs Committee

Roger Wareham reported that the committee is still setting their agenda for the semester. They will continue to look at faculty salaries and will be discussing faculty sabbatical supplements and P&A leaves.

Consultative Committee

Joey Daniewicz reported that the committee has heard from Lowell and Jacquie about RAR, strategic plan and One Stop. Contact the Consultative Committee if you have a question or think there is something the committee should address.

VI. All University Reports

Peh Ng reported on the work of the Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs including the following: a subcommittee is talking about the current policy on faculty development and leaves; discussed current administrative policy on academic appointments with teaching function, i.e. that collegiate personnel plan must provide a rationale for any unit in which the number of FTE contract faculty positions plus the number of FTE academic professional positions with primary responsibility for teaching exceeds 25% of the FTE tenured and tenure-track faculty; and in 2014 there will be changes to the life insurance for all faculty and P&A-- information should come out before the open enrollment period.

VII. Announcements

Hazen Fairbanks announced that this is mental health awareness week. She encouraged faculty to take an extra minute to talk about this in their classes. The 1100 pairs of shoes on the campus

mall represent the 1100 students who take their life because of suicide. A suicide prevention training takes place tonight.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.