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Campus Assembly

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Campus Assembly Meeting
March 23, 2016

I. Chancellor remarks.

Chancellor Johnson gave the following remarks: “This is a Campus Assembly first – thanks to the efforts of the Commission on Women, the Office of Community Engagement and the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Facilities--we are piloting a program to have childcare available during the assembly meeting today.

We’ve had our annual budget meeting in the Twin Cities, where we present our current budget, anticipate how we will end the year financially and also project enrollment and budget numbers for the next fiscal year. At the same time, we are invited to present opportunities for investment and this year we presented two opportunities: additional resources to support an expanded success coach model (intended to enhance not replace faculty advising) and additional resources to support expanded on campus work opportunities. We also asked for additional central/system investment in faculty salaries to continue the progress we have made – even after three years of investment beyond the regular salary increase, we still lag behind peers.

In addition, we were invited to present requests for funding to address critical operating needs, and we presented two: we requested a \$235,000 increase in the library’s SE&E budget – which would us to the middle of our peers. We noted that minimally \$140,000 would enable the library to continue to maintain existing access to online data bases while allowing for an increase in funds for books and other materials to the FY2009 level. And we requested an additional \$1.5 million to fully fund the tuition shortfall that remains from the unfunded portion of the American Indian tuition waiver. I will do a fuller summary of the meeting and budget issues at an open meeting once the visits to campus of the candidates for chancellor have been completed.

And just to note: thanks to the library staff for preparing with Dean Finzel, a detailed account of the need and history related to the library request. And thanks to the Finance Committee for working with me, Bryan, and Colleen over several meetings to discuss enrollment projections, best ways to balance the budget, and to consider with us opportunities for investment.

Next week, I will present an update on the University of Minnesota, Morris’s strategic plan to the full board of regents and I will highlight the process used to form it (a process that predates me) the progress we have made in selected areas – there are some 84 different initiatives – and its potential “fit” or interface with the Twin Cities strategic plan. The Planning Committee has also been looking at the strategic plan, and their work complements several other points in time over the last ten years when we have revisited and evaluated our progress in relation to it. This will also be a chance for me to emphasize some of the areas in which we have made less desired progress, for example, in terms of increasing diversity of our faculty and staff and in terms of facilities improvements. More on that later as well.

Thanks to Peh Ng and Carrie Grissing and to other members of the chancellor search committee – thanks to all of you who are taking the time to meet with the candidates – not only to determine who would be the best fit for this institution at this point in time but also, I hope, to help them understand the wonderful and distinctive features of this place.”

II. For Action. From the Steering Committee. Minutes from 2/17/16 Campus Assembly approved as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

III. Old Business

None.

IV. New Business

- A. For Action. From the Functions & Awards Committee. Scholar of the College nominations approved as presented with minor editorial corrections. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.** Please send corrections to Elena Machkasova and Karen Ellis.

- B. For Action. From the Membership Committee. 2016-17 slate of committee members was approved as presented with one editorial correction. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**

- C. For Information. From the Constitution Review Committee. Proposed amendments and changes.**

Michael Korth and Matt Zaske walked through each of the proposed amendments and changes.

Comments/concerns from assembly members include:

- SCEP representatives are listed as faculty, not ex-officio members. It’s important that ex-officio are specifically called ex-officio.
- The chancellor asked for clarification: does the assembly want the administration to voting on committees? She has defined her role as ex-officio and non-voting.
- Past practice at UMM has been that ex-officio implies non-voting.
- Ex-officio does not imply non-voting. An ex-officio member is a person who is automatically entitled to a position on a committee as long as he or she holds a certain office.
- Suggestion that elections be held earlier in the fall.
- There is much work to be done in terms of elections.
- We need to establish how we will vote on the proposed amendments and changes.

The Constitution Review Committee will send the proposed amendments to the Steering Committee so they can determine how to move forward.

V. Campus Committee Reports

Bart Finzel, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, said the committee is discussing a couple of initiatives including a proposal from the language faculty addressing concerns identified in the last gen ed review regarding foreign language; a proposal to alter the way in which students can meet global village requirements in gen ed. There are also preliminary conversations about a proposal to establish medieval studies major or minor.

VI. All University Reports

- Aaron Wenzel reported that the All-University International Programs Council has established a centralized 800 emergency number for students, staff and faculty traveling overseas. If faculty/staff list their emergency contact on the form, that's the person who will be contacted. If there isn't emergency contact information, Aaron will be the contact person.
- Michelle Page announced progress has been made on the Senate Committee on Committees faculty slots. She thanked everyone for their participation and representing the campus at the system level.

VII. Announcements

A. General announcements.

- Mitch Forney reported that members of Morris Campus Student Association are planning to attend Support the U day on Tuesday, March 29. He invited faculty and staff to join the group. Ellery Wealot asked professors to encourage their students to attend. He also reported on the MCSA elections: Katie Ledermann is president and Fiona Wu is vice president.
- Aaron Wenzel announced that Laura Hoppe won the Fulbright Award.
- Rebecca Webb encouraged everyone to participate in the WTCHW peace run.

B. Update on Chancellor Search.

Peh Ng, chair of the search committee, thanked everyone in advance for participating in the meetings while our candidates were on campus. She reminded everyone to submit their feedback – either electronically or by paper copy. The committee continues to try to meet the timeline as outlined by the committee's charge.

C. Response to Higher Learning Commission interim report.

Bart Finzel said following the Higher Learning Committee visit in 2010, we were required to submit an interim report on learning outcomes assessment. That report was submitted on November 1, 2015. We received their response on February 8, 2016 informing us that we are required to submit an additional interim report. The report, to be submitted by March 1, 2018, should provide evidence of the following: 1) that all UMM programs have developed learning

outcomes assessment procedures that align with campus-wide standards; 2) that assessment data from all programs are being collected and analyzed systematically; 3) that the analysis of assessment data is being employed for the purposes of the program improvement. As a reminder, UMM's next reaffirmation of accreditation is scheduled for 2019-20. Please contact Bart if you have questions or comments.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.