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Student Affairs minutes 02/11/2013

Student Affairs Committee

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UMM Student Affairs Committee Minutes
February 11, 2013
Prairie Lounge

Present: Chair Peter Bremer, Tamir Elnabarawy, Hazen Fairbanks, Becca Gercken, Holly Gruntner, Barry McQuarrie, Sandy Olson-Loy, Cory Schroeder

Absent: Marilyn Gremmels, Cheryl Stewart, Dave Swenson, Sheila Windingstad

Chair Bremer called the meeting called to order at 3:34 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes

Bremer announced that because Marilyn Gremmels was gone, the minutes from last meeting will be approved at the next.

II. Baby Changing Tables:

The proposal to bring baby changing tables to every building on campus has been approved by MCSA, Commission on Women, and Planning Committee. Bremer suggested that the Committee next forward the proposal to Plant Services, where they can look at it and comment on how workable it is. The Committee agreed to send the document to Plant Services.

Student Employment

The Committee already had an initial discussion about increasing the number of hours a student could log. One thing that came up at the recent Steering Committee all-chairs meeting was that there was added interest in the stipend issue. Stipends count against financial aid. Bremer asked if the Committee also wanted to discuss stipends or if we want to resurrect the Student Employment Committee to talk about it? The Student Employment Committee was a former subcommittee of Student Affairs. Bremer added that if we were to bring them in, we'd want student representation, P&A representation, plus a representative from Student Affairs. The Committee discussed the current student employment restrictions, and decided to have an informational meeting to get a handle on what the Student Employment Committee has previously discussed, and then to decide whether to take the task on or to hand it over to them.

III. On Campus/Off Campus Housing Projection

As previously discussed, the Committee has identified that it's looking to find an optimal percentage for students living on campus, and to fit said proposal into a ten-year window. The benefits of having more students on campus are higher retention, stronger grades, it works into the liberal arts model (students are living in one community for collaboration), and generates more income for university. Practical considerations: available housing (where will we put them if we increase the percentage goal?). Right now we have 45.94% living on campus, based on stats TJ Ross shared. The Committee discussed how much space is available on campus to house students, what could be done to increase retention (cosmetic changes in

residence halls, etc.), and what other, comparable schools do to increase retention. A few Committee members proposed a figure a little above 50% for UMM's goal. The next steps are to gather additional data and continue discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Holly Gruntner.