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Consultative minutes 03/20/2014

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Consultative Committee

Prairie Lounge

March 20, 2014

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Committee members present: Co-chairs Ray Schultz and Joey Daniewicz, Jim Barbour, Molly Donovan, LeAnn Dean, Janet Ericksen, Nancy Helsper, Jean Rohloff, Heather Waye and Allison Wolf

Vice Chancellor Bart Finzel's update on Office of Academic Success

VC Finzel discussed status of Office of Academic Success. Kerri Barnstuble left her position in Academic Success this past January. Erik Kornkoven has stepped in temporarily to teach some of her courses. Nancy Cheeseman will be leaving her position in mid-May. This office will then be without a director and coordinator of Academic Success and Disability Services coordinator. Finzel stated this will be a time to regroup and reconsider needs. He proposes Academic Advising, Retention, Academic Assistance and Disability Services be put under one umbrella of Office of Academic Success.

In the interim, he proposes that Brenda Boever become the interim Director of Academic Success for a two-year term. She would temporarily oversee and supervise Academic Advising, Retention, Academic Assistance and Disability Services while still maintaining her Academic Advising responsibilities. He proposes Chlene Anderson serve as PSEO advisor. He proposes Jennifer Zych Herrmann assume a role in Academic Assistance along with her retention duties. To assist Jennifer, he proposed they would ask a faculty member to assume the Academic Assistance teaching responsibilities. The support staff of Danielle Greene and Lacey Fahl (both in 12 month appointments) would be brought together to support Academic Advising, Retention and the ACE office and both may be cross-trained. Stephanie Ferrian would stay in her current position.

Finzel stated they would open a search right away for Cheeseman's disability services duties at a more junior, coordinator level position.

Finzel proposed they would open a search for the Director of Academic Success in 2015-2016. He stated this would give Brenda Boever time to assume the new position duties as interim Director of Academic Success, stabilize the area and see if she would be interested in applying for the position in the future. In three years he foresees one Director of Academic Success overseeing three coordinators. One for advising, academic assistance/retention and disability services.

After Finzel's departure from the meeting, the consultative committee members present spent most of the rest of the hour discussing his ideas for reconfiguration of the areas. Ray submitted an e-mail to Finzel detailing our thoughts and impressions. The consensus was that both the interim and long-term plans appear reasonable. The committee felt strongly that every attempt should be made to make the new hire in Disabilities Services result from as competitive a search as possible. Perhaps enlisting the assistance of the Twin Cities Disabilities Office by researching, for example, what graduate programs are turning out excellent candidates for these kinds of positions. Research into the kind and quality of hires at institutions similar to UMM might also yield leads to deepen the candidate pool. The issue of what constitutes a realistically competitive salary will need to be taken into account, also.

With regard to the more long-term plan to umbrella Advising, Academic Assistance, Retention, and Disabilities Services, the consultative committee members present saw potential benefits to this idea. However, CC views the potential success of such a plan tied to housing these areas in

a single location, but without compromising already existing programs and resources. It was also the unanimous view of the committee members present that a two-year term for an interim director of this proposed new configuration seems too long a period of time.

LeAnn will meet with Finzel to discuss the recent work and findings of the Technology Task Force. She will also speak with him about how she sees these findings relating to this proposed reconfiguration and how it would likely impact its future planning and implementation.

Jacquie's e-mail to Ray and Joey

Jacquie forwarded information on search firms for the Dean Search. Ray will be forwarding onto the rest of the CC members. CC needs to discuss names for who should be asked to serve on the search committee.

Next Week's Agenda

Dave Swenson and Sandy Olson-Loy will visit. Topics for discussion will be new student orientation and sexual assault training for incoming students.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Submitted by
Jean Rohloff