

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Consultative Committee

Campus Governance

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Consultative minutes 01/27/2012

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Consultative Committee
Prairie Lounge
January 27, 2012

Committee members present: Co-chairs Jen Zych Herrmann and Nic McPhee, Jim Barbour, LeAnn Dean, Troy Goodnough, Manjari Govada, Nancy Helsper, Brook Miller, Dennis Stewart, Bonnie Tipcke

Committee members absent: Molly Donovan and Naomi Wente (both need to be replaced for spring semester)

This was the first meeting of the spring semester. Govada said that two of the student members need to be replaced and asked for and was given approval for MCSA to replace Molly Donovan with Holly Gruntner and Naomi Wente with Zac Van Cleve. The changes will have to be submitted to the Membership Committee.

The main agenda item for the meeting was to talk about the work the committee wants to take on for the semester. Our first priority is to continue our communication with Dean Finzel as we begin the work of evaluating life at UMM without an assistant dean. Our purpose is to consult with individuals in affected areas in order to provide good information to the dean and others as the campus moves forward.

The first step is to decide which individuals it will be most beneficial to meet with and get them on our meeting schedule. We will also compile a list of questions that we can send them prior to their meetings with us.

Basically, the assessment information we are seeking will center around questions about clarity and capacity. Is there a clear decision tree and are we delegating down appropriately? Do people have the resources to do the work they are asked to do and the authority to accomplish the task?

Some of the questions members had included:

- Where did the funding go that was saved by the elimination of the assistant dean position?
- Is it traditional for a campus our size to have an assistant dean?
- Is there a way to find out how things are working for clientele (primarily students)? Do we collect data about customer satisfaction?
- How have tasks been reassigned that had been done by the assistant dean?
- What changes have been made since fall? Who has assumed or lost responsibilities?

Through this process, we hope to find out what, if anything, has slipped through the cracks in this transition and to encourage conversations to take place as necessary. This process could also prove to be relevant to the campus as it moves toward a non-interim dean search.

It was decided that we should meet early with Dean Finzel and Jeff Ratliff-Crain and try to wrap up all the meetings with others prior to spring break.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Tipcke